

The Somerset Herald. ESTABLISHED 1827. Terms of Publication. Published every Wednesday morning at 10 o'clock per annum, in advance.

SOMERSET HERALD.

VOL. XL. NO. 18. SOMERSET, PA., WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 28, 1891. WHOLE NO. 2100.

D.R. HILLS & COOPER, DENTISTS. Office in the new building, Somerset, Pa.
J. W. CARUTHERS, M. D., Physician and Surgeon. Office in the new building, Somerset, Pa.
D.R. P. SHAFER, Physician and Surgeon. Office in the new building, Somerset, Pa.
D.R. H. KIMMELL, Physician and Surgeon. Office in the new building, Somerset, Pa.
D.R. J. M. LOUTHER, Physician and Surgeon. Office in the new building, Somerset, Pa.
D.R. J. S. MILLER, Physician and Surgeon. Office in the new building, Somerset, Pa.
D.R. W. COLLINS, Dentist. Office in the new building, Somerset, Pa.
HENRY F. SCHELL, Attorney-at-Law. Office in the new building, Somerset, Pa.
VALENTINE HAY, Attorney-at-Law. Office in the new building, Somerset, Pa.
JOHN H. UHL, Attorney-at-Law. Office in the new building, Somerset, Pa.
J. A. BERKEY, Attorney-at-Law. Office in the new building, Somerset, Pa.
HARVEY M. BERKLEY, Attorney-at-Law. Office in the new building, Somerset, Pa.
A. C. HOLBERT, Attorney-at-Law. Office in the new building, Somerset, Pa.
W.M. H. KOONTZ, Attorney-at-Law. Office in the new building, Somerset, Pa.
JOHN O. KIMMEL, Attorney-at-Law. Office in the new building, Somerset, Pa.
JAMES L. PUGH, Attorney-at-Law. Office in the new building, Somerset, Pa.
A. J. COLBORN, Attorney-at-Law. Office in the new building, Somerset, Pa.
C. COLBORN, Attorney-at-Law. Office in the new building, Somerset, Pa.
FRED W. BIESECKEL, Attorney-at-Law. Office in the new building, Somerset, Pa.
G. GEORGE R. SCULL, Attorney-at-Law. Office in the new building, Somerset, Pa.
S. S. OGLE, Attorney-at-Law. Office in the new building, Somerset, Pa.
F. J. KOOSER, Attorney-at-Law. Office in the new building, Somerset, Pa.
H. S. ENDSLEY, Attorney-at-Law. Office in the new building, Somerset, Pa.
H. L. BAER, Attorney-at-Law. Office in the new building, Somerset, Pa.
A. S. COOPER, Attorney-at-Law. Office in the new building, Somerset, Pa.
W. H. KOONTZ, Attorney-at-Law. Office in the new building, Somerset, Pa.

Oils!
Illuminating & Lubricating Oils
Naphtha and Gasoline,
PRODUCT OF PETROLEUM.
Satisfactory Oils
—IN THE—
American Market,
Ask for our Trade for Somerset and vicinity supplied by
COOK & REBERTS AND
FLEASER & KOOSER,
SOMERSET, PA.
CURTIS K. GROVE,
SOMERSET, PA.
RUGGIES, SLEDGES, CARRIAGES,
SPRING WAGONS, ROCK WAGONS,
AND EASTERN AND WESTERN WORK
Furnished on Short Notice.
Painting Done on Short Notice.
My work is made out of Thoroughly Selected Wood,
and the Best and Most Durable Materials
Constructed, Neatly Finished, and
Warranted of First-Class Quality.
Employ Only First-Class Workmen.
Repairing of All Kinds in My Line Done
on Short Notice. Prices REASONABLE, and
All Work Warranted.
Call and Examine My Stock, and Learn Prices
I Will Remember the Place, and Call in.

THE PEOPLE'S STORE!
Fifth Ave., Pittsburgh.
OUR
MAIL ORDER DEPARTMENT
BRINGS THE
People's Store
TO THE
PEOPLE'S HOMES.
List of Departments
And if there is anything in them
you are likely to want, don't buy
before you write for samples to our
MAIL ORDER DEPARTMENT.

20 Departments.
If you want to get an idea of the
Goods that they contain, send for
Free Copy of Illustrated Catalogue
for
Fall and Winter.
Campbell & Dick,
121 & 123 4th Ave.,
PITTSBURGH, PA.
(Capital, \$500,000 full paid.)
FIDELITY TITLE AND
AND TRUST COMPANY.
121 & 123 4th Ave.,
PITTSBURGH, PA.
Nervous System,
with special good effect on the res-
piratory and digestive organs, it
is pronounced unequalled. Price,
full quarts \$1, or six for \$5.

THE AMERICAN HOUSE,
DEALERS IN RELIABLE
INVESTMENT
SECURITIES.
Rents boxes in the Superior Vanits from
\$4 per annum upwards. Receipts deposits
and loans only on mortgages and approved
collateral.
JOHN R. JACKSON, President.
JAMES J. DONNELLY, Cashier.
S. P. SWITZER,
CUMBERLAND, MD.
STILL IN BUSINESS!
Wetley's Photograph Gallery
My pictures are informed that I am still in
the
PICTURE BUSINESS,
And am at all times prepared to take all
kinds of pictures, from a
Tintype or Cabinet Photograph,
To a Life-size or Instantaneous Proce-
dure, and am as usual, at the service of
my customers.

Valuable Real Estate!
The undersigned Executor of the last will and
testament of Jacob Carter, late of Somerset, Pa.,
deceased, will expose to public sale by public
auction on the premises in Storehouse Borough,
Somerset, Pa., on
SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 14, 1891,
at 10 o'clock a. m., the following described real es-
tate, to-wit: One-half of said deceased, viz:
A certain lot of ground situated in Storehouse
Borough, bounded on the North by Main
street, on the East by lot of Wm. A. McKivern, on
the South by the river and on the West by an alley,
containing 35 feet on Main street and being his
lot in depth. Having several acres of very
fertile land, a good stable, and other
buildings.
TERMS: Ten per cent of price
in cash, balance on one year from date of
sale, interest to be paid quarterly. Interest
to be paid on the balance of the purchase
money, from date of judgment.
C. W. PUGH, Executor.

Hood's Sarsaparilla
Is Peculiar
To Itself
In Strength,
Economy, and
Curative Power
100 Doses
One Dollar
Be Sure
To Get Hood's

FIRST NATIONAL BANK
—OF—
Somerset, Penna.
CAPITAL ————— \$50,000.
SURPLUS ————— \$6,000.
DEPOSITS RECEIVED IN LARGE AND SMALL
AMOUNTS, PAYABLE ON DEMAND.
ACCOUNTS OF MERCHANTS, FARMERS,
STOCK DEALERS, AND OTHERS SOLICITED.
—DISCOUNTS DAILY.—
BOARD OF DIRECTORS:
LARRY M. HIXE, W. H. MILLER,
JAMES L. PUGH, CHAS. H. FINNER,
JOHN R. SCOTT, GEO. R. STULL,
FRED W. BIESECKEL.

Somerset County National Bank
OF SOMERSET, PA.
Established 1877. Organized as a National, 1890.
CAPITAL \$50,000.
Chas. J. Harrison, Pres't.
Wm. B. Freese, Vice Pres't.
Milton J. Pritts, Cashier.

GUCKENHEIMER WHISKY
Is the whisky, sold only by
JOSEPH FLEMING & SON,
Druggists, Pittsburgh, Pa. As a
strengthening of the
Nervous System,
with special good effect on the res-
piratory and digestive organs, it
is pronounced unequalled. Price,
full quarts \$1, or six for \$5.

THERE IS A WHISKEY
Which is uniform in its results, besides in
every other particular. Attested to by
everyone who has used it a thorough
trial, and their name is legion.
The pure 8-year old
GUCKENHEIMER WHISKY
Is the whisky, sold only by
JOSEPH FLEMING & SON,
Druggists, Pittsburgh, Pa. As a
strengthening of the
Nervous System,
with special good effect on the res-
piratory and digestive organs, it
is pronounced unequalled. Price,
full quarts \$1, or six for \$5.

Jos. Fleming & Son,
DRUGGISTS,
418 & 412 Market St., 1 and 2 Market
PITTSBURGH, PA.
Ladies are Especially Invited.
**THRESHING
MACHINES**
A SPECIALTY.
Simplest, Most Durable, Economical and Perfect
in Use. Various sizes from 10 to 25 bushels
per hour.
THRESHING ENGINES & HORSE POWERS.
Saw Mills and Standard Implements generally.
Send for Illustrated Catalogue.
A. B. FARQUHAR CO.,
Pennybanc Agricultural Works, York, Pa.
June 11, 1891.

THE GIRLS OF NINETY-ONE.
They tell me 'twas the fashion,
Oh, long and long ago,
For girls to look like little waifs,
And sit at home and sew.
For such was the fashion then,
On many a gallant quest;
But the girls behind the lattice
They were very wise indeed.
To-day the times have altered,
And pretty Kate and Nell
Are playing merry pranks—
In such they do it well.
They ride across the country,
They climb the mountain side,
And with one that feather light,
Along the river glide.
If they've not yet been to college,
They are going to-day,
To thank the tree of knowledge,
Though 't is branches to-day.
For all the things that are
And going over books,
With faces smooth as satin,
They keep their dainty jocks.
Do you want a happy comrade,
In study or in fun?
Be sure you'll find her quickly
Mid the girls of ninety-one.
So I'll keep her bright and steady,
Cared for in my whim,
And a lad will love her less
Because she is a nun.

THE SIGNAL FIRE.
BY WILLA LLOYD JACKSON.
Certainly she was not beautiful, nor
was she clever beyond ordinary, nor re-
markable in any way. She was only a
shy little girl, with best brock worn
and striped calico, and whose best bonnet
was of striped calico. And her home was
a two-roomed log cabin, with plain, rude
furniture, that her own father had made,
and a few homely articles that they had
brought from Pennsylvania when they
moved out to the new land of Texas. But
for all these commonplace surroundings,
she was a heroine.
Her name was Maggie Hunter, and the
cabin home was on the banks of the
Braze river, which, as you know, flows
to the sea through Southern Texas. It
had been a very happy home, in spite of
the many perils that lay in wait about
it; for this that I am telling you of took
place in 1830, the darkest year the young
State had known, and in addition to the
wild beasts whose cries could be heard
every night as they prowled about the
cabin, and the over-present fear of yell-
ing Indians, was the menacing Mexican
raiding party from across the Rio Grande,
who were having opened this fair territory
to the settlers, now oppressed them with
every device that tyranny and hatred
could suggest.
But, as I said, Maggie's home had been
a happy one, made so by cheerful toil
and loving duty, till the father had been
called away to join General Houston. He
had gone with a heavy heart, leaving his
little household unprotected, save for
the musket that hung upon the wall and
toward which the mother glanced many
times a day, or waking in the night, took
down and placed beside her bed. News
came now and then of dreadful massacres
and desperate battles, and the dark
spirit of anxiety and trouble brooded
over the little home, for it was often im-
possible to hear who had suffered in
these terrible events, and weeks would
sometimes pass ere assurance of the well-
fare of the beloved reached them.
One April evening little Maggie stood
pressing her small grave face against the
wooden shutter that closed the window
in the front room of the cabin and trying
to watch the stars through the chinks.
Her mother moved about the inner room
preparing the simple evening meal, and
the younger children slept peacefully in
their little bed of sweet, dry prairie
grass.
Suddenly Maggie gave a cry of terror.
Mrs. Hunter started back, tore
down the musket from the wall and
rushed to the outer door, but a voice that
they recognized as Captain Hunter's re-
assured them, and joyfully drawing the
bolt the thankful wife admitted the
weary, mud-stained soldier.
"So I frightened you, little daughter,"
said Captain Hunter, as he kissed Maggie
and drew her within his arms. "I only
thought to peep in at you, not expecting to
see these big eyes peeping out at the
same chink."
Maggie laughed for very pleasure to
have him back once more, and stood
watching him with proud though fright-
ened eyes as he told them of the won-
derful things the handful of patriots had
done against the thousands of Mexicans
rushing pouring over the border to en-
force a tyrant's decrees, and her heart
thrilled as he told of General Houston's
patriotic deeds and dauntless courage.
The mother, though listening as eagerly
as Maggie, bided herself in setting a
meal before her husband, and would
have had him remove his heavy boots
and muddy clothes, but he declared he
could tarry but an hour.
"I must go then on an errand to the
troops that lie at Harriburg," and his
face clouded over with such anxiety that
his wife hastened to his side.
He did not answer her look of inquiry,
but drew his little daughter closer to
him, and turning her wistful face up to
his own, said:
"Can Maggie be a brave girl for her
father?"
She faltered a little as she answered,
but her eyes were true and fearless.
"I can try, father. What is it I must
do?"
"You must go at midnight, or as near
the hour as you can guess, and fire the
beard of brush that lies upon the river's
bank, close to the big pine."
"But why can't I go?" said the moth-
er, her face paling at the thought of the
child's going through the night on an
errand so full of peril.
"Because you must go when I do to the
upper ferry to warn the boatmen there.
Get ready, wife, for there is no time to
spare. I ride in the opposite direction,
but we can start together."
Maggie gave a gasp and the color for-
sook her cheeks. Was she to be left in
the cabin alone till midnight, when she
must go through the dark wood to the
river?
"My child," said Captain Hunter, with
the tenderness the truly brave always
have for the weak and faltering, "are you
so afraid? Then you shall not go; but
unless the signal be made hundreds of
brave men will go to almost certain
deaths, for the Mexicans, as I rode here
to discover, lie in ambush not far off
from your camp. I intended to fire the
brush myself, but on the way I learned
that which sends me post haste to the

SHALL WE HAVE A CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTION IN PENNSYLVANIA?
In 1874 the people of this Common-
wealth ordained and established a new
Constitution. Since then the Legislature
has, with more or less earnestness, been
engaged in remodeling our laws to con-
form to its requirements. Seventeen
years have passed, however, without any
serious effort to enforce many of its
most important provisions. The judi-
ciary of the State has expended much
time on its interpretation, and it is only
within the past few years that its mean-
ing has been definitely determined by
the highest Courts as to partially en-
force the same. The result has been the
chaotic condition between the statutory
laws and the Constitution.
On the 15th of June 1891, the Govern-
or approved an act requiring the electors
of the Commonwealth to vote at the No-
vember election for or against holding a
Constitutional Convention. The title of the
act is "An act to provide for a Conven-
tion to amend the Constitution," but the
act gives the Convention "power to pro-
pose to the citizens of this Common-
wealth, for their approval or rejection, a
new Constitution or amendments to the
present one, or specific amendments to
be voted for separately." In other words,
a convention is to be created possessing
and representing the sovereign power of
the people, with power to destroy, by
a new convention, the structure of Govern-
ment, and all the laws of this Common-
wealth, without any limitation on the
exercise of this power, save the Consti-
tution of the United States, which
"guarantees to every State in this Union
a republican form of government."
The Constitution provides an orderly
method of amending its provisions with-
out resorting to the extraordinary means
of a new convention. To make its pro-
visions more stable, and to protect it
from sudden changes by every "wind of
doctrine," it wisely provides that amend-
ments shall be agreed to by a majority of
the members elected to each House, then
published for three months before the
next election in two newspapers in every
county, and then if so the people shall
approve the amendments by a vote of
two-thirds of the members elected to
each House, and no amendment is to
be submitted often than once in five
years.
After disregard of the great con-
stitutional principles regulating future
amendments embodied in the provisions
of the Constitution itself, the Legislature
proposes a new Constitutional Conven-
tion. It is not called in the usual way,
by first submitting the call of a Conven-
tion to a vote of the people, and afterward
selecting at another election proper per-
sons as delegates, but, with marked curi-
osity, the delegates are to be voted for
at the same election at which the people
pass upon the necessity for a Convention.
The object is plain. One hundred and
twenty-seven members are to be elected;
twenty-seven in the State at large, and
three in each Senatorial district. If the
people vote for a Constitutional Conven-
tion, these gentlemen will all be elected
to office and receive \$1,500. In every
district, therefore, there are at least three
men whose ability and personal influ-
ence are secured by the prospective
honor of so high an office and its emolu-
ments to persuade the people to vote for
this new Convention. Without such
means the people would be inclined to
reject and the whole scheme defeated. We
are not confronted with such a serious
condition of public affairs as to justify
the expenditure of so large a sum
of money for a Constitutional Convention
and the delegates, plus at least \$25,000
to pay mileage, incidentals and general
expenses, making a total cost of half
a million dollars. No one should be-
grudge the expenditure of so large a sum
if necessary to secure the best possible
form of government; but under existing
conditions the chances are that the money
would be wasted and the end not at-
tained. This is a most inopportune time
to undertake the formation of a new or
a general revision of the old Constitu-
tion. The electors will be required to
vote on the rejection or adoption of each
year when there is a Presidential elec-
tion. National politics, involving most
important issues, will engross public at-
tention to the exclusion of State issues.
The Convention may submit a new Con-
stitution to be voted for as a whole, or it
may submit "specific amendments to be
voted for separately." If a new Constitu-
tion, or many amendments are submit-
ted, an intelligent judgment by the aver-
age voter will, by reason of excitement
and interest in general politics, be ren-
dered impracticable. It is always haz-
ardous to remodel a great organic law.
There are many provisions of the present
Constitution which are so favorable to
the general public that powerful influ-
ences have for seventeen years suc-
cessfully delayed their enforcement. Will
we act wisely if we offer a tempting op-
portunity for their repeal?
The advocates of the Convention tell
us that the amendment of the Constitu-
tion is necessary to secure a "secret ball-
ot," and without it we can never have
the Australian system. When the new
Constitution was adopted the provision
for a secret ballot was to be the pan-
acea for all illegal voting. Now this very
provision is said to stand in the way of
honest election laws. The unwisdom of
incorporating such provisions (which
should be left to legislative control) in
the Constitution has become apparent.
But is the question so vital as to take it
out of the Constitution? It was quite
possible to substantially adopt the Aus-
tralian system, notwithstanding the
Constitutional provision for numbering
ballots. The "new election law" is the
work of statute provisions. Its evasion
is not because of constitutional limita-
tions. The law will not be one
which better when, under its own provi-
sions, a constitutional amendment shall
repeal the section relating to numbered
ballots. The work of the hour is to create
a public sentiment which will elect leg-
islators who will give us a new ballot law
with all the essential features of the Aus-
tralian system, leaving the numbered
ballot to remain until, by amendment
submitted by the Legislature, this re-
ligious worm is eradicated. All kinds of articles
were charged—bores, whisky, coats, boots,

and not a small amount of money—on
the result. We who had put up the job
were laughing in our sleeves for three
days before the race took place.
On the day designated the mile
course, which had been laid out on a
fairly good road, was lined with specta-
tors from one end to the other. When
the horses took their places visions of
the luxuries which I have named loomed
up in our imaginations and we ex-
changed jests as the horses came
down the track. As soon as the
starter yelled "Go!" the race in the two
long lines began to yell and swing their
hats in the air.
"The space between the two lines was
not more than eight or twenty feet wide
and this unusual sight and noise fright-
ened the horse. Well, she just took
the bit between her teeth and the way
she did slip down the road was a caution.
The faster she ran the more the
men yelled and the rider could no more
check her speed than he could stop a
cyclone. At the end of the mile she ex-
ceeded her opponent by fully 300 yards,
and not satisfied with this she ran nearly
another mile before her rider could stop
her."—N.Y. Tribune.

A PROUD RECORD.
Why the Pennsylvania Farmers
Should Support Gregg and
Morrison.
No man in public life in Pennsylvania
is better or more favorably known to the
farmers of the State than ex-Auditor
General Jerome B. Niles, of Tioga county.
He has been prominent in their councils
and time and time again fought their
battles for equalization of taxation. Through
the medium of the Republican party he
has done more for the farmer than any
other man who has not been in vain.
In a very thoughtful interview General
Niles tells what has been accomplished
by the Republican party in relieving the
granger interests of the burdens of
taxation, and points out why every farm-
er should vote for both Gregg and Mor-
rison, the Republican candidates for
auditor general and state treasurer, re-
spectively, at next month's election.
"I desire to preface my answer as to
the reason why farmers and real estate
owners," said ex-Auditor General Niles,
"should support the Republican state
ticket by a short reference to the past.
Our party came into power in Pennsylv-
ania in 1861. For many years, with
little interruption, our political oppo-
nents had practically been in control of
the various departments of the state gov-
ernment. We found the nation confronted
with a gigantic rebellion, business
prostrated and public confidence every-
where destroyed.
"At that time the state was burdened
with a debt of \$25,000,000 to \$40,000,000,
and for which it had but very little
to show. The years succeeding 1860 are
marked with too many events to be
soon forgotten. To meet the demands of
our imperiled country burdens heavy
were imposed upon the people. Many
tens of millions of dollars were raised in
this Commonwealth by taxation to pay
bounties, etc., to Union soldiers. During
all these years the leaders of the party
promised that when the peril was past,
when peace and plenty came again, the
burdens imposed by the war should be
lifted from the people, as far as possible
consistent with the safety of the state.
In furtherance of such promises an act
passed Feb. 22, 1866, providing, Section
4, from and after the passage of this act
the real estate of this Commonwealth
shall be exempt from taxation for state
purposes. (P. L., 1866, page 83.) So far
as I know, prior to this time, real estate
had at all times paid taxes for state pur-
poses. In pursuance of this policy of re-
lieving the people of the support of the
state government an act was passed and
approved on June 2, 1871 (P. L., 281),
repealing the act which imposed a tax of
1 per cent on incomes of tradesmen, occu-
pations and professions over \$200. Again,
by an act approved March 21, 1873,
laws imposing taxes upon mules, horses,
mares, geldings and cattle for state pur-
poses was repealed. (P. L., 1873, page
46.)
RELIEF FROM TAXATION.
"It will be noticed that since those
years all real estate, all trades, occu-
pations and professions and horses and cat-
tle have been relieved from the burdens
of the state. It is well known that the
local and municipal taxes are the great
burdens borne by taxpayers. During
those years the money collected which
was not necessary to defray the ordi-
nary expenses of the state government had
been applied to the payment of the state
debt. As a result, it has been greatly re-
duced. On the 30th of November, 1885,
after deducting the assets in the sinking
fund, the public debt was only \$8,059,-
413.75. I do not know how much it has
been reduced during the past six years,
but the amount must have been consid-
erable.
"The purpose of the Republican party
has been not only to relieve local tax-
ation, but to aid and extend the cause of
education. Since it came into power it
has used all honorable means to strength-
en our common school system. It will
be noticed by the figures following that
there has been a steady increase in the
state appropriations for school purposes.
It follows, as of course, that as the state
appropriations have been increased the
local burdens for school purposes have
been correspondingly lessened. During
the three years immediately preceding
the election of Governor Curtin, in 1869,
the legislature appropriated for schools
as follows: In 1868, \$280,000; in 1869,
\$280,000; in 1870, \$280,000. These sums
included the salaries paid to county su-
perintendents.
IN THE CAUSE OF EDUCATION.
"Now let us see what has been done in
the cause of education in some of the
years in which the Republicans are re-
sponsible for the legislation:—
In 1867 and 1868, each year, \$1,000,000
In 1869 and 1870, each year, 1,000,000
In 1871 and 1872, each year, 1,000,000
In 1873 and 1874, each year, 1,000,000
In 1875 and 1876, each year, 1,000,000
In 1877 and 1878, each year, 1,000,000
In 1879 and 1880, each year, 1,000,000
In 1881 and 1882, each year, 1,000,000
In 1883 and 1884, each year, 1,000,000
In 1885 and 1886, each year, 1,000,000
In 1887 and 1888, each year, 1,000,000
In 1889 and 1890, each year, 1,000,000
In 1891 and 1892, each year, 1,000,000
The above figures show that the state
has increased its appropriations for
schools in every year since 1867. This
has done more for the farmer than any
other man who has not been in vain."
"You see, the lawyer went on, "that
you can swear to having seen this man
drive a horse past your farm on the day
in question?"
"I can," replied the witness, quietly,
for he had already answered the question
a dozen times.
"What was the date?"
"I told you that it was about the mid-
dle of the forenoon."
"But I don't want any 'abouts or any
'middle.' I want you to tell the jury
exactly the time."
"Why," said the farmer, "I don't al-
ways carry a gold watch with me when
I'm digging potatoes."
"But you have a clock in the house
haven't you?"
"Yes."
"Well, what time was it by that?"
"Why, by that clock it was just 19 min-
utes past 10."
"You were in the field all the morn-
ing?" went on the lawyer, smiling
suggestively.
"Yes."
"How far from the house is this
field?"
"About half a mile."
"You swear, do you, that by the clock
in your house it was exactly 19 minutes
past 10?"
"I do."
The lawyer paused and looked at the
jury triumphantly; as he had had en-
trapped the witness into a contradictory
statement that would greatly weaken his
testimony. "I think that will do," he
said, with a wave of his hand; "I am
quite through with you."
The farmer leisurely picked up his hat
and started to leave the witness stand;
then turning slowly about, he slowly ad-
dressed the jury.
"I ought, perhaps, to say that too
much reliance should not be placed upon
that clock, as it got out of gear about
six months ago, and it's been 19 minutes
past ten ever since."—Phila. Times.

THE SIGNAL FIRE.
BY WILLA LLOYD JACKSON.
She was cold with fright and half in-
clined to turn back, but the stars that
looked down on her like bright celestial
eyes reminded her of her mother's words
—"God was with her." It was not far
she had to go, but the way through the
dark woods seemed longer than it ever
had before, and on owl's slow hunt
the blood from her heart, though she
knew the instant afterwards that it
was a panther's scream from a distance
rang in her ears, and she ran a
little, wildly and terror-stricken, but
the clearing in which the brush heap
was close at hand, and she found herself
stumbling over it. With her heart beat-
ing like mad she knelt and poured the
oil over it. They smoldered for a few
moments, and then a tiny flame sprang
up which caught at the dry leaves and
twigs, till the whole heap blazed.
With her terror nearly gone in her joy
at her mission achieved, she rose and
looked out over the dark river, telling a
few yards away, and strained her eyes
in the vain fancy that she could see
the other watching on the other side.
"He'll go back and tell them not to
come," she thought; "and they won't get
killed."
She clasped her hands the next mo-
ment with a shriek; for there was the
report of a gun stinging the air about
her, and a bullet sang past her ear. The
same another and still another, and the
brave girl dropped beside the blazing
brush.
The flames crackled merrily, leaping
towards the river as if it knew the mes-
sage it was to bear, and was glad to be
about it, and the mounted officer on the
other side saw it and rode away.
The night breeze lifted the soft hair of
the little head that lay pillowed on
the dark bosom of the earth and touched
it with the dew of heaven, and she
looked up at the stars with a smile
that shone from her eyes.
From the woods came running a dozen Mex-
ican soldiers, who, in roving that way,
had spied the signal fire as it leaped up,
and were boasting as they ran that their
bullets must have found the person that
had set the heap ablaze.
"He stood just over the fire: I saw
him," cried one.
"Yes, I noticed him as he dropped,"
said another.
But they passed dismayed behind the
little figure that lay close to the still
flaming brush.
"Santa Maria! It is a child!" exclaim-
ed the captain, bending down.
"A child?" the others murmured, and
took nothing from their manhood. The
captain raised the child from his strong
arms, and directing his men to take
a bed of leaves, he laid it in it on the
ground, then bent and reverently kissed
the poor babe, while his heart turned
to thoughts of a little dark-eyed Mexican
lass, scarcely older, who watched for him
far away.
"Her fingers will come for her by and
by," he said, as he turned away. "Miguel,
stand you yonder in the woods and
watch till they come, but do not discover
yourself. The rest go with me, but mind,
no word to anyone of what has been
done. The signal has done its work and
this deed that we have wrought has evil
ended in it; so no more blood to-night,
at least."
Miguel watched an hour. Then came
an anxious father an mother to seek their
child, and finding her, to carry home the
little heroine with many tears and
broken hearts. Captain Hunter had
found a trustworthy messenger to per-
form his errand and had hastened back,
hoping to arrive before Maggie should
have started for the river.
"But why can't I go?" said the moth-
er, her face paling at the thought of the
child's going through the night on an
errand so full of peril.
"Because you must go when I do to the
upper ferry to warn the boatmen there.
Get ready, wife, for there is no time to
spare. I ride in the opposite direction,
but we can start together."
Maggie gave a gasp and the color for-
sook her cheeks. Was she to be left in
the cabin alone till midnight, when she
must go through the dark wood to the
river?
"My child," said Captain Hunter, with
the tenderness the truly brave always
have for the weak and faltering, "are you
so afraid? Then you shall not go; but
unless the signal be made hundreds of
brave men will go to almost certain
deaths, for the Mexicans, as I rode here
to discover, lie in ambush not far off
from your camp. I intended to fire the
brush myself, but on the way I learned
that which sends me post haste to the

poor. By an act approved June 13, 1865
the expense of the care and treatment of
the indigent insane was divided between
the counties and the state. Neither party
can claim exclusive credit for this act,
because in 1853 the law making depart-
ments of the state were divided between
the two parties. From this act great re-
lief has come to the township and coun-
ties. The amount paid by the state for
the year ending Nov. 30, 1886, as ap-
proved by the report of the auditor general,
was \$408,533.33.
"In a general way the constant trend
of legislation has been to put more re-
sponsibilities upon the state, and to that
extent townships, cities and counties
have been aided, and the overburdened
real estate has been assisted. It is well
evident that it takes just so much money
to sustain the local, municipal and state
governments. The more you add to the
state, the less you collect from the others.
In the two items of common schools and
indigent insane the state now pays \$5,-
400,000 annually. To that extent, every
acre of land in the broad Commonwealth is
correspondingly benefited, and the bur-
den is shifted from the farmers of Pennsylv-
ania, relieved of the burden of taxation.
"In addition to all these things, the
state has been from year to year extend-
ing her beneficence in the building and
maintaining hospitals for miners and
persons injured from many causes. In
this way many hundreds of thousands of
dollars annually have been and are be-
ing expended by the state which go to
aid persons who but for that would have
to be supported by the local authorities.
Every one admits that in the language of
section 1 of article 9 of the constitution,
taxation ought to be equal. That as the
blessing of the government are shared by
all, so should its burdens be equally
borne by all.
"TAKING THE CONSTITUTION.
"Since 1861 an honest effort has been
made to make personal and corporate
property pay more taxes than they did
hitherto. As far back as 1844 an act was
passed imposing a tax upon moneyed
capital. Every one knows that that act
was practically a dead letter. Prior to
1885 the whole personal property assess-
ed and returned was only \$145,000,000.
The first year under the act of 1844 the
return was \$205,000,000, an increase of
\$60,000,000 in the first year. The pro-
per enforcement of subsequent legislation
ought to bring many millions more from
their hiding places.
"The act of 1861 increased the tax on
mortgages and moneys owing by solvent
debtors from three mills to four mills.
It also raised the tax upon the capital
stock of banks, railroads and other cor-
porations from three mills to five mills.
It is easily seen that since 1861 the leg-
islation directed by the Republican party
has been in the line of the equalization
of the public burdens. Since that time
all real estate has been relieved from
state taxation, trades, occupations and
professions have been exempted, as well
as have been exempted from state tax-
ation. At the same time mountains of
public debt have rapidly melted away.
By the aid given and being given to com-
mon schools and the insane poor the
real estate of the Commonwealth has been
aided more than \$5,000,000 annually.
Surely that is a record of which any party
has a right to be proud. A party
which has a right to ask the continued
confidence and support of the people.
NO FARMER SHOULD OPPOSE GREGG OR
MORRISON.
"I have my own notions of tax equal-
ization, while the course of the party and
its legislation has for a quarter of a cen-
tury tended steadily toward fairness in
taxation. Yet speaking for myself, and
myself alone, we have not reached the
point where the public burdens fall alike
upon all classes of property and upon all
classes of persons.
"I hope soon to see the day when every
kind of property in the state which is
owned and held for profit shall not only
be alike protected, but at same time
shall be subjected to its fair share of the
public burdens, and that without regard
to whether the property is owned by a
corporation or private individual, and
whether it is real or whether it is
personal.
"Permit me to say in conclusion that I
can see no reason why any real estate
owner or farmer should vote against our
most excellent state ticket. So far his
benefits have come from the Republican
party. He has had no benefit from any
other source. He can reasonably and
wisely make it to remedy any un-
fairness and irregularity which now ex-
ists in reference to the distribution of the
public burdens."
Perplexing a Lawyer.
A case was on trial in a country court.
A horse had been stolen from a pasture,
and the evidence all pointed to a cer-
tain doubtful character of the neighbor-
hood as the culprit. Though his guilt
seemed clear, he had found a lawyer to
make a desperate defense. At the trial the
defendant's attorney expended his en-
ergy in trying to confuse and frighten the
opposing witness, especially a certain
farmer whose testimony was particularly
damaging. The lawyer kept up a
fire of questions asking many foolish ones
and repeating himself again and again,
in the hope of deceiving the witness into
a contradictory answer.
"You say," the lawyer went on, "that
you can swear to having seen this man
drive a horse past your farm on the day
in question?"
"I can," replied the witness, quietly,
for he had already answered the question
a dozen times.
"What was the date?"
"I told you that it was about the mid-
dle of the forenoon."
"But I don't want any 'abouts or any
'middle.' I want you to tell the jury
exactly the time."
"Why," said the farmer, "I don't al-
ways carry a gold watch with me when
I'm digging potatoes."
"But you have a clock in the house
haven't you?"
"Yes."
"Well, what time was it by that?"
"Why, by that clock it was just 19 min-
utes past 10."
"You were in the field all the morn-
ing?" went on the lawyer, smiling
suggestively.
"Yes."
"How far from the house is this
field?"
"About half a mile."
"You swear, do you, that by the clock
in your