

The Centre Democrat.

BELLEVILLE, PA., THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 1st, 1912.

Vol. 35, No. 5.

Circulation over 5,500—Largest in Centre County.

CROOKED DETECTIVE SENT TO PENITENTIARY

OLD MAN PERKINS MUST SERVE ONE YEAR.

WAS CONVICTED OF BLACKMAIL

Same Man Was Engaged in Centre County—Produced Evidence Against James Cornely Who Was Pardoned Afterwards—Was it a "Frame Up?"

Gilbert B. Perkins, veteran detective of Pittsburgh, recently convicted of writing Black Hand letters to Mr. and Mrs. Charles H. Strong, of Erie, received the news last week that the United States circuit court of appeals, sitting in Philadelphia, had dismissed his appeal. The appeal of Charles Franklin, a former employe of Perkins, convicted of the same crime also was dismissed. The old man, broken in health by a sickness of almost a year, over whose gray head more than 70 years have passed, walked the floor wringing his hands, protesting that an innocent man was being sent to prison.

The sending of this man to the penitentiary now is of peculiar interest to Bellefonte people. Some years ago, owing to fire at the electric light station and the army, the county commissioners employed Perkins' agency on the case. Perkins came here and had James Cornely arrested on the testimony of Gillette and at the trial Gillette and Perkins' testimony convicted Cornely, who in consequence was sent to the Western penitentiary, and later was pardoned, the district attorney here recommending the same. Many prominent citizens believed that Cornely was innocent and joined in the petition.

At the time and ever since, Cornely has always vigorously denounced these men as a set of crooks and that they deliberately "framed up" a case against him so as to justify charging him with an enormous sum for services, which they received.

The result of Perkins' conviction now very strongly indicates that Cornely told the truth, and was unjustly imprisoned. Had Cornely been a man of more regular habits, it is doubtful if they could have accomplished a conviction then by their methods. These circumstances, we think, now warrant our people to the belief that James Cornely was the victim of an unprincipled detective.

Change of Department.

The following notice has been issued by the Central R. R. of Pa., regarding the changes made due to the death of General Freight Agent, Frank W. Ward:

Mr. Frank W. Ward, late General Freight Agent, having died on January 18th, 1912, the office of General Freight Agent is abolished, and effective this date the general direction of the Traffic Department of the Company will be assumed by the President and General Manager. Effective this date also Mr. M. L. Altenderfer is appointed General Traffic Agent, reporting to the President and General Manager.—By order of the Board.

W. H. GIBBART, President.
Bellefonte, Pa., February 1st, 1912.

Those Superb Pictures.

During the coming engagement, the famous Hadley Moving Pictures will no doubt be presented to the usual large and appreciative audience. Mr. Hadley has arranged to present here that always attend his exhibitions.

A new program with each visit sustains the interest in this attraction, and the coming exhibition is guaranteed to equal in variety and excellence those presented during past engagements.

Secure your seats early at Garman's opera house, Wednesday and Thursday evenings, Feb. 7th and 8th.

Fire at Shingletown.

Last Friday evening there was a serious fire in the store at Shingletown a few miles west of Bellefonte, on the Andy Lytle farm. The tenant house occupied by John Wolf and family caught fire about five o'clock that evening and when discovered the roof was all aflame and soon fell. The family was alone and they had not time enough to save a portion of their belongings on which there was no insurance. The origin of the fire is unknown, but is supposed to be due to a defective flue.

Store Property Sold.

Ex-Prothonotary A. B. Kimpfort recently purchased the store room and dwelling house, at Centre Hall railroad station from W. H. Bartholomew for \$3,000. The purchase was made through I. J. Dreese, of Lemont. The property has been occupied by Reister J. Frank Smith, the present register of Centre county, since 1858 and is a good business location.

Mr. Kimpfort informs us that he does not intend to go in the mercantile business at that place, but will rent the property.

Marker for Soldiers' Widows.

Under existing legislation the county commissioners are required to appropriate \$50 for the burial of the indigent soldiers, sailors or marines, who served in the Spanish or any previous wars, and to erect on petition a suitable marker to the grave of every soldier. The last session of the legislature amended the law as to markers, extending to the widows of soldiers the same courtesy as to soldiers.

Fire at Renovo.

A dwelling in Renovo, occupied by William Renehan and family, and owned by Ida M. Fell, of Rebersburg, was badly damaged by fire Saturday afternoon. The upsetting of an oil stove was responsible for the blaze. The loss is covered by insurance.

Murray—Donald.

George W. Murray and Miss Emma M. Donald, both of Julian, were married by Squire W. H. Musser on Saturday, at his office on High street. They have the best wishes of their friends for a happy wedded life.

SMALLPOX CASE.

Health Department Says There is no Danger of Contagion.

Mr. S. M. Bell, merchant at Boalsburg, writes us that his place of business at Boalsburg has been boycotted by all the people in that section in the fear of contracting smallpox. The reason for this is that Mr. Bell had in his employ the man from Howard who now is ill at his home in Howard Twp. with smallpox. Mr. Bell says that when the man was at his store in Boalsburg he was ill and consulted the local physician who said that he should go home at once, and not venture out during the extremely cold weather. About a week later the man's condition was diagnosed as being smallpox and since then the health officers, of Howard Twp., have taken the case in charge and every precaution is being made to prevent the contagion from spreading in that community.

Mr. Bell since then wrote to the Health Department, at Harrisburg, and recited the facts of the man's appearance at his place of business, and inquired as to the danger of contagion. To this inquiry the department made immediate reply, on the 28th of January; from which we make the following extract:

"Dear Sir:—In reply to your letter of the 26th inst., as you state the patient suffering with smallpox has not been in your premises during the initial period of his illness, there is no reason to suspect that your store is the source of infection."

Mr. Bell says, as a precaution, he had his entire premises fumigated and there should be no danger in the future from contagion, from this place of business.

The Wild Pigeon Mystery.

That the wild pigeon, once so common in the United States, has become extinct is one of the strangest mysteries in American natural history. It is a puzzle which has baffled scientists and which probably never will be solved. Less than forty years ago wild pigeons were abundant in Pennsylvania, Ohio, Indiana, Kentucky and all the states of the middle west. In their migrations they traveled in flocks numbering tens of thousands, and it sometimes took a single flock the better part of an hour to pass a given point. Vast numbers of the pigeons were killed every year by gunners, but many investigators hold that the complete disappearance of the species must have been due in part at least to other causes. No other bird was ever so numerous in this country as the pigeon.

The Democrat well remembers when thirty to forty years ago and longer, in the springtime flocks of wild pigeons came from their breeding grounds above named, in countless flocks, stretching clean across Pennsylvania from mountain to mountain, and their coming lasted weeks. Sportsmen found it a rich harvest for sport and profit. The man who trapped the birds with nets, bagged bushels of pigeons and found ready sale for them—but now there is nary a wild pigeon to be seen. The older readers of the Centre Democrat are familiar with above facts.

Delightful Birthday Party.

The home of Mr. and Mrs. Ethan Turney, at Loganton, was the scene of a delightful gathering of young folks, and a few older ones, on Monday evening, the occasion being the eighth birthday anniversary of their son, Harry. There were forty-five guests present, and after spending the evening in playing games and partaking of ice cream and cake, they left for their respective homes, leaving with Harry their best wishes for many more happy birthdays. The young man received quite a number of handsome gifts.

M. E. Conference.

Final preparations for the forty-fourth session of the Central Pennsylvania Methodist Episcopal conference to be held in Pine Street church at Williamsport, in March, are being made by the pastor, Rev. Edwin A. Pries, and the committee. The opening session of the conference will be held Tuesday evening, March 19, when Rev. Dr. True Wilson, of Chicago, secretary of the conference, will deliver the sermon. Bishop W. F. McDowell will preside at the conference.

Fortunate Escape.

Howard Treaster, wife and three children, of Havice valley, recently started across the Seven Mountains to visit Centre county friends. Mr. Treaster got out to feed the horse but it frightened and ran away, going down Long mountain. The 8-month-old baby was first thrown out. Then old baby was thrown out. The boy and she and the girl were thrown into a ditch. The marvelous thing about the occurrence is that no injury resulted except to the buggy—but the visit was postponed.

Highway Engineers at Millheim.

The Millheim Journal says, "A number of state highway engineers have their headquarters at Millheim at present. They are engaged in surveying Route No. 27, leading from Bellefonte to Bellefonte, via Winfield, New Berlin, Millburg, Hartleton, Woodward, Millheim, Spring Mills, Centre Hall to Bellefonte. The road now being surveyed by these state engineers will in all probability be one of the first to be built by the state."

Seeks Death in Ice Stream.

The wife of ex-Senator Hackenberg, of Milton, left her room early Tuesday a week ago and donning a slumber robe made her way to the river and since then has not been seen. Her robe was found on the ice in the river back of the Hackenberg home. A reward has been offered for the recovery of the body.

Feet Badly Frozen.

Lock Haven Democrat: John Macbeth, a foreigner, of Snow Shoe, was brought to this city over the N. Y. C. road Monday evening and taken to the hospital. Both of Macbeth's feet were badly frozen through exposure during the recent extremely cold weather and they are in such bad condition that amputation may be necessary.

CONVICTS TO HELP BUILD BIG PRISON

PENITENTIARY TO HAVE OUT- DOOR WORKING PLAN IN APRIL.

SUPT. FRANCIES INSPECTS WORK

The Surveyors Are Going Over the Tracts—Work on Buildings to Start in April—Trolley May Soon be Built —Titles to Lands Are Being Proven.

Warden John E. Francies and John M. Eagan, of the State Prison Commission, were in Bellefonte several days last week in connection with the preliminary work now being done preparatory to the real beginning of the work of the new State penitentiary. While the officials spent their nights here in Bellefonte at one of the hotels, yet the major portion of the time was put in among the hills in the vicinity of Peru, where more than 20 surveyors are surveying for the buildings and the lines of the new penitentiary. Here in town four expert title searchers are at work making briefs of the titles of the thousands of acres and nearly a score of tracts taken over by the State.

This work will soon have been concluded, when the formal transfer of the property to the State will be made and the parties from whom the land was purchased will receive their money. A good many thousands of dollars will come into Bellefonte as a result of the purchase of the land by the State.

The project of building an electric railway past the penitentiary site and on to State College is predicted by several corporations are seeking franchises in this section apparently with this project in view.

The actual building will begin by April 1. It is quite reliably reported that at the very beginning the men of a certain class in both eastern and western penitentiaries will be brought here to assist in the work of excavating, quarrying and grading, this for the purpose of beginning at once to observe the outdoor system of the intended reforms. A large old farmhouse on the east side of the penitentiary grounds, while the men will be quartered in a camp under military discipline.

As the plans and the surveys develop, and the great extent of the land acquired comes under a more complete comprehension, the location is declared to be ideal. The quarries, stone pits, timber lots and roads will all come in for work at the hands of the prisoners. The almost certain completion of the proposed State road on the line of the old Penn's Valley trolley assures a fine highway extending south and east. Good state roads are sure to be constructed so as to connect with the western part of the state.

In our next issue we expect to publish an interesting article giving a complete description of the famous Colorado penitentiary farm, that is attracting so much attention. The work accomplished by that institution is wonderful. Our new penitentiary will be a larger one, and in time will become famous in the work it will accomplish.

Pledging Themselves.

At this time the popular Democratic sentiment in this State seems largely in favor of Woodrow Wilson for president. Whether this may be changed by subsequent events no one who has any wisdom left will attempt to predict. The candidates for district delegates are almost uniformly, as so far announced, pledging themselves for the Democratic governor of New Jersey, and such as do not do so have indirectly given the voters to understand their preference for him—Chambersburg Valley Spirit.

Tyrone Girl Drowned.

Margaret, the only daughter of Prof. Floyd E. Kauffman, formerly superintendent of the Tyrone public schools, was drowned at Washington, D. C., last week. She and a friend were skating when the ice broke and both went under. This occurred on Tuesday and the bodies were not recovered until forty-eight hours later.

Hospital Notes.

Admitted for medical treatment—Mrs. Carrie Armstrong, Bellefonte. Operations—Thomas Anderson, aged 13 years, Bellefonte; appendicitis. Discharged—Mrs. Sara Zimmerman and son, Bellefonte. There are twenty-three patients now in the hospital.

James Gleason For Congress.

Intimations are heard that James A. Gleason, Esq., of DuBois, will be a candidate for the democratic congressional nomination before the voters of this district. Mr. Gleason is a prominent attorney and an aggressive democrat, who would make a good representative.

Labels Changed Next Week.

Owing to the month of January closing yesterday, and this being February 1st, we did not have sufficient time to correct our mailing list for this issue. Therefore all credits for subscriptions received during January will be made for our next issue.

Fisher—Confer.

John E. Fisher and Miss Mary E. Confer, two young people of Wadde were united in the bonds of matrimony by Squire W. H. Musser, at his office on High street, on Tuesday. They are now receiving the congratulations of their many friends.

Marriage Licenses.

Arthur C. Hull - - - - - Curtin
Mary E. Haessinger - - - - - Curtin
Geo. W. Murray - - - - - Julian
Thomas McDonald - - - - - Julian
John E. Fisher - - - - - Wadde
Mary E. Confer - - - - - Wadde

I. J. Dreese, recently appointed health officer for College and adjacent townships, was summoned to Harrisburg this week by the Department in order to acquaint himself with the duties of that position.

REORGANIZERS WIN IN THE COURTS

RITTER IS THROWN OUT BY AL- LEGHENY COURTS.

VOTERS WILL SETTLE THE ISSUE

Chairman Guthrie's Efforts for Ar- bitration Refused—Guffeyites Ap- peal to Supreme Court—Battle at the Coming Primaries.

The Guffey-Donnelly-Ryan-Ritter party managers for Pennsylvania, in defiance of the will of the majority of Democrats, received a bump last Thursday from the courts of Allegheny County. Judge John D. Shaffer handed down a decision in the case brought by Walter E. Ritter, of Williamsport, and three sisters, interment George W. Guthrie from acting as State chairman, declaring that the courts had no jurisdiction in the matter and refusing to grant the injunction asked for against Guthrie. Judge Shaffer criticised Ritter and his associates for bringing the action so close to the date for the certification of offices to the Secretary of the Commonwealth and county commissioners, and declared that no irreparable damage would be done by refusing to grant the injunction. Ritter's interests, and practically held that it was up to the Democrats themselves, as to who they wish to recognize as State chairman. The Court indicated plainly that it did not propose to be used to keep the Guffey machine in control of the Democratic organization against the wishes of the great majority of the party.

Will Make Appeal.

Despite the setback received, the Guffey machine leaders will endeavor to carry the farce to a conclusion by appealing to the Supreme Court. The appeal will be made on the question of jurisdiction.

The actions of the Guffey leaders indicate plainly that they will use every power at their command to prevent Chairman Guthrie from certifying the list of nominations to be made at the April primaries. As February 18 is the last day for such certifications, they expect to see Mr. Guthrie's hands until after that date. Failing in this, they will proceed to hold a ramp convention.

There is every prospect of the Democrats having two state conventions this year. Guthrie says that within a short time his executive committee will fix the time and place and issue a call for the Democratic State Convention to be held shortly after the Republican meeting on May 1. Ritter has just announced a Democratic convention for another date. This will mean two sets of national delegates, at large and the same number of nominees for state offices.

Guthrie Favors Arbitration.

"When the hearing was held before Judge Shaffer," said Mr. Guthrie, "I reiterated my proposition to Mr. Ritter to join with me in calling a convention, that the roll be prepared by representatives of both sides and that none but those receiving certificates of election from the county commissioners, following the primaries, be permitted to have legal certificates. I then told him he was placing himself before the people as seeking some unfair advantage in making up the roll for the State convention."

Ritter Refuses Offer.

"I insisted that I would not allow him to place me in that position and I informed him that if he would agree to make up the roll, placing thereon names of those having legal certificates, but delegates would have jurisdiction and allow the question of who was chairman to be arbitrated by the local court or any other court. I told him I believe the people were not so much interested in who was State chairman as they are in obtaining an honest State convention. He refused this proposition. IT IS NOW UP TO THE PEOPLE TO DECIDE AT THE APRIL PRIMARIES WHETHER THEY WISH THE REORGANIZATION OF THE PARTY TO CONTINUE OR WISH TO GO BACK TO THE OLD ORDER OF THINGS."

As "The Centre Democrat" is firmly convinced that Guffey and his bunch are party traitors and political chancers, who have repeatedly been repudiated by the voters in convention and at the polls, any comment we make on the above might be judged as colored by personal feeling. In order to give our readers some idea how the situation is regarded by other people, we quote others and disinterested parties.

An Entirely Fair Proposition.

From the Philadelphia Press, Rep.: "This is not our affair, but it is one of interest to all—Republicans as well as Democrats—who believe it is desirable that a strong minority party shall be maintained in the State. To the impartial observer it would seem that the proposition which Mr. Guthrie makes that two persons shall be named, one by each of the contending chairmen, to make up the roll of delegates in the State convention, putting on the list the names of those only who receive certificates of election as delegates, and also agree upon some one to call the convention to order, is an entirely fair proposition. It submits the whole matter for decision by the party voters at the primaries where the State delegates will be elected."

"Failure to accept this proposition cannot but be construed as a lack of confidence in the disposition of the party voters on the part of the old organization leaders. The reorganizers evidently have no fear of the result. Mr. Guthrie's proposition helps to establish confidence, and naturally has no direct interest in the controversy. I was old organization was deposed by command of the State Committee. If it cannot be restored by action of the party voters at the primaries it cannot be restored at all. Its present course, however, indicates a purpose to carry its case to the national convention and take a desperate

(Continued on fourth page)

RECENT DEATHS.

ECKLEY.—After an extended illness with a complication of diseases, Mrs. John Eckley died at her home at Centre Hall on Saturday, Monday to survive a husband and two children. She was born Lydia Heaton, the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Henry Heaton. Funeral services were conducted on Tuesday morning by Rev. Schuyler, of the Presbyterian church; interment was made at Centre Hall.

MOUNTZ.—William J. Mountz, of Altoona, but who was born and raised near Bald Eagle, was crushed to death in the Carnegie steel mill at Braddock on Saturday morning, 20th. Deceased was a son of John and Isabella Mountz and was 42 years, 1 month and 20 days old. He is survived by his wife and three children, two brothers and three sisters. Interment was made in the Bald Eagle cemetery.

RIDER.—Mrs. Sarah Rider, wife of the late John W. Rider, died at the home of her son-in-law, Homer Barr, at Gatesburg, on Monday night, 22nd, of diseases incident to her advanced age. Mr. Rider died about sixteen years ago. Their children are Mrs. Joseph Meyers, Mrs. Isalah Devore, Mrs. Howard Barr, all of Ferguson township, and Samuel, of Salsburg. Interment was made in the Gatesburg cemetery.

GARMAN.—Esther, the seven-months-old daughter of Mr. and Mrs. George Garman died at the home of the parents on Halfmoon Hill, Friday afternoon at 3 o'clock, and was buried in the Union cemetery on Monday at 2 p. m. Surviving are the parents and the following brothers and sisters: Philip, Foster, Harry, Jennie, Helen and Beatrice. The funeral services were conducted by Dr. Yocum, of the Methodist church.

COLYER.—After a brief illness of about two weeks due to apoplexy, Mrs. Fannie Colyer died at the home of her daughter, in Centre Hall, on Tuesday afternoon, aged 78 years, 2 months and 17 days. She was a daughter of George Loose and was born in Lebanon county. She is survived by the following children: Reuben Colyer, of Pittsburgh; Mrs. Emma Cooney, McKees Rocks, Pa.; Mrs. Anna Spiecher, of Crescent, Pa.; Mrs. Minnie Perbert, of Derry, Pa.; Mrs. Ida Lambert, Centre Hall; and Mrs. Elmira Ishler, of Tusseyville. She was a member of the Lutheran church. Interment Friday morning.

MOORE.—Alice M. Dunkle Moore was born in Howard, Penn., June 23rd, 1862. She removed to Woonsocket, S. D., in 1885. She was united in marriage to Mr. Chas. H. Moore, Dec. 4th, 1894. In the following year the newly united couple went to Austin, Minn., where they resided ever since. She has been ill for the last year a great sufferer, and for the last few months has been living with death in sight. She died on Thursday, January 18th, at 1:20 p. m., aged 47 years, 6 months and 25 days. She leaves her husband, Mr. Chas. H. Moore, one sister, Mrs. Elizabeth Hill, of Austin; three brothers, L. G. Dunkel of Altoona, Pa.; T. J. Dunkel of Punxsutawney, Pa.; and J. A. Dunkel, Mechanicsburg, Ohio.

MUSSER.—Emanuel Musser, an aged resident of Aaronsburg, died early Sunday morning of diseases incident to his advanced years. Mr. Musser had been ailing for several months past, and for the last few months had gradually declining since the death of his wife, which occurred within the past year. He was a member of the Lutheran church and enjoyed the respect of the entire community. Surviving is one son, Clayton S. Musser, and four sisters, namely: Mrs. Seamore Winkleblich, Mrs. William Winkleblich, Mrs. Ceden Burd and Mrs. William Homan, the latter living in the West and being unable to come east to attend the obsequies of her brother. Funeral services will be held at this place, conducted by Rev. Geesey, the Lutheran minister.

ELY.—On Monday morning at 7 o'clock Mrs. Uriah Ely, a well known resident of Pleasant Gap, died at her home, after a short illness from a complication of diseases. Deceased had been ailing for some time with stomach trouble, but her condition had never been considered alarming until a few days prior to her death. She was past sixty years of age, and was the widow of the late Uriah Ely, who died several years ago. Nine children survive, as follows: Harry, of Warriorsburg; Mrs. Charles Zettler, of Harrisburg; Mrs. Charles Zettler, of Harrisburg; Mrs. Harry Griffith, and Jared Ely, of Pleasant Gap; Edgar, of Akron, O. (now at home); William, of Bellefonte; and Misses Lizzie and Zella at home. A brother, James Houser, of Peru, and one sister, Mrs. Schreck, of Lemont, also survive. Funeral services will be held this afternoon at 1 o'clock at her late home, conducted by Rev. Engler, of the Methodist church. Interment will be made in the Houseville cemetery.

HARRIS.—After an illness of about a week Miss Elizabeth Petriken Harris died on last Saturday at 4 a. m., from an attack of pneumonia, at the home of her brother, John P. Harris, on Linn street, at the advanced age of 88 years, 1 month and 2 days. She was possibly the oldest native born resident of Bellefonte at the time of her death, and was a daughter of Samuel and Nancy Harris, who were prominent in the early life of this community. For a long term of years she made her home with Mr. and Mrs. John P. Harris, where she was practically regarded as one of the household. Possessed of a remarkable memory she was a most interesting individual in her later years, as she could recall persons and important events that were conspicuous in the early history of Bellefonte with a clarity that was remarkable. She is survived by one brother, John P. Harris, with whom she resided. The interment took place Monday, January 22nd, in the family plot in the Union cemetery. Dr. Hawes and Dr. Schmidt officiating. She had been a life-long member of the Presbyterian church and was always interested in its work in this community.

BARRETT.—Sad, indeed, is the death of Mrs. Mary Elizabeth Barrett, the young wife of James Barrett, occurring at the home of her parents.

WILL PROTEST AGAINST
ELECTRIC CHARTERS

APPLICATION WILL BE MADE ON MONDAY.

SCOOTAC CLAIMS PRIOR RIGHTS

In the Same Territory—The Clearfield Promoters Give Out Little Informa- tion—Scootac Corporation Are Quite Busy in This Section.

On Monday, February 5th, formal application will be made to Governor Tener to have him grant charters for proposed electric companies covering all the townships and boros adjacent to Bellefonte in Bald Eagle and Nittany valleys. The individual promoters are capitalists from Clearfield, and this scheme was fully referred to in another issue.

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This is an important move and of considerable interest to this community; and up to this time we have been entirely unable to learn anything definite for publication regarding the plans and purposes of the people seeking these charters in this immediate community. That fact does not necessarily militate for or against the merits of their project.

This past week Messrs. Patterson and Kreamer, representatives of the Logan Electric Light and Power Co. were in Bellefonte in the interest of their project. They have been interviewing officials in the various boros and townships between Lock Haven and Unionville boros, and from here to State College, to have the assurances of franchisees when they get their plant in operation, and extend their service to this section.

As the granting of the charters to the Clearfield parties will practically cover the same territory in which the Logan company desires to operate their interests will conflict and the territory does not have sufficient patronage to warrant the successful operation of two companies; therefore the Logan people announce that they will vigorously oppose the granting of the charters to the Clearfield people on Monday and will go to Harrisburg for that purpose. They will base their contention on the ground of having secured prior rights in the same territory.

The Logan Electric Light & Power Co. is better known as the Scootac company, who propose to erect their plant in the Scootac mountains, seven miles north of Beech Creek and in a powerful steam electric plant at the mouth of their coal mines where they have an abundance of excellent coal.

It is their purpose also to erect there a large number of modern coke ovens. The best coal from the mines will be sold or converted into coke, and the waste gases from the process will be utilized to heat the boilers and make the steam to generate the electricity. In the manufacture of coke they will make special provision to preserve the principal by-products, such as the coal tar, which they will convert into various commercial products of considerable value. All the unsalable coal at the mines, generally considered as waste, will be utilized under their boilers.

With their coke plant in operation they calculate that the cost for fuel will be entirely eliminated and at the same time will obtain a profit even on their coke operation.

Upon such a basis of operation they maintain that they can supply cheap electrical power for all the industries along the Susquehanna as far east as Susquehanna, and west to Bellefonte, State College and other points. They mean to start with a plant of sufficient capacity to cover all these points, and more later as the proposition advances.

These are the representations made by these gentlemen. They assert that their coal supply has been proven, electrical engineering is done in great detail, and they are assured by experts that it can be made a great success, by supplying cheap power for industrial enterprises in the various communities.

The Scootac proposition sounds good to all it appears so plausible. They claim to have secured the necessary financial aid from large capitalists and are not asking our people for any money, simply the privilege to bring cheap power to our doors, and it will be optional with any individual or firm if they desire to use it.

The Telephone Controversy.

The controversy between the people and the Bell Telephone Company in the eastern part of Pennsylvania has not been adjusted thus far. The company recently submitted a proposition to supply phones to all the subscribers in the Millheim exchange district for \$18 for private residences, and \$24 for business places. All the phones are to remain in use at the former rate until March 1st. It is likely that a meeting will be called on February 16th, at all the subscribers of the company in that territory, to decide whether the new rate will be accepted or rejected.

A Correction.

A story is in circulation in Centre county, that Paul Swartz is in a prison in Florida; this I know is incorrect. The report that Adeline Fisher is on her way back from there, begging her way, likewise is untrue as I received a letter from her stating that she was in Jacksonville, Florida, and was getting along quite well and could pay her way home any time she desired to return home. She also states that she receives and reads the Centre Democrat every week.

D. W. McCLOSKEY.

Bellefonte, Pa.

Will Winter in Florida.
Hon. Joseph Alexander, of Madera, Senator from this district, will leave next week for Florida, where he will spend the balance of the winter.

Mrs. Thomas Faxon and daughter, Miss Florence, of Rebersburg, are making a visit to the home of the former's daughter, Mrs. Warren Wood, at the Hotel Gamble, in Jersey Shore.

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