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SIX CHILDREN ARE SERIOUSLY INJURED

BY A MYSTERIOUS EXPLOSION OF LIME.

ALL OF THEM BADLY BURNED

The Hot Lime Eat Into the Flesh—Aid Was Quickly Summoned—All Will Recover—Cause of Explosion Is Unknown.

To have six of their children severely burned by hot lime was the peculiar experience which recently befell the family of Mr. and Mrs. James Smoyer, who reside near Snow Shoe. The accident was occasioned by the explosion of a bucket, of not more than half-gallon size, in which a quantity of lime was being slacked, and around which the children had gathered to watch the operation.

The father of the children, James Smoyer, takes great pride in the garden adjoining his home, and which is said to be one of the finest in that vicinity. On the day of the accident, last Wednesday a week ago, Mr. Smoyer returned home in the evening and started to work in the garden, telling several of the older children to slack some lime in a nearby out-building, which he wished to place around his plants.

There were six of the children, ranging in age from fourteen years downward, and while the eldest secured a half-gallon tin bucket and filled it with lime and water, the other five toted gathered around the bucket, watching the curious process of changing the lime into a boiling mass. Suddenly, with no warning whatever, the bucket exploded with a report that could be heard for half a mile. The hot lime was thrown in all directions, and into the faces and over the bodies of the children. As soon as the parents, who were working in the garden, heard the noise of the explosion they hurried to the building where the children were, and there a sorry spectacle met their gaze. Everyone of the children had been drenched with the lime, some of the burning substance having gotten in their mouths and eyes.

As quickly as possible a physician was sent for, and the parents set about relieving the sufferings of the children. For a while Mr. and Mrs. Smoyer were at their utmost in their endeavors to alleviate the pain which the burning lime was inflicting upon the children. They used such remedies as were at hand until the arrival of the physician, who gave them the necessary medical treatment and sent them all to bed. Some of the children were compelled to remain in bed for several days, but all are now so far recovered as to be considered out of danger.

Just what caused the lime to act in such a peculiar manner as to explode, is a question which cannot be solved. There was no lid or covering on the bucket which might cause the steam from the slaking process to burst the vessel. The lime had been secured from a shanty nearby where it had been left by several fishermen, and it is thought by some people that it may have contained some explosive of some sort which had been used in killing fish. There is nothing to substantiate this, however, as no trace of any foreign substance could be found in the lime.

Picniced on the Mountain.

While many people went to hot, sweltering places of amusement on the Fourth, a few, perhaps, three hundred very sensibly gathered at a cool spot on Nittany mountains known as "The House of Lords," about six miles from Bellefonte. It was a most enjoyable affair, and those who attended had one of the safest, sanest and most delightful Fourth they ever experienced in their lives. All arrangements for the picnic had been made by James Callahan, who resides in that vicinity, and who knows just what is required to feed and amuse a crowd who come to the mountains for an outing.

Charged With Assault and Battery.

On Monday of last week, Joshua Folk had a warrant sworn out for the arrest of Charles Lockington, who resides on east High street, opposite the Union cemetery, charging the latter with assault and battery. The trouble arose over a scap of bees which Mr. Folk lived for a neighbor of Mr. Lockington's early on Saturday morning, and which the prosecutor left lying in Mr. Lockington's yard until evening. At the hearing before Judge Brown on Monday Mr. Folk alleged that when he went into Mr. Lockington's yard to get the bees, the latter gentleman threatened him and then assaulted him by striking him in the face. The Squire disposed of the case by placing the costs on the defendant.

Lost a Valuable Horse.

On Thursday afternoon a valuable 4-year-old horse owned by William P. Humes, dropped dead on the latter's farm just southeast of town. The animal had been working in the field all morning and part of the afternoon, but not noticing a peculiarity about its actions, Mr. Smith, the tenant on the farm, took the horse from the field and turned it out to pasture. In a few minutes the animal had dropped over dead, caused presumably by the excessive heat.

Canoeed From Bellefonte.

William Horne, a student of Princeton university, and brother, James G. Horne, of Yorkers, N. Y., after spending a few days with their uncle, Henry C. Quisley, Esq., in Bellefonte, went down the Bald Eagle last week in their 75 pound canoe and thence up the Beech creek to the home of their aunt, Mrs. George F. Hess, whom they visited several days. These young men will spend the next two months with relatives in Centre and Clinton counties.

A New Interpretation.

History Teacher—What conspicuous feature figured in Harrison's campaign? Pupil—In the long procession they had a log cabin with colored men tied on top. History Teacher—A what? Pupil—Well, my history says there was a live coon fastened on the roof.

THEY PAID FOR THEIR FUN.

On Sunday afternoon prior to the Fourth three Italians who gave their names as John Cushman, John Yamatis and Pete Nalack, hired a team of horses and a carriage from Frank Bartley, the liveryman, and started out towards Pleasant Gap on a "joy ride." They had no particular destination, but were happy with the thought that they were "on their way." Speed limits were entirely forgotten or set aside in their abnormal desire for fast travelling. Soon reports began coming in to the livery stable that the men were over driving and otherwise abusing the horses, and Mr. Bartley drove out to Pleasant Gap, where he met the men and the team. The animals were in a serious condition from hard driving, and Mr. Bartley made the men get out of the carriage while he brought the team into Bellefonte and put them in the stable. Later policeman Harry Dukeman, who is also the special agent in this place, of the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals, was notified, and the same night he went out along the Nittany furnace where the men boarded, and arrested them. They were brought before Squire Henry Brown, charged with wanton cruelty to animals, to which they pleaded guilty. For their few hours of fun the Squire fined them \$10 each and cost.

While the Justice acted with wisdom in this case, yet there should be a more severe penalty for this kind of cruelty. There is no more useful animal and one that receives less consideration in proportion to its usefulness to mankind, than the livery horse, one-half of the drivers of which never think that the animal is flesh and blood, and as sensitive as the hand that is guiding it.

THE FOURTH AT HECLA.

The Moose lodge of Bellefonte can well feel satisfied with the success of their picnic held at Hecla Park on July 4th so far as attendance and a general social good time goes. The crowds from Bellefonte and the lower end of the line were all that could be desired for such an occasion—good natured and orderly. There was an absence of drunkenness and rudeness sometimes found at 4th of July gatherings, and everybody seemed intent only on helping each other to make the day an enjoyable one.

The band concerts were appreciated, and the dancing floor well patronized, and the two ball games enjoyed. In the forenoon the Lock Haven team beat the Jersey Shore team by a score of 12-8; in the afternoon Lock Haven defeated the Jersey Shore team by a score of 12-1, in favor of Bellefonte. It was a mecca for the various candidates, and they could be seen buzzing around like flies in a molasses jar. Aside from the disappointment by aviator Bauman's failure to make an attempt to fly with his plane, the Moose picnic was a great success.

ENGAGEMENT ANNOUNCED.

At the home of Mr. and Mrs. Hugh North Crider, in Bellefonte, on Saturday afternoon, a dainty luncheon was given in honor of Miss Eleanor Francis, of Tyrone, and her engagement to James Berkstresser of Pittsburg, formally announced. Besides guests from Bellefonte, a number of Miss Francis' friends from Tyrone were present, the entire party numbering eighteen. At the close of the luncheon a maid brought on a silver platter a miniature bride and groom dressed in full wedding regalia and placed it in front of the hostess, Mrs. Crider, who at once presented it to Miss Francis. The color scheme was yellow and white and the home was tastefully decorated for the occasion. The engagement ring of Miss Francis is a handsome solitaire diamond mounted in solid platinum ring with guard of some material beautifully studded with diamond chips. The wedding nuptials will occur on Thursday, October 19.

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P. R. R TICKET OFFICE CLEANED OF CASH

PASSENGER STATION SCENE OF ROBBERY.

TOOK PLACE IN DAYLIGHT

Wire Screen Forced from Ticket Window and an Entrance Gained to the Cash Drawer—A Bold Proceeding.

Monday evening, between the hours of six and seven, one of the boldest robberies ever perpetrated in Bellefonte, was pulled off at the Penna. R. R. passenger station, the latter being thieves being successful in getting away with probably \$50 in money from the ticket office.

The last train arriving in Bellefonte before supper is the one at 6 o'clock from State College. After it pulls away from the station, those who are in the ticket office leave the place vacant for about an hour, or until 7 o'clock. On Monday evening about 6:30, Harry Hutchinson, the ticket agent, and his assistants, had gone to their supper as usual, leaving part of the building unoccupied. The ticket office was locked, the baggage room near the station was also locked up and vacant which practically left no official on the property except the watchman at the High street crossing. The two waiting rooms at each end of the building were never locked until the arrival and departure of the 8:26 p. m. train, and thus it is no unusual thing for persons to sit in the rooms, during the hours in which there is no arrival of trains. On this occasion the thief entered the ladies' waiting room, possibly thinking that he would be less liable to disturbance there, and pried loose one side of the wire screen which covers the ticket window. The screen was then bent to one side to allow the miscreant to get his body through the window, and in a twinkling he was in the easy matter to pry open the money drawer and rifle it.

All this must have taken place in a very short space of time, as the thief, evidently a stranger in Bellefonte, would encounter one of the returning officials. When they did return, however, they found things as above described, with no trace of the light-fingered thief who had "cleaned" them. About 8 o'clock Constable Montgomery arrested a man who was trespassing on the company's property and it was thought that he might be connected with the robbery, hence he was locked up for safe keeping in the borough lock-up. Tuesday the man was given a hearing and held for 10 days for trespassing. He gave his name as James Carson, and his residence Williamsport, although he admits being a common tramp.

Whoever the fellow is who did the robbing it must be conceded he was a pretty smooth hand at the business, and whatever he doesn't understand about the game, he makes up for by his unlimited nerve. Another incident happened the same evening, possibly a few minutes after the station robbery, which may have some connection with the latter. About seven o'clock or shortly thereafter, while Calla, the 13-year-old daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Chas. Moerschbacher, was coming through the gate, as the big spring she was accosted by a man, who grabbed her by the arm and pulled from her wrist a bracelet. The little girl hung onto the man, demanding her stolen property with such vehemence that it probably frightened him, and to escape gave her back the bracelet, and continued his way out the station, on Willowbank street. There was no one around at the time to whom the girl could appeal for aid, thus the man succeeded in making his escape.

Since the station robbery detectives in the employ of the Pennsylvania company have been in Bellefonte working on the case, and they, as well as those employed at the station, have closed up like clams. The exact amount stolen it could not be learned, but it is presumed to have been in the neighborhood of fifty dollars.

DROWNED IN DELAWARE.

Untimely Death of Belmont Beck of Huston.

E. S. Beck, employe in Philadelphia, son of C. S. Beck, of Huston, Pa., was drowned in the Delaware river on last Saturday. At this time information regarding his death is meagre and indefinite.

The young man was in the employ of the Bell Telephone Co., as an electrician, in charge of an exchange for two years. He recently bought a small sail boat and Saturday last, with a companion started for a trip. He failed to report at the office on Monday, and had not returned to his boarding house. Late on Monday his body was found and identified. Mr. Beck is the son of C. S. Beck, of Huston, Pa., a small station along the C. R. R. of Pa., where he was born and reared and was known as "Belmont" Beck. He was about 25 years of age and is survived by his father and a sister, Hannah Beck, of Bellefonte. He was a progressive, energetic, young man who was making a success of life and his sudden death is mourned by many.

The Philadelphia Record on Wednesday said: "That Edward Beck, of No. 1718 North Park avenue, and John H. Kline, of No. 1519 North Twelfth street, were drowned while sailing on the Delaware was made certain yesterday when the body of Beck was recovered from the water near Palmyra, N. J. The boat in which they had embarked on Sunday had previously been found capsized near Florence.

Cattle Turned Into Wheat Fields.

Cattle have been turned into a number of wheat fields along Lycovon creek, the farmers giving up the crop as worth absolutely nothing.

A Boy.

The stork visited the home of Mr. and Mrs. Chas. R. Kurtz on Wednesday evening and left a little boy.

SNOW SHOE'S CELEBRATION.

One of the biggest times witnessed in Snow Shoe for many years was the recently organized fire company's celebration on the 4th of July. From 9 o'clock to 11 o'clock, sixteen mounted Red Men rode to Clarence as per programme and led the three foreign orders and Clarence Cornet band up to the Disciple church where the following line of march was formed:

Roll Shoe dressed as "Uncle Sam" headed the procession, followed by Cordie Snyder dressed as "Uncle Sam" in his pony cart and Miss Helen Budinger dressed to represent "Miss Columbia," riding in her pony cart; next the Councilmen in their president's automobile; H. P. Kelley, W. D. Orlin, T. B. Budinger, David Chambers and Patrick Kelley with their automobiles; the Clarence Cornet band and foreign orders; the Snow Shoe Cornet band, followed by the sixteen Red Men, mounted and mounted horseback; the Clarence base ball team and Snow Shoe second team; the Volunteer Hose fire company; Darktown fire company and fanatics; these latter were fine, and last but not least was "Swamp" Doly and his bull. The parade went up Fourth to Olive, then to Main, up Main to Moshannon avenue, thence to the park where it broke ranks. The ball game in the morning between Clarence and Snow Shoe second team resulted in defeat for Clarence to the score of 7-2. Dinner was served by the group by the fire company. The afternoon opened with a ball game between Milesburg and Snow Shoe seniors, Milesburg losing 14-2. The wheelbarrow race was exciting and comical. The fire exhibition was not given or not wanted to start in getting to a fire and connecting the hose and nozzle when they ran 150 yards and connected ready to throw water in 25 seconds. A good crowd was in attendance and everything was quiet; no fighting nor drunkenness.

This goes to show that the Volunteer Hose Fire company, of Snow Shoe are hustlers and mean business with their first big time, clearing over \$125, which will help them on with their good work.

ALMOST BROKE JAIL.

The other morning when Sheriff Hurley made his rounds in the jail, he found that he came near having a general jail delivery during the night. Joe Powell is an inmate, who came there on the charge of larceny, from a pretty smooth article. Sheriff Hurley confined him in one of the cells on the second floor. It was not long until Powell planned a means for his escape. He succeeded in tearing up a few boards in his cell floor and made an opening large enough to drop through the ceiling into a vacant and unlocked cell of the first floor. Here, with the aid of an iron bar from a bed he began digging his way through the massive stone wall. He got far enough to see light through the wall and in the morning made an effort to conceal his work but was caught by Sheriff Hurley.

Powell laughed over the failure to make good his escape and remarked that if he would have had a little more time he would have made a good job of it.

It is a fact that the prison portion of the county jail is very insecure, and it is an easy proposition for a man to dig through the stone and mortar that compose the outside walls.

Three Small Fires.

During the past fortnight the town has had three occasions for calling upon the fire companies for what in each instance appeared to be much needed aid, but fortunately turned out to be only incipient fires and easily subdued.

Injured in Auto Accident.

George Rowe, who had been employed as an engineer on the steam shovel at the cinder removal operation at the Nittany furnace, was recently injured in an automobile accident near Williamsport. We were unable to learn the extent of his injuries, but they are said to be of a rather serious nature. While working in Bellefonte Mr. Rowe boarded for a while at Philip Bezer's residence, and later at the Garman House.

Bridge Case Settled.

The Supreme Court of Pennsylvania on last Thursday handed down the long-awaited decision of the Lewisburg bridge case in which it dismissed the appeal of the Lewisburg bridge Co. in its suit for damages against the counties of Union and Northumberland for damages alleged to have been sustained in the building of the free bridge at the foot of Market street in Lewisburg.

Centre County Reunion.

The committee arranging for the annual outing of the ex-Centre county has decided to hold the reunion at Lakemont park on Saturday, July 29. This will be one of the biggest picnics of the year, as there are hundreds of former residents of Centre county who have already signified their intention of attending.

POLITICAL BOSSES SHOULD BE RETIRED

WHY PENNA. DEMOCRACY NEEDS RE-ORGANIZATION.

OLD LEADERS IN DISREPUTE

Discredited at the Polls Last Fall—In League With the Penrose Roster—Time for Stern Measures—New Men Wanted.

On next Wednesday, July 19th, according to the rules of the Democratic Party of Pennsylvania, there will be a meeting of the State Committee, which is composed of the chairmen of the various counties, at Harrisburg. Among the important duties to be performed will be the election of a chairman for the ensuing year, and to transact other important business. This gathering we regard as one of the most important in the entire history of the Democracy of Pennsylvania, as the action taken that day will indicate whether there is enough individuality and vitality in the party at this time to take a forward stride when the eyes of the nation are watching to see whether the spirit of the times has aroused sufficient latent energy in a dormant Democratic Party to rehabilitate itself, and cast aside the political bosses who have perverted an organization to their own selfish ends. If successful will mean a complete re-organization with new men and new ideas; it will mean a restoration of confidence in the entire organization. It will mean that the voice of the party will be heard hereafter in the selection of our platforms, instead of the dictates of some capitalist who puts up enough of coin to pay the bills for the privilege of owning and controlling an entire state political organization.

For a long term of years the Democratic Party of Pennsylvania was debauched by money—became a mere plaything in the hands of James Guffey, the millionaire oil magnate of Pittsburg, who controlled the organization because he paid the bills, and our committeemen invariably were influenced to support Guffey and that lubricated the whole machinery.

In order to carry through all his schemes successfully, he had as his assistants the famous Donnelly and Ryan brand of political corruptionists of Philadelphia, who train every year openly with the Penrose machine; the Brennen outfit in Pittsburg; Jim Hall of Elk county, who in recent years has been in open alliance with the Penrose machine and the liquor interests of the state, and others. The work of the recent Allegheny convention was a sample of the manner in which these men manipulated a party organization to serve their personal interests, and openly defied the will of the vast majority of their party.

The Democracy of the state became aroused at the outrage perpetrated and as a result the Keystone party came into existence to teach these men that they could no longer impose on the intelligence of our people. What was the result? Why at the November election the ticket set up by the gang, with Grjm at the head, was almost wiped off the map. The people had time to think and decide for themselves, and the unmistakable verdict was that the pretentious leaders of the Democracy of Pennsylvania were so completely repudiated by the people that they should have promptly retired had they a spark of common decency about them. Such a bunch of discredited leaders, ordinarily would have abided with the expressed will of the party, but not so with the Guffeyites, the Brennens, the Donnelly's and the Ryans, or the Halls.

Next came the great clamor for the re-organization of the party and when the pressure became too strong the State Chairman very reluctantly summoned the Committee together for that purpose last April, and the Guffey organization was defeated on a square contest by their own committee. They entered into an agreement, and since they lost they now are repudiating the whole procedure; because they lost they are claiming that the Democracy of Pennsylvania can only be under the direction of the discredited Dewart who was defeated at the committee meeting. The special committee that was chosen and directed to proceed with the re-organization of their party chose Hon. Geo. Guthrie, of Pittsburg, as the new Chairman and they made other appointments according to the instructions given them by the last meeting of the State Committee. As a result of these proceedings the old gang was routed, and as a bluff air still pretending that Dewart, the man who was ousted in April, is the actual chairman. On the other hand Guthrie

Faked the Public.

The Aeroplane at Hecla Park Was a Farce. Several thousand people went to Hecla Park on the 4th of July principally in the hope of witnessing the aeroplane flight that had been so extensively advertised. They were doubly assured that there absolutely would be a flight. Frequently the persons who were in charge of the program were warned that they were handling a very doubtful proposition in advertising a flight by the young man from Lock Haven who, to the knowledge of no one, had ever gone up in the air with a machine under his control. For several months this man Bauman, of Lock Haven, had a machine of some kind at or near Lock Haven and time and time again flights were promised, yet he never seems to have made so much as an honest attempt to go up in the air. These are the facts, and when the committee announced that Bauman would make flights at Hecla Park, on the 4th, they were taking too much for granted, and had no right to persuade hundreds of people to come there on that occasion when there was no further assurance of the fulfillment of the program than the mere assertion of the aviator, who was unreliable, and even inexperienced in that line of work.

Faked the Public.

We do not say that the committee did not act in good faith with the people, but the point we wish to make is that they did not exercise the proper precautions in a matter of this character, and as a result several thousand people were disappointed and had a right to feel mighty sore over it.

As to this man Bauman, he is a fake pure and simple. He lied to this committee like a thief from the start. It is not necessary to go into the points, or his excuses, as it is too long, and matters little now. He deliberately lied to the committee from the start, and kept it up to almost the last moment, and when driven to a corner admitted that he would not attempt a flight, declaring that some part of his machine was not there, although he was billed for almost a month prior and had ample time to have had such parts ready, had he any serious intention of making a flight—but they were dealing with a liar and a faker, and in consequence several thousand were greatly disappointed.

We insist that when such enterprises are undertaken the promoters are duty bound to be doubly sure of the character of the men they are dealing with, as the rights of the public have to be considered in all such cases.

ALMOST A TRAGEDY.

John Hill Attempts to Shoot James Russell at Snow Shoe.

Thrusting a revolver in the face of James Russell, a prominent local business man, on the afternoon of July 4th, John Hill, also of that place, remarked: "Jim, I'm going to shoot you," and then pulled the trigger. The cartridge, which luckily happened to be blank, exploded and severely burned the face of Mr. Russell.

Hill is a man about 25 years of age, and works around Snow Shoe as a laborer. Whether his intentions were to kill Mr. Russell or were simply the exaggerations of a drunken man's ideas of fun, he would not admit. Mr. Russell is the proprietor of a restaurant, and he said he had had no previous trouble whatever with his assailant, Hill. Without any warning the man walked into Mr. Russell's place of business, and pulling a 38-calibre revolver, remarked: "Jim, I'm going to shoot you." The weapon was held within about six inches of Mr. Russell's face.

Chief of Police Quick at once located the man under arrest and locked him up for the night. The next morning he was given a hearing, when he admitted to the shooting, and was brought to Bellefonte and lodged in jail to await trial at the next term of court.

The affair caused no little excitement in Snow Shoe for a time, and many exaggerated reports were current as to the result. Hill, at the time of the shooting, was under the influence of liquor, and no doubt was partly irresponsible for the deed.

NEARLY LOST HIS LIFE.

Was Overcome by Foul Air at the Bottom of Well.

Lemuel Clark, of Blanchard, while engaged in cleaning a well on Monday forenoon for Samuel Gardner, at Beech Creek, was overcome by gaseous air, and would have died but for the heroic efforts of John Fritz and Frank Koons, who went to his rescue.

Mr. Clark had just reached the bottom of this well, which was 18 or 20 feet deep, and was about to begin work when he was overcome by the foul air. The men above saw his plight, when Messrs. Fritz and Koons were lowered to the bottom, and barely succeeded in fastening a rope around Clark's body, when they found they were getting dangerously sick. They were quickly hauled out, and both dropped over as they reached the top, but soon revived. Clark was then hauled up. He was unconscious and in a serious condition. Dr. J. E. Tibbins, who was summoned, applied restoratives and worked with the man an hour when he was revived. He was later taken to his home, and although he is yet a very sick man, he will very likely recover. However, he had a very close call.

Hospital Notes.

Operations: Mrs. Frank Bartly and Samuel Shultz, Bellefonte; Mrs. Mea McCullough, Milesburg; Roy Miles, Pittsboro; Rankin and Williamson, Pittsburg; Ralph Loos, Millheim; Mrs. Mary Wilkins, Linden Hill.

Dispensed: Mrs. Emma Kline, Milesburg; Mrs. Emma Kline, Bellefonte; Wilson Rogers, Del. Admitted for treatment: Mrs. Emma Bathurst, Curtin; Henry Kline, Bellefonte.

Eighteen patients are now in the hospital.

(Continued on page 4)