

DOWN A PRECIPICE.

A Sleighload of a Dozen Pleasure Seekers Have a Frightful Fall.

TWO OF THEM MAY DIE.

The Team, Climbing an Icy Mountain Road, Lose Their Foothold.

ORCHARDS KILLED BY THE SLEET.

Lively Contests in Prospect in the Mercer License Court.

NEWSY NOTES FROM NEARBY TOWNS

SPECIAL TELEGRAM TO THE DISPATCH.

ZELIENOPLE, Jan. 18.—A terrible accident happened to a sleighload of pleasure seekers between here and Harmony last night.

The party, consisting of 12 young people, sons and daughters of prominent farmers of that section, started out comfortably packed in a two-horse bobbed, and after a lively ride of several miles they started for home.

The driver took an unused road that wound along the top of a steep hill. Everything was coated with an inch of ice and the road was as slippery as glass.

Hardly had the horses entered the road and reached the hill-top when it was seen an accident must occur, as the sled slipped ominously close to the precipice at every step.

The driver tried to turn the horses, but too late, and in an instant later the sled swung to the edge and tumbled down the hill.

The driver lashed the horses, but they could not hold, and were dragged down with the sled and its screaming occupants.

The young people were so securely packed in the sled that they could not escape, and of the entire load the driver is the only one who escaped uninjured, as he jumped just as the sled went over the hill.

At the point where the accident occurred there is a sheer fall of fully 300 feet, with a gentle slope of 200 feet more at the bottom.

The place was comparatively bare and covered with ice and when the sled and its load went over the hill the horses were dragged after and fell floundering, instantly overturning the sled.

There began a terrible slide down the hill, horses, sled-runners and occupants mixed up in an almost irresistible mass.

By the time the driver could scramble down the hill some few of the young men less seriously hurt had helped several young ladies from the sled.

Three were insensible from fright and pain, and one young lady, Miss Elizabeth Martin, had her spine so badly injured that if she lives she will be crippled for life.

A young man named Berry had been struck by one of the horses and his skull is fractured. He will likely die. Miss Long was also struck by one of the shoes of the plunging horses and received a terrible gash four inches long across her forehead.

Those mentioned were found to be the most seriously hurt, though not one escaped without bruises or cuts.

It was found that both horses had broken their legs in the fall, and they were bound to end their misery. The young men, bearing the injured, were obliged to walk nearly a mile over the slippery ice before they reached a farmhouse.

Physicians were sent for, and all are expected to recover in a short time except Mr. Berry and Miss Martin, whose cases are serious.

MERCER WIT AND DRY.

The Whistler House will make a Stubbard Fight for a License.

MERCER, Jan. 18.—[Special.]—This was the day set by Judge Mehard for the hearing of arguments on license cases. It was said a hard fight was to be made by attorneys for the Whistler House, this city, the finest hotel in this section, which has always been without a license. Some years ago Judge Mehard made a ruling, which is still in force, that no license would be granted a place where the license was granted; when the remonstrance contains the larger number of names, then the license is refused.

Under the above ruling, the Whistler House, which has been without a license ever since, and there is the hardest fight of all on the Whistler House.

In the cases of the application from Greenville and Sharon, the liquor element seems to have control, and there were no remonstrances filed. The main question in these places are on the restaurant licenses, as the Judge has stated that two restaurants, with liquor, were enough in Sharon this year, but a third one has been applied for in Jamestown; the remonstrances are largely in excess of the petitions, and under the ruling quoted above that place has no show for licensed drinking place.

Perhaps in no part of the county has the fight been carried on with such bitterness as in Sharpsville. There were two applications from that place. The names on the petition for the Knapp House exceeded the names on the remonstrance, while the remonstrance against the Pierce House led the application by about 20 names. Since the filing of the petitions and remonstrances the town has been engaged in a bitter general war, their bitterness increasing every day. The temperance faction published the names of those who had signed the petitions.

A GOOD DIVIDEND PROBABLE.

Receiver Sprout, of the Defunct Cory Bank, Doing Good Work.

COHEV, Jan. 18.—[Special.]—J. W. Sprout, receiver of the First National Bank here, said this evening that Controller Leacy had ordered a dividend to be paid the last of next month, the first day the law will permit. There is more than enough money on hand now to pay a 30 per cent. dividend, and the receiver says he thinks he can make it 40 per cent. This will put in circulation over \$200,000 and wonderfully relieve the present stringency in money caused by the failure.

When Mr. Sprout took charge of the bank there were \$33,000 cash on hand. Within the next 30 days he has collected nearly \$150,000. It is believed the depositors will receive 50 per cent. in all.

TREES BARE AS BEANPOLES.

Disastrous Effects of the Sleet on the Orchards of Beaver County.

BEAVER FALLS, Jan. 18.—[Special.]—Reports from farmers in this section show that the damage done to fruit trees by the late rain and ice storm is much greater than at first reported. There is especially true in young orchards. The ice formed on the branches half an inch thick, and the trees sometimes snapped off like pipestems.

In some cases farmers built fires under the trees to melt the ice, while in others an attempt was made to knock the ice off, usually resulting in breaking down the limbs. One farmer this morning reports that his entire peach orchard of ten acres is entirely denuded of branches, the trees standing as bare as beanpoles.

An Officer's Head in Danger.

CANTON, O., Jan. 18.—[Special.]—A petition is being circulated for presentation to the infantry directors, asking for the removal of Jackson Pontius, Superintendent of the infantry. The petition purports to be signed by the Democratic electors of Stark county. Mr. Pontius says the petition is simply the work of an applicant for the position, and he has no fears of being ousted.

TWO FUSILLADES WITH ROBBERS.

One Captured and the Others Escape Though One Badly Wounded.

BEAVER FALLS, Jan. 18.—[Special.]—About 12 o'clock last night, Officers Green and Cornell saw two young men named Cole and Ross, acting in a suspicious manner. They followed them and found the two men, in company with two others, named Barnes and Lee, trying to break into the store of H. B. Broecker. The men started to run. The officers opened fire, which was returned by the men, and a fusillade followed. No one was hurt, and the men escaped. About 3 o'clock this morning an officer discovered the same gang at the same place. Again they escaped, though not before several shots had been fired.

Shortly after that hour, a man, supposed to be Cole, called to the watchman in the Pittsburgh and Lake Erie shanty, that he wanted to come in, as he had been shot. The watchman refused and the wounded man disappeared, leaving behind him a trail of blood in the snow. The police captured Barnes this morning, and he is now in jail. The others have disappeared, and it is not known how badly one was hurt.

THE BRIDE'S HEAD BROKEN

And Two Belligerent Huns Mortally Wounded at a Wedding.

GREENSBURG, Jan. 18.—[Special.]—Another riot among the Hungarians is reported from United, a little mining place along the line of the Southwest branch. Several of the participants were badly injured, and it is expected at least two will die. The wedding of John Sofranko to a country woman was being celebrated last night, and, as usual, beer was on tap. When the beer ran low the musician's fiddle-string broke. This raised the row.

Revolvers began crackling and clubs and stones were hurled through the window. Stephen Lagoni was mortally wounded, while a Hun named Lonzo was shot through the thigh and his head terribly beaten in by the high and his other ribs were broken. The fair bride, there, was smashed over the head with a chair. Both the fatally-injured Huns live at Hecla No. 2, where they were carried. When officers arrived they were refused admittance. Arrests will likely be made of the survivors.

WILL BE FOR BLOOD.

Public Opinion About the McAuliffe and Myer Contest.

LOCAL BASEBALL CLUB GOSSIP.

Prominent Players Amused at the Policy of the Home Magnates.

GENERAL SPORTING NEWS OF THE DAY

SPECIAL TELEGRAM TO THE DISPATCH.

NEW YORK, Jan. 18.—New Orleans will be the fighters' paradise this season, as it was a year ago. Maher and Choyinski and McAuliffe and Myer will furnish two fights worth going many miles to see. The big fellows are to meet each other on February 27, and the lightweight are booked for some time next month. As their fight is between men in the championship class, it will attract as much attention as that between big Maher and the often conquered Choyinski. McAuliffe and Myer will fight at 140 pounds, so that their contest cannot, of course, be hailed as a battle for the lightweight championship. Jack is a lucky boy to have made the match at this weight. When he fought Austin Gibbons a few months ago at 133 pounds he looked finely drawn, too finely drawn by far, many people thought. Although Jack put up a strong battle, I think no one will deny that a little more weight will make him much stronger without cutting off any of his staying power. Billy Myer, erstwhile famous as the "Streator cyclone," will have a heavy contest with Choyinski. He is a Jack this time. He will not be in his own home, but on a strictly neutral ground, where a fair field and no favor is the rule. McAuliffe need not have any fear of rashing the "Cyclone" into his corner, for his pompadour hair will not be disturbed by love taps of bottles or blackjacks. It needs no prophet to predict that the "Cyclone" will find a remarkable difference between McAuliffe's line of game now and his style of three years ago.

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There is bad blood between the men. McAuliffe had agreed to fight the Streator boy a few months ago, made a good winning on the race track, and calmly ignored poor Myer. When the fight was made between John with a glad cry, and there will be many stiff and wicked punches when the lads meet.

What a lucky man Peter Maher is! Or, rather, what an adroit manager his friend Billy Madden is. Peter has made much money since he arrived in America, and he has made it almost without working. He has fought four men during 12 1/2 minutes within the last five minutes at the end of the season for the amusement they have been giving the admirers of the national game. The home management will not favor a season longer than six months, having been firmly convinced by experience that a seven months' run of baseball cannot be successfully conducted without loss.

The Columbus club will have a salary list of about \$12,000, an under no circumstances will this be increased to over \$10,000 for the season. With Toledo, Indianapolis, Columbus and Milwaukee in the East the present managers are confident that the interest will be revived and a profitable season follow.

Winners at Guttenberg.

GUTTENBERG, Jan. 18.—The track was not in good condition to-day and the attendance was small.

First race, one mile—Knapp first, Bonnie King second, Burns third. Time, 1:13 1/2.

Second race, five furlongs—Irregular first, Gladstone second, Fasset third. Time, 1:02 1/2.

Third race, one mile—Irene H first, De-fendant second, Prince Edward third. Time, 1:17 1/2.

Fourth race, one mile—Mabelle first, Seven second, Rafter third. Time, 1:05 1/2.

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A Bicycle Record Smashed.

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JOHN B. DAY makes an emphatic denial of the report that he is to return to the New York club Presidency.

TAKING the past into consideration, it is an insult to baseball intelligence to discard a man like Mack for an error or a steal or a dozen then.

SUGGEST got \$500 advance money; Bierbaum, \$200; Miller, \$90; and Beckley, \$1,000. Baldwin, when the club will rely on next year as a pitcher, was hoodwinked down to \$500.

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O. S.—His correct name is Killion.

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BOLTED THE MEETING.

The Big Pittsburg Delegation to the Builders' Convention LEAVES THE HALL IN DISGUST.

VERY LIVELY TIMES IN CLEVELAND

SPECIAL TELEGRAM TO THE DISPATCH.

CLEVELAND, O., Jan. 18.—The National Association of Builders met in sixth annual convention in this city to-day. There were 114 representatives of affiliated bodies, representing 26 filial bodies, who claimed seats as delegates.

The convention assembled in Y. M. C. A. Hall at 10 o'clock, but it was all 11 o'clock before President Arthur McAllister, of Cleveland, called the meeting to order. An invocation for the day, a blessing was offered, when Mayor Davis welcomed the delegates and others in attendance to the city on behalf of the citizens and the Cleveland Contractors and Builders' Association.

Nothing of interest developed until the Committee on Credentials reported. There were two reports, a majority and a minority report, and all on account of the Pittsburg delegation. From newspaper reports it had become generally known that Pittsburg came here with a big delegation and prepared to introduce some radical changes in the constitution, laws and methods of the manner of conducting the National Association.

Pittsburg Not Allowed to Build.

It was thought Pittsburg proposed to bulldoze and to run the convention, and a scheme to head her off was, therefore, deemed necessary, and it was accomplished at a meeting of the Board of Directors held yesterday, at which it was decided that Pittsburg was only entitled to four delegates—three regulars and one at large. Conformably with this decision of the directors, the majority of the Committee on Credentials reported.

Debate on the question was prepared for it. During last evening and this morning they button-holed the delegates who were here and explained their objects and purposes to them. Their proposition was received by a large number of the delegates from New York, Chicago, St. Louis and the smaller cities.

When the committee's report had been read, therefore, Mr. Blair, of Cincinnati, moved the adoption of the majority report. Mr. Harris, of Philadelphia, amended to include the minority report, as the two coincided excepting in the matter of Pittsburg's representation.

Debate on the question was long and toward its close became somewhat acrimonious. The Pittsburgers fought against their disfranchisement earnestly and valiantly. Excellent speeches in defense of their position were made by W. T. Power, W. H. Stoughton, E. A. Knox and others. The whole matter narrowed down finally to a question of constitutional interpretation.

The Pittsburg Case in Good Hands.

The Pittsburgers had their case in good hands, and were making a distinct impression on the assembly. Their opponents perceived this, and at once proceeded to choke off debate. President McAllister discouraged this when he saw a dozen delegates rise to their feet to protest.

Then the fight was renewed with greater earnestness. Some speakers used language disparaging of the Pittsburgers, and they spurned it with scorn, and intimations that they had come to do all that was right, honorable and in consonance with the laws and customs of the association, but they did not propose to be deprived of their just representation.

Finally a vote was called for, and with the result that the Pittsburgers were defeated, the vote standing 70 to 28. When the vote was announced Mr. Harnack, the chairman of the delegation, announced to the chairman that the Pittsburgers would hand up a resignation of the delegation, but he led the way and the other 18 followed in single file.

This was an unexpected move, and created consternation among the delegates from other cities. Mr. Scribner, of St. Paul, one of the founders of the organization, asked the Pittsburgers to remain, and they pined in the lobby until he made a speech deploring the exodus and winding up with a motion to rescind the action of the delegation and allow the other 15 seats as alternates.

A Damper on the Convention.

The Pittsburgers immediately went into conference, before the conclusion of which a committee from the convention waited on them and endeavored to persuade them to return under Mr. Scribner's motion. They refused, but drafted a series of resolutions which were to have been presented to the convention at to-morrow's session, but which possibly may never refer to it because the action of the Pittsburgers had put such a damper on the convention that the Chicago delegation is going to present a resolution for a reconsideration of the matter causing the withdrawal, and it is probable it will go through and the convention will reverse itself. If this plan succeeds, the remainder of the session promises some lively proceedings.

The Pittsburg delegation came here to fight some abuses which they claim exist in the management of the association, and will criticize severely its refusal to take up questions on much greater practical interest to builders than has heretofore been done. They want a reduction of the per capita tax, and as a means of doing it, they propose a reduction of the salary of the secretary and the dropping of some other items of expense which they deem unnecessary or excessive.

To-night the Pittsburgers are resting quietly on their oars, and are being earnestly talked to by representatives from other cities. They say they will make no effort to get back, being content with the attitude they have taken, but that if the convention treats them justly they will not be found sulking or disposed to treat it discourteously.

ONE-CENT-A-Word will secure a situation in THE DISPATCH's want columns.

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