

Republican News Item

F. L. TAYLOR, LESSEE.
B. M. VANDYKE, EDITOR.

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What The Comet May Do.

The approach of Halley's comet seems to be regarded with mingled feelings. The superstitious are worrying without cause over the dreadful things they expect will happen when that aerial facsimile of Barnum's "Whitist" swipes us with its stem end, forgetting that nothing has ever happened from its former visits nor from those of any other comet. Scientists naturally anticipate its coming with scientific interest in the hope that some light may be shed upon the movements and constituents of these mysterious visitors. Then, again, there are others who assert that the celestial wanderer will bring to the world any amount of good.

We read, for instance, of a professor (they are always professors) who says that the star dust emitted by the comet's tail, when it envelops the earth, will clarify the minds of men, lead them to higher thought, and set us all studying the signs of the zodiac. Imagine all Laporte out star-gazing on a night like some of those not far past, when man's footpath was rendered precarious by its icy covering. We believe terrestrial stars caused by the impact of unlucky gazers against the slippery thorefare, would be quite numerous.

We are not much interested in the zodiacal chart, but we welcome anything that will clarify the mind and lead to loftier thinking, and we could use some of that dust to snuff up into our own think tank.

Our lawmakers, who now so frequently seem to be befogged, will be able to think and act with infallible clearness, and never again will they be in doubt as to the constitutionality of any measure before congress or a state legislature. The whole puzzle of high prices will be solved, and every mind, whatever its former benighted state will become so luminous as to clearly understand the workings of the tariff. It is even possible that it may so affect the minds of some

witnesses in beef, sugar and other trials, that the unfortunate lapse of memory from which they now suffer, may be entirely overcome and every detail of past shady transactions remembered and recounted. And then there's—but if we keep on supposing, we will have no space left for our correspondence. Suffice to say: If Halley's comet will only do these things, it has our permission to switch its dusty appendage in our face till Kingdom come.

On a Farm Eighty Years Ago.

The writer, when a little boy, went to his father's meadow in haying time where his father and three hired men had been mowing and were then whetting their scythes. "Who mowed this awful looking swath?" inquired the little boy, pointing to one on which the stubble was cut in ridges resembling stairs. "Your father!" answered Jason Horton, one of the men, in a tone which showed he was glad the poorest mower in the company was the boss. The boy was considerably disconcerted and plainly showed it. He had condemned his father's mowing incautiously, not knowing that it was his. Like most little boys he had believed that everything his father did was right, and now it appeared that he was a poor mower, and that his son had told him so. The little fellow was troubled but his father cheered him by quietly saying: "Yes, they can all beat me, but you must learn to be a better mower than I am."

I remembered the admonition and when I commenced mowing kept the heel of my scythe down level with the point, and cut a smooth, level swath.

Scythes were kept in all the stores, of different lengths, and they did not differ from those in use now in shape or temper. For stumpy meadows the shortest were preferable. My father's meadow being free from stumps, the longest scythes having more cutting edge, cut easier and could cut a wider swath.

In regard to snaths, there were none for sale anywhere, and every man made his own, with as much bend or as little as he saw fit. My father's was of ash, steamed and bent by himself as he bent his ox yoke bows. His three mowers had natural crooks which they had hunted up in the woods—one being a big laurel bush. It was not until a number of years after this that we heard of the "patent" scythe snath. They were first manufactured on an extensive scale in Massachusetts, by a man named Lampson. He was not a Yankee as we would naturally expect, but a Jew, with a beard as long as the old patriarchs of Old Testament times, as pictured in the family Bibles. The mown grain was spread with pitch-forks, and raked with hand rakes. We did not hear of any horse-rakes until some time after the advent of the patent snaths.

CASTELAR.

ESTELLA.

Merton McCarty and Harry Webster are working on A. T. Mulnix' saw mill.

Mabel McCarty has returned from Williamsport, where she has been for some time.

Center School was the first to be closed for the term. Harry Kuns was teacher.

Miss Yaw of Big Bottom was in this place Sunday.

The Odd Fellows contemplate a shad supper in the near future.

Edith Edler who has been at Bernice for some time is again at her home.

Jerry Davidson and wife are on the sick list.

Mrs. David Boyles of Bear Mountain, visited her brother, U. G. Little, last week Thursday.

A. J. Hackley and wife are in Susquehanna county, called there by the sickness and death of the lady's mother, Mrs. Susan Messenger.

SHERIFF BROWN NABS DESERTER.

Taken Into Custody While Attending a Party Near Sonestown.

Williamsport News.
Sheriff Judson Brown on Saturday night took into custody Warren E. Purcell, charged with being a deserter from the regular army. The man had for about a week been stopping at a Sonestown hotel registering under an assumed name and claiming to be a detective in the employ of the government. On Saturday night Sheriff Brown drove to Sonestown to apprehend him, but was told he had gone to the home of Jonathan Ritchie, some distance up the mountain, to attend a maple sugar party. The night being very dark, the sheriff secured the services of Constable J. W. Laird, who accompanied him to the Ritchie home, where Purcell was found in the uniform of a private of the United States Army.

When confronted by the officers he admitted his identity, and after being relieved of his weapons he was brought to Laporte and at midnight placed in the county bastille. The sheriff at once got into communication with the adjutant general of the army and expects to deliver his prisoner to the military authorities of the general government at New York City.

Purcell enlisted in Co. E, 13th Infantry of the United States army on Nov. 17, 1908, and is reported to have deserted from Fort Leavenworth, Kansas, on Feb. 12, 1910. Fugitives from justice will do well to give Sheriff Brown's bailiwick a wide berth.

LATER.
Sheriff Brown, accompanied by DeWitt Scudder of Kenneth Square who has been staying in Laporte for some time, left for Fort Porter, Buffalo, N. Y., Thursday morning, where they will deliver the prisoner to the military authorities.

Sheriff's Sale.

By virtue of sundry writs of Fieri Facias issued out of the Court of Common Pleas of Sullivan County, Pa., to me directed and delivered, there will be exposed at public sale, at the Court House in the Borough of Laporte, Pa., on Friday, April 8, 1910, at two o'clock p. m., the following described property, to wit:

The undivided, one-half interest in all those two certain lots, pieces or parcels of land, situate in the Borough of Eagles Mere, County of Sullivan, State of Pennsylvania, bounded and described as follows:

LOT NO. 1. Situated in Eagles Mere Borough, Sullivan County, Pa., at the southwest corner of Alleghany Avenue and LaPorte Avenue, containing in front on Alleghany Avenue, westwardly, one hundred sixty-seven and one-half (167½) feet to the easterly side of Fern Alley and extending in length or depth, southwardly, of that width, between the easterly side of Fern Alley and the westerly line of LaPorte Avenue, one hundred and fifty (150) feet.

The above lot is improved and has erected thereon a large hotel building known as "Hotel Alleghany," the same being a licensed hotel. Said hotel is about seventy-five by ninety feet, three stories high and contains all modern conveniences. An annex, twenty by twenty-four feet, contains the bar-room and all necessary fixtures. There is a good well upon the property. The buildings are in good condition and the grounds attractive.

This lot and improvements are sold subject to the lien of a certain mortgage amounting, with interest, to about \$4,250. Said mortgage is fully recorded in the office of the Recorder of Deeds, at Laporte, Pa., in Mortgage Book Vol. 3, page 387.

LOT NO. 2. BEGINNING at the southeast corner of lot No. 7, of the plan or plot of Eagles Mere, as shown by map of Gamble's Addition on plot made by William A. Mason showing the allotments of Eagles Mere, at a point on the westerly side of LaPorte Avenue; thence westerly along line of said lot No. 7, one hundred sixty-seven and one-half (167½) feet to the east line of Fern Alley; thence northerly, along the east line of Fern Alley, to the south line of Lot No. 1, as above described; thence along the southerly line of said Lot No. 1, above described, eastwardly, one hundred sixty-seven and one-half (167½) feet, to the west line of LaPorte Avenue; thence southerly along the west line of LaPorte Avenue, to the place of beginning. Being lots Nos. 7 and 5 of said Gamble's Addition to Eagles Mere.

The defendant's half interest in the last mentioned lot is to be sold subject to the restrictions contained in the deed of James M. Gamble and wife to Peale and Dickson, dated Oct. 4, 1886, recorded in Sullivan County, in Deed Book Vol. 19, page 586, to which reference can be had.

The half interest in the above mentioned lots is seized, taken into execution and to be sold as the property of W. H. Van Buskirk, at the suit of Fred W. Peale.

JUDSON BROWN, Sheriff.
Sheriff's Office, Laporte, Pa.,
March 14, 1910. Meylert, Attorney.

FIREMEN DISCOVER A TRIPLE KILLING

Called to a Blaze in New York House Find Father Shot Two Sons and Himself

A VICTIM OF MELANCHOLIA

Herman H. Moritz, Real Estate Man, Corners, Clubs and Shoots His Two Boys Before Suicide — Outbreak Climax of Melancholia.

New York, N. Y., Mar. 15.—Herman H. Moritz, a retired real estate dealer, whose home was in No. 2210 Aqueduct avenue, The Bronx, sent his wife and servant away from home, shot his two sons to death, set fire to the house and then killed himself. Before he sent a bullet into his own brain he left the house, saw to it that a fire alarm was turned in and then returned to his home and killed himself. The firemen were forced to push his body aside to get the front door open. The man had been suffering from melancholia longer than a year, and his condition had become much worse in the last week. Nothing had been said by him up to the time of the shooting.

The family was wealthy and each of the slain boys would have received from the estates of their mother and grandfather about \$250,000.

The victims were George, 17 years old, a student in the Bordentown Military Academy, in New Jersey, who died in his school uniform after he had been shot three times as he crouched in a closet in a bedroom, and Walter, 12 years old, who was chased by the maniac from the second floor to the cellar and shot down near a coalbin behind which he had tried to screen himself. It was not until the firemen had extinguished the blaze which the crazed man had kindled that any one had any idea Moritz had murdered his two sons. The body of George fell out of the closet when they opened the door to see if any traces of fire could be discovered there.

Before Moritz did the shooting he took both his boys out for a long walk, which they enjoyed exceedingly, having no idea their father in sending their stepmother and the servant away merely was clearing the way for murdering them and killing himself.

Mrs. Anna Moritz, the wife, who had gone to Englewood, N. J., at the request of her crazed husband, was informed there of the triple tragedy. She returned hurriedly to New York, and is prostrated in the home of friends in The Bronx. Borough President Miller of The Bronx, who was counsel for Moritz and guardian of his two boys, took charge of the Moritz home.

Moritz retired from the real estate business four or five years ago, after having prospered. He owned, among other properties, the three-story frame house in which the tragedy took place.

NORDMONT.

Mrs. H. D. Williams entertained a number of ladies at her home on Wednesday of last week. Her guests were: Mesdames H. C. Hess, G. M. Fiester, W. B. Hazen, Gerhart Hess and Lloyd Fairman.

M. C. Peters, wife and son, Kenneth of Picture Rocks, are visiting his parents at this place.

H. C. Hess and family visited relatives in Sonestown over Sunday.

James Miller of Muncy Valley was a caller in town Tuesday.

Madge Gritman his returned home after spending the winter at Powell.

Ernest Botsford visited his parents at Palmyra, N. Y., last week.

Cecil Botsford visited friends in Sonestown over Sunday.

Harry Lloyd of Montgomery was the guest of his uncle, Harvey Armes, last week.

Mrs. Harry Smythe has returned home after a two weeks' visit with her sister in Harrisburg.

W. B. Hazen and wife and Mrs. Thomas Laird attended the funeral of Mr. Simmons at Sonestown last Thursday.

MUNCY VALLEY.

Rev. Ruth and wife went to York Tuesday to attend Conference.

Brady Houseknecht transacted business in Williamsport Saturday.

Mortie and Josephine Houseknecht and Pearle Jillson spent Sunday in Eaglesmere.

Smith Boudman and wife of Sonestown, called on relatives here Friday evening.

James Miller and Leo Moran attended the spelling contest at Laporte Wednesday evening.

THE LEADING RETAIL STORE OF N. E. PENN'A.

Fowler, Dick & Walker announce that their New Catalogue of Fashionable Garments for Spring and Summer of 1910 is now ready. A copy of this Style Book will be mailed Free upon application.

FWLLER, DICK & WALKER,
BOSTON STORE. South Main St., Wilkes-Barre, Pa.

HILLSGROVE.

Mrs. Till Meyer of Mawr Glen spent part of last week with John Speaker and family.

Buras Woodley who was operated on at the Williamsport hospital recently has returned home much improved.

Jacob Caseman had the misfortune to fall down cellar Thursday day of last week fracturing his shoulder and one limb. Dr. Mervine reduced the fractures.

Miss Lilzie Litzelman has returned to her position in the Donaldson Sanitarium in Williamsport.

Administrator's Notice.

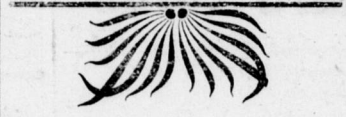
Letters of administration on the estate of Albert S. White, late of Davidson township, Sullivan County, Pennsylvania, having been granted to the undersigned, all persons indebted to the said estate are requested to make payment, and those having claims, to present the same without delay, to

Mrs. Sibyl Hallstead,
R. D. 1, Sonestown, Pa.
Administratrix of Albert S. White,
deceased. Feb. 23, 1910. 4016

3 CENTS A LINE ADS.

FOR SALE—A team weighing about 2,000 lbs. Broke single or double. Sell separate or together. Inquire of G. S. Eddy, Laporte, Pa.

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	100 lbs.
Oil Meal	\$2.20
Gluten	1.75
Corn Meal	1.40
Crackin Corn	1.40
Corn	1.40
Best Muncy Midds.	1.60
Brown Midds.	1.55
Buckwheat Midds.	1.15
Oyster Shells	.60
Wheat Bran	1.50
Schumacher Chop	1.50
100 lb Buckwheat Flour	2.40
Lump Salt	.75
Eeef Scrap	3.00
Meat Meal	2.50
140 lb bag Salt	.60
56 lb bag Salt	.30
56 lb bag Packing Rock Salt	.40
Silumacher Flour sack	1.55
Marvel	1.75
Muncy	1.50
24 lb sack Schu. Table Meal	.60
10 lb "	.25
Veal calves wanted every week on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday.	
Live fowls and chickens wanted every Wednesday.	
Light pork wanted at highest market price.	

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