

The Fulton County News.

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A VISIT TO A LEPER VILLAGE.

Written by Rev. Charlie Pittman to the Christian Endeavor Society of the Presbyterian Church of this Place.

TABRIZ, PERSIA.
Dec. 8, 1900.

DEAR CHRISTIAN ENDEAVORERS:— I take the liberty to write you a letter, hoping that you may find use for it in some missionary meeting of your Society. I look back with a great deal of pleasure to the evenings spent in C. E. meetings, and appreciate more than ever before their helpfulness, now that I am separated from them.

There are many subjects of interest upon which I might write—the Educational Department, consisting of a Boys' School and a Girls' School; or the Medical work, consisting of two dispensaries under the care of Dr. Bradford and Dr. Vanneman; or the Evangelistic work connected with the little church in Tabriz—but passing by these, I wish to describe briefly a visit to a leper village. It was two weeks ago yesterday that Dr. Bradford invited me to accompany her and Miss Beaber on a visit to a leper village about ten miles from the city and I was very glad to accept the invitation.

We started about ten o'clock in the forenoon on horseback, and rode about four miles before getting out of the city. Our progress through the narrow streets was frequently interrupted by droves of donkeys with their loads of wood or wheat or flour sticking out on each side, making it difficult for us to pass. There were many half-naked beggars lying on the cold ground stretching out their hands for "shies"—a small coin worth one-sixth of a cent. After leaving the city, our journey lay across a mountain pass over which was only a narrow path. We had to ascend slowly and carefully, for the path was filled with rocks and stones. Here, again, we met the omnipresent donkey; and, also, two caravans of camels bringing loads from a distant city. After reaching the top, we galloped over a level stretch of road with great relief, and then began to descend on the other side.

We had not gone far, when Dr. Bradford announced that we had reached the spot where she always stopped and ate a lunch, when visiting this village, and we did not wish to violate her custom. So we stopped here and ate our lunch—picnic fashion—while we enjoyed the scenery about us.

We could now see the leper village in the valley below us—a little valley surrounded by mountains, and separated from the rest of the world that nature seemed to have provided for these poor outcasts. The village consisted of a mud wall about ten feet high enclosing about ten acres of ground. Within this enclosure, the mud huts were built against the wall, forming a hollow square. In the centre was a mosque—their place of worship.

The lepers now saw us, and anticipating our intentions, began to collect outside the wall. After eating our lunch we descended the steep path by walking and leading our horses. At the foot of the mountain, we crossed a small stream dignified by the name of "river" and soon arrived at the village. As these people do not often have visitors, our arrival caused no little excitement. About sixty persons—all that were able to come out that cold day—had now gathered outside the wall. Some ran and brought straw for our horses, while others brought old pieces of carpet upon which were spread the bits of food and clothing which the church at Tabriz had sent them. After they had almost tumbled over one another in their eagerness to get a peep at these prospects spread out before them, Dr. Bradford asked herself on a large stone and opened her Turkish Bible; and they all gathered around her to hear its message to them.

THE TURNPIKE CASE.

Reasons Why It Should Be Voted.

As was stated last week, citizens of Bedford county are making an effort to get rid of the turnpike nuisance, and the Bedford Gazette gives the following as reasons brought out by the thirty-five witnesses testifying: "That the people of the county should own and control the public highways rather than have them under the control of private corporations; that this turnpike was the link in a great thoroughfare which was constructed years ago for the purpose of meeting a demand that then existed for a good, substantial road for through traffic to and from the great centers of population; at that time there was no local demand for a road of this character, and the idea was that the road should be kept up by tolls collected from through traffic; the conditions under which that road became a necessity have changed and instead of the road being maintained as it was originally, it is now kept up by tolls collected from local travel, and has become in that way a burden upon the people living along the line of the pike, as well as other citizens of the county; that there are now five toll gates upon the branch of the road in this county instead of two toll gates, as it was some years ago; that the tolls charged are a serious hindrance to trade and travel; that this road could be kept up by the people of the townships in as good, if not better, condition and at a much less expense than the amount of tolls paid; for the reason that the bulk of the amount collected is diverted to other purposes than improving and repairing the road; that the bridges at Juniata Crossings and the Narrows have become dangerous and worthless and are not safe for the ordinary purposes of travel; that the officials and representatives of the Turnpike company have frequently notified parties passing along the road that if they went through these bridges they did so at their own risk; that the bridge at the Crossings depends for its support upon a guy wire, which might break at any time; that the road-bed is no better than the main country road and is not kept in such condition as the toll-road should be, but is level or hollow in the center instead of rising to a gradual arch toward the center, as the law creating turnpikes requires them to be; that if the amount of money contributed by the people of the county in the way of tolls would be kept in the county and used, as it necessarily would be, in the improvement of farms by lining and in other ways, which the people of the section of the county through which the road passes are denied by reason of the increased expense of hauling due to the large tolls, it would enhance the value of real estate in a very large portion of the county, increase the prosperity and wealth of the community; and thus insure to the benefit of the people of the entire county.

"Several stockholders of the Turnpike company stated that they had received no dividends on their stock since 1870 and that repeated demands were made on the officers of the company who told them the road 'didn't pay dividends.'"

"The next meeting of the jury of view will be held on January 16, when testimony on behalf of the Turnpike company will be submitted."

Edgar J. Kurtz Miller, who conducted a Bible school in the McConnellsburg church about a year ago, will begin another term soon. Services will begin by preaching in that church Saturday evening January 26, and on Sunday morning 29th. The Bible term will follow during the week. More specific announcements will be made later.

There is a leprosy of the soul, which like the leprosy of the body, is incurable by human power. In this sense, every village is a leper village. There are the little children in whom the effects are scarcely discernible but the sin is there and will be sure to show itself. Then there are the grown up young people in whose lives the effects of sin are evident, but so many of whom do not seem to realize its awfulness; who likewise have lost the sense of touch; who think that they can handle fire and not be burned—that they can tamper with sin and not be dented. Finally, there are the aged ones, hardened by sin, and living lives of hopelessness and regret, awaiting death, but having no hope beyond the grave.

But through every village passes the Great Physician ready to heal all who will come to Him. Seek Him while He may be found; call upon Him while He is near, lest He pass by never to return. Yours for Christ and the Church,
CHAR. B. PITTMAN.

SEE FOR YOURSELVES.

Here Are The Minutes.

Two weeks ago we called attention to the fact that the County Commissioners paid \$200 for printing the election ballots when they could have had them printed for \$120 or \$125.

When the Auditors last week reached those bills they called the Commissioners to account for their action. The Commissioners said the contract had been made with the Fulton Democrat before the bids of the Republican and the News were in. The auditors called for the minutes, and, of course, could not reconcile the statement of the commissioners with their minutes. At last the Commissioners took oath and subscribed their names to an affidavit, that the contract had been given to the Democrat before January 25—thus admitting that the minutes which were read and approved by them were not a true record of their business transactions, and that important business transactions did not find their place on the minutes. The Auditors asked for a copy of the contract. The commissioners couldn't find it!

As it may not be convenient to go to the Commissioners office and see the minute book for yourself, we publish herewith a copy of their minutes and leave you to judge for yourself, whether or not their is any crookedness.

Hon. S. W. Kirk was the clerk who wrote up the minutes of Jan. 23, and Es-sheriff Frank Mason the clerk who wrote the minutes of Sept. 20. Is there any one in the county that will say that either of those gentlemen is not as capable as his superiors?

Here are the minutes: "January 3, 1900, Commissioners met pursuant to adjournment, a full board being present. Mr. Peck and Mr. Taylor put in written bids for printing the tickets for the year 1900. Mr. Peck's bid was \$125; \$50 for Feb. election and \$80 for November. (See papers filed.) Mr. Taylor's was \$120 for ballots and \$15 for election supplies—\$59 for February and \$79 for November election, making the total \$138. The Democrat Publishing Co. failed to put in any bid; but after much consideration, the contract for furnishing ballots and supplies for February election, alone, was given to the Dem. Pub. Co. for a consideration of \$70. This was done after a motion was made and carried unanimously to let the printing of tickets now only for February election instead of both elections. The legal amount is to be furnished."

The next meeting of the commissioners was on the 8th of February. At this meeting the following entry is made on the minutes: Feb. 8, 1900, "Minutes [of last meeting] read and approved." Full board present.

Would you gather from the above minutes that the contract for printing the tickets had been made prior to this meeting of January 23rd?

Now, let us look through their minute book a little further and we find the following record made nearly eight months later: "September 20, 1900, Commissioners met pursuant to adjournment. Full board present. Three drafts were drawn and other current office business attended to. An order was given to George B. Daniels for 10 ballot check lists, 35 voting check lists, 21 original registry of voters and 24 copies for a total sum of \$23. Also, contracted with the Fulton Democrat Publishing Co. to furnish all necessary ballots and election supplies for November election next. The said Dem. Pub. Co. to stand good for all risks and delay and said ballots and supplies to be delivered to Commissioners office on Friday the 24 day of November next for the sum of \$150."

Minutes read and approved Oct. 1, 1900.

Entertained Friends.

On Tuesday evening, Jan. 8, 1901, Mr. and Mrs. George Comer, who have been making their home near Knobsville the past two months, entertained a number of their young friends of Knobsville and vicinity. Those present were: Messrs. Denton Gallagher, George Glunt, Charley Glunt, Elmer Glunt, Ira Fore, Lewis Winters, Albert Kerlin, Wm. Hamill, William Kerlin, Ernest Fraker, and Misses Daisy Polk, Etta Polk, Lona Fore, Alice Long, Maye Clouser, Olive Parson, Vera Parson, Nettie Heost, Bessie Kerlin, Frances Mills, Kate Mills, Mary Mills, Sadie Sipos, and Nell Tice.

The evening was spent in various kinds of games and passed all too quickly. About 10 o'clock refreshments were served which all enjoyed greatly as Mrs. Comer seems to know just what young folks relish and just how to make it. Near midnight all departed for their homes, carrying with them the memory of a very pleasant evening.

Prompt Payment.

Fourteen years ago, a Council of Royal Armanum was established in Everett. Mr. Thomas A. Davis, the prime mover in institution that Council, died recently in Denver, Colorado. Just fourteen days elapsed from the date of the funeral of Mr. Davis, until Treasurer Lewis C. Mann, formerly of this county, presented to Mrs. Davis a check for three thousand dollars. The Council at McConnellsburg has been in existence about eleven years and two of its members have died, W. A. Speer and H. H. Woodall. In both cases the respective families of the deceased were paid promptly three thousand dollars, in cash.

Mr. Davis had paid 252 assessments, amounting to \$349,44—hence a net gain of \$2550.56.

Everett Man Died in Japan.

From The Everett Republican. Word has been received here by Mr. Lovell Peck that his oldest son, Emory N. Peck, died on board the German transport Euracadia, in the harbor at Nagasaki, Japan, on November 20, 1900. He was on his way to the United States from China, when he was taken ill and died. The Consul writes that he was given a Christian burial and a Marker placed at his grave. Mr. Peck left his home in Everett about sixteen years ago and no word had been received from him for about a year. He had traveled extensively in this and other foreign countries. He was a member of the Odd Fellows lodge at Los Angeles, California.

A Spray of Rice.

Barold McKibbin, one of Uncle Sam's boys in the Philippines (not Uncle Sam McKibbin's) sent his mother, Mrs. W. T. McKibbin a spray of rice plucked from a rice field in one of those Islands. It looks something like broom corn, with a rough hull enclosing the grain. Rice is one of the most important cereals grown, and forms the principal article of food of a very large portion of the world's population. Its culture was introduced into the United States 200 years ago.

Mrs. Agnes Barnett.

Mrs. Agnes Barnett, widow of the late Daniel Barnett, died at Fairplay, Bedford county last Saturday noon over 80 years, and was interred in the cemetery at Fairview M. E. church in Taylor township on Monday of this week. For forty years she and her husband lived on what is known as the Daniel Laidig farm in Taylor township. Leaving that they went west and lived there some twenty years. During the last 12 years of Mrs. Barnett's life, she was a faithful member of the M. E. Church.

MENTAL PASTIME.

Questions, Queries, and Puzzles.

Answers to last week's.
3. Three.
4. Fill the 5-quart measure from it, fill the 3-quart measure, and there will be two quarts remaining in the 5-quart measure. Empty the 3-quart measure, and throw into it the two quarts from the 5-quart measure. Now, the 5-quart measure is empty and the 3-quart measure has 2 quarts in it. Lastly, fill the 5-quart measure, and from it, fill the 3-quart measure, which takes just one quart, and there remains 4 quarts in the 5-quart measure.
5. Ten horses.
New ones. Answers next week.
6. A beggar had a brother, the brother died and the man who died had no brother.
7. If to my age your age hombins, The sum would reach to 99. To half my age add 1 and see. Just what half your age will be; Now half your age to half of mine Would make one-half more than 49 Your age and mine now I ask. Pray, are you equal to the task.
8. Write 12 in such a manner that you can show it's half to be 7.

Sairvia.

Mis Sadie Haun, who is employed in Chambersburg, is visiting her mother Mrs. Anna Haun.

Mr. H. K. Stevens, and family of Shippensburg, spent several days at the home of Mrs. Stevens' father H. D. Betz, at this place.

Miss Anna Buckley, of Fort Littleton, spent several days last week with the family of E. R. Austin.

Mr. and Mrs. William Bair, entertained a number of our young people Saturday evening.

Mrs. J. J. Hann, of Sallito, was visiting relatives at Green Hill last week.

Whips Cove.

Charley Ringe has returned to his home in Michigan.

Miller Truxas has sold his farm to Robert Diehl, and purchased one near McKibbin post office in Belfast township where he will move in the near future.

A local institute was held at the upper school house Friday night, Dec. 21, 1900. At an early hour the crowd assembled finding a very finely decorated house. The meeting was called to order by the teacher, D. C. Hart, and Walter Stine was elected president and Ernest Walters, secretary. The teachers present were Walter Stein, Ernest Walters, Letitia Peck, Edward Lodge, and D. C. Hart. The questions were intelligently discussed and mingled with singing and literary work. A number of patrons were present who took part in the discussions. Quite an interest was aroused and what you might call a "hot time" was the effect. Adjourned to meet at Oak Grove Friday January 4, 1901.

Tid-Bits From Todd.

Mrs. Baker of Clearridge is the guest of James Henry's family.

Mr. Amos Clouser visited Burnt Cabins on Tuesday.

Mr. Daniel Chapsaddle of Franklin county is spending some time among old friends in this vicinity.

Mrs. Bert Henry and son Pierce visited James Henry, son Monday.

Misses Frances, Kate, and Mary Mills, of Burnt Cabins, spent Tuesday night with their aunt and uncle, Mr. and Mrs. George Comer.

Mr. Bert Henry lost one of his cows on Wednesday.

Mrs. Clouser and daughter Mae made a trip to McConnellsburg on Tuesday.

Mr. and Mrs. George Comer of near this place entertained twenty-five of their young friends on Tuesday night.

Mr. and Mrs. John Gunnell entertained a number of their young friends on last Monday evening.

PERSONAL.

Col. William L. Moseby, of Wells Valley, was in town Monday.

George Mills, of Union township, was among the court visitors Tuesday.

Benj. F. Daniels made the News office a call while in town Monday.

D. B. Nace, of Chambersburg spent a day or two in McConnellsburg this week.

D. G. Elvey has returned home from his trip to Ohio. He stopped to see friends at Altoona.

Mr. C. H. Kendall and daughter Lillie of Altoona are visiting relatives in this county this week.

Miss Jennie Lodge, of Brush Creek valley, is visiting her sister, Mrs. S. W. Kirk of this place.

Auctioneer James M. Chesnut, of Taylor township, was in town Monday. He says there are lots of sales ahead.

James P. Waltz went down to Hesses Mill last Saturday to see B. Frank Hess who has been very poorly for some time.

Mr. and Mrs. Geo. Decker and son Ralph, of Licking Creek township, were in McConnellsburg last Saturday.

John Patterson who was called home on account of the death of his father returned to Philadelphia last Saturday.

Elmer Suders left on Wednesday of last week for Hoytsdale, Beaver county, where he resumes work with Mr. Wilson.

Mr. Thomas A. Sipe, of Wells Valley, spent Tuesday and Wednesday with the family of his uncle D. V. Sipes of this place.

Miss Nora Dickson, who had been visiting friends in this place and the Cove, returned to her home in Media last Saturday.

Mr. John T. Richards and daughter, Mrs. L. N. Hixson, have been visiting Mr. Richards' son, Rev. T. D. Richards at Germantown.

Ernest Linn, who spent the summer in Indiana county, is spending a few weeks with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. John Linn of this place.

Miss Margaret Foreman who has been spending a few weeks in this place since her return from New Jersey, went to Huntingdon county a few days ago.

After a pleasant visit of ten days at the home of her sister Mrs. George Finiff, of Tod, Mrs. Catharine Horne returned to her home in Chambersburg last Friday.

Miss Cora J. Decker, after spending ten days at the home of her parents in Bethel township, has returned to York, Pa., and resumed her duties in the Telephone Exchange.

Byram Souders of Thompson township, spent a few days last week visiting Ex-Prothonotary James P. Waltz. Mr. Souders had a specimen of Timber Ridge rock that seemed to be full of shining particles that looked like gold.

Among those who paid their respects (and many of them their cash) to the News office on Tuesday were, A. J. Lamberson, G. Mc. Laidig, and Philip Barton, of Hustontown; Obod T. Mellott, of Belfast; Geo. W. Hixson, of Emmanville, and his brother I. N., of Union; Denton Everts, Will Engle, Andrew Souders, and Ira Zimmerman, of Thompson; George Mills, of Amaranth, and Aaron Layton, of Whips Cove.

Rev. William W. Dalbey, of Philadelphia, has accepted the pastorate of the Calvary Baptist church, Altoona. Rev. Dalbey is a veteran of the civil war and has been a pastor in the Baptist denomination for thirty years. He is the father of Dr. A. D. Dalbey and Mrs. George W. Roisner, both of this place. Rev. Dalbey is well known here.