Somerset Herald.

GEORGE R. SCULL, Editor.

April 20, 1892.

[illegible] the pot of sweet.

[illegible] more wants than poverty.

[illegible] doesn't always bring peace.

[illegible] Benford's drug store for wall paper.

[illegible] bills more men than adversity.

[illegible] give the most advice take the [illegible]

[illegible] wall paper at Benford's drug [illegible]

[illegible] 40 bills are flooding Johnstown.

[illegible] Spring now in stock at Mahlon [illegible]'s.

[illegible] are more old maids. They are [illegible]

[illegible] the old and young at Snyder's [illegible]

[illegible] has a legal breeze which gives life to the poor.

[illegible] remark that "the days are [illegible]" is now in season.

[illegible] chicken is owned by Ezra [illegible] of Sinkinsville, Berks county.

[illegible] 1,000 bees will produce about [illegible] pounds of honey annually.

[illegible] a page of all the latest patterns and [illegible] at Benford's drug store.

[illegible] Pennsylvania isn't a chivalrous [illegible]. There are 400 postmistresses in the [illegible].

[illegible] going to paper your walls this [illegible]? If so go to Benford's for the paper. [illegible] are the cheapest.

[illegible] a glut in the market in the [illegible] of Berks and Lehigh counties. They are selling at 20 cents a bushel.

[illegible] that the 20,000,000 bricks needed [illegible] the State Insane Hospital at [illegible] will be manufactured from [illegible] near the building site.

[illegible] signs and wonders say that [illegible] appear early in the season [illegible] plenty of cherries, as they depend [illegible] opinions to the fruit.

[illegible] around the world on a bicycle that [illegible] months has just been completed by George D. Mitchell, son of ex-[illegible] Senator John I. Mitchell of [illegible].

[illegible] of the HERALD should not forget [illegible] Snyder, the druggist, can fit their [illegible] glasses as well as any optician. [illegible] six years experience in [illegible] King's.

[illegible] E. Edwards, the well-known [illegible] lecturer, died Friday. She was [illegible] London in 1821, and began her literary [illegible] at the age of 4 years. A poem by [illegible] published when she was 7.

[illegible] people who pride themselves on [illegible] blood would be far happier with [illegible], for, while we cannot choose our [illegible] fortunately, by the use of Ayer's [illegible], we can transmute pure blood to [illegible].

[illegible] and now mixed with sawdust and [illegible] are molded into blocks or any [illegible] resulting in a fine material for [illegible] purposes. The blocks assume ex-[illegible] hardness of surface, and are practically [illegible].

[illegible] E. Schisler, a veteran schoolmaster [illegible], was run over and killed at [illegible] and Ohio railroad station [illegible] night. He had just stepped from [illegible] upon the track when the night [illegible] on our him.

[illegible] up in the morning with a headache [illegible] constipation for breakfast. This is due [illegible] torpidity of the liver and a deranged condition [illegible] stomach. To restore healthy [illegible] to these organs, nothing is so efficacious [illegible] occasional dose of Ayer's Pills.

[illegible] at W. Benford's drug store and [illegible] at the handsomest line of wall [illegible] ever brought to Somerset, before you [illegible] your purchases this spring. He has [illegible] stock of all the very latest designs [illegible] and prices are the lowest in town.

[illegible] are making the rounds of neighboring [illegible] selling what they call "the [illegible] anti-explosive lamp powder put up [illegible] United States government inspector [illegible]." They sell it for 50 cents a [illegible]. It is common salt, worth 60 cents [illegible]. Keep a look out for them as they [illegible] this county.

[illegible] following named letters remaining [illegible] Post Office, Somerset, will be sent to [illegible] Dead Letter Office, if not called for in [illegible] from this date, April 20, 1892:

[illegible] Benjamin; Cole, Chas.; Dimon, [illegible]; Felton, Tillie; Garlitts, C. [illegible]; Harry; Hauger, Joseph; Walker, [illegible]; Pitz, Dorie; Pisbord, Steph.

JOSIAH KELLER, P. M.

[illegible] pitch near McKeesport is the scene [illegible] ghost story. Some 14 years ago [illegible] miner from Irwin, named Thomas [illegible] hanged himself on a tree in the gulch [illegible] for his girl. Jones was a rolling good-natured fellow, and well liked. [illegible] was found and cut down by a party [illegible] McKeesport at midnight. Ever since [illegible] said strange sounds have been [illegible] and strange scenes enacted as the [illegible] midnight hour approaches.

[illegible] Friday night of last week Harvey H. [illegible], a well-known young man of Lancaster [illegible] fell while sleeping at the county [illegible] and broke his neck, causing his immediate death. It seems that he had gone [illegible] hospital to spend the night with his [illegible] Dr. Kline, physician at the hospital. [illegible] about midnight some of the attendants [illegible] a noise in the room which Shirk [illegible] occupying, and upon going to the room [illegible] him lying on the floor with his head [illegible] under his body and his neck broken.

[illegible] are having an exciting time out in [illegible] where the ranch owners have [illegible] the law in their own hands and are [illegible] war on the "rustlers" or cattle [illegible]. United States troops were sent to [illegible] of the trouble and arrived just in [illegible] to capture a band of 50 ranchers and [illegible] them being slaughtered by the [illegible]," as the latter had them hemmed [illegible] escape was impossible. Had the [illegible] two hours later not one would [illegible] left to tell the tale. The ranchers [illegible] of prominence.

[illegible] Brunor killed Samuel Reese in [illegible] county last August. He was tried [illegible] convicted of murder in the [illegible], but a new trial was afterward [illegible]. When the case was called for the [illegible] trial Brunor's attorney entered a plea [illegible] of murder, with the understanding [illegible] court should fix the degree. Judge [illegible] on Monday fixed an opinion, deciding [illegible] murder was in the first degree. The [illegible] was a great surprise, as the defense [illegible] imagine that the court would take [illegible] the responsibility of condemning [illegible] death.

[illegible] Longwell, of Charleston township, [illegible] county, the man who vomited three [illegible] is dead. In 1885 Mr. Longwell be[illegible] violently ill one day, and vomited two [illegible] both over a foot long. His health [illegible] improve and the doctor who attended [illegible] was puzzled. A year ago he again [illegible] violently sick, and again vomited a [illegible] snake. This one was 18 inches [illegible]. He is supposed to have drunk snake [illegible] in a spring in the field. There is talk [illegible] the body to make an examination [illegible] of the stomach, to see what effect the [illegible] snake exerted upon it.

[illegible] Hatfield, the leader of the Hatfield gang of West Virginia, whose record of [illegible] is probably second to none in this [illegible] other civilized country, has met his [illegible]. Enlisted from the head of the Tug [illegible] of the Big Sandy say that while engaging [illegible] a game of cards at his home in the [illegible] of Logan county, with some of [illegible] companions, the Captain, being a [illegible] winner, was accused of cheating. This [illegible] up a row and brought out pistols. The [illegible] was promiscuous, but the Captain [illegible] laid low by two bullets in the [illegible], fired by one of the gang. One of the [illegible] brothers was among the card party.

The trout season opened last Friday.

D. B. Zimmerman, the genial Stoystown stock dealer, has returned from Philadelphia, where he disposed of several car loads of western horses.

W. B. Megahan, brother of Washington Megahan of this place, died at his home in Altoona, on the 8th inst., aged 68 years. He was a member of the G. A. R.

Mrs. Catherine Sanner died at the home of her son-in-law, Dennis Weimer, in Black township, Sunday, 17th inst., aged 89 years. The funeral occurred Monday. Interment at Sanner's church.

Mr. David Snyder, of Chicago, arrived in Somerset Saturday evening and will spend a few days with the family of his brother, J. B. Snyder. Mr. Snyder is on his way home from a trip to Florida.

Charles Ringler, of Stoystown, aged 14 years, was kicked out of a buckboard by a young colt which he was driving to Johnstown to sell one day last week. The wagon was demolished but the boy was not seriously hurt.

As John McAfee was walking through a stable behind a large mule, at Johnstown, Friday, the animal let fly with its hind feet and planting them in his ribs broke three of them. McAfee was formerly a resident of this place.

Jacob P. Weimer, Esq., recently of Meyersdale, but a native of Somerset township, has removed to Somerset. Mr. Weimer has purchased the grocery and confectionery establishment of H. H. Zimmerman, on the public square.

If there are any precincts hiding out which Quay has not captured they had better deliver themselves up *a la* Bill Miller and treat for quarter. Pennsylvania is very suggestive of the way it looks to the opposition just now.—*Berlin Record.*

Mr. P. F. Johns was nominated for Sheriff by the Republican convention of Fayette county Monday. Mr. Johns is Deputy Collector of Internal Revenue for this district and has made many friends in Somerset county who will be pleased to learn of his success.

Two of Somerset's most popular young people, Mr. George M. Neff, Jr. and Miss May Pisel, daughter of J. H. Pisel, Esq., were quietly married at the home of the bride's brother, Mr. John Pisel, at Akron, O., on the 7th inst. The connubial knot was tied by Rev. E. A. Bosworth, of Akron. Mr. Neff is senior member of the jewelry firm of Neff & Casebeer.

If they want to be in it, Meyersdale, Salisbury and Berlin will have to get a move on. At noon Friday the Sisseton reservation in South Dakota was thrown open for white settlers, and by 1 o'clock houses were in course of erection. Talk about booming, we of the East don't know what it is. There will be an opera house and a daily newspaper in Sisseton before a week goes by.

Easter was celebrated in the different churches in this place Sunday. Several of the houses of worship were profusely decorated with flowers and plants. Special musical programmes had been prepared for the occasion by nearly all of the choirs and audiences were unusually large. New spring bonnets, spring wraps and spring flowers were generally worn by the young ladies of the town.

Deputy-collector Frank P. Saylor has weighed and inspected about 20,000 lbs. of maple sugar the past week. He says every producer he has visited so far complains that the output of his camp is only about one-half as large as it has been in former years. This season's sugar, however, is of a superior quality. Mr. Saylor says the finest grades are manufactured in the camps nearest the Laurel Hill mountain.

Ursina was visited by a conflagration at an early hour Sunday morning, when two buildings owned by Mrs. Edward Alcott and one owned by postmaster Leroy Forquer, were burned to the ground. The post-office records, stamps and other supplies were saved by Mr. Forquer. J. B. Davis' large general store located about 20 feet from the burned buildings, was saved through the heroic work of a bucket brigade.

The daily newspaper of the near future will unquestionably be the evening paper, if for no other reason than because it will be able to print the news twelve hours in advance of its morning contemporaries. The *Gazette* Publishing Company of Altoona appreciate this fact and have established one of the cleanest and brightest morning papers in western Pennsylvania. It is Republican in politics and is ably edited.

The annual Convention of Somerset county Prohibitionists will be held in Slicer Hall, Meyersdale, Thursday, April 28th, at 1:30 P. M. State Chairman Patton and Miss Lilly Runals, of New York, the charming singer who appeared before 100,000 people last year, will be present. They will also have charge of the war meeting to be held in the evening at 8 o'clock. The public are invited to attend these meetings.

Miss Generva Moorman, of Bedford, who sells the celebrated Carbolic Smoke Ball and also has the agency for a famous surgeon's soap, will be at the Commercial Hotel in this place Monday and Tuesday, April 25th and 26th. She will also be at Mrs. Samuel Foust's, Meyersdale, Friday and Saturday, April 29th and 30th. Miss Moorman needs no introduction to the people of this county as she has visited here on several former occasions.

Sheriff Good, Prothonotary Sanner, F. W. Biesecker, Peter Dumbauld, James M. Cover, Hon. John C. Weller, Hon. E. D. Miller A. G. Kimmel, W. T. Hoblitzell and Geo. R. Scull formed a party of Somerset county Republicans who left on the early train Tuesday morning for Harrisburg, where they will take in the Republican State Convention. A. J. Hileman and Samuel Snyder, the delegates from this county, left on the same train.

Mr. L. C. Lambert, Hooversville's enterprising lumberman, has made another large lumber deal. He last week purchased the Peterman tract of timber land, containing three hundred and twenty acres, the largest tract of good timber in Somerset county. It is near Hooversville, on the line of the S. & C. Railroad, and extends to Rowena. This speaks very highly for Mr. Lambert, considering that many prominent lumber men of Somerset and Indiana counties have tried to secure this tract. He is the twenty-seventh man to try to secure the timber, the rest having failed.

A very pretty wedding was solemnized at Addison at high noon Wednesday, 13th inst., when Miss Vennie M. Bird, third daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Basil Bird, of that place, plighted her troth to Mr. Peter V. Nedrow, a prominent young business man of Somerfield. The ceremony was performed by Rev. Geo. E. Cable, of the Addison M. E. church and was witnessed by a large number of the friends of the bride and groom. The happy young couple left on the evening train for a tour of the western cities. The bride was the recipient of many valuable presents. Mr. and Mrs. Nedrow will make their home at Somerfield.

C. H. West, a colored barber who run a shop in this place several years ago, was a candidate for the Legislature at the recent Republican primary election in Westmoreland county. West polled 629 votes, being somewhere in the neighborhood of 3000 less votes than were cast for his highest competitor. According to the *Argus*, which is good Democratic authority, he issued a circular declaring himself to be in favor of Ben Harrison for President, and Dalzell and Huff for Congress; also, equal taxation, better roads and free wool; that he was opposed to the shipment of dressed meats into this State, especially 'coon and 'possum, unless the same are properly labeled. He also agreed, if nominated and elected, to stand by the "grand old flag" and dry up the widow's tears.

PRITTS STILL AT LARGE.

No Reward Offered for His Arrest.

Another Illicit Distiller "Run In."

LATEST MOONSHINE DEVELOPMENTS.

"Bill" Pritts, one of the murderers of Jonathan C. Hochstetler, is still at large. Up to this time the county commissioners have refused to offer any reward for his arrest and no organized effort is being made to capture him.

Many people living in the vicinity of the "moonshine murder" believe that Pritts is hiding in the mountain near his home and could be easily taken into custody. Others think that he has left the State and is liberally supplied with money. Detective Fisher offers to deliver Pritts over to the Sheriff of the county for $100 but no one seems inclined to pay even so small a sum to bring the murderer to justice. "Talk's cheap" and Fisher may be over confident, but he says he will give Pritt's the hottest chase he ever had in his life in case a price is put upon his head. Should Pritts escape being captured before May Court, Miller's case will certainly be delayed, and may possibly never be tried until his accomplice has been run to earth.

"BILL" PRITTS ESCAPES.

The Mt. Pleasant *Journal* says: "Bill" Pritts, one of the murderers of old man Hochstetler, has been gone from the mountain for ten days. While a posse which left Somerset last Monday night was scouring the mountain the object of the search was probably hundreds of miles away.

It will be remembered that the murder was committed on Wednesday, March 30. On the following Friday Jacob Santemeyer, who is a son-in-law of Pritts, and who lives on Eagle street, was at work in the Morewood mines of the Southwest Coal & Coke Company, when he received a message calling him home. Securing a team from Lemmon Bros., the liverymen, he and his wife left for the mountains the same afternoon. The following evening, shortly after dark, Santemeyer brought the team back, and there is no doubt that his companion was his father-in-law, whom he left at his Eagle street residence before he drove to the stable.

The window blinds had been drawn down the day Mr. Santemeyer and his wife left, and they were still in that position on Sunday morning although no one of the many passers by that day had any idea that behind them, peeping out anxiously at every sound, was the hunted man whose name, with those of the Miller's and Hochstetler, was on everybody's lip, yet such was the case, as he was seen and spoken to by those who have known him for years.

An effort was made to secure a barber to cut Pritts' long hair and shave him, but after an artist sent for waves found at home fears of exciting suspicion seem to have kept the messenger from looking for another and nothing was done to disguise the fugitive except to provide him with another suit of clothes. Just about dark Sunday evening Pritts and Santemeyer left the house and walked down across the fields to Morewood, carrying a valise. They reached a shaft just as the heavy rain and hail storm came up and stood beneath the tipple until the worst was passed. It is not known where they went, although it is said Santemeyer borrowed $45 from his father, who lives at Morewood, saying that he intended going west. The clothes which Pritts left here have a spot of blood on the right coat sleeve.

U. S. OFFICERS ABANDON THE HUNT.

The Internal Revenue officers, under command of Special Agent Samuel F. Culbertson, have abandoned the search for "moonshiners," at least for the present. A second raid was made on the country back of Trent Wednesday and Thursday, but resulted in a wild goose chase. "The Laurel Hill mountain in this county is swarming with moonshiners and illicit stills," said Mr. Culbertson to a HERALD reporter, before starting for Pittsburgh, "but all of the stills have been removed and concealed and while the present state of excitement exists up in that country it is useless to try to capture them. I have no authority to arrest every man who has a copper kettle in his house and unless I can catch the "moonshiners" engaged in making distilled spirits I can get no positive evidence against them. My impression is that the raids we have just made will have a good effect and that it will be a number of years at least before the unlawful manufacture of whisky will be resumed in this territory.

A SCOTTDALE FAKE.

A Scottdale dispatch says: Pritts, the Somerset county moonshiner and accomplice of Miller in the murder of old man Hochstetler, was a Scottdale visitor on Tuesday last.

For the past week or more Pritts, it is said, has been visiting friends and relatives in the vicinity of Ore Mines, a small mountain hamlet about seven miles from here. Pritts's visit to town Tuesday was of a "shopping" nature, he having purchased several small articles, including two boxes of 44 caliber cartridges. While walking down Pittsburg street Pritts's attention was drawn to a group of photographs of the scene of the murder displayed in the window of a drug store. Among the pictures was one of Pritts himself, leaning on his gun, which was taken shortly after the murder. Pritts looked the pictures carefully over, and pointing to the one of himself, said to the two or three persons standing around; "That's a pretty d—d good picture of Pritts, for I know him well," and he walked on up the railway track.

At Scottdale Branch Junction Pritts was recognized by two men who formerly resided at Somerset. The recognition seemed to be mutual, for the murderer started hurriedly across the fields in the direction of the mountains. The two men are positive that it was Pritts.

The murderer has hosts of relatives and friends near here, and the numerous caves and abandoned ore mines in the mountains would afford a secure hiding place for him if he should be closely pressed.

* * *

Detective Fisher and Policeman Gilbert arrested Wesley Miller, another member of the moonshine band, about 9 o'clock Monday evening. Miller was found working at a sugar camp on the farm of Wesley Barclay, near Bakersville. When Gilbert walked into the camp Miller claimed that his name was Gardner. Gilbert was suspicious, however, and when the man started out of the camp he followed him and collared him just as he was about to leap over a fence. Miller weakened at once and confessed that he was the man the officers were looking for. On the way to Somerset the prisoner gave Gilbert a detailed account of the moonshine business and said that he was willing to appear before the U. S. Court and make a full confession. He says that he was employed by old man Hochstetler and worked in his illicit distillery. One day Hochstetler came to him and handing him a repeating rifle said: "Now, Wess, I want you to shoot General Seigle. He's the d—d traitor who has given us away." Miller flatly refused to comply with his request when Hochstetler turned on him and calling him a traitor threatened to take his life.

"General Seigle" believes that Wesley Miller was a member of the "New Constitution" band of which Hochstetler was the leader and that he can give the inside history of that lawless organization if he chooses to do so. Wesley was laboring under a heavy "jag" of "mountain dew" when he was brought to jail and was unable to talk intelligently.

* * *

Monday afternoon Jeremiah Whipkey, of Middlecreek township, appeared before Judge Pile and entered bail in the amount of $1,000 for the appearance of Jacob Garry at May term of court. Garry is charged with being an accessory to the murder of Jonathan C. Hochstetler. He was not released from custody, however, as he is also under indictment, charged with having violated the Internal Revenue laws. Garry expects to be taken before the U. S. Commissioner at Pittsburgh some day this week, when he will enter into recognizance for his appearance before the U. S. district court at May term.

* * *

Detective Fisher relates a good story at "Abe" Pletchers expense, and one which goes to show that Abraham is not altogether guileless. "When we made our first raid on the "moonshiners," said Mr. Fisher, "Pletcher was pressed into service. He refused to carry a gun saying that he was a deacon in the church and had conscientious scruples against bearing arms. He was compelled to go along without a gun. After a while I offered him a drink of whisky, and he took one of the longest pulls at the bottle I ever saw a man take in my life. I put the bottle back in my pocket. In a few minutes "Abe" came up to me and laying his hand on my arm, said, "say, mister, won't you be kind enough to give me another drink of that stuff?"

From this it would appear that "Abe's" conscience does not rebel against fire water the same as it does against fire arms.

* * *

Saturday afternoon "General Seigle" met a number of his acquaintances who called on him in the jail. The "General" is the sole occupant of the hospital ward of the prison, and through the grated door at the end of the ward he is able to see every one who climbs up the stairs into the upper corridor. Whenever the "General" recognizes a friend on the stairs he invariably calls out, "this way, I've changed my headquarters." To a HERALD reporter Miller said: "I don't take much stock in the stories about Pritts having gone west, and am inclined to think that he is hiding in the mountain about his home. Pritts is about 54 years of age, is 5 feet 8 inches tall, wears a long beard rather white, hair same color, wears his hair long—may have had both cut off—weighs about 150 lbs., and wears a No. 8 boot. Complexion and eyes light. Lean face and rather long jawed. He is medium sized and what might be called a pretty good figured man. Always wore old clothes and a black slouch hat, although I have seen him with a derby on his head. He walked kind of stooped and lazy like. He is not a man of much education, but talks plain English. Don't think Pritts ever had a picture taken, he was to stingy to pay for a photograph. Don't believe he has any money. Pritts is the father of 12 children."

* * *

DR. ENDER'S FULLED.

Before leaving Somerset the revenue officers paid a visit to Dr. Ender's rooms in the Baer Block. The Doctor denied that he was selling whisky but confessed that he had been selling a mixture of whiskey and snake root. One of the officers forced open the Doctor's trunk and produced a jug of "Sandpatch." The Doctor finally agreed to pay the Internal Revenue license—$25 and a penalty of $10 for the past year—and he was not arrested.

It is said by good legal authority that a strict compliance with the law requires every registered physician to write and keep a file of every prescription for liquor he may fill himself just the same as druggists to whom prescriptions are sent are compelled to file and keep them.

* * *

Rolla Hochstetler was in Somerset Monday and called at the jail. He thinks Pritts has gone west and says that Pritts had about $1,800 when he left home. Young Hochstetler employed W. H. Koontz to assist in the prosecution of the cases against "Seigle" and Pritts.

* * *

The rush of visitors to the county jail has become so great that Sheriff Good has been compelled to establish certain hours for their reception. Visitors will only be admitted to the jail between the hours of 11 and 12 A. M. and 1 and 2 P. M. on week days hereafter. Cards to this effect have been posted at the jail and court house. Wm. C. Miller or "General Seigle" as he is popularly known appears to be the chief attraction. The "General" is very fond of company, and as he is confined in the hospital ward of the prison by himself, the visits of the many persons who call help him to break the monotony of the long days. Miller is quite an intelligent man and expresses himself in very good language. He avoids talking about the killing of Hochstetler fully as much as he does about the moonshine business. He is well posted on all current events of the day and can make himself very entertaining.

The present spring has been so backward that Mrs. Kate B. Coffroth has decided to postpone her opening of Spring and Summer Hats until Tuesday and Wednesday, May 3d and 4th, on which dates she will place on exhibition the finest lot of millinery goods ever brought to Somerset county. Ladies are cordially invited to call on the dates named.

Wanted.

A good woman to take charge of Boys Department in the Home of the Friendless in Allegheny city, Pa. One who will interest herself, and be possessed of ability to govern and at the same time be kind to them. Apply to Mrs. Albert A. Horne, 37 Beach St., Allegheny City, Pa.

Look Here!

Would inform the progressive farmers of Somerset County that I am again in the field with a full line of Fertilizers, and my self or my agent will call to see you to solicit your orders for the coming season. My agents this season are S. B. Yoder, Pugh, Pa., Joseph Reiman, Stanton's Mills, Pa., W. H. Landis, Meyersdale, Pa., Solomon Davis, Normalville, Pa., and Peter Fink, Somerset, Pa., who is also delivering and shipping agent at Somerset, where goods will be kept in stock throughout the season.

I would thank all for their most liberal patronage during past seasons, and hope all will favor myself or my agents with your orders for both spring and fall crops.

Should we miss seeing you, just drop us a line early and you will have our very best attention.

On behalf of the

Susquehanna Fertiliser Co.,
A. J. KOSER,
Guernsey, Pa.

Rockwood Normal.

The spring term of the Rockwood Normal School will begin Monday, April 25. Tuition from $2 to $4 for the term of eight weeks.

G. M. BAKER,
Principal.

Remember you can find my marble and Granite works on Race Street, two squares south of Diamond.

W. F. SHAFFER, Somerset, Pa.

A Bargain in Clocks.

We have just received 100 Nickle alarm and time clocks that we will sell at the following low figures: $1.00 for the Alarm and 75 cents without the Alarm. Other goods at corresponding low figures

NEFF & CASEBEER,
Jewelers and Opticians.

At Home.

All who are interested in good housekeeping should examine the Cinderella Stoves and Ranges. The extra large and high oven embodied in their construction insures a good baker. Sold, guaranteed and recommended by Jas. B. Holderbaum, Somerset, Pa.

Timothy and Clover Seed.

First arrival of western seed now in.

MAHLON SCHRICK.

The Jr. O. U. A. M., of Friedens, will hold an open meeting on Saturday evening, April 23d. Prominent members of the order will be present and deliver addresses. All friends of the fraternity are invited to attend.

All the very newest shades in ribbons at Mrs. Kate B. Coffroth's.

Give your orders for cemetery work to W. F. SHAFFER.

Always Made the Stuff.

History of the Illicit Still in this Region.

So much has lately been said about "Moonshiners" and "Moonshine whiskey" by the press of the State, that a stranger would imagine the entire population of Somerset county was engaged in the distillation of "Mountain dew." The truth is that the operations of the "Moonshiners" are confined to a very narrow belt of territory on the eastern slope of the Laurel Hill range, and in the extreme western limits of the county, where they adjoin Fayette and Westmoreland. The region is very much like that occupied by their brethren of the illicit still in West Virginia, Kentucky, Tennessee and North Carolina, and is selected because of its almost impenetrable woods, its caves and ravines that promise safety to the "Moonshiner" from the prying eyes of spotters, detectives and revenue officers.

The "Moonshiners" are mostly small farmers, but make no pretensions to cultivating their barren acres, further than to raise a little rye. Whilst the people are wily and secretive so far as the "Moonshine" business is concerned, still they are not half so bad as they are painted. As a class they are intensely ignorant and live in the crudest, most primitive way.

Their homesjare built of rough, axe-hewn slabs, and they rarely contain more than one room; used for all household purposes. The loft is devoted to sleeping purposes. The only animals they raise are hogs fattened on the slops of the still. The principal food is rye bread and salt pork. Strangers seeking hospitality would be welcome if they had any thing to offer, but their larder is generally exhausted at the end of a day, and feed for a horse is unobtainable. In the valley at the foot of the mountains, the wayfarer finds the thrifty German farmer with his big red barns, whose hospitality is proverbial, presenting a startling contrast to the denizens of the mountain only a few miles away.

During the stirring days of the war, Jonathan C. Hochstetler came to this county from Washington county, near the West Virginia line, where he had been inducted into the mysteries of the "Moonshine" business. He located in the mountain two or three miles back of the now historic hamlet of Trent. Hochstetler was then a man of 25 years, a typical backwoodsman, but with a good deal of natural shrewdness. One of his first enterprises was to erect an illicit still; and the next was to establish the oath-bound fraternity called the "Freundschaft," every member of which was sworn to secrecy with a blood-curdling oath, and sprinkled with the regenerating dew of Hochstetler's illicit still. Hochstetler's example was followed till the mountain side was dotted with illicit stills, and every member of the "Freundschaft" owned one. The establishment of this society was soon noised among the farmers along the adjoining boarders of Fayette and Westmoreland, but they were all afraid of the "Moonshiners" and would not give them away. As the years passed by the "moonshiners" become bolder until there were places only a few miles from Somerset where a man could lay down a coin and a bottle, walk off and coming back in a little while would find his bottle miraculously filled with "dew."

Everything moved along smoothly until Miller and Hochstetler got into a quarrel and then there was a rupture all along the line. Miller was supplanting Hochstetler as a leader of the "Freundschaft." To get even the latter established another secret organization and named it the "New Constitution."

The constitution was drawn up in formal style; the articles were numbered and in one of them each member was bound to compass the death of any man whom Hochstetler designated as an enemy of the order. As to grammar and orthography it was a remarkable composition, and would make entertaining reading if a copy could be procured at this day. The members pretended to have no fears of local officials, but stood in mortal terror of U. S. Revenue officers, and to guard against any interruption of their illegal traffic, they established an elaborate system of pass-words and signals by which any threatened inroads on their secrecy could be rapidly passed from one house to another.

But Miller was too smart for Hochstetler and acquired such influence over these lawless people that Hochstetler became jealous of his power. This jealousy grew from day to day until it finally resulted in Hochstetler giving information to the government against Miller and others as illicit distillers, and Hochstetler's murder followed as a consequence of this action on his part.

But to go back to the beginning of the illicit making of whiskey in western Pennsylvania, we find that it dates almost with the establishment of the federal government. As early as 1780, untaxed whiskey seemed to have been made all through the counties of Washington, Fayette, Westmoreland and Bedford, (Somerset county had not then been organized.) The original settlers of this region seemed to labor under the delusion that rye was the only crop that could be produced in this high, cold latitude, and to make it marketable and profitable it was thought best to convert it into whiskey, as it was an easy matter to evade the collection of the tax which was then levied by the State.

The state law levying a tax on distilled spirits was repealed, and in 1791 Congress passed a general excise law, which was defied as the State law had been, and finally resulted in what is known in the history of the State as the "Whiskey Insurrection."

A man by the name of David Bradford came to Washington county in 1781, from Maryland; was admitted to the bar and afterward elected to the legislature, and become the leader in the war against the excise tax. Under his leadership the feeling of the opponents of the whiskey tax became so embittered that a force of some 8000 was mustered at Braddock's Field, by Bradford, in 1792, threatening to move on Pittsburgh and burn the town, because it was looked on as the headquarters of the excise men. Bradford did march his men to Pittsburgh, but they did nothing more than get drunk, set fire to the town hall and the house of one of its prominent men, and march on through.

The anti-excise people had now assumed so bold a front that Washington called for 15,000 troops, which were placed under the command of General Lee, ("Light Horse Harry,") and advanced as far as Bedford, where a consultation was held with the Pennsylvania authorities, and it was decided to allow the people of the counties of Washington, Allegheny, Westmoreland and Fayette to decide whether or not they should obey the laws and end all these troubles. A vote was taken in September, 1793, and the people decided by a large majority to hold out against the whiskey tax, although such men as Gallatin and Breckinridge counseled submission.

President Washington had now joined General Lee at Bedford, and he ordered the army to advance. Part of it marched through Somerset and camped at Mt. Pleasant; the other portion took the old Braddock route and went into camp at a ferry on the Monongahela river. In small parties the troops scoured the whole region. Those who were considered leaders were arrested, and when, near the close of the year, the insurgents were subdued, the troops returned and took a number of prisoners with them. Some of those men were tried at Philadelphia, but President Washington final'y pardoned all who were convicted. Thus ended the memorable "Whiskey Insurrection" in western Pennsylvania.

In Somerset county, the scene of the late "moonshine" murder, the illicit manufacture of whisky commenced before its organization out of part of Bedford county, and in certain portions, particularly in the region adjoining Fayette and Westmoreland, in the Laurel Hill range it has never ceased.

The first whisky still ever brought into Somerset county is believed to have been introduced by Robert Philson, who either sent to Ireland for it or brought it over with him when he emigrated. Philson was an Irishman at with all the brightness of his race. He set up his still at Berlin and supplemented his occupation as a maker of whisky by that of a peddler, making periodical trips to Carlisle, where he purchased his goods.

About this time a man by the name of Herman Husband reached this country. Husband was a man of unusual shrewdness as well as of some learning. He was a religious enthusiast and a man ready for any daring or unusual undertaking. He reached this country while seeking refuge from the emissaries of King George III. He had been captured by the British troops at Mecklenburg, N. C., and while on his way to Baltimore for trial, tied on the back of a horse, he made his escape and struck out for the mountains of Pennsylvania. When Husband got up into the wilderness here he found a trapper and squatter named Sparks. He and Sparks formed a friendship and with an eye to business they both made their long trip to Harrisburg, where they applied for and were granted a patent for this whole region.

About this time the excitement over the whisky or excise tax was spreading. Husband, who was known as "Tow-scape," on account of his escape from the troops on his way to Baltimore, at once became the prophet of the anti-excise men. Husband was a born leader and could sway these rough mountaineers by a gesture of his hand. Meetings for the discussion of the whisky tax were now being held here as they were all over this part of the state; and at these Husband was always the orator and leader. As an illustration of how high the feeling ran, Captain John Webster came to Somerset after the close of the Revolutionary war and opened a hotel. He was a very dignified old gentleman, but there was some doubt of his loyalty to the whisky men, and in those days every man had to show his colors; a mob collected in front of his house and demanded that he should define his position and was not satisfied until he cheered for "Tom the Tinker," the god of the anti-excise men.

The anti-excise excitement kept on growing until Washington and his forces arrived at Bedford in 1794. During this year one of the scouting parties of the government troops came to Berlin and went into barracks in an old house which is still pointed out. Here Philson was captured. As the troops marched on through Somerset, or near here, they captured "Tow scape" Husband. Both were afterwards taken to Philadelphia and tried and convicted as conspirators. Husband's health broke down in prison and he died there. By this time the "whisky insurrection" was quelled and Philson came back to Somerset county, and as an illustration that it was no disgrace to have taken part in the "insurrection" his fellow-citizens elected him to congress.

Although the "insurrection" was subdued the making of whisky has to a large extent been kept up in this region. Up until 1868 little grain except rye was raised on these stony mountain sides, and what was not made into bread was almost useless, as there was no market for it. To make it into whisky was considered the best thing for the palates and pockets of the people of that day. There was another reason for making it into whisky. Our mountains abound in springs of purest water, a thing indispensable to the making of good whisky.

Early in the century the tax on whisky was removed, and every well-to-do farmer considered a still a part of the appliances of the household. The ordinary retail price of whisky was then about 30 cents per gallon, and that allowed a good profit to the manufacturer. A bushel of rye was then worth about 40 cents and would make from three to four gallons of the whisky of that day. At this low price whiskey was found in almost every farm house. In the harvest field it flowed like water. Every country store had it for sale. When a customer made a purchase he was always asked to take a "nip." Of course with whisky so plenty and cheap a fondness for it was cultivated which has not been entirely outgrown, as shown by the vote in this county on the prohibitory amendment.

This open and general manufacture of whisky kept up until the United States revenue law went into effect in 1861. It was about this time that Jonathan C. Hochstetler organized the famous "Freundschaft" order.

The moonshiner's still is a very primitive affair. He generally locates it in some deep ravine, out of sight of prying eyes, or in the cellar of his cabin, through which a stream from a mountain spring flows. His greatest trouble is to conceal the smoke from his furnace, which has a habit of going skyward in great clouds.

The still in most cases is a common copper kettle, the kind found in almost every farm house, where it is used for boiling apple-butter, making soap, etc. A wooden dome-shaped cap is fitted tightly over the kettle, from the top of which comes the "worm," generally of copper. The "worm" is a coiled pipe, about an inch in diameter, which passes through a tub of cold water, thereby condensing the vapor generated by the boiling of the "mash." The "moonshiner," when he can't do better, takes an old gas pipe and filling it with sand, to prevent it from collapsing, twists it around a tree and makes a practical "worm." The rye intended for whisky is first chopped and then boiled with water, after the manner of making "mush." The "mash" is then put into a tub and a sufficient quantity of yeast added to cause fermentation, here it is permitted to ferment for from 48 to 72 hours at a certain temperature. The "moonshiner," lacking instruments, decides by the sense of taste when the "mash," or "beer," is ready for the still. It is then distilled and produces what is known as "singlings," or "low wines." The still is then washed and the "singlings" placed in it and redistilled. This produces "doublings," or "high wines," and, as in the case of the "beer," he decides when it is what he calls "whisky," a liquor of a little lower proof than marketable whisky. The "moonshiner's" mash is generally four bushels of rye chop, which will make about 30 gallons of "beer," and this when distilled will yield from 12 to 16 gallons of "mountain dew." Four bushels of rye produced on the "moonshiner's" own ground will probably cost him 30 cents per bushel, converted into 12 gallons of whisky and retailed at $1 per gallon, leaves him $10.80 cents profit for what is called a day's run.

But rye is not the only resource of the "moonshiner." When fruit is plentiful he falls back on it and makes fruit brandies. But the "moonshiner's" favorite "tipple" is "apple-jack." As the apple crop is seldom an entire failure in this region he rarely lacks a supply of cider for conversion into that old-time intoxicant.

The revenue officers say there are forty-one illicit stills in the Laurel Hill region, and of course so large a number make more whisky than the "moonshiners" themselves can consume, and the remainder has to be disposed of in some way. This is done by purchasing old whisky barrels from which the revenue stamps have been partially erased, and shipping it in that manner. Frequently it is disposed of in barrels purporting to contain vinegar, but it is principally hauled about the country in kegs and jugs; especially is this the case throughout the coke regions of Westmoreland and Fayette counties.

The "moonshiner" himself is a distinct genus. As a rule his ancestors for generations have lived in the mountains and his business is hereditary. His occupation makes him secretive and suspicious. He looks on every stranger as a spy and generally travels with a Winchester rifle or carbine as a companion. As a class they are ruggedly built, with little spare flesh, but a good supply of muscle. Their hair is long and ragged and they usually have bearded, unattractive faces. Their dress ordinarily consists of a long garment with a belted waist called a "hunting shirt." They wear rubber or cowhide boots, in which their pants are tucked, and generally have an outlandish look. Their wives seldom possess more than a flannel skirt and a calico dress; except in the bitterest weather, women and children go barefooted. All members of their families, down to the smallest child, have been taught to give evasive answers to questions from strangers. The men are too indolent to cultivate their own promising fields. They occasionally make a few shingles in winter, but prefer watching the still, fishing or hunting to any other employment. Their amusements consist in shooting matches, in which the prize is a turkey, or a game of cards played with a greasy old deck, as they sit guarding their stills as they put in their quiet work.

One of the most unique occupations of this region is that of the "spotter," who makes his precarious living by picking up such moonshiners as have a reward placed on their heads by the internal revenue department. He receives $50 for each illicit still captured. He generally