

# The Fulton County News.

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## IOWA FALLS.

Letter From Rev. George B. Shoemaker.

EDITOR NEWS:—It seems like a long time since my wife and I were in old McConnellsburg; but when I stop to think, it is only a few weeks at most. We reached our Iowa home on the 19th day of April, glad that we had been permitted to spend a few days with the old friends, and in the midst of old scenes. We were pleased, also, to be in our home again. The month's absence from my charge has made it necessary for me to work hard in order to catch up, but I have been happy in my work, and that means much. Iowa is beautiful now. I wish you could see this land to-day.

The season promises to be an unusually fruitful one. For a time we were in need of rain, but now we have had an abundance, and everything looks well. Strawberries were not quite as plentiful as they would have been if rain had come sooner; but there were enough after all. Raspberries, currants, gooseberries, and such small fruit are plentiful. Cherries were abundant, the late ones are just ripening now. They are all of the red, sour kind. I wish I had, right now, some of the big ox-heart cherries I used to get when I was a boy. I think I taste them now. Plums will be a full crop, and the full variety of apples will also be abundant.

The farmers have been making hay for some time. Oats will be ripe before a great while. The farmers in this section raise some wheat. They do not plant much, but almost every farmer puts in some. Our flour mills get more wheat at home than they can use, and they grind constantly, Sunday excepted. Corn is the great crop in Iowa, and it is in prime condition.

The weather for the last four days has been delightful. Sunday was one of the most perfect days I ever saw. To-day it is some warmer but not so oppressive. We have had some very warm weather, reaching one hundred in the shade, and the cooler spell is, therefore, very refreshing.

Iowa Falls is having a building boom. Many residence houses are in process of erection, and four new business blocks are being built.

Work has begun on our new railroad, the Des Moines, Iowa Falls & Northern, to connect us with our Capital city. We Methodist people have caught the spirit of improvement. In eight days we raised over three thousand dollars (\$3000) with which to beautify our house of worship. Work will begin as plans can be perfected and we hope to have it completed before our Conference meets in October.

We celebrated the Fourth of July, with the usual noise and parade, and also the usual lack of thoughtfulness and patriotism. Fortunately there were no accidents to life or limb.

Not long ago I was called back to Clarksville, Iowa, one of my early Iowa charges. Naturally I thought of many things that transpired during my administration there. Among these was my very first wedding. It was on a Saturday night in November. He was a widower bordering on seventy. She was a widow of about fifty. He was exceedingly talkative, among other things telling about his farm and grown children, &c., and then said, "I got tired living by myself, cooking, washing dishes, making my own fires, milking cows, &c., and I thought I'd get married." When they stood to take the vows and I asked him, "Wilt thou have this woman to be thy wedded wife, &c.," he replied, "Yes sir, that I will with all my heart." The bride was quiet and modest in her responses and she did not prove to be such a helpmeet as the old gentleman thought she would be.

I understand there are to be some weddings in the near future in old McConnellsburg and I

suggest to the rooms the form of response as given by the widower mentioned above. It certainly is hearty to say the least.

When we passed through Littleton on our way to Altoona last spring, I bought of my friend Samuel Buckley three cents worth of hoarhound candy. I can recommend him for that kind of candy. It is the everlasting candy I ever bought I have some of it yet. It is good candy, too.

If you should see Dr. Hill of Littleton, tell him I am waiting patiently for a reply to a letter I wrote him soon after I came home; and if he does not answer soon, I will be compelled to afflict him with another dose, and this time it will be an allopathic dose. With best wishes for a bountiful year to all who may read these lines, I am,

Yours truly,  
GEO. B. SHOEMAKER.

## A Remarkable Church Record.

Rev. Abraham Hershey has served as pastor of Hershey's Mennonite church in York county, Dover township, for forty years without pay. He was elected by drawing a slip from a hymn book, and after his selection continued his occupation as preacher and farmer. His grandfather was one of the earliest settlers of York county and was a Russian Mennonite. He fled to this country to escape persecution and bought 500 acres of land in Dover township, of William Penn for \$50. He founded the Mennonite sect in York county and was its first pastor. He built Hershey's church and at his death his son was elected to succeed him as pastor. Thus for three generations Hershey's church has had a Hershey as its pastor. The last member of the family has retired from farming, being 70 years of age, but continues to preach. The three pastorates of the Hersheys cover about 125 years. The family is one of the most notable in the state. None of the present pastor's sons will accept the pastorate at his death, as they have established a large Mennonite bakery in York county.

## Saluvia.

Miss Ella Minick, of Everett, is visiting her grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. John Minick, at this place.

Miss Dora Deshong is attending normal school at Hustontown.

Miss Lottie Hockensmith, is seriously ill at this writing.

John S. Harris is suffering from a very large gathering on his hip. He has been confined to his room the past week.

The heaviest electrical storm of this season, accompanied by a high wind, and a downpour of rain passed over this vicinity Thursday evening.

During the storm Thursday evening lightning struck the chimney on the dwelling house of D. S. Mellott, wrecking the chimney as far down as the top floor where it entered the building and tore a hole in the floor, and passed down to the sitting room underneath, tearing off a lot of plastering from the ceiling, and the floor underneath the stove passing through to the basement kitchen, striking the top of the cooking stove. After beaking the top of the stove, the bolt seemed to divide—one part wrecking a window and the other passing to the floor tore off a strip of base board underneath the supper table. Mr. and Mrs. Mellott and their son John A. were engaged in eating supper in the basement kitchen when the storm gathered and at the suggestion of Mrs. Mellott who felt timid, they had just retired from the table, when the room was filled by a blinding flash, followed by a dense smoke. Fortunately the building did not catch fire; and with the exception of the shock and an injury to Mr. Mellott's hearing, the family, suffered no serious injury. Mr. Mellott is to be congratulated that he sustained no greater loss.

## HEAVY STORM.

Much Damage Done Last Thursday Evening.

One of the most widely destructive storms passed over this county last Thursday evening about six o'clock. The clouds were so low and heavy that it grew dark as night for nearly a quarter of an hour, the rain fell in torrents and the deep peals of thunder followed each other in deep succession.

A valuable cow belonging to Mr. E. R. Fraker near Fort Littleton was struck by lightning and killed while grazing in a field.

At Hustontown, the storm was unusually heavy. A bolt of lightning struck a flue in the residence of Joseph A. Chesnut, shattered it, ran down until it came to a stovepipe which it followed to the stove. The cookstove doors were thrown open, carpet torn, rugs singed, and the floor pierced as the electric fluid was making its exit.

Stephen Keefer's stable was struck and set on fire, and it would have been totally destroyed had it not been for the prompt help received from the neighbors.

The dwelling of D. S. Mellott, in Licking Creek township, was struck and pretty badly damaged. The bolt hit a chimney, knocking it to pieces. The flue extended only to the third floor on which stood a teaplate stove. The fluid passed down the pipe, through the stove, burned a hole through the floor, jumped down on a teaplate stove that stood on the second floor directly under the first, passed through this stove then down through the floor to a cook stove that stood on the lower floor directly in a line with those above and then passed along the floor into the back cellar where it went into the ground. A box of matches on the mantel were scattered over the room, the matches being broken into little bits.

The family were just about sitting down to supper when the storm came in greatest fury. Fortunately no one was very near the stove.

The residence of George H. Unger of Ayr township was also struck in the same storm. In this case, as in that of Mr. Mellott, the chimney was struck and the flue shattered. The lightning left the chimney where it reached the stovepipe, and followed the pipe down through the stove and then through the floor burning a hole in the floor and destroying some carpet, rugs, and oilcloth. A lot of jellies, preserves &c., stored in a cupboard in an upstairs room were disturbed and the paper covers removed.

Mrs. Unger was shocked so severely that it was with difficulty that she could get away from the room.

William H. Cooper was standing in the "entry" door at Sloan Warthen's barn. A bolt of lightning struck near the barn and some of the fluid was deflected and drawn by a current of air through the open door knocking Mr. Cooper down and burning his face and arm severely.

A large number of telephone poles in different parts of the county were shattered into splinters.

The heavy rain just carried enough of Hunter Patterson's cornfield down to completely fill Duffy's mill race at Webster Mills.

## Promoted.

Prof. Harry E. Gress, who has been the principal of the Harford Soldiers' Orphan school the past year, has been transferred to the principalship of the school at Uniontown, Fayette county. This is a promotion for Mr. Gress, as the salary is \$10 per month more. He has made an enviable reputation and the Harford school parts with him with much reluctance. He will enter upon his duties at Uniontown about Sept. 1.

W. H. Peck, Esq., of Gem spent last Friday at McConnellsburg.

## ANOTHER "BARE" STORY.

A young man returning to his home in Hagerstown, left this place last Saturday noon to cross the mountain to Mercersburg on foot. When near the top of the mountain, a big black bear shambled down the bank into the road, and when he saw our Hagerstown friend a few feet distant, he stood erect on his hind feet and with his boxing gloves on, began to banter our young man for a "round." The sensation of a chill creeping up the young man's spinal column soon gave way, and great beads of perspiration broke out all over his body. The young man felt awfully lonesome, and tried to recall "Now I lay me" and "Onward Christian Soldiers," expecting every moment the bear would make a dinner of him. But to his great relief, the bear dropped down on all fours and leisurely walked down across the road and disappeared into the bushes.

As soon as the young man could gather himself together, he lit out at a 2.064 gait and never stopped until he reached Charlie Youse's at the toll gate. After hearing of the fearful adventure Charlie took his rifle and dog and went gunning for Bruin, but did not find him.

## A Misnomer.

The American Salvation Army, consisting of Gen. John Pedden and Captain A. Dotterman, of Knobsville, Fulton Co., Pa., are encamped on the old Camp Ground for a month and will hold daily services.

The army consists of a general and a captain, not in command of anything in particular. Messrs. Pedden and Dotterman organized themselves into a salvation army that never existed and elected themselves to the principal offices incorporating in 1880 in New York at a cost of \$25 for religious purposes. The army is purely an evangelical organization parading under a misnomer. Their chief attraction lies in the novel and sensational methods of presenting rudimentary christianity. The philosophy and history of religion are never discussed by tent dwellings, and alas, very rarely by mediaeval ecclesiastics. Emotional and sensation! religion is not lasting even among the superstitious and unintelligent and it is a question whether camp meetings and similar organizations benefit anybody except themselves. The ideal religion is the one that carries food, clothing, the necessities of life, and employment to the unfortunates who have been tossed into the gutter by mistakes their parents and the lamentable social conditions generally.

## Found Snake in Bureau.

Mrs. Otho Brown, who lives at Jugtown, on South Mountain, Washington county, Md., is in a critical condition from the effects of being bitten by a copperhead snake. Mrs. Brown, who was sick in bed arose to get something from a bureau drawer, and on opening it discovered a snake coiled up in the bottom. Like a flash the snake struck her in the arm, which immediately commenced to swell and she was made violently ill. A physician was summoned and by prompt attention saved her life. A few hours after being bitten Mrs. Brown gave birth to a bouncing baby boy.

## OTT.

Died at the home of her parents Mr. and Mrs. William Ott in Ayr township on last Thursday morning, Stella Kate, aged 9 months and 16 days.

"The little crib is empty now,  
The little clothes laid by;  
A mother's hope, a father's joy,  
In death's cold arm doth lie.  
Go, little pilgrim, to thy home,  
On yonder blissful shore;  
We miss thee here, but soon will come,  
Where thou hast gone before."

## RALPH PATTERSON'S REMAINS

Will Be Here in a Day or Two.

A telegram was received here stating that the body of Ralph Patterson, a member of Company M, 39th Regiment P. V. who died in the Philippine Islands on the 19th of March 1900, was shipped to Mercersburg by express from San Francisco last Friday evening at 6 o'clock.

The body is expected here on Thursday and the funeral will take place a day or two later. Not knowing just when the remains will reach here, it is not possible to state definitely when the funeral will take place. The funeral will take place in McConnellsburg, and interment will be made in the family lot in Union cemetery.

## Wells Tannery.

While Lena, daughter of W. B. Stunkard, was gathering berries a few days ago, a copperhead snake bit her on the hand. It has been very painful, but her physician has hopes of a speedy recovery.

Owing to the constant falling rain Saturday evening, the Ladies' Aid Lawn Fete was a failure. They held a festival in the Hall that was well patronized by the town people. Proceeds, \$12.50.

Mrs. Ran McDonald and children visited her parents at Mad-denville.

James McDonough, of New Grenada, was in our vicinity Saturday on business.

Messrs. Lodge and Hixon of Crystal Springs spent Sunday with Clarence Horton.

Nathan Horton and Miss Bessie Mellott spent Sunday with her parents at Clearville.

Mrs. G. A. Fulcher and her two sons, Sprague and Paul, of Everett, have been spending a few days in our valley. Sprague is home on vacation from the Presbyterian College in Emporia, Kansas, where he has been preparing for the ministry. He preached a very able sermon in the Hall Sunday evening.

## Knobsville.

Heavy rain here last Thursday evening.

Farmers are about done cutting grain. Some are hauling in big crops of wheat and hay.

Our town boarders have left.

Harvest hands are beginning to return from Franklin county.

Mr. Harry McLaughlin is getting better. Had his shoulder broken in a wrestle with his "bike."

Ice cream is all the go in our town these hot evenings.

There was a great deal of trouble with the farmers' binders this harvest.

Our band proposes to hold a "Harvest Home" soon.

The schools will soon be let and we hope that our directors will give us good teachers up here this winter. The citizens here would like to have our old teacher E. B. Cline for Knobsville. He is a good teacher. Some want it that should not have it according to their teaching last winter. Tod pays good wages and should have good teachers. If the Directors want poor teachers, give them er pay according to their work. A poor mechanic should not get as much as a good one.

Corn is growing nicely. Potatoes are scarce and going to be a poor crop. Fruit and berries are going to be a pretty fair crop.

## Big Cove Tannery.

Miss Mae Harr who had been employed at Libonia is spending some time with her parents at this place.

Mr. and Mrs. Henry Tritle spent Sabbath at Mr. Elliot Ray's.

Misses Irene Pott, and Lizzie and Sophia Houck, killed a large rattlesnake on last Friday.

Hon. and Mrs. D. H. Patterson were in our town, Sabbath evening.

## Disorderly Conduct.

A new law, defining the offense of disorderly conduct by persons on railroad or railway cars, public or private parks or picnic grounds, is now in force, although the public generally are not aware of it. The bill was signed by the governor on May 21. As will be seen by the wording of the act, it is no difficult matter to get into trouble over it.

"Section 1. Be it enacted, etc. That if any person or persons shall willfully make or cause to be made any loud, boisterous or unseemly noise, or by using obscene or profane language, disturb or annoy any one who shall be passengers upon any railroad or railway car, or who may be visitors at any public or private park, or picnic grounds kept for the amusement of the public in this commonwealth, whereby through such conduct the public peace is broken or disturbed, or the public annoyed, he, she or they shall be guilty of the offense of disorderly conduct; and upon conviction thereof before any magistrate, justice of the peace, alderman, mayor or burgess, shall be sentenced to pay the costs of prosecution, and to forfeit and pay a fine not exceeding ten dollars, and in default of the payment thereof, shall be committed to and imprisoned in the county jail of the proper county for a period not exceeding 30 days.

"Section 2. It shall be the duty of all the magistrates, justices of the peace, aldermen, mayors or burgesses, to pay over to the treasurer of their respective counties all fines or forfeits collected by virtue of this act, quarterly on or before the first Monday of March, June, September and December of each year, and at the expiration of their term of office.

## Excelsior (Union Twp.)

Our farmers are feeling pretty blue over the continued wet weather.

Last week one day Andrew Barney and his brother Albert were crossing Sideling Hill mountain. When they had reached a point on the west side near the Maryland line, Albert espied a large snake among the rocks. By dropping a large stone on the snake's head, the reptile was placed at a disadvantage, and the boys then proceeded to kill it. The snake measured 3 feet 9 1/2 inches in length and 8 inches in circumference, and had 13 rattles and a button.

Ethel Hiles was the guest of Cora Stoner one day last week.

The Children's Day service was right well attended at the Christian church last Sunday.

Charley Price was visiting his sister, Mrs. Lizzie Gienger last Sunday a week.

Miss Mary P. Hendershot is very ill at this writing, but hope she will soon recover.

Georgia Price, Cora Robinette, and Mary Traub, of Piney Grove, attended the Fourth in Buck Valley.

Wm. Smith and family of Texas are visiting his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Daniel Smith.

Elsie Bottomfield, of Washington county, Md., is attending school at Needmore.

Last Thursday evening while the terrible storm was passing over our Valley with the heavy fall of rain and hard claps of thunder and streaks of lightning Mr. Thomas Stoner's grain shed was struck on the northwest corner. The lightning was supposed to have run down the post into three loads of dry grain rakings, which caught on fire and burnt the grain shed and caught in the stable and wagonshed and burnt them. The horses and farming implements were all gotten out except some few things which on account of the intense heat could not be saved.

The Everett Presbyterian congregation is building a new church edifice this summer.

## PERSONAL.

S. E. Peck is visiting his brother the editor of the News.

Mrs. A. B. Hanks and daughter of Chambersburg, are visiting friends at Everett.

Master John Reiser went over to Williamson Tuesday morning to spend ten days with friends there.

Misses Ada and Jessie Steach of Altoona are visiting their grandfather and uncles in this place.

Miss Bessie Irwin left Tuesday morning for Altoona where she will visit her Uncle Will's family and her brother Frank.

Charlie Duffy of Philadelphia is taking a short vacation with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. W. H. Duffy at Webster Mills.

J. Howard Edwards, who is doing a hustling grocery business at Portage, was in McConnellsburg last Saturday.

Miss Cora J. Decker of Warfordsburg returned home on Tuesday on account of the illness of her mother, Mrs. J. J. Decker.

Mr. Harry Krebs, of Clear-spring, Md., accompanied by his sister Miss Elizabeth spent a week the guests of Miss Netha Nesbit.

Harry E. Goldsmith, of Wind-ber Pa., spent Sunday in Everett with his wife and baby, who are visiting her father and mother, Mr. and Mrs. P. G. Morgart.

Harvey Nesbit who a few weeks ago submitted to a surgical operation in Philadelphia, is home again. Harvey looks a little pale but is rapidly regaining health.

Mr. Wm. B. Sipes, a prominent merchant of Mount Carroll, Illinois, came over from Everett Tuesday and is visiting his parents, Mr. and Mrs. D. V. Sipes.

Scott Rinedollar who has been engaged in the tailoring business at Everett, returned Monday evening for a visit to his parents, Mr. and Mrs. David Rinedollar.

Mr. and Mrs. G. C. Sanders, of Gettysburg, and Mrs. Elwood V. Shoetz and daughter of Memphis, Tenn., are guests of Rev. and Mrs. Wolf at the Lutheran parsonage.

Misses Lena Dunlap, Ethel Red-dig and Marden Stouteagle, the latter of McConnellsburg, spent the Fourth in Newville, the guests of Miss Rena Maxwell. Shippensburg Chronicle.

Mr. J. Nelson Mellott, who has held a lucrative and responsible position in Pittsburg for several years, spent a few days recently with his parents Mr. and Mrs. D. R. Mellott of Licking Creek township.

Miss Lizzie Bain, one of the most skilled teachers in the Bedford public schools, and her brother John, an employe of the Ladew Leather Company of New York, visited friends in this county last week.

Mr. and Mrs. R. M. Dixon of Pittsburg accompanied by Mrs. Dixon's mother Mrs. A. Runyan of Needmore spent Saturday with Mr. and Mrs. John B. Runyan of this place. Mr. and Mrs. Dixon returned to Pittsburg Monday.

W. H. Hess, of Thompson, spent from Saturday until Monday morning with Mr. and Mrs. Harry Atkinson at Mercersburg; he went to Chambersburg Monday and returned for a short visit among friends at McConnellsburg.

Miss Elizabeth Patterson, after a pleasant visit among friends in Philadelphia and Pittsburg, is home with her parents, Hon. and Mrs. D. H. Patterson at Webster Mills. She and her sister Miss Blanche spent Tuesday afternoon in town.

Miss Ella Litton, who during the past few years has been engaged in teaching in the schools of Allegheny, is spending her summer vacation with her mother, Mrs. Hattie Kendall, of the Cove. She has been re-elected for next year and at a very material increase in salary.