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OCCASION FOR ALARM

An Increase in the Smallpox Cases at Howard.

CONDITIONS ARE SERIOUS

State Board of Health Summoned—Schools are Closed—Much Unfavorable Criticism is Heard—Has There Been Negligence.

Matters are assuming a critical condition down at Howard over the alarming spread of smallpox. For over a month there have been cases right along. Persons affected with eruptive skin disease's possibly smallpox, have been allowed to circulate freely. Persons affected with smallpox did not want to submit to quarantine regulations and it is claimed that the Board of Health has been negligent, resulting in a general spread of the disease.

In addition to those previously reported the following are the new cases, in the township: A child in the family of Jacob Robb, living a half mile north of Howard. Wm. Leathers, who lives at the Rolling Mills east of the borough. Two children in the family of W. Deitz, on the Lonsberry farm.

Five new cases are reported in the borough: Rodney, James and Jacob, three sons of Samuel Shay; Al. Strickland living with Jesse McCallion; and Burges Sumner Wolf, of the mercantile firm of Kline & Wolf.

All the old cases are on a fair way to recovery; up to this time no deaths have occurred. Owing to the differences that have arisen and the alarm from the spread of the disease an appeal was sent to the State Board of Health by wire on Wednesday for advice and consultation. The community is thoroughly aroused, at last, to the gravity of the situation. Schools have been closed and strong measures adopted.

Seriously Ill.

Clyde Shutt, who has been ill the past two weeks with small pox at the home of Al. Rishel, in Spring township, had been in a critical condition the past few days. His head and face is much swollen. Dr. Fisher, the attending physician, says he is hopeful of recovery. The young man is a son of Wm. Shutt, of Houserville. Young Shutt never was vaccinated and for that reason the disease has assumed a most malignant form. Mr. Rishel and son both were down with the same ailment, but they have about recovered. Each had been vaccinated some years ago and they had mild attacks of what is known as varioloid. The Dr. says in this instance the importance of vaccination is most strikingly proven.

Not Smallpox.

John Wagner, of Howard, called to have a correction made, in reference to the report that there was smallpox in his family. He says that last Saturday a week ago, Dr. Groff, of the state board of health was at his home and after examination pronounced the Wagner family and home free of smallpox and left without ordering a quarantine. The contrary report has caused Mr. Wagner and family much unjust annoyance.

Dog Tears a Deer to Pieces.

A large hound ran a half grown deer out of the thicket on the Torbert farm up Pine creek, Friday. The frightened animal ran out onto the ice covering the creek, where it slipped and the dog pounced upon it and commenced to tear its flesh to pieces. Frank Torbert and men employed on the farm rushed to the deer's assistance and succeeded in driving the dog away. The injured animal was taken to a shed, but died within a few hours.—Clinton Democrat.

Diphtheria at Rock.

There is an epidemic of diphtheria in the vicinity of Rock Mills, Benner township. Two daughters of Harry Fike died from the disease and his son now is very ill. There were a half dozen other cases in that vicinity.

AND they are squealing. The high tariff organs are squealing fearfully because their pet measure has created a paper trust that is raising the price of paper above its already high price. That proves that their ox is gored and therefore they squeal. While the robber tariff and the scores of trusts called into being by it, was robbing the public in general, making millionaires of Carnegies, Rockafellers, Pierpont Morgans, and the others, these organs never squealed because these beneficiaries of the tariff were large contributors to the republican boodle fund. Now these organs squeal because their ox is gored. Serves 'em right.

William P. Duncan, of Phillipsburg, has been quite sick since Tuesday of last week with what was thought to be grip; Friday his condition became alarming.

SPECIAL TO CORRESPONDENTS.

In our next issue we invite our correspondents to take up a political topic, viz: "Whom should the Democrats of Centre county select as their candidate this year for President Judge?"

Let us know what, from inquiry, is the sentiment of your community, stating reasons plainly. Confine your comment to 100 words.

This will be an important feature in our next issue that will be closely read. We hope every correspondent will comply with the above.

RUSSIA vs. JAPAN.

There has been little excitement the past week over war news for the reason that there have been few engagements. The Japs are pouring thousands of troops into Korea while the vast armies of the Czar are slowly moving to crush them, predicting that by August they will have such a vast army as to drive the Japs into the sea. The Siberian railroad is reported as wrecked at numerous points. Russia is also said to be in bad financial straits.

One brilliant feature of the Japs was, by the use of Russian signals to deceive the enemy and capture four torpedo boats. Small encounters on land, of little importance are reported.

The result of another attack on Port Arthur is in doubt. A message from St. Petersburg says the Russian gunners sunk four Japanese war vessels and two transports. This news is not confirmed. See page 2 for other war notes.

Whole Town Frozen Up.

An Altoona dispatch of 21 says: The mining town of Buckhorn, which lies on the apex of the Alleghenies, 3300 feet above sea level is frozen up hard and fast by the fierce blizzard, which is raging over the mountain section of Pennsylvania.

The temperature registered 35 below zero last night, a moment before the telephone to this city snapped.

Cattle belonging to the residents were frozen to death in their stalls, and the wells of the village became solid ice to the bottom. Snow drifts 8 to 10 feet in depth blocked all road communication with the village today.

An unknown Slav driver was discovered dead on his sled seat near the Kelly mines this afternoon. The horses were so badly frozen that they had to be shot.

The Altoona & Woonsocket road, which runs within a mile of Buckhorn, is snowed in, and will not be in shape for operation for a week. Some of the cuttings are drifted to a depth of 15 feet. The closing of this railroad, which furnishes a large part of the coal for Altoona, is being keenly felt in this city.

Peach Buds Frozen.

On Wednesday morning Hon. J. H. Wetzel brought two twigs to this office, taken from a peach, and a cheery tree. These twigs were broken off of trees in his premises about two weeks ago and taken into the house and the stems placed in water. The cherry twig at once showed signs of awakening, the buds opened and a fine cluster of beautiful blossoms made their appearance. The peach branch simply shriveled up.

The meaning of this is that the severe winter weather killed the peach twig but did not affect the cherries. This is a novel way of making a forecast for fruit crops, but is along practical lines.

Watch for Him.

Wm. H. Zeigler, of Rebersburg, will attend the following public sales in the eastern part of Pennsylvania and will be prepared to accept and give receipts on subscription to this paper:

TUESDAY, MARCH 1ST.—J. H. Roush, 2 miles west of Madisonburg.

THURSDAY, MARCH 3RD.—P. S. Meyer 1 mile east of Coburn.

TUESDAY, MARCH 8TH.—Geo. A. Vonda, 2 miles east of Madisonburg.

WEDNESDAY MARCH 9TH.—Robert Hackenberg, 2 miles southwest of Millheim.

State Aid for Road.

At the election in Liberty township Tuesday, Irvin Wagner was re-elected road supervisor, together with Barney Coder. Mr. Wagner says the supervisors intend to make application through the Centre county commissioners for the building of a road in accordance with the new road law recently enacted by the legislature by which the state pays two thirds the cost, the county and the township each a sixth.—Express.

Caring for Partridges.

William Allen, a farmer of Bald Eagle township, near Fairpoint, has been feeding a flock of about 40 partridges during the severe cold weather. A few days ago some hunters came across the flock and killed all of them but nine. Mr. Allen succeeded in capturing the remainder of the flock and will feed and protect them until spring, when he expects to turn them loose again.

CLEVELAND OFFERS ADVICE

Reasons Why the Democracy Should Triumph.

NATIONAL EVILS DEPICTED

We are Traveling Along New and Dangerous Paths—National Traditions and Integrity Sacrificed by Greed—Dangerous Tendencies.

In an article written for last week's Saturday Evening Post former President Cleveland urges his "rank and file associates" of the Democratic party to unite and take advantage of the opportunities of next November.

"I am one of those," he writes, "who believe that there is an opportunity for Democratic success in the coming Presidential election."

"Though attachment to the party in which I am enlisted and an intense desire for its ascendancy make such a belief exceedingly welcome, they certainly do not create it. It is built upon an unshaken and abiding trust in the patriotism and intelligence of my fellow-countrymen."

Mr. Cleveland's paper opens with a reiteration of the declaration that he made three years ago:

"Our fighting forces will respond listlessly and falteringly if summoned to a third defeat in a strange cause; but if they hear the rallying call of true Democracy they will gather for battle with old-time Democratic enthusiasm and courage."

HOLD BY THE OLD MOORINGS

Referring to his faith in his Democratic associates, he continues:

"This trust will not permit me to overlook the meaning of the daily increasing unrest among our people growing out of the startling and flippant abandonment by the party in power of our national traditions and maxims, its disregard of our national moral restraints, its inconsiderate tendency to set aside national good faith, its willingness to break away from safe and accustomed moorings, and its contemptuous neglect of our national mission. Surely these conditions, together with the broken pledges and forgotten promises of reform that vex the sight on every side, not only abundantly explain the popular distrust and fear prevailing everywhere in the land, but suggest that in such stress of political weather those of our fellow-citizens who thoughtfully and constantly love our free institutions will not be unmindful of such safety and quiet as may be offered them by a patriotic and conservative Democracy."

Mr. Cleveland thinks that these conditions justify the assertion of Democracy's opportunity.

"It should be remembered, however," he says, "that opportunity may be only distantly related to actual accomplishment, and that it does not of itself, unaided and alone, warrant the expectation of reaching successful results."

NO TIME FOR CUNNING FINESSE.

"This is no time for cunning finesse, nor for the use of words that conceal intentions or carry a double meaning. The Democratic party has a message to send to its followers and to the masses of the American people. Let that message be expressed in language easily understood, unconfused by evasion and untouched by the taint of jugglery. Obsolete issues and questions no longer challenging popular interest should be abandoned."

Mr. Cleveland urges tariff reform, pleads for economy in the expenditure of public money, and charges the opposition with having made promises and broken them.

AN ISTHMIAN CANAL WITH HONOR.

He arraigns the Administration's Philippine policy and refers to the Isthmian Canal in these words:

"The Democratic party has been consistent and unremittent in its advocacy of an interoceanic canal, and has with the liveliest satisfaction looked forward to the day when such a highway of commerce, built under the auspices of our Government, would be contributed by America to the world's progress and civilization. It is nevertheless not within the mandates of the Democratic creed that, even in consummating so noble an enterprise as this, the territorial rights of any other nation should be disregarded, or that our own national good faith should be subjected to reasonable suspicion."

THE MAN, NOT THE LOCALITY.

Mr. Cleveland concludes as follows: "At such a time as this the Democratic party cannot with honor undertake the battle of the people except under a leader that not only represents its best traditions and purposes, but fully realizes what is meant by the tremendous issues of the conflict, and his selection should not depend upon so small a consideration as

the locality whence he comes.

"The Democracy's opportunity is already in sight, but only in a campaign waged in reliance upon the people's love of country and devotion to national morality; under leadership that personifies these sentiments, will be found the Democracy's hope."

An Undesirable Roast.

One morning last week Mr. Bay, at Oak Grove, got up, made the fire, and then went back to bed. Shortly after they heard a terrible thumping noise and got up, but could find nothing wrong. Sometime during the afternoon Mrs. Bay opened the oven door and there in the oven was their pet cat, roasted to death. Pussy was quite a pet and had crawled in the oven to get warm. Mr. Bay had closed the oven door, not knowing the cat was there.

This reminds the Democrat of a cat roast that happened at Millheim many years ago. The "old folks" being away from home, the daughters thought it a good opportunity to enjoy a dance, and inviting a few friends, there was a tip of the light fantastic. In the oven of the cooking stove the cat was having a pleasant snooze, but unobserved the door was closed and a fire started. Well, you can guess the rest. When the dancing was over pussy was thoroughly roasted—well done, brown. Amid the mirth of the dance, her screams, thumps and mewls fell upon deaf ears. "Pussy wanted a corner" never thereafter.

Swindled Farmers.

A well dressed stranger during the latter part of last week swindled a number of Mahanoy farmers out of sums of money ranging from \$5 to \$25. He represented himself as a government employe in search of recruits for the United States army. He was a fluent talker and told that the government had taken sides with Japan in their prospective war with Russia and that every available man would be pressed into the service unless he could furnish a substitute. He could of course furnish the desired substitute upon payment of a small sum.

Many farmers believing his story readily paid for substitutes rather than go to war. Of course the stranger cannot be located.

Girl Burglar Confesses.

Rachel Reinhard has made a confession to Chief of Police Norton, in which she says she robbed Innes & Shannon's store at Jersey Shore unassisted. She says the theft was committed on the morning of February 8, between 4 and 5 o'clock. She used a brace and bit found in Brown's kitchen to bore a hole through the shutter on the store and then opened the window. On her first trip into the store she wore a pair of Mr. Brown's shoes, which fell off her feet. She did not take the trouble to put them on again and the foot prints in the snow led the officers to believe that a man and a woman were implicated in the crime.

"District School."

A delightful entertainment will be given in the M. E. church, at Pleasant Gap, on Saturday, March 5, 1904, by the young people of the church entitled the "District School." Go and see the pupils of the "District School," attend Mistress Plunkett's select singing school, and enjoy a good laugh. The program will consist of "A Singing School of Ye Olden Times," in two acts, and "The Family Album." Music by Pleasant Gap orchestra. Admission 10 and 20cts.

Bears Attack Horse.

Two big hungry bears came down from the mountains and attacked the horse attached to the butcher wagon of Peter Morse, of Altoona, at Millville, a suburb, early Saturday evening.

Charles Long, the driver, jumped from the wagon and ran for help. Men with guns found that the animals had fled, evidently frightened off by trolley cars running near the spot. The horse had to be killed.

J. Forster Duncan Dead.

Attorney John Forster Duncan, vice president of the Union National Bank, and largely interested in the lumber business of this section, died last Thursday 18th at his home in Lewisburg, Pa., of acute peritonitis. He was president of the White Deer Valley railroad and superintendent of the Lewisburg Gas and Electric Light companies. He was 50 years old. He was born in Millheim, a son of Wm. Cook Duncan, a former merchant of Millheim.

Spring Mills Academy.

The spring term of this school will open April 11, and will continue ten weeks. Those desiring further information should consult the principal.

W. P. HOSKINMAN,
Penn Hall, Pa.

When a man is loaded, you always know it, but it is different with a gun.

CANAL TREATY RATIFIED

Agreement Goes Through Senate by Vote of 66 to 14.

ONE AMENDMENT OFFERED

Everything is Ready to Press Canal Project, and Next Step After Appointment of Commission Will be to "Scratch Dirt."

The United States senate ratified without amendment the treaty with Panama for a canal across the Isthmus of that name by a vote of 66 to 14. The result was a foregone conclusion. 15 democrats were for the treaty and 17 against it.

Everything is ready for the speedy consummation of the Panama canal treaty, and both the war and state departments have made preparations for the next step, the former by the dispatch of troops to the Isthmus, and the latter by the completion of arrangements for the exchange of ratifications of the treaty, which must take place in Washington.

The administration intends to press the canal project by all proper methods. As a cabinet officer expressed it, the next step after the appointment of the commission will be to "scratch dirt," and already members of the commission are assured of their places to conduct the actual work of canal digging.

ADJOINING COUNTIES.

E. J. PRUNER, of Tyrone, publishes his withdrawal as a republican candidate for senator in the Blair district.

Rev. J. A. Earnest, D. D., of Milliford, well known in Central Pennsylvania, and one of the leading ministers in the Lutheran church, was reported to be critically ill.

The Sugar Valley Journal says Oliver Karstetter caught a wild turkey on Friday. It was so weak that it could not run away. He took the fowl home and is fattening it on bran.

Harry McClintick, son of Mr. and Mrs. A. Close McClintick, of Salona, died at his home at Johnsonburg of pneumonia, aged 35 years. He is survived by his wife and two children.

Helen Obl, the little daughter of Mr. and Mrs. T. F. Obl, of Clintondale, died last Monday on her 10th birthday, of heart trouble. The funeral will be held Thursday afternoon from the Evangelical church.

A fire which started in the home of Mrs. Joseph Gann, at Williamsport, completely cut off her escape before it was discovered. Wrapping a rug about her she dashed through the flames and escaped without injury. Then she bravely returned and fought it single handed until the fire department arrived.

Certain days of Lent are observed with more ceremony than others. Among the number are the first Sunday in Lent, better known as the Sunday of the Torches; fourth Sunday in Lent, called Laetare Sunday; Passion Sunday; Feast of the Annunciation, March 25; Palm Sunday, March 27; Holy Thursday, March 31; Good Friday, April 1; Easter, April 3.

The little mining village of Belsen Mills, Clearfield county, was virtually wiped out by fire Saturday afternoon, when twenty houses were burned. The greater part of the burned buildings were owned by the Betz coal mining company, of Philadelphia, and were occupied by their employes. The town is isolated, and the homeless families will suffer greatly. There was no water with which to fight the fire and it burned itself out.

The opening of spring weather will start a building boom in Beech Creek which will add materially to the appearance of the town by the erection of several handsome structures. The election Tuesday determined that the directors shall erect a new school building and the plans and specifications adopted by the board, as made by Architect Robert Cole, of Bellefonte, call for a very handsome structure both in exterior and interior.

Elsie Biddle is now six years old and lives with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. S. S. Biddle, at New Florence, when she was two years old she fell down a flight of stairs injuring her spinal cord to such an extent that it was feared she would be a cripple for life. Last week while playing with a number of little companions she turned a "flip-flop," with the result that the partial dislocation sustained four years ago was completely righted; and now the little girl and her parents are happy. "Flip-flop" may not be a very nice exercise for little girls—certainly not for big ones—but in Elsie's case it proved all right.

Many a woman would gladly exchange her wedding gown for a divorce suit.

FACT, FUN AND FANCY.

Bright Sparkling Paragraphs—Selected and Original.

MY GRANDMAMA.

Grandmama wears a soft gray gown;
It's silky when I smoothed it down.
I hope I'll wear a soft gray gown
When I am old like her.

Grandmama's hair is snowy white;
It always sparkles in the light.
I hope my hair will be as bright
When I am old like her.

Grandmama's smile is very sweet;
My papa says it "can't be beat."
I hope my smile will be as sweet
When I am old like her.

Grandmama knows I love her well;
I love her more than I can tell.
I hope little girls will love me well
When I am old like her.

—Eva March Tappan in Youth's Companion.

Are Prohibitionists dry goods?
A square meal is one that's round.
Two's a company and half a dozen is a trust.

Carries things with a high hand—the poker player.
The grave digger generally finds himself in a hole.

It's the fellow with a pull who is often pushed to the front.
Even the summer girl would be welcome these chilly days.

The Japs began hostilities with indecent haste. They hadn't even the courage to ask the Russian whether they would have the torpedoes hot or cold.

Out in Chicago an expert has prepared menu for three meals a day at a daily expense of seventeen cents. He would make a success as a country editor.

VICTOR GRANGE.

On Saturday (Feb. 23) the members of the Victor Grange, at Oak Hall, Pa., held a public meeting and feast. It was a day set apart for the farmers and their wives, although the day was not only enjoyed by the farmer but by persons of various occupations. The forenoon was spent in conversation of a social nature and in arranging the many good things to eat. The many beautiful, variety of cakes that were brought by the excellent wives, presented a magnificent picture, which goes to show that the farmers' wives are hard to beat in domestic affairs and it is where one can always depend upon something good and an abundance to eat. It was a hard contest to distinguish among so many excellent cakes which deserved the prize, but upon thorough sampling it was found that the honor was due to Mrs. John Grove as having the prize cake, as even the crumbs were sampled and were especially relished by Willard Dale. We are sorry Mrs. Grove is not a member of the Grange but I think we have a strong hold, as Mr. Grove is a firm granger and being past master of Victor Grange. The afternoon was spent in music, addresses, dialogues and recitations, etc. The exercises were opened by a song after which addresses were made by Prof. Meyer, of the Penna State College, also a student of that place and George Dale, of Shiloh, master of the Centre Co. Pomona Grange. An essay and declamation was read by Mrs. Brown and Miss Bell Lytle. Recitations were given by the children and by Miss Anna Dale. We also had with us Miss Anna Behres one of Centre county's accomplished young ladies who by request entertained the friends by reciting a comic recitation, which was enjoyed by all present. The music was in charge of Miss Anna Dale, of Oak Hall. The Misses Benner and Welland sang two very pretty solos. William Grove all so sang a solo entitled, "The farmer feeds them all." After hearing this pretty song I think we owe our greatest praise and honor to the farmer who feeds them all. X.

Oklahoma Lands.

Are you thinking of locating in the West? Do you wish to invest any money in good farm lands that are growing in value? Do you know anything about the famous Oklahoma territory, the garden of the Mississippi valley? Robert S. Cole, the architect, Bellefonte, Pa., is the authorized agent in this section for several hundred farms in Oklahoma. He can tell you all about the soil, variety of products raised and can give you prices on farms in Oklahoma. Drop him a card or consult him at his office, Crider's Exchange. 64f

Hammer and Tongues.

Some persons are always hammering on some one. They do not seem to feel satisfied unless they can say something unpleasant or scandalous about a fellow citizen. In olden times they used to brand gossip by burning the letter "G" on their foreheads. Our modern scandal mongers might be cured by burning off their tongues about six inches.

Knock Him Down.

An exchange says: When a man playfully points a pistol or gun at you, knock him down; don't stop to inquire whether it is loaded or not; knock him down. Don't be particular what you hit him with, only see that it is properly done. If a coroner's inquest is held, let it be on the other fellow—he won't be missed.

It is probable that the Pennsylvania Railroad company will introduce an innovation in the near future by requiring the engineers to equip themselves with uniforms. Many of the older men look upon the idea with favor. This will prove a decided departure, as there are no railroads in the country that now require the engineers to wear special uniforms.