

# The Fulton County News.

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## An Armenian Wedding.

[The following description of a wedding in the Orient is extracted from a private letter from Rev. Charles R. Pitman of this place, but who is now a Missionary in Persia. It was not written for publication and is used without asking his consent; but he is so far away that we do not feel much afraid of him.—EDITOR.]

"The wedding was the marriage of a young man who is a graduate of our Boy's School, but is not a member of our church. He applied for membership once but would not agree to have a Protestant wedding which is one of the conditions of church membership, and was, therefore, not received. He married the daughter of an Armenian priest, and invited all the Missionaries.

"The wedding took place last Wednesday. The friends of the groom were invited to his home, and the lady friends of the bride met at her home, at seven o'clock on Wednesday evening. Dr. Wright, Dr. Wilson and I went to the home of the groom at that time. When we arrived, we found several men sitting around on a brick paved place which had been carpeted for the occasion, just back of the house. Back of this, was a small garden of almond trees, dotted with a half-dozen lamp posts. We met and congratulated the groom on our arrival, and took seats with the rest of the men and were served with tea. I took a seat from which I could see through an open window into a small room occupied by several ladies, two of whom were dancing to the music of a small drum and two fife-like instruments, and the rest were sitting around the sides of the room on the floor looking on. They began slowly, and kept getting faster until the close. The dancing is very pretty and graceful, and I think much less harmful than dancing in America. The ladies and gentlemen seldom, if ever, dance together.

"Then we were served with cherries, plums, and cucumbers. The cucumbers were cut lengthwise, and eaten with the rind on; sometimes with salt and pepper, sometimes without. They are much better and more tender than cucumbers in America, so that the rind and all can be eaten; and of these cucumbers, one may eat as many as he likes without getting sick. I was dubious at first about eating the rind, but found it really good.

"Then the musicians came outside and the men took their turn at dancing, while the women watched from the window (the Armenian women are not as secluded as the Moslem, but are more like Europeans.) Dr. Wright thought he had seen enough, and decided to leave; but I had become interested in the proceeding, and decided to wait and see the finish. The ladies now disappeared and the servants spread the table and invited the men. I said "table," but it was simply a bright colored tablecloth spread on the floor of a long narrow room, and cushions placed around the sides of the room. We sat on our heels on these cushions, as we might at a picnic at home. As I entered the room I was directed to a place at the right hand of the priest, who was at the opposite side of the room. I was perplexed as to how I was to get there; but all difficulty was removed when I saw the natives walk across the table; so I made two steps across the table, and was at my place. We remained standing while the priest asked a blessing, and then sat down on our feet. The priest, who sat next to me, I learned, was seventy-six years old and had been a priest for fifty years. On the other side of me was a native helper of ours—a teacher in the Boys' School, and he interpreted for me. First we ate native bread and herbs, like peppermint, sweet myrrh, and onion tops. The second course was mutton boiled with a sauce and served with young squashes cooked. The

## September Weather.

Rev. Hicks, in "Word and Works," predicts variable weather for September. The autumnal equinox, central on the 22d, covers the whole month with its perturbing influence, he asserts in his forecast, and as a result storms and changes peculiar to the season are apt to break out at any time and sure to break out at some time during the transition of the seasons to opposite ends of the globe, or in the equinoctial period proper.

Warm and dry periods will prevail throughout September. The first regular storm period will be from the 10th to 13th. "In all probability general rain storms gales and changes of weather will visit the interior of the continent at this time, as well as the coast region."

"The reactionary storm period, central about the 16th and 17th, will bring perceptible changes to storm conditions, but more general and energetic disturbances are almost certain to result during the Vulcan storm period central on the 22nd, coincident with the center of earth's autumnal equinox." The final storm period reaches from the 26th to 30th. Glancing ahead into the weather conditions of 1902, Rev. Hicks believes that we shall not pass out of this period of "minimum" precipitation with a bound, but that a shortage in general rains, to a "less destructive extent," will be characteristic of the coming year. He believes that the "rain belt" which touched the extreme north in 1900, and moved further south in 1901, will advance further southward in 1902, but that the rainfall will not be excessive even there, and that the central and southern parts of the country will have another summer of shortage of rainfall."

## Needmore.

Your scribe from this place seems to have taken his departure; so we presume he will not object if we substitute ourselves.

Our town bears a resemblance of "The Deserted Village" since school closed.

The department of the students while here was exceptionally creditable, and our associations with them very pleasant. We hope they liked our town.

Mr. G. Ellis Sipe who has been visiting in this community returned to his home in Pittsburg this week. His wife will attend Crystal Springs camp until it closes.

Dr. J. S. Swartzwelder's brother and family of McKeesport were visiting the Doctor last week.

Mr. Watson Gienger of Buck Valley passed through this place on Saturday.

Mrs. Joe Garland who has been ill for some time is improving slowly.

Master Wallace, son of Dr. and Mrs. Swartzwelder, who has had a severe attack of fever, is improving rapidly. The other sick folks are doing as well as can be expected.

Mr. Moses Hill is spending a few days at his home.

The lecture given at the close of the school by Rev. William J. Shaffer entitled "A Block of Marble," was a success. The lecture in itself is full of good thought, scholarly arranged, and the force of character with which Mr. Sheaffer presents it cannot help but make favorable and lasting impressions.

Dr. J. J. Palmer has been laid up for a few days with a sprained knee.

Mr. Emanuel Sharp and daughter Beatrice left for Pittsburg on Friday last where they will spend a few days with Mr. Sharp's sister.

Mrs. Wesley McKee is spending some time in our village.

Ed Brake of Chambersburg, is spending this week with his family in this place. He has not entirely recovered from his bicycle accident.

## Joshua N. Barton.

One of Brush Creek Valley's best citizens died suddenly on the camp ground at Crystal Springs last Sunday morning about 5 o'clock, aged about 70 years.

For some time, Mr. Barton has relinquished farming, and his old home just adjacent to the camp ground has been occupied by one of his sons, he and Mrs. Barton occupying a part of the house. When camp began last week they moved into a tent on the grounds, and he was enjoying the services and in his usual health up to Saturday when he complained of not feeling well. A doctor was called, and after giving him some medicine, left, saying that he thought Mr. Barton would be all right in a short time. He awoke Sunday morning, talked with his wife, and seemed to be right well. After Mrs. Barton had been down stairs about her morning work awhile, she told her son-in-law to go up and give Mr. Barton his medicine. When the son-in-law reached Mr. Barton's bedside, he found him dead.

Funeral took place on the camp ground Monday, and his remains were interred at McKendree.

Mr. Barton was married to Miss Sarah Hoop, a sister of the late George Hoop of Licking Creek township.

## Never Had a Shoe On.

No person on the South Mountain this season has attracted more attention than Richard Reginald Bassett, son of Proprietor Jesse V. Bassett, of the Hotel Imperial. He is a little fellow only 3 years and 8 months old, but very bright and remarkably sturdy. The distinguishing characteristic of the boy is that he has never worn a shoe. His parents are long time sufferers with throat trouble, as is his older brother. At the birth of the youngster the family physician advised that his parents refrain from protecting his feet, as he showed evidence of having inherited the family throat affliction. The physician's advice was followed and the boy's feet were never covered with stocking or shoe. With the beginning of last winter the physician ordered that the boy be allowed to run barefoot on the streets, even in the severest weather. The parents did as they were advised, and the boy has not only been free from throat trouble but has gained in physical strength and in general robustness. He weighs within 10 pounds of his brother, who is 6 years and 3 months the elder. Mr. Bassett's home is in Round-oke, Va.

## Clear Ridge.

Robert, David and Brady Fleming are on the sick list.

Miss Sue Orth, after spending the past two weeks with her sister, Mrs. Foster Early, of Wells Valley, returned home on Friday.

Rays Baker, who spent the past two months with Scott Wible's at Harrisburg, returned home, accompanied by her friend Miss Mabel Cromwell of Three Springs.

James Kerlin went to Franklin county on Friday and brought over twenty bushels of peaches.

Sadie Fields of Hustontown spent a few days recently with the family of her uncle, W. L. Fields.

S. L. Bedford, wife and two daughters, spent Sunday with his parents at Needmore.

Mr. John Newsbaum and Mr. Campbell of Franklin county, and James Gill and Otis Fleming, of Huntington county, spent Saturday and Sunday with T. E. Fleming's family.

Mrs. J. W. Mowers was called to her former home in Franklin county on account of the illness of her brother's wife, Mrs. Jas. Alexander.

Calvin Henry and wife spent Saturday and Sunday with his sister, Mrs. F. K. Stevens of McConnellsburg.

Russel and Modelius Stevens, who spent the past week with their grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. N. B. Henry, returned home on Saturday to McConnellsburg.

## AN AWFUL PREDICAMENT.

What Happened to a Bashful Young Man From Bedford.

From The Everett Republican.

The following good story has finally leaked out, but to give names would be courting death: A young man from Bedford came to Everett not long since to visit one of the fair maidens of our town, and he spent the evening in her society very pleasantly. When it came time for him to leave and go to the hotel he realized that a heavy storm was raging. He had no umbrella or rubber coat, and when the girl's father asked him to remain at the house until morning he readily consented. He is a very bashful young man and the next morning when he was invited to a seat at the table he very reluctantly accepted. He was nervous and agitated. He sat opposite a mirror and discovered that he had forgotten to comb his hair. Then he dropped his fork on the floor and as he stooped to pick it up he upset his coffee. Matters went from bad to worse until in despair the young man quit eating and put his hands under the table. The loose end of the table cloth was lying in his lap, and when he touched it he turned pale. He thought it was his shirt and in his nervous excitement while dressing he had forgotten to put the garment inside his trousers. That accounted for the smiles and stares of the family, and his embarrassment. There was no time to lose. He hurriedly stuffed the supposed shirt inside his trousers. Two minutes later when the family arose from the table there was a crash. The dishes lay in a broken mass on the floor. The young man pulled three feet of table cloth out of his pants and bolted for the door. The young lady has a beau nearer home now who is not so nervous.

## Disastrous Storms.

One of the most destructive floods Bedford county has experienced for a long time occurred last Friday afternoon. The storm center appears to have been at Everett, at which place there seemed to be a cloudburst about 5 o'clock. The water attained a depth of three feet in Main street in about twenty minutes. Every house on Water street was flooded. The loss to the tannery, the planing mill, flouring mills and stores near the stream known as Bloody Run, amounts to thousands of dollars. At Bedford Springs Shower's Run overflowed its banks and covered the lawn in front of the hotel to the depth of several inches. Several fields on farms adjacent to Everett were washed bare of every particle of soil, and will be worthless for farming purposes.

Of Interest to Nervous People.

Seventeen men and women hitherto suffering with diseases which racked their bodies with pain and clouded their minds with saddening thoughts, are at the Thimble Islands, Conn., eschewing all solid foods, subsisting entirely on milk and growing fat and hearty on the diet. Credit for the discovery of the medicinal properties of the fluid is given to Philip H. Robinson, registrar of the Catholic University of Washington. Prof. Robinson has suffered for some years from a severe nervous disorder which eminent specialists have treated in vain.

A month ago, for no reason other than he had lost all interest in everything, eating included, he abandoned all solid foods, taking only milk as nourishment. At first he drank six quarts daily. Now he consumes from eight to ten quarts. He declares the results have been little short of marvelous. He has gained eight pounds in weight and insists that he is entirely free from nervous trouble.

Our old friend Amos Fields of Brush Creek valley is spending a few days in McConnellsburg with his brother David.

## Longer Life.

The report just made by the Census Bureau shows that the average age of Americans is increasing.

The decrease in the death rate in the registration area is 1.8 per 1000 of population, a decrease of nearly 10 per cent.

The effect of the advances made in medical science and sanitation and in the preventive and restrictive measures enforced by the health authorities is still more strikingly shown in the comparative rate for the registration cities of the country taken together.

In 1890 the death rate in 271 registration cities of 5000 or more population, was 21 per 1000; in 1900 the rate was 18.6 per 1000.

The average age at death in 1890 was 31.1 years; in 1900 it was 35.2.

The total number of deaths reported in 1900 was 1,039,084; in 1890 it was 1,076,675 or 23.5 per cent. As the percentage of increase in the population was but 207, this indicates a more complete return of deaths than in 1890.

Since the introduction of the study of physiology and hygiene in our public schools, we have a generation growing to manhood and womanhood that will understand the care of their own bodies and will become more intelligent parents, with a resulting consequence of still more greatly increasing the average length of life; and we may confidently expect that the time will come in the not distant future, when the average duration of life shall measure up to the bible limit of three score years and ten.

## Not Up To Sample.

A physician, who has been practicing in York for 46 years, recently answered a matrimonial advertisement and received in return the picture of a handsome St. Louis woman.

Arrangements were made for her to come on, which she did without writing of her coming. The doctor was not home when she arrived, but his daughter-in-law, who resides next door, allowed her to put her luggage in the window. When the doctor's son, who is a practicing attorney and an ex-chairman of the Republican county committee, arrived home he persuaded the old woman, who did not resemble the photograph in the least, to return to St. Louis, and as an inducement paid her fare and presented her with a small sum of money.

The doctor graduated from the University of Maryland in 1855, and has been a widower for some time. Feeling rather lonesome, he concluded to become a benedict again, but his recent experience has put a damper upon his matrimonial desires.

## Visiting His Old Home.

Prof. George W. Ashton, of Lincoln, Nebraska, is visiting relatives and friends in this county. He is at present the guest of his sister, Mrs. Annie Woollet and her daughter, Miss Minnie, at Fort Littleton. He is a brother of David Ashton, Esq., of Maddensville. Mr. Ashton went west from "The Fort" some years ago. Prior to his departure he was a partner in business with his cousin, the late D. K. Bare.

Since in the West he has been engaged chiefly in educational work as city and county superintendent of schools in the state of Iowa. He is an active Republican and was closely identified with the winning candidates in the senatorial dead-lock in the Nebraska legislature last winter, and is in line to receive a lucrative Federal appointment from the President, which will be made soon.

## Big Cucumber.

Mr. T. J. Wiener one of Hancock's hustling storekeeper's raised in his garden this season, a cucumber that measured 12 inches in length and 10 inches in circumference, and weighs 2½ pounds.

## T. J. Palmer.

After suffering from Bright's Disease for a good while, T. J. Palmer of Licking Creek township died last Thursday, aged about 43 years.

Several years ago, he was married to Miss Hattie, a daughter of the late Mr. and Mrs. G. Runyan Sipes, and to them have been born seven children, all of whom with the widow survive.

Funeral took place last Friday morning, Elder Thomas Palmer conducting the services, and interment was made at Siloam.

Mr. Palmer was a son of the late John Palmer of Belfast township, a brother of William and Park of Bethel, Nathan and Mrs. Morton Hess and Mrs. Aaron Hess of Belfast.

## Saluvia.

Mrs. H. S. Wishart has been seriously ill the past week.

Mr. and Mrs. Vernon Skipper, of Tyrone, are visiting Mrs. Skipper's parents, Mr. and Mrs. W. C. Mann.

David Deshong, whose illness was noted in the News last week, is in a very critical condition at this writing.

H. K. Stevens and family, of Shippensburg, were visiting Mrs. Stevens' sister, Mrs. H. E. Austin Saturday.

"Daddy" Everetts boasts of the tallest corn on his lot that there is in this vicinity, the stalks measuring 15 feet.

Among those from this place attending camp at Crystal Springs are Misses Ella and Lydia Mann and Mrs. May Bair.

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

W. R. Speer, superintendent of the repairs on the 'pike, had a force of men employed last week covering a few of the stones with gravel.

Dr. S. S. Hoop has located at his old home three miles south of Harrisonville for the purpose of practicing medicine. The Doctor hopes to secure a liberal share of your patronage.

Miss Anna West gave a very interesting description of her work in the missionary field in Japan to a large congregation in the Presbyterian church at Green Hill last Sunday morning.

Mr. and Mrs. Nathan Palmer and Park Palmer, Mrs. Mort Hess and Mrs. Aaron Hess, of Belfast, were called to Harrisonville Friday on account of the death of their brother, T. J. Palmer.

The young ladies of the M. E. church at Greenhill will give a ribbon social and ice cream supper at the church Saturday evening, August 31. Come out, as they are deserving of your patronage.

Mrs. John B. Sipes is suffering from a broken arm, the result of falling on the porch at the home of her daughter, Mrs. Sadie Shaw of Taylor township, where she was visiting last week. She has not been able to be removed to her home at this writing.

The teachers employed for the ensuing term are—Saluvia, David Strait; Forest Dale, R. R. Sipes; Daniels, Miss Maggie Daniels; Siloam, L. L. Truax; Shanes, Jas. Deshong; Harrisonville, H. H. Hollenshead; Mountain, Loy Hollenshead; Vallance, Miss Katharine Metzler.

T. J. Palmer died at his home near Harrisonville last Thursday morning, aged about 43 years. The deceased had been in ill health for several years, and a few weeks ago it developed into Bright's disease, and all that skilled physicians and loving friends could do, could not stay the ravages of that dread disease. Mr. Palmer was a painter by trade, and several years ago was engaged in the mercantile business at Harrisonville. He is survived by his wife and seven children, and expressions of sorrow for the bereaved family are heard on every side. His remains were laid to rest in the Siloam cemetery Friday morning, services conducted by Elder Thomas Palmer, assisted by Rev. Pittegor.

## PERSONAL.

Captain Skinner spent a few days during the past week in this county.

Miss Ruth West left on Wednesday for a two weeks' visit at Welsh Run.

Mrs. Edgar Criswell of Pittsburg is spending a few weeks at McConnellsburg.

Miss Nellie Hays, of this place, is visiting her grandmother, Mrs. Michaels, in Everett.

Superintendent Chesnut was in town Monday. His health has been poor this summer.

Mrs. W. H. Nesbit of this place is visiting her parents Mr. and Mrs. John H. Wilt in Waynesboro.

Miss Mary E. Daniels, of this place, has been spending several days with her mother near Harrisonville.

Miss Marion Sloan left last Wednesday for a visit of several weeks with her brothers at Buffalo, N. Y.

J. G. Reisner was called to Fredericksburg, Va., last week to attend the funeral of the wife of his father-in-law.

Mr. A. C. Mellott, of Pittsburg, with his wife and little son, are taking a short vacation among friends in this county.

Mr. N. H. Peck of Pittsburg spent several days recently visiting his mother and brothers in the lower part of the county.

Miss Sadie E. Sipes, of Pittsburg, is spending a couple of weeks with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. D. V. Sipes of this place.

Cecil H. Sipes and sister Ollie of Pittsburg were called to this county last week on account of the death of their brother-in-law, T. J. Palmer.

Frank Ranck, Moses Hess, William Palmer and Howard Kirk are prominent Bethel township citizens who are visiting the Pan American.

Dr. West and daughters Miss Anna and Miss Ella went over to their old home in Path Valley Tuesday for a few weeks' rest and recreation.

Mrs. William Kane who has been spending a few weeks with her father William Bender in this place, left for her home in York on Monday.

W. A. Alexander and family of Everett, accompanied by Miss Florence Lehner, of Chambersburg, spent part of last week with friends in this place.

Mr. and Mrs. John Stahle, of Buck Valley, spent a day or two the beginning of the week very pleasantly among friends in McConnellsburg and the Cove.

Parker Heikes, of Great Falls, Montana, reached this place last Saturday from the Pan-American, and is spending a few days among his many friends here.

Mr. C. D. Smith and brother John H. Smith of Union township spent a day in town last week. C. D. Smith expects in the near future to move with his family to Texas.

Prof. Guy L. Zimmerman and sister spent Thursday with friends in McConnellsburg, Miss Mary will remain there a few days and visit Rev. A. G. Wolf and family.

A party composed of Miss Mary Hoke, Miss Emily Greathead, Miss Mary Skinner, Miss Nellie Nace and Miss Catharine Cook, are spending a week at the Juniata Crossings.

Dr. and Mrs. A. D. Dalbey, Mr. and Mrs. George B. Daniels, John Patterson, and Misses Mary Trout, Nellie Daniels, and Lois Caldwell, all of this place, left this (Thursday) morning for a ten days' outing at Atlantic City.

Among those from this place who attended Crystal Springs camp, were, Mr. and Mrs. Virgil Sipes, Ellis Lynch and James Patterson, John Stoutegle and daughter Olive, Frank Mason and daughters Miss Zoe and Jessie, Miss Mertie Stoner, Mr. and Mrs. S. W. Kirk, and D. V. Sipes.