

J. Thomas Mitchell Writes History of Bar

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1834 deserted the Bar for the iron business, in which employment he spent the remainder of his days. Miles was the son of Evan and a grandson of Richard Miles, both of Milesburg. He opened an office there and practiced for a few years, when he moved to Huntington. Wilson came from the Millin County Bar and spent two years with us. He then returned to Millin county and became judge of that district in 1842.

James M. Petrikin, one of a family who exerted the controlling influence in our politics for the first half century of our county's existence, was admitted in 1822. His life was one of the highlights of the Bar of that time, since he had a decided sense of the artistic and was especially fond of a joke. His office was on High street, just east of the old tavern on Spring street, and his brother's paper, "The Patriot," was published at the southeast corner of Howard and Allegheny streets. It was said that a constant stream of citizens, politically inclined, meandered from one spot to the other.

In 1826 Huston received his merited appointment to the Supreme Court of this Commonwealth, upon which he served with distinction for twenty-two years. Upon his retirement, he devoted the remainder of his life to his work on "Original Titles in Pennsylvania," upon which subject he was considered the leading authority. He died in 1849.

Of Huston, the following tale is taken from the archives of the Etting family, which is also mentioned in Linn's history.

The Gratz and Etting families, being large landowners in central Pennsylvania, also became involved in many disputed titles. In one of these actions they were persuaded to employ Charles Huston in an appeal to the Supreme Court. The day of the sitting arrived and the court room was filled with the elite of the Philadelphia Bar, all clothed in the

very dressy costumes which were accustomed to be worn before this distinguished body. Just as the case was called, a stir arose at the door, and a most spectacular figure pushed through the group of protesting tipsters. A cloak, wet and covered with mud, hardly hid the muddy boots and green-flannel leggings tied with tape, which, with a plain homespun coat, were the accoutrements of this strange appearance.

With a hasty murmur about wet weather and a lame horse, Huston plunged into an argument, which, to the astonishment of the cultured and refined gentlemen who filled the house, was admitted to have been one of the ablest to which they had ever listened.

At this stage of this sketch it might be well to picture the environment of our little Bar in the early days of the nineteenth century. The town of Bellefonte had less than 200 inhabitants in 1800, but 303 in 1810, 433 in 1820, and 756 in 1830.

Just south of the town was the iron plant, first of John Dunlop and later of Valentines & Thomas, and about a mile to the north was the Milesburg Iron Works. The town had three churches, Presbyterian, Methodist and Catholic, an Academy, a half dozen taverns and three hotels, one located where the First National Bank now stands, another where Dr. Parrish now has his home, and a third in the northern half of what is now the Brockerhoff House. There were no houses north of Lamb street, and only a few as far south as Bishop street.

The lawyers' offices were frequently in their own homes. Judge Huston's first home and office were immediately east of the Dunlop house on High street, while at the time of his elevation to the bench he occupied the "Linn" home on North Allegheny street. James M. Petrikin's home was across High street from Huston's first residence, with a frame office building alongside of the house. This little building was later known as "Miss Mallie Petrikin's School," which for nearly fifty years was the select private school of the town, especially for the younger children. Judge Walker lived at first at the location where the Garman House now stands and later moved to the "Linn" home, which was actually built for the Judge's occupancy by General Philip Benner, the great ironmaster. The Burnside family lived in the stone house now the property of the I. O. O. F., where Thomas Burnside had his office. Later, James Burnside, his son, bought the lot now the property of the Y. M. C. A., and had a small frame office east of his home. Stewart had his home and office in the house on South Spring street, now the property of Miss Olive B. Mitchell. Potter had his office and home in the stone building afterwards occupied by John Blanchard on Allegheny square, until he erected his stone house at the southeast corner of Allegheny and Bishop streets, which was recently torn down. John Blanchard had a frame office where

Ray White's drug store is now located, although his home and first office was in the house first occupied by Charles Huston. Later, Blanchard lived in the stone house, owned by the Curtin family, that was torn down to make room for the present postoffice building, where Potter at one time lived. Blanchard's frame office was also that of the firm of Blanchard & Curtin, and of the still later firm of Curtin & Blanchard.

"Reading for the Bar" in those days was simple indeed. An education in the classics was first required; this being at the discretion of the preceptor. The student was then turned loose on "Blackstone's Commentaries on the Laws of England," whose definitions he was supposed to commit to memory. If his preceptor had some English Reports, he was presumed to make a study of these. In the meantime, he was initiated into the various forms of action, which were many, and taught to prepare sample papers, or to copy those which might be in the office. Handwriting was important, since paper was scarce, so the young lawyer usually learned to write legibly. When the lawyer with whom he was "reading" thought him sufficiently well informed, a formal motion for admittance was all that was necessary.

The newly admitted lawyer "cut his teeth" on criminal practice, in some times, and unless he or his family had independent means, or he could act as a paid clerk for one of the older attorneys, he had a hard row to hoe. Some of those who were afterwards to be our foremost lawyers eked out their living by acting as clerk of the County Commissioners or as a deputy in one of the county offices. The principal cash business of those days was the iron trade, and many a fledgling lawyer was a clerk or bookkeeper for one of the iron firms.

The first courthouse was a plain rectangular building, with wings on both the north and south front. Its west wall being located about where the west wall of the present building now stands. The northern wing held the offices of the clerks of the court, then usually one person, and the recorder of deeds, while that to the south contained the commissioners' offices and that of the county treasurer. The central portion was devoted to the courtroom and jury rooms. A view of this building can be seen in a painting on the wall of the Memorial Room in the Centre County Library.

(To be continued)

Should Consult O. D. T.

Persons planning to bid and purchase trucks placed on sale by Army salvage officers should first seek the advice of the Office of Defense Transportation, the O. D. T. has announced. Otherwise, purchasers may find themselves in possession of a vehicle for which they are unable to secure gasoline. Vehicles being sold are those no longer suitable for military use.

HISTORY OF SCOTIA

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coal strike was on and a few other interruptions. There were a few accidents at the mines during their operation, some which caused the death of the persons involved, while others escaped with injuries. We list some of the accidents below:

The first was that of Samuel Saxton, father of William G. Saxton. Mr. Saxton was standing at No. 1 ore washer and had just taken care of the stirring of the washer which was done quite often in order to keep the ore moving along. He had just stepped back a step or so when someone yelled to him from the platform. He looked up in time to see a large lump of some kind coming at him. The lump bounced over the platform and continued down, striking him and hurling him backwards into the ore washer. Some of the men saw the accident and at once gave an alarm but his body made a few rounds with the washer log before they could remove him. When he was found to be living, he was removed to his home at Marysville. A doctor summoned looked him over and told the family that he thought it was about all over with Mr. Saxton. That night he died.

Another accident that proved fatal was that of Coleman Wynn. Mr. Wynn was on the trestle on the south side of the washer building trying to put on a bank car that had become derailed. He was using an iron bar and for some reason the bar slipped and threw him off the trestle. William G. Saxton told the writer that he was just passing the trestle at the time and saw the accident. He said he heard a noise of some kind and looked around just in time to see Mr. Wynn fall. Mr. Wynn lived only a short while.

For the benefit of some of the old-timers still living we will give you the names of a few men who were among the first employes at the Scotia ore mines. See how many of these men you can remember: James Miller, Joseph Cox, John Huff, Aaron Delige, Henry Klingler, Jacob Ghaner, Reuben Crommiller, Andrew O'Neil, James McKivison, James Williams, Lewis Segle, Lowry Biddle, Robert Palmer, John Jackson, John Selke, Lincoln Getteman, Thomas Cruthers, Dutch Charley, Benjamin Johnsonbaugh, John Johnsonbaugh, Alfred Johnsonbaugh, Joshua Gorsage, Robert Blair, Abner Harris, George Potter, George Daywalt, Jacob Hicks, John Stevens.

Also William Householder, John Shuebroad, John Store, Frank Osman, Samuel Bailey, Harvey Scott, Samuel Coble, John Hassinger, Daniel Hardy, Thomas Hefferan, John Hefferan, Coleman Wynn, William Heberling, Thomas Lear, Samuel Dick, Jonathan Parsons, William Farber, Derb Wrye, Andrew Daugherty, John Roland, Joseph Clark, Jacob Crommiller, Henry Brindle.

WOODWARD

Mrs. Florence Stover, Mrs. Beatrice Ard and Mrs. C. E. Kreamer, in company with Mrs. Maybelle Elsenhuth and son Wayne, made a shopping trip to Stimbury on last Thursday.

Misses Erma Gulswite and Betty Bowersox made a business trip to Stimbury last Friday. On last Friday night this locality was suddenly taken in the grip of a severe cold wave. By Saturday morning the mercury registered 7 degrees above zero on Round Top Mountain at the U. S. Weather Bureau station. At 9:15 a. m. thermometers registered 11 1/2 degrees above zero. This was the coldest weather we've had thus far this month.

The Evangelical Ladies' Aid held their regular monthly meeting at the home of Mrs. George Stover last Tuesday evening. Rev. and Mrs. H. S. Entz, the pastor and wife, were guests at the meeting. Their annual election of officers for the ensuing year was one of the business items. The following were elected: president, Mrs. Benjamin Hummel; vice president, Mrs. Florence Moft; secretary, Miss Mabel Wolfe; assistant secretary, Mrs. Erma Gulswite; treasurer, Mrs. Steward Haines.

News of the early departure of Earl Vonada, Jr., at the Lock Haven Hospital on Saturday evening was a shock to his many friends in this community. He was a graduate of East Penna Valley High School, class of 1938. He was a member of the East Centre County Junior Band, of high standing as a musician and often led the band when requested. For a while he was employed at Middletown, doing defense work until his health failed. He leaves to survive him his grief stricken parents, Mr. and Mrs. Earl Vonada and his sorrowing widow, Pearl Vonada and daughter Sandra. Funeral services were held at the home of his parents about one mile east of Ansonburg, Wednesday afternoon. Interment was made in the family plot in Woodward Union cemetery. He was aged 21 years, 11 months and 5 days. He will be greatly missed in the home and in the community.

Theodore Hosterman returned to Akron, Ohio, on the Saturday night bus, after having had a fine hunting vacation. The local E. L. C. E. society held their regular monthly business and social hour meeting in the P. O. S. of A. banquet hall on Thursday, Dec. 16, at which time officers were elected for the ensuing year. The local Evangelical church will hold their regular church official election of a trustee, Sunday school and prayer meeting officials, on Dec. 23, immediately following the Christmas program.

Rattling Windows If felt weather stripping is tacked or pasted on with maulage, to a door or window that rattles, the annoyance will be stopped.

NEWS IN THE WORLD OF RELIGION

BY W.W. REID

The exchange ship "Gripsholm" of the Federal Council of Churches of Christ is promoting the observance in the United States. When possible, it is planned that one or more days shall be observed by all States and churches of the United States and Canada. Since Pearl Harbor they had been enemy aliens in Japan-controlled areas. While some of them had suffered malnutrition during their stay in concentration camps or prisons, none had been maltreated and no atrocity stories were heard. Most of them are expecting to return to missionary service when the war is over.

Six young missionaries (three married couples) were recently added to the missionary forces of the Presbyterian church of the U. S. A. in Mexico by its Board of Foreign Missions and two other couples have been commissioned and will soon be in service there. The Friends (Quaker) Ambulance Unit, serving in China, has sixty-five Britishers, seventeen Americans and eighteen Chinese—all of whom are volunteers and receive no salaries. They represent a number of Protestant denominations. Most of these ambulance drivers are engaged in transport work, carrying medical supplies to hospitals in all parts of China, and serving the Chinese National Health Administration, the Chinese Red Cross, and the International Relief Committee. Practically all trucks run close to the Japanese lines, and are often fired upon, as they travel far north to the Gobi Desert, and east almost to Shanghai.

A Western Pennsylvania corporal, now on duty overseas, recently wrote to his pastor: "Since I have been out here, and have been entertained in the homes of Presbyterian missionaries, and have seen the work they are doing, I admit I was altogether wrong (in opposing missionary work). When I return home, you will have no more loyal supporter of foreign missions. From what I have seen, they are a grand group of men and women, and are doing a magnificent job."

Your spiritual welfare is your chaplain's first concern," says a notice posted on the bulletin boards of Camp Wheeler, Georgia. "Speak to him at your first opportunity after the chapel service, or in his office. His counsel and advice will guide you in avoiding or overcoming difficulties. The chaplain may be able to help you with any problem you meet. Talk to him in any case, you can help your chaplain in his service for others. Offer him your musical, vocal, or other talent."

"The Universal Week of Prayer," sponsored by the World's Evangelical Alliance, London, England, will be observed from January 2 to 8, with special services on both Sundays. The Department of Evangelism

EDUCATOR PROPOSES TWO-TEACHER PLAN

Two teachers to keep an eagle eye on Johnny instead of one is the novel plan for postwar education suggested by Dr. C. C. Peters, director of educational research at the Pennsylvania State College.

One would be a master teacher and one an apprentice, according to the plan. New teachers could thus serve an internship under the guidance of experienced teachers, and Johnny's individual needs could receive more attention. Such a system would have the advantage of leaving teachers footloose to plan their work and to visit classes in the same and other subject-matter fields. Dr. Peters pointed out. They could thus better cooperate with other teachers in reaching their educational goals. Although scarcity of teachers would prevent its present adoption, he believes the plan would be feasible in the postwar period and would absorb many teachers who will then return to the profession.

Can Vitamins Change GRAY HAIR? Inuarial investigators have found vitamin Calcium Pantothenate of some value in changing gray hair, where a deficiency of this vitamin may have caused gray or graying hair. For example, one test conducted by Good Housekeeping magazine on a number of people, showed 85% of those tested (all ages were included) had positive evidence of a return of some hair color. Now thousands use GRAYVITA, which contains 10 mgm. of Calcium Pantothenate (the same amount used in above tests) PLUS 400 U.S.P. units of B1, the vitamin necessary to healthy nerves. Try GRAYVITA. See what a difference it may make in the way you look. 30 day supply, \$1.50; 100 day supply, \$4.00. Thousands Use GRAYVITA. PARRISH DRUG STORE

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