

# The Centre Democrat.

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## MILLHEIM HAD A SERIOUS FIRE

Leading Hotel and Business Houses Burned to the Ground

## LOSS WILL BE OVER \$60,000

Occurred on Tuesday Morning in Hotel Stable—Town Threatened With Destruction—Only Partial Insurance—

Tuesday morning, at 9 o'clock, a disastrous conflagration broke out in the borough of Millheim that swept away some of the leading business places of that thrifty town, and in less than two hours consumed about 75,000 dollars worth of property, and for a time threatened the destruction of the eastern part of that place. At noon the conflagration was under control and the citizens felt some relief.

The fire started in the stable of what is familiarly known as the Musser House, the leading hotel of the town, that stood on the corner of Main street and the road to Brushvalley. It was first seen in the rear portion of the stable and so rapid was the progress that it soon was enveloped in flames. From there it soon spread to the hotel building, and on the north to A. A. Frank's general store, both of which were soon doomed. From the hotel, which was a three-story frame structure, the fire extended to Nevin Auman's grocery on the west and it was only by the most heroic effort that F. E. Gutliens' residence was saved, although it was frequently afire and was badly damaged.

At the same time the large three-story brick across the corner, owned by D. J. Neyman and occupied by his clothing store, was ablaze. This was formerly known as the Snook or the Gephart building, and was a large substantial structure. Despite all efforts, this building with practically all its contents was burned to the ground. In addition to these business places the following stables were burned: on the F. E. Gutliens property and the A. A. Frank property. During the progress of the conflagration many of the adjoining buildings were ablaze, but by heroic effort were saved.

The business block across Main street, on the corner, was badly scorched and the large glass fronts and windows were cracked and broken by the intense heat while the paint was scorched and often the roof, cornice and wood work was ablaze, and the damage was considerable.

Millheim is a town with a narrow street and the buildings are mostly wooden structures compactly built, the dampness moistened the roofs and the calm weather alone saved the entire destruction of the main portion of the town eastward.

When the fire broke out everybody rushed to the scene and men worked like trojans fighting the fire demon. By telephone the news was spread to the adjoining towns of Coburn, Aaronsburg and surrounding country which brought hundreds to the scene. An early message to Bellefonte for aid started the Logan steamer and a score of firemen by special train to Coburn and they arrived there shortly after 1 o'clock when they aided in extinguishing the burning buildings.

Millheim has a system of water works and a fire company which did good service at critical points. Words can not describe the heroic work of many individuals who scaled buildings and with buckets extinguished burning roofs. In other instances carpets and blankets soaked in water saved exposed portions of buildings.

Very little stock was saved from the various stores. What little furniture was moved from the hotel was badly damaged. When the fire was at its height the people in the immediate vicinity began moving household effects out in the muddy street until the thoroughfare was almost blocked. Never was there such a fearful scene witnessed in that town and the losses from damaged household effects will be large.

### THE LOSSES.

It is hard to gain an accurate estimate of the losses at this time. The following are estimates furnished from conservative business men.

G. W. Clark, proprietor of the Musser House, loss on stable, hotel and contents, \$9,000; insurance \$5,000.

Nevin Auman on contents of store, \$3,000; insurance \$2,000. Building owned by John Stoner, loss \$2,000; no insurance.

A. A. Frank, store building contents and stable, loss \$12,000; insurance \$4,500.

D. J. Neyman, building and contents \$20,000; insurance \$11,000.

F. E. Gutliens had \$200 insurance on personal property.

Dr. John Hardenburg occupied apartments in the Neyman building and lost most of his personal property.

The above are the principal losses. Most of the insurance was carried in Mutual companies (Anville, Lebanon, etc.—None in the Grange or the Farmers Mutual.) Some insurance was carried in cash companies represented by W. B. Rankin and Gray & son, of Bellefonte.

### Wreck at Unionville

Six freight cars were wrecked, one trainman was injured and traffic was tied up for several hours on the Tyrone division of the Pennsylvania railroad, Saturday afternoon Dec. 26, by a freight train sideswiping an eastbound train a short distance east of Unionville. The west bound train crashed alongside the eastbound train, sideswiping the entire train and wrecking six cars and the engine. Fireman Howard Barber was thrown against the engine tank and was badly scalded about the leg.

### A Farical Parade.

At the beginning of each year the citizens of Pleasant Gap celebrate the event by having a fantastic or mummer's parade. This year the citizens of Centre Hall, Horntown, Lauvortown, Linden Hall and even Rockview, joined in and made it a grand and noted success. The parade was almost a mile long and contained many farical numbers. It reached Bellefonte about 2 o'clock in the afternoon and was enthusiastically greeted by hosts of our people all along the line of march. There were over one hundred men in line together with horses, wagons and carts. The parade was led by a farmers' band, who made all kinds of discordant music. Among the funniest stunts were the newly-weds, the Horntown police patrol, steam calopoe, merry widow, Pleasant Gap council and antiquated stage. Everything about the event displayed much enterprise and work, and those who took part in it can feel highly complimented. Along this line the boys from Pleasant Gap always make our Bellefonte boys take to the woods. This yearly event is always looked forward to with considerable interest by our citizens. In the evening the participants held a banquet at the Gap and enjoyed it immensely.

### New County Officers.

On Monday morning there was considerable commotion and bustle at the Temple of Justice owing to the fact that the old officials were getting their bags and baggage ready to fit, while the newly elected officials were getting in shape to become the custodians of the county's affairs. Everybody was in a jocular mood, and the incoming officials were passing around the cigars as freely as some men give advice. Prothonotary Arthur Kimpfort administered the oath of office to the new officials and at 12 o'clock they assumed control. They are as follows: Sheriff, William C. Harley; Deputy Sheriff, H. J. Goss; Treasurer, G. G. Fink; County Commissioners, Jacob Woodring, H. E. Zimmerman and John Dunlap; Commissioners' Clerk, Edward Williams, Auditors, P. D. Musser, H. B. Pontius, John H. Beck; Register, Earl C. Tuten; Deputy Register, Miss Anna Nolan; Recorder, W. H. Brown; Deputy Recorder, Walter Armstrong. The only two second-term men in the bunch were Register Tuten and Commissioner Dunlap. The retiring officials were: Sheriff, Dr. F. K. White, treasurer, C. A. Weaver, commissioner, John C. Rowe, recorder.

### In License Court.

On Tuesday, December 29th, Judge Orvis granted all the applications for liquor license, except the following: James Noonan, hotel, Bellefonte; James Runkle, hotel, Centre Hall; Erwin M. Davis, hotel, Philipsburg; E. E. Beales, hotel, Julian; Orrin Vail, wholesale, Philipsburg; George Parks, wholesale, Philipsburg; James Black, wholesale, Philipsburg; Lawrence Nugent, wholesale, Cassanovia; John Boyce, wholesale, Clarence. Since then James Noonan's license was granted. Remonstrances being filed against applications at Centre Hall and Julian testimony has been taken and argument will be heard.

From this it will be noted that no wholesale application has been disposed of.

### Coasting in Bellefonte.

The royal coasting for which Bellefonte is famous, delighted our young folks during the closing month of 1908. Every street affords this delightful sport for coasters, and none of it of mean length. For instance, the scholars attending school in the brick building at the upper end of Bishop street, mount their coasting sleds—loaded with half dozen and even double, of lads and lassies, and down Bishop street they fly like an arrow, a half mile to Spring, which they turn into, thence to High street, and down High to the Penna railroad station, making a run close onto a mile. From half dozen other streets coasting similar to the aforesaid can be had, and is indulged in each winter, and all within the borough limits. What city or town can match Bellefonte for first class coasting?

### A Terrible Earthquake.

The three provinces of Calabria, Catanzaro and Reggio Di Calabria, comprising the department of Calabria, which forms the southwestern extremity of Italy, or "the toe of the boot," were devastated on Dec. 28 by an earthquake, the far-reaching effects of which were felt almost throughout the entire country. The town of Messina, in Sicily, was partially destroyed and Catania was inundated. In Messina, hundreds of houses and thousands of persons were killed. The death toll is estimated to be between 150,000 and 200,000. Fire and famine also added horror to the stricken country.

### Lewisburg Journal in New Quarters

The Lewisburg Journal, J. Fred Krutz, publisher, with the closing days of old 1908, entered its new home, in the handsome brick edifice erected for itself on Market street, next to Wolf's drug store, arranged on the commodious first floor to serve all needed convenience, while the upper floor is for homes and already has been leased for that purpose. The Journal has prospered as all clean sheets deserve, and is equipped with a linotype, for setting up the paper, and a bunch of presses, and all the latest job fonts, for doing first class work.

### Sports Class.

A house of illrepute was raided over near Philipsburg during the holidays and three women and ten men were captured and given a hearing before Squire Warfel, who held the men as witnesses under \$200 bail each, and the proprietress, Elvina Eversole, charged with keeping a bawdy house and selling liquor without license, was held for court in the sum of \$500. Maud Henderson and Alma Goone, attaches of the house, were held in the sum of \$300 each for appearance at court in Bellefonte.

## MANY ANSWER THE FINAL SUMMONS

Sudden Death of County Commissioner John G. Bailey.

## T. J. SEXTON'S SUDDEN DEMISE

Prominent Young Attorney Passed Away From Heart Failure—Deaths in Other Parts of the County—Brief Biographies.

JOHN G. BAILEY—whose term as County Commissioner expired on last Monday, died at his home at Pine Grove Mills on Wednesday evening of last week at 10:30 o'clock. His death was due to a stroke of paralysis while on a business trip to Lock Haven three weeks ago the particulars of which were given in our last issue. John Goheen Bailey was a son of John and Nancy Bailey and was born at the old homestead in the Glades, now owned by Henry McCracken, sixty-four years ago. He came of one of the pioneer families of that section, his great-grandfather, John Bailey having founded the village of Baileyville. He was raised a farmer and that occupation he followed all his life until a few years ago when he retired to a home he purchased in Pine Grove Mills. He filled various township offices and six years ago was elected one of the Republican county commissioners, being re-elected three years ago, so that he had lived until Monday he would have served six full years in that office. He was a director of the Centre Hall Fire Insurance company and a member and trustee of the Pine Grove Mills Presbyterian church. He was married in 1870 to Miss Nancy McWilliams, of Ferguson township, who survives with two sons and one daughter, as follows: Dr. Frank Bailey, of Milton; John H., on the Bailey farm, and Miss Mary at home. He also leaves the following brothers and sisters: Armstrong Bailey, of Oregon; Samuel, of Boalsburg; W. Scott, of State College; Joseph, of Fort Scott, Kan.; G. Wash, of Downs, Kan.; Mary Hewitt, of Kansas City, Mo.; Warren, of Springfield, Ill.; and Mrs. D. Ross Gregory, of Nefis Mills. The funeral took place on Saturday afternoon. Interment at Pine Grove Mills cemetery.

THOMAS J. SEXTON—One of the leading young attorneys of the Centre county bar, passed away very suddenly Friday evening at 6:30 o'clock in his room at the home of Mrs. John Walsh, on East High street. For two weeks or more he had been suffering with pneumonia, which finally terminated in pneumonia, and on Friday of last week he was compelled to take his bed. He, however, became better, and on Tuesday evening was able to go down stairs and take his supper with Mrs. Walsh and family, who took considerable interest in him. He seemingly continued to improve, and was attended by his physician, that he could go to Tyrone, his home, on Saturday. Providence had decreed it otherwise, for after eating a hearty supper he took a sinking spell, dying before anything could be done for him. It is thought that the immediate and sudden cause of his death was heart failure. Thomas Sexton was the son of Mr. and Mrs. Peter Sexton, of Tyrone, and was born in that place April 26, 1875, making his age 33 years, 8 months and 6 days. He graduated from the Tyrone High school, and 11 years ago he came to Bellefonte where he commenced the study of law in the office of Orvis, Bower & Orvis. On the 27th of November, 1899 he was admitted to the Centre county bar and being careful and judicious he gained the confidence of a large clientele. His judgment was quick and clear and astonishingly accurate. Although quiet in demeanor he possessed those fine manly qualities which surround him with hosts of friends. He belonged to the Catholic church and the Knights of Columbus, in both of which he took a deep interest; besides his law practice he was interested in the Yeager Swing Co., of which he was one of the largest stockholders. His mother died eleven years ago and the surviving members of the family are a father and the following brothers and sisters: W. J. Sexton, of Bradford; Mrs. A. J. McFarlane, of Kane and Josephine at home. The latter came to Bellefonte on Saturday morning and had the remains prepared for burial. They were then taken to Tyrone on the 4:44 train and on Tuesday morning at 9 o'clock the funeral took place from the Catholic church.

ADOLPHUS FRANKS—was found dead in bed at the home of his daughter, Mrs. Samuel Solt, in Bellefonte, Saturday morning, Dec. 25. Up until a few weeks ago he had been employed by the American Lime & Stone company but for the past six weeks had been with his daughter. Deceased was sixty-six years of age and lived in Milesburg most all his life. Surviving him are the following children: Mrs. Samuel Solt, of Bellefonte; John and James, members of the United States coast artillery stationed at Fort Howard, Md.; Mrs. A. G. Archey, of Pine Grove Mills; Edward, Clyde and Claire, of Milesburg. The funeral was held at 11 o'clock on Tuesday morning, interment being made in the Union cemetery.

Mrs. JOHN SHAW—died in the hospital at Bradock, December 10th, after an operation for appendicitis, after an illness of a week. She is survived by her husband and daughter Gwendolin aged 5 years; also her father Daniel Shaw, brother John Shaw and sisters Sadie and Jennie of Julian. Her age was 21 years, 1 month and 13 days. Interment in the cemetery near Julian.

HON. THOMAS W. MYTON—One of the most prominent citizens of Huntingdon and the central part of Pennsylvania, died at his home at the above mentioned place on Sunday morning 7th. He was to have been sworn in the office of county treasurer to which he had been elected in November.

MISS ROSETTA MUSSER and JOHN H. REESER—died very suddenly at the Reeser home in Snow Shoe on Friday, which is a remarkable coincidence of the deaths of Providence; and the double affliction has caused much regret in that community. The first to be called was Miss Musser, who made her home with Mr. and Mrs. Reeser, she being a sister of the latter. She was apparently in the best of health, but the silent messenger of death came to her Friday morning while sitting on a chair. Heart disease was the cause. She was a native of Penna Valley and was 70 years of age. She was the daughter of Andrew and Rachel Musser. She never married and made her home most of the time with her sister. She belonged to the Lutheran church. Surviving her are the following two brothers and two sisters: Samuel Musser, of Kansas City, Mo.; Mrs. Helen Manspaker, of Saxton, Pa.; Mrs. Maria Reeser, and James, of Snow Shoe.

John H. Reeser had been ill for ten days with pneumonia, and at 5:15 o'clock passed away. For years he had been one of the leading citizens of Snow Shoe where he successfully conducted a meat market. He was also interested in mining and farming. Being born in Haines township on June 2, 1842, he spent his early life on the farm in that locality. In 1895 he located in Snow Shoe where he became prosperous. On February 4, 1867, he was married to Miss Anna Maria Musser and to them were born four children all of whom are living, namely: Andrew, of Elkland, Pa.; Mrs. Minnie Hunter, of State College; Harry, of Snow Shoe; and Bessie at home. He also leaves the following brothers and sisters: George, of Winchester; William, of New Winchester, Ohio; Mrs. Daniel Heckman, of Bellefonte; Mrs. Wilson Sholl, of Bellefonte; Mrs. John Lose, of Buffalo Run. He was a member of the Presbyterian church and in politics a staunch republican. The double funeral services took place on Monday morning, after which the remains were brought on the 9:25 train to Bellefonte. From here they were conveyed to Meyer's cemetery, Buffalo Run, where interment was made.

JOHN T. FOWLER—of Hannah Furnace, passed to his reward on Monday evening the 25th, after a lingering illness of almost two years from a complication of diseases. John T. Fowler was one of the best known residents in upper Bald Eagle valley. About forty three years ago he came from Philadelphia and located in Taylor township in Centre county, after which a little hamlet sprung up bearing the name of the deceased. He built saw mills and cut out the timber and built his home and other buildings. He worked hard and cleared one of the finest farms in that part of the county. And he prospered. He owned a great portion of the farm and mountain land in Taylor township. He was considered one of the brightest business men in the county and he was always known to deal honestly with his fellowman. Several years ago he entered into a deal in which he lost almost all his land and was compelled to move from his old homestead to a smaller residence at Hannah Furnace. He never regained what he lost, the shock of which caused his health to fail until death claimed him at the above mentioned time. John T. Fowler was born near Philadelphia about 69 years ago. He was of Quaker parentage but leaned toward the Presbyterian faith. He was married twice, his first wife preceeded him to the grave many years ago. He is survived by his second wife, two daughters and one brother. He was a member in good standing of the Free and Accepted Masons.

Mrs. HANNAH STOFFER—mother of Mrs. Ambrose M. Schmidt and who for several years past had made her home with the Reverend and family, at the parsonage on Spring street, died on Christmas morning after an illness of some months. She was 75 years of age most of her life being spent in Franklin county. Her only survivors are one son, Frank H. Stoffer, of Chambersburg; her daughter, Mrs. Schmidt, wife of Rev. Ambrose M. Schmidt, of Bellefonte and one brother, David Eby, of Chambersburg. The remains were taken to Chambersburg, to the home of her son, from where the funeral was held on Monday morning. Interment was made in the Cedar Grove cemetery.

WILLIAM BRYAN—died Wednesday Dec. 30th, at 8 a. m., at his home at Pine Pop, Burnham, aged 64 years, 9 months and 13 days. During the past six months Mr. Bryan suffered with cancer of the lip, which terminated in his death. On July 1, he was taken to the Lewistown hospital but no operation was made, the disease having already developed to such a stage that neither medical or surgical skill could give relief. Mr. Bryan was at one time a resident of Curtin Works. Deceased is survived by a wife and several children. The funeral services were held at the late residence of the deceased on Friday at 2 p. m.

Mrs. F. F. JAMESON—died December 17 on the Jameson homestead 2 miles east of Spring Mills of heart failure after several weeks' illness. Her husband died 12 years ago and she is survived by the following children: Rev. M. L. of York, Mrs. W. W. Vosada, Coburn; O. M. Jameson, Coburn; O. A. Jameson, Coburn; W. W. Jameson, Spring Mills; and the following brothers and sisters: A. P. Zerby, Bellefonte; H. T. Zerby, Aaronsburg; and D. L. Zerby, Millheim. Age 69 yrs., 9 mo., 15 days. Interment in the Cross Church cemetery.

Mrs. MARY QUINN—One of the oldest residents in Bellefonte, died Thursday morning at her home on Logan street from gangrene. Her age was 85 years, most of which was spent here. Her husband, James Quinn, preceded her to the grave many years ago. Being of a kindly disposition she had many friends. She belonged to the Catholic church and was devoted to its doctrine. The funeral took place on Saturday morning. Interment was made in the Catholic cemetery.

## JAMES R. HUGHES HAS RESIGNED

As Principal of the Bellefonte Academy, was accepted.

## SUCCESSOR WAS NOT SELECTED

Hughes Family was Long Identified With the Institution—Institution Grew Under his Direction—Came as a Surprise.

On Monday afternoon a special meeting of the board of trustees of the Bellefonte Academy was held in the law office of Harry Keller. The object was to consider the resignation of Prof. James R. Hughes who urged its acceptance, which was done. For the last two years Prof. Hughes has been contemplating a move of this kind because he found the work was becoming too laborious for one man to supervise. The school is growing and needs facilities which seem a little difficult to provide just at this time. It is to be regretted that Professor Hughes has deemed it wise to make this move as he has shown himself a hustler in building up one of the strongest preparatory schools in the state. The way he secured the students was by going out after them and then holding them. As to the thoroughness of the course every large college in the land will be glad to give the very best testimony. The school has not only been a source of revenue to Mr. Hughes but it has become one of the assets of the town, as \$40,000 is spent here annually by the students. We are sorry that space will not permit noting the excellent work done here by Prof. Hughes and his father who have been holding the fort on the hill for the last forty years, the story of which would be interesting. Should he decide to leave the town his aggressiveness will be missed, not only at the Academy but in the church, Sunday School, Y. M. C. A. and all good work. He, however, has not decided what he will do in the near future as he will remain in charge of the Academy until July 1st. The board of trustees has already named a committee to look for his successor.

### Supt. J. D. Meyer Resigns.

John D. Meyer, son of D. J. Meyer, who has been superintendent of the Bellefonte public schools for several years, has resigned and will go to Altoona on Monday to become treasurer of the Blair county Title & Trust Co. of that city. Eight years ago he came to Bellefonte to become superintendent of the school. Four years afterwards, when David O. Etters resigned as superintendent of the schools to accept the county superintendency, Mr. Meyer was elected to fill his place. He is a commendable young man, who will fill every requirement of his new position.

The Blair County Title & Trust Co. was established in Altoona six years ago with a capital of \$250,000. Since then it has met with phenomenal success, and just recently moved into their handsome and commodious new three story bank building. It is equipped with modern conveniences for all banking purposes, and is a splendid opening for Mr. Meyer, who for several years has been desirous to quit teaching and go into business when an opportunity presented itself.

Money evening the school board met but failed to elect Mr. Meyer's successor, although among the applicants are Jonas Wagner, of Bellefonte; A. Reist Rott, of Bryn Mawr; Francis Pray, of Kane; and Milford I. Pietscher, of Eagleville.

### Farmers at State College.

For the last two weeks State College has been the mecca for the farmers of Pennsylvania who attended the annual farmers' convention. There were three hundred and fifty tillers of the soil present, representing forty-two counties of the state. They were all progressive agriculturists who were there to gain every possible information along lines of their calling. In six days 116 lectures were given by 49 instructors.

MABLE MADALENE BURD—of Holt's Hollow, died on New Year's day. She had been ill a year or more with a complication of diseases. Deceased was the daughter of John and Sarah Burd and had lived until the 5th of Feb. would have been seventeen-years old. She was of sweet disposition and had hosts of friends who mourn her untimely departure. Surviving her, are her father and mother, one brother Edward, two sisters, Mrs. Laura Watson, of Milesburg, and Mrs. Grace Lucas, of Altoona. Interment in the Advent cemetery.

FLORA BELL MECKER—death again entered the home of Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Mecker, of Pine Glen, Pa., and took away their little daughter Flora Bell, aged seven years, eight months and twenty-eight days, after suffering only a few days with diabetes. Just two weeks previous to this death their little daughter Bertha, was taken away. She was much loved by her schoolmates and all who knew her. The family has the deep sympathy of the community.

RALPH BAILY THOMAS—the six-months-old son of Mr. and Mrs. Ambrose Thomas, died Monday morning at Howard, the result of pneumonia. The little fellow was the joy of the household and will be sadly missed. The remains were taken to Mill Hall this morning where services were held in the Presbyterian church. Interment in Cedar Springs cemetery.

JAMES DELIGNE—A well known colored resident of Bellefonte died Sunday about noon time, after an illness of several months of tuberculosis. He was married to Mrs. Mary Green, who survives him. The funeral took place, Tuesday afternoon from his home on Logan street. Interment in the Union cemetery.

### FACT, FUN AND FANCY.

Bright, Sparkling Paragraphs—Selected and Original.

1909! Begin it right. H-p-y N-w Y-r.

Polish up those old New Year's resolutions.

The rustle of new leaves is heard in the land.

A book may be published in Philadelphia and still be bound in Morocco.

Even the stoutest woman can run up a steep hill without getting out of breath.

Wouldn't it be a cinch if we could only settle our bills by paying compliments?

### Changes in Stenographers.

The only change of importance in Bellefonte at the first of the new year was among the stenographers which means an increase of wages to all of them. Miss Pearl Royer has resigned her position as stenographer in the office of Harry Keller and H. C. Quigley Esq., and on Monday went into the office of the Pennsylvania Match company as assistant to Miss Blanche Underwood. Miss Winfred Gates succeeded Miss Royer in the office of Messrs. Keller and Quigley while Miss Myrtle Barnhart, who for some time has been in the insurance office of W. B. Rankin, has accepted the position vacated by Miss Gates in the office of James Furst Esq. Miss Mary Totsock has accepted the position of stenographer in the office of James A. Beaver Miller in place of Miss Agnes Shaghenusey, who was married. All the above young ladies, with the possible exception of Miss Underwood, were pupils of W. R. Gainfort, which is in itself a strong testimonial to his ability to teach art that has become so necessary in most all business enterprises. On Tuesday Mr. Gainfort commenced another class.

### First Steam Thresher.

L. B. Reeser, who is in the mercantile business at Windber, Pa., accompanied by ex-commissioner Daniel Heckman, paid our office a brief visit during the holidays. Mr. Reeser claims to have operated the first steam threshing outfit in Pennsylvally about sixty years ago. It is amusing to hear him tell of the curiosity it aroused and the great crowds that came from far and near to see the new power thresh the grain. One of Mr. Reeser's stunts was to get a large crowd about the engine and when all were interested in the mechanism, to suddenly blow the big whistle, that would frighten the women folks as a rule almost on their wits. In that day the steam engine truly was a marvel. In this connection it is in order to say that probably the first stationary steam power used in Centre county was an engine built for George Kurtz, who published a paper in the same building now occupied by this paper, prior to the Civil war, and that engine also was considered a remarkable device, built by machinist Landis, of Bellefonte; years after became the property of cabinet maker William Condo, of Aaronsburg.

### Lewisburg has \$75,000 Fire.

Fire of unknown origin destroyed the Lewisburg opera house and several business places on Sunday 27, 1908, entailing a loss of \$75,000. The loss on the opera house, which was owned by H. E. Spkyer, is given at the sum of \$50,000. The Masonic hall, opera house, restaurant, Oberdorf Plumbing Supply company, and W. R. Roland's dental offices, and the offices of the H. E. Spkyer Coal company were burned out. All the above were contained in one building a large three-story structure built years ago by Mr. Swartz and was known as the market house, and stood on third street not far from the Baptist church.

### Good Institute.

Superintendent D. O. Etters is to be congratulated on the success of the Teachers' Institute held here last week. The instructors and entertainments were among the very best, giving perfect satisfaction to all concerned. The institute was one of the largest attended in years, and judging from the personnel of the teachers Centre county can boast of its high standard of education. The only hitch during the week was the non-appearance of Senator Gore, on Thursday evening, which was a great disappointment to not only the members of the institute but the people in general. The cause of his not keeping the engagement was illness.

### COBURN.

The old year ended rather sadly for a few of our boys, who had an idea that one licensed nuisance gave them license to insult the public, but the new year has come quietly and peacefully and we hope it will thus continue to its close.

A. J. Campbell, formerly a resident here, but now residing in Shamokin, spent the holidays with his daughter, Mrs. J. E. Kaler.

J. D. Mark and family visited friends at Milton last week.

Emory Zerby, of Illinois, visited friends here during the holidays.

Mrs. Sallie Erie visited relatives at Bellefonte last week.

During the conflagration in Millheim on Tuesday our boys were soaked to the skin with water while fighting the flames, while a few others were soaked the skin with firewater.

All honor to our boys who did noble work with the Coburn Water Co's hose. Our town can be glad it has a pipe line with firetraps having a pressure to send the water over the roof of any house in town; but boys, we need more hose and they should be kept in a handy place.

A series of revival services have commenced in the United Evangelical church by Rev. C. F. Garrett, we hope much good will result.

The Christmas entertainment was a decided success and the children who took part in it are certainly to be congratulated as well as all others who lent their assistance to make it a success.

A social will be held on Saturday evening at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Gordon Walker, near Runville, by the ladies of the U. B. church.