

The Fulton County News.

VOLUME 1.

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NUMBER 31.

FORT LITTLETON.

Reliable Data About Fulton County's Historic Fort,

BUILT IN THE YEAR 1756.

The following is taken from the "Frontier Forts of Pennsylvania, and will be read with interest by many of our subscribers:

Fort Littleton, or Littleton. This fort was established by Governor Morris in 1756 at Sugar Camps, upon the new road, called Fort Littleton. It is about twenty miles south of Fort Shiloh, at Aughwick. It was built in regular form, so that by little work it could be made to resist a cannon, and was within sixteen miles of another fort in Maryland. This fort was during the French and Indian war, a conspicuous frontier post, and occasionally a strong garrison was stationed here to protect the settlers and prevent the hostile incursion of the Indians to the interior. In April, 1756, the people had all fled from this neighborhood.

Elisha Salter, an officer, wrote Governor Morris from Carlisle, April 5, 1756: "Upon my arrival here I found the people in the greatest confusion, the troops abandoning the forts and the country people gathering in the greatest consternation."

General Amherst says, June 25, 1763: "I find Mr. Croghan has very judiciously engaged twenty-five men to garrison Fort Littleton, and I make no doubt but the Province will readily defray the expense of those men, so long as it may be judged necessary to continue them."

Colonel Armstrong says, November 11, 1756, that he was obliged to send 100 men to take some cattle to Fort Littleton. This was one of four forts which were to remain garrisoned over Susquehanna with two companies. October 17, 1757, Captain Hamilton is at Fort Littleton settling with and paying off his men.

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CLEARFIELD, PA.

April 14, 1900.

To the editor of The Fulton County News.

DEAR SIR:—Can you find room in your paper for a short sketch of our town, Clearfield? If you can't, please let it go into the waste basket. We have a number of public works in the county and town of Clearfield. We have one machine shop, one tannery, two small planing mills, one toy factory, and three brickyards. The machine shop gives employment to about sixty men. It runs day and night at full capacity. The tannery gives employment to seventy-five men, the toy factory to 125; brickyard No. 1, to 80; brickyard No. 2, 150, and brickyard No. 4, to 600 men.

There has been quite a demand for brickyard men. Several Fulton county men have come here to the town of Clearfield to get work. Those that I know are Wm. H. Lake and family, H. L. Garland and family, Milton Hill and family, Hays Morgret and family, Wm. Morgret and family, Sylvester Truax, Nathan Spade and Albert Sipes—all of the above named men have good jobs, and plenty of work. It has been told here that the news was sent back to Fulton county that Henry L. Garland and son Arlie were thrown out of a job. I am happy to say it is not the case. If a Fulton county man comes here to work, he has no trouble to get it, if he is the right stripe; and I am glad to say all that have come are of that stripe.

I want to say a word in behalf of my right hand man—one from your county whose name I will not mention; but he stands among the best men that ever put the toy factory harness on. The farmers here are getting good. It is quite sickly here this spring. I will give you some prices of staples: Flour per 50 pound sack, \$1.15; potatoes, 50 cents a bushel; butter, 30 cents a pound, and eggs 18 cents a dozen.

We had a visit from our old friend P. N. Ronyan. We were truly glad to have him come and see us. Come again P. N., you are always welcome. A FORMER FULTON COUNTY BOY.

WILLIAM TOBIAS COVER.

William Tobias Cover, youngest child of Charles A. and Phoebe Cover, died April 9, 1900, at the residence of his grand-parents, Mr. and Mrs. Wm. E. Charlton, at Warfordsburg, Pa., aged one year, six months and twenty-six days. Funeral services were conducted at the Presbyterian church, April 11th, by the Rev. J. C. Koon, of St. Thomas P. E. church, Hancock, Md. This child became ill at the home of its parents in Covington, Va., about the middle of January, and for a number of weeks, it was doubtful about its recovery; but it finally rallied, and the family physician advised a change of climate. Three weeks ago, it was brought to Warfordsburg; but the disease had obtained too firm a hold upon its delicate body, and its gentle spirit was wafted to Him who said, "Suffer little children to come unto me." The patience and endurance which this little one manifested during its long illness, was pathetic in the extreme, and could be well emulated by those of greater years.

Those ebrieties with their smiling eyes, That crown of pain which never dies, Are but the types of "There above."

EASTER SURPRISE.

A pleasant Easter party took Mr. Elroy Sipes, Sr. by surprise at his home in Licking Creek township, on Monday April 16, 1900. Repeatedly, Mr. Sipes had declared he could not be "caught napping." Therefore the family took him at his word and planned the present party.

At the appointed time, children, relatives, and friends gathered at a neighbor's house, formed into a procession, and marched in, like an invading army, and took brother Sipes entirely by surprise.

Provisions were brought in abundance, and stops were taken for a grand dinner.

While the ladies prepared the meal, the male portion betook themselves to sports, such as pitching horse shoes, ball playing, and other games.

At the hour of high noon, word was sent out that "all things were now ready," and those that were bidden, filed in.

About fifty were present and enjoyed the repast. The occasion was very joyous and fitting Easter season. Middle of the afternoon, the party adjourned, leaving a number of nice presents in honor of Mr. and Mrs. Sipes.

Ralph B. Patterson, Dead.

Just as we go to press, we learn with sadness that Ralph B. Patterson of Co. M, 38th Regiment Volunteer Infantry, died of dysentery, March 19th, while in service in the Philippine Islands. The deceased is a son of our townsmen, Thomas Patterson; and it was only last week that we published a letter from Ralph.

IN MEMORIAM.

Died, April 12, 1900.—Matilda A. Stunkard of Wells Valley, Pa., in her seventy-fifth year.

To the world at large, the above announcement means little, but to the sons and daughters, who assembled for a last farewell, and for the last time gazed into the coffin at the dear familiar face of mother, it has a world of meaning.

To the writer, one look at that calm, quiet, smiling face, suggestive of heavenly peace, has robbed death of half its terrors and changed tears of sorrow to tears of joy. Yet, a deep and harmony haunts us in our weakness, and makes us feel that we are alone; that we are set apart as a mark for the shafts of adversity, and must bear our burden alone. We hide ourselves from those who, though they would, cannot feel with us and measure the full extent and depth of our grief. We shrink even from those who, from genuine kindness of heart, obtrude their sympathy upon us. The human voice, even, assumes a dissonance, when it urges us to forget a grief over which the heart yearns with a devoted tenderness.

Better leave us in the solitude of our own thoughts as they come welling up from the depths of the soul, warm, tender, and living, recalling the useful lessons taught us in life by our mother; for, in teaching us how to live, she has taught us how to die. In her, life's mission was fulfilled to the utmost limit.

When the best days are taken away, And all that's left is empty, Then rest is heaven.

For as the close of the day, so with that of life; there may be clouds, and yet the evening may be beautiful.

"In God's will is our peace; when care sleeps, the soul wakes;" "for I reckon that the sufferings of this present time are not worthy to be compared with the glory which shall be revealed in us."—Romans viii: 18.

"My peace I give unto you; not as the world giveth, give I unto you." With such assurances, to the aged, death is a release and well may we say with Longfellow:

"There is no Death! What seems so is transition: This life of mortal breath Is but a sojourn of the life eternal. Whose portal we call Death."

D. C. S.

Bedford, Pa., April 16, 1900

LADIG.

G. A. Duvall of Brush Creek attended church at Fairview on Sunday.

Will Winter of Kearney visited his father-in-law, D. R. Mumma of Ladig on Sunday.

May Mumma has gone to Kearney to spend some time with her sister.

Clarence Hoover has gone to Licking Creek township where he will spend the summer.

Mrs. Rachel Brant is spending some time with her sister Mrs. J. E. Johnson.

Some of the schools of our township closed last week.

John Mumma bought a bicycle last week.

J. E. Lyon bought a horse from Hiram Laidig.

Joseph Laidig's horse died Saturday night from spasmodic colic.

Will Keebaugh traded horses with W. H. Baumgardner.

D. B. Laidig sold a horse to Howard Edwards of Wells township.

The following clipped from a late copy of the Okecheydan News, Iowa, will be read with interest by the many friends here of one of the young ladies mentioned: "Miss Bessie VanCleve departed Monday for Reinbeck, where in company with Miss Ada Arthur she will engage in the military business, the twin have purchased the Mrs. Slossor stock of that city. To the Reinbeck acquaintances of the editor, and they are numerous, we can conscientiously recommend these young ladies as being up-to-date in the military art and will prove a valuable acquisition to the better class of the society circles of their town. Okecheydan friends will wish them success in their new location."

BUB MELLOTT.

At his home in Ayr township on the 15th inst., the Spirit of Daniel J. Mellott, more familiarly and affectionately known as "Bub," was called away from earth to dwell forever with the Master who gave it. The deceased was the only son of Ex-County Treasurer Joseph B. Mellott and his wife Elizabeth, and grandson of Elias and Parthenia Mellott who during the early part of the century lived and owned the Brick House farm near Licking Creek in Belfast township, and a descendant of one of the oldest and most highly respected families in the county. He was born January 10, 1863, hence lived to the age of 37 years, 3 months, and 3 days.

On the fifth day of February 1890, in the Hebron Reformed church in the Corner, by Rev. Simon Wolf, Mr. Mellott was united in marriage with Miss Annie M. Glazier, daughter of Mr. Conrad Glazier, a prominent farmer of Ayr township.

Having purchased the Big Spring farm, the happy young people went to housekeeping on that farm and amid brightest prospects for long, happy, and useful lives. None of us knew what the future holds in store for us. After a few years it was discovered that his health was failing, and for the sake of gaining strength, he rented his farm and moved away for a year, at the end of which time, he felt encouraged to return; but disease had become so firmly seated that with the most skillful medical attention, his health failed gradually but surely until the end came.

There was that open frankness, and honesty of purpose in his character that endeared him to a very large circle of friends, as was evidenced by the very large number present at his funeral.

He was a member of the Reformed church. His remains were placed in the Union cemetery on the 15th inst. His grief-stricken wife and parents have the sincere sympathy of their many friends.

AMARANTH.

Rev. Jno. Bennett preached an appropriate Easter sermon at the Brethren church last Sunday.

Geo. Mills spent Saturday afternoon with his mother at Robinsonville.

S. E. McKee was in Baltimore purchasing his summer goods last week.

James W. Kendall spent easter with friends in this community.

Philip Hill and wife wear smiles—a boy.

Mrs. Rebecca Sipes and Mrs. Martin Sipes were the guests of Mrs. Geo. Mills, Friday.

Capt. Geo. L. Fisher and wife are visiting their daughter, Mrs. Mary McKee, of this place.

Alex. Sipes and wife of Silver Mills spent Saturday with Mrs. Sipes's father, Robert Carson.

Ralph E. McKibbin of the U. S. Schoolship Saratoga, arrived home Sunday evening where he will spend some time in our Valley before returning to his duties.

Death again visited our Valley and called away the youngest child of Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Potter. Interred in the Lutheran cemetery, Sunday afternoon.

Hiram Robinson, of Robinsonville, passed through our town Thursday, enroute from Hagers-town where he sold his fancy driving bays.

Alexander Spade, son of Mr. and Mrs. John Spade, is seriously ill.

Our school, taught by Mr. W. E. Stein, closed Wednesday. This is the second term here for Walter, and we would gladly welcome him the third. Lydia and Earl Mills were the only scholars present every day during the term. This is the fifth consecutive term for Lydia without the loss of a day or even one tardy mark.

RAILROAD RUMBLES.

Several weeks ago the Baltimore and Ohio railroad company wrote M. R. Shaffner, who has been their agent and attorney at this place for a number of years, that they desired him to come at once to Baltimore that they might get from him information about this county that would aid them in determining the feasibility of building a branch road from Cherry Run to McConnellsburg. Mr. Shaffner went, the conference was had, and the officials present seemed pleased with the prospect.

They proposed that the Fulton county people should put down the ties on their charter. This, they said could be done at a cost of about \$2,500 a mile. Then the B. & O. would put on the iron and rolling stock, operate the road and pay over to the Fulton county company all the earnings of the road until the Fulton county people were paid back all the money they had invested, and then the road should belong to the B. & O.

This proposition did not meet with favor. It was thought that as the B. & O. had been in the railroad business for some time, with their experience and facilities, they could do the entire work to a much better advantage than a home company.

They, however, were not willing to consider the matter in that light unless our people would show their interest and appreciation by rendering some financial assistance. Hence the matter was placed before a few of our enterprising citizens, when it was proposed that a meeting of representative people should be called and the matter more thoroughly canvassed. In response to more than one hundred letters sent out, a meeting composed of about seventy-five of our leading citizens was held at the Washington House last Saturday afternoon. An organization was effected by making J. F. Johnston, president; M. R. Shaffner, secretary, and Hon. D. H. Patterson, Hon. G. W. Skinner, and Hon. W. Scott Alexander, together with the president and secretary, an executive committee.

It seemed to be the sentiment of that meeting that every citizen interested in the building of the road should contribute cash in proportion to the advantage the road might be to him and to the community; that the money should be paid to a treasurer under bond, when work is begun on the new road; that none of the money is to be paid over to the railroad company until the road is completed and in operation; and that in case the road is not in operation by October, 1901, the money is to be returned to the original subscriber.

NEEDMORE.

How many Easter eggs did you eat?

The men are busy plowing and, of course they take time to clean stove pipes and shake carpet.

Mrs. George D. Morgret was a caller at A. Runyan's Friday.

Dennis Morgret was visiting relatives and friends in this place Friday and Saturday.

Miss Letitia Peck spent a few days last week with her sister, Mrs. Peter Culler.

D. C. Hart spent Easter with Danton Peck's family.

Merchant W. F. Hart spent a few days last week in Baltimore.

Miss Anna Everts spent Monday and Tuesday with Amos Barber's family.

W. F. Hart and family visited Mrs. Hart's parents, Mr. and Mrs. T. R. Palmer, Sunday.

James Shives visited John Laley's family Sunday.

Thompson Peck was at church at Tonoloway Sunday.

Mrs. Enoch Hart is better at present.

PERSONAL.

Clarence Shimer went to Pittsburg yesterday.

Johnston Sigel, of Union township, was in McConnellsburg, Monday.

R. P. Schooley and son Cadiz spent last Friday in McConnellsburg.

Mrs. Sallie M. Cook spent most of the past week with friends in Chambersburg.

Miss Maggie Foreman has gone to Pennington, N. J., where she expects to spend the summer.

Mr. and Mrs. Baltzer Decker, of Licking Creek township spent Wednesday in McConnellsburg.

Dr. and Mrs. Dallas S. Bernhardt, of Dublin Mills, spent a few days this week among friends in this place.

Mrs. E. R. Austin and Mrs. John J. Mumma spent last Thursday with the family of Ex-Sheriff D. V. Sipes.

Mrs. J. Nelson Sipes and her son and daughter Horace and Stella spent last Friday out at Ed R. Austin's.

Our veteran friend, David Bishop of Belfast township, gave the News office a call while in town, Saturday.

Mr. and Mrs. Baltzer Cutchall and baby Clarence spent last Saturday and Sunday among friends in Licking Creek township.

Mr. Ernest Linn is now employed in a large tailoring establishment in Pittsburg. Ernest is a good workman and a deserving young man.

Mr. James Ehen and his accomplished daughter, Miss Bertha, of Buck Valley, spent from Saturday until Monday with the family of Ex-Sheriff Frank Mason of this place.

Dr. Walter Johnston, for several years a resident of Washington, spent the past week with his brother F. McNaughton Johnston, Esq., and other friends here. The Doctor is thinking of locating somewhere in eastern Pennsylvania.

Miss Jessie Woodal left her home in Chambersburg last Saturday morning for Pittsburg. She was joined at Tyrone by her sister Blanche who has just completed a successful term of teaching at Morrisdale, in Clearfield county. They are now visiting their sister Mrs. Horace Cromer, at 90 Cliff Avenue.

Prof. Harry Gress who has so efficiently conducted the High School in this place during the past three years, has been elected to the principalship of the Harford Soldiers' Orphan school, at a salary of five hundred dollars a year (10 months) and board and laundry free. Harry is a first class teacher, a thorough scholar, an accomplished gentleman, and is entirely deserving of the promotion.

The Alexander home in Wells Valley which has been in continuous existence through successive generations since the first permanent settlement of the Valley in 1772 by Alexander Alexander, ceased to exist as such, last week, when Mrs. Rebecca Alexander, widow of the late John B. Alexander, Esq., made sale of her personal effects, and with her daughter Miss Hattie, removed to McConnellsburg and established a new home. There is always much in the breaking up of old home associations that touches our hearts with sympathy; and we trust that Mrs. Alexander, who will be near two of her children, Mrs. T. F. Sloan, and Hon. W. S. Alexander, and among many other warm friends, will find her new home pleasant.

FIFTY YEARS OLD.

Today, Fulton county is just fifty years old, it having been organized April 19, 1850. It has an average length of twenty-six miles, and breadth of seventeen miles with an area of 420 square miles. It was proposed originally that it should be called Liberty county, but Senator Packer who held the key to the passage of the bill, refused to allow it to pass unless he should be allowed to name it. The friends of the bill were more anxious for a new county than the name; and, consequently, yielded to the old gentleman's whim. The Senator named it Fulton. Fulton is rather a popular name for counties since eight of the forty-six states in the Union have counties by that name.

The oldest township in the county is Ayr. Indeed before the erection of the county Ayr township contained more territory than all of Fulton county now does and had the county been organized a century earlier Ayr township would have had to be trimmed down to make it fit in the present limits of the county. In 1773 Bethel was formed. It embraced the whole of the western part of the county. About twenty years later, Bethel was chopped in half and Belfast made. For convenience the territory west of Sliding Hill was struck off and a township named from the stream that drains that beautiful valley. The northern portion of Ayr was lopped off and Dublin was the result. Just when this occurred we have no data. Licking Creek was formed in 1837 and twelve years later, Taylor, Thomson and Tod were formed in the same year, and are a few months older than Taylor. Union, the baby township, was formed in 1864 out of part of Bethel.