

# The Centre Democrat.

Circulation Over 4,000.

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Vol. 27. No. 2.

## 18 SET OF BOOKS TO BE GIVEN AWAY

Free Distribution Among The School Teachers of Centre County.

## PORTRAITS OF THE PRESIDENTS

Go With Each Set of "Famous American Statesmen and Orators"—Over \$150 Worth of Valuable Works Purchased By The Centre Democrat.

(The reader is requested to turn to the last page (8) of this issue and see the large advertisement for "Famous American Statesmen and Orators" as given by the F. F. Lovell company. This same advertisement appeared in the Millheim Journal last spring.—Ed.)

The above description very fully and clearly sets forth what the six volumes of "Famous American Statesmen and Orators" is like. It is a work that is a necessity in the library of any student, instructor, or professional man. It is a storehouse of rare literary productions that will prove interesting, instructive and entertaining to old and young; is carefully compiled by one of America's greatest editors, who also is a political and historical writer of national fame—Col. A. K. McClure.

"The Centre Democrat" has purchased 18 complete sets of these works, including the portraits of the American Presidents, from Washington to Roosevelt, with each set. Six sets are bound in fine Morocco leather and very handsome; and twelve sets are in beautiful cloth gilt. These 18 sets of books, according to publishers quotations, are worth over \$150. We propose to present these 18 complete sets (108 volumes in all) of rare works, including the Presidential portraits, to 18 different persons now engaged in teaching school in Centre county. Who shall have them we can't say, for we propose to ask the readers and patrons of the Centre Democrat to make the award, by the following method:

Centre county public schools are divided into six Local Institute Districts as follows:

- ### Local Institute Districts.
- 1—Harris, Ferguson and College townships and Centre Hill and state College boro—56 teachers.
  - 2—Spring, Benner and Walker townships and Bellefonte boro—57 teachers.
  - 3—Hoggs, Howard Marion, Liberty and Curtin townships and Mulesburg and Howard boro—48 teachers.
  - 4—Union, Huston, Worth, Taylor, Half Moon and Patton townships and Unionville boro—37 teachers.
  - 5—Rush, Snow Shoe and Burnside townships, and Philipsburg and South Philipsburg boro—59 teachers.
  - 6—Three sets will be allowed for each district—one in Morocco and two in cloth gilt binding; and we ask our readers to indicate by a popular vote who are the deserving teachers to receive these valuable books; and for that purpose the following method has been established:

### Newspaper Ballot.

From this on, until the 22nd of March, in each issue of "The Centre Democrat" the following ballot, each one good for one vote, will be printed, which any one can cut out, write in the name of any teacher of his choice, anywhere in Centre county, and if it is returned to this office *inside of 15 days*, it will be placed in a locked box, and each week the votes will be counted by two judges and the result will be published. These ballots will be numbered and dated as follows:

### SCHOOL TEACHERS' BOOK AWARD.

## The Centre Democrat.

### NEWSPAPER BALLOT.

No. 1, Jan. 12.

ONE VOTE FOR

Name of Teacher

(Carefully insert in line below name of town or township where teacher is employed.)

This ballot, if cut along the border (must include the date) and sent to this office inside of 15 days from above date, will be good for one vote.

CHAS. R. KURTZ, Pub.

### Premium Ballots.

Premium Ballots will be issued at our office upon the following basis, to persons who pay on their subscription during this contest:

2 Votes:—will be issued for every month paid on subscription that is in arrears, OR 25 FOR A FULL YEAR.

4 Votes:—will be issued for every month that is paid in advance OR 50 FOR A FULL YEAR. (Persons already in advance can get full benefit of that time by another extension.)

8 Votes:—will be issued per month on new subscriptions received, OR 100 FOR A FULL YEAR. No new subscription will be received for less than 6 months. Transferring an old to a new name will not be counted.

50 Votes:—will also be issued for every \$1 worth of Job Printing ordered, delivered and paid for between this and March 22nd, 1905.

These Premium Ballots are issued only at the office, are signed by us, numbered to prevent duplication, a stub record is retained for comparison when counting to assure accuracy. These Premium Ballots can be voted any time or retained up to the last count.

You can vote for any teacher anywhere in the county. The ballot box will be kept in our office, securely locked, and keys will be held only by the judges.

After ballots are cast and counted they can not be credited to another. No employee of the office will be allowed to cast a vote in this contest.

The final count will be made Wednesday, March 22nd. Ballot box will close at noon of that day.

In each district the teacher receiving the largest vote will receive the expensive set in Morocco binding; the two next highest will each receive a set in the cloth gilt binding.

Prof. John D. Meyer, Principal of the Bellefonte High school, and James Cori, Deputy Recorder, have been selected to count the ballots and announce the different awards. On this account Prof. Meyer's name is eliminated from this contest.

### Those Bad Boys.

There are a lot of bad boys about our court house and Commissioner Meyer has not been the only victim of their cunning. For some time Janitor Thos. Donachy had been twitted that under the new Court he would lose his job. Jan. 2nd, when court was to be called, Treasurer Foster noticed the janitor pacing the hallway, uneasily watching for 10 a. m., time to ring the bell. The janitor was diverted to some special duty and the bad boys slipped up and rang the bell. The first stroke, it is said, had the desired effect; was a terribly sudden shock—for to lose a job without previous notice is not according to the "statutes."

Since it is all over the janitor enjoys the joke and will pay a liberal reward to find out who set up the job on him.

### Set of Cowards.

Monday night Jan. 2, Bradly Herr, of Monment, drove down to Eagleville to attend the Christmas exercises in the Baptist church. He put his horse in Rev. West's stable and left the buggy stand outside. After the exercises were over he went to hitch up to return home, he found the buggy gone, and with the aid of a lantern tracked it down to Marsh Creek, where it was standing along the road and was terribly cut up and destroyed. The parties who did the act are suspected, and will be closely watched until the other party are sure of their men, when the law will take hold of them and give them what they deserve.

### Leg Broken.

Arthur McNitt, who is employed at the McNitt Brothers lumber job near Hecla Park had the misfortune to have his left leg crushed below the knee on Friday afternoon. He was moving some heavy logs when one of them accidentally rolled against him. Both bones were broken and protruded from the flesh. Drs. Fisher, of Zion and Huston, of Clintondale attended his injuries. During that week several men were injured about this operation.

### Lucas-Fisher.

Miss Laura J. Fisher, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. W. E. Fisher, of Wingate, Centre county, and Clayton Lucas, son of Mr. and Mrs. George Lucas, of Medix Run, Elk county, were united in the holy bonds of matrimony Wednesday evening at 6 o'clock at the residence of the Methodist pastor by Rev. C. M. Piper. Upon returning to the bride's parents a sumptuous supper was served among relatives and friends.

### In the Hotel Business 51 Years.

Peter Meitzler, proprietor of the Hotel Riverside Lock Haven, will entertain his friends at a banquet, Tuesday evening, January 17, from 8 to 9 o'clock, in commemoration of his fifty-one years' service as a hotel man. Landlord Meitzler will no doubt give his friends a fine lay-out on this occasion, as he did last year.

### Named Changed to Avis.

The name of the postoffice at Oak Grove, formerly called Centre Oak, has been changed by the Government to Avis. The change went into effect on Jan. 1st.

—108 valuable books, worth over \$150, will be given to Centre county school teachers free by The Centre Democrat. Read all about it on page 8 of this issue.

## SCHOOL DIRECTORS ANNUAL MEET

Will Hold Their Convention Here Next Week

## PROMINENT EDUCATORS COMING

Who Will Address the Convention on Important Topics-- Splendid Music Prepared for the Occasion--Large Attendance Expected

The School Directors' Association of Centre county will meet in annual convention in the court house in Bellefonte on Thursday, January 19th, 1905, at 10 o'clock a. m., having three sessions, closing on Thursday night.

County Superintendent Gramley joins the officers of the Association in making this call for a school directors' convention in accordance with the provisions of the Act of Assembly.

The services of Dr. N. C. Schaeffer, State superintendent of schools of Pennsylvania, and Superintendent James M. Coughlin of Wilkesbarre, Pennsylvania's most eminent educators, have been secured for this meeting, and they will be present at each session during the day.

At the evening session the time will be occupied by these scholarly men in the discussion of the most important issues concerning our Public Schools at this time. This will be a rare treat to the people of Centre county and the citizens of Bellefonte.

The following is the program: Thursday at 10 o'clock devotional exercises by Dr. H. C. Holloway, election of officers for the ensuing year. Topic for discussion: "Would Closer Supervision of Our County Schools be More Beneficial and How Could it be Secured?"

Thursday afternoon at 1:30 o'clock, devotional exercises by Rev. John A. Wood; address, "Recent School Legislation," David Fortney and others; address, "School Supervision," Dr. N. C. Schaeffer. General topic, "Waste in Management of Schools, School Heating and Sanitation." These subjects will be introduced by Supt. James M. Coughlin.

Thursday evening at 8 o'clock devotional exercises, Rev. Amos M. Schindler, address, Dr. N. C. Schaeffer; address, Supt. James M. Coughlin.

A special chorus of 30 voices, under the direction of Prof. P. H. Meyer, assisted by Miss Bessie Dr. Worth as pianist, will furnish the music.

### G. A. R. Installation.

The newly elected officers of Gregg Post will be installed on Saturday evening, January 14th, in their rooms, at this place. It will be conducted by Department Commander John McNevin, of Altoona, Pa., assisted by members of his staff. Prominent speakers will be present to take part in the Camp Fire. The following officers will be installed:

Commander—W. H. Musser; Senior Vice Commander—W. H. Taylor; Junior Vice Commander—Monroe Armor; Surgeon—John H. Bryan; Officer of the Day—John I. Curtin; Quartermaster—H. B. Pontius; Chaplain—James Harris; Officer of guard—Chas. Eckenroth; Representative to Encampment—Emanuel Noll; Alternate—Amos Garbrick.

### Marriage Licenses.

An examination of the marriage license docket in the office of Register A. G. Archey shows that during the year 1904 there were granted only 269 marriage licenses, while in 1903 the total was 360 and in 1902 the number granted was 374. The number in 1904 was even away below the average, for in the nineteen years the marriage license law has been in effect, from October 9, 1885, when the first license was granted until October 9, 1904, a total of about 6,450 licenses have been granted, or an average of 340 per year.

This does not indicate a great degree of prosperity, but is an intimation that Centre county girls during Leap year are quite slow.

### Don't Salt the Walks.

An exchange says: People who throw salt on pavements covered with snow or ice which the salt is intended to remove have aroused the ire of many pedestrians during the last few days. The salt makes the snow stick to the shoes and soaks so thoroughly into the leather that it spoils the footwear. A physician said that the soaking of salt into shoe soles of pedestrians was no doubt the cause of numerous cases of pneumonia and bronchitis, for once leather is saturated by the stuff the shoes remain damp the entire winter.

### "I Die at Midnight," She Said.

Calling the members of her family to her bedside, Miss Agnes M. Tully, aged 22, of Summer Hill, bade them good-bye. "I am going to die at midnight, and I'll say farewell now," she said. When the clock told the hour of 12 she gave a short gasp and fell back, dead, a victim of tuberculosis.

## MORE SMALLPOX.

Paul Wetzel, son of Hon. J. Henry Wetzel, of this place, became ill last week and on Sunday morning the case was pronounced smallpox. "The Wetzel home is on East Linn street, outside the Boro limits. The usual quarantine regulations are being observed. His attack is in a mild form.

The boy had been out of school for several weeks, but on Monday and Tuesday of last week was in attendance. His teacher, Prof. John Meyer, noticed that his face was flushed and inquired at the time if he had been ill.

The two school buildings have all been fumigated thoroughly and vaccination will be required of all children by this coming Monday, unless they have been vaccinated inside of three years. All pupils who were in contact with young Wetzel at school are required to remain at home for a short period until all possible danger has passed.

It is known that the Wetzel boy and Win Love, who is just recovering, were together, and that is where it came from. Young Love has about recovered from his attack. It is known that he contracted the disease from going into a quarantined house on Thomas street.

Lizzie Farley, daughter of Mrs. John Farley, matron of the poor house, has contracted smallpox and that institution has been put under close quarantine by the authorities since Tuesday. She is not at all sick at this time, the attack being in a mild form.

## FARMERS' MUT. INS. CO.

The annual meeting and election of twelve directors and officers of the Farmers' Mutual Fire Insurance Company of Centre County was held on Monday in their rooms in the Reynolds bank building. The following board of directors was unanimously elected for the ensuing year:

J. G. Goheen, Frank McFarlane, J. B. Strohm, F. M. Fisher, Robert Reed, W. Fred Reynolds, H. E. Duck, G. B. Haines, Jacob Bortoff, Fred Kurtz, Z. D. Thomas, J. R. Brungart.

The board then organized by electing the following officers unanimously:

President: Frederick Kurtz; Vice President: Jacob Bortoff; Secretary: D. F. Luse; Treasurer: John G. Bailey. The annual statement shows a gratifying condition of the affairs of the company, there being close on to two million dollars in risks in force, with trifling losses during the last five years. The loss of George M. Hoy, in the burning of the barn on the Gray farm a short time ago, was adjusted, Mr. Hoy being awarded \$692 for his loss, which was paid.

All the old members of the board of directors and officers were re-elected except with these changes: Robert Reed was chosen to succeed H. C. Campbell, dec'd, as a director, and John Bailey to succeed B. H. Arney as treasurer.

## Rev. Lewis Robb Resigns.

At a meeting of the consistory of Trinity Reformed church, Altoona, held last Thursday evening the Rev. Lewis Robb tendered his resignation as pastor and the same was accepted. The resignation takes effect with the last day of February. The Rev. Robb went to Trinity church in September, 1893, from Williamsport. His pastorate there has extended over a period of eleven years and six months. When he came the congregation numbered 250 and now is 300. There is now no debt. Mr. Robb resigns to accept the pastorate of Trinity Reformed church at Wilkesburg. The Rev. is a native of Howard township.

## Sensation at Waddle.

John J. Cast resides at Waddle station, along the Bellefonte C. R. R. For some time certain boys were annoying him. Sunday afternoon he spied two crawling through a window into his house and he shot after them with a 32 calibre revolver and struck Benjamin Eters in the thigh.

The young fellow was brought to the Bellefonte Hospital for treatment, Monday evening, the wound is not considered dangerous.

Mr. Cast was in town the same day ready to answer for the shooting, but thus far no charges have been preferred against him.

## Peculiarly Unfortunate.

Curt Kleckner, a former Loganton stage driver, several weeks ago had several fingers mutilated by a saw while working on a saw mill near Millheim again met with an accident on Saturday. He was engaged in filing a saw when in trying to turn it the file broke and one of the saw teeth cut a large gash in the palm of his hand. He also had a rubber boot torn from his foot last week by being caught in the machinery at Miller's planing mill in this place. About the next we hear of Curt he will be "staked" like a saw log.—Millheim Journal.

The man who boasts that he has no vices is also apt to have no friends.

## LATE NOTES FROM EASTERN WAR

The Japs Are Busy Preparing Port Arthur

## GREAT NAVAL BATTLE AWAITED

A Russian Battle Ship Reported Sunk--Czar Will Send a Third Fleet--All Quiet in Manchuria--Russians are Discouraged.

It is rumored that a Japanese squadron is at Diego Garcia, Chagos Islands. The Russian Admiral was informed on Jan. 2 that Japanese warships were proceeding to meet the Russian squadron. The Russian squadron will require a month to cross the Indian Ocean.

## ARMY LOSING FAITH.

The First Division of the Third Pacific Squadron will leave at the end of January. It will consist of four battle-ships, the cruiser Vladimir Monomach and several torpedo-boat destroyers and torpedo-boats.

## JAPAN THREATENED CHILI.

It is asserted that Japan announced to Chili that, despite the Monroe Doctrine possible imbroglia with America, Japan would send warships to bombard a Chilean port if the South American republic sold another warship to Russia.

It is further asserted that a similar warning, though in less forcible terms, was sent to Argentina.

## ARMY LOSING FAITH.

Information has reached reliable quarters here that the Russian generals in Manchuria are losing confidence in Gen. Kuropatkin, and that the Russian situation around Mukden is serious. It is feared that if Kuropatkin attacks the Japanese position along the Sha River he will court disaster, and that his further retreat will mean the demoralization of his army.

Long inaction, the informant says further, is undermining the morals of the Russian Army and the soldiers do not show their former fighting spirit or qualities.

The siege guns to be sent to Manchuria from Port Arthur will probably be placed in advanced positions for the purpose of enabling the Japanese to shell far into the Russian lines.

What will be the next move in the Eastern War is uncertain. The capture of Port Arthur last week seems to have put a check on operations. That point is now undergoing repairs. The fortifications are being improved and the harbor cleared of mines.

When the surrender was made it was estimated that about 20,000 Russians would constitute the garrison, but it aggregates nearer 40,000, many of whom are sick and wounded. These prisoners, and most of the officers, are being deported to Japan. Those who were willing to take oath not to again take part in the present war were released and permitted to return home.

A dispatch was received on Friday that Vice Admiral Rojestevsky's flag ship had struck a rock and foundered. This news has not been verified. This was part of the Russian Baltic fleet enroute to relieve Port Arthur. Another report is that the Czar has ordered the return of the Baltic fleet until it can be re-inforced. The loss of Port Arthur has caused much uneasiness throughout Russia and a general uprising is feared. In Manchuria the two great armies appear to be inactive, are in winter quarters. Russia promises to increase her army to 750,000 for the campaign when spring opens. The Japs will send up their Port Arthur army and additional re-inforcements.

In the meantime there are good reasons to hope that peace terms will be concluded soon as both nations realize the frightful outcome of continued hostilities.

## Closed Down After 100 Years' Run.

The Greenwood Furnace in Jackson township, Huntingdon county which for a century has had the reputation of furnishing a superior grade of charcoal iron, a few days ago closed down indefinitely. Jackson township still has an abundance of excellent iron ore but wood for charcoal has become scarce and the expensive methods of transporting the product to market makes it impossible to continue the business with profit.

## Union S. S. Teachers' Meeting.

All persons interested in Sunday school work are invited to attend the Union Teachers' Meeting. The first lesson will be taught next Tuesday evening, Jan. 17th, in the Presbyterian Chapel, at 7:30 pm., sharp.

The republican bosses of Allegheny and Philadelphia, in the legislature, have decreed that the republicans of the smaller country counties, shall have no appointments. This gives the big bosses a larger dish of pap for their home use.

## FACT, FUN AND FANCY.

Bright, Sparkling Paragraphs--Selected and Original.

Kick not, is a good motto. It's a wise cork that knows its own pop.

It is wrong to bet if you don't better yourself.

A girl may be a good looker, and still need glasses.

The doctor's bill has made many a man feel bilious.

If you have no money you can't send a telegram on tick.

The poor we have always with us, especially poor excuses.

A man resembles his own whiskers when he lives on cheek.

Some fellows actually get dizzy looking down on their neighbors.

Just because a man is cornered it doesn't signify that he isn't square.

Don't tell a man to take a back seat unless you want him to take affront.

Few people are ever in such a hurry that they won't stop to tell their troubles.

A woman has an awful queer look in her eyes when men talk about padding the election returns.

When you guess right in a political campaign you are a great leader; when you guess wrong a decomposed boss.

A Chester girl was wooed by mail, but when he called to marry her she refused to become his wife. Courting by mail is about as satisfying as a china egg on toast. Your true girl wants to be courted by a male—not by mail.

## "WHITE LIES" PERMITTED.

Justice Dickey, of Brooklyn, has an entertaining way of stating good law. A wealthy young woman of Williamsburg met a young man on an English steamer. They became engaged before the steamer reached Liverpool and were married two days later. The young man stated that he was a son of a General in the United States Army, and that he was Attorney-General of New Jersey. His visiting card seemed to prove it.

When the bride discovered that her husband's position and ancestry were not as represented she brought suit to annul the marriage on the ground of fraud. Judge Dickey decided that false representations as to fortune and social position do not constitute material matrimonial fraud, and that the defendant might make a good husband without being Attorney-General or having a Major-General for a father. In his opinion Judge Dickey adds:

If all lying during courtship was a legal reason for the annulment of marriage our calendars would be crowded with cases. The marriage relation is too sacred to be trifled with in the way this plaintiff has done and wishes to do.

It is natural in courtship for the man to put his best foot forward. Sometimes the girl too may convey ideas about her lineage and wealth, and even her beauty that the facts do not bear out. If deception either before or after marriage were a good ground for a divorce, the other divorce laws might as well be abolished.—World.

## A NARROW ESCAPE.

Wednesday night of last week, after midnight, a house about one mile west of Zion, occupied by Mrs. Bertie Lutz as tenant, made a close escape from being burned. Mrs. Lutz during the night was aroused from her sleep by the presence of smoke in her bedroom on the second floor, and to her surprise found that there was fire in the floor under her bed and that her bed had also taken fire. She at once alarmed near neighbors Mr. Royer's, and with the prompt assistance of these the fire was put out, Mrs. Lutz having had the presence of mind to keep all doors closed to prevent a draft feeding the flames. The fire had already burned a considerable space out of the floor, and ruined the bed in which she had been sleeping, besides her clothing and carpets, in the room, and other articles in the room adjoining damaged. Her loss may be something like \$75 insured in the Farmers' Mutual of Centre Co. The house made a very narrow escape, and is insured in the Anville company; the damage to the house may be about \$150, and was owned by Hiram Lutz. The fire is supposed to have been caused by a defective flue.

## Quite Sad Indeed.

A Washington county (Missouri) editor writes: "One of our newly married young ladies kneads bread with her gloves on. The editor of this paper needs bread with his shoes on; he needs it with his trousers on, and unless the delinquent readers of this old rag of freedom pay up soon we will need bread without a darn thing on."

## School House Burned.

The Fairview public school building about a mile and a half north of Howard was burned to the ground on Tuesday morning, the fire starting in the attic from a defective flue. It was a single room building with Winfield Thompson as instructor. No insurance.