

A DAY OF SETTLING.

The Great Annual Settlement Day at Chambersburg Among

THE DUNKARDS AND MENNONITES.

All the Business Transactions for the Whole Year

CONSUMMATED IN TWENTY-FOUR HOURS

SPECIAL TELEGRAM TO THE DISPATCH. CHAMBERSBURG, April 6.—Nowhere in the United States can be witnessed such a peculiar method of transacting business as that which yearly occurs in Chambersburg upon the 1st day of April, which is the great settlement day, and has grown to be such a remarkable and established institution.

It is difficult to explain how the custom came to be observed. As far back in the history of the county as the oldest inhabitant can recollect it has been the practice among the farmers here, particularly among the Mennonites and Dunkards, two religious sects which are very strong in the county, to arrange their affairs that all their transactions in money and land should be consummated on April 1.

All agreements for the sale of land are so drawn as to make the title pass on that day, no matter how far distant it may be from the date of the agreement and all payments upon the land are arranged so that they will fall upon the 1st day of April of the next or succeeding year. Leases of farming lands to tenants upon the shares are drawn in the same way. This arranging for the 1st of April for a settlement day is not only a universal custom as to the land transactions, but it is carried into money lending and money borrowing in all its phases. When money is loaned and a judgment given in security, the payments are all arranged so as to fall upon April 1, and it is the same case where mortgages are given, sale notes for cattle and farming machinery bought, and the public sales by farmers are dated in the same way. Into the private transactions between one farmer and his neighbor across the road or across the field, the custom has also crept until it now thoroughly pervades almost every form of business transaction the farmers ever have occasion to enter into.

As a result of this strange arrangement the great settlement day is the greatest day of the year to the farmer, his wife and his family. It is dreaded by the attorneys, court house officials and bankers, as well as by those who have payments to make and are morning to meet them. Early on the morning of the 1st the town begins to assume an unwonted aspect of business activity.

From all points of the compass the farmers' teams arrive in quick succession and overcrowd the hotels with guests. Their wives and daughters, eager to make their annual purchases of supplies, quickly fill the stores and glad to be the hearts of the tradesmen, while the fathers of the families make their way to the banks, court house

and lawyers' offices and begin the active business of the day. The attorneys have the deeds and title papers already prepared, the banks have laid in a heavy supply of currency and the county officers have engaged extra clerks for the great rush. The first act of many of the farmers is to go to their banks and draw out their deposits in cash. The average farmer neither pays with checks nor accepts checks. Uncle Sam's greenbacks are the only things for which they will hand over their deeds or satisfy their judgments and mortgages. They look with great suspicion upon a check and have a decided preference for greenbacks rather than for the yellow gold certificates or the silver certificates.

Many have declined the use of banks and hoarded up the money at their homes. An old leatheren wallet, tied around with a knotted shoestring will often disclose thousands in large bank notes. In every nook and corner parties of two and three can be seen counting down their money, improving a table out of a store box upon the sidewalk, or any other convenient object.

A CHANCE FOR PICKPOCKETS. Many thousands of dollars are openly displayed and carelessly handled, and it would be a rich feast for pickpockets, but somehow they have never invaded these preserves. Hopsun and plain jean clothing, broad brim hats, overcoats with capes, many with hooks and eyes instead of buttons, give the wearers of the costumes a quaint appearance. The plain clothes give a sign of the great wealth in lands, stocks, bonds and cash which some of them possess. One peculiar feature of the transaction is the liquidation of many debts by a single payment. It often happens that a group of six or eight farmers all have money owing to or from one of the others. A owes B \$500 and B has arranged to pay to C the money he has received from A, and so on. If the first debtor is slow in paying, all parties are put back, but when the exchange once begins to be made they follow one another rapidly and it is not uncommon to see three or four thousands of debts paid with a few hundreds in money. The business of the banks is enormous. The transactions of the National Bank in these payments on Monday alone totaled up to nearly \$1,000,000. For years past efforts have been made by the lawyers to divide up the business so as to extend it over several days, but they have been unsuccessful and every year the crowds and the total of money transactions grow larger. Strange to say, with all the hurry and excitement, few mistakes are made, and the farmers still regard it as the best and easiest way of transacting their money affairs for the year.

HOBSFORD'S ACID PHOSPHATE. The Best Tonic. Known, furnishing sustenance to both brain and body.

April is positively the last month for \$1 per dozen cabinets at Elite Gallery, 515 Market street, Pittsburg. Come early and bring children, run or shine. Use elevator.

Close department.—All the most popular staple styles and shapes in great variety; also many entirely new designs in handsome imported garments for travel and general wear.

Those who are not acquainted with the various makes and styles of furniture should always deal with a firm that have but one price, and who can be relied upon as carrying the very latest designs. Such a firm is Dain & Dasebach, 111 Smithfield st.

Have your watch repaired at Hauch's, No. 235 Fifth ave. Lowest prices. WFSU

YOUNG SOLDIERS IN COURT.

A Group of Gay and Giddy Prize Fighters Very Effectually Frightened.

CHICAGO, April 6.—The twenty members of the First Regiment, Illinois National Guard, who were arrested last night while witnessing a prize fight between two members of that organization, were arraigned in the Police Court this morning. They stood before Justice Scully snickering and hiding their faces behind silk hats and perfumed handkerchiefs until the Court was at a loss to know whether he was facing school girls or tennis players. Twenty pairs of rosy cheeks, as soft and creamy as though they had been bathed in clover dew every morning, loomed up in line before the Court's desk, and their owners acted as bashful as so many young ladies in a broom drill.

"Didn't Gaylor get his jaw broke?" asked Officer Tyrrell? "Yes." "Didn't they strip and fight for a prize—a medal or something?" "Yes."

"Well, if that is not a prize fight, I'd like to know it." The young men each paid \$1 and cost.

A FULL line of hosiery for ladies' and children. Come to the grand opening tomorrow. F. SCHOENTHAL, 612 Penn ave.

WASH GOODS.—A bargain in embroidered zephyr and mail robes at \$2 and \$2.50 a pattern. HUGGS & HUCKE. WFSU

ROYAL BAKING POWDER Absolutely Pure. This powder never varies. A marvel of purity, strength and wholesomeness. More economical than the ordinary kind, and cannot be sold in competition with the multitude of low cost, short weight, alum or phosphate powders. Sold only in cans. ROYAL BAKING POWDER CO., 106 Wall St., N. Y. cc5-n16-WFSU

Optical and Mathematical Instruments, Artificial Eyes, Medical Batteries, All American and European Patented Eye Glass and Spectacle Frames. Glasses perfectly adjusted. KORNBLUM, OPTICIAN. NO. 50 FIFTH AVENUE. Telephone No. 1088. ap7-26-dsu

Morphine and Whisky Habits painlessly cured. Treatment exact and infallible. Free. Confidentially address W. L. FOSTER, 106 Wall St., N. Y. mh11-22-wsu

NEW ADVERTISEMENTS.

I feel like saying something BAD! BE WISE! BOOTS AND SHOES DRESSED WITH WOLFF'S ACME Blacking NEVER GET HARD AND STIFF, Always look new. Equally good for Men's, Women's or Child's Shoes. No blacking brush required, and the polishing is done in three minutes without labor. WATERPROOF and guaranteed to preserve leather, and keeps it soft and durable. Sold by Shoe Stores, Grocers, Druggists, &c. Try it on your Hosiery. WOLFF & RANDOLPH, PHILADELPHIA. WFSU

THE HOUSEKEEPER'S GUIDE. A monthly publication of interest to every housekeeper. Gives the price of every article we carry in stock, interesting reading matter, household recipes, etc. April number now ready. Mailed on application.

WM. HASLAGE & SON, SELECT FAMILY GROCERS, 18 DIAMOND, Market Square, PITTSBURG. ap7-26

J. DIAMOND, Optician, 22 Sixth Street, Pittsburg. Spectacles and Eyeglasses correctly adjusted to every defect of sight. Field and Opera Glasses, Telescopes, Microscopes, Barometers, Thermometers, etc. ARTIFICIAL EYES made to order, and warranted. Always on hand a large and complete stock. J. DIAMOND

Herbert Walker, EYE MAKER, Removed to 55 NINTH ST. ap7-26

NEW ADVERTISEMENTS.

RUBEN Introduces Another Handsome Derby for Spring 1899: Black and Hazel Brown. \$1.50, \$1.00, \$2.20, \$2.40, \$2.90, \$3.40. This Derby differs from the others which we have placed on sale this spring in having a fuller crown, a wider brim and a generally larger appearance. It is a hat specially adapted to stout gentlemen, on whom one of the nobbier shapes affected by young genies would look ludicrous. Ruben has any number of feisty friends, and we make it a point to top them off with a stylish and becoming head covering. By the way, we make a specialty of extra large sizes. For instance, a gentleman with a Senatorial cranium, measuring 7 1/2, need not go to the trouble or extra expense of having one made to order. Ruben will give you a choice of a dozen of that size to make your selection from. Big men, come and see us by all means.

RUBEN, The Hatter and Furnisher, 421 AND 423 SMITHFIELD ST. ap7-WFSU

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FAIR DEALING SALLER & CO. LOW PRICES. WE ARE READY. With an unequalled stock and endless variety of Men's, Boys' and Children's NEW SPRING CLOTHING, Hats and Furnishings. Come see what we have to offer you and see if they are not our bargains.

Boys' Confirmation Suits. In every grade and quality. Confirmation Hats, Confirmation Neckwear, Confirmation Shirt Waists. Bring the boys around and get our prices. SPECIAL: 500 dozen Boys' Shirt Waists, worth 40c, 19c. Closing out Ladies' Jersey Waists at half price to quit this branch. Free music every Saturday night.

SALLER & CO., Corner Diamond and Smithfield Streets. ap7-WFSU

J. DIAMOND, Optician, 22 Sixth Street, Pittsburg. Spectacles and Eyeglasses correctly adjusted to every defect of sight. Field and Opera Glasses, Telescopes, Microscopes, Barometers, Thermometers, etc. ARTIFICIAL EYES made to order, and warranted. Always on hand a large and complete stock. J. DIAMOND

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NO TROUBLED DREAMS -TO DISTURB THEIR- PEACEFUL SLUMBERS.



The above neatly furnished Bedroom, consisting of Bed, Dresser, Wash Stand, Two Chairs, One Rocker, One Center Stand, One Pair Springs, One Soft Top Mattress, 20 Yards Carpet, Two Pair Lace Curtains, Can be had for \$47 50, \$15 down, \$2 per week for balance

See our 7-Piece \$22 Chamber Suit. See our 3-Piece \$18 Chamber Suit. See our Elegant \$30 Parlor Suit. See our Substantial \$10 Bed Lounge. See our Reliable 20 Yards Carpet for \$10. EVERYTHING ON EASY WEEKLY OR MONTHLY PAYMENTS. HOUSEHOLD CREDIT CO. 405 Wood Street, ACKNOWLEDGED CHAMPIONS OF LOW PRICES. We keep, show and sell what we advertise. Do not forget that 405 is our number. ap6-21-wsu

Illustration of a tailor, designer, inspector, and counter. Text: matchless in fit, matchless in price—yes, and the last named in particular, as the subjoined bargains, which we have decided to offer this week, will readily prove. Read them carefully and remember that the goods they represent are genuine, tailor-made garments (every one of them) and no trashy slop-shop work, made from shoddy materials that you so frequently meet with in certain first-class (?) Clothing stores in this city.

FROM THE LOOM TO THE COUNTER KAUFMANN'S CLOTHING

PASSES THROUGH EXPERT HANDS. The weaver, the inspector, the designer, the cutter, the tailor and the salesman—all must understand their business thoroughly. Couple to these facts our own careful attention to the wants of our customers, a watchful eye on the markets, skill to plan and energy to execute, and you know what gives us our matchless Clothing—matchless in quality, matchless in style, matchless in price.

Men's Fine Spring Suits, \$12 GREAT SPECIAL SALE \$12. Men's Spring Overcoats, \$10 GREAT SPECIAL SALE \$10. Boys' Long-Pant Suits, \$8 GREAT SPECIAL SALE \$8. Boys' Short-Pant Suits, \$5 GREAT SPECIAL SALE \$5. THIS WEEK ONLY.

GRAND DISTRIBUTION OF HANDSOME PRESENTS IN OUR BOYS' DEPARTMENT. For a few (a very few) days longer we will continue to give our wonderful Puzzles, "Pigs in Clover" and "Cows in the Corn," as well as our very amusing Calliopes and Crack Shots free of charge to purchasers of Boys' Suits, and to every purchaser of a Confirmation Suit, who will leave his address with us, we will send a costly and magnificent Easter present. We already have over 400 addresses on our list; don't fail to leave your name, when getting a Confirmation Suit.

MEN'S and BOYS' HATS. All the new and popular styles of Men's Stiff and Soft Hats at exceedingly moderate prices; and in little Boys' Hats and Caps we have a brilliant and endless variety of spring novelties. Then we save our patrons from 25c on a low-priced Hat to \$2 on an elegant article. That's how we have built up our colossal Hat trade that's the wonder of the Hat world.

SPECIAL SALE OF WHITE AND FANCY DRESS SHIRTS. As usual we are now selling lots of the best made and best fitting Shirts. We have all sizes neck-bands, from 13 1/2 to 18 inches, and with each fraction of neck-band three or four lengths of sleeves, so that the tall and short, the large and small may be nicely and comfortably fitted. Fancy Shirts in all the latest stripes, dots and figures, pleated or plain bosoms, with or without collars attached. White Shirts in good to finest muslin and pure Irish Linen; well stayed and hemmed, plackets on sleeves, and elegantly laundered. The prices are: 75c each, or \$4 25 half dozen. \$1 each, or \$5 50 half dozen. \$1 25 each, or \$7 half dozen. \$1 50 each, or \$8 50 half dozen. \$1 75 each, or \$10 half dozen.

SHOES FOR ALL. \$100,000 invested in Shoes, and not one shoddy pair among them all. It's a well-known fact that we sell our solid leather Shoes for less money than many dealers ask for their leatherette (imitation leather) goods. The result is, seen in our large and daily increasing trade. If you've never tried our Shoes, do so now. You'll profit by it, rest assured.

KAUFMANN'S FIFTH AVENUE AND SMITHFIELD STREET KAUFMANN'S