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A STRANGE MAN CAUSES EXCITEMENT

ATTEMPTS TO ENTER A HOUSE AND DOG DOWNS HIM.

BOY KNOCKED OVER IN BARN

Found a Man Under a Pile of Hay—Jabbed Him Accidentally With a Fork—Makes Good His Escape—Watch For Him.

Following closely upon the trail of each other, several peculiar incidents have occurred lately at different Centre county homes, which have made many a peasant ask: "What does it mean? Are the exploits of Lewis and Connelly to be repeated in our county again?"

For several weeks past a strange man has been making his appearance in the vicinity of Rock in Benner township, peeping in the windows of citizens' homes, and spreading such terror as only a procedure of that nature could do. Twice he was seen at the home of Andy Breen, each time being observed in the act of peering through the windows. For a week or more his strange actions ceased, until last Saturday, when he turned up again at the residence of Ira Benner. Mr. Benner and his hired man were in Belleville at the time, and the stranger, evidently aware of that fact, concluded to visit the Benners. A little 9-year-old daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Benner was in the smoke house at the time cracking some nuts, and the man observing her, asked if there were any men in the house. The child, thinking he wanted to see her father, replied that there were no men at home.

Mrs. Benner and several other women were in the house, however, and hearing the child talking to someone the mother walked to the door to see who it was. The man made a move as if to enter the house, and not liking the appearance of the individual, Mrs. Benner forbade him to come in. Paying no heed to her command, the bold guest began muttering something and walked right in to the house. Luckily the Benners have a dog, whose sense of sociability with tramps is highly developed, and quickly calling "Sport," Mrs. Benner pointed out to the dog his "catch on," and the next moment the man and the dog were rolling over the ground. Fearing the man might be killed, Mrs. Benner managed to hold back the dog, and having in the meanwhile grabbed a shot gun in the house, she met the man as he was going through the gate, breaking the gun across his chest, and sending him flying down the road. Since then the stranger has not been seen in that locality.

On Tuesday morning about 6:30 o'clock Edwin Grove, the thirteen-year-old son of D. A. Grove, of near Lemont, started to do the feeding at his father's barn. On going through the entry-way his fork struck an object lying on the floor, partly covered with hay. It proved to be a man, who had evidently been sleeping there, and jumping to his feet he struck the boy a blow in the face, knocking him over a chop box. The boy immediately gave the alarm at the house, and Mr. Grove made a thorough search of the premises, but could find no trace of the intruder. The fellow had evidently objected to being prodded by the hay fork, and took revenge by striking the boy. What either of the men's objects was can only be conjectured, but it behooves every good citizen to be vigilant as you know not at what hour the thief, or even worse, may come.

FIRE AT WADDE.

Large Stave Barn Burned On Saturday Evening.

On Saturday morning shortly before 10 o'clock the large barn owned by George F. Stevenson, and located near the railroad station at Waddle, was discovered on fire, and in a brief space of time was burned to the ground. The barn is known as one of the finest in that valley, and at the time of the conflagration held all of Mr. Stevenson's stock and store of the season's harvest. The live stock was safely taken from the burning structure, but the hay, grain, straw, etc., will be a total loss. The pig pen, corn crib, shed, etc., adjoining the barn, were also destroyed, without loss of any of the live stock.

The barn and contents were insured in the Farmers' Mutual Fire Insurance Co., of Centre County to the following extent: \$666 on barn; \$500 on hay, grain and straw, and \$200 on pig pen, which will but partly cover the loss suffered by Mr. Stevenson. The origin of the fire is not definitely known, and perhaps never will be learned, but it is supposed to have been a spark from the McNITT-Huyett saw mill, which operation is near enough to the barn to warrant such a belief. Mr. Stevenson was away from home at the time, but his family were there, and they together with the neighboring help, succeeded in saving the stock.

The barn will in all probability be rebuilt at once.

Dr. Wiley Weds.

Dr. Harvey W. Wiley, chief chemist of the department of agriculture, was married at noon Monday to Miss Anna Campbell Kelton at the home of the bride's mother, at Washington, D. C. After a honeymoon trip Dr. and Mrs. Wiley will begin housekeeping in Washington, the doctor having declared for "home cooking."

Miss Kelton, who is an ardent suffragist, is the daughter of Mrs. Josephine Kelton. Her father was William Kelton, formerly governor of the Soldiers' home.

To Hear Women's Pleas.

For the first time in the history of the state it is said, women of Pennsylvania who desire to vote will have an opportunity to argue the question before a legislative committee on March 14.

CENTRE COUNTAINS HONORED.

Memorial Services Held at Canton, Ohio, on February 19th.

The following two items from Canton, Ohio, will be read with interest as Centre County people are connected with them.

A Memorial Gift.

A beautiful and suggestive testimonial of affection for her parents was the gift of a silver and glass individual communion set on Sabbath, February 19th, to the First United Brethren church, of Canton, Ohio, by Mrs. John L. (Ella M.) Brown, Van Kirk, as a memorial to her parents, Col. W. W. and Hannah B. (Brislin) Brown, natives of Centre county, and for many years well known citizens of Belleville.

The service is an elaborate and costly one and consists of 12 trays with 48 glasses each, five bread trays, two instantaneous fillers and several collecting trays. About 625 persons participated in the service Sunday morning.

The formal announcement of the gift and the purpose of the donor was made by the pastor, Rev. Chas. W. Recard, and the memorial address was delivered by our former fellow citizen, and for sometime a member of Col. Brown's family, R. A. Cassidy. The congregation said to be the largest of the United Brethren communion in the United States.

A Pastor Honored.

A memorial service commemorating the pastorate of the late John Henry Harpster, D. D., was held in Trinity Lutheran church, at Canton, Ohio, Sunday afternoon, Feb. 19th. The service was the twelfth pastor of that parish and served from January 18, 1855 to October 1, 1893, when he resigned to accept a call from the foreign mission board to go to Guntur, India, as a missionary.

The service was impressive and was in charge of the pastor, Rev. P. Z. Strodach. The music was rendered by the vested choir of boys and adults. Two addresses were made, the first by Isaac Harter, who spoke of Dr. Harpster's work as pastor and missionary. The second address was delivered by Rev. R. A. Cassidy, a fellow member of Dr. Harpster in the same regiment in the Civil war and comrade of the same Grand Army post. Mr. Cassidy narrated some of the incidents in the career of Dr. Harpster as a soldier and spoke of his work as a citizen, and his unselfish consecration to the mission of the Divine Master, as a pastor in the home land and missionary to the benighted inhabitants of India.

A large audience of members of the church and friends were present, including members of the G. A. R. posts who attended the service in a body.

A Word of Praise.

I express my thanks to the Belleville hospital as it stands trimmed in red and white, on the hill on the north side of town. With its arms spread wide for the sufferers of the community, every one who needs help can get it there. When I was there they had twenty-three patients. There were four in the room that I was in: Daniel Shuey, Grant Holderman and Dad Groves. As I suffered a great deal, Dad seemed to suffer more and my eyes filled for Dad many times.

God bless the Belleville Hospital, and its inmates. I will not mention any names, but I did not know what American people were, till I got in that institution. Am now 34 years of age and the hospital may say that it had me under the doctor's care for the first time. While I was there Ben Gordon was brought in, the man who was scalded by the C. R. R. shops.

F. W. THOMAS, State College, Pa.

Woman of Rare Nerve.

Court house officials and workmen witnessed a rare exhibition of nerve, Monday, when Mrs. Howard Aten, of Greenville, climbed to the top of the dome of the new Court house at Mercer, which towers 175 feet in the air, the last 30 feet of her climb being by means of a light steel ladder on the outside of the dome.

To add to the peril of ascent, a brief wind was blowing, causing the metal support to greatly sway, and men held their breath until it was known the plucky woman was safe, for since the removal of the scaffolding few of the workmen venture to make the climb on the ladder.

An Enigma.

Editor of Centre Democrat: I here-with hand you a number of enigma: one composed of 18 letters.

CAPT. S. H. WILLIAMS NAMED BY TAFT

TO BE THE NEXT POSTMASTER OF BELLEVILLE.

IS HELD UP IN THE SENATE

Everybody is Guessing, and No One Can Explain the Situation—Nomination Met With Approval—Public Disappointed.

This has been a busy week for the candidates for county officers who have been in town consulting the fates. It also has been an unusually busy time for the reason that the postoffice muss came up to attract attention, when it was announced last Thursday evening that Captain Samuel H. Williams had been named as the postmaster for Belleville, and since then the political pot has been sizzling all over.

The surprise came to the community early on Friday morning when it was learned that President Taft had named Mr. Williams for postmaster of Belleville, and that the name had been sent to the U. S. Senate for confirmation. It was told on the streets that the former and the present chairman of the Republican party in Centre County, Harry H. Keller and H. C. Quigley, had endorsed the candidacy of Mr. Williams and that Congressman Barclay and Congressman (elect) Williams for the place which brought the matter to the favorable consideration of the President.

It seemed that the attitude of Mr. Harter in refusing to submit the proposition to the republican voters of this community, impressed Mr. Patton with the fact that the people of the town, without any doubt, desired Mr. Williams and for that reason he finally gave Williams his endorsement. Mr. Harter made a hasty trip to see Patton at Curwensville, but came back with a serious case of cold feet that attracted attention on the Central R. R. train that evening. Of course we could not vouch for the condition of the man, but we were assured that he suffered much.

Friday morning there was a general hubbub about town as the news spread that the President had named Mr. Williams for our postmaster, and as our office is handy to the Williams store, we noted a constant stream of people on their way to Sammy's basement to extend congratulations. All day the conversation of those who passed by was Mr. Williams' appointment, and the general public was remarkable. Many times the remark was made that there was "not a single dissenting voice," and for these and many other reasons Sammy Williams has a right to be glad. And, as the friends and neighbors dropped in to pay their regards to the old soldier he met them with a gracious smile and a hearty hand shake evincing the fullness of his heart for the complimentary expression of good wishes.

We think it was the happiest day of Mr. Williams' life, for it seemed the fulfillment of a long cherished desire, that meant so much to him at this period of life. At the age of three-score years of age he may not have the inclination to follow a private business as assiduously as in former years, therefore such a position, with a good salary, was just the thing to finish up his life with some degree of comfort. While this was going on there was some consternation at the postoffice. The incumbent shuffled about the streets with that scrawling gait, and persisted in studying the brick paving more closely than ever. Emigrants from the den came forth to report that "it was not over" and that the delay in the senate meant held up for some reason. This caused uneasiness as there was fear that Penrose was going to give the commission another good brick. Others insisted that the congressmen were playing fast and loose, and frequent and bitter were the expressions of disgust and revenge, that they should thus be trifled with, and their requests ignored. To the average demagogue it was a treat to see these chaps get a dose of the Penrose medicine which they richly deserved, only we thought that it was a pity and shame to see an honored soldier, and venerable citizen, kicked around in this manner by scheming politicians. As each day passed, and no postmaster appointed, the suspense became more painful and everybody became interested—it was the common topic on the streets—everyone seemed anxious for the fate of Mr. Williams.

Tuesday morning the news came that the senate had held up the appointment for the reason that the head of the Postoffice Department, Mr. Hitchcock, had objected on the ground that it was the policy of the department to accord a postmaster a re-appointment, or a second term, as long as there were no specific charges preferred against him.

It is considered a very unusual procedure in making appointments of this character to have them held up after they have passed the President. What is back of the move, we can not learn, nor will we predict the outcome.

On Tuesday evening the Republican county Chairman Henry C. Quigley, and Harry Keller, Esq., the former chairman of the party in this county, left for Washington to urge that the nomination of Mr. Williams be confirmed.

Cheap Boarding.

Clearfield had 15 charges in the Huntingdon Reformatory during the year 1910 and paid for maintaining them \$708.00 at the rate of 25 cents per day for each inmate.

No Licenses for Mifflin County.

All applications for liquor licenses in Mifflin county were refused Monday, and it enters upon its third year as a no-license county.

FEBRUARY COURT NOW IN SESSION

THE USUAL GRIST OF PETTY COMMONWEALTH CASES.

CASES TRIED AND VERDICTS

Brief Summary of the Proceedings Giving the Most Important Features—Compiled by S. D. Gettig, Esq.

Court convened on Monday morning at 10 o'clock with Judge Orvis and all the officers in their respective positions.

The Grand Jury was called and D. A. Grove, farmer, of College township, selected as foreman. After being charged as to their duties retired to the jury room and the proper officer. Considerable time was taken up in hearing motions and petitions as presented by the several members of the bar and taking the return of the constables of the several wards, boroughs and townships of the County.

The civil trial list was then called over and the following cases disposed of:

Ernest Levy vs. Foster Weaver, an appeal, defendant confessed judgment in favor of the plaintiff for \$100.66.

Clement Dale, Executor of A. W. Swisher, deceased, vs. J. W. Bruss, also written William Bruss, an action in ejectment. Plaintiff suffered a voluntary non-suit.

George Stott vs. Henry Kline, an action in assumpsit; continued the costs of the plaintiff.

Comm. of Penna. vs. Jeremiah Amiller and Manasseh Amiller, an action in trespass; continued generally.

The first case taken up was W. H. Johnstonbaugh vs. M. S. Betz and Gabriel Betz, being an appeal. The plaintiff's testimony was to the effect that sometime in the early spring of late winter of 1905 he had contracted with a Mr. Hudson to furnish some lumber at Jacksonville for the purpose of erecting a shop; but having some doubt as to the credibility went to the defendant and asked them to guarantee the payment inasmuch as the shop was to be erected on premises in their control. The plaintiff testifies that he was accompanied by his son, and that the defendants had guaranteed the payment for the lumber. Whether the other had the defendant denied having guaranteed payment or making any contract for the lumber and their liability to pay therefor, but admitting that they had paid \$50.00. Verdict in favor of the plaintiff for \$122.50, subject to the question of law reserved by the Court.

Comm. vs. Harry Lucas, prosecutrix, Mary Showers. This case is from the township and defendant is indicted for betrayal. Defendant pleaded guilty and the usual sentence was imposed by the court.

William P. Kessinger, prosecutrix, Martha Kessinger, indicted first count for desertion and non-support of wife; second count, desertion and non-support of three children. This case is from Liberty township, and are the same parties that were in court at December sessions, with an assault and battery case. Verdict of the jury, guilty on the latter count.

W. H. Roadhouse, making threats. Prosecutor Michael H. Davidson. This case is from Phillipsburg; and prosecutor requested a nolle pro.

F. E. Churchill, charged with taking copies for a patent right without the consent of the act of assembly in such cases. Prosecutor, Harry Dukeman. Bill ignored and county pay the costs. Also similar case, prosecutor, H. H. Montgomery. Bill ignored and county pay the costs.

Alva Fetters, indicted for malicious mischief by the prosecutor John Cozart, from Spring township. Defendant pleaded guilty.

William S. Reese, indicted first count, desertion and non-support of wife; second count, desertion and non-support of three children. Defendant moved to quash the indictment on the ground that the Justice of the Peace had not made return to Court according to law. District Attorney moved the Court for a nolle pro, and the county to pay the costs, which was granted, with leave to bring a new action.

James Roberts, indicted for malicious mischief. Prosecutrix Mollie Herman. The case is from Phillipsburg, and the defendant pleaded guilty. Charles Hietler, charged, aggravated assault and battery; prosecutor Herman Hoover. The defendant waived the finding of the grand jury and pleaded guilty. Whereupon his counsel made an argument to the Court for leniency and suspension of sentence, presenting a petition of citizens of Clearfield to the Court asking the Court for suspension of sentence and give the young man another chance. The prosecutor assented to this request. The case grows out of some trouble at the line the Clearfield Fire Company went to Phillipsburg to assist in the extinguishment of the fire there recently. The Court suspended sentence on condition that the defendant pay the prosecutor's expense and all the costs.

Seafloss Brothers vs. Isaac Pinburg, being an appeal. The plaintiff not answering in court when called a compulsory non-suit was entered.

J. R. Lucas vs. J. W. Wagner, being an appeal. This is an action brought to recover on a prop contract, the amount owing by the defendant to the plaintiff being in dispute. Verdict on Wednesday in favor of the plaintiff for \$127.52.

C. Y. Wagner, prosecutor G. G. Hutchinson, General Agent of the Agricultural Department of Penna. Indicted for selling misbranded commercial feeding stuff, in three counts. This case is from Belleville and the agent, a Mr. Clair, took samples of some cotton seed meal which the defendant had for sale on May 24, 1910, taking it out of four different packages and mixing it, then taking a sample which he subsequently shipped to the State Chemist and leaving

a like sample at the defendant's store. The goods was found by the chemist not to contain the nutritive values as branded and more fibre matter than branded. The defendant having bought the goods from a firm in Memphis, Tennessee, where the goods was branded as to its contents and nutritive value, which brand and analysis as given by the Tennessee firm, the chemist found incorrect and that the goods were not in value as represented. This action is brought under the new Feed Act of Pennsylvania of 1909, making it an offense to misbrand feed stuff and to sell it for something which it not actually is. The defendant's counsel moved the court to quash the indictment for several reasons, among them being the unconstitutionality of the Act, and at the close of the case moved the court for compulsory nolle pro. Both motions were overruled by the Court and the case submitted to the jury. The defendant, of course, relied upon the representations of the manufacturer and the analysis, and sold the goods on the representations of the manufacturers, but the goods being found not to consist of that which it was represented to be, the defendant is technically guilty. Verdict, guilty as indicted.

Tuesday just before noon the grand jury made their final return and were discharged. Their return in substance is that they had passed on eighteen bills of indictment, found fourteen true bills and ignored four; and reporting further that after careful inspection of the county buildings, that they were more than pleased with the present condition and endurable improvements of the Court House. The grand jury room being so situated and in such a place that the business can be executed with dispatch, and recommend the improvements continue by completing the grounds around the Court House and by putting the walk in proper condition. Further reporting that they found the jail needed repairs to the plastering, the floors in many places being in bad shape, and that the railing should be repaired or a new and higher railing be erected; and in fact a general over-hauling, and the building put in suitable and sanitary condition.

Henry Lowery vs. Louisa Lane, an appeal, the defendant by her counsel moved for judgment on Monday in favor of the plaintiff for \$109.65, with stay of execution for six months.

John Shavey vs. L. M. Royer, an appeal; settled.

John McCartney vs. Kelly Brothers, an appeal; settled.

All jurors were discharged on Wednesday afternoon excepting those in the Levy-Weaver case.

A VALUABLE GIFT.

Miss Rhoads Presents a Reference Library as a Memorial.

About a hundred respectable citizens assembled at the Y. M. C. A. parlors on Saturday afternoon to attend a pleasing function. The occasion was the formal presentation of a valuable "Reference Library" to the Y. M. C. A. building in charge of the Y. M. C. A. At 8 o'clock the exercises took place when Ex-Governor Beaver made a brief address setting forth the value of the present, what it contained, and that it was a most valuable gift that would be appreciated and used for many years.

The library was received in a neat speech by Charles McCurdy, of the 1st National Bank, in behalf of association. A bronze tablet on the top of the case bears the following inscription:

This Reference Library is lovingly dedicated to the memory of Miss Rhoads.

Francis Sinnickson Rhoads by his Sister Rebecca Naomi Rhoads February 1911.

The library stands in the front parlor of the Y. M. C. A. building on High street and is placed there with the most available man. When the "Good Roads Train" and to continue with it until they have completed the tour of this state, as originally mapped out. This will require several weeks of constant work in a line in which he has had much experience. Dean Jackson, of State College, who was in charge of the train from the start, found that he had other duties at the college that demanded immediate attention, and in looking around for a suitable person to take his place he selected Mr. Woodward as the most available man. When the "Good Roads Train" landed in Centre county Mr. Woodward was summoned to take part in some of the meetings and his strong grasp of the road question attracted much favorable attention. Through that possibly more than anything else, he was drafted for this important work.

Many may not know it, but in his earlier years Mr. Woodward was a railroad man and for some time was a passenger conductor, so that he was able to manage the movement of the train with little trouble. After many years' service as an instructor at farmers institutes in this state he will be able to step right into the work, and put it in such a practical form that the farmers and taxpayers will be interested, and profit from the instruction offered.

Mr. Woodward's many friends will be pleased to learn of his appointment to such an important position.

Credits Given this Week.

All persons who paid their subscriptions during the past month of February will find that proper credit was given for the same by a change label on the name label of the paper this week. We correct these printed labels once a month, at the end of each month. You can always see how your subscription stands by looking at the label. Payment of the date on your paper is paid to the first of January, 1910, and no to the 10th of January. In case of any error you will please notify us at once stating carefully how the error was made.

We wish also to caution those who are in arrears over a year—and there are only a few left—that we will have to cut them off the mailing list, and then the account will be left for collection. There is no occasion to have a paper run for several years, prompt payment is the easiest, and short accounts make the longest friends.

Lorimer Seated.

Lorimer, the Illinois leader, who it is said purchased his seat in the Senate won out yesterday after a long fight, by a vote of 45 to 40.

SWIMMING POOL FOR BELLEVILLE

WILL BE ERRECTED ON THE Y. M. C. A. PROPERTY.

THE GIFT OF MRS. M. WILSON

Will Be Completed This Summer—Provided With All Modern Appliances—A Magnificent Donation—Appreciated by the Public.

One of the most liberal public gifts made in this community in many years was announced during the past week. It is for the erection of a building on the Y. M. C. A. premises that will contain a modern swimming pool, that can be used during the entire year, and is to be equipped with all modern conveniences. The gift has been made by Mrs. Margaret Wilson, one of Belleville's most charitable women.

The fact that there is little or no opportunity in or near this town for bathing in streams and that you travel a distance of a mile or two to do so, the need of such a pool was apparent long ago. But how and where to secure the necessary funds for a swimming pool was a problem that discouraged anyone who thought of such an undertaking.

The Y. M. C. A. had this matter in mind for some time and Mrs. Wilson was so impressed with its good points that she stated that she would furnish the necessary funds for building and equipping such a place. Of course the proposition was accepted at once.

It has been decided to locate the pool on the rear of the Y. M. C. A. lot, parallel with the gymnasium. The pool will have a length of about 75 feet and be about 20 feet wide, for which an excavation will be made. This will be covered by a substantial building, so that it can be used in summer and winter. The interior will be supplied with boilers for keeping the water at an even temperature. Dressing rooms and other appropriate appliances will be supplied to make it complete.

The cost of the building is not mentioned, as we understand that Mrs. Wilson has expressed a wish to have a suitable building and pool erected, without any extraordinary expense and that she will pay the bill.

The pool will be of concrete, while the walls will be of brick, with an abundance of skylights and ventilation. Fresh water will circulate through the pool so as to keep it sanitary.

The building will be under the direction of the Y. M. C. A. and certain days of the week will be set aside for its exclusive use by the women of the town. Plans are now being drawn for the structure, and as soon as they are adopted work will commence on the excavations and the foundations. It is safe to say that the pool will be completed during the coming summer. Various estimates are made as to the probable cost of such a department and some estimate that it may run anywhere from seven to ten thousand dollars, but that does not concern the public, as Mrs. Wilson has announced that she will provide the complete building.

This generous proposition of Mrs. Wilson is to be commended, and we are sure that she has the good wishes of our people for her thoughtfulness and consideration for their welfare, as evidenced by this elaborate gift.

WITH GOOD ROAD TRAIN.

Hon. John A. Woodward Placed in Charge of Train.

On Monday morning Hon. John A. Woodward, left his home in Howard, for York, Pa., where he will join the "Good Roads Train" and to continue with it until they have completed the tour of this state, as originally mapped out. This will require several weeks of constant work in a line in which he has had much experience. Dean Jackson, of State College, who was in charge of the train from the start, found that he had other duties at the college that demanded immediate attention, and in looking around for a suitable person to take his place he selected Mr. Woodward as the most available man. When the "Good Roads Train" landed in Centre county Mr. Woodward was summoned to take part in some of the meetings and his strong grasp of the road question attracted much favorable attention. Through that possibly more than anything else, he was drafted for this important work.

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