

BRIEF RESPIRE OF LIFE

HARRISBURG, Pa., Feb. 15.—When the Board of Pardons met this morning W. H. Sadler and J. H. Rothmel, presented a petition for a rehearing for Samuel Gresson, Berks county, sentenced to be hanged tomorrow with Mrs. Kate Edwards for complicity in murdering the woman's husband.

The petition recites that at the trial Mrs. Edwards swore falsely against Gresson, that she has confessed her testimony was false, that she was to be aided in securing commutation of the death sentence if she would testify against Gresson, and that he has not had a fair trial and a chance for life. It was also said that Mrs. Edwards confessed to her spiritual advisor that she had sworn falsely against Gresson.

Mr. Lentz, her counsel, asked that John H. Rothmel be heard as he wanted to urge a continuance of the Gresson case. Mr. Lentz himself presented petitions and letters sent to him in behalf of Mrs. Edwards.

Mr. Rothmel pleaded for a rehearing for Gresson on the strength of Mrs. Edwards' confession exonerating Gresson.

After a little more argument the board retired and after deliberating about 30 minutes continued the case of Mrs. Edwards.

A rehearing in the Gresson case was also granted. E. H. Deyeler told the story of the confession and asked for a continuance of the case. The death warrants will be withdrawn at once.

HIGH WATER EXPECTED

The great accumulation of snow along the Susquehanna Valley, however, has caused much grave apprehension among the people who reside along the banks of the river, for a flood is almost inevitable, unless the melt comes very gradual.

Already this winter the precipitation in rain and snow is greater than last winter's entire downfall.

There is considerable apprehension at the mines of their result that must follow a sudden thaw, or if the present snow and ice melt under the impulse of a continued rain. In such case the results must be most disastrous to the mining interests. The mountains are covered with ice and snow and some of the breaches are choked full of both, and should there be a sudden influx of water into the mines the result would be most disastrous, and it is doubtful whether there would be a mine in the entire region that would not be drowned out, and many of them perhaps for many weeks.

"We look upon the conditions as alarming," said a Reading official, "and are getting in shape for any emergency that may arise."

At the collieries orders have been issued to maintain the pumping machinery in best possible condition and everything in that direction is now being done. Water tanks are also being overhauled so that they will be ready for instant use if necessary. The mine cars are also being held in readiness so that the stock can be hoisted at the shortest possible notice should the emergency arise.

At some of the collieries a force of men has been organized and put to work on the troughs and ditches that carry the water around the mine breaches and every effort will be made to keep them in the best possible condition.

The coal market is so much depleted that any continued suspension of mining operations at this time would be felt in industrial lines all over the country, so that the necessity of taking every precaution is all the more important for this reason.

WILL SOON ORGANIZE

The last preliminary meeting, prior to the organization of a camp of Sons of Veterans in this city, will be held this evening between 7:30 and 9:30 o'clock, in G. A. R. Hall.

All sons and grand sons of veterans of the civil war are urged to be present, so that they can join the Camp as charter members. Go prepared to become identified with the organization, which is expected to be instituted on Thursday evening, February 23.

The object of the Sons of Veterans who camp fires burn in nearly every village, town and city in the United States, is two fold. It furnishes a home of their own to the sons and grand sons of the heroes who defended their country during the dark days of the great conflict between the North and the South, and it will give the old veterans a place to drop into when their ranks become too thin to maintain longer a rendezvous in which to meet their comrades in arms and relate their experiences during the war.

Already in many sections of the Union, this has occurred. Grand Army posts have been compelled to disband. Their membership became too small to longer keep up the organization and the doors of the post rooms were closed never to be opened again. Other posts will soon follow. In a few years none will live, except in memory. But when a Grand Army post passes from existence its few surviving members are not entirely without a place of shelter. Their sons and grand sons are looking after their welfare. By simply taking the obligation the old veterans can become members of a camp of Sons of Veterans and make their home with the boys. For this reason every town should have a camp, and it is to be hoped that every son and grandson of a veteran in Danville will join the Camp to be organized here over fifty have already signified their intention of becoming members.

LIFE'S PROBLEM IS HARD TO SOLVE

"Character Building," was the subject of the Rev. S. B. Evans' sermon at St. Paul's M. E. church Sunday morning. Basing his remarks on the words, "So then every one of us shall give an account of himself to God," he said in part:

Life is a problem, and very few, comparatively speaking, are successful in its solution. Many fail because they have no real desire to succeed; others when victory is almost in sight. It is not the work of a day, nor the work of a year, to solve the problem of life, but of many years. We shall either stand or fall by the work done in our life time, for we are building a structure that will outlive us. By it we shall be judged. There are vast differences of character springing up from every education, or constitutional peculiarities, which will modify, but not entirely eradicate. We must not expect or desire all good men to be alike, any more than we would have all the members of one family alike or all the flowers to be alike, Christ's church, like the meadows, or the star bedecked heavens above, owes its beauty in part to the variety in unity which marks all the works of God, and man's one of them. We are not all alike in character, but one thing is certain. Character of every man is a consolidated habit, and habit forms itself by repeated action. Habits are like foot paths beaten hard by the multitude of travellers who go to and fro. Think of the silent work which is going on in you. Do you think of the great structures which are going up in our great cities? There are none that are building so fast, and with so many hands as the structure of which you are the subject. There is not a thought that is not striking a blow; there is not an impulse that is not doing mason work; there is not a passion that is not the workman's thrust. God's word warns you to take heed how you build, for there will come a day of testing and full examination when all that has been done will be brought out, and you will be seen as you are. "Every man's work shall be tried whether it be good or bad."

MEETING OF POMONA GRANGE

The regular quarterly meeting of Pomona Grange was held in G. A. R. Hall yesterday. Two sessions were held and the attendance was large. The local grange was not only well represented, but there were members of six other granges of this district present, as well as a number of patrons from Columbia County.

The Grange favors the laying of double tracks across the new river bridge and also that rail tracks be used in the event that a trolley line crosses the bridge. A committee was appointed to appear before the County Commissioners and request that Board to insist upon the above.

The following resolution relative to the Rural Telephone enterprise was adopted:

"The farmer is constantly in need of quick communication with points a considerable distance from his home in other parts of the country, and in towns and cities, and the telephone is the only way in which this quick communication can be satisfactorily secured.

Country telephone systems owned by the people, have been established in some localities and are in successful operation.

Telephone stock companies are willing to contract for the connection of country systems with their lines. Therefore, be it resolved, by this Pomona Grange, that we urge the farmers of this district to encourage the establishment of a system of rural telephone lines and that we give our support to those who may present a fair plan for bringing this about."

The new plan of nitro-cultures was discussed.

H. R. Moore, secretary, reported 5.31 Myers, Fishel & Co. 4.83 Remington Typewriter Co. 3.80 H. G. Salmon 2.75 Danville Stove & Mfg. Co. 4.30 H. F. Esterbrook 2.60 U. S. Express Co. .90

It was also decided to hold the next quarterly meeting of Pomona Grange at Exchange on the last Wednesday in May.

SCHOOL BOARD IN SESSION

The School Board met in regular session Monday, with the following members in attendance: Harpel, Adams, Trumbower, Boras, Porsell, Haring, Fischer, Werkeiser, Jacobs, Greene and Von Blohm.

In the absence of Secretary Orth, Superintendent Gordy was elected Secretary pro tem. The minutes of the last meeting were read and approved.

Mr. Adams, Chairman of the Finance Committee reported \$5,333 in the hands of the Treasurer. He also stated that tax collector Peters had assured him a few days ago, that he would be prepared to turn over to the Treasurer \$1,000 within a month.

Mr. Fischer, Chairman of the Building and Repairs Committee, was authorized to purchase a bell rope for the Third Ward school building.

Mr. Porsell reported that the registers had been placed in the Third Ward school building.

Then followed, for over an hour, an oral debate on the matter of corporal punishment.

Superintendent Gordy reported the number of pupils in attendance the past month, 1,201; number tardy, 891, number sick, 304. He then gave a brief report of the State Educational Convention held at Harrisburg, last week, and the report was accepted as read.

Mr. Jacobs, a delegate from Montour county to the same Convention, also read an interesting report of the proceedings of the Convention, at the conclusion of which he was tendered a vote of thanks by the Board.

The following bills were ordered paid:

- Standard Gas Co. \$5.45
- H. R. Moore 5.31
- Myers, Fishel & Co. 4.83
- Remington Typewriter Co. 3.80
- H. G. Salmon 2.75
- Danville Stove & Mfg. Co. 4.30
- H. F. Esterbrook 2.60
- U. S. Express Co. .90

Death of Jane Ann Lovett.
Mrs. Jane Ann Lovett, wife of George Lovett, died at her home, 112 Lower Mulberry street, Monday afternoon, at 3:30 o'clock, aged fifty-two years. Death was due to a complication of diseases.

Prior to her marriage Mrs. Lovett was Miss Jane Ann Goid, daughter of Edward Goid, of London, England, which is, also, Mr. Lovett's native country. In early life the young people met, and subsequently became betrothed. With the understanding that he was to send for Miss Goid when he was prepared to receive her and make her his wife, Mr. Lovett sailed for America, 35 years ago, and located in Danville. Three years later he kept the promise made to Miss Goid on the eve of his departure from England, by sending for her and leading her to the altar. She arrived in Danville during the day, and in the evening the wedding took place in the Episcopal church.

The deceased enjoyed a wide acquaintance and was held in high esteem by all who knew her. She is survived by her husband and the following children: Edward and Joseph Lovett, Miss Anna and Alice Lovett and Mrs. Rufus Gulliver, of Danville, and Mrs. William Heilmiller, of Bloomsburg. The funeral (private) will take place from the family residence, Thursday afternoon at 2 o'clock. Interment in Odd Fellows' cemetery.

OLD RESIDENT'S HORRIBLE DEATH

Henry Thomas, an inmate of the Valley township poor house met a horrible death early Sunday morning by being burned by an overturned kerosene lamp.

Mr. Thomas was a cripple and has been an inmate of the poor house for a number of years. He had always shown himself to be trustworthy and was allowed to have a lamp burning in his room at night. He had been repeatedly cautioned, however, not under any condition, to touch the lamp.

Saturday evening the steward and his wife, Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Van Dine, were away from home and upon returning late at night looked into Mr. Thomas' room and found everything in order, with the lamp burning as usual upon a high bureau. They retired, but were awakened about 5 o'clock Sunday morning by the odor of smoke, and hastily making an examination of the house found the flames emanating from Mr. Thomas' room. Upon opening the door they saw the unfortunate man lying on the floor almost enveloped in the flames. Water was dashed upon him and the fire extinguished, but he was already beyond human help. The man's face and head were horribly burned, and not a spark of life left in his body. Near him was the lamp, and in a corner of the room lay the globe. It was evident that he had either turned the wick too high, or had allowed the lamp to slip from his grasp.

Mr. Van Dine called poor directors David D. Wise and Henry Wintersten to the scene of the accident. Dr. Wintersten was also summoned. It was clearly manifest that there were no signs of violence, and even the lamp globe was unbroken which precluded any supposition that Mr. Thomas had been overcome while carrying the lamp.

The deceased was 80 years of age, and is survived by six sons, William, George B., and Andrew of this city; Joseph and Frank of Berwick; and John of Tyrone.

FOOTWALK MAY BE DELAYED

Upon the completion of the heavy work of the bridge, the general expectations were that the Horseheads Construction Company would be in a position to at once begin building the foot walks, so that pedestrians would be afforded a way of crossing the river. The people of South Danville were especially interested in that portion of the work being pushed through as rapidly as possible, and are now much concerned about the matter, fearing that considerable time must elapse yet before a way is provided for them to get across the bridge.

Appearances indicate that their fears are well grounded. Very little of the material necessary for the construction of the walks is here. Consequently until it comes, the sub-contractors will be unable to proceed with the foot-walks. How long they will have to wait cannot be stated. The matter is an important one, and should be looked into.

If several weeks must intervene between the present and the time that work will even be commenced upon the walks to say nothing of the date of their probable completion, some steps should be taken looking to the establishment of a crossing over the bridge, other than the proposed foot-walk. It seems as though a temporary footwalk of some description, could be constructed to serve until the permanent ones are built. At least it would result in no harm, if the county authorities would approach the Horseheads Construction Company on the subject, and ask if such a passageway could not be secured. Under the circumstances there is little doubt but that the request would be granted.

February is rapidly passing. March will soon be here with her winds and warm sunshine. The ice bridge cannot possibly last many days longer, and before a break-up occurs, before the citizens of South Danville are again cut off from Danville, let some way be provided for them to cross the bridge.

A New Voting Machine.

Mr. J. W. H. Doeber, of Milton, is the inventor of a new voting machine. It is a very simple yet thoroughly accurate device, which enables the voter to record his choice for the several offices to be filled at any election either by voting a straight ticket, or splitting it to suit his desire. It is so arranged that you cannot vote for more than one candidate for the same office, except for commissioner, auditor, member of the legislature, etc., where provision is made for registering two or more votes as may be required. When the voter opens the door to go out of the booth the vote is registered and counted and the job is done. When the polls close all that is necessary to get the totals is to open the top and take them down. He has made application for a patent.

Under Southern Skies.

When Lottie Blair Parker wrote "Way Down East," managers predicted a great future for her, but most of the "wise ones" thought Mrs. Parker reduced all that she possessed and could never equal this play. Mrs. Parker, who is a very shrewd business woman, thought of that old maxim "say nothing but saw wood." She saw, and acted, and when finished turned out "Under Southern Skies," which duplicated the success of her former effort, and is considered by many a bigger success. Mrs. Parker laughed at the prophets who said she "produced all she possessed" in her first big success.

Feed the Birds, Squirrels and Rabbits.

This paper has before called the attention of its readers, particularly those in the suburbs and country, to the great suffering the winter entails on the game birds, the rabbits, squirrels and other animals useful as food, and which should be sheltered and fed as far as possible. The forest fires and the denuding of the forests for timber have deprived the denizens of the woods of their usual places of shelter, and food, and when heavy snows come and extremely cold weather, they perish by the hundreds, in fact more die from famine than are killed by the hunters. In this week's papers we read from various sections of the state that rabbits have been found by farmers starved to death, numerous coveys of quail have been discovered frozen at the corners of fence posts. Almost every farmer who comes to town brings stories of large numbers of rabbits and flocks of partridges that have been found starved and frozen to death. Owing to the failure of the nut crop squirrels have been almost totally deprived of their natural food, and wood choppers report that when they cut down trees and uncover squirrel nests that they have not discovered the little store houses filled with nuts and acorns, which these busy animals in former years were always able to provide.

High Wind Stops Work.

The bridgemen were again compelled to quit work yesterday afternoon on account of the weather. During the morning they made considerable progress. All the stringers were put in place and fastened to the girders and four arch pieces raised on each side of the span.

Operations were not suspended so much on account of the cold as the strong gale which suddenly swooped down upon the workmen, and made it difficult to handle the heavy iron. The indications are that the backbone of winter will not be broken for some time to come and the last span of the bridge having reached a point that makes it practically safe and in a shape that in case of anticipated trouble, it could be forced to completion in a short time, the men are not under the necessity of pushing things as they did while building the other spans. They can rest occasionally, without the fear of the ice going out before they get through.

Celebrate the Occasion.

The people of Danville and South Danville are beginning to feel jubilant. The cause thereof is the early completion of the new bridge. Already the matter of having a big celebration when the structure is completed is being talked about. One of the leading secret societies in Danville, it is said, introduced and discussed the subject at some length at a regular meeting, recently. While it was too early at that time to think of taking any action in the matter, the expressions of the members present were in favor of the movement, and the association will likely be heard from later.

And why not a celebration? The citizens of this community, have been without a bridge long enough to "rejoice and be exceedingly glad" when the new structure is read for use.

Joshua Simpkins.

"Joshua Simpkins," a rural comedy drama which has been presented continuously for several seasons on the road, will play an engagement in this city next Saturday night. "Joshua Simpkins" is a comedy drama, well acted by a company said to possess more than ordinary merit. In addition to which several pleasing specialties are introduced. A complete orchestra composed of professional musicians discourses incidental music, which assists to make the play the success it is. This feature is claimed by the management to be gilt edged, and, it is said, far exceeds the usual orchestra by theatrical companies. Their fine band will give a burlesque parade about noon on the day of the engagement.

Law to be Enforced.

The dumping of coal ashes on the streets of the borough has become such a nuisance that the matter is being looked after by Street Commissioner Miller, who will arrest and impose fines on the offenders if they continue to violate the Borough ordinance.

Commissioner Miller is only performing his duty, and the provisions of the ordinance relative to this nuisance should be rigidly enforced. How misdemeanors and ponnies are the ways and actions of some people. The State Assembly has enacted laws empowering the authorities of municipalities, to frame ordinances that will protect their thoroughfares and the health and lives of the people residing under their jurisdiction. The same Assembly has made laws, the violation of which make the offenders guilty of a misdemeanor and subjects them to punishment. A little consideration of the matter would convince many people that they are not only endangering the health and safety of their neighbors, but themselves and their children as well. It takes only a small ash pile to cause a big accident some times. Besides that it is a nuisance in many other respects.

Funeral of Henry Thomas.

The funeral of Henry Thomas, who was burned to death in the Valley township poor house last Sunday morning, occurred Tuesday afternoon. Services were held at the home of his son, Andrew J. Thomas, First street, Rev. G. E. Lambert, pastor of Shiloh Reformed church, officiating. The pall bearers were: Henry Shutt, John Bookmiller, John Hale and Jacob Hort. The out of town relatives in attendance were: Joseph Thomas, of Berwick and Christian Thomas, of Espy.

Funeral of Mrs. Smidley.

The funeral of Mrs. Nettie, wife of Charles Smidley, occurred from the family residence, 20 Hemlock street, Sunday afternoon, at 4 o'clock, the Rev. N. E. Cleaver, pastor of the Trinity M. E. church, officiating. Interment was made in Odd Fellows cemetery. The pall bearers were Daniel Adams, Joseph Shepherd, Robert Williams, Barton Lloyd, Millard Cook and Edward Gibson. Among the friends from out of town were Mr. and Mrs. Edward Robinson, of Strasburg and Fred Smidley, Pottsville.

Hotel Opened.

The Old Oak Tree hotel, Valley township, Samuel K. Antrim, proprietor, was formally opened to the public Tuesday evening in an elaborate manner. A bountiful supper was served, consisting of all the delicacies the market afforded. There was a large attendance from all sections of the surrounding country. Danville was largely represented.

Coming Wedding.

Invitations were received in this city yesterday for the wedding of Lieutenant Samuel V. McClure of Tucson, Arizona, to Miss Mabel Kailoch of Ocean Park, California. The ceremony will take place at the Church of the Good Shepherd, Ocean Park, California, Saturday evening, February 25th at 8 o'clock. Lieutenant McClure is a son of John McClure of this city.

Danville Prohibition League.

A public meeting of the Danville Prohibition League will be held at the United Evangelical church this evening at 7:30 o'clock. All members are requested to attend. The general public is invited. An interesting program will be rendered.

Firemen to Convene.

At a meeting to be held in the near future, arrangements will be made for the twenty-sixth annual convention of the Firemen's State Association. It will be held in Scanton.

Delegations from all over the state will be in attendance and from all indications it will be the largest yet held.

The firemen intend making the event an historic one and will entertain the guests royally.

To Succeed Mr. Cripps.

Thomas E. Williams of this city, has been appointed to fill the vacancy at the State Hospital gas works, caused by the death of William Cripps. Yesterday Mr. Williams moved his family into house of the asylum grounds, recently occupied by Mr. Cripps.

Court Decisions Nomination Void.

In a decision handed down by Judge Little, at Bloomsburg, Monday, the nominations made at the Citizens' caucus, are declared null and void, and the county commissioners are restrained from printing the names of the nominees for municipal offices on the official ballot. A few of the nominees took out nomination papers, anticipating the Court's decision.

Chappell-Phillips.

George B. Chappell and Miss Stella E. Millheim, of near Danville, were united in marriage at the parsonage of the United Evangelical church, Tuesday evening, February 7, at 8 o'clock, by Rev. E. B. Dunn.

Marshall-Ranck.

Edward T. Marshall and Miss Catharine Ranck, of this city, were united in marriage on Saturday evening at 8 o'clock by Rev. E. B. Dunn, at the parsonage of the United Evangelical church.

Appointed Clerk.

E. W. Young, janitor at the Court House, Subury, has been appointed to a clerkship in the Commissioners' office and assumed his new duties yesterday morning. S. P. Bright has been appointed janitor to succeed Mr. Young. Mr. Young was a former South Danville resident.

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Midshipman Pegg Has Retired.

Midshipman Elliot Morgan Pegg, who was graduated from the United States Naval Academy at Annapolis, January 30th, and who then came to this city to await orders to proceed to sea duty, has tendered his resignation to the Secretary of the Navy.

On the final physical examination the young Midshipman failed to pass normal on sight, but the Navy Department decided to permit him to take the two years cruise which follows graduation, stipulating, however, that if at the end of the cruise he should fail to pass on sight, he would not be given his commission.

Mr. Pegg subsequently consulted one of the eminent oculists of Philadelphia, who, after a patient and thorough examination extending over several days declared that the Midshipman would never be able to pass normal on a sight examination. His resignation followed.

A Matter of Health.

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HAS NO SUBSTITUTE

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