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FORT TO PRESERVE! GREGG POST RECORDS SUGGESTION MADE TO PLACE THEM IN HIGH SCHOOL GRAND ARMY FAST DECLINING

Thus Some Definite Action Must be Taken so That Future Generations Will Not Forget the Old Soldier of the Civil War.

On Saturday evening the annual installment of officers took place in the rooms of the Gregg post, No. 35, G. A. R. The number of veterans present was greater than for several years past on a similar occasion. It is said the best way to reach a man is through his stomach and the ladies Auxiliary of the post prepared an elaborate oyster supper, and one thing about it was that you didn't need to fish around in the broth to find a lonely oyster. They were there in great numbers, starting the old soldiers right in the face and were cooked by Mrs. George Taylor, and they were about the right thing. Cake and ice cream were afterwards served, the saucers of cream being unusually large, so that Sammy Williams in making preparations for the repeat gave the Boys in Blue an excellent set out; it was a little better than hard tack and beans. The ladies who so kindly assisted in getting up and serving this appetizing meal were Mrs. Herman Miller, Mrs. William Jarrett, Mrs. W. H. Taylor, Mrs. Joseph Alters, Mrs. Charles Eckenroth, Mrs. Thomas Emanuel, Mrs. George S. H. Williams, Mrs. John Noll, Bertha Noll and Carrie Miller. Everybody ate to their heart's content.

This was followed by the installing of the officers for the following year: Commander, Amos Garbrick; Senior Vice President, Joseph Alters; Junior Vice President, Herman Miller; Chaplain, Dr. J. H. Dobins; Surgeon, Monroe Armer; Officers of the Day, General John I. Curtin; Quartermaster, H. B. Pontius; Officer of the Guard, Charles Eckenroth; Adjutant, Emanuel Noll. The installing officer was Past Department Commander Austin Curtin. He is an old hand at the business and the comrades were all glad to again see him take such an active part in the exercises of the evening. He conducted the ceremony very nicely and to the general satisfaction of all present.

After the new officers had been installed the usual campfire took place with Commander Amos Garbrick in the chair. The speakers were all in the very best of humor, and the jokes were as free as the air. The first rill laid on the fire was by Capt. S. H. Williams, which was followed by the following gentlemen: Rev. John Hewitt, Austin Curtin, Rev. Edward Barry, Hon. W. C. Heinle, Hammond Sechler, Clement Dale, and Col. D. F. Portney. It proved to be one of the most successful entertainments of the kind ever held by the post, although it was noticeable that some of the most prominent members of the post had gone the way of the world and were sadly missed.

INSURANCE MEETING.

The annual meeting of the directors and members of the Par. Mut. Fire Insurance Co., of Centre county, was held in their room in Petrikin hall on Monday. Applications for the insurance of \$24,445 were accepted. Amount of premiums noted, \$3,875. Cash premium paid in \$152. This is the sum since the December meeting. The election of directors for the ensuing year resulted as follows: J. G. Goheen, Frank McFarlane, J. B. Strohm, F. M. Fisher, Geo. Mitchell, W. Fred Reynolds, H. E. Duck, G. B. Haines, J. H. Beck, Z. D. Thomas, R. H. Reed, Henry Gentsel.

Grange Meeting

The first quarterly meeting of the Centre County Pomona Grange will be held in the hall of Progress Grange, 26th; two sessions will be held—10 a. m. and 1 p. m. All members of the grange are cordially invited and urged to attend this meeting as at this time all the business enterprises will submit their annual reports to the Pomona Grange for the information of the entire membership in the county. Patrons should endeavor not miss this meeting. D. M. Campbell, Secretary; Leonard Rhone, Master.

Given a Term in Jail.

Former Justice of the Peace R. J. Butz, of Ben Avon, and George Lemon, his former constable, were each sentenced to pay fines of \$50 and serve 30 days in jail. Both men were convicted some days ago of conspiracy to indict Mrs. Anna McDonald on a charge of illegal liquor selling. The sentences were imposed by Judge James R. Macfarlane.

FROM A SAILOR.

During the holidays Mr. G. Walter Lloyd and Joseph G. Rathmel, of the U. S. S. Celtic, were welcome visitors at the home of Mr. Rathmel's parents, in Hubbersburg. Since returning to their vessel Mr. Lloyd sent an interesting description of their cruise from which we are permitted to make the following extracts:

Editor Centre Democrat:—Having been requested by your Hubbersburg correspondent, Miss N. P. Rapine, I will undertake to describe in as few words as possible my personal view of Naples, Italy and Messina, Sicily, as it appeared to me after the earthquake of 1908.

At the time of the earthquake, Dec. 28, 1908, we were at the New York navy yard loading provisions, which were to compose the "Christmas Dinner" of the fleet, that was making the "Round the World Cruise" at that time. About 9:30 A. M. on the morning of December 31st, 1908, we received orders to proceed to Gibraltar and there await orders.

After having been out at sea for about 16 days we arrived at Gibraltar, the first stop since we left New York. I shall never forget how grand nature looked at that time, and it was certainly a cure for poor eyes. It was along in the afternoon of Jan. 16, 1909, and the sun was shining bright and warm. On one side of the Straits of Gibraltar the mighty and grimy mountains loomed up while the Mighty Rock held the same position upon the other side. The trip on the Mediterranean was very delightful, and as the climate was so agreeable, it made a very pretty scene for one to gaze upon.

In a day or two we were ordered to Messina, Sicily, in order that we might discharge the balance of the cargo and aid in the rescue work. We had an uneventful voyage from Naples to Messina, but having arrived at our destination, the work began.

We were at Messina for about two months and while there parties were sent ashore for observation of the ruins in charge of a petty officer. The town, which had been one of the beautiful spots of Sicily, and the pride of Italy, lay in debris. All that remained to tell of what had once been a very busy and thriving city, were homeless people, half starved and almost naked, and in some instances half dead. The grim walls which had not fallen, and the shock occurred stood as ghostly remembrances of what had once existed in such places as they now occupied.

After having discharged all our cargo we left about half of our ship's company there to continue the work of building huts and setting up portable houses, which this government had furnished.

We then went to Syracuse, the second oldest city in the world, where as the Apostle Paul, we tarried three days. While in this port I went on shore and visited the old Roman and Greek Amphitheatres, where it is recorded that the man and lion fought for supremacy. I also was in the ancient catacombs, and through the Garden of Paradise. I really enjoyed this visit as it was such ideal weather and everything was new to me.

After staying in this port we again returned to Naples and remained for about three weeks. While we were absent and visited Rome, where they were granted an audience with the Pope.

PRESIDENT TAFT'S TROUBLESOME TIMES

ALLIANCE WITH CANNON AND ALDRICH THE CAUSE AN INSURRECTION AT HAND

Roosevelt Policies Abandoned—Cannon Receives a Rebuke From the House—Forester Turned Out—Party Disrupted.

Persons who do not follow the daily turn of events at Washington will not realize how serious has been the insurrection among the leaders of the Republican party over the course of President Taft. Ever since the passage of the tariff bill last summer, distrust has been cast upon the administration. Following that came other incidents indicating that Taft was co-operating with the Cannon-Aldrich element in the House and Senate, whom Roosevelt fought to the bitter end.

Next came the Ballinger-Pinchot controversy which simply meant that a lot of land thieves were endeavoring to gobble up valuable mineral deposits and water rights through the co-operation of Ballinger whom the President all along has defended and shielded from investigation, about the same as Pennypacker defended our state capital thieves from the investigation department etiquette to "pull off the lid" by a public letter sent to the senate when Ballinger was about to be whitewashed by the administration investigation. This caused a furor and Taft forthwith discharged him, but Congress, a rock-ribbed body, demanded an investigation, and gave Cannon a slap, also the administration, by refusing to allow Cannon to appoint the committee. In plain words it showed that they did not trust the Speaker.

So that Taft, up to this time has been a disappointment to the country, may sound harsh to the ears of old-time Republicans. To any who seek facts and desire the truth, as to how matters stand between President Taft and the people, we reprint below an article taken from the Altoona Tribune, a rock-ribbed and a public paper whose party loyalty was never questioned. Read what they say, as their criticism is more severe than anything we have ever published. It indicates simply the trend of public sentiment. Here it is:

From the Altoona Tribune: HEADING FOR THE BREAKERS.

History is being made quite rapidly in the city of Washington these days. The Taft administration is being tested and it seems to be headed toward the rocks. Ever since he began his transcontinental journey there has been manifest an increasing sense of popular dissatisfaction with the policy or lack of policy of the president. At first this feeling was kept under. Recently it began to come to the surface. This is not the result of a plot by the friends of Theodore Roosevelt, as some have vainly imagined, but of the people who desire to see the interior department have the policy which they believe to be the reactionary policy pursued by the administration. There is a deep-seated impression that the administration is headed the wrong way.

For some weeks the record and attitude of the Interior Department, of the interior department have been the subject of the attack, which was dismissed by the president. But the fire upon the secretary became so hot that he demanded an investigation of his conduct and an indictment was arranged for the secretary. Then came the presentation of the report of Attorney-General Wickersham in which he upholds Secretary Ballinger and accuses Glavis of being the victim of megalomania—having a swelled head. Identical with the publication of this very unjudicial paper comes the latest of Glavis, in which Pinchot to Senator Dolliver defending Glavis and alleging that two subordinates who had given the newspapers information had been sufficiently punished by a reprimand. Yesterday the president directed the secretary of agriculture to dismiss Pinchot from the service and took the pains to write a letter to the insubordinate forester telling him what had been done. Secretary Wilson acted at once and dismissed Pinchot as well as his personal friends and assistants who were referred to in his letters to Senator Dolliver.

The action of Mr. Pinchot in defying the executive order requiring all subordinate officers to communicate with congressmen and others through their superiors only left the president no alternative but discontinue the organization was continued. The reason is that the past year was such a successful one that all were more than pleased with the efficient manner in which the finances are being handled. After the meeting they adjourned to the Brockerhoff House for dinner.

The growth in the business of the Trust Company in the past year certainly was gratifying.

Some Good Roads Pointers. Good roads mean as much as good crops to the farmers. If macadam roads are to be maintained at their best, the sprinkling cart is a daily necessity. The longer the delay in building good roads the greater the cost. Until produce is hauled to market it isn't really produced. If the road is poor, good horses and good vehicles cost for little.

Bryan Lauds Democracy. William Jennings Bryan was the guest of honor at a banquet given by the Democrats of Chattanooga, Mr. Bryan in his address said: "For the last thirteen years the Democratic party has actually dominated the public affairs. The Republican party has done nothing good that was not outlined in the Democratic platforms. The Republican today has but one way of becoming popular and that is by imitating the Democrats."

DESPERATE BATTLE WITH A WILDCAT

PECULIAR EXPERIENCE AS TOLD BY JEREMIAH ZETTLE NEITHER ONE COULD RETREAT

A Successful Hunter and Trapper—The Red Fox a Cunning Animal—Displays Shame at Being Caught in a Trap.

An interesting caller at our office on Monday evening was Jeremiah Zettle, of Gregg township, who is one of the most successful trappers in this part of the state. As a feature of his business he also deals in furs and buys from other hunters and trappers in this and adjoining counties, having \$1000 worth of native furs to an eastern manufacturer.

It had been reported in various local papers that Mr. Zettle had captured all these furs from his traps, which he desires us to contradict, as it is not true. His report for four weeks trapping is as follows: 22 muskrats, 1 raccoon, 5 weasels and 10 foxes, which is not a bad month's work.

Although a carpenter by trade, for years he has made a specialty of hunting and trapping during the winter season, being by disposition a woodsman and a keen observer of the habits of our native wild animals.

Most of his game is caught in steel traps, and these remarks led up to several very interesting incidents. Of all the crafty animals in the woods Mr. Zettle awards the medal to the common red fox for intelligence and cunning. It is the capture of this fox, denizen of the forest that affords him the most pleasure, because the keen instinct of the animal is pitted against the snares and traps devised by man.

He says, from his experience, most animals when first found in the traps, invariably are vicious and dangerous—flight to the death. Not so with the red fox. When found a prisoner in his trap, invariably he crouches close to the ground and attempts to hide his face beneath roots or leaves, displaying the greatest shame, over the fact that he has lost his cunning, and was caught in a trap—as though it were a disgrace to himself and his kin. This invariably was his experience with the fox—that possibly is why "foxy" in colloquial diction is used so much in being caught.

In his earlier experience it was his custom to kill his game in the trap by the use of a club applied over the head. Some years ago while on a round of his traps in the wilds of the Sevier mountains Mr. Zettle came upon a wildcat in a trap that his son easily dispatched with a few shots. The boy was sent home with the animal and the father went a few miles farther to another trap and sure enough there was a monster wildcat in the trap. The boy, in going home, took the revolver with him and the only thing left for Mr. Zettle was to go about his work with the usual club for the killing. There was a deep winter's snow on the ground, and he cut from a small sapling, a five foot club for putting the cat to sleep.

The trap was attached to a chain in about two feet long with the end anchored to a root, which allowed the animal to move some distance. He crept up close and aimed a blow at the cat which it invariably and successfully dodged. The next instant he slipped down between the rocks in a deep snow almost to his armpits in a helpless condition when the enraged beast leaped at him, carrying trap and chains the full length and so close until it's hot breath was felt in his face, the eyes gleamed with rage, displaying glistening ivory fangs, and vicious claws, so close as to almost touch him. In this condition he was unable to retreat; again he struck at the beast but it eluded his club by just six inches and as the blow landed it quickly leaped at him more vicious than before, and each time apparently coming closer.

Thus the battle waged, the man fearing to attempt to extricate himself as the animal might leap on him. Another misdirected blow struck the trap spring and it appeared to release the grip some on the animal; this made the situation more serious, when a chance blow felled the animal and it soon was dispatched.

Examination of the trap showed Mr. Zettle that the animal had almost released itself in the mad struggle, in which event he might have been seriously injured while in his peculiar position.

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COMET'S BIG TAIL

The tail of Halley's comet will sweep into the earth about May 13, but according to Prof. John A. Brashear, no disastrous results will ensue. Prof. Brashear says there is no occasion for the fear prevalent in Europe that the comet will smash the earth to pieces, thus bringing the world to a sudden end.

Astronomers throughout the world have been watching closely the progress of Halley's comet through the heavens, and the scientists, with possibly one exception, predict no harm will come to the earth as a result of its flight. The prophecies of Camille Flammarion, the French astronomer, have created the impression among Europeans that there is danger of a collision.

"The tail of the comet will sweep into the earth," said Prof. Brashear, yesterday, "but what of it? The tail of the comet of 1861 rushed into the earth, but it was hardly noticeable. When it is taken into account that we can see through 10,000,000 miles of the comet's tail, there is little to be afraid of."

Prof. Searle, of New York, formerly of Harvard university observatory, is one of the most accurate mathematicians and he has figured that the comet's tail will sweep the earth about May 13. The time can be figured very close after four or five observations. Prof. Searle made his calculations since those made by Profs. Crowell and Commerin, both men of high ability as astronomers, and I believe his figures are about correct.

TEACHERS LOCAL INSTITUTE.

The following is the programme for the Teacher's Local Institute to be held at Boalsburg, in Boal's Hall, on Saturday, January 15th, 1910.

Morning session—Discussion: "What part does the preparation play in the recitation?" by Clarence Weaver and John Homan.

Discussion—"Do the original fundamental branches meet present day demands?" by Prof. U. R. Moyer.

Recitation—Florence Kepler.

"Do our historians emphasize the war feature too much?" by Prof. B. H. Bettenhorst.

Question Box.

Afternoon session—Discussion: "Are we not giving too much attention to the commercial side and neglecting the ethical side in teaching?" by Prof. C. R. Neff and Harry Loneberger.

Music—The Misses Rothrock.

Recitation—Miriam Dresser.

Discussion—"Are we worse spellers than our fathers and mothers?" by Anna Steele and Edward Williams.

Recitation—Margaretta Goheen.

"What science related to agriculture can be taught in our rural schools?" by Dr. H. F. Bitter.

"How may the County superintendent add the teachers?" by Prof. D. O. Bitter.

Finest Pictures.

An unusual offer is being made to its readers by the North American in next Sunday's paper. Through the medium of a coupon, the paper will give to art lovers the opportunity to secure a real photograph of Luke Fildes' celebrated painting, "The Doctor."

Photographs have heretofore sold at high prices and have been luxuries available only to those of means. Through special arrangement with those who control the process by which these artistic works may be printed in large quantities, The North American will furnish copies of "The Doctor," on fine art paper, 22x28 inches in size, for 10 cents in cash and a coupon cut from the paper for Sunday, January 30th.

A copy of the picture has already been received by the editor of this paper. It is indeed a work of the highest artistic merit.

Important Highway Decision.

The citizens of a township in Lackawanna county some time since went into court and objected to payment for a certain job of road-building in their district contracted for by the state. The state highway commissioner defended with the allegation that the citizens of a township had no right to interfere in a state contract. But the Dauphin county court, before which the case was heard, has ruled that as tax-payers they had a legal right to stop the payment of monies for work that is shown to be unsatisfactory. The importance of this decision is very great, as it gives to the people upon whom the task of up-keep of the faulty macadam highways devolves—the right to a voice in the matter of their building and maintenance.

The above is about as sound sense as anything can be.

DON'T, DON'T, DON'T.

Moving time is coming on, when the many who change post offices will write us to change their address. In doing so, as we oft advised, don't fail in giving us the name of the post-office you change to, to mention the name of the post office to which the Democrat had been sent. Many fail to give their old address and thus cause us the annoyance of looking over several thousand names and often find several labels of same name.

Democratic Caucus.

The Democrats in every election district in Centre county are requested to meet at the usual places for holding caucuses on Saturday, January 22, 1910, for the purpose of nominating candidates for township, ward, borough and precinct offices, to be voted for at the February election. The result of the caucuses must be returned to the County Chairman so that the same may be filed with the County Commissioners not later than January 24, 1910.

W. D. ZERRY, Co. Chr.

Dragged by Horse: Neck Broken.

While Edwin F. White, of Altoona, 23 years old, was driving into the country, accompanied by Harry Harber, an old man, his horse pelted and dragged him from the sleigh. White held to the lines and was carried several hundred yards. He was thrown against a post and his neck broken, dying a short time later. Harber was seriously injured and may not recover.

Hospital Notes.

Frank Smith, of Long Island, N. Y., student at State College, operation for appendicitis.

Prof. Sherwood Hall, of Bellefonte Academy, operation for appendicitis.

Antonia Grecar admitted for pneumonia, Italian.

Clara Reed, of Bellefonte, while coasting on Saturday, had her right leg broken.

There are 21 patients in the hospital.