

The Centre Democrat.

Circulation Over 4000.

BELLEVILLE, PA., THURSDAY, DECEMBER 8, 1904.

Vol. 26. No. 50.

PORT ARTHUR IS WEAKENING

The Japs Have Captured Another Important Hill

CRITICAL MOMENT IS AT HAND

Result of the War Hinging in the Balance --Japanese are Making Great Sacrifices to Win--Russian War Vessels Being Shattered

The situation of the contending forces in the far East is becoming more critical every day. The two great armies encamped in Manchuria appear to be resting. No news comes from that point, except that both are continually receiving reinforcements.

Down at Port Arthur the critical moment is at hand, and the fate of the entire war now is hanging apparently in the effort to take this Russian stronghold. The situation is as follows: The battered remnant of the Russian Asiatic squadron is bottled up in the harbor at Port Arthur. Admiral Togo is keeping a vigilant watch on the outside. The Czar some time ago ordered his entire fleet of war vessels from the Baltic Sea, to the far East to engage the Japs. The Baltic fleet is a formidable one, and probably superior in numbers and strength to the Japanese squadron at Port Arthur. The Japs realize this, and are overhauling their vessels for the great naval conflict that inevitably must come. Should Japan lose, in a naval conflict, the war would quickly be terminated, for the Japanese could not maintain their immense army in Manchuria without constant supplies from home. With a Russian fleet the master of the sea, Japan would be helpless.

The Baltic fleet is enroute for Port Arthur, and has covered about one half the distance. In two months it will be due. For this reason the Japs are making frantic efforts to capture this fortress, before that time. This accomplished the Russian war vessels now in that harbor would never bother them when the Baltic fleet arrives. The capture of Port Arthur would afford the Jap navy a safe retreat. It seems as though the fate of the war depends entirely upon the ability of the Japs to win this point.

On pages 2 and 3 we give a diagram of Port Arthur and a description of the taking of Three Meter Hill.

Since then the Japs have mounted heavy guns on the summit and are pouring a deadly fire into the harbor, shattering the war vessels that fled there from Admiral Togo.

The Russians have sustained heavy losses in the past few days in their desperate efforts to check the advancing Japs.

The fall of Port Arthur is predicted in the course of a week.

THAT PUMPING STATION.

The proceedings at the last session of council, Monday evening, were devoted to discussing the failure of the new pumping station at Reynold's mill, which was installed about a year ago. From the time the experiment was broached many people doubted the wisdom of the move, for the reason that Logan Branch is known as a duster, almost goes dry every summer. This season the dry spell came during fall and winter.

For months there has not been water enough to run the pumps continuously, and steam power became necessary, and the force of men about the water works is as large as usual.

That is the condition that confronted the members of council Monday evening. It is not at all likely that the water power in Logan Branch will materially increase, in the future. We are not surprised at the outcome and we don't pretend to possess any remarkable mechanical genius, or the faculty of making prophecies. We believe it has dawned on the community by this time that the pumping station is a failure and "Jones pays the freight" as usual.

Boy's Body Perched on Fence.

Perched astride a rail fence along a corn field, the dead body of Michael Corrigan, aged 13, was found by the horrified crew of the fast mail on the Pennsylvania railroad, which struck him at Birmingham. The train was covering 60 miles an hour and hurled him high in the air. Almost every bone in his body was broken.

Dedication.

The re-dedication of the Lutheran church at Aaronsburg, recently remodelled, will take place on Sunday, December 15, and there will be services each day thereafter until Christmas. Rev. Dr. Hartman will preach on Sunday, 15. On each day following during the week the pulpit will be supplied by a different minister.

SENSATION AT CLEARFIELD.

An Uncanny Express Package Arrived There From Philadelphia.

A hideous express package came to hand by Adams express at Clearfield recently, and when the contents became known there a sensation was created. The package was a long rough box, which came in on the Pennsylvania from Philadelphia, and which contained the body of a man.

The body in the box was nude and the stomach had been cut from one side to the other. The lid of the box had loosened up and the body was plainly visible. The body had been embalmed.

There are all kinds of stories afloat at Clearfield regarding the body and it is claimed by some that it is that of a murdered man who has been sent there in order that the murderers might get rid of the body. The label was addressed in a very poor hand-writing and very illegible, the address being something like this.

UNDITIER

clearfield, pa.

There did not seem to be any person who had any knowledge of the affair.

WANT DEPARTMENT.

We wish to call our patrons' attention to the free Want Department in this paper, where any subscriber can insert advertisements of 25 words free for one issue. As we send out over 4000 copies each week you can readily see how many people will read the same and the service it will render.

You are urged to make use of this department, as it costs you only your time and postage, and if you have anything you want to buy, sell or exchange, from a yellow dog up to a fine farm, by using this department you are quite likely to find the party you are looking for. Remember our conditions: not exceeding 25 words in one issue free, additional issues of same ad, 25 cents.

Dedication at Pine Hall.

The new Lutheran church at Pine Hall will be dedicated next Sunday, Dec. 11, and a most cordial invitation is extended to all who can arrange to attend any or all of the services connected with the feast of dedication. The services will be as follows:

Rev. J. I. Stonecypher, of Boalsburg, will preach on Saturday evening at 7:30. Sunday morning at 10 sermon by Rev. F. Manhart, D. D., one of the theological professors at Susquehanna University.

Dr. Manhart will have charge of the finances, and the dedication service will be conducted by the pastor.

Rev. J. M. Rearick, of Centre Hall, president of the Synod of Central Penna., will preach Sunday evening at 7 o'clock.

Bank Barn Burned.

About daylight Saturday morning the large bank barn on the farm of Arthur and J. A. Ricker, about one-half mile from Pine Station on the P. & E. road, was discovered on fire. The Ricker brothers succeeded in getting out all the live stock, but the hay, machinery, a lot of potatoes and other contents were burned. An empty tobacco shed about 50 feet distant from the barn was also burned, as was a corn crib and other outbuildings. How the barn caught fire is a mystery. The Messrs. Ricker place their loss at fully \$2,000, which is partly covered by insurance. A new barn will be erected at once.

Markle-Thompson.

On Wednesday at 10 o'clock at the home of Hiram Thompson near State College, James J. Markle and Mr. Thompson's daughter Margaret were married. The young couple took the train for Mt. Pleasant, Mich., where Mr. Markle has charge of the Government Indian school, and where they will make their home. The groom is a son of A. F. Markle, of State College, and is a graduate of the Pennsylvania State College course in Agriculture, class of 1903. Before taking his position at Mt. Pleasant he spent a year as Agricultural Fellow at the Experiment Station connected with the Penn'a State College.

That Toy Pistol.

The returns from another toy pistol have reached us. On Friday last master Abner Noll, of Pleasant Gap, owner of a toy pistol, had a lot of caps in his pocket, and while crawling under some building where repairs were being made, it is supposed he had some matches in the same pocket with the pistol caps, that these ignited and set the caps off. His clothing was set on fire and the boy was badly burned about the abdomen and thigh; the surface about the latter having been burned to a crisp. The toy pistol should be banished.

Martin, eldest son of Martin and Mary Corrigan, of Birmingham, was instantly killed on the railroad at Birmingham station at 9:30 o'clock Sunday morning. The boy was gathering coal from the track when No. 11, the fast newspaper express came upon him before he was aware of its approach.

58TH CONGRESS NOW IN SESSION

Opening Exercises on Monday--Short Session Predicted

PRES. ROOSEVELT'S MESSAGE

A Mild and Temperate Document Reviewing Department Work--Signally Silent Upon the Tariff and the Trusts--Sen. Knox Takes Oath

On Monday the 58th session of Congress was convened at Washington. The opening exercises were of a social nature. Members gathered in groups to chat over the recent campaign; democrats generally were the objects of more or less twitting and took it all with good humor. Floral displays were noticeable, while the desks of Senators Quay and Hoar were draped appropriately.

Tuesday President Roosevelt's message was before Congress. It is a lengthy document that required almost two hours for reading. In a large part it covers the ordinary routine work of the various departments, with suggestions here and there for improvements in the various branches of the public service. Some original ideas are suggested, but the great surprise in the whole document is the President's evasion of any discussion or suggestion relative to either the regulation of the trusts or a revision of the tariff.

He insists upon increased expenditure for battleships, forts, public buildings and improved waterways. Other recommendations of the message are for an amendment to existing law conferring upon the Interstate Commerce Commission the power to revise unreasonable freight rates and to establish instead reasonable rates to remain in effect until changed by a Court of review. For a law to prevent bribery and corruption in Federal elections; and to extend Federal aid to the construction of a trunk line of railway to connect the Gulf of Alaska with the Yukon River through American territory.

There is a striking failure of positive recommendation as to matters nearly affecting the relations of capital and labor. The currency question is disposed of by asking Congress to take up the matter of bettering the system; to consider the advisability of retiring the greenbacks, and provide for the gold redemption of every silver dollar at the option of the holder. The ship subsidyists are put off with a perfunctory mention.

Arbitration treaties with all the powers willing to enter into such stipulations will soon be laid before the Senate for ratification. Any desire for the further acquisition of territory in the Western Hemisphere is disclaimed.

The President hopes that we may so educate and civilize the people of the Philippine Islands "that in the end they will be able to stand, if not entirely alone, yet in some such relation to the United States as Cuba now stands." But he admits the end is not yet in sight. The prospect of "benevolent assimilation" seems to become more remote with every recurring official statement of the affairs of the archipelago. The soldiers are to stay there and costly inducement of schools, highways, railroads and kindergarden government to be provided. The Philippines are our white elephant.

But they are not the questions which the President was expected to discuss before the people. On the contrary, he was urged, and it was predicted and promised that he would enlighten the statesmanship and political economy of the world by dealing with the two great questions of American politics, on which the people demand and have been promised action. The trusts and the plundering tariff have no existence in the presidential view. It is a bad case of being scared or intimidated in advance by the political architects who compassed his nomination and election.

APPLES VS. PEACHES.

The large peach orchards of Centre county, which were started within the past eight years, are not promising success. The rigorous winters, perhaps nature of the soil too, may be the causes. This climate is more suited for raising apples than peaches. A citizen of Clearfield intends to engage in raising apples on a large scale, as we observe from the following:

Geo. M. Bilger, of Clearfield county proposes to rival the great apple producers of Western New York, if such a thing is possible in Pennsylvania. His growing orchard in Bradford township contains 6,000 apple trees, with a nursery stock of 5,000 trees to be transplanted next spring. Four hundred and twenty-five peach trees and 120 pear trees complete the orchard outfit. In the apple line the lowest variety planted numbers 150 trees and the highest, the York Imperial, 1600.

DYNAMITE EXPLOSION.

Clair Kessinger, employed by the American Lime & Stone company, at the Stevens quarry, in Buffalo run valley, Friday morning was preparing for a blast and had pushed a stick of dynamite in the hole with an iron rod when suddenly there was an explosion and Kessinger was hurled high in the air, coming down in the stone quarry 25 feet from where the accident happened. A large piece of the iron bar was sticking in his body near the chest. His left hand was terribly lacerated, his right arm broken at the wrist and his right hand crushed. About six inches of the iron bar had penetrated the groin and the one lung was punctured.

The unfortunate man is about thirty years of age and has a wife and three small children. They reside in the Beaver and Hoy row on North Water street.

Mr. Kessinger was brought to the Bellefonte hospital that afternoon.

The young man died Wednesday morning at the Bellefonte Hospital. Death was unexpected as he was supposed to be getting along very nicely. His remains were taken to the home of his wife's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Benjamin Krape at Salona, where interment in the Cedar Hill cemetery will take place Friday morning. Clair E. Kessinger was born at Salona, was the son of Mr. and Mrs. W. F. Kessinger of that place. He was married to Miss Florence Krape, who survives him with their three children: Richard, Annabell and Elnora. He is also survived by his parents, Mr. and Mrs. W. F. Kessinger, a brother, Torrence E., and two sisters, Edith and Elnora, all of Salona.

WE HAVE THEM.

"Frenzied Finance" is an interesting tale being told by Thos Lawson, the millionaire broker, in which he simply relates how millions are made—and public interests suffer in consequence. The remarkable exposure, now going the rounds of the papers, how a woman deeded bankers out of millions by worthless paper is truly interesting. The tale of Mrs. Chadwick's exploits in high finance are amazing. It is not long since the entire country suffered from the effects of promoters and speculators.

It is the same old story of greedy, unscrupulous human nature, just like when Jacob cheated Esau out of his birthright, only to day its manifestations are in different forms: promotion, speculation and "frenzied finance."

In this line poor old Bellefonte has suffered her share. You can bump up against fellows on every street corner who are dead sore—been cheated out of a birthright by some cunning "Jacob."

Woman Badly Burned.

Mrs. Annie Harbridge, an aged lady residing along the Bald Eagle Valley railroad a mile west of Julian, had an unfortunate experience on Tuesday last week. A passing engine threw sparks that set fire to the grass in the field, she discovered it and went out to check its spread. Unfortunately the blaze ignited her dress and as a result she was badly burned about her body. Mrs. Harbridge was alone and unable to extinguish the burning clothes. Mary Wilson, a young lady at the house, saw Mrs. Harbridge's burning clothes and rushed to her and succeeded in extinguishing the flames. She was badly burned about the body and since then has been confined to her bed in a critical condition; although 76 years of age there are some hopes of her recovery.

A Boy Killed.

Tuesday afternoon of last week Lloyd McKinley, a little grandson of James McKinley, of Milesburg, was on his way home from school and seeing John Slack, driving past in a two-horse wagon with a load of sand, climbed on behind. In the meantime he hung his dinner bucket on the cross-piece under the wagon. When he got off, he ran under the wagon to get his pail, and was caught and dragged for some distance. The driver stopped as soon as he saw the boys predicament. No blame can be attached to the driver. He was brought to the Bellefonte Hospital but his injuries were so serious that he died Thursday morning at 11.15. He was aged 5 years and 10 months.

Boated Engine and Rails.

Ira C. Knoll, formerly of Howard, but now of Marietta, Pa., was a visitor among friends throughout Centre county during the past several weeks. Mr. Knoll was born in Curtin township and in his younger days he was a boatman on the Bald Eagle Canal and it was he who brought here in canal boats all the iron, rails and even the first locomotive used on the Snow Show railroad, although Mr. Knoll is in as good health as active as though he were several score years younger.

—We have secured the agency for Riche's famous Julia Marlowe shoes for ladies.—Yeager & Davis.

OUR HISTORICAL REVIEW

A Thrilling Story of Pioneer Life From Family Records.

HISTORY OF THE BARD FAMILY

Capture of Richard Bard and Family by the Indians--Their Thrilling Experience, Final Release, and Subsequent History

(Compiled by Dr. Thomas C. VanTries).

The special interest the senior editor of your paper has always manifested in matters pertaining to local history, and as he is the President of the "Linn Historical Society of Centre county," I have ventured to hope that the following historical narrative might be acceptable to your columns. A brief word of explanation may not be out of place at this point.

At the request of several friends and relatives the writer some three years ago decided to prepare a brief history of several families who were related by marriage, and who have been somewhat prominent in the history of this (Centre) county and state. Some of them also became conspicuous in national affairs. The list selected for this purpose includes the Bard, Potter, Poe, Curtin and Gregg families. The first article of this series was a sketch of the Bard family, which was read before a company of friends in May, A. D. 1902. Although none of the Bard family ever resided in Centre county, yet I have thought that, in view of the thrilling experience of the family of Richard Bard, a sketch of the same might be of interest to some of your readers. This narrative will be appropriately introduced by a brief

HISTORY OF THE BARD FAMILY.

The most essential quality in the statement of historical facts is that they be authentic. The available data for this sketch unfortunately are meagre and incomplete. It is no easy matter to gather up a full history of people who lived more than a hundred and fifty years ago.

Archibald Bard came to America from Ireland before or about the time (A. D. 1732) of the advent of his brother-in-law, Capt. John Potter, who was the first sheriff of Cumberland county, Pa., and the father of General James Potter of Revolutionary fame. Unfortunately we have not been able to learn who was the wife of Archibald Bard and mother of Richard Bard, the hero of the following narrative. It is generally believed that Mrs. John Potter, wife of the above mentioned Capt. John Potter, was a sister of Archibald Bard. Hence, Richard speaks of Thomas Potter as his cousin.

Richard Bard, the hero of our narrative, was the son of the above mentioned Archibald Bard. Archibald Bard also had the following sons, viz.—William, David, Thomas and James. There probably were other sons and also daughters, but we have not been able to learn their names. William was one of the founders of Bardstown, Kentucky. Several of his brothers, including Richard, seem to have taken up lands in Kentucky at an early date.

Our hero, Richard Bard, was born February 8th, 1736, and died February 22nd, 1799—aged sixty-three years. Richard Bard's wife was Catharine Poe, sister of Capt. James Poe, who was the grandfather of the writer of this article. She was born June 13th, 1736 (the same year as her husband), and died August 31st, 1811, aged seventy-five years—a remarkable age to be attained by a woman who passed through all the hardships and privations incident to her captivity. They both lived and died near Mercersburg, Franklin county, Pa. They seem to have had a large family, but we have only the names of two of their sons, viz: Archibald and Thomas. The great event in their lives was their capture by a band of Indians on the 13th day of April, A. D. 1758, at their home in York county, (now Franklin county, Pa.) not far from Mercersburg, Pa. Their infant child, their cousin Thomas Potter, and several of their servants were also captured at the same time. He escaped from the Indians five or six days after their capture at a point not far from what is now Homer City, in Indiana county, Pa., leaving his wife still in captivity. She was afterwards ransomed from the Indians by his paying the sum of forty pounds or two hundred dollars for her release. She was in captivity for two years and five months.

Fuller particulars of their capture and escape will appear latter. The Hon. Thomas Roberts Bard, at present U. S. Senator from the state of California, is a great grandson of Richard Bard. He is a descendant of Thomas Bard, third son of Richard and Catharine Poe. Senator Bard's father was Richard McFarland Bard, a grandson of Richard.

The Hon. Archibald Bard Darrah, a member of the last Congress from the state of Michigan, is also a great grandson of Richard Bard and Catharine Poe.

While residing in Blairsville, Pa., the writer made the acquaintance of a number of the descendants of the Bard family. J. McKinnie Turner and his brother Gardner Turner (recently deceased), are also great grandsons of Richard Bard and

Continued on Page 4.

FACT, FUN AND FANCY.

Bright, Sparkling Paragraphs--Selected and Original.

TIME TO WAKE UP.

Girls, since first the world began,
Have often dreamed of an ideal;
But when at last they get a man,
Dreams, they find are seldom real.
—Cincinnati Enquirer.

HIS F's.

Once a young fellow named T8
Asked K8 if she'd be his m8.
"I'm sorry to 68
I'm married," said K8.
And such was the young fellow's f8.
—N. O. Times-Democrat.

If I were but a dentist,
I'd never have to beg;
The dentist pulls your wisdom teeth,
And then he pulls your leg;
—Cleveland Leader.

Always tidy—the ocean.
A rare treat is one that is well done.
A cooled cellar maketh a warm house.
No man is a bore who is willing to lend money.

Try and have a circle of friends that will ring true.
A green grocer is one who trusts dead-beat customers.

The most difficult part of a drinking song is the refrain.
Doughnuts can be opened without the aid of a nut cracker.

Window curtains may be the same color, but they're all shades.
The philanthropist generally manages to be caught in the act.

There is plenty of room at the top for the flying machine man.
An umbrella may be recovered without ever having been lost.

A burned child dreads the fire yet lots of widowers marry again.
The coal man gives his coal a weigh, but he evidently charges for it.

The man who attempts to roast the cook may be forced to cook the roast.
Does the young father who wheels a baby coach feel that he is in the push?

As to when things are plump, the carpenter can often give points to the plumber.
It is a heap better to have been disappointed in love than disappointed in marriage.

The fellow who coined the saying that "Everything comes to him who waits," wasn't the editor of a country newspaper with two or three hundred subscribers who are slow.

From birth a boy can hold property; at seven he is, if intelligent, answerable for a crime; at fourteen he is punishable for a misdemeanor; at eighteen he is qualified for the military service; at twenty-one he may declare himself independent of his father and old enough to vote. At twenty-five he is eligible to Congress; at thirty to the United States Senate, and at forty-five he is exempt from military duty.

THEY MARRY YOUNG.

From the Craftsman Journal:
Boggs township, which lies immediately south of Clearfield, is remarkable in more ways than one. It is noted for its poor soil, and for giving good mineral deposits and for giving to the business and professional world many noted men. Then it boasts of one man who at the age of 55 is the father of 18 children, all of whom, we believe, are living. Now comes the announcement that on Sunday next the youngest bride known in the history of the township will be led to the altar by a young man yet in his minority. The young bride is just 14 years of age and the engagement has existed for several months. A big wedding has been planned. We have never made a complete examination of the marriage license docket, which shows the ages of the thousands who marry in this county, but we venture to say that docket will not disclose many in the long list who marry at this age.

The city papers last week, commented upon a Philadelphia woman being congratulated because she had become a grandmother at the early age of 36 years. This impressed us as a rare circumstance yet when we consider girls marrying at the age of 14 years there is nothing remarkable about being a grandmother at the age of 36. Even over in Boggs township there lives a farmer who was the grandfather of two children born to his one married daughter before he was forty years of age, showing something as remarkable as the Philadelphia woman who became a grandmother at the age of 36 years. Just whether a daughter at the age of 14 should be permitted to marry is a question we leave to those who have given more study and thought, but it is known that girls who have married young have developed into the best housewives, while those who have married late in life have been failures in everything that pertains to a good wife.

—Men's canvass leggins socks.—Yeager & Davis.