

The Fulton County News.

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MAQUOKETA, IOWA.

Letter From Rev. George B. Shoemaker.

EDITOR NEWS:—This is Monday. Sometimes, by some preachers, it is called "blue Monday." There is nothing blue about this day, however, except the blue sky. The sun shines brightly, the snow is gone, the streets are sloppy, and the thermometer is above the freezing point.

This has been a very mild winter in this part of Iowa. Since the cold snap at Christmas time, the weather has been mild—scarcely reaching zero at any time. The groundhog has been seeing his shadow all day, and has, no doubt, hied him back to his nest for his six weeks' sleep. We may look for cold weather for six weeks; and, then, an early spring. To be able to have your window up in your sleeping room in Iowa during the month of January, is an experience we have not often had.

At a recent missionary dinner held by the Reformed church of our city, I met an old Berks county Pennsylvania. We had quite a visit. I tested him some on his knowledge of the old Keystone state and her ways, and found he was genuine. He knew about apple butter, flitch, sauer kraut and backbone, snits and knep, smear case (?), &c., and I voted him the right to be called a Pennsylvania.

The pastor of the Reformed church is a man by the name of Boomershine. In our conversation, it came out that he was a classmate of the pastor of the Reformed church of McConnellsburg, Rev. C. M. Smith. Mr. Boomershine has had a very successful pastorate here of about eight years. I think his classmate is doing well in the old home town.

Iowa has but few, if any good winter apples. The trees do not stand the severity of our winter. We are dependent on New York and Michigan for our winter apples. Nurserymen are constantly looking for native fruit trees (seedlings) that will live and produce winter fruit.

Since coming here, I have found a tree in this town that gives great promise of a good Iowa winter apple. The tree is a seedling, and is twenty-five years old. Has been bearing fruit for eleven years. It is perfectly healthy and bears each year, last year it yielded twenty bushels of fruit. The apple keeps well until spring, (if you don't eat them before), is a good cooker, and one of the best tasted apples I have ever eaten. In fact, it makes me think of the apples I used to eat picked from the old Rambo tree in the lot formerly owned by my father, in McConnellsburg, and which, no doubt, the family of the editor of the News, enjoy when there are any. We have named the apple "Grigg's Seedling," and a nurseryman at Iowa Falls is going to propagate the fruit. I am hopeful that a good winter apple for all Iowa will come from this venture. I have been buying apples lately by weight instead of measure. What do you think of that? Doesn't it seem fair?

I begin to-night a series of protracted meetings. I want to ask all my old friends and all Christians who may read this, to remember us in prayer. Ask God to save many souls in and around Maquoketa. Will it be asking too much for the lovers of God, who are my friends, to unite as near the hour of ten a. m. as they can each day for God's blessing upon us, and for a great awakening. There comes to me now a revelation in the form of a vision, (perhaps the wish is father to the thought), and in the vision I see my brother Will, Dr. Teeter, A. U. Nace, John Sheets, George Hays, Ed Dunlap, Jim Dunlap, Howard McNulty, Rev. A. S. Baldwin, Rev. Eveland of Chambersburg, and Rev. Swartz of

COMERER-TRITTE.

Mr. George A. Comerer and Miss Etha May Tritte.

At the residence of Mr. and Mrs. J. G. Tritte in this place will occur this (Wednesday) evening the marriage of their daughter, Miss Etha to Mr. George A. Comerer also of this place.

In the presence of probably one hundred guests the bridal party will enter the beautifully decorated parlors as follows:—Mary Tritte, niece of the bride as ring bearer, groom and A. W. Tritte, bride and Miss Myrtle I. Comerer sister of the groom.—During the march to the altar Lohengrin's wedding march will be played by Mrs. C. B. Stevens, and during the ceremony which will be performed by Rev. A. G. Wolf, Mrs. Stevens will play a beautiful wedding hymn, and Mendelssohn during the congratulations.

The bride and bridesmaid will carry beautiful bouquets of carnations. The bride will be gowned in Paris Muslin and lace, and the bridesmaid in Persian lawn and lace.

An abundance of valuable presents testify to the popularity of the bridal couple and the generosity of their friends.

The happy couple will go to housekeeping on the groom's farm in Ayr township about the first of April.

Thompson.

Mr. John F. Hess started Monday for Missouri. His brother-in-law W. H. Pittman has purchased the Hess farm, live stock, and farm implements.

Mrs. Ida Atkinson, of Mercersburg spent two weeks with her parents Mr. and Mrs. B. F. Simpson.

Milton Plank and brother and Thomas Bell—all of Harrisburg, are at Simpson's occasionally looking after that black rock.

Miss Emma Pittman has returned to Hagerstown.

Mrs. George Winters and child, one of Ira Zimmerman's children and one of Grant Mentzer's children have all been under the care of Dr. Sappington recently.

Mr. Martin Myers and wife of Mercersburg were guests in the home of J. C. Comerer, Monday.

Rev. Black is holding a series of meetings at Antioch. Preaching at night and in daytime for the next two weeks.

Jacob and Ira Myers left for Ohio last Friday.

Laidig.

Margaret Clevenger received a telegram on Saturday calling her to Pittsburg where she expects to remain until next summer.

J. F. Johnson expects soon to begin a job of sawing at J. E. Lyons'.

George and Ross King have employment at Kearney now.

S. A. Haulman of Markes, Franklin county, salesman for the Seltzer-Klahr Hardware Company of Philadelphia, stopped at Laidig on Saturday.

The administrator's sale of Abram King's personal property on Saturday was well attended, and Auctioneer Chesnut quickly sold the articles advertised.

Bad colds and sore throat have been prevailing among some of the children.

There was no school at Laidig last week.

Stephen Wilson and Jesse Miller have killed quite a lot of skunks this winter.

Mr. Henry Garland and son, Rev. Arlington Garland, spent Monday night with the family of Ex-sheriff D. V. Sipes of this place.

Shippensburg, with their wives, all coming for a summer's outing to the Great Mississippi—the Father of Waters—and my wife and I go to meet them, and we spend the vacation season together pleasantly and restfully. I am afraid it is only a vision, but I wish it might come true.

Truly,
GEO. B. SHOEMAKER.

February 2, 1903.

DEATH RECORD.

Those Who Have Been Summoned to the Other World.

MRS. GEORGE SOWERS.

After an illness of several months, Mrs. George Sowers died at her home in Ayr township on Monday February 2, 1903, aged 53 years. Interment at Union cemetery on Wednesday following.

Mrs. Sowers' maiden name was Manspeaker. She is survived by her husband, and by two sons, namely, Hayes at Broadtop City, and Frank at home, and by three daughters, Tillie at home, Flora, wife of Mr. Walker in Franklin county, and Lillie, wife of Robert Bender, McConnellsburg.

The bereaved family have the sympathy of their many friends.

MR. GEORGE M. OTT.

George M. Ott died at his home in this place Friday, February 6, 1903, aged 74 years, 3 months and 13 days. Funeral took place from his late residence on Sunday afternoon and interment was made in the graveyard at the Lutheran church.

Mr. Ott was a son of Mr. and Mrs. Wendell Ott and was born in Maryland. About the year 1830, the elder Ott purchased the farm now owned by Otho Souders in Tod township, and moved onto it, but died about ten years later.—George the eldest son, then a lad of twelve years, together with his mother, conducted the farm successfully and remained at home until the family had all grown to manhood or womanhood.

On the 20th of January 1874 he was united in marriage with Miss Margaret Long, a daughter of Mr. Adam Long, who resides near Knobsville. To them were born two sons and two daughters all of whom are dead except Geo. A., who is located at Windber, Pa. Besides the widow and son already named, Mr. Ott is survived by two brothers, William at Greensboro, and Jeremiah at Waynesville, Pa., and by two sisters, Mary, wife of John Garrett, of Waynesboro, and Margaret, wife of Lewis Crist at Lemoine, Pa.

During the past 15 years, he had been a resident of McConnellsburg, and by his quiet inoffensive manner enjoyed the respect of every body. He was a member of the Lutheran church since 1848, and his funeral services were conducted by his pastor, Rev. A. G. Wolf assisted by Rev. Dr. West of the Presbyterian church.

While he had been in declining health for several years, the immediate cause of his death was an attack of la grippe.

Resolutions of Respect.

Whereas the Angel of Death has again entered our council and taken from our membership our beloved brother Wilson Cutchall, whereby the community has lost a good citizen and the family a kind husband and father; Therefore be it

Resolved, That we, as members of Clear Ridge Council, No. 940, Jr. O. U. A. M., extend our sympathy to the bereaved family, and commend them to the care and protection of "Him who doeth all things well."

Resolved, That the Charter of our Council be draped in mourning for a period of thirty days, that these resolutions be spread upon the minutes of this council, and that the same be published in the Fulton County News and in the Fulton Republican, and that a copy of each be sent to the bereaved family,

J. H. BAKER R. J. FLEMING
W. R. FIELDS COMMITTEE.

Robert Shimer, who had been visiting his parents and other friends in this place for the past few weeks, returned to Altoona Wednesday, where he found his old position waiting for him.

Anna West's Reception.

The following is an extract from a letter published in Woman's Work for Woman, in reference to the return of Miss Anna B. West, to her work at Tokyo, Japan.

"A large room full of Japanese women gave Miss West a rousing welcome back at Tokyo, and then asked her for some account of herself and the Christians she had left. I saw some of them wiping their eyes as she told of her aged father and how tirelessly he labors on for the master.—The people gather to Miss West; she is a tower of strength among them. You would scarcely wonder that she said to me as I came away, 'I am glad to be back in Japan.'"

South Dublin.

Weather changeable; roads rough; traveling unpleasant.

Irwin Bradnick recently moved his dispensary to a more convenient position for his patients. Lewin wants things handy.

Blaine Hertzler, who has resided in Knobsville for some time, made a rather unexpected move to Burnt Cabins this week.

D. B. Mumma has moved his sawmill to Benjamin Wilds' to saw out a bill of lumber for Mr. Wilds new barn to be erected on the farm lately purchased by him at Fort Littleton.

We had the pleasure of a few moments' conversation with Representative S. W. Kirk Friday morning as he passed through this section on a business trip.—He was as jolly as ever and seemed elated over the prospects for his bill against peddlers.

John A. Myers of Knobsville who has been seriously ill with kidney trouble for some time, is much improved, but still confined to his bed. We hope for his early recovery.

Riley Sipes who has been employed at Kearney, was home on a visit and combined business and pleasure during his stay with his stepfather and mother, Mr. and Mrs. David H. Myers. Riley is a hustler and is liked wherever he goes.

D. H. Myers took a trip to Licking Creek last Monday.—Dave said he wanted to kill two or three birds with one stone. He probably accomplished his wish, as on his return he brought a fine colt and a load of feed with him.

George Regi has become the greatest cattle buyer in this section. He recently purchased about twenty head in one day. It is also reported that he has carpenters employed erecting some buildings and fences.

Dad Greer says there is danger of a flop in the political pot this time, but his explanation as to causes, are considerably vague.

There has been very little sickness in this section this winter, but we are sorry to have to chronicle the death of the infant child of Mr. and Mrs. Sylvester Cunningham.

Protracted meeting at the U. B. church, Knobsville.

An old landmark, the large white pine tree at the U. B. church, had to be removed this week, on account of its proximity to the church and its decayed condition. The many who long ago gathered beneath its spreading branches to wait the hour of Sabbath school, will hear with regret of the passing away of a dear old friend of their youthful days.

Thanks.

At a meeting of King Post in this place last Saturday a resolution was unanimously adopted to extend through the columns of the News to Mrs. D. E. Mellott of Saluvia the sincere thanks of the members of the Post for the admirable attention Mrs. Mellott gave to Mrs. Elizabeth Hess during Mr. Hess' last illness,

ELLIOTT RAY,
Commander.
D. MELLOTT,
Secretary.

FROM REV. J. S. DECKER.

Tells of the Marriage of Chester A. Hockensmith.

SPERRY, IOWA, Feb. 5, 1903.

DEAR EDITOR:—As my former letter was not consigned to the waste basket, I take the privilege to write again, this time simply to chronicle an event that will be of interest to many of your readers. At the home of the groom's father, Mr. George B. Hockensmith, near Cameron, Illinois, on Tuesday evening, February 3d at 8 o'clock occurred the marriage of Chester A. Hockensmith and Miss Lorena A. Neal of Cameron, Illinois, the writer officiating.—Only immediate friends and relatives of the bride and groom were present. Mr. George B. Hockensmith will be remembered as one of Fulton county's most industrious and neighboring citizens, who came to Illinois three years ago to visit a daughter, who has since died, but who then lived on the place now occupied by her father and his family. The beautiful prairie country of Illinois enticed him to stay, and it looks now as though Fulton county is to lose this estimable family permanently. Chester, whom we had not seen for almost six years has grown to stalwart manhood, and starts out with his young bride on, what we wish them, a propitious career. They will move onto a farm about a mile from his father's—both living in the immediate vicinity of Cameron a growing town on the main line of the C. B. & Q. Railroad. Miss Neal is a young woman of sterling qualities and very highly esteemed wherever she is known, and we congratulate Chester on securing such a young woman for his life partner.

Sincerely yours,

J. S. DECKER.

A "Mum" Sociable.

One of the Carlisle churches held a unique entertainment last Friday night in the way of a "mum" sociable. The Herald gives the following account of it:—If it is possible that a "mum" party can be made "talking success" the affair given last night in the chapel of the First Reformed church, under the auspices of the Young People's Society, was in every sense a success.

There were nearly two hundred attendants and every one was determined to "keep mum," yet strange as it may appear every one except four, spoke, laughed and thoroughly enjoyed themselves. Promptly at 7 o'clock the doors of the pretty chapel were thrown open and the committee welcomed "in a quiet way" the mute participants. The rules governing a mute social are:

1. All entering the room are expected to maintain perfect silence.
2. The first one who speaks will be fined 25 cents.
3. Each succeeding speaker will be subjected to a fine of 15 cents, and be entitled to a badge, ticket for refreshments and the privilege of talking and making others talk.
4. No writing allowed.

Those who refrained from talking the entire evening will have their refreshments gratis.

The idea seemed to prevail that in order to keep absolutely mum it was necessary to keep the mouth tightly closed. This the guests, especially the members of the fair sex, found rather difficult, and ere long the smiling and then the talking commenced. It was great fun. Those who spoke induced, in the most ingenious ways, others to talk. The final result was that all excepting four paid for their refreshments, which was daintily served and thoroughly relished after the hard work of "trying to keep quiet."

Rev. Miles O. Noll delivered a brief but appropriate address upon the evils and the advantages of talking. There was much reason and wholesome humor in what Mr. Noll said, and his address added to the pleasure of the evening.

CIVIL LAW VS. PROFANITY.

Extract from an Address by Lawyer M. R. Shaffner Before the Moral Reform Association.

Profanity is a newly discovered art of speech, for we find that both the Divine and civil law have pronounced against it in the early ages. It is apparently the only sin, or transgression of the law, that brings to the user neither profit nor comfort. It can not be asserted that it is used as an escape valve for temper alone, for we find it used in some cases to attempt to make expressions more emphatic, while, in all cases it is used simply because the moral tone of the user has fallen so low that his language would not be a true expression of himself without its use—for "the fountain never rises higher than its source."

The traveler might imagine that it was a vice only participated in rural districts, for one might be in London the great metropolis of the world, or in New York, or Philadelphia, for weeks or months, and not hear a profane word used; but we believe it is a thing common to all places, and is only kept from the lips of many by education and the enforcement of the law.

Christianity is a part of the common law; and, while profanity is punishable as a nuisance at common law, we find that as early as 1700, in our state, a province law was enacted against blasphemy, in the following language:—"If any person shall wilfully, premeditatedly blaspheme, or speak loosely and profanely of Almighty God, Christ Jesus, the Holy Spirit or the Scripture of Truth, such person on conviction thereof, shall be sentenced to pay a fine not exceeding ten pounds, [fifty dollars] and undergo an imprisonment not exceeding three months or either at the discretion of the court." This law appears to have served the purpose until March 31 1860, when it was made a law by the legislature of our state, changing only the penalty from ten pounds to one hundred dollars, with three months imprisonment at the discretion of the court.

The law, therefore, appears to look upon blasphemy and profanity as twin brothers; but as I have been requested to speak more particularly of the law as applicable to the latter, I can not make it more forcible nor present it more clearly than by giving you the text of the Act.

Before passing to the Act, I want to be distinctly understood that profane swearing and cursing, in a boisterous tone of voice, and in the presence and hearing of citizens, passing and repassing on the public streets and highways of the commonwealth, is an indictable offence at common law.

The Act of Assembly more particularly directed against profanity was passed April 22, 1794, and the Second section is as follows:—"If any person of the age of sixteen years or upwards shall profanely curse or swear by the name of God, Christ Jesus, or the Holy Ghost, every person so offending, being thereof convicted, shall forfeit and pay the sum of sixty-seven cents for every such profane curse or oath; and in case he or she shall refuse or neglect to pay the said forfeiture or goods and chattels can not be found, whereof to levy the same by distress, he or she shall be committed to the house of correction of the proper county, not exceeding twenty-four hours, for every such offence of which such person shall be convicted; and whosoever of the age of sixteen years or upward, shall curse or swear by any other name or thing than as a foresaid, and shall be convicted thereof, shall forfeit and pay the sum of forty cents for every such curse or oath." With such Acts of Assembly in force, and with the remedy at common

(Continued on fourth page)

LOCAL AND PERSONAL.

Brief Mention of Persons and Places You Know.

Wilbur Mann of Ayr township, was an interesting caller at the News office while in town, Tuesday.

Mr. George A. Ott of Windber, was called home last Friday on account of the death of his father Geo. M. Ott.

Mr. Abner Truax of Gem was a very pleasant caller at the News office a few minutes while in town Monday.

Mr. E. Norman Akers and Miss Margaret Daniels of Sipes spent Friday evening and Saturday with friends in this place.

Harry A. Thompson, editor Tyronne Times, arrived last Saturday evening on a hasty visit to his parents, Mr. and Mrs. T. J. Thompson of this place.

Mrs. John Garret and Mrs. Heckelinger of Waynesboro attended the funeral of Mr. Geo. M. Ott in this place Sunday. They returned home Monday.

Mr. and Mrs. Harry E. Goldsmith and little son, Master Robert, of Lancaster are visiting Mr. Goldsmith's mother Mrs. Hannah Goldsmith in this place.

Miss Nora Johnston who has been two or three years with her brother, Oscar in Pittsburg, Kan., returned Monday for a visit of a few weeks with her mother, Mrs. Keziah Johnston of the Cove.

Preaching in Green Hill Presbyterian church next Sabbath morning at 10:30 o'clock. We are happy in being able to say that the pastor has entirely recovered from his couple of days' slight indisposition.

The Sacrament of the Lord's Supper will be administered to the congregation of the Hebron Reformed church near Big Cove Tannery, Sunday, February 22nd at 10:30 A. M. Preparatory services Saturday 21st, at 2 P. M.

The sacrament of the Lord's Supper will be administered to the congregation of St. Paul's Reformed church in this place next Sunday, February 15th, at 10:30 a. m. Preparatory services on Saturday at 2:30 p. m.

On account of the resignation of W. H. Ranck, teacher of the Laidig school, Mr. G. E. Clouser of Ayr went out Tuesday afternoon and expected to reopen the school Wednesday morning. The Laidig people will find Elmer all right.

Wm. Feight and his son Austin of near Mattie, Bedford county, were guests of T. J. Thompson and family on Wednesday of last week. Mr. Feight is a veteran of our Civil War and was before the board of pension examiners at the Washington House.

Mr. Elijah Covalt, of Oakland, Ill., is visiting his uncle, Abram Covalt, in this place. Mr. Covalt whose home was in Fulton county, attended school in Bedford for several years residing with his uncle. For the past eight years he has been engaged in the electrical business at Oakland.—Since going west he has met with much success.—Pennsylvania Hawkeye (Bedford).

Among the names added to our subscription list this week is that of Mrs. Felix Bellman, of Van Wyck, Washington. This lady will be more readily recognized by the Ayr township people as Miss Amanda Hohman, who with her mother Mrs. Anna Hohman, went to Washington a few years ago. Amanda was married last October and has a beautiful home. Her husband, together with his father and three brothers, is an extensive vegetable grower.

In remitting a dollar to advance his subscription into 1904, J. Calvin Hewett, of New London, Chester county, says they have had a moderately mild winter down there—little snow, but much rain. Last Saturday they had a heavy thunder shower. He likes the News and does not want to miss a single number of it. Calvin is a son of Jacob Hewett, Esq., of Thompson.