

The Fulton County News.

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NUMBER 3.

THE MEADOWGROUNDS.

Interesting Reminiscences by Jas. Ray Whose Boyhood Was Spent There.

The following reminiscences are especially interesting to the editor of the News from the fact that it was his home for several years.

In the spring of 1864 the late Abraham M. Peck, father of the editor of the News moved with his family into the Meadowgrounds from Belfast township to the farm formerly owned by the Rays. At that time there was only one other farm cleared in the valley, and for one year the Peck family was the only one within the boundary of those mountains. In the spring of 1865, Samuel Harr with his wife and daughters Mary and Caroline, and son George, moved to "lower farm"—the two families living nearly a mile apart being the only inhabitants of the valley until 1872, when the Harr family moved to Bedford, and the Harr family went back to Cove.

Mr. James Ray of Greensburg, writes as follows:

My father moved to the Meadowgrounds about 1830, and lived there about twenty years. My mother both died there—my father dying in the spring of 1850, and my mother when the stars fell in 1862. We were living there then. I bought the farm from a Pott of Fort Loudon for \$1500. Pott was an iron manufacturer and owned furnaces at Loudon, and a good deal of

When we moved there the log house into which we moved had two rooms—one down, and one up. We put in a partition down stairs, first making the large room into two rooms. We also erected the stone chimney at the south

the winter a lady was employed to teach us youngsters, and the house was converted into a schoolroom. I have forgotten her name, but she was a good teacher, also built the log barn; for we were then there, there was even a shed for the stock.

Before we moved to the Meadowgrounds, perhaps about 1820, my father came there, built the "old house," dug the race down back of the "swamp," and put up a fulling mill and carding machine.

The first neighbor we had after moving to the Meadowgrounds was one Jenkins who lived in the old woolen mill—using it then as a dwelling. He made a living by manufacturing tar and hauling it to John Beaver at Loudon for use at the forges.

Robert Johnston owned the lower farm and lived on it awhile, when he went down and lived between Greenscastle and Hagerstown. Later he moved back to his farm in the Meadowgrounds, and lost his mind. One cold wet evening, in the fall, he wandered away from home and his family could not hear anything of him until the next summer some time, when one of the Morton boys was out on the mountain hunting the cattle, found Mr. Johnston's skull. It was identified by Mr. Johnston's son Tom, by a certain tooth.

David Brumbaugh bought the Robt Johnston farm, cleared it up and erected some stables. Mr. Brumbaugh was from Middletown near Hagerstown. He used to sow his grain riding an old gray mare which he valued very highly. He was a fine old gentleman.

To be continued.

The frequent discharge of fire-arms in the woods of Licking Creek township, should lead the game warden to investigate the violations of the game laws, and protect the true sportsman who may want to enjoy a squirrel poplin when the time arrives and do so with a clear conscience.

T. S. Moorehead, President of the Tuscarora Valley railroad, while on his recent trip west, purchased a number of Angora goats and proposed stocking them on his farm.

this wool and "pick" it—that is remove from it all burs and tangles. The wool was then sent to the carding machine and made into rolls. These were brought home, and mother and the girls, or some young woman who could be employed, brought out the big spinning wheel and then for weeks would be heard the oo-oo-oo-oo-oo of the wheel as the rolls were spun into yarn, was wound from the spindle of the big wheel upon a reel, measured into "cuts" and skeins, and then, where the family did not possess a loom it was sent to a weaver in the neighborhood and manufactured into casinet (cotton chain being used) or into all-wool stuff. This material was used for clothing for the men and boys, a lighter thread was made and a softer goods produced called flannel for the winter wear of the women and girls.

The coloring was usually done while it was yarn. A popular dye being butternut brown, made by steeping the bark of the ordinary butternut tree—well, as no one is likely to want to use the receipt now, we will not tell all the ingredients used.

After the weaving, the cloth was brought home, and then mother became the tailor and the dressmaker. With her own hands she cut out and made the clothes for father and the boys, and for herself and the girls, the thread used being that which she had spun with her own hands from flax raised on the place.

From the yarn—spun a little coarser she knit stockings for the whole family; and when her watchful eye detected a hole making its appearance in the heel, she promptly darned it.

The man who put up the woolen factory failed and went off and left it. We afterward built a saw mill there. A millwright by the name of Davy Teeter did the work. He lived out at Jugtown, not far from McConnellsburg.

We also built the "Blouse Cabin" near the old dam, and a tailor by the name of McGee lived in it awhile. I do not remember that any one else ever lived there. Near the cabin is one of the many sand springs that are found in the Valley. This McGee was a son of the Mrs. McGee who kept tavern at the foot of Cove mountain east of McConnellsburg.

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RURAL MAIL DELIVERY.

Changes After July 1, 1901.

The Post Office Department of the United States has issued advertisements inviting proposals for carrying the mails of the United States in the State of Pennsylvania from July 1, 1901 to June 30, 1905.

A new condition which the bidder must observe is as follows: "No bid submitted under this advertisement will be considered unless the bidder resides on or contiguous to the route on which the service is to be performed, or shall file with his bid an agreement that in the event of the service being awarded to him he will reside on or continuous to said route and give his personal supervision to the performance of the duty."

This will prevent persons from bidding for digger routes, and sub-letting the contracts to others at a lower contract price. Another new provision is as follows:

"In addition to carrying the mails to the various post offices on the star routes covered by this advertisement, the carrier on each route, (except where otherwise specifically stated), will be also required to deliver mail into all boxes that may be erected along the route."

It is further provided that the person living along the route, who desires to have his mail delivered in a box at his residence, shall state his desire in writing and erect a box by the roadside. The carrier will receive no compensation for this delivery and receiving mail matter.

The following is a list of the routes in this county:

From Amaranth, by Buck Valley, Lashley, and Mann to Hancock, 13.25 miles and back six times a week. Present subcontract, \$232.

From Big Cove Tannery, by Dickey's Mountain and Plum Run, to Hancock, 14.25 miles and back, six times a week. Present contract, \$281.70.

From Big Cove Tannery, by Webster Mills, to McConnellsburg, 7 miles and back, six times a week. Present contract pay, \$110.

From Fort Littleton, by Maddensville and Meadowgap, to Orbisonia, 14 miles and back, six times a week. Present contract pay, \$249.

From Fort Littleton, by Knobsville, to McConnellsburg, 10 miles and back, six times a week. Present contract pay, \$168.

From Gem to Big Cove Tannery, 4 miles and back, three times a week. Present contract pay \$56.

From Harrisonville, by Hustontown and Fort Littleton, to Burnt Cabins, 15 miles and back, six times a week. Present contract pay, \$279.70.

From Harrisonville, by Owl Creek, Pleasant Ridge, Sipes Mills, and McKibbin, to Needmore, 17.25 miles and back, six times a week. Present contract pay, \$669 for 28.75 miles; subcontract, \$595.

From Hustontown, by Clear Ridge, and Dublin Mills, to Waterfall, 9.75 miles and back, six times a week. Present contract pay, \$198.

From Locust Grove, by Emma-ville, to Crystal Spring, 8.50 miles and back, six times a week. Present contract pay, \$122.

From Locust Grove, by Siding Hill, Dott, Franklin Mills, and Warfordsburg, to Hancock, 16.50 miles and back, six times a week. Present contract pay, \$319; subcontract, \$300.

From McConnellsburg, by Foltz, to Mercersburg, 10 miles and back, twelve times a week. Present contract pay \$189.

From McConnellsburg, by Harrisonville, to Saluvia, 9 miles and back, six times a week. Present contract pay, \$212.

From Needmore, by Covalt, to Hancock, 11.50 miles and back, six times a week. Present con-

tract pay, \$669, for 28.75; subcontract, \$595.

From New Grenada, by Enid and Wells Tannery, to Hopewell, 16 miles and back, six times a week. Present contract \$279; subcontract, \$275.

From New Grenada, by Waterfall and Hubelsville, to Three Springs, 10 miles and back, six times a week. Present contract pay, \$190.

From Salovia, by Rays Hill, to Everett, 17 miles and back, six times a week. Present contract pay, \$355.37; subcontract pay, \$320.

From Salovia, by Laidig, West Dublin, and Gracey, to Waterfall, 11.65 miles and back, six times a week. Present contract pay, \$239.50.

THE MEETING.

The Democratic meeting at the court house Monday evening was well attended. Citizens of both political parties were there. It did not differ materially from political meetings in general. The speakers were Hon. Albert B. Osborne, of Erie; Harry E. Grim, of Parkersburg, candidate for congressman at large, and Dr. Enfield, of Bedford. The McConnellsburg cornet band furnished the music for the occasion.

Political meetings do not out the figure they once did. Everybody now is in touch with the workings of the government, through the newspapers. Everybody reads the platforms of both—or all—political parties, and judges for himself of their merits. The public schools, during the past decade at least, are acquainting the rising generations with the principles of our government, and the details of the working of the system.

A few years ago not one voter in ten could tell you how a president was elected, or what were his duties after reaching the office. More than that, there were many who did not know how the government of their own township, or the duties of each. Now, every intelligent school boy has at his tongue's end an outline of the machinery that moves this great republic, he understands what he reads about the doings of public men or the policy of parties, and has an acquaintance with public men that leads him to be independent of the influences that once controlled the suffrages of the people.

Public speakers, instead of resorting to abuse appeal to reason, and men of every shade of political preference meet and listen, and seldom is a speaker thoughtless enough to say anything that will directly offend any one.

MALICIOUS.

Some one not having the proper fear of God in his heart went on Thursday night, of last week to the carriage shed, of James Vores, in Licking Creek township and removed from his buggy one front wheel and all the spindle taps from the remaining wheels. This put Mr. Vores to much inconvenience as well as to several dollars expense.

The same night, a heifer belonging to Mr. Vores, which he brings from pasture, and for safety puts her in a pen and chains, was turned out of the pen and the fence between the pasture field and corn field put down in two places.

Mr. Vores has no knowledge of giving offence to cause any one to do such bad deeds. He says some of his neighbors, have large flocks of turkeys; and one flock of 25 or 30 have during the summer come into his fields and destroyed his wheat and corn and his wife, at times, sent the dogs to drive the turkeys off his place.

The grand jury got off at noon Wednesday, and all the petty jurors were discharged then except one panel. Proceedings next week.

MEETING OF PRESBYTERY.

An Abstract of Its Proceedings.

The Presbytery of Carlisle, embracing the counties of Lebanon, Dauphin, Perry, Cumberland, Adams, Franklin and Fulton, and having in it 52 churches, 51 ministers, 9205 communicants and 11763 Sabbath school members, was in session at Middletown, September 25 and 26.

The meeting was opened with prayer by the Moderator, the Rev. Frank T. Wheeler, of New Bloomfield. After roll call and reading and approving of recorded minutes of last meeting, the Moderator for the ensuing six months, the Rev. D. W. Woods, of Gettysburg, took the chair. At 7:30 on the evening of 25th the retiring Moderator preached from Romans 13:10, "Love is the fulfilling of the law." The Rev. James I. Campbell was received from the Presbytery of Monmouth. Mr. Campbell received and accepted a call to the church of Dickinson. The Rev. W. W. Saunders was received from the Presbytery of Chester, and will take charge of Hope Chapel (colored) under the care of Falling Spring church, Chambersburg. The Rev. George Fulton was released from the pastoral charge of 4th street church, Lebanon, and accepted a call to the Waynesboro church. Three young men—Albert N. Wolf of Robert Kennedy Memorial church, Welsh Run, Charles McCord Means of Shippensburg church, and John E. Buchanan of Millerstown church—were taken under the care of Presbytery as candidates for the ministry. By a vote of 44 to 20 Presbytery expressed itself as opposed to any change in the Confession of Faith. It took action favorably to what is termed the 20th century fund, giving churches and individuals liberty to direct their contributions to the Boards of the church, to Educational Institutions, or to local objects.

A conference on the state of religion within its bounds will be held in Newville at a date hereafter to be named by the pastor of that church. The evening of the 26th was devoted to a popular meeting in the interest of Foreign Missions, at which addresses were made by Rev. J. Ritchie Smith, pastor of Market Square church, Harrisburg, and Rev. L. Carmou Bell of Greenscastle, chairman of Presbytery's committee on Foreign Missions.

An interesting obituary of the late Rev. Thomas Dobbin, pastor of Upper Path Valley church, was read by J. Smith Gordon. The next stated meeting of Presbytery will be held in Shippensburg the second Tuesday of April next. The Rev. William McNally of Harrisburg was chosen Moderator, to take the chair at that time.

WARFORDSBURG.

Miss Annie Miller, of Falling Waters, W. Va., spent last week visiting friends here.

Mr. and Mrs. Howard Hill and son Marshall, spent last Sabbath with Mr. and Mrs. Israel Hill.

Misses Daisy Harr and Bertha Miller spent last Sabbath with the family of Mr. George Harr, near Hancock.

Mr. Carey Gregory, son of the late Dr. Gregory of this place, now living in Ohio, visited relatives here recently.

Mr. Thomas Rash and son Daniel, of Timber Ridge, spent last Sabbath with Mr. Wm. Rash at this place.

Mr. W. E. Beatty, near Lashley, was a business visitor to this place, last week.

Mr. Baltus Stigers left last week for Iowa and other western states, to spend some time with relatives and friends.

Mr. Edward Ritz, of Buck Valley, and Miss Agnes Booth, of this place, are visiting at York, Pa., this week.

Wedding bells will soon be ringing.

THE DEATH ANGEL.

West Asa Akers, and Nathan B. Hixon Pass Away.

As the sturdy oaks that have towered above the forest for decades may be suddenly leveled to the ground by some unexpected tornado, so two of Brush Creek valley's most respected citizens who were in the enjoyment of usual health only a few days ago are now resting in their eternal home.

A friend writing from the Valley says: Death has cast a deep shadow over our valley, two-thirds of our people mourn the loss of a relative, and the other third, that of a valued friend.

On Friday, Sept. 28, 1900, the spirit of Mr. West Asa Akers quietly took its flight to that unseen world from which there is no returning. He had been a sufferer from typhoid fever and it was not expected that he would recover. He left an aged companion and six children, Charles Erastus, Frank, and Jennie, who are all married and live in the western states, and Hixon and Elliot, who are married and settled near Akersville. His remains were laid to rest in the Akersville cemetery on Sunday morning, services being conducted by Rev. Campbell, pastor of the Methodist church, of which faith Mr. Akers was a believer.

Mrs. Akers' maiden name was Nancy Hixson, a sister of Amos, Nathan B., Caleb, Mrs. Hanks, and Mrs. Jerry Jackson.

Among those who attended the funeral of Mr. Akers was Nathan B. Hixon a brother of Mr. Akers' widow. Mr. Hixon drove to the cemetery and returned to the home of his sister. A number of the other friends also went back to the house for dinner, among them the undertaker, Mr. Sid Gump of Everett. After alighting from his buggy on his return, Mr. Hixon walked up through the yard pulled off a couple of bunches of grapes and walked across the yard and took a seat in company with his brothers Caleb and Amos, and Mason Barton. He sat with them eating the grapes and conversing as usual when he suddenly threw up his hands, fell backwards, and expired instantly. His age was about sixty-five.

He leaves, besides his brothers and sisters, an aged wife and twelve children—all married: John, George, Jerry, Frank, Doyle, and Mrs. Lizzie McKibbin, who live in the Valley, and A. Milton, of Pittsburg; Mert, of Rays Hill, and Newton, of Buck Valley. Mrs. Tillie Swartzwelder, of Bedford county, and Sallie, who lives in the West, and one other daughter. Mr. Hixon was greatly respected, and was a member of the Methodist church and was a member in good standing of the P. O. S. of A. camp at Crystal Springs, and the Odd Fellows at Rays Hill. The funeral took place on Wednesday morning. Services conducted by Rev. Campbell, assisted by the Odd Fellows and P. O. S. of A. lodges. Interment at McKendree.

An Editor Who Has Been Truly Blessed.

The Fulton County News, a weekly journal published at McConnellsburg, Pa., has entered with last week's issue, upon its second year. During the 52 weeks of its existence it has attained the handsome number of 1,230 subscribers, which is characteristic of only a hustling and popular editor. Brother Peck met with that success which few publishers of rural journals have enjoyed, and we congratulate him and wish him a still brighter future, which he certainly deserves as he has made the News paper that is a newspaper and its subscription list is evidence enough to show that the people were not long in discovering this fact.

PERSONAL.

Will Ranck was a court visitor this week.

Hon. John E. Fore, of Knobsville, spent Wednesday in town.

Mrs. George Everhart spent Sunday with her father, Daniel Mock.

Dr. W. L. McKibbin of Union is spending this week in town.

Hon. George A. Smith, of Rogersville, Tennessee, is at court this week.

Will Hoke and Dan Grissinger spent a few days in the Quaker City this week.

Mrs. Sue Austin, of Saluvia, is visiting friends in McConnellsburg this week.

Mr. Levi Winters, of near Emma-ville, is the guest of Isaac Hull, this week.

Miss Bessie Cosgrove, of Waynesboro, is visiting Miss A. J. Irwin this week.

Miss Hattie Betz, of Saluvia, has gone to Clearfield, where she will spend the winter.

Mr. and Mrs. J. H. Shimer returned to their home at McKees Rocks Wednesday morning.

Mr. and Mrs. A. C. Mellott, of Pittsburg, are visiting Mrs. Mellott's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Sipes.

Geo. E. Dunlap and Miss Nellie Runyan of Shippensburg, spent last Thursday in McConnellsburg.

Miss Ella Wagner, who has been visiting her old home in Tod township, returned to Hagerstown Tuesday.

Miss Annie Frey went to Philadelphia Wednesday morning, to purchase her fall stock of Millinery goods.

Mr. and Mrs. David Denisar, of Welsh Run, spent last Thursday among friends on this side of the mountain.

F. C. Bare of the firm of D. K. Bare & Son, of Fort Littleton, is in the east this week purchasing fall and winter goods.

Mrs. Josephine Logan and daughter Alice, Mrs. George McCauslin, of Narbeth, are visiting friends in this place.

W. H. Hess, of Thompson, spent a day or two at court. Billy has not lost any of his skill in angling for bass.

Howard P. Skipper, of Harrisonville, left Tuesday, for Clearfield, where he expects to secure employment.

Mr. and Mrs. John B. Runyan, of this place, spent a few days during the past week with friends at Needmore.

Mr. and Mrs. George W. Reiser of this place attended the wedding of Mr. Reiser's brother Ed at Shippensburg, last Thursday.

Our genial friend, Geo. O. Lynch, of Crystal Springs, took time to come in and chat awhile one evening while in town attending court.

Mrs. M. C. Sinnott returned to the home of her father, Daniel Mock, of Tod, on Sunday, after spending two weeks with her aunt, Mrs. Kate Shearer.

Mrs. Samuel McLaughlin, and daughters Misses Lela, and Nellie, and son, master George, of Bradford, Pa., are visiting friends at Harrisonville.

Mrs. M. Louisa Hull and her little grandson, George Nelson, spent last Saturday and Sunday in Chambersburg, visiting the family of Andrew Sixeas.

Ex-Comissioner Albert Plessinger of Whips Cove and Merchant W. F. Hart, of Needmore came up Monday evening to hear how a Bryan speech would sound from a Phonograph.

Mr. John E. Campbell, near Knobsville, and his daughter-in-law, Mrs. Charley Campbell, spent last Thursday with friends in town. Mr. Campbell did not forget the News office.

Miss Sylvia Brown and Julia Parsons, of Hagerstown, who had been visiting friends at Knobsville a few days, called at the News office a few minutes on Monday on their return home.

Mr. Vincent Ash, who has been spending his summer vacation with his parents Rev. and Mrs. Ash, of this place, returned on Monday to his studies at the Medico-Chif college Philadelphia.

Melsenhelder—Gress.

At the parsonage of the Otterbein United Brethren Church, Harrisburg, on the 24th ult., by Rev. Edward S. Bowman, Mr. George W. Melsenhelder, of that city, and Miss Annie M. Gress, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Conrad Gress, of this place, were united in marriage.

Snider—Morse.

Mr. Jonathan C. Snider, of Thompson township, and Miss Clara B. Morse of Bedford county, were quietly married on Tuesday, September 25th at the home of the officiating minister Rev. Lewis Chambers near Big Cove Tannery. The News extends congratulations.