

# The Centre Democrat.

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## EDITOR HARTER IN CONVULSIONS

Would impeach Judge Orvis. If He Only Could.

## OPENING OF A TEN-YEAR WAR

Deceives His Readers By Suppressing Important Evidence--Bucks Like a Broncho, and Squeals Like a Pig Under the Fence.

Our people were given a rare treat in last week's Gazette by the appearance of a lengthy article in which Editor Harter assumes the role of a Washburn, rails at the President Judge of our courts, whom he would impeach--but can't. That is natural, for all know that Tom has not recovered from the terrible lambasting he and his Judge got from the people last fall. For that reason the mere sight of Judge Orvis brings on such violent convulsions, and the lamentations of his friend in distress drive him to paroxysms of frenzy. This we anticipated, therefore no one has been surprised. His job is good for ten long years, Providence permitting--and wails will continue from this source as the years roll gracefully by.

To be serious for a moment, and briefly to the point: THE CENTRE DEMOCRAT deems it unnecessary to devote much time or space for an extended reply. Mr. Orvis' election last fall was a splendid endorsement by our people. It was a testimonial of confidence in a man who has been before the public in a professional capacity for years; his elevation was not a political accident, or the fate of circumstances--therefore is more reliable than the wail of sore and disgruntled politicians. The political dirt hurled at him last fall, from the same quarter, only humiliated these same calumniators, and that is why no alarm is occasioned now by this bitter onslaught.

The article alluded to intimates that Judge Orvis has dealt unfairly in granting licenses in many cases. In this Editor Harter is not only unfair, but absolutely ignorant or deliberately untruthful in most of his statements. In the first place he has no means of knowing all the information that is brought to the Court by attorneys and the public in regard to the various liquor applications, therefore is hardly competent to question the court's action. He has even withheld the notorious faults, shortcomings, and personal unfitness of many whom he champions as unfortunate victims of an alleged unjust court. The most damaging testimony given against some of these very men in open court, proving them guilty of the grossest violations of the law, he has deliberately withheld, and these very men, we are reliably informed, in their resentment, have framed affidavits for another attack upon Judge Orvis in the Gazette this week.

A suppression of the testimony of reliable witnesses is a deliberate deception of his readers, and this he has done. He even censures Judge Orvis for refusing certain men license, the mention of whose very name brings a blush of shame wherever they are known. The failure of others is ascribed to "evil advisers," meaning that every democratic attorney and about half of the republicans at this bar are disreputable practitioners. All this, and much more, hardly merits the dignity of serious discussion.

The granting of license is a matter of discretion on the part of the Court; that he can not and will not please all is true; as long as minds act and think differently there will be a difference of opinion. We do not extend this as an apology, for we believe the court knows its business, and the best interests have been served.

Those persons who differ from our views or question these statements, are urged to consult the various members of the Centre County Bar in regard to Judge Orvis' course on the license question. These men have been upon intimate and confidential terms at all times with the Court. They are in a position to know more about the license question than all Centre county combined, as to why certain individuals were refused, or why they withdrew their applications. We venture that the entire bar will endorse Judge Orvis' course and repudiate the unfounded, unwarranted insinuations of Tom Harter. Hold! Did we say all? Yes, we said all--but all but two, but two attorneys--and those two will be the conspiring enemies of this court as well as the inspiration of the Gazette's vapors for years to come.

HON. JOHN NOLL was recognized, at Harrisburg, by being appointed as the democratic member of a commission to compile returns of the election this fall. While at Harrisburg his course has been creditable and consistent, and he seems to be in good standing with his fellow members.

## MONDAY'S SEVERE STORM.

We had two thunder gusts last Monday. One set in at 9 a. m., with some peals of thunder, and .13 inch of rain, lasting about twenty minutes with a chilliness of the air. An hour later it became warm although there was not a clear sky. In the afternoon about 3 o'clock the sky in the west was overcast with dark and heavy clouds, portentous of a great storm. As the clouds approached the darkness increased until it became more like night than day, and all business places had to be lit up. Flash after flash of vivid lightning played in the heavens and heavy thunder was a continuous roll. High winds preceded the gust. Its duration was about half an hour and the rainfall was .15 of an inch. Apparently we only had the outer edge of the storm, whilst its centre must have been terrific.

All along the railroad, from Coburn to Oak Hall, much damage was done by the storm, to fences, orchards, and timber. Near Oak Hall a barn was unroofed. There was no harm done in Brush Valley by the storm, did not seem to rage there.

At Howard we are informed the storm was terrific and did considerable harm to fences and trees.

The large barn on John Musser estate farm tenanted by Mr. Wagner, was torn to pieces and much harm done to trees and fences in Buffalo Run valley.

Andrew Harter's barn on the farm near Coburn was unroofed. The gable end of Dan'l Hosterman's barn was torn out and the roof damaged, along with his fences.

On Jacob Sanders timber lands, also Andrew Harter's, Simon Rotes, Mrs. Geo. Stover's estate, Reuben Harter's, all the large trees were uprooted, and about the same damage all through that section.

Jas. Thompson's barn at Lemont was partly unroofed. Wm. Thompson's shingle shed at Centre Furnace was wrecked. A new stable of Geo. Thompson in the Barrens was wrecked.

At Philipsburg: The severest rain and wind storms that has ever swept over that section. From various parts of town reports are of damage being done to property, signs, trees, etc. During the fiercest part of the storm a darkness settled down over the town almost equal to midnight.

In Pittsburg and other sections great hail stones got in damaging work.

The grand stand at Hecla Park was totally wrecked. The steeple of the Evangelical church at Hublersburg was blown down. The roof was blown off of several freight cars at Millhall.

In Georgesvalley the storm was severe. Dan'l Ripka's barn was unroofed. Mrs. Sarah Reeder's barn was unroofed. Henry P. Lingle's stable was unroofed. The Logan school house, brick, had gable end blown out down to the square and the roof blown off, only one corner remaining of same.

At Pleasant View near Bellefonte, the Union Chapel a small stone edifice was struck by lightning and badly damaged.

At State College the coal sheds of John Stuart and William Thompson's shingle mill were blown to the ground. At Buffalo Run the large barns of Harry Markle and James D. Tyson were unroofed, fences blown down and trees uprooted.

At Millheim the barns of John Stoner, and John Hayes were unroofed and portion of the roof was blown from the Hosiery factory. At Penns Creek the Eby barn was considerably damaged by the storm.

## Where They Get Old.

Beech Creek has always been known as a healthy place and speaking of ages suggests the mention of the following persons says the Lock Haven Express, whom we respect as fully as we do their age, all residents of this borough and living close enough to call from the residence of the one to the other: Samuel Saylor, 86, Richard Berryhill 83, Samuel Bowman 82, George W. Lingle 82, James McGhee 82, Mrs. Z. Ruple 82, Mrs. George Metzger 80, Mrs. M. L. Packer 78, Mrs. V. S. Smith 78, John McGhee 77, H. H. Berry 76, Mrs. R. Berryhill 76, Mrs. J. T. Fearon 74, S. W. Gardner 74. Many others can be named who have passed the three score and ten mark. Of those named all are enjoying good health at their advanced age with the exception of one or two. Taken in the aggregate, their ages represent 1,110 years. This is convincing proof that Beech Creek is about the healthiest place in Clinton county. In Beech Creek twp. they have some health to brag about too, and a long list could be named, headed by Uriah Kitchen, a hero of both the Mexican and Civil wars, who is 84 years old.

Mrs. Frank Robb, of Nittany, is on a prolonged visit to Berwick, where she has two daughters and one son Murray; having been absent two months and expects to remain for some time.

## POOR CHILDREN CAN BE ADMITTED

The Pruner Will Does Not Exclude Pauper Orphans.

## A MISTAKEN IDEA CORRECTED

The Entire Provisions of the Bequest Republished--Altoona Is Included--A Difference Between "Paupers' Children" and "Pauper Orphans."

Sentiment in regard to the Pruner home for friendless children, bequeathed to Bellefonte and Tyrone, continues to arouse discussion in our community. Naturally there is a difference of opinion. The offer from the heirs to give each borough \$10,000 in cash if they do not accept the bequest tempts numerous individuals; and many mistaken notions prevail as to the bequest. For that reason we publish herewith the full text of that portion of the Pruner will to show exactly what it does say, viz:

"For the purpose of benefiting humanity and caring for those in need I give and bequeath in trust to the corporation of Tyrone and the corporation of Bellefonte, Pa., the old Homestead which I own at Bellefonte, Pa., for a Home for Friendless Children from the towns of Tyrone and Bellefonte, the House to be called the 'E. J. Pruner Home for Friendless Children,' and for the purpose of endowing said Home I bequeath in trust forever to the corporation of the Borough of Tyrone, Pa., and to the corporation of the Borough of Bellefonte, Pa., the Brick Building on Penn's Avenue near Juniata River, known as the Pruner Block, and also the block corner Penna. Avenue and 11th Street, known as the Hoover Block, and also my land in the State of North Dakota and my land in State of Kansas, and my land in Taylor, Worth and Rush townships, Centre county, Pa., for the purpose of endowment to said school. The children sent to said Home are not to be under five years of age and when they arrive at 12 years of age places are to be obtained for them by the Board of Managers of the Home. When there is an excess of revenue for the support of Friendless Children from the towns of Tyrone and Bellefonte, then Friendless Children can be admitted from Altoona, Pa. It is distinctly to be understood that this Home is not to be a Home for pauper children, but for children who have no parents. I appoint the Fidelity Trust and Safe Deposit Co. of Philadelphia, my executor, and to carry out the provision of this Will.

"Witness my hand and seal the 9th day of November, 1899  
E. J. PRUNER.  
MARY ADAIR, Nov. 9, 1896.  
R. L. ROSE, Nov. 9, 1896.  
"Should there be any reasons why the Borough of Tyrone and the Borough of Bellefonte cannot carry out the provisions of this Will then the property for said Home is bequeathed to my niece Sallie M. Hayes.

"As I have stated on page 8th of this Will should there exist any reasons why the Borough of Tyrone and the Borough of Bellefonte cannot carry out the provisions of this Will in relation to the Home for friendless Children then the property that was bequeathed to the Borough of Tyrone and Borough of Bellefonte for the purpose of a Home, if such becomes invalidated from any cause then said real estate is bequeathed absolutely to my niece Sallie M. Hayes, of Bellefonte, and all legacies that may revert back to estate of E. J. Pruner are for the benefit of the Home for Friendless Children provided said Borough of Tyrone and Borough of Bellefonte can carry out the provision of the Will, and if they cannot then all legacies that revert back to estate of E. J. Pruner to be invested in Sallie M. Hayes."

The argument is made that there would not be enough children in Bellefonte and Tyrone to warrant the continuance of such a home. You will note that under such a condition the city of Altoona is included which has about four times the population of Bellefonte and Tyrone; according to the last census was over forty thousand.

Next mistaken idea is that orphan pauper children would be excluded. We do not believe that any court would so interpret the wording of Col. Pruner's will. Note the first sentence of the bequest: "For the purpose of benefiting humanity and caring for those IN NEED." When a person is in need, according to Webster those words mean, in "want of the means of subsistence; POVERTY; indigence; destitution." Webster also defines a pauper as "a poor person; especially one dependent on public or private charity."

Near the close of the bequest there is an emphatic declaration which we have italicized which states that this "is not to be a Home for pauper children, but for children who have no parents," and necessarily have no real home. At first thought this seems to conflict with the opening clause, "for those in need," but a needy person is so near a pauper that an expert can only define the technical difference, while in fact they are practically the same. A poor man can be a pauper, and the parent of children, and that is the class of children Col. Pruner did not wish to support, for they should be with their parents, and reared at home. The law now provides that each district must support its pauper parents and children, through its own poor department. But

when the parents die, the idea of home is broken and here is where the bequest is distinct, when it says "but for children who have no parents," and in the outstart says especially for "caring for those in need."

It evidently was the opinion of Col. Pruner that the proper place for children is AT HOME, so long as the real home exists, no matter how humble that may be, and that they should have the benefit of loving parents' care during the tender years of life. That is where Col. Pruner displayed good sense; then makes it clear and emphatic that he wishes to care for those in need, children who have no parents. In short, his bequest clearly indicates two things: He wished to provide a HOME for children in need, who were orphans; and not for children whose pauper parents were alive. Such children would be homeless and in need if their pauper parents died, and in that case would be admissible to the kind of an institution for which he has so generously set aside \$50,000, with an income of \$2,500 to maintain it.

We insist that the threat, from interested persons, that if the Pruner orphanage is established and pauper orphans are admitted, the terms of the bequest are thereby violated, and it will be contested, is harmless intimidation.

We plead with our councilmen not to accept the \$10,000, tendered by the heirs, to yield such a beneficent institution. A great moral principle is involved, and Bellefonte should blush at the thought of such a compromise.

## ABOUT TALLYRAND.

The subject of the great diplomatist and wit, for some time has been agitating the minds of some citizens of Bellefonte, as to whether he visited Bellefonte and put up at a certain stone house in this town, as tradition has it. There is no record of this in any biography of the noted Frenchman yet the traditionary story very likely is well founded, as we heard it many years back.

Early in 1702 he was sent to London, without official character, to dissuade the British ministry from joining the allies in hostilities against France. In 1703 he was ordered by Pitt to quit the island in twenty-four hours, and as he had been proscribed by Robespierre, he took refuge in the United States. He returned to France in September, 1795. From this we gather that Tallyrand's stay in the United States was a period of one year and perhaps a few months. That he visited Pittsburg is well authenticated, and his trip to that city would necessarily have led through this section of our state, and this would be corroborative of the tradition that he visited Bellefonte, though not definite. We may have more to say upon this matter later.

## Horses Away Up.

Horses are selling at old-time prices. For fifteen years previous to the last few years, \$80, \$90 and \$100 was the figure for a good horse--the animals were plenty and little demand for them. In former years \$150 to \$200 dollars was a prevailing price for a good horse, and extra teams \$300 to \$700. A blind horse could be bought for \$30 to \$50.

At horse sales within the last two years in this county horses were knocked off at the old prices. At Gentzel's sale at Millheim, on Saturday, western horses were sold at prices averaging \$200 dollars, and a span of extra ones was bid up to over \$600. At private sale a few days ago a blind horse was sold for \$80 and another blind one for \$30--about the price of a good horse in years past.

## Shoot Before Dog Bites.

A jury in the Berks Court decided that it is no offense to kill a dog when it attacks a person. Peter Anderson was before Judge Ermentrout, charged by F. P. Katerman with cruelty to animals in shooting a valuable setter. Anderson said the dog attacked him once before, and that when it came for him again he shot it. The court, after hearing the testimony of several witnesses, said that Mr. Anderson could not be convicted, as the witnesses for the prosecution made out a case for the defense. There is no cruelty to animals in shooting a dog before he gets a chance to bite you," said Judge Ermentrout. The defendant was promptly acquitted and the costs placed on the prosecutor.

## From Oklahoma.

H. B. Meyer writes us from Apache, Oklahoma: "We have a very bright prospect for the coming season; grass is good already, wheat looks fine, also oats. We are planting corn and will soon be planting cotton; we raise most all kinds of crops. Our land is clean of stone and grubs. I would like to tell you all about our good county but dare not do so, for all the good farmers in Centre county would want to leave there, and then there would be none to keep the editor alive, so I better not give any pointers. Hope to receive your paper regularly; wishing you, and all my old friends, a prosperous season."

An attic room may also be rheumatic.

## A GREAT NAVAL BATTLE EXPECTED

The Russian Naval Fleet Enters the China Sea

## BATTLE WILL SETTLE THE WAR

The Russians Have the Greater Number of Vessels--The Japs Have the Best Ships and are Better Fighters--Japs are Ready

For several months we have heard of the Czar sending his entire fleet of war vessels to the far East for the purpose of driving the victorious Japs from the seas, and thereby put an end to the prolonged war. The movements of the Russians have been slow and it was doubted if they ever had any real intention of going to meet the plucky Japs. Sunday the news came that the Russians had entered the China Sea, with a fleet of seven battleships, 15 cruisers and other vessels. From the long trip their vessels are not in the best condition for swift execution. On the other hand the entire Japanese navy has undergone extensive repairs, for giving the Russians a lively reception. Admiral Togo has six battleships and 12 cruisers, which are better equipped. While the relative strength appears with the Russians experts claim that the Japanese will be able to annihilate their foe.

The Japanese are very reticent about their navy or the whereabouts of Togo, but the encounter is predicted for any day. It promises to be the greatest naval battle of modern times and upon its results hangs the fate of the present war.

The Czar seems to have staked his last chance on this expedition and naturally the civilized world has its attention centered on the outcome of the battle.

## SEEKING A DELAY.

For the Execution of Wm. Dillan and Ira Green.

The attorneys for Ira Green and Wm. Dillan, the two condemned men in the county jail, have petitioned Gov. Peenypacker to withdraw the death warrant, so that they may appear before the Board of Pardons on the 25th of May, instead of April 27. Owing to the serious illness of Judge Furst some time ago, who is attorney for Wm. Dillan, it is claimed that he will be unable to go before the Board of Pardons next week. We also understand that they do not have their case in proper shape for hearing on that date.

This morning H. C. Quigley, Esq., went to Harrisburg to bring the matter to the attention of the Governor, who has already fixed May 9th as the date for the execution, and try and have him grant an extension so that they may appear before the pardon board the latter part of May.

At the hour of going to press no word was received from Mr. Quigley as to the result of the interview and the Governor's decision.

## Commencement at Blanchard.

The third annual commencement exercises of the Liberty District High school took place at Blanchard, under the direction of Prof. Milford Fletcher the past week. Sunday afternoon the baccalaureate sermon was delivered by Rev. H. I. Crow, of Hublersburg, Monday evening the exercises of the junior class took place and Tuesday evening the graduating class which consists of the following: J. Harris Clark, Emma Mae Bitner, Stella Eva Eason, Anna Belle Bickle, Olive Catharine Rider, Dean Rankin Clark, Charles Nathan Schenck, Mabel Catherine Lynne, and Ellen Johnston. The commencement address was made by Rev. Heckman. The exercises were largely attended and proved a great success.

## Republican Co. Convention.

The Republican county convention will be held here April 18 with the primaries next Saturday. Candidates in the field are as follows: For sheriff, Henry Kline; county treasurer, Isaac Underwood, H. M. Allison and L. E. Swartz; county commissioners, John G. Bailey, Abram V. Miller, H. E. Zimmerman and Jacob Woodring; recorder, Harry Hewett and Cyrus T. Hall; register, E. C. Tuten and W. T. Wrye; auditor, H. B. Pontius and H. D. Musser; county chairman, H. C. Quigley; delegate to state convention, Harry Keller.

## A Good Suggestion.

One of our readers from Linden Hall makes this appropriate comment: "Why does Pennypacker refuse rural police when he is so lavish with the Superior Court judges? He denies us the ounce of prevention. Night never comes without fear. We need rural police more than so many judges with big salaries."

## FACT, FUN AND FANCY.

Bright, Sparkling Paragraphs--Selected and Original.

There are suckers in water, and suckers on land, And suckers who'll wait until a treat you'll stand.

There are daisies fine and daisies good, Also daisies that can't get up a dish of food.

It is sometimes hard to love and honor if you also obey.

The up-to-date girl does all her blushing for the mistakes of her friends.

A lovers' quarrel is a good thing. It shows who's going to be the boss afterward.

In spite of all the labor-saving machinery, picking pockets is still done by hand.

Love becomes as much an epidemic among girls of 16 as measles among girls of 6.

A college education gives a fellow a lot of learning, but he seldom gets away with it.

Pride is all right in a way, but even the dog with a pedigree may have tin cans tied to his tail.

## To Be a Soldiers' Monument.

BELLEFONTE, PA., APRIL 8, 1905.

MR. EDITOR: Inquiry has been made by some of our citizens as to whether or not the names of the soldiers who served in the Revolutionary War and in the War of 1812 would be borne upon the bronze tablets on our soldiers' monument. That, of course, is intended. Although Centre county was not organized until 1800, there were men from Northumberland and the other counties from which Centre was taken serving in the Revolutionary War, and others came to reside in Centre county after the war was over. The name of every man should be borne upon our monument.

We will begin, of course, with Brigadier General James Potter, one of the trusted general officers in Washington's army. He came here, as I understand it, before the Revolution, but was not living here at the time hostilities were carried on. He was then in Cumberland county, but he lived here subsequently and had so much to do with the development of the county that his name should, of course, appear. Personally, I would be glad, if we could get a good picture of him, to have a bust of him upon the monument.

Two of the first men to join our Veteran Club, when it was organized, were Major James Armour and William Gill, soldiers of the War of 1812. We recognized them as comrades with great gratification, and I am sure our monument would not be complete without their names and those of all others like them who served in the War of 1812.

Let me appeal to the people of Centre county to send the names of all Revolutionary soldiers, of those of the War of 1812 and of those who served in the War with Mexico to Gen. John I. Curtin, so that their names may appear upon the bronze tablets which will constitute the most valuable part of our monument.

It is understood also that the names of those who enlisted elsewhere, but who came to reside in Centre county and made their homes here after the war, will also be carried on these tablets. Also the men who served in the Spanish-American War.

This is to be a soldiers' monument and not merely a monument to those who served in our Civil War. Our Committee has emphasized this on several occasions, and we hope our people generally will understand and appreciate it and will assist in every possible way in securing the name of every man who is entitled to appear upon the monument.

Very cordially yours,  
JAMIS A. BEAVER.

## ADJOINING COUNTIES.

Knowing ones say Fishing Creek in Clinton county will offer good trout fishing this season.

Water companies have been organized in both Eagleville and Beech Creek and applications for charters will be made to the Governor on May 2nd.

The large farm house of Thomas Quigley, near Pine Station, was totally destroyed by fire last Thursday forenoon. A large portion of the furniture was saved by neighbors. The house, which was one of the finest in Wayne township, was insured for \$1,000 while Mr. Quigley carried \$1,000 on the furniture.

## Commissioners' Salary.

On Monday the state senate passed finally the bill fixing the annual salaries of County Commissioners as follows: In counties having less than 10,000 population, \$300; between 10,000 and 30,000, \$500; between 30,000 and 35,000, \$700; 35,000 and 50,000, \$1000; 50,000 and 75,000, \$1500; 75,000 and 115,000, \$1800; 115,000 and 150,000, \$1800; in all other counties salaries are not changed. That would make the salary in Centre county \$1000 per annum.

John T. Baylets, of Boggs twp., was arrested recently for not complying with the compulsory school law, by keeping his children away. At a hearing before Justice Potter, in Milesburg, he was found guilty, and directed to pay a fine and costs.

Andrew Reeser, of Snow Shoe, has secured the Musser House, at Millheim, and will take charge of it at once. The license has been granted to Mr. Brungart, but it will be transferred.

Charles M. Waple has disposed of the Central Hotel at Tyrone, and moved to Philipsburg, where he took charge of the Potter House.