

INTERESTING NOTES OF AN OLD-TIME HUNTER

TAKEN FROM THE DIARY OF AARON WILLIAMS.

WHEN GAME WAS PLENTIFUL

Some Experiences Which Our Present Day Hunters Can Read With Envy—Many Familiar Names Recalled.

(Continued from last week.)

In 1888, December 1, George Woodring, John T. Kinney, Joe Bauman, Jacob Smith, John Q. Miles, Martin C. Cowher and I went to Dayton camp. We got some pheasants, some rabbits and one deer—which we started near Buckhorn lick. We had been teasing Bauman because he had not killed a deer and would drive one into the old stable near camp so that he could shoot it; the deer ran out at the crossing near Bauman and he shot at it and missed it; it then ran down off the hill and to the run within about twenty or thirty yards of the stable, and Kinney, who was standing at the corner of the stable shot the deer down in the road. We had chased after two bears but did not get either; M. Cowher shot at one and missed it.

In 1880, Henry Beck, J. C. Harper, John H. Orvis, Adam Yearick, Nelson Lucas and the writer, went to David McCloskey's, on Beech creek. The writer was watching at the creek with John Shank, of Howard township when I saw a deer coming down the creek towards us, but it did not know anything of us. Shank had leaned his gun against a tree, and was gathering some wood to put on the fire we had made, the weather being quite cold; I called to him to get ready to shoot as the deer was coming. He took his gun and we waited till it was near enough, and we both fired—his ball passing through the deer near the shoulder, and my bullet breaking its neck; I waded into the creek to retrieve the deer and out; it was shot so dead that it scarcely moved after it fell.

November 16, 1889, Joe Bauman, J. Kinney, John Q. Miles, George W. Woodring, George Fink, Martin C. Cowher, J. C. Harper, R. S. Brouse and the writer went into the new hunting camp in Fugate hollow. We were camping there till Nov. 23, during which time it rained some every day, except the 16, so that there was not much weather fit for hunting. The party killed some pheasants and one deer, a very fine doe, and wounded another which made its escape. The deer that the party got was chased with two others from a point near Dry Ridge, and went to crossing on Six Mile run below Wolf pond. Near the mouth of Prentiss hollow where J. C. Harper was on guard, armed with a double-barreled shotgun, he shot one of the deer, breaking one hind leg and wounding it in other places; it got away some distance when A. Williams, who was in advance when on a crossing not far away, crossed the run and fired at the deer as it was trying to get away and broke one fore leg to the shoulder bringing it down. As it was not dead, Mr. Drouse shot it in the head, after which J. Bauman took the sides out and the party proceeded, after the old hunter style, to carry the deer on a pole up the Six Mile run to Dayton camp, and thence to crossing at Pine root, above Dayton's field, where they hung it on a white pole, and a party drove out from camp and hauled the deer to camp. The next day being Friday, Nov. 22, the watchers went to the run again, Mr. Harper taking the same crossings; he had a few minutes when he saw a deer come to within forty yards of him; he fired two shots at it, wounding it so as to draw blood, but did not bring it down; it ran up on the side of the mountain and stood there till it heard dogs coming—some ten minutes after the shooting had been done—when it raised the white flag and left for good, greatly to the disappointment of Mr. Harper and his companions. G. W. Woodring, M. Cowher and A. Williams followed the trail across the run and back over Jerry's Point for a mile or more, but failed to overtake the deer.

On the 15th day of November, 1890, Martin C. Cowher, Samuel Cowher, John Q. Miles, R. S. Brouse, P. Resides, Joseph Stephens, Abednego Stephens, George W. Woodring, Aaron Williams, of Centre county; J. M. Adams, of Secwichey, Pa.; William Adams, of Pittsburgh; Dr. Anderson and John T. Kinney, of Braddock; all went into camp in Fugate hollow on Allegheny mountain, back of Port Matilda, for a week's hunt. Sunday, the 16th, was warm and pleasant, and a number of the party, including the writer, took a walk down through the timber to Six Mile run. On Monday, Nov. 17, we hunted all day without any success; same on 18th, and 19th. On Wednesday night a slight snow fell and W. H. Williams and Orvis Williams came to camp that night, as did also Mr. Stuart and Ed. Woodring, from Houtdale. More snow fell next morning and when it had ceased, a couple of the party went out on the road a short distance from camp and found a fresh deer track. They came back to camp and reported a fresh deer track, whereupon W. H. Williams started out to put the watchers on their posts, along the Beaver road, stationing Stuart at hollow leading up to Dayton's field, J. Q. Miles near Wolf's pond, while Martin C. Cowher took his stand near Stuart. In a few minutes the dogs were let loose on the track, the deer started, and the music began; the deer headed toward the crossing guarded by the writer, but Bed Stephens and another party seeing it and firing at it, turned it back, and it then went to interview Mr. Stuart, who was armed with a Winchester rifle; he fired four shots with intent to kill, one standing shot, but lucky for the deer the bullets went where the deer was not, and Stuart was very much surprised and sorry to find that he had done the deer no harm. The animal by this time had concluded to leave that neighborhood, and proceeded to pass out by Miles' crossing, and whether that was the best route, or the deer thought Miles was the least liable to harm it, is not known to the writer; however, the deer passed him safely, displaying the white flag which Miles respected by not firing, and the deer escaped unhurt. When the dogs had followed it out of our hearing, all hands returned disappointed to the camp, where about an hour was spent talking over the failure to capture the deer, each one blaming somebody

else for the mishap. After the affair was satisfactorily explained, three directions were sent out in different directions to search for tracks, with orders to report in one hour. At due time the scouts came in reporting tracks on brush ridge and grass flats. Dinner was hastily eaten and a campaign planned, and each man sent to his crossing. Joe Stephens and W. H. Williams took the dogs and went to take the track on Brush ridge; the buck was raised and ran out to Orvis Williams, who was stationed on the path between Wolf's pond and the root above Dayton's field; he fired two loads of birdshot at the buck which did him no harm, but turned him; he then ran to Ed. Woodring, who shot him with buckshot; then to Daniel Boone Smith, who shot him in the hind leg with a Winchester; then Samuel (red head) Cowher and "Puss" Resides joined in the fusillade, and the monarch of the forest was laid low. A party then gathered around the buck and explained how it was done, after which they returned to camp in better spirits than they had from the chase in the morning. Next morning another hunt was arranged for brush ridge; several watchers were sent down the dam, and some watchers placed above Dayton field, same as before. A. Williams was stationed above Dayton on the hill below the dogs to scour brush ridge; the drivers being a good while making the trip, the watchers on the run got tired and left their posts, and came to Dayton field, which brought the writer off his post; coming down to field, I remonstrated with them for leaving their places before being called off. While we were parlying there we saw a deer coming down the hill and making for the crossing at pine tree, which I had just left; I started on double quick for the pine crossing, having just about half as far as the deer to get to the pine, after a hard run, and being out of breath, I reached the pine just in time to cock my gun when the deer came in sight; I fired and the ball striking it in the left side, passing angling through the paunch and lodging against the skin on the right side, and being mashed as flat and about the size of a penny. On seeing the deer was when I fired, I found no blood but a white hair; I tried to catch the dogs but could not; the deer had made a circle and came back to the watchers above the field with the dogs close to its heels, where it ran right among the watchers and they finished it. That same afternoon we made another chase on Brush ridge; I went back to the pine, and the dogs started a big buck which circled and fooled the dogs quite a while on Brushy. I could not see the chase—could see both the deer and the dogs while they made several circles; finally the buck struck for the mountains, passing Joe Stephens who was posted at Wolf pond. Joe serenaded him on the march by firing three Winchester shots at him, but he passed without halting, and so far as we knew he escaped without injury. Next morning being Saturday and the last day of the hunt, another chase was made on brush ridge, and the writer, with several others, saw two deer, but the dogs failed to bring them out. The drivers then crossed Fugate hollow and proceeded to make a drive on Dry ridge; they started a deer which went down across Six Mile run, but the watchers had grown tired and impatient and left their posts twenty minutes before the deer was all returned to camp at noon, had dinner, skinned and cut up the deer, and a man was appointed to divide it among the hunters, which is done by making as many piles of meat as there are hunters, and one man turns his back to the meat and the other list of the names of the party—if he can remember them all—and a man then puts his hand on a piece of meat then names someone, and he takes that pile, and so on till it is distributed.

Another year has passed and on Saturday November 21, 1891, Martin C. Cowher, Samuel Cowher, John Q. Miles, Miles (Alias) Puss Resides, of Centre county, Dan Smith and George Woodring of Houtdale; Dock Anderson, of Braddock; and Joe M. Bauman and John T. Kinney, of Pittsburgh, Pa.; E. O. Anderson, of Braddock, Pa.; John T. Miles, of G. F. Fink, of Martha, Pa.; Samuel Cowher, Martin Cowher, Reuben Crone, of Port Matilda; G. W. Woodring, A. P. Stephens, G. W. Dickey and Daniel Boone Smith, of Houtdale; A. Williams, of Secwichey, Pa.; George W. Woodring, of Braddock, Pa.; and several other deer on Roundtop but the rain had caused the watchers to leave their crossings and the deer escaped and went to Coal Stream. Raised deer every day, but did not succeed in killing one till Thursday forenoon, Nov. 25, being Thanksgiving day, when we made a chase on point, to left of pike above Flatrock, where we raised a large doe. Bauman first shot it with buck shot, but not having his gun properly loaded did but little harm. M. Cowher shot some hair off its shoulder, and several other persons hit it slightly. After making another circle on the ridge it came to the crossing held by the writer, who sent a Winchester ball through its lights, and a second ball near the heart; it went a few yards when Dan Smith fired and broke its hind leg or hip, just as it was about to fall. We took the insides out and carried it to camp, and had a Thanksgiving dinner. J. M. Bauman having provided the turkey, all hands having a royal good time. Next day, Friday, J. Q. Miles placed Puss and Kinney on crossings on Laird's path, and he went in above Pine Stump and started a buck. While he was making the drive, Puss and Kinney left the crossing and went down over the brow of the mountain to look at the country, and look for fox tracks in the slight snow which had fallen. The buck came out while they were away and they returned in time to catch the dog, and when Miles came out and learned the situation, he expressed himself in forcible language; and then said he would hold the dog twenty minutes and Puss should go to camp, and if any of the rest of the party had come in to send them to Jolly Path to watch and he (Miles) would chase the deer out to the watchers. Resides found Sam Cowher and the writer, and we hastened to Jolly Path, and meeting two others of the party, George Woodring and Martin Cowher, took them with us. When yet several hundred yards from our crossing we heard the dogs baying. We had just got located when we heard Dan Smith, who was between us and the deer, firing three shots, but having run till out of breath, he missed it, and it came on through to Mart Cowher who shot

just after it crossed the Jolly Path near the remains of the old Joly Cabin. It being early dark we carried our dogs up the road on top of the mountain and hung him on a tree and sent the spring wagon and took it to camp next morning. When hung up he measured from point of toe on front foot to top of shoulder three feet nine inches. The second week of the hunt was very successful; we had white rabbit. On Saturday, Dec. 5, 1891, after having spent a very enjoyable time together we divided the game, broke camp and bidding each other good-bye returned to our homes hoping that when November 1892, comes around we may all be on hand ready for the annual hunt on the old stamping ground.

January, 1892, went out to hunting camp in Fugate Hollow, to take a bear hunt. John Q. Miles, Puss Resides and John T. Miles went to lumbering. I went over on Brush Ridge and came on the tracks, or three deer, followed the trail northward to the brow of the hill and looking across the run into Fugate Hollow saw two deer's ears and head, and I discovered that it was lying down with its head towards me. I knew or thought it could see me, and thought that I could not get any nearer to it, so I looked around for something to hit my gun against, as the distance was long and I feared I could not hit it. In looking for a rest for the gun, I lost sight of the deer, and had some trouble to get my eye on it again as there was nothing visible but the head and ears, but I finally caught sight of it again, and bringing the Winchester to my shoulder, rested it against a chestnut, took deliberate aim, let the sight down between the ears till I could see the top of the head and pulled the trigger, when the gun cracked the deer sprang up, and I saw it was dead as it was flying down. I threw in another cartridge, and got down the hill to the run, and crossed the run and when I got near enough I saw the deer lying down. It was looking toward me; I aimed at its head and fired, the ball striking it almost square between the eyes and passing out on the back of the neck, then discovered that the first ball instead of hitting the head, had sunk enough to strike the hind leg, which must have been bent alongside the body when lying down, as the ball had entered the leg two or three inches below the knee, or large joint in leg, and passed out on back part of leg above the joint. I took the entrails out, and then proceeded to try to hang it up. As I had no hatchet, I hunted a pole, then tied the front legs of the deer together, being a small one. I then put one end of the pole under a log that was near the tree, then I put the other end of the pole between the legs that were tied, then pushed the deer up the tree by lifting the pole, and the deer was then up and peeled potatoes for dinner, made a fire, brought water and put the teakettle on. Then I wrote a note and pinned it on the door, asking Miles to send one of his men following my tracks in the snow around Braddock, Pa.; John T. Miles came to dinner one of them might come and help me carry the venison to camp. I then took a large hunting knife and bag, and went to skin the deer before it would freeze, as the deer was in the evening. When Miles came to camp, and read the note, he said to the boys, "That is too good—thine; he is hid around here some place and wants to fool us." Then he said he would count the cartridges in his "Winchester" which he had given to me, and he counted them. When there were two gone, then he said, "Boys, I guess you had better go." So Puss Resides and John Gill came after me, and came up just as I finished dressing the deer, and they carried it to camp. I did not get a bear hunt that winter, but the deer was raised for several days and I came home; and that ended that hunt.

Nov. 19, 1892, being Saturday, J. M. Bauman, Alias Jack of Clubs, of Secwichey, Pa.; William Adams, of Pittsburgh, Pa.; E. O. Anderson, of Braddock, Pa.; John T. Miles, of G. F. Fink, of Martha, Pa.; Samuel Cowher, Martin Cowher, Reuben Crone, of Port Matilda; G. W. Woodring, A. P. Stephens, G. W. Dickey and Daniel Boone Smith, of Houtdale; A. Williams, of Secwichey, Pa.; George W. Woodring, of Braddock, Pa.; and several other deer on Roundtop but the rain had caused the watchers to leave their crossings and the deer escaped and went to Coal Stream. Raised deer every day, but did not succeed in killing one till Thursday forenoon, Nov. 25, being Thanksgiving day, when we made a chase on point, to left of pike above Flatrock, where we raised a large doe. Bauman first shot it with buck shot, but not having his gun properly loaded did but little harm. M. Cowher shot some hair off its shoulder, and several other persons hit it slightly. After making another circle on the ridge it came to the crossing held by the writer, who sent a Winchester ball through its lights, and a second ball near the heart; it went a few yards when Dan Smith fired and broke its hind leg or hip, just as it was about to fall. We took the insides out and carried it to camp, and had a Thanksgiving dinner. J. M. Bauman having provided the turkey, all hands having a royal good time. Next day, Friday, J. Q. Miles placed Puss and Kinney on crossings on Laird's path, and he went in above Pine Stump and started a buck. While he was making the drive, Puss and Kinney left the crossing and went down over the brow of the mountain to look at the country, and look for fox tracks in the slight snow which had fallen. The buck came out while they were away and they returned in time to catch the dog, and when Miles came out and learned the situation, he expressed himself in forcible language; and then said he would hold the dog twenty minutes and Puss should go to camp, and if any of the rest of the party had come in to send them to Jolly Path to watch and he (Miles) would chase the deer out to the watchers. Resides found Sam Cowher and the writer, and we hastened to Jolly Path, and meeting two others of the party, George Woodring and Martin Cowher, took them with us. When yet several hundred yards from our crossing we heard the dogs baying. We had just got located when we heard Dan Smith, who was between us and the deer, firing three shots, but having run till out of breath, he missed it, and it came on through to Mart Cowher who shot

morning a drive was made on Brushy and also on Grassflats. Three deer were chased off Grassflats, but they crossed Prentice hollow where no one was stationed. Tuesday afternoon a drive was made above Pine Stump, a deer was raised and went out past Crooked Oak above Corbin road. Abednego Stephens, who was sent to watch the oak, by mistake stopped at a crooked pine further down the hollow, and failed to get a shot but found the tracks where the deer went within a few feet of Crooked Oak where he was directed to go. Miles and W. H. Williams then made a drive below the road and chased a deer out of its bed not far from old Crooked Oak above Corbin road. The deer was raised and went out past Crooked Oak above Corbin road. The deer was raised and went out past Crooked Oak above Corbin road. The deer was raised and went out past Crooked Oak above Corbin road.

W. H. MUSSER, GENERAL INSURANCE AGENT. Notary Public and Pension Attorney, BELLEFONTE, PENNA.

AGENTS WANTED, \$45.00 a Week. Schaefer's Easy Running Steel Hand Saw. Don't shove, just push saw down. Most perfect saw ever made. A child can run it. Does the work of six ordinary saws. Made of alloy steel, has steel runners which carry it over obstructions. Sells on sight. Low price, high in quality. Write for particulars.

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LEGAL ADVERTISEMENTS.

ADMINISTRATOR'S NOTICE

Estate of Benjamin Brown, late of Liberty township, dec'd. Letters of administration in the above estate having been granted to the undersigned all persons indebted to the said estate are requested to make payment and those having claims to present the same without delay to KATIE JOHNSON, F. MILLFORD PLETCHER, Bluebird, Pa.

EXECUTOR'S NOTICE

Estate of Emel Joseph, late of Bellefonte borough, deceased. Administration in the above named estate having been granted to the undersigned by the Register of Wills of Centre County Pennsylvania all persons indebted to the said estate are hereby requested to make payment and all persons having claims against said estate are requested to present the same duly authenticated without delay to SIGMUND JOSEPH, Esq. N. B. Spangler, Atty. x48

ADMINISTRATRIX NOTICE

Estate of Allen Swyers, late of Milesburg borough, deceased. Letters of administration in the above named estate having been granted to the undersigned by the Register of Wills of Centre County Pennsylvania all persons indebted to the said estate are hereby requested to make payment, all persons having claims against said estate are requested to present the same duly authenticated, without delay to SUSAN SWYERS, Admrx. Gettig, Bower & Zerbby, Milesburg, Pa. x46 Attorneys.

ORPHANS' COURT SALE OF REAL ESTATE

In pursuance of an order issued out of the Orphans' Court of Centre County, the undersigned Administrator c. t. a. of John Marshall Heverly, late of Howard borough, deceased, will on Saturday, November 19th, at two o'clock P. M. on the premises hereinafter described, offer at public sale all that certain messuage, tenement and tract of land situated in Howard borough, Centre County, Pa., bounded and described as follows, to wit: Beginning at post on south side of Main st. in said borough, thence by an Alley south 70 degrees east 28 1/2 feet to the right of way of the Bald Eagle Valley Railroad, thence by said Railroad South 63 deg. West 100 feet to thence by land of G. Hoiler North 8 deg. West 24 1/2 feet to post on south side of Main Street, thence by said Street North 63 deg. East 100 feet to the place of beginning, containing about 26 perches be the same more or less. Also a 16 foot Alley extending through the said lot parallel to Main Street, and about 10 rods distant therefrom, containing a dwelling house and other necessary outbuildings.

Terms of sale—10 per cent of purchase money to be paid in cash on day of sale; 40 per cent in cash upon confirmation of sale by the Orphans' Court; the remainder to be secured by bond and mortgage on the premises due in one year from the date thereof, with interest at 6 per cent. Possession of the premises to be given and a deed delivered therefor upon the compliance by the purchaser with the conditions.

W. D. ZERBY, Administrator c. t. a. of John M. Heverly, Dec'd.

Adjourned Sale.

EXECUTOR'S SALE OF VALUABLE REAL ESTATE. Estate of Nathan Grove, late of College township, deceased. By virtue of an order issued out of the Orphans' Court of Centre county, in the matter of the above estate, the undersigned executor do hereby offer at public sale on the premises, in College township, a miles north of Lemont, on Saturday, November 19th, 1910, 2 p. m., the following:

A FINE FARM containing 96 acres and 108 perches, all of which is in high state of cultivation. This land is rich limestone soil and has a record for producing large crops, being located in the fertile Mifflin Valley. The farm has a two-story frame dwelling house, large bank barn and all necessary outbuildings. Choice fruit, potatoes in good repair and spring water at the house. Conveniently located to railroad station, schools, churches and local produce markets.

This property will make either a desirable home or a profitable investment. Terms of Sale—10 per cent to be paid in cash when the property is knocked down, and the bid accepted; 40 per cent, on April 1st, 1911 at which time deed will be delivered and possession given; the balance of 50 per cent to be paid April 1st, 1912, which said deferred payment shall be secured with bond and mortgage on the premises with interest at the rate of 6 per cent per annum. The purchaser to have the privilege of paying the entire purchase price, less the first payment, on April 1st, 1911.

WM. L. GROVE, Esq., Lemont, Pa.

W. HARRISON WALKER, Atty.

ORPHANS' COURT SALE

Pursuant to and order of the Orphans' Court of Centre County, Pennsylvania, will be sold at public sale on the premises in the village of Port Matilda, Worth Township, Centre County, Pennsylvania, on Saturday, November 12th 1910 at 2 o'clock P. M., the following described real estate, late of Nancy C. Benzet, dec'd. to wit: No 1: The undivided one half part of all that certain lot of ground situated in the village of Port Matilda, in said County of Centre, Pennsylvania, at a post between the Bald Eagle Valley Railroad and land belonging to the heirs of Clement Beck, thence along Main Street to the corner of Lot No 100; thence along line of lot No. 100 in a North-Westerly direction 127 feet to a post on the line between the Bald Eagle Valley Railroad and the lands belonging to the heirs of Clement Beck with deceased; thence along said line in a North-Easterly direction 174 feet to the place of beginning. Being known as Lot No. 101 in the plan of the village of Port Matilda. No buildings.

No 2: The undivided one half part of all that certain lot of ground situated in the village of Port Matilda, in said County of Centre; Beginning at a post on Main Street, thence along Spruce Street in a South-Westerly direction 120 feet to a post in Centre Street; thence along Centre Street, West of North 60 feet to a post; thence along line of lot No. 72 in a Northerly direction 190 feet to post; thence along Main Street in a North-East direction to the place of beginning; Being known and designated as Lot No. 71 in the general plan of said village. No buildings.

Terms of Sale—Ten per cent of the purchase money to be paid in cash on day of sale, the balance to be paid on confirmation of sale.

HENRY BENNETT, Administrator. Clement Dale, Atty.

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