

The Fulton County News.

VOLUME 2.

McCONNELLSBURG, PA., May 16, 1901.

NUMBER 35.

EXPLOSION AT MOUNT DALLAS

Freight-train Engine Exploded, and Four Men Instantly Killed.

A "special" from Bedford to the Philadelphia Record last Friday says that the boiler of a locomotive on the Huntingdon & Broadtop railroad exploded at Mount Dallas at daylight that morning, and four men were instantly killed.

The names of the dead are A. S. Berkstresser, engineer; Stanton Edwards, fireman; Charles A. Hollenshead, conductor, and Clinton Ritchey, brakeman. The killed men were all residents of Saxton; Engineer Berkstresser and Brakeman Ritchey were married—the latter only six months; the other two men were single but supported widowed mothers.

The bodies were terribly burned and mangled.

The force of the explosion was terrific and the people living near Mt. Dallas rushed from their homes to see pieces of steel and wood and human bodies flying through the air. The body of Fireman Edwards was found on the opposite side of the river, more than 300 yards from the wrecked engine, while his watch was found in the township road, 500 yards away.

The bodies of the other men were more than 100 yards away. One arm torn from the body of Conductor Hollingshead could not be found, and his head was almost entirely severed.

The scene of the accident was on the high embankment near the toll-gate, about halfway between Mt. Dallas and Everett, where the railroad is 200 feet above the pike along the side of the mountain. Mt. Dallas is the southern terminus of the road.

The wrecked engine was pulling the second section of a south-bound freight, and had stopped near the rear end of the first section. The engineer was on the ground oiling his engine, and near him was Conductor Hollingshead and Brakeman Ritchey.

Edwards, the fireman, was eating his breakfast in the cab of the locomotive when, without warning and with a report like that of a monster gun, the boiler exploded.

John Jones, flagman of the first section, was in his caboose, near the wrecked engine, and escaped injury, and, with other members of the crew, hurried to the scene of the accident and found all the unfortunate men of the second section had been instantly killed.

Coroner Merrick A. Stoner was notified, and after viewing the bodies ordered them removed.

The cause of the explosion is a mystery. The engine was built 10 years ago and had been on the road three years since it was last repaired.

This is the third accident from weak boilers on this road, but the first fatal one. An examination of part of the wrecked boiler showed that rows of rivets had entirely rusted off. General Manager Carl M. Gage and Master Mechanic Yohn would express no opinion as to the cause of the explosion.

Al Funk in Luck.

Tuesday's Public Opinion says that Alvin V. Funk, aged 45 years a farmer of Thompson township has been bequeathed \$150,000 by G. H. Miller of Fairfax county, Va.

Some years ago Mr. Funk was an industrious laborer on one of Mr. Miller's farms and was engaged to marry his only daughter, but the daughter died of a fever on the day set for the wedding. Mr. Funk remained five years with the parents and consoled them. He then returned to Fulton county, to take care of his aged mother, with whom he is now living, on her farm near Plum Run. Mr. Funk married, but Mr. Miller remembered him in his will leaving the bulk of his estate to him. Mr. Funk is a brother to Elder Calvin L. Funk a prominent Baptist clergyman of Belfast township.

Class of 1901.

The fourth class under our present graded school course, held its graduating exercises during the past week. On Sunday evening in the Presbyterian church Rev. C. M. Smith, pastor of the Reformed church of this place, preached the baccalaureate sermon. All the ministers in town were present and the large auditorium was taxed to its utmost capacity to seat the audience.

On Tuesday night the Commencement exercises were held in the Court House, which the class had beautifully decorated with bunting and evergreens. The class made a most pleasing appearance, and each member acquitted himself in the performance of his allotted duty in a manner highly creditable to himself and teacher, and much to the satisfaction of the large audience present.

The first class, numbering five members, graduated in 1898, at an average age of 19. The second class, numbering nineteen, graduated in 1899 at an average age of 17, the youngest member being 14. The third class graduated in 1900. It numbered eight; average age 17; youngest member, 16.

This year's class numbers 13; average age, 18; youngest member, 15.

The following is a list of the names of the members of the several classes.

CLASS OF 1898.

Ladies—Irvin Hull, Olive Grissinger, Bessie Grissinger.

Gentlemen—Morse Sloan, Jas. Kendall.

CLASS OF 1899.

Ladies—Mary L. Grove, Elizabeth Fisher, Lois A. Caldwell, Stella Sipes, Sophie A. Hohman, Ethel Virginia Hays, Wilhelmina Reiser, Florence Irene Trout, Alice Duffield Dickson, Mary Scott Sloan, Nella Suessero Trout, Nora Kendall Johnston, Cornelia Belle Nesbit, Zoe Margaret Mason, Mertie Stoner, Mabel Leone Trout, Alice Gertrude Sipes.

Gentlemen—Edward H. Reiser, James Sloan.

CLASS OF 1900.

Ladies—Nellie Hays, Jessie Mason, Mabel Kendall.

Gentlemen—Parker Skinner, William Patterson, Ellis L. Lynch, Harry Irwin, James Patterson.

CLASS OF 1901.

Ladies—Rhoda Elizabeth Kendall, Elizabeth Gertrude Sloan, Olive Blanche Kendall, Agnes R. Lynch, Nellie May Comerer, Emma Logan Sloan.

Gentlemen—J. Frank Irwin, Harry E. Seville, Nathan D. Everts, Harry E. Grissinger, George S. Grissinger, Sidney R. Gittens, Chas. W. Seville.

The Borough Graded Schools.

The Board of Directors have added two years to the time required to complete the course of study in our Borough schools. Children are admitted to the Primary school at the age of six and remain three years; from 9 to 12 they will spend in the Intermediate school; 12 to 15 in the Grammar school, and 15 to 18 in the High School. Owing to the change, there will not be a graduating class next year. Nothing has been added to the course of study—the point being to graduate stronger classes.

The course of study in the High School will be—First year—Begin Algebra; Begin Latin; Mental Arith. to Percentage; Written Arithmetic to Exchange, and complete work in Grammar.

Second year—Algebra to Quadratics; Latin to Caesar; Finish Mental and Written Arithmetic, Civil Government.

Third year—Algebra completed; Latin—Helvetian War, Rhetoric, Literature, and Plane Geometry.

The length of term will remain at eight months.

Mrs. Ruth W. Swop stopped a minute at the News office while in town last Saturday.

Dr. Hunter in Vienna.

[Dr. John R. Hunter, son of the late Dr. R. I. Hunter of Wells Valley, and son-in-law of Captain Harvey Wishart, has been practicing medicine at Lewistown during the past few years. While the Doctor is a graduate of one of the best medical institutions of this country, and had established a large and lucrative practice at Lewistown, he decided, this spring to go to Europe and take a special course in one of the great German institutions. The following are extracts from letters to Mrs. Hunter during his trip over to the "Faderland," and will be read with interest by John's schoolmates and friends in this country.—EDITOR.]

IN STRAITS OF DOVER, April 9, 1901. We are now speeding up the channel under the most auspicious circumstances with a day fit for the gods. The Calcium cliffs of England on one side and the green hills of France on the other, it makes one feel good after a week of rough, cloudy and disagreeable weather. Reached Cherbourg last night at 11.25 and dropped anchor until 5 this morning when we proceeded to Southampton, reaching there at 10 a. m. and now at 5 p. m. are almost through Straits of Dover, when we will enter North Sea and finally reach Bremen to-morrow (Wednesday) a. m. about 11. Have passed some of the most attractive landscapes to-day that nature could ever create. Among them Queen Victoria's Osborne Castle and estate and Tennyson's Estate, then the natural scenery is most romantic and different from anything I have ever seen. Aside from the sea-sickness, to-day's pleasure and profit is worth the trip. Have met some splendid people. One man—a business man from Hamburg—making his 38th trip, has been all over the world and a Mason (K. T.) There are many of them on board. Think I am O. K. from sickness now, but cannot tell for I felt good yesterday and got up at 5 o'clock to see Harbor of Cherbourg and "fed the fishes" before we had gone an hour. Have eaten lightly on deck to-day and feel fine so will go down for supper. The smell of cooking does me up when I go below. The waters are smooth up the Channel, only a little jar. Will mail this at Bremen to-morrow, but will not stay there long. But will be in Berlin several days for there is much to see there and I want a rest. Dr. Sweighart and I both went upon upper deck after dinner and laid down wrapped in our rugs to enjoy the sublime panorama of water and rocky cliffs (white chalk) and green hills. They now tell us we will reach Bremen Haven to-morrow about 9 in the morning and go by special train 30 miles to Bremen, and gave us our tickets. Will now close and return to room for last night on vessel. When we get up will be nearing the harbor and we will soon set our feet on terra-firma once again, much to our pleasure, yet I must say if we had a few days as to-day we would be happy on board.

HANOVER, April 11.

We have been recruiting somewhat from the knock out blow of the trans-Atlantic trip. We did Bremen yesterday in a carriage and walked considerable but confess my ability to walk is limited for I have yet my "sea legs." Bremen proved to be a beautiful and interesting city of 142,000 people and the cleanest place I was ever in. Came down to Hanover this morning and took many places of interest this p. m. Will leave here to-morrow for Berlin, 4 hours ride in train, narrow gauge, similar to East Broad Top R. R., only cars are well upholstered and each box holds six people. Punch tickets as you go through gate and after getting on train never see any conductor until you get to destination. Then as you come out of depot your ticket is taken up at gate. Engines are small as dinkys at home and have sharp fine whistles like toys. But all depots are fine buildings and on a large plan.

(Continued next week.)

Charlie Saw the King.

In a letter to his mother written last November, Rev. Charles Pittman tells how he saw the Shah, or King, of Persia. The king generally resides in the city of Toheran. But he has a beautiful palace at Ispahan, called the Palace of the Forty Pillars. Each of the forty pillars is supported by four lions of white marble. The whole edifice looks as if it were built of pearl and silver and precious stones.

The people are much less warlike than in former times. They live in splendid palaces, and the poor in mud huts. The character of the people is not altogether bad. They are as a rule fond of reading and telling instructive stories, many of which were written ages since.

Activity and indolence are singularly combined in the Persian character. Passionately fond of smoking, these people will indulge in it from morning until night; and in the absence of powerful inducements to action, they seem to resign themselves to idleness; sitting in one posture upon their heels, with their legs bent under them (tailor-fashion) for hours together, and frequently sleeping. When, however, they are roused from this lethargic state by urgent necessity, they will mount their horses and ride day and night without intermission.

No Persian feels that he is well dressed, however, if he does not have concealed somewhere in the folds of his girdle, a big long bladed dagger.

Now follows what Charlie tells of seeing the king:—

"The King has come to Tabriz and gone. He was on his way home from his trip to Europe, and visit to the Paris Exposition.

"That we might see him and his procession, a friend gave us the use of the roof of his garden. We missionaries all went in the morning, took lunch with us and had chairs. The flat roofs of all the houses were crowded with people. During the morning there was an almost continued procession of camels and horses carrying the baggage of the king. The English consul told us there were 15,000 animals in use in moving the king, his attendants, baggage &c., but I think 10,000 would be nearer the truth. There were 130 camels in one string, many of which, were decorated with bright ribbons and presented quite a gay appearance.

"Governors, Consuls, the Crown Prince, and many other prominent men went out of the city to meet the king, and to join the procession. Toward noon, the retinue, proper, began to enter the city. There were companies of poorly clad, and worse drilled, soldiers, then a camel band—that is a cornet band mounted on the backs of camels—the camels taking the place of a band wagon, was a novel feature of the parade; then came sixteen carriages, carefully guarded by soldiers. These carriages were required to carry such of the king's wives as were fortunate enough to be taken along on this outing. This explained why he had so much baggage along. About 1 o'clock there appeared a carriage drawn by eight horses. In this carriage rode the king. I took a snapshot of him as he passed, but the day was so cloudy, I fear I shall not get a good picture. His carriage was guarded by a large company of soldiers. He staid in our city from Wednesday until Saturday, when he departed for the capital, Teheran.

"Dr. Venneman, one of our missionaries is personally acquainted with the king, he having attended him professionally when the king was yet a crown prince. The Doctor called on the king during his stay here, and the king conferred a second honor upon him, having conferred one on a former occasion."

Master Raymond Peck and his sister Miss Lida were at McConnellsburg last Friday.

A Pretty Wedding.

At the home of Mr. and Mrs. David E. Little on East Main Street occurred a pleasing social event on Thursday evening of last week. The occasion was the marriage of Mr. Little's sister, Miss Emily, and Mr. Walter Ewing of Cape May, New Jersey.

Promptly at 8 o'clock, the bridal party entered the beautifully decorated parlor, Mr. D. E. Little acting as groomsmen and his sister Miss Lottie as bridesmaid. Rev. C. M. Smith of the Reformed church of this place performed the ceremony, and in a few solemn and impressive moments the young couple were pronounced husband and wife.

The bride, elegantly attired in white organdie and lace, with a white aigrette in her hair, and a bunch of Maresch Niel roses carried gracefully in her hand, looked very pretty.

The groom is a prominent young mechanic of New Jersey's famous summer resort, and will in a short time go to housekeeping in that city.

After the bride and groom had been most heartily congratulated by the guests present, they were led by the hostess to the dining room for refreshments. Any attempt at description would fall short of doing the host and hostess justice. They were simply great.

Among those present to enjoy the festivities were Mr. John A. McEwen, Mr. and Mrs. Delmer McEwen, Miss Jennie McCleary, and Mr. Clyde Shaffer—all of Mercersburg; Mrs. Palmer Brown of Michigan; Mr. Charles Ridgely and Miss Emma Ridgely of Chambersburg; and Mr. and Mrs. M. R. Shaffner, Rev. and Mrs. C. M. Smith, Mrs. S. B. Woollet, Mrs. B. W. Peck, Misses Carrie and Elsie Groathead, Misses Flora and Maggie Rexroth, Misses Olive and Marnie Grissinger of McConnellsburg.

The wedding march was played by Miss Marnie Grissinger. The bridal couple went over to Mercersburg Friday and were given a reception at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Ewing Friday evening when on Saturday they took the morning train for Philadelphia.

From Dr. Sharpe.

HARTFORD CITY, IND., May 7, 1901.

MR. B. W. PECK, McCONNELLSBURG, PA. DEAR SIR—Enclosed find money order for two years subscription to your paper. Your correspondents over the county give the items so fully that it seems like getting a letter each week. The Fulton County colony in Hartford City has been growing smaller during the last few years. N. H. Peck has sold his property and moved all of his goods to Pittsburg, Pa., where he expects to make his home indefinitely.

S. B. Hill, formerly one of Fulton's teachers has been for three years living in Fairmount, Ind., managing a telephone exchange, and is doing well. Last fall he was married to a lady of Dayton, O., and I presume, has settled in Indiana to stay.

All of this part of the state is having a boom. Hartford is becoming an oil centre. Many wells that produced gas a few years ago, are now oil producers. Besides that, a number of very substantial factories are being built. It is thought the population of our town will be increased nearly one half this year. It is now about 8,000.

Everybody who will work finds plenty to do. Common labor is paid \$1.50 per day, which is the price set by the State for work on public buildings. Carpenters are much in demand at 20c an hour. If there are any Fulton county boys-out of a job, they had better "go West."

Wishing you continued success, I remain,

Very truly,
T. W. SHARPE.

Merchant Michael Laidig spent last Saturday in town.

Wedding Reception.

The home of Postmaster and Mrs. Geo. M. Doran, of Burnt Cabins was the scene on Tuesday of one of the most pleasing social functions of the season. It was a reception given in honor of their daughter Alce, and Rev. Geo. W. McInay, who had been married at the home of Dr. and Mrs. Appleby, uncle and aunt of the bride, in Tyrone, on the 2d inst.

Rev. McInay had been pastor of the M. E. church at Burnt Cabins, and this spring was transferred to Munson, Clearfield county, where a parsonage is being erected for the occupancy of the bride and groom, and will be ready for them about the middle of July.

The couple arrived at the home of the bride's parents about noon Tuesday, and found about 100 guests assembled to participate in the joyous occasion. The parlors of the Doran residence were beautifully decorated, and the refreshments in keeping with the well known hospitality of the host and hostess.

Among those present were:—Fannettsburg—Rev. and Mrs. J. Smith Gordon, Mr. and Mrs. J. B. Seibert, Mr. and Mrs. Robt. Miller, Crawford Everett and sister, Mrs. Robert Cowan, Miss Mame Kegeris, Mrs. Mathias Snyder, Miss Verna Park.

Neelyton—Mr. and Mrs. Jas. Harper, Mr. and Mrs. Alex. Harper, Mrs. Doras Peterson, Mrs. James Wiley, Mr. and Mrs. Campbell Stett.

Shade Gap—Mr. and Mrs. Jno. C. Taylor, Mr. and Mrs. David Beulman, Mr. and Mrs. Samuel Miller, Mrs. S. C. Montgomery, Mrs. Mary Jones and daughter Ethel, Mr. and Mrs. Clair Appleby, Mrs. Newton Minich.

Decorum—Mr. and Mrs. Geo. S. Appleby, Mr. and Mrs. T. B. Appleby, Mrs. E. J. Peterson and daughter; Mr. and Mrs. J. C. Peterson, son and daughter; Mr. and Mrs. Jacob Krouse, Mr. and Mrs. Mal. Free, Mr. and Mrs. John Kope, Mr. and Mrs. Harry Foreman, Mr. Harry Clymans.

Bedford—Mr. and Mrs. C. J. Potts.

Shirleysburg—Mr. and Mrs. John Appleby.

Mount Union—Mrs. D. C. Appleby.

Spring Run—Mr. and Mrs. John Clymans.

Orbisonia—Miss Lou Gilliland, Fort Littleton—Dr. and Mrs. D. A. Hill, Miss Annie Buckley, McConnellsburg—Mr. M. R. Shaffner.

Altoona—Miss Rosanna Appleby.

Burnt Cabins—Mrs. W. M. Comerer, Mrs. J. E. Welch, Miss Mattie Oliver, Miss Dora Johnston, Mrs. Sarah McGowan, Miss Lizzie Welch, Mrs. Mary Kochenderfer, Mr. J. C. McGowan, Mrs. J. B. Welch and son, Josephine Doran, Geddes Kelly, Rev. and Mrs. Harry W. Seifert, Mrs. Mary Mumma, Mr. and Mrs. John W. Miller, Miss Bessie Reese, Mr. and Mrs. John Mentzer and son; Mr. Henry C. Miller, Mr. and Mrs. Samuel Curfman and son; Mr. and Mrs. A. P. Doran and family, Mrs. B. M. Gamble, Mr. S. E. Gilliland and mother, and Mr. H. H. Heetzer.

Rib Broken.

Last Saturday, George Heimbach of Ayr township was at the home of a neighbor, John Seiders, who is erecting an addition to his house. A large piece of timber was to be handled, and George, among others, took hold of it. While in the act of lifting it, something was heard to break, and George sank, and soon thereafter fainted.

He was taken to his home and Dr. Mosser summoned when it was found that one of Mr. Heimbach's ribs just over his heart was broken, and that the pressure from the fracture was interfering with the action of that organ. It is necessary that George shall take good care of himself for a while.

PERSONAL.

Mr. Joseph Palmer, of Mount Union, Pa., is visiting his brother Mr. Elijah N. Palmer, of West Main street.—Everett Press.

L. L. Cunningham and S. S. Alloway of New Grenada were among those at the Presbyterian church Sunday night.

Mr. N. E. M. Hoover spent Monday in town. His eyes which had been giving him much trouble during the past winter are much improved.

John A. McEwen of the Journal office, Mercersburg, was a pleasant caller last Friday morning. He had been over at the Ewing—Little wedding.

Mr. W. S. St. Clair and daughter Blanche, of Metal, Franklin county, came over Saturday and staid till Sunday with the family of Jacob Motter.

Mrs. Susan Ott, of Chambersburg, came over with her son-in-law D. S. Gilbert, on Wednesday and will spend a couple of weeks among friends here.

Mr. and Mrs. Isaac B. Layton spent Monday in town. Mr. Layton is still in the undertaking business, and has now a nice lot of walnut caskets on hand.

Mr. and Mrs. Ed Austin drove over from Salvia Tuesday afternoon and returned Wednesday. Ed brought his violin along and assisted the orchestra at the Commencement exercises.

Life-insurance-man Darbey is spending this week in town. Mr. Darbey is a fine violinist and rendered much appreciated assistance in the orchestra at the Commencement Tuesday evening.

Messrs. Philip Ott and friend, Robert Stouteagle, of McConnellsburg spent Monday night last as the guests of Mr. Ott's sister, Mrs. Henry Shue, of Penn'a avenue.—Mount Union Times.

Mr. George C. Melius of Taylor township, accompanied by his little grand-daughter Lessie Rowe, called at the News office a few minutes last Friday. They were on their way for a little trip to Franklin county.

Miss Amy Fleming and Miss Daisy Polk were callers at the News office last Friday. Miss Fleming will spend Wednesday of each week in McConnellsburg, for the accommodation of those who may wish to take music lessons. She is a graduate of the Harrisburg Conservatory of Music, and a skillful instructor.

Memorial Day Here.

Memorial services will be held at McConnellsburg under the auspices of King Post No. 365 Dept. Pa. on May 30th, commencing at 1.30 p. m. at the Court House.

Addresses will be made by Revs. Smith, Wolf, and McCloskey, also by M. R. Shaffner, Esq., and Dr. A. D. Dalbey. Mrs. George W. Reiser, assisted by a choir of young ladies, will furnish music for the occasion. Mrs. Lou Jackson assisted by Mrs. Roettger and others will arrange the flowers.

After the services in the Court House the Post will form for parade, and preceded by the drum corp, will escort the different Sabbath schools to the burial place of our departed comrades, there to deposit flowers upon their graves.

The burial places will be visited in the following order—Reformed, Lutheran, Methodist, and Presbyterian, after which the parade will be dismissed.

All soldiers are invited to participate; also the Sabbath schools and the public generally.

As many as can are requested to bring flowers.

On Sunday, May 26th, Rev. West will preach a memorial sermon at the Presbyterian church. King Post will be present, and all soldiers are invited to come.

ELLIOTT RAY, Commandant.
DAVID MALLOY, Adjutant.
For 50 cents we will send you the News for six months.