

# KEELER HANGED IN CLEARFIELD JAIL

## PAYS PENALTY FOR KILLING HIS EMPLOYER.

# MET HIS DEATH FEARLESSLY

### Execution Took Place in Jail Corridor and Was Witnessed by About Fifty Persons—Keeler's Last Words Were, "Good-Bye Gentlemen."

John O. Keeler paid the law's exacting penalty for the killing of Joseph W. Roessner, Sept. 14, 1912, in the Clearfield jail at Clearfield, Pa. Thursday morning, January 15th, at 11:05 o'clock when at a signal Sheriff McCloskey raised the lever which sprung the trap and let Keeler drop from life into eternity.

The condemned man did not exhibit the least sign of nervousness. He was inspected by the warden, while the officers were arranging details—strapping his legs and removing the loose end of the noose from the cross bar of the gibbet.

When asked, just before the black cap was placed over his head, if he had anything to say, the man calmly replied: "No, I have said all I intend to say, when the rest are ready. Let'er go. Good by gentlemen."

In all he stood only a few seconds over two minutes on the scaffold. At the end of 15 minutes the physician pronounced life extinct and the body was turned over to the undertaker.

In the neighborhood of fifty persons witnessed the execution. It took place in the jail proper. The scaffold was erected the night before in the west end of the cellroom. Steps from the second floor balcony led down to the floor of the scaffold south west corner.

Shortly after ten o'clock the Sheriff began the final arrangements. At that time Dr. Reeve, of the Presbyterian church, was with the condemned man giving last spiritual consolation. Then the jury or official witnesses had been taken to the scene, the other citizens holding passes were admitted; also the newspaper representatives, clergymen, physicians and county officials.

When all had been conducted to the place of execution Sheriff McCloskey and Deputy Sheriff Chaplin repaired to the cell of Keeler and read the death warrant, as the law requires. The condemned man gave no sign of nervousness and listened without comment. At the conclusion his hands were pinioned behind his back and the march to the scaffold began. Sheriff McCloskey led the way. Dr. Reeve followed, with Deputy Chaplin escorting Keeler.

Less than a minute was required to reach the steps leading down to the instrument of death and only a few seconds more until Keeler was standing on the trap. Deputy Chaplin placed him squarely in the middle of the trap, Keeler facing north. His legs were fastened, black cap adjusted, the signal given and the life of John O. Keeler was forfeited to the law.

On the scaffold with Keeler were Dr. Reeve, Sheriff McCloskey, Deputy Chaplin, Sheriff Jeffries and Deputy Sheriff Williams, of Indiana county, who assisted in the final details. After the body was cut down it was turned over to Undertaker Leavy and prepared for shipment to Williamsport where interment was made, as per arrangements previously made by his relatives.

Keeler spent the last night quietly and seemed to secure some rest. All of Wednesday he was equally quiet and apparently at peace with himself. On Tuesday his aged mother, who came from near Williamsport the day before in company with her son-in-law, a Mr. Allen, went to the jail and spent a couple of hours with her unfortunate son. She had not seen him in twenty years and during all that time had never heard from him. She did not know of his whereabouts until about the time of his trial. She left for home Wednesday evening.

He was not satisfied with his former statement; said he was mad when he wrote it and wanted to amend it, which he did in the following brief note:

"Clearfield County Jail, Jan. 14, 1914. "I have faith in God and have prayed to Him to forgive me, and I know He has done it. I wish to say with a good heart that I have no grudge against anyone, and forgive all those who have wronged me."  
JOHN O. KEELER.

The crime for which Keeler paid the penalty with his life was the murder of Joseph W. Roessner at the Clearfield brewery on Saturday, September 14, 1912. At the same time he seriously shot Mr. R. Ogden, John Kircher and George Carpton at a luncheon at the brewery. Mr. Ogden was injured for life.

At the time Keeler escaped to the hill on the other side of the river. He evaded capture until the following Tuesday night, when he voluntarily walked to the jail from his home and surrendered to Sheriff Woodridge, who had previously been called up and told to come to Keeler's home and take him into custody.

John O. Keeler resided in Bellefonte for several years and was always considered a quiet, peaceable fellow while here. He was raised near Williamsport. He was married near Snow Shoe, Centre county. His wife and five children survive him. He was 48 years of age.

# OAK HALL.

Victor Grange met in extra session Saturday for the transaction of business and an unusual turnout was in attendance.

The Misses Helen and Dorothy Whitehill, of Houserville, spent several days at the home of their uncle Charlie, at this place.

"Pap" Snyder accompanied by Mrs. Lusk of State College, were among the sleighing on Sunday. "Pap" says when snow is on the ground is sleighing time, and next summer he'll have an auto for two, for he and Keller.

Mrs. Jesse Klingler, while on the way from Oak Hall to Lemont, was taken by a runaway team and was hurt about the face and head, but is getting better. This is another evidence of reckless driving.

Miss Jean Marshall, of Lover's Lane, Sundayed at the home of her aunt, Mrs. Ada Benner.

Quite a few from this place attended the funeral of the late J. S. Herman on last Saturday.

Mrs. E. W. Eby, of Lemont, was helping to quilt at Chas. Whitehill's, on Saturday.

Mae Houser and Margaret and Ralph Dale are better, and never need fear another attack of mumps.

# Correspondence

(Continued)

## MILESBERG.

Miss Gladys Rickard is visiting with friends and relatives in Lock Haven.

Miss Ethel Strunk, of Mill Hall, is visiting her friend, Miss Margaret Zimmerman and having a jolly good time.

Mrs. Effie Spicer spent a few days visiting in Altoona and Holidaysburg, recently.

Miss Elsie and Esther Spicer spent Sunday with H. G. Ebbas and family at Curtin.

S. B. Baird returned to Lewistown last week, after a fortnight's visit with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Baird.

Rev. Piper preached a very practical sermon Sunday evening in the M. E. church.

Mr. and Mrs. William Parker, of Centre Hall, were the guests of Mrs. Annie Summers at the home of A. G. Noll, the shoemaker.

Misses Anna and Jersey Snyder, of Clearfield, called on Mrs. E. B. Bavar, last week.

Coasting and skating is the leading pastime and pleasure indulged in here.

Miss Blanch Shay spent Sunday with friends in Mill Hall.

Miss Ella Wagner departed for Patton to visit her friend, Mrs. McClure, and her brother in Barnsborg.

It is reported that some of our Milesburg boys enjoyed the chicken and waffle supper last Saturday evening. How about it, boys?

L. T. Eddy slipped and fell on his front porch, severely spraining his ankle. He is now laid up for weeks. His smiling face was missed in church last Sunday.

A "C" supper will be held in Wetzler's Hall, Jan. 31st. Every article donated is expected to begin with the letter "C".

Our sick are: James McMullen returned from the Bellefonte hospital, very much improved; Mrs. Elmira McKinley, critically ill; James Bryan very much better; Samuel Charles is very poorly.

W. R. Campbell and daughter Mary departed Monday for Westport where they expect to spend the rest of the winter with his son Frank and family.

District institute was held in the Presbyterian church last Friday evening and Saturday, Jan. 16 and 17. Invocation by Rev. S. K. Ash; address of welcome by Rev. S. S. Clark; response by W. C. Thompson; music was furnished by the high school.

This institute was interesting from start to finish and many important subjects were discussed which embraced teacher, parent and pupil. The following welcome visitors were present: Arvilla Gardner, J. L. Gardner, Chas. Robt. Michels, Fletcher, Mary Richner, W. C. Thompson, Zelma Shellenberger, Beulah Holter, Margaret Heverly, Lulu Bechdel, Olive Gardner, Fred Fletcher, Mary Page, Frank Batschlet, F. D. Van Orsdale, Lottie Webster, Annie Fisher, Lulu Clark, Iva Pifer and Mary Bickie, all of Howard township and borough; Miss Esther Bitner, of Curtin; Mrs. M. L. Smith, of Beech Creek, and Homer Yearick, of Nittany. These items came in at such a late hour that I did not have time to arrange them properly. I am sorry because the discussions would be food for the minds of everybody. Send in your news items early.

## BLANCHARD.

Prof. S. S. Williams attended local institute at Howard, Friday evening and Saturday.

Hilda Heverly, daughter of Alex and Alma Heverly, fell striking her back on the stone step in front of the school building last Thursday. She was badly bruised.

The old veteran, J. C. Eaton, who has been ill for sometime, is able to be among his friends again.

Edgar Morrison is busy hauling hay to the Shank summer resort during the fine sledding.

Oliver W. Holmes said, "What would be the state of the highway of life if we did not drive our thought-sprinklers through them with the valves open sometimes." This should not include the public store orator. They say some bright things, but their minds are jerky, and their zigzag rack you to death.

I believe all the ice houses are filled at this writing.

Sometimes a reality follows close on the heels of a joking remark. Milford, the good-natured foreman of C. A. Williams' store, was making a large poultice the other day, and when asked what it was for, replied, "I fell and cut my knee." It was for his pony, and in a few hours he entered the store with his hand badly lacerated. It took as large a poultice for his thumb as the pony's knee.

Two robust ladies of Blanchard started for Winburn on foot last week. They reached Mapes siding sans rubbers, sans shoestrings. Here one insisted on postponing their trip until the honeysuckles were in bloom. The other would not hear of this, so they concluded to invest a few dollars in N. Y. C. R. R. stock and ride. They reached Winburn at 6:22 p. m. Saturday. Moral: If you are determined to have limb exercise, be a souled philosophical tramp, and travel only in calendar months that are spent without an R.

Don't send your boy out to your neighbor's to borrow the Centre Democrat; the printer must live as well as others.

## FRUITTOWN—Potter Twp.

Mrs. Emma Pobriner accompanied her daughter, Miss Anna, to Northumberland, where she will remain for a few months.

Mrs. Ruth Dippery and children left for their home at Reedsville, after spending several months with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Edward Butt.

Protracted meeting is still in progress at Zion Hill.

Those who are on the sick list are, Mrs. Edward Horner, suffering with heart trouble; F. D. Phillips, with rheumatism; C. S. Bottorf with grip. Hope for their speedy recovery.

There is much snow and good sleighing and a country sledding party is not to be sneezed at. The outfit is two horses with sled chuck full of straw, the sides of the sled lined with half a dozen or more young ladies, sandwiched between with as many young gents and plenty of wraps, fill de sch litle bo mit stroh sitz yed madel nit arm bow de schlitte weg is now so gute sis yust was die yungste sude der mond is hell der schno is neis des mocht's schlitte fore nice oh, fure man tribe da gyl net noas. Gep uns mok teite um weg fer spos, gute stories in feal. Locha did you ever have a better score, nor kuma hame after three or four. Mer sit a tite mer sitz a warm en yarder hot sy honny im orn.

## LYONTOWN.

Clarence Lyons, wife and son Homer, spent Sunday at the home of Wm. Lyons.

Cecil Tierney spent Sunday with her parents at this place.

A joy sledding party composed of a lot of our boys and girls were entertained at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Elzie Sundy at Roopsburg; all report having a good time.

Wm. Lyons was hauling ice a few days last week.

Mrs. Ethan Tierney is able to be about again after being ill all winter.

Mrs. Ethan Tierney has so far recovered that her daughter, Miss Laura has gone back to Ridgeway where she has been employed for the past year.

Those who attended the social at Curtin were Mr. and Mrs. William Lyons and daughter, Thelma; Russell King, Samuel Lyons, Guy Lyons, and Peter Lyons; all report having a fine time.

Mr. and Mrs. Harry Lyons visited the latter's parents on Sunday, Mrs. Lyons' mother being very sick at this writing; hope for her speedy recovery.

Henry Schultz, of Curtin, was seen in our town one night last week.

Mrs. Elsie Morton was in Bellefonte shopping on Monday.

## AARONSBURG.

Ammon Stephen has gone to Bellevue, O., at which place he has secured employment.

Mrs. Geo. Bower and son, formerly of Coburn, but now of Kane Co., Illinois, are visiting among friends.

Wilmer and Earnest Stover returned from a business trip to Williamsport and Philadelphia.

Prof. Wm. Duck had no school last Thursday on account of him attending the funeral of his uncle.

Raymond Weaver, who was employed here, hope to have some work until he is able to work again.

Miss Margaret Weaver has gone to spend an indefinite time with her aunt, Beckie Charles, at the Hublersburg Hotel.

Cok Bell, from Coatsville, was a welcome guest at the home of his brother-in-law, Thomas Hull, on N. 2nd street, where he was royally entertained the short time he was here.

Mrs. John Haines, one of our highly esteemed neighbors and friends, is critically ill at this writing; hope for her speedy recovery.

Walter Orwig returned to Altoona, after spending some time with his family here.

## CENTRE OAK—Potter Twp.

Fine winter weather—lots of good sledding and the farmers have their ice houses filled with the very finest ice. Now we can have a little time to have the neighbors come together and have debates as to how we can make farming pay better next, or rather this year, just started in. Let us all be neighbors this year.

Mrs. John F. Hagen has improved some.

Mrs. Emanuel Engard is up and around again.

Miss Jennie Bartges and grandma Bartges spent a few weeks in Berks county with relatives.

Mrs. Paul Swab and children and Mrs. S. I. Rachau spent a week at Lock Haven with friends; they report having a nice trip.

The Y. W. C. A. will meet with Miss Corman next Sunday evening.

Mary Frankenberger spent Sunday afternoon with her friend, Miss Spayd.

H. E. Schreckenast and family spent last week in Union Co., with his brother and other relatives.

## CENTRE MILLS.

Mr. and Mrs. Chas. Coble and baby left last week for Linden Hall where they hope to go to housekeeping in the near future.

Mrs. Barbara Hoy, of Rebersburg, and Mrs. Smull, of Smulton, each spent a day with Mrs. Harry Miller last week.

The farmers are kept busy putting up ice for the summer. Some eighty loads of ice have been taken off Kline's mill dam the past few weeks.

E. K. Miller kept bachelor's hall last week while Mrs. Miller visited friends.

Miss Lizzie Diehl, of Rebersburg, visited the home of Arthur Cummings Saturday and Sunday.

Jno. A. Kline made a business trip to Clinton county, and then went on to Lycoming county and visited his son, George Kline.

Mrs. Emerick visited friends in Sugar valley recently.

## SCOTIA.

Miss Rebecca Hasserling had the misfortune of cutting her hand on Sunday morning.

**How to Make the Best Cough Remedy at Home**  
A Family Supply at Small Cost, and Fully Guaranteed.

Make a plain syrup by mixing one pint of granulated sugar and ½ pint of warm water and stir for 2 minutes. Put 2 ½ ounces of pure Pinex (fifty cents worth) in a pint bottle, and fill it up with the Sugar Syrup. This gives you a family supply of the best cough syrup at a saving of \$2. It never spoils. Take a teaspoonful every one, two or three hours.

The effectiveness of this simple remedy is surprising. It seems to take hold almost instantly, and will usually conquer an ordinary cough in 24 hours. It tones up the jaded appetite and is just laxative enough to be helpful in a cough, and has a pleasing taste. Also excellent for bronchial trouble, bronchial asthma, whooping cough and spasmodic croup.

This method of making cough remedy with Pinex and Sugar Syrup (or strained honey) is now used in more homes than any other cough syrup. This explains why it is often imitated, though never successfully. If you try it, use only genuine Pinex, which is a most valuable concentrated compound of Norway white pine extract, and is rich in guaiac and other natural healing pine elements. Other preparations will not work in this combination.

A guaranty of absolute satisfaction, or money promptly refunded, goes with this preparation. Your druggist has Pinex, or will get it for you. If not, send to The Pinex Co., Ft. Wayne, Ind.

Better buy it by the carton or box. Follow easy directions on the Red and Green Wrapper.

Fels & Co., Philadelphia.

## CURTIN.

Miss Janet Potter, of Bellefonte, visited her sister, Mrs. H. L. Curtin, on Sunday.

Miss Helen Glenn, of Bellefonte, visited her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Jerry Glenn, on Sunday.

The chicken and waffle supper was well attended on Saturday evening and the boys behaved themselves very nicely, especially the boys from Milesburg, Nittany, Howard and Hunter Run. Come again, boys, you are welcome.

Theo. Shay, of Howard, visited his brother Jake on Sunday.

Mrs. Edward Kline and Miss Bernice Doughman attended the birthday party at Howard Martin's, on Thursday.

Miss Rue Billet, of Coleville, visited her grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. Miles Doughman, over Sunday.

There were two certain boys from Milesburg who came to attend the chicken and waffle supper. When about here the sleigh upset and was broken. Boys, the next time you come do not have so many girls in the sleigh.

Miss Myra Prince and brother Clark visited friends in Milesburg on Sunday evening.

Mrs. William Prince is visiting her daughter, Mrs. John Statton, of Roto, who is very ill; hope for her speedy recovery.

Miss Verna Yeager, of near Curtin, visited at the home of her uncle, William Prince, over Sunday.

Frank Barnhart left for Jersey Shore where he will resume work.

## LIVONIA.

Last week we had the coldest weather in years—13 below zero.

Mr. and Mrs. David Rockey visited relatives in Nippeno valley over Sunday.

Dr. Thomas Miller, an eccentric character who roams through our valley about once a year, furnished amusement for those of our people who entertained him during the past week.

Rockey's saw mill shut down last week on account of the severe cold weather, the men going home for the week.

The friends of Ed. Beyer, of Forest Hill, will be glad to learn that he has decided to move to our valley in the spring having bought Mr. Noll's grist mill.

## Worms the Cause of Your Child's Pains.



A foul, disagreeable breath, dark circles around the eyes, at times feverish with great thirst, cheeks flushed and then pale, abdomen swollen with sharp cramping pains are all indications of worms. Don't let your child suffer—Kickapoo Worm Killer will give sure relief—it kills the worms while its laxative effect adds greatly to the health of your child by removing the dangerous and disagreeable effect of worms and parasites from the system. Kickapoo Worm Killer as a health producer should be in every household. Perfectly safe. Buy it today. Price, 25c. All Druggists or by mail, Kickapoo Indian Med. Co. Philadelphia or St. Louis.—Adv. Jan.

**ANTY DRUDGE**  
Mrs. Stillithing—"I think Jack's mean. I was reading about a man out west who bartered his wife for a horse and I said, 'You wouldn't swap me for a horse, would you, darling?' and he said, 'Of course not, but I'd hate to have any one tempt me with a good motorcar.' Do you suppose he meant it?"

**ANTY DRUDGE**—"Of course he didn't mean it, and what do you mean with your washing piles around you this way at o'clock in the afternoon, a heavy boiler on the stove and your kitchen all heated up? It's plain to be seen you don't use Fels-Naptha Soap in cool or lukewarm water."

**Cool or lukewarm water is the only thing Fels-Naptha Soap needs to do your work for you. It doesn't need your strength nor time; it doesn't need a hot fire, nor hard rubbing. Clothes washed with Fels-Naptha do not have to be boiled. It is the cool-way, every-day, all-kinds-of-work soap that saves you time and trouble.**

Better buy it by the carton or box. Follow easy directions on the Red and Green Wrapper.  
Fels & Co., Philadelphia.

# Stops Falling Hair

Half's Hair Renewer certainly stops falling hair. No doubt about it whatever. You will surely be satisfied.

Thos. Walker spent Sunday at the home of Mack Weaver.

Misses Margaret Scanlon and Margaret Breen spent Sunday at State College.

A jolly sled load, from Axemann, spent last Thursday evening very pleasantly at the home of T. M. Weaver, near this place.

Mrs. Ida White returned home from Benecette, where she visited Rev. and Mrs. David Sowers, who are both ill with typhoid fever.

Mr. and Mrs. John Benner visited on Sunday at the home of John Breen.

Mrs. Susan Keller has returned home after spending some time with friends at Centre Hall.

A sled load from this place, were royally entertained last Thursday, at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Cloyd Brooks at Rosary Meadows, in Penns valley. Those present were Mr. and Mrs. George Miller, Mr. and Mrs. John Breen, Mr. and Mrs. D. M. Kline, Mrs. Scanlon, Mrs. Gfrerer, Mrs. Stewart and Miss Margaret Breen. All report a delightful time.

David Keller moved his family from the Dr. Hayes property below Bellefonte, to the home of his mother at this place.

Howard Boyer and family, of Pleasant Gap, spent Sunday at the home of Samuel Markley.

Centre County Banking Co.  
Corner Fifth and Spring Streets.  
Receive Deposits. Discount Notes  
John M. Shugert, Cashier.



## YOUR ORDER RECEIVES

prompt attention, no matter what the size of the order may be. We figure that although your present order may be small, your next one may be large and the following one still larger. It is our only good business policy on our part—and a pleasure besides—to fill your requirements in the lumber line with care and promptness.

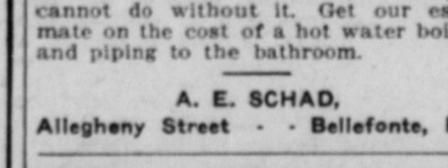
## BELLEFONTE LUMBER CO. BELLEFONTE, PA.



## IN HOT WATER BECAUSE—YOU'RE OUT OF IT?

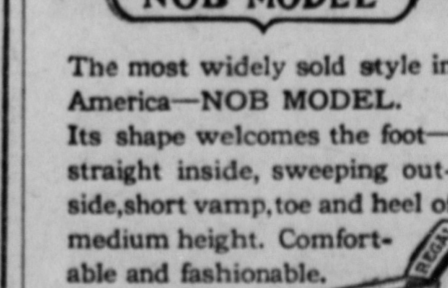
Seems odd, doesn't it? Yet how true. Hot water is a great blessing, in hot weather or cold. Let us install hot water piping in your home and you'll wonder how you ever got along without it. In cold weather you simply cannot do without it. Get our estimate on the cost of a hot water boiler and piping to the bathroom.

A. E. SCHAD,  
Allegheny Street - Bellefonte, Pa.



## NOB MODEL

The most widely sold style in America—NOB MODEL. Its shape welcomes the foot—straight inside, sweeping outside, short vamp, toe and heel of medium height. Comfortable and fashionable. If you wear this shoe you will want Regals all the rest of your life.



## REGALS

Black King Calf Blucher Boot, full calf. A street shoe for hard usage. Also Patent. Leather Blucher and Button style. Price, \$4



## A. C. Mingle

We have the autumn starting and with it we want fall dress goods. We have Prints, Ginghams, Cashmeres and Flannels.

Blankets from 48c a pair up; Comfortables 75c up; cotton for making them.

Hosiery and underwear for boys, girls, ladies and men.

Shoes to suit all from the soft soles up to the Cutter Wisconsin. Rubbers for all and all the prices are right.

Sugar, yellow 5c, Granulated and Soft A 1/2c. Coffee 18c and 25c.

# W. H. Musser

GENERAL INSURANCE AGENTS, JUSTICE OF THE PEACE, AND PENSION ATTORNEY, BELLEFONTE, PA.

# Beezer's Meat Market

We keep none but the best quality of BEEF, PORK, MUTTON, SLICED HAM All kinds of Smoked Meats, Pork Sausage, etc IF YOU want a nice juicy Steak, go to PHILIP BEEZER

# John F. Gray & Son,

Successor to Grant Hoover. FIRE, LIFE & ACCIDENT INSURANCE.

This Agency represents the largest fire insurance companies in the world. We are prepared to write large lines at any time.

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