

The Fulton County News.

VOLUME 4.

McCONNELLSBURG, PA., NOVEMBER 8, 1902.

NUMBER 8.

THE CONFESSION OF DAVID LEWIS THE NOTED HIGHWAYMAN AND COUNTERFEITER.

(Continued from last week.)

The association which I had formed in New York was governed by certain rules and regulations, and to make them more binding and appear more solemn they were written on parchment, in ink of blood drawn from our own veins while we knelt in a ring or circle with our hands mutually clasped each other, and one of the band standing in the centre with a basin to receive the red fluid of life. According to one of the articles the fruits of our joint spoiliations were to be divided among us at stated periods—and for this purpose we proceeded with all the formula of a bank director, having a president, directors, cashier, teller and clerk, and so particular were we in providing against deception that one of the rules prohibited, under penalty of expulsion, any member of the company from being concerned in burning any of the books or altering any of the entries. The depository of our plunder was denominated a vault, and committees of examination were regularly appointed to inspect its contents, and report to the company at a general meeting. A dividend was declared every Sunday night just as the cock gave his midnight crow. On one of these periodical settlements a disturbance of a singular nature took place that disgusted me a good deal with the fraternity and occasioned my abrupt separation from them; it was this:

During the previous week, I attended the "ladies auction room" on Broadway, and had been very successful in picking up and concealing the velvet reticule of a lady who had made considerable purchases of some rare and expensive articles of female ornaments and dress goods, principally of French manufacture, such as Brussels lace and jewelry. I had taken my stand on the opposite side of the street, and looked about until eleven o'clock, when a handsome equipage stopped, and I saw a lady descend and enter the room. I immediately recognized her to be the wife of John Jacob Astor, Esq., one of the richest merchants in the city, and who report said, was very liberal in his presents of money to supply to Madame's pin money establishment. I soon crossed over, and dressed like a "gentleman in true dandy style," the sure passport of admittance into female society, entered the auction room and saluted the ladies with all the graceful ease of an old acquaintance. The experienced salesman, knowing that the best plan for picking a lady's purse was to dazzle her eyes, soon exhibited to the view of his fair customers the finest lace and the most elegant jewelry that the workshops of France ever produced; the sale commenced, and before many minutes had passed away, I saw Mrs. Astor pack into her velvet bag several pieces of lace and as many ornaments of jewelry as might suffice to decorate at least half a dozen of brides. After she had completed her purchases she carelessly threw her reticule on a bench in a remote corner of the room, and immediately opened a brisk conversation with a surrounding group of male and female companions, who buzzed around her and vied with one another for volubility and nonsense. The gobble of voices could not fail to attract the attention of the other spectators who crowded the place, and while some were occupied in talking, and the rest engaged in listening admiration, I laid hold of the bag with apparent carelessness, and thrusting it quickly into my bosom, left the room unnoticed, taking a French leave of the company.

I honestly showed to my companions the whole amount of my valuable prize, and finding Mell-

THE DEATH ANGEL.

Persons Who Have Been Summoned to the Other World.

MRS. URIAH W. KLINE.

Mrs. Susanna Kline, wife of Uriah W. Kline, died suddenly at her home in Licking Creek township Friday morning, October 31, aged 55 years, 2 months and 23 days. Mrs. Kline had been suffering from consumption the past eight months. She seemed to be no worse, and on Thursday assisted her daughter Ella in some light house work. Thursday night she was attacked by a smothering spell and before medical aid could be secured death ended her suffering. She is survived by her husband and six children, namely, Ada J., wife of O. E. Hann, Saluvia, Pa.; John C. and Martin V. of Deshler, Ohio; Eliza F., wife of William Hershey West Dublin, Pa.; Miss Ella S. and George N. at home. Funeral services at the home by Rev. Calvin Garland. Interment at Siding Hill Baptist cemetery Saturday morning.

The deceased was a daughter of the late John S. Mellott, and is survived also by her brothers, David R., Nathan, George S. and Noah.

BALTZER DECKER.

After a protracted illness, Mr. Baltzer Decker died at his home in Licking Creek township Friday morning, October 31, 1902, aged 65 years, and 7 months. His remains were followed to their last resting place at Green Hill on Sunday by a large number of sorrowing friends.

Mr. Decker was a veteran of the Civil war, being a member of Co. H. (Captain Thomas Sipes' Company) 158 Regiment, P. I., was mustered into service, November 4, 1862 and was mustered out with his regiment on the twelfth of August 1863. Much of that time, the regiment was in North Carolina, and while they did not engage in many battles, they saw much hard service and had many exciting experiences.

Mr. Decker was a member of the M. E. church, and one of those jovial generous men whose companionship was always a pleasure and few men in the ordinary walk of life has had a larger number of genuine friends.

He is survived by his wife who has been very sick for some time, and by the following children, namely, Fernanda, Milton, Nettie, wife of Reamer Sipes; Ella, wife of William Mellott living at Hyndman, Bedford county; Bertie, wife of Elmer Deshong; Frances, wife of Charles Stech, McConnellsburg; Elsie, wife of Logan Deshong and Susan, wife of Harvey Stoutteagle of Martinsburg, Blair county.

Mrs. Bennie Wilds and Miss Olivette M. Woollet of Fort Littleton were pleasant callers at this office last Saturday. Miss Woollet and her mother Mrs. Annie L. Woollet are this week moving to Wilkinsburg, Pa., where they expect to reside indefinitely.

On my return home in low spirits and much disheartened, I presented her with a piece of lace, which she refused to accept for a long time, and not until I succeeded in making her believe that I drew it as a prize in a lottery recently established to befriend a poor widow, whom misfortune in trade had obliged to decline business. The company met the third day after this transacting, to settle up the doings of the preceding week, and omitting to render an account of the lace, I had given my wife, I was accused of a fraudulent concealment. The opinion of the majority coinciding with my accuser, high words ensued, and blows, succeeding words, I was severely beaten, and my ungenerous companions threatened to lodge an information against me at the mayor's office, I suddenly determined upon quitting them, and made arrangements accordingly for leaving New York the next day.

(To be Continued)

REV. GEO. B. SHOEMAKER

Writes of His New Home in the Upper Iowa Conference.

MAQUOKETA, IOWA, Oct. 24, 1902.

EDITOR NEWS:—The great Methodist wheel for the Upper Iowa Conference has gone around again, and I find myself and family comfortably settled in a new home. Our present appointment is in the eastern part of the conference. We are only about thirty miles from the Mississippi river. This is the longest move I have ever made—one hundred and fifty miles, at least—almost across the entire conference territory, for Iowa Falls is the farthest appointment west, and Maquoketa is near the eastern border. I am thankful they stopped me before they got me into the Mississippi river; for while I used to visit the old Dougly hole frequently when a boy, I never learned to swim.

My work here opens very pleasantly, and I am looking forward toward a good year. Our town has four thousand of a population and is an enterprising place. We have a good brick church in splendid repair, and an excellent brick parsonage. Our membership is about three hundred, with a Sunday school averaging in the neighborhood of two hundred in attendance. We have plenty of people unsaved. It is a large field, and we hope for a great harvest.

I have been reading the "News" to-day. I see they are paying 60c a hundred for bones. They were buying bones when I was a boy; I should think they would have had them all bought up before this time. It makes my back tired now to think of the loads of bones I used to carry. I was surprised in reading the names of the county officers to learn that Mr. Chesnut was still county superintendent. I thought I had read some time ago that Mr. Barton was elected to that office. Besides being an able lawyer, Leon C. Prince, the lecturer for Monday evening, is an instructor in history and oratory in Dickinson College at Carlisle. Senator Penrose says of him, "In manner he is magnificent, and in effect, powerful." Ex-Gov. Rob't E. Pattison says, "Mr. Prince is a gentleman of ability, eloquent and fascinating."

The Geneva (O) Free Press says Riggs, the Tuesday night man, is a whole orchestra, and that his lecture bubbles over with humor. Rev. Roddy, pastor Presbyterian church, Harrisburg, says that he has enjoyed no entertainment more than the one given by Mr. Riggs; that his mission upon the platform is a grand one, elevating, as he does, our thoughts and aspirations while we laugh.

The Marion Wilson Quartette, Wednesday evening, promises to be a great hit. They cost money but good things come high, you know. Don't miss them. Frank Mack's "Seeing Things—Day and Night," on Thursday evening, will be a fitting climax to the course. Rev. Hutchins of Brooklyn, N. Y., says if he could get people to remember his sermons as well as they remember Frank Mack's lectures he would die perfectly happy.

Get your tickets at Trout's drug store.

Dot.

Eld. W. T. Easton, of Virginia, preached two very able sermons at Hills Chapel last Thursday and Friday evening.

A. P. Hill who was visiting his friends in this vicinity has returned to his home in Blue Mound Ill.

Jacob Myers met with a very painful accident last Thursday. While hulling clover seed for Mr. J. T. Hill, the huller became choked, and while attempting to relieve the machine his hand came in contact with the cylinder with the result that two of his fingers were badly lacerated. Dr. Swartz-welder rendered the necessary surgical assistance.

Eld. T. N. Alderton will preach at Hills Chapel Monday and Tuesday evenings the tenth and eleventh of November.

It is so near election time that I think some of the readers of

the News might enjoy this election story, with which I close my letter:

"An ambitious citizen of Pennsylvania, who rather indiscreetly had set himself up as a candidate for some political office, after the election was found to have received only one vote.

"The candidate's mortification was extreme, and to increase his chagrin all his neighbors talked as if it were a matter of course that he had cast that one ballot himself. This annoyed him so much that he finally offered a suit of clothes, to be worth not less than \$50, to the lone voter if he would declare himself.

"A Dutchman responded to his appeal, proved his claim, and called for the reward.

"How did it happen," inquired the candidate, taken by surprise, "how did it happen that you voted for me?"

"The Dutchman hesitated, but on being pressed he said:

"If I told you, you don't go back on dem clo'es you promise?"

"O, no; you shall have the clothes anyhow."

"Vell, den, I dels you. I make a mishtake in de teeket."

Very truly,

GEO. B. SHOEMAKER.

THE INSTITUTE NEXT WEEK.

No Pains or Expense Spared to Make It the Best in the History of the County.

Superintendent Barton has his arrangements all complete, and everything points to a most interesting and profitable time next week. The corps of day instructors has been made up with much care, and the earnest teacher may expect to receive much that will be helpful in his work as he goes back to his school.

A brilliant array of talent has been secured for the night entertainments, and those who miss any of them will lose an opportunity that does not often come to a McConnellsburg audience.

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DR. JESSE D. BUCHER

A Former Fulton County Teacher Writes From the Old Dominion

BRIDGEWATER, VA., Oct. 28, 1902.

DEAR EDITOR:—I have been a constant and intensely interested reader of "The News" for more than a year past, and have enjoyed the letters from various parts of the country, but more especially those from the Fulton county boys who have gone away to other states as I have done.

The letters of Editor Barron I appreciated very much; and, although he left Fulton county about the time I became a resident—in 1852—he brings to mind so many of the old associates and teachers of those times that I feel almost acquainted with him.

He votes me an old school teacher, does he? Well, he is partly right; for I taught three years in Bethel township, one term at Warfordsburg, and two terms on Black Oak Ridge at "The Chapel." I wonder how many of the boys and girls of those days would recognize me now.

I have become a grandfather in teaching, and yet have not taught but two terms since 1880. By that I mean that some of the prominent teachers of this county were my school boys twenty years ago. But that needs only to be explained by saying that I helped organize the first Normal School and Institute in the State, and that "little bit of heaven" has Normalized the whole State.

In passing, I wish to say that this county—Rockingham—has about two hundred and fifty schools, and pays its county superintendent G. H. Hulvey, an old associate in Normal School work, only \$750.00 per annum, while "Little Fulton" pays \$1000. Some of your school men will wonder at it when I tell them this is the largest and richest county in the State.

I wrote a letter to the News last winter and mentioned some of my old schoolmates—Wash Crouse—for one, whom I had mourned as dead for fifteen years. A friend forwarded the News to him at Lanark, Ill., and the result was, a long letter from him. I found him not "dead" but "numerously alive" and kicking, as he told me he had a wife and ten children to keep him company. I wrote him a long letter, but have not yet had an answer.

I have been preparing notes of late and gathering facts about the battle of McConnellsburg from a Confederate standpoint, and will give that as my next communication if it escapes the waste basket.

SABBATH BREAKERS.

Three Mischievous Young Men Drill in the Wrong Hole.

David Heffelfinger, Joseph Myers and Robert Dissinger, three young men employed by the Pennsylvania Railroad Company at Mapleton, started last Sabbath a week—not for church, but for a Sunday walk, and visited a stone quarry. Here they found several drills and hammers lying about, just as the workmen had left them. At the suggestion of one of the young men, they concluded to do a little drilling. Finding a hole that had been partly drilled out they put in a drill which Heffelfinger and Myers held while Dissinger used the hammer.

The hole contained a charge of dynamite, and the drill, after several blows had been struck, hit the cap and touched off the charge. The three men were hurled into the air and badly injured. They made their way to Mapleton and were sent to Altoona on Way Passenger train.

At the hospital it was found that Heffelfinger had his face and eyes burned by powder and filled with sand. His left eye is so seriously injured that he may lose the sight of it. Myers was also burned about the hands, face and eyes. Dissinger suffered a compound fracture of the left arm and had his face burned by powder.

FATAL HUNTING ACCIDENT.

Benjamin Seylar, Son of John Seylar, Killed at Cove Gap.

With his friend Benjamin Gorsuch, Benjamin Seylar, aged 13, son of Mr. and Mrs. John Seylar spent last Friday afternoon hunting near his home at Cove Gap.

As evening advanced the two turned their steps homeward and were loitering close to a fence before crossing on to land of George Snigger. As they stopped to talk young Seylar held his gun, "Lulu," a single barreled weapon and while stories differ as to how the gun exploded, it is pretty well established that as he swung his foot caught the trigger, discharging the weapon. The load entered the left side of his head below the eye, instantly killing him and scattering his brain on the ground roundabout.

Gorsuch who had warned him to be careful, screamed for help, gathering up the body of his little friend and carried it the distance of eight panels of fence. Then he found his burden too heavy and sat down, holding the body until help arrived. The family of Wm. Cowan living nearby, heard his cries and went to his assistance. They found him with the dead form of young Seylar in his lap, his clothing stained with the life blood of his friend and crying as though his heart would break. As gently as possible they took the remains from him and gave them into the custody of the boy's cousin, Leslie W. Seylar, who took the body to Mercersburg, where it was prepared for transfer to the home of his parents, who live at Cove Gap. The parents had previously been informed of the tragedy, but the sight of their dead son almost drove them to distraction.

When the news of the accident became known at his home there was considerable excitement. The victim had been popular among all who knew him and he had the regard of the entire community.

The boys had gone hunting for rabbits in the fields between Mercersburg and Cove Gap, and they had reached a point about a mile distant from their home when the accident occurred. The unfortunate boy's mother is a daughter of Mrs. Rebecca Comerer of this place, and sister of Mrs. Annie Shimer of this place Mrs. Elliott Ray at Big Cove Tannery, and Mrs. Joseph Lohr at Hastontown.

Mrs. Elliot Ray of Big Cove Tannery called at the News office a few minutes while in town last Saturday morning.

Communion service at the Greenhill Presbyterian church next Sunday morning. Preparatory service Friday evening at 7 o'clock and Saturday morning at 10 o'clock.

A big black bear that has been seen about the Ridge several times within the last few weeks, crossed the pike last Saturday morning near the old toll-gate at J. K. Tritle's and went across to the Meadowground mountain. The boys who go out that way to hunt rabbits had better look out for it is a long way to run home.

A voluntary hill of potatoes in the garden at the Alms House, Shirleysburg, produced 47 potatoes that weighed 20 pounds. The crop of potatoes produced on the farm this year was 525 bushels.

Cross Ties.

WANTED—60,000 mixed oak or chestnut cross ties, 8 feet long, 6 inches thick, 8 inches across middle of tie. 2,000 chestnut poles, 34 feet long, 7 inch tops, for delivery during next five months on cars, point between Erie, Pa., and Conneaut, Ohio. Also good tract of chestnut timber suitable for telephone poles.

UNION RAILWAY SUPPLY CO. 1605 Real Estate Trust Co. Bldg. Philadelphia.

LOCAL AND PERSONAL.

Brief Mention of Persons and Places You Knew.

Mr. Thomas Bender is visiting his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Samuel Bender.

John Bender is occupying a position on the board in Charlie Stevens' tailoring establishment.

Charlie Scott, Fort Loudon's hustling merchant spent Sunday on this side of the mountain.

R. N. Fryman and daughter spent a few days with friends at Saxton last week.

Dr. and Mrs. Hill, of Fort Littleton spent last Saturday at McConnellsburg.

Albert D. Hohman, of Pittsburg is visiting his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Leonard Hohman of this place.

Clarence N. Trout of the Philadelphia Dental college came home last Saturday evening for the election holiday.

Rev. D. P. Drawbaugh, of Altoona, is spending a few days among his friends at McConnellsburg.

Miss Lizzie Deitrich of Waynesboro, Pa. spent two or three days the past week with her niece Mrs. Ella Fryman of the Cove.

Elder S. L. Baugher will preach at Oakley, Sunday November 9, at 10 A. M.; at Antioch at 2 P. M., and Mays Chapel at 7 P. M.

Mr. and Mrs. M. A. Grissinger of Saltillo are spending a week or two among their many friends here.

Robert N. Fryman of Ayr township has a good mare six years old and that will work anywhere that he will sell right.

The News is full, not the Editor; hence we send it to you a little earlier this week. You will get the election news later.

J. W. Fraker, Dyson F. Fraker and Solomon Burkett of Fort Littleton, G. A. R. people, attended a meeting of King Post at this place Saturday.

Misses Ella and Fannie Kendall of the Cove are visiting their sister Mrs. Thomas Shepherd in Ohio.

Mr. Cornelius Lambert of St. Thomas, spent last Friday night with Mr. and Mrs. D. V. Sipes near town.

Ed Shimer who has been with a U. S. Geological Survey corps since last May returned to his home in this place a day or two ago.

Mr. and Mrs. D. V. Sipes, D. T. Fields, Abram Runyan, and John P. Sipes, Esq., were among the number who attended the funeral of Baltzer Decker last Sunday.

Frank Deshong and family, of Shippensburg, have moved to Fannettsburg, where Mr. Deshong will be employed in a harness factory.

David Thomas who has been employed with C. B. Stevens, for about a year left last Saturday morning for the Smoky City where he has employment.

Mrs. Ann Troupe, who has been spending several weeks with her daughter, has gone to Maryland for a short visit and will then return to her home in Philadelphia.

Dr. W. L. McKibbin who has had editorial charge of the Fulton Republican, went down to his home last week accompanied by his son Herbert, the latter of whom returned Monday.

The Gettysburg "Compiler" says: "The Hon. S. McC. Swope Judge of the courts of Adams and Fulton counties, continues to improve in health, and has been able to take short walks on the street."

One of the longest boots we have seen this year was sent to this office by Mr. and Mrs. L. A. Youse. It was one of those radish shaped boots and measured about one-eleventh of a rod in length. To keep it from freezing over winter we think we shall, as it is pointed at the root end, drive it into the ground and lay a stone on it.