

# The Centre Democrat.

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## BELLEFONTE HOSPITAL COMPLETED

The Equipment for the Operating Rooms Placed

## THE FINEST IN THE MARKET

The New Annex Now is Fully Equipped—Col. Coburn Furnishes an Apartment—First Operation This Week—A Splendid Gift That was Needed

All the wards in the new addition of the Bellefonte hospital are now being used and still there is insufficient accommodation for all those who have made application to receive treatment. Miss Lois Calderwood, the competent and aggressive matron, has been very careful in devising ways and means whereby the greatest number of patients can receive the proper attention at the hands of the good and careful nurses. It can easily be seen that the larger proposed addition could be utilized to good advantage, and it is to be hoped that the next legislature will be generous enough to appropriate the money for its erection.

The operating room, although not the largest, is the finest to be found in any hospital in the state. The floor is laid in beautiful white tiling while the sides to the height of five feet, are also inlaid with the same material. The corners are curved so that the room can be kept in a perfectly sanitary condition at all times. The large plate glass on the side gives ample light for the most delicate and arduous operation. The electrical appliances for night, or emergency operations, are of the best that can be secured. The equipment for the surgical department has arrived and has been placed in position. The various sterilizers are large and of the most modern design. Some of the parts work automatically thus saving much time and labor. The table in the operating room has all the equipments and conveniences necessary for any kind of an operation. The instruments are of the finest quality and the collection large enough for any emergency.

The following inscription will be found on a brass plate on the wall: "In loving memory of Mrs. Katharine Wilson Curtin, this group of rooms—operating, sterilizing, etherizing and accident—is furnished and equipped by her grandchildren."

The old operating room on the second floor of the old building will be transformed into a public ward. Col. James P. Coburn, president of the Free National Bank, has kindly consented to furnish this apartment with beds and everything that is necessary.

The first operation took place on Wednesday afternoon of last week under the skilful hands of Dr. Geo. F. Harris, whose children assisted in giving to the hospital this useful equipment. A number of the best physicians were present and the operation was a success. This was the opening of this department of the new hospital, which places the institution on a par with the best of its kind in the state. The hospital is gaining in popularity, and with the proper encouragement from the people of Bellefonte and Centre county, it will become even more useful and efficient.

## New Oil and Gas Company.

For a number of years it has been the belief that in certain parts of Centre county there were vast deposits of gas and oil. Several months ago The Centre Democrat verified this belief by publishing an account of a flow of gas from a well located on the Stewart tract in Burnside township, near Pine Glenn. This well has been visited by a large number of speculators, for the purpose of ascertaining whether it would be advisable to make a thorough investigation that would involve considerable time and money. The prospect looked so promising that Col. H. S. Taylor, of Bellefonte; G. W. Zeigler, of Philipsburg; Christ Sharer, of Port Matilda, and James Stoddard and Jerry Coffee, of Osceola Mills, are now back of a movement to organize a company to be known as the Allegheny Oil and Gas Company, with a capital of \$25,000.

The company will sink from eight to a dozen wells throughout this section of the country, which it is assumed will constitute a thorough test as to whether oil and natural gas are to be found. The field to be covered will extend from the Beaver Mills to Tipton, in the Allegheny ranges; and from about Milesburg to Tyrone in the Bald Eagle Valley.

The value of a share is \$10, which will enable most any man to make an investment that some day might bring him in a nice income. The prospect seems to appeal to business men, as a large amount of stock has already been raised.

## Stockholders Meeting.

The annual meeting of the stockholders of the Bellefonte Trust company took place on Tuesday at their business office, and was well attended. The financial condition of the institution was never better, and all were so well satisfied with the annual report that the former Board of Directors were re-elected unanimously accompanied by a vote of thanks for the efficiency shown in the past. The company's officers were also re-elected.

After the business session, all adjourned to the Brockerhoff House where an elegant dinner was served which proved a delightful termination of the session. The Trust company was organized over three years ago, and in that time has enjoyed the confidence and liberal patronage of the community. At the head of this institution will be found John P. Harris, who is one of the prominent and best known financiers in Central Pennsylvania, whose wide experience has contributed largely to the success of the "Bellefonte Trust Company."

It isn't necessary to go to the rink to see a lot of cheap skates.



THE FREIGHT WRECK AT AXEMANN.

The above is from a photo taken by J. A. Finkbinder, on January the 15th, a short time after the wreck. In the foreground is the turnpike with people crowding against the railing, looking down in the stream, where the unfortunate engineer, Edward J. Graeff, of Sunbury, was pinned to the ground by the cab, and was drowned before he could be released. Aside of the wreck lies the tender.

This wreck occurred on the Lewisburg & Tyrone R. R., a short distance north of Axemann, at the point where the turnpike makes a very sharp turn around a hill. The photo was taken from the top of the hill.

## THE WRECK CLEARED

The leading topic for some time was the freight wreck near Axemann, on Wednesday afternoon of last week. As we closed the forms of our paper last week, a short time after, we could give but a brief account of the disaster, and since then we find that our report was substantially correct. It practically took all of Thursday to clear up broken cars and damaged freight.

The placing of the large 80-ton engine on the track, was left for Sunday. Two crews and special trains from Sunbury and Williamsport were sent here for that purpose. They had one 100-ton, and a 50-ton steam derrick for lifting the large locomotive, which lay at a right angle to the track with the front near the rails and the firebox in the bed of the stream and on its side. The track was possibly thirty feet above the stream and the job was a difficult one. After gathering up the trucks and all wreckage, they tackled the locomotive. The derrick easily drew it up erect on its wheels. Then a heavy cable was attached from the large derrick to the firebox, and one to the front.

At a signal both began to draw. There was a creaking and a crashing from the intense strain on the cables. Gradually the lower part began to move around and in a minute the monster was drawn by, sideways quite a distance, and there suspended until heavy supports could be placed under it. Then a new tackle was taken and it was easily lifted by the two derricks on the track at 4:30 p. m. The engine was generally stripped and broken, but the main parts were not damaged. The driving rods and other working parts were disconnected and it was hauled back to the Renova shops for repairs.

All day Sunday there was a constant stream of people from far and near to witness the work of wrecking crews. The creek kept the crowd back and thus everybody had a full view of the operations.

The men who were injured at the time of the wreck were released from the hospital the same day. The cause of the wreck, up to this time, is not known. That they were coming along at a lively pace when the cars left the track, is well known.

## Improvement at Penn Cave.

Dr. Clay Campbell, of the University of Pennsylvania, at Philadelphia, and his brother, Robert Campbell, of Cincinnati, Ohio, have purchased Penn Cave and the surrounding farm of two hundred acres. It was purchased from John Herman for \$12,000. About two months prior to this sale Mr. Herman purchased this property for \$8,000, thereby making \$4,000 clear on the deal.

With this purchase the famous historical Penn Cave will mark a new era of prosperity. The natural wonders of the cave will be further enhanced by the installation of an electric light plant on the property and when the myriad of lights are turned on the marvelous wonders of the cavern will be brought out in all their bold and striking outlines. The cumbersome dory will be displaced by electric launchers; the dry cave will be cleaned and dried; a passage way will be cut through from the cave to the dam outside and many other improvements will be made that will add to the comfort and convenience of visitors.

## 2-Cent Fare Gone.

THE TWO-CENT railroad fare rate is declared unconstitutional by the Supreme Court. The traveling public will now be relegated back to the 3-cents per mile rate.

The majority opinion was delivered by Chief Justice Mitchell on the 2-cent rate case, affirming the decision of the common pleas court No. 4, of Philadelphia, which was in favor of the Pennsylvania Railroad company. Justices Mestres and Stewart dissenting absolutely from the majority opinion and Justice Potter dissented as to the computation made. The court is largely republican.

## Hospital Benefit.

Dr. Thos. C. VanTries will give a recital in the court house, Bellefonte, Friday evening, Jan. 31st, at 7:45 p. m. Subject—"Anecdotes and reminiscences of Eminent Men and Women whom I have seen and heard." Admission will be free, but there will be a silver collection taken up for the benefit of the Bellefonte Hospital. Everybody invited, no reserved seats.

Ephraim L. Smale, contractor of brick work, of Lock Haven, and wife, who are natives of Boyertown, have learned that one of their relatives met death in the awful catastrophe at Rhodes' theatre in that place last week.

## THE NATION'S ARISTOCRATS.

At the Jackson Day banquet of the Jefferson Club, Chicago, William J. Bryan compared the aristocrats of the nation with the democrats. His subject was "The Point of View." In part he said:

"The questions which involve a discussion of the relative sphere of the nation and the state bring out the difference in the point of view of the aristocrat and the democrat. The aristocrat wants to get the government as far away from the people as possible; the democrat desires to bring the government as near the people as possible. Aristocrats would substitute national remedies for state ones, because predatory wealth can protect itself from national legislation more easily than from state legislation. The democrat would add the national remedy to the state remedy."

"And so, whatever question we take up we find that everything depends upon the point of view, and there is no better illustration than that found in the financial stringency through which we are passing. Republican leaders rushed to the rescue of the banks after those banks had brought the stringency upon the country by their unbusinesslike methods. The banks of the rest of the country were discriminated against, in favor of the banks of New York city, and after the government had exhausted the loanable surplus in the treasury it borrowed money at 3 per cent. In order that it might have money to loan to the banks for nothing. Then the high financiers account it patriotism to loan out at emergency rates the treasury money furnished them without interest."

## In Local Politics.

The political ball is opening in Centre county, as candidates are beginning to swarm like honey bees in summer time. During the past week a nice lot have made their appearance. Up to yesterday the following had filed their petitions as candidates for nomination, in the Commission's office, as provided under the new election laws:

Sheriff—J. C. Snook, of Millheim.  
Treasurer—James Schofield, Bellefonte.  
Recorder—Thomas Howley, of Bellefonte.

Commissioners—John L. Dunlap, of Bellefonte; C. A. Weaver, of Coburn.  
State Delegate—Frank W. Grebe, Philipsburg.

The following democrats, we are informed, have obtained blanks and are soliciting signatures:  
Treasurer—Hammond Secler, of Bellefonte, and Wm. J. Carlin, of Miles twp.  
Register—Geo. F. Weaver, of Gregg twp.

The following republicans have filed their petitions:  
Sheriff—Wm. E. Hurley, of Philipsburg.  
Commissioner—H. E. Zimmerman, of Benner twp.

The following have announced their candidacy and are circulating petitions:  
Assembly—Charles Fisher, of Harris; R. B. Taylor, of Bellefonte; Wm. Evay, Bellefonte.  
Register—Earle C. Tuten, Bellefonte.  
Recorder—W. W. Cless, Philipsburg.

## Lad With Nightmare.

Ellsworth Edwards, of Altoona, aged about 13 years, jumped through the window of his bedroom Monday night while suffering with an attack of nightmare. In leaping through the window he alighted on a porch and slid off to the ground, a distance of about ten feet. The boy had been suffering with the grip for the past several days and retired rather early last evening. He was apparently sleeping soundly when one of the members of the family looked in on him about 8 o'clock, but half an hour later he leaped from his bed and through the window to the porch roof from which he slid off to the ground. Members of the family heard the noise and hurriedly made an investigation and discovered the lad. He was found to be badly stunned by the fall, but otherwise escaped with a few bruises. He was carried into the house put to bed and a physician summoned.

## Odd Fellows' Anniversary.

Odd Fellows in this district are beginning to look forward to the annual meeting which will be held this year at Shamokin, Monday, April 27. The Pennsylvania Odd Fellows' Anniversary association usually meets on the 25th, but as that date falls on Sunday this year it is believed that the meeting will be held on the day following. The Shamokin brethren are making preparations to observe the event on a lavish scale.

## SAFE FIRE INS. CO.

The fiftieth annual statement of the Farmers' Mutual Fire Insurance Company of Centre county will be found in this issue of the Centre Democrat. All statements of the past, since the organization of the company fifty years ago, have been evidence of the success of this purely home institution. The statement referred to, for the past year, however, is most gratifying—above all previous annual exhibits. The territory is limited to the townships of Haines, Miles, Penn, Gregg, Harris, College, Ferguson, Halfmoon, Patton, Spring, Benner, Walker, Marion. In the twps. named the risks in policies in force runs close to two and a half million dollars—perhaps exceeding the risks of all foreign companies doing business in the same territory.

In the past there were periods of four and five years in which there were no assessments to pay losses for fires, and during the period since the company's organization, no assessment made for losses was large. This healthy condition is mainly attributable to the care exercised by the Board of Directors and officers in scanning applications with a view to safety of risks, and the standing of the applicants. Wildcat stores, buildings in which steam power is used, and where quantities of coal oil, kerosene, etc., are stored, have been eliminated, and come under the non-insurable items under the rules of the company, while other buildings are inspected as to their safety the extra hazard as to risks.

The Directors have ever been among the most reputable citizens within the bounds of the company, and have been retained in the management of its affairs because of the knowledge acquired rendering such persons most valuable in the safe conduct of the company. Hence it can not be questioned that the company is one of the soundest in the country, thoroughly economical, low salaries for its directors and officers—all having an eye single to securing for the citizens within its territory, a cheap, reliable and honestly conducted home fire insurance company.

The first president was General Geo. Buchanan, who was re-elected annually for upwards of twenty years. His successor was Henry Keller, of Boalsburg, who served five years as president until 1884, when Frederick Kurts was elected and served each year until the present time. Most of the directors have served from five to twenty years.

## Had Premonition of Death.

In its account of the tragic drowning of Engineer Graeff in the L. & T. wreck, near Bellefonte, the Sunbury Daily, says:

The fatal trip was Engineer Graeff's first run on the L. & T. Before he left home, shortly after 6 o'clock on Wednesday morning, he told his wife that he feared he would never come back alive. She was repeating his words to a caller, when the news came that he was dead.

He entered the service about seven years ago at Sunbury as a fireman. He was transferred to Harrisburg as fireman on Buffalo flyer. He was promoted to engineer and returned on November 1, 1906. He was aged 28 years and 8 months, and is survived by his parents and by his wife and three small children, Norwood, Clifford and Irene. He was a member of the B. of L. F. He stood high in the esteem of employers and was beloved by his fellow employees of the Pennsylvania railroad.

## Real Estate Changes.

During the past week considerable real estate has changed hands at Pleasant Gap and the vicinity. John Herman, who recently sold the Penn Cave farm to the Messrs. Campbell, has purchased the James Karstetter property at the Gap which includes a dwelling, butcher shop and some land. Thomas Jodon also purchased from Mr. Karstetter a tract of farm land located between the Lutheran church and Joseph Ross's farm. It contains about forty acres and is one of the best producing pieces of land in the valley. The Woodring farm, located near Lauertown, on the back road leading to Lemont, has been purchased by Howard Grove. The sum paid was \$3000. James Karstetter has purchased a farm along the road leading from Bellefonte to Jacksonville, where he will make his future home.

## A Correction.

Last week an error was made in reporting the new officers of the P. C. H. Insurance Company. The old officers were re-elected: Isaac Frain president; John T. McCormick, vice president; James A. Keller, secretary; Geo. L. Goodhart, treasurer.

## ABANDONED COAL FIELD OPENED

The Famous Scootac Region Will be Operated Soon

## COAL MINED YEARS AGO

An Entire Town has Disappeared--New Railroad to be built--Will be the Scene of Lively Operations--Many will Remember the Famous Mines.

The reopening of the coal deposits at Rock Cabin in the Scootac region is good news to laboring men of that community who will seek employment there. These mines were first opened in 1853 by the Fallon Brothers, of Philadelphia, and quite a town was laid out and close to 100 houses were built. A railroad built up Scootac creek and connecting with the Philadelphia & Erie at Queens Run afforded an outlet for these mines. The superintendent of the mines was a Scotchman named John Summerville, who lived in Bellefonte for many years. These mines were operated at different times on and off for a period of about six years, but were at last given up and abandoned and the houses allowed to decay and be burned by forest fires. Not more than 3,000 tons of coal were shipped and 11,000 tons were destroyed by fire. The coal was good quality, but the demand 50 years ago was not sufficient to make the mining profitable and thence far from manufacturing centres. During the same year operations were begun at Peacock, Reveltown and very extensively, Eagleton, where seven switches, built at great expense, were necessary to bring the coal down the mountain side. These operations were all abandoned and the property left to fall into ruins which fires completely obliterated save the foundations, some of which are visible. The railroad was torn up and abandoned.

The railroad since built as far as Bear Swamp will afford a good outlet for these new operations. At Bear Swamp an excellent vein of coal is being extensively and profitably mined. The fire clay and coal which abound in the Scootac region are certain to be developed extensively which means employment to hundreds of men.

## CITIZENS MEETING.

Monday a citizens' meeting was held in the Y. M. C. A. hall for the purpose of formulating plans to advance the interest of temperance in Centre county. The attendance was large, and much enthusiasm was expressed, some of the most representative business men in the county were present and took an active part in the proceedings. It was decided to hold a county convention in the Court house, in Bellefonte, on Thursday, Feb. 6th, and in the evening a general mass meeting will be held, the principal speaker to be Mr. Nicholson, president of the State Anti-Saloon League. The committee appointed who will make arrangements for this convention is composed of the following gentlemen: F. W. Crider, J. C. Meyer, F. P. Green, Jared Harper and C. C. Shuey.

The main effect of this meeting will be to create a sentiment throughout the county that will force both political parties to name candidates for the legislature who will favor the local option measures which will be presented at the next legislature. These meetings are being held in every county in the state and they are in accordance with a popular growing sentiment that like the waves from a pebble, thrown into a lake, it is gaining immense proportions. The solving of this momentous question in the right way means better citizenship and less poverty in the homes. Centre county once voiced its sentiments on this question with no uncertain sound and it will do so again.

## Charles Emory Smith Dead.

Chas. Emory Smith, editor of the Philadelphia Press, former Minister to Russia and postmaster general, died suddenly at home in Philadelphia Sunday, aged 65 years. Death was caused by heart trouble. For about a month Mr. Smith had been in poor health, but his condition had not been regarded as serious. Following a dinner in New York on November 30, he suffered an acute attack of indigestion, which, according to his physician, J. Nicholas Mitchell, gave indication of heart trouble. Shortly before Christmas he attended a dinner of the New England society in that city, through advised by Dr. Mitchell not to do so. He was toastmaster at the banquet, and laughingly referred to his illness and his embarrassment at finding himself seated almost opposite to his physician at the affair. He was in Bellefonte a number of times during his life, and, thus had many warm friends here.

## TAKE NOTICE.

To every patron of The Centre Democrat, who is in arrears on subscription we enclose a Remittance Blank, this week. Look at the date on your label; it will tell from what date you are due. You can easily calculate the amount.

As the new Postal Order, No. 901, prohibits us from mailing papers at 2nd class rate to all persons over one year due, you will realize that we are compelled to strike all such names from our list in the future.

Please attend to this NOW, as it will insure you getting the paper regularly.

## Still Shaves Himself at 99.

That his years sit lightly upon him is evidenced by the fact that Peter Keck, of Berwick, aged ninety-nine years, still shaves himself. He is in possession of all his faculties and is able to get about unaided.

## FACT, FUN AND FANCY

Bright, Sparkling Paragraphs—Selected and Original.

### DON'T TROUBLE.

There is a saying old and rusty  
But good as any new,  
The "Never trouble trouble  
Till trouble troubles you."  
Don't you borrow sorrow;  
You'll surely have your share;  
He who dreams of sorrow  
Will find that sorrow's there.  
If care you've got to carry  
Wait till it's at the door,  
For he who runs to meet it  
Takes up the load before.  
If minding will not mend it,  
Then better not to mind;  
The best thing is to end it,  
Just leave it all behind.  
Then don't you trouble trouble  
Till trouble troubles you;  
You'll only double trouble,  
And trouble others, too.

The only men who are above suspicion are "the dead ones."

You can't make good ginger ale if any thing ails the ginger.

Some men lie when they attempt to stand up for themselves.

If you brood over your troubles you can only expect to hatch more.

Even the affections of some women are of the cold storage variety.

Many a man is honest simply because he has never been caught with the goods.

Some men are despondent because they can't get out of debt and others because they can't get in.

Bishop Williams, of Connecticut, for many years president of the Episcopal church, lived all his life unwed. A friend mentioned that one of the states was imposing a tax on bachelors, to be increased a certain per cent. every ten years of bachelorhood, and added: "Why bishop at your age, you would have to pay \$100 a year." "Well," said the bishop, quietly "it's worth it."

### ADAM'S PUNISHMENT.

A visitor to a Sunday school asked some questions to test the children's knowledge of the Bible. One class of girls looked particularly bright, and he asked one of them:

"What sin did Adam commit?"

"He ate forbidden fruit," was the answer.

"Right. Who tempted Adam?"

"Eve."

"Not really Eve, but the serpent."

And how was Adam punished?"

"The girl hesitated and looked confused. Behind her sat another girl, who raised her hand and said, 'I know.'"

"Well, tell us. How was Adam punished?"

"He had to marry Eve," was the reply.

### Local Institute.

Teachers' Local Institute for Milesburg and Howard boroughs, Howard, Boggs, Liberty and Curtin twps., will be held in the Presbyterian church, at Milesburg, on Friday and Saturday, Jan. 24-25.

Friday evening: Address of welcome, Rev. M. C. Piper; response, Prof. F. M. Fletcher; reading, Miss Lulu Stover; solo, J. C. Weirick; address, G. D. Robb, principal of Altoona High School.

Saturday morning—Round Table Topics: What constitutes a High school course; the importance of the teachers meeting; the place of Literary Societies in the High School; the addition of Algebra and Civics strengthened the public school curriculum; economy of time and effort in the mixed school.

Saturday afternoon—"Supervision of High schools, how best accomplished?" address by Dr. Eveland, Pres. Dickinson Sem.; discussion: "What is your method of interesting pupils between the ages of six and ten." The program will be interspersed with recitations and music.

### Deer in Race With Train.

The engineer and firemen of a west-bound passenger train on the Pennsylvania Railroad, on Monday, were treated to the extraordinary sight of a deer, frightened by the sudden approach of the train around the curve, near Danville, springing directly between the rails and keeping ahead of the locomotive for about 1000 yards. Then, with the train almost upon it, it cleared the engine by a narrow margin and in full view of the passengers plunged into the river, filled with floating ice, and swam to an island in the middle of the stream. The deer, a "spike" buck, is undoubtedly the same one that has been seen periodically since fall in that vicinity, and which about a month ago made its way to within 25 feet of the farmhouse of J. C. Carr and calmly peered in at the window.

### COURT DECLINES THE ISSUE.

The Blair county court at Hollidaysburg, Thursday, was asked to pronounce judgment to determine who owned a 1,000 pound black bear, the hunter who shot the animal or the hunter who delivered the finishing shot. Robert Hiller was charged by Lewis Gorman with the larceny of the bear. The bear had run foul of a party of 20 hunters along Blair's Gap Run. Gorman first shot the monarch of the mountain top. Judge Bell dismissed the prosecution and counseled the warring sportsmen to choose H. P. Wilson, of Altoona, a leading Pennsylvania game authority, an arbitrator to settle their differences.

### Bank Directors.

At a recent meeting of stockholders of the First National bank of State College the old board of directors was elected with but one exception. Dr. William Frear was chosen in place of Prof. L. E. Reber, who had removed to Wisconsin. The board consists of William C. Patterson, John W. Stuart, John T. McCormick, William L. Forster Charles H. Foster, C. T. Aikens, William Frear, W. E. Hess and John Wieland. The board organized and elected Col. William C. Patterson president, J. W. Stuart and the Hon. J. T. McCormick vice presidents.