

# The Centre Democrat

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## FREIGHT TRAIN WRECKED.

Tuesday Morning on Curve Near Centre Hall. Traffic on the Lewisburg & Tyrone railroad was interrupted on Tuesday by the wreck of a freight train half-mile east of Centre Hall. The local freight emergency air brakes which fortunately brought the entire train to a sudden stop, but still on the road bed, of a high fill. The entire train was derailed, excepting the caboose. For a long stretch the track was torn up and the entire train was in a peculiarly difficult position. None of the train crew were injured.

Word was sent to Sunbury and Williamsport and wrecking crews were sent from both places to get the cars in position and the roadbed repaired. The afternoon passenger trains had to transfer at that point. The Williamsport pay car was delayed in Bellefonte on Tuesday until the next day in order to get over the line. The cause of the wreck is unknown, but it is supposed to be due to defective ties on the curve. The same day there was a wreck on the Bald Eagle Valley near Howard. A freight train broke and another freight following close to it. While in a rain storm, which obscured the view ahead, they plowed into the rear of the detached section, demolishing the caboose and damaged several cars. When the train broke the flagman failed to go back and give warning to an approaching train, and was interested in connecting up his own train. In doing this he neglected his duty which caused the wreck. Fortunately no one was injured.

## GO TO SNOW SHOE ON THE 4th.

There will be some goings out at Snow Shoe on the 4th of July. This year the program will be under the direction of the new Snow Shoe Volunteer Fire Company, that was recently organized in this town, and they propose to make the eagle scream and the tom-toms ring on the coming great National Holiday.

Therefore make a note of it to go to Snow Shoe on the 4th of July, for there will be amusement and entertainment galore, of a unique and original form, and space will not allow us to go into detail, but we can give a few of the striking features of the day. The program will start in the morning when the grand fantastic parade will form and after passing through the principal streets, the various floats will be inspected and the prizes for the best displays, etc.

Next will be a lively game of base ball in which the Snow Shoe's second team will try for the championship with Clarence. By that time everybody will feel a craving of the inner man. In the afternoon there will be a long list of sports that will be worth seeing.

There will be another game of ball in the afternoon when the routers from Millsburg will come up to take the scalp of the Mountain City team. This game will attract wide attention and be the best game seen for years. In the evening there will be a magnificent display of fireworks that will be a rare treat to see. With two bands on the ground to furnish music, dancing on the pavilion, a fine park to spend a holiday and a long list of amusements for young and old, it pin it in your hat that you will spend the 4th of July at Snow Shoe and you will have a good time.

## APPROPRIATIONS MADE.

Governor Tener Signs Many on Tuesday. Tuesday disposed of approximately 325 appropriation bills left with him by the recent Legislature. Only four of the number were vetoed and appropriations to less than a dozen other institutions were reduced.

A number of other appropriation bills remain in the governor's hands, including the general appropriation measure, the township highway and others of a miscellaneous character, which will be acted upon in a few days. It is understood that the governor has vetoed \$69,000 from the township highway bill, \$1,000 from the amount when put out by the House committee but was raised to \$1,500,000 by the Senate.

Among the appropriations in this session of the state we note the following: State College \$245,000; Bellefonte Hospital, \$23,000; Phillipsburg Hospital, \$23,000; Lewistown Hospital \$20,000; DuBois Hospital, \$8,000; Altoona Hospital, \$5,500; Mercy Hospital Altoona, \$5,500; Clearfield Hospital \$15,000. The University of Pennsylvania in Philadelphia was given \$65,000, or \$150,000 more than the state college, which is greatly in need of facilities for the accommodation of the increased attendance.

## The New School Code.

Section 1,267 of the new school code, reads as follows: "No teacher shall be employed in this commonwealth by any board of school directors who is related to a member of the board as father, mother, brother, sister, husband, wife, son, daughter, step-son, step-daughter, grandchild, nephew, niece, first cousin, sister-in-law, brother-in-law, uncle or aunt, unless such teacher receives the affirmative votes of three-fourths of all the members of the board."

## Auto Accident.

J. C. Stine, of Tyrone, on his return trip from Penn Cave, met with quite an accident on Sunday. Mr. Stine with his wife and son were driving along in their Ford car when near Williams and Neffs, a mile east of Warrior's Mark, a bug flew in Mr. Stine's eye and in an instant he lost control of the car running the machine into an embankment. The son was badly cut from the broken glass in the wind shield and the car was slightly damaged—Herald.

## Formal Opening.

Friday evening the new Nittany Country Club house will be formally opened and it is expected that all the members will be in attendance. There will be a reception, refreshments, dancing and other amusements. Most of the guests will return by special train in the evening over the Central Railroad of Pennsylvania.

## Two Old Turtles.

William B. Neff, of Curran, recently caught two old turtles. One had two names on it as follows: "Joseph L. Barnhart and James K. Barnhart, June 1867." The other was marked "Joseph L. Neff, 1864." This indicates that these critters are eng-lived.

## HEROIC EFFORTS SAVE BURNING BARN

HARRY HARTER HAD A TRYING EXPERIENCE.

## BUILDING STRUCK BY LIGHTNING

Burning Shingles Fall in Straw Mow—Desperate Effort to Extinguish Flames—Force Pump Saves Building—Rendered Unconscious.

During one of the severe electrical storms that visited this section on Saturday afternoon, the large barn on the farm of Harry Harter, about 2 miles east of Bellefonte was set on fire by the almost incessant flashes of lightning which were playing at the time, and it narrowly escaped being totally destroyed. In fact it was only by the heroic efforts on the part of Mr. Harter and his two sons that the barn and all its contents of live stock, and the season's crops, were saved.

Mr. Harter owns and occupies what is known as the Constantine Curtin farm on the Jacksonsville road, and on Saturday his place appeared to be in the direct path of the storm. When the rain began falling Mr. Harter, who had been working outside, went into the house to remain until the storm had passed, while his two sons and a hired boy found shelter in the barn. Andy Jodon, who was passing on the public road at the time, also sought the barn as a place of refuge while the rain lasted. Just as a particularly vivid flash of lightning and a loud clap of thunder occurred, Mr. Harter who was sitting at a window, surmised that some building on the premises had been struck. In the confusion of the moment, caused by the blinding glare of fire, which seemed to hover over the entire premises, he thought it was the house that had been struck, and started outside to investigate. The next moment one of his boys came running from the barn and gave the alarm that the building was on fire.

Mr. Harter lost no time in securing a chemical fire extinguisher, which is kept on the premises, and hurried to the barn, only to find that the fire was up on the under side of the comb of the roof, in such a position that it could not be readily reached by the extinguisher. He then quickly went in search of a force pump, which was sitting at the house for the purpose of sprinkling lawns and gardens. In the meantime the shingles were burning briskly, and large, red-hot embers were falling on the straw beneath, requiring the most strenuous efforts of those who were on the roof to prevent the high inflammable mass of straw and grain from blazing forth in a mighty conflagration. Many times red-hot embers were caught and crushed in their hands. After securing the force pump Mr. Harter hastened back to the barn, and in order to reach the seat of the fire, was compelled to climb on the beams, under the rafters of the roof, whereby with the aid of water passed up to him in buckets, by those who were with him, finally succeeded in extinguishing the flames.

In the barn were all of Mr. Harter's live stock, implements and grain, and had the conflagration gained any headway the owner would have suffered severely from loss. The barn and contents are partially covered by insurance, but not near sufficiently to reimburse him for the amount of property he would have lost.

Aside from the narrow escape from a conflagration, those who were in the barn at the time might easily have been killed by the lightning's bolt. As it was, they were all considerably dazed, and when the flash came the Harter boys, who were in the hay mow were thrown on their knees and rendered unconscious for a time. Although Mr. Harter was severely injured, although in driving one of the horses afterwards, Mr. Harter noticed a stupor that it suffered more or less from shock.

As to the cause of the barn catching fire, no explanation can be given. Everything about the lightning apparatus appeared safe. Two points were used on the roof, one at each end, and the electricity seemed to have departed from the rods and struck the roof at the base of the tower. The ground at the base of the bolt entered the earth.

## Great Rains.

The thunder gust that set in about 4 o'clock last Saturday afternoon, was one of the fiercest of the summer. Lightning flashes followed each other in quick succession, and loud peals of thunder responded. In some parts hail accompanied the storm. The amount of rainfall in about an hour's time was high three quarters of an inch, causing a rapid drop of mercury from 98 to 74.

On Sunday at 4 p. m. another terrific thunder gust visited this section, and continued all night. At 6 on Monday morning the rainfall was 2.35 inches—adding .66 on Saturday evening to Monday morning at 6, of 3.01 inches, heaviest at this station in many years if at any time. All day Sunday was hot and clear up to 4 p. m. The streams were swollen but no damaging flood, the water having largely soaked into the earth. In some sections there was light hail, so far as moisture is concerned, the earth is now thoroughly saturated and, nothing unforeseen happening, good crops are assured.

## A Young Crack Shot.

Chas. Edward Condo, the eight-year-old son of Ira Condo, who lives three miles from Scotia, hearing his mother's cry, went to investigate. On approaching the tree, twenty-five feet from the ground, with his 22-calibre target gun he shot it twice in the head, the first shot being a dead shot, and before it dropped to the ground he gave it the second shot in the skull. This is a pretty good record for a boy of his age, and he bids fair of becoming a good marksman.

## Wreck on the B. & V.

A freight wreck near Curtin station early Monday morning, blocked traffic for several hours. Five freight cars and the cabin were derailed. The wreck crew from Tyrone were sent to the scene and replaced the cars on the track by 9 o'clock that forenoon.

## SERIOUS ACCIDENT AT MILESBURG

MRS. OSCAR MILES BADLY INJURED SUNDAY EVENING.

## WHILE CROSSING THE STREET

Struck by a Horse and Thrown to the Ground—Spine Injured and is Partly Paralyzed—in a Critical Condition—Storm Was Raging.

Last Sunday evening, during the period of an approaching storm, Mrs. Oscar Miles, of Milesburg was run over and seriously injured in front of her residence at that place. Mrs. Miles' hearing is very poor, and on that account she knew that there was danger in her crossing the main driveway in the dark as she might not be able to detect an approaching vehicle. As was her custom in crossing the street, that evening she stopped and looked up and down the street. She saw the lights on an automobile ahead, and that seemed to attract her attention, and was not aware of vehicles approaching from the rear, although she had looked that way and in the darkness could not see, nor hear them.

From what we can learn, she was standing to the side of the road in the dark, when two vehicles came along at a fast pace and the one driver was in the act of passing, or attempting to pass the other, and in order to do this he had to turn to the side of the road and in doing so the horse ran against Mrs. Miles. Its shoulder striking her with great force and knocked her some distance. The driver of the vehicle stopped and aid was soon summoned, and the injured woman was taken inside to her home and Dr. Hayes, of Bellefonte, was the first physician that could be secured, who found her in a critical condition. Her principal injury appears to be in the spine, the lower portion of the body is paralyzed at present, and the outcome of the injuries are considered with much uncertainty.

As a severe storm was approaching, no doubt the drivers were making all haste to get to shelter, and that accounts for their driving fast. Mrs. Miles' being almost deaf, could not realize the danger she was in, and that followed could not have been avoided. It seems that due to carelessness or recklessness.

## CLOTHING STORE ROBBED.

At State College and Two Young Men Arrested.

It has been the custom of Sim the Clothier to open a display of goods at State College before the commencement period. Last week they had a nice display in the clothing store, in the basement of Murray Inn, under the direction of Morris Baum. Friday morning when Mr. Baum went to the room he found that the latch or catch on one of the windows had been broken during the night, and the stock had been disturbed. It soon was evident that a robbery had been committed, and the goods found missing were considerable, consisting of clothing, hats and gents furnishings that was estimated to exceed \$300.

After gathering all the information possible from various sources, Mr. Baum had warrants issued for two colored boys, named Ernest Leroy worked in Geo. Graham's barber shop near by, the other is a janitor by the name of Haney Williams.

Both boys were arrested but their employers gave bond for their appearance at court if necessary.

Just what the evidence is against the two boys we have not learned, but Mr. Baum is quite confident that he has the right parties, and thinks the plunder will all be returned in due time.

## Not Quite So Bad.

Reports published in journals from outside of this county, overdraw the harm done by the recent severe thunder gusts. The damage is greatly exaggerated. General havoc over the county, almost utter destruction of crops, by hail and floods, with lightning setting in much harm, fruit and other trees being uprooted—is a sensational overdraw, and will permit of a seventy-five per cent discount. One barn was burned by lightning, some buildings damaged by being struck, fields badly washed, many doing harm to cornfields, but the situation is not so calamitous a nature, and require outside aid by subscriptions to help us out—we still live, move and have our being, and will have a good harvest and an abundance of fall crops. The storms, rains, lightning and thunder during close of last week, were not so bad but Centre county is still on top and to stay. It is not built upon sand. Just now we have one of the largest strawberry crops—the berries living close to the soil could easily dodge the storm—and laugh.

## Does It Pay?

Last year 123 persons were killed or burned to death by explosives or fire works on the Fourth of July died from tetanus, as a result of wounds received; 2,923 persons were injured in the country, as far as reported. The grand total of killed or fatally injured in the United States as a result of celebrating the Fourth of July during the past eight years in 1873, while the injured number 37,526. Of this number 123 lost both eyes, 81 lost one eye, 432 lost an arm, leg, hand or two members, while 1,541 were crippled by the loss of fingers.

## Seeking Penitentiary Site.

The bill providing for the removal of the Western Penitentiary from Pittsburg to a new site, in a rural section, has been signed by Governor Tener. A tract of 1500 acres shall be purchased in the western part of the State, the location to be well adapted to farming, and to be approved by the Governor and Attorney General. The cost for site and building is not to exceed \$1,250,000.

## Hospital Notes.

Operations—Oscar Lyons, aged 10 yrs. Edward; Miss Leah Grove; Zion Ross; Emma Kline, Milesburg; John Ross, (student), State College. Discharged—Mrs. William Witmer and Mrs. Buffalo Hub. Mrs. M. C. Leggett, head nurse, and Miss Edna Thompson, on vacation.

## ARRESTED FOR TAXES.

For some time the people of Milesburg have had trouble in securing a man to act as tax collector of that borough, for the reason that no citizen of the town wanted to enforce the law, knowing that there would be difficulty in securing the money from some of the parties. For that reason Justice of the Peace, Henry Musser, of Bellefonte, was appointed by the Court to collect the taxes, and has been successfully filling the position for several years. Mr. Musser shows no favor, and insists in evoking coming up to the full measure of his duty as a citizen, that of paying his taxes.

Last week Curtin Swires, a stonemason and a single man of that borough, was arrested for his refusal to pay his taxes, which amounted to \$2.25, and in default was placed in the county jail by the tax collector, which the law empowers him to do in such cases. Mr. Swires has been in jail for over a week, and Mr. Musser says that he will stay there much longer, until he makes some arrangement to meet the amount he owes. Mr. Musser says that he had no right to go to the auditors to have himself, as tax collector, exonerated on Swires' taxes, until he had exhausted all possible means provided at his command to secure the same. He contends that Swires has an occupation and the duty of health to earn ample money, and that if he showed the proper inclination he could easily have paid the amount he owes as a citizen. He says it is his duty as tax collector to send to jail any man who has the ability to pay his taxes and will not do it.

From Mr. Musser's statement we are satisfied that he has done the proper thing in this case, and should be upheld by all good thinking people. This thing of arresting Swires for his plain duty is exaggerated too much by our tax collectors. There is no reason why officials should be compelled to worry along with persons who deliberately refuse to pay their taxes.

## MOOSE WILL CELEBRATE.

The Moose of Central Pennsylvania are planning to hold a monster picnic at Hecla park on July 4, under the auspices of the Bellefonte lodge.

Arrangements for the big gathering are rapidly taking shape and it is expected that one of the largest crowds ever on the grounds will be there that day, with the possible exception of the Business Men's picnic. Many attractions will be provided as well as games and contests. The committee of arrangements has entered into a contract with Warren Bauman, of Lock Haven to give two flights with Curtiss bi-planes, one in the forenoon and one in the afternoon. The young aviator will receive an attractive sum, provided he flies, and there is no doubt but that he will let 'er go on this occasion.

Two games of base ball have been scheduled, and they will no doubt both prove exciting contests. In the forenoon Lock Haven will play with Jersey Shore and in the afternoon Williamsport and Phillipsburg will cross bats. There will be tub races, foot races, dancing and a fine display of fireworks at night. A first class band will give concerts at intervals during the day and evening, and addresses will be delivered by prominent and gifted orators. A special train schedule will be arranged between Bellefonte and Mill Hill. Everybody is invited to attend the picnic, with the assurance that perfect order will be maintained, and that nothing will be permitted about the grounds to offend the most sensitive. These arrangements to have a good time on the Fourth by spending the day at Hecla park.

## SHAFFER-HAZEL REUNION.

The Shaffer-Hazel reunion is in its annual session at Hecla Park today, and, under propitious weather, will be a pleasant gathering of the friends and relatives of that large and highly esteemed freundeutsch of purely Centre county origin, but at this day wide-spread and known in many states who will take in the pleasures of the occasion. Our old friend, ex-sheriff B. F. Schaeffer, is the dean of the association, and in regular attendance, but on account of his age he requested that another be appointed to officiate, and the reunion, at last summer's gathering unanimously appointed his son, L. A. Schaeffer, as the presiding officer.

The following is the program for today: Prayer by Rev. J. A. Minemeier, music; America; "My Country 'Tis of Thee;" report of Secretary; report of Historical committee; music; coronation; addresses by Rev. J. Minemeier, Hon. Frederick Kurtz, Hon. Wm. C. Heinle, and others; music; "When the Roll is Called Up Yonder;" miscellaneous exercises; election of officers; music; "Best Be the Tie That Binds;" Discussion.

## C. E. Convention.

The Centre County C. E. Convention at Coburn, June 21-22 is arranged for. Every society in the county is urged to be present, and delegates to be prepared to give a two minute report of the condition of the society, its successes and needs. Any society which has not received due notice from the Corresponding Secretary is urged to make arrangements to be present, and to notify Mr. T. A. Hoersterman, of Coburn, of the delegates who will be there.

## Beware of Powders and Patent Foods.

Mrs. Jacob Steiner, of Lock Haven, is in a precarious condition the result of while doing the family wash, Mrs. Steiner has been bothered with a tetter on her hands and after using the powder, blood poison set in. On Wednesday her left arm was amputated at the elbow and it is feared the right arm will also have to be taken off.

## Autos vs. Horses.

Horses are less and less in evidence in rural Kansas. The farmers are using touring cars instead of carriages; are handling grain and livestock in motor trucks; are using gasoline tractors in plowing, cultivating, harvesting and threshing. And yet the market for good horses was never better.

## For Vaccination.

In nearly 20,000 cases of smallpox reported in the United States during 1905, there were only ninety-two deaths, making the average mortality rate less than one-half of one per cent.

## UNKNOWN BODY NOW IS IDENTIFIED

DAVID THOMAS FORMER RESIDENT OF BELLEFONTE.

## KILLED NEAR ROCKDALE, ILL.

At One Time Worked in Lyon's Butcher Shop—Skipped the Town Fearing Arrest—Mystery Entirely Cleared Up by a Letter.

The mystery surrounding the identity of the man who was killed near Rockdale, Ill., on the 31st of May, an account of the finding of the body and of the subsequent inquiry to the Bellefonte chief of police for identification, was published in this paper last week, has been cleared up and it turns out that the man once resided in Bellefonte. As stated last week an unsigned letter had been found on the body, which bore the mailing postmark of the Bellefonte post-office. This led the authorities of Joliet, Ill., to believe that the man was from Bellefonte. Since then the identity of the writer has been established, who was found to have been Mrs. Cora Rice, who resides on Pine street. From her voluntary information the police have been able to learn who the dead man was. His name was David Thomas, and he was a son of Barton E. Thomas, of Shamokin. At the time he met his untimely death he was about 37 years of age. Some six or seven years ago he resided in Bellefonte, and was employed by William Lyon, the butcher. Some trouble in connection with the attempted robbery of Lyon & Co's dry goods store, in which it was thought at the time he was implicated, caused his hasty departure for parts unknown. According to the information received by the police, however, the man was in Bellefonte sometime in April of this year. When he lived in Bellefonte he roomed with a family on Penn street. Many conjectures were made as to who the man might have been, some people imagining that the dead man's residence was in this place, and that he was traveling under an assumed name. Through the information of Mrs. Rice, however, everything has been cleared up.

## NEW SCALE BEAM.

J. Mitch Cunningham has been spending much of his time at Williamsport for several weeks past in a machine shop where he is superintending the construction of a half-ton new automatic scale beams built over the models of Paul McGarvey's late patents. These scale beams are automatic in almost instantly coming to a position, and they all pronounce it a wonderful invention with nothing to equal it on the market.

The automatic beam can be attached to any scale, and the records can be made miles away by ordinary wire connections. Two of the machines will be placed in some of the departments at State College, and the others are also sold.

The company of local stockholders who have financed Mr. McGarvey in his experiments for several years past, now are exceedingly hopeful of finding a large market for this new scale beam.

## A HORRIBLE CATASTROPHE.

Three persons are dead as a result of a horrible catastrophe, which occurred at West Moshannon Sunday evening.

The dead are Oscar Norton, aged 25 years, his little daughter, aged 2 years, and 4 months, and Miss Cora Davis, a young lady calling at the Norton residence, whose parents, Mr. and Mrs. Isaac Davis, reside at Hrisbin.

Mr. Norton had poured coal oil on the fire in the cook stove to hurry it along in preparation for the evening meal. An explosion resulted, and he and Miss Davis, the latter standing nearby, were so badly burned that they died soon after having been brought to the Phillipsburg Cottage hospital, says the Journal.

The Norton house, immediately following the explosion, was a sheet of flames, and hurried on by a further explosion of some powder, and soon totalled. Mr. Norton, who was in another part of the house, managed to escape without injury, but she nor any one else could get back in to rescue the little daughter, who was cremated in the flames.

## Yearick-Hoy Reunion.

Announcement has been made that the eighth reunion of the Yearick and Hoy families and friends will be held at Hecla park on Thursday, June 22.

The officers of the association are: Adam Yearick, president; N. H. Yearick, vice president; Hon. J. H. Wetzel, secretary; Albert Spard, treasurer. The historians are Rev. Z. A. Yearick and John S. Hoy, and the above named officers, together with the following named, constitute the executive committee: John Hoy, Jr., Benjamin Royer, S. R. Gettig, Samuel C. Hoy, Allison Bishel, D. K. Miller, William Yearick, John C. Hoy, Henry Yearick, Amos Garbriek and D. K. Woodring. Rev. Dr. Schmidt will deliver an address.

## Barn Burned.

On Saturday afternoon, during the heavy storm that passed over this part of the state, lightning struck the large barn on the Allison farm near Fotters Mills, and the building with most of the contents was destroyed. The contents consisted of twelve tons of hay, a large wagon, binder and other machinery. No live stock was lost. The building was on the farm west of the Allison home-stead farm, and the property was tenanted by William Curry. There was no insurance on the building or contents, therefore the loss will be heavy.

## New Train Schedule.

On Monday, June 19th, a new train schedule will go into effect on the Central Railroad of Pennsylvania, and train heretofore leaving Bellefonte for Mill Hill at 6:55 P. M. will depart at 6:45, or ten minutes earlier. There will be no change in the leaving time of the morning and afternoon trains.