

# The Fulton County News.

VOLUME 4.

McCONNELLSBURG, PA., JULY 15, 1903.

NUMBER 44

## LAST SATURDAY'S STORM.

Unusual Destruction of Property by Lightning.

### BARN BURNED; CROPS DESTROYED.

Rain Fell in Torrents. Three Barns Burned in Franklin and One Man Killed. Freaks of Electricity at Wm. Miller's.

#### D. R. Mumma's Stable.

The stable on the property recently purchased by D. R. Mumma at Hustontown, was also, struck by lightning last Saturday. While the roof was slightly damaged, and the frame injured the building was not set afire.

#### At Mack's.

Lightning struck one of those big telegraph poles at the McIlvaine house on Sideling Hill, shattering the pole, putting 43 wires out of business for the time, and badly scattering the things around in the office there in charge of our townsman, Thos. F. Sloan.

#### Amos Clouser's Barn.

Amos Clouser's barn near Knobsville, came in for a share of attention in Saturday's storm.—The lightning struck at the comb of the roof, ran down a rafter to the eaves and tore out a strip of shingles the whole length, perhaps two or three feet in width. No further damage was done.

#### Jacob Gordon's Barn.

The barn of Jacob Gordon near Big Cove Tannery was struck by lightning during the electrical storm last Saturday afternoon and completely destroyed, together with all his crop of wheat and rye except about a dozen shocks of the latter, and a valuable horse which he could not get out of the stable in time. This is a heavy loss to Mr. Gordon, as there was only fifty dollars insurance on the property.

#### Trout's Porch.

During a severe thunder storm a few days ago, Miss Bessie Trout went to a window at their home in Tod township to close the shutters, when a blinding flash of lightning, accompanied by a deafening crash of thunder, struck the porch, running down and shattering the corner posts. Miss Bess fell back into the room badly stunned, but, fortunately, soon recovered from the effects.

#### James P. Waltz's House.

During the storm last Saturday afternoon, lightning struck the chimney in the brick end of James P. Waltz's house in Tod township, tore boxing off one side of the gable and a strip of the shingle roofing from comb to eaves about three feet in width, and shattered the first and third rafters into kindling. The fluid then descended to the kitchen, shattering the fire place and made its way through into the ground. The building is insured in the Friends Cove Mutual.

#### In Franklin County.

The destruction of property in last Saturday's storm was not confined alone to this county, for three barns were destroyed in Franklin county.

The large bank barn on the farm of Houston Johnston about half a mile west of Mercersburg was entirely destroyed, William Gluck the tenant had just hauled in the last load of wheat shortly before the storm. Insurance, \$1,000 on the barn and \$800 on crops.

At the same time, and not five miles distant, the valuable bank barn on the Zook farm, with three loads of wheat, two large wagons a good hayrack, and a good mower were entirely consumed.

The third, the large bank barn belonging to Jacob Myers, near Brandt's church was totally destroyed with part of this year's crops. It was with great difficulty the stock was saved. The barn was one of the most substantial in that section of the county.

#### Storm Causes One Death.

Lying in the road beside the bicycle he had been riding, John Beard was found dead on the

## A TRIP ACROSS THE ATLANTIC.

Rev. Henry Wolf Goes on a Visit to the Scenes of His Boyhood.

Rev. Henry Wolf of Tod township left Tuesday morning for New York where he sails at 10 o'clock to-day, Wednesday, on the S. S. Noordam, for the city of Rotterdam at the mouth of the Rhine river. There he will disembark, take a steamboat, and go up the river to the junction of the Rhine and the Mein, a distance of three hundred miles. There he will land and travel by railroad a distance of but twenty miles when he will alight in the city of Darmstadt—his old home, where he expects to spend a couple of months with his relatives and old time friends. The Fulton County News will keep him posted while in the Fatherland.

Williamsport pike about a quarter-mile from Greencastle last Saturday afternoon at 3 o'clock, says Public Opinion. He was found by his brother, William Beard, who was following him on a bicycle, William having stopped in a farm house while his brother rode on into Greencastle to seek shelter from the storm. Death is believed to have been caused by heart trouble resulting from over-exertion. Beard was 22 years old.

The brothers had been engaged in harvesting at Mason and Dixon and meant to stop in Greencastle before returning to their home in Little Cove.

The body was brought to Greencastle on a large wagon-load of straw which happened along the road heading for town. The sight was a pathetic one as the rain fell upon the unprotected corpse lying upon the large pile of straw.

John Beard was a son of Eli Beard, the victim of a hunter's bullet in the mountain near his home over a year ago.

#### Will Miller's House.

On the third inst., lightning struck a chimney in the residence of William Miller, near Dublin Mills, and played a number of pranks without doing any serious damage. Striking the flue it ran down until it came to the cookstove pipe, when it left the chimney and went down to the stove—part of the current reaching the floor by one of the back, and the other by one of the front, legs of the stove. Grandmother Berkstresser, Mrs. Miller's mother, was sitting near the stove piecing a quilt, she having her sewing basket in her lap.—The current after leaving the stove went to Mrs. Berkstresser, ripping the carpet in its course.

Mrs. B. had on her finger a thimble lined with brass. The fluid just separated the two metals, and in a moment she had two thimbles—one brass—the other steel—the brass one on her finger, and the steel one rolling over the floor. A pair of shears in her sewing basket was warped so that the points which would not come together before were welded tightly together. The patches were scattered from the basket and thrown in every direction—some of them adhering to the ceiling for several days.

The other current, after leaving the stove, directed its attention to Richard Miller who sat leaning back with his elbows on the chair-board. Ripping its way through the carpet, it cut under his shoe at the sole, tearing the shoe off and burning his foot severely. It then went to the chair-board and tore that loose, running on until it reached some dampboards on the pump porch when it disappeared. Finally, just before this happened one of the little girls had brought a half drowned little turkey into the house and placed it beside the stove to dry. After the shock the little turkey was found lying on the stove its body torn to pieces.

Aside from being badly scared there was no serious damage done. Mr. and Mrs. Miller were absent at Gettysburg.

## BUCHANAN MONUMENT.

Mrs. Harriet Lane Johnston Leaves \$100,000 for Monument.

A long delayed monument to James Buchanan, the only President ever elected from Pennsylvania, is provided for in the will of his niece, Mrs. Harriet Lane Johnston, whose death occurred on the 3d inst. Mrs. Johnston, the youngest daughter of James Buchanan's sister Harriet Lane, was born at Mercersburg in 1831.

When James Buchanan went as minister to England Miss Harriet Lane accompanied him. She became a favorite with the Queen and the Royal family, and during her stay was one of the foremost ladies in the diplomatic corps at the Court of St. James. When James Buchanan became president Miss Lane was the mistress of the White House. She presided when the Prince of Wales visited America and became President Buchanan's guest for five days.

Mrs. Johnston in her will, which was probated in Washington, D. C., last Wednesday, sets aside the sum of \$100,000 as the "James Buchanan Monument Fund," for the erection of a suitable monument at "Buchanan's Birthplace" near Cove Gap, a spot very well known by Fulton county people and frequently visited by picnic parties. Its historical name is "Stony Batter."

In 1791, when James Buchanan the future president was born there were two cabins there, one occupied by the elder Buchanan, who was employed as clerk by a trader named Toms, who lived in the other. The packhouse trail in those days led through the Gap and thence over the mountain through McConnellsburg and on westward. So wild were the surroundings then, as they are now that when the youthful James was let out to play he carried a bell about his neck to keep from being lost.

Descendants of the Toms family continued to live in that vicinity many years. It has been less than a quarter of a century that the "Old Tom Place" an old tavern standing on the Mercersburg pike west of the Gap, where the toll-gate is now located, was demolished by the ravages of time. The spending of \$100,000 on a monument at Stony Batter will mean, of course, that a good road will be opened for travel from the Gap to that point, to accommodate the large number of summer tourists that will want to visit the spot where Pennsylvania's only president was born.

## ANNUAL SUMMER TOUR ON FOOT.

Five Fannettsburg Ladies at the Fulton House Last Wednesday Night.

Miss Myrtle Walker, Miss Lee Seibert, Miss Nell G. Seibert, Miss Minta Jones, and Miss Margaret Seibert—all of Fannettsburg, left their homes at six o'clock on Wednesday morning of last week for a tour afoot. Turning their faces westward they crossed the mountain to Burnt Cabins and followed on the State Road to Sheepskin Hollow, there they turned south.

Notwithstanding the fact that the girls were not accustomed to so much vigorous exercise, and that Old Sol smiled down on them all day with a glow that was measured by 90 degrees in the shade they covered the distance of twenty miles and reached the Fulton House in McConnellsburg in a little less than twelve hours in fine trim. During the evening a number of their young lady friends of town called on them.

After a night's refreshing rest they arose bright and happy, and at an early hour Thursday morning started across the mountain to Mercersburg.

Mrs. S. L. Baugher of Needmore, is spending about six weeks in Virginia visiting her parents and those of her husband.

## IRON BRIDGE NUMBER TEN

Will Be Built at Charlton's Forging near Warfordsburg.

### CONTRACT AWARDED LAST SATURDAY.

Nelson and Buchanan, Who Have Built All but One of Our County Bridges, Take the Contract.

In accordance with the date fixed in their advertisement for proposals to construct an iron bridge over the west branch of the Tonoloway creek at Charlton's fording near Warfordsburg, the County Commissioners met at their office last Friday and opened the following bids: Wm. A. Gulick & Co., Phoenixville, Pa., \$2460; The Canton Bridge Co., \$2300; The Rochester Bridge & Const. Co., \$2291; The Penn. Bridge Co., \$2225; The Westbrook Bridge Co., \$2197; Nelson & Buchanan, \$2100. The last named being the lowest, received the contract; and as their bid of \$1050 was the lowest for the substructure (or mason work) they, also, got that—making a total contract price of \$3150.

The bridge is to be of the Pratt truss pattern (overhead frame), 100 feet span, by 12 feet width, with carrying strength of 100 pounds to the square foot.

The contract for the first of our county bridges was made in December, 1883, and the bridge was completed in the following summer. This was across Licking creek at Peck's fording. The length of the span is — feet; the cost of the superstructure, \$1750; and Messrs. Ryder & Robinson did the mason work at \$5.50 a perch. We were not able, readily, to find what the total cost was. The bridge is a high truss.

The second bridge is a high truss, and spans Tonoloway creek at Stigers' Mill, near Warfordsburg. It was built in 1887—is 86 feet 2 inches in length, and 12 feet in width. The superstructure cost \$1325, and the substructure \$990.

The third bridge built was that at Gregory's fording across Licking creek in 1887. It is iron, and we might just as well state here that all our county bridges are iron,—high truss, and the span is 112 feet in length by 12 feet in width. The superstructure cost \$1160 and the masonry \$2.75 a perch. The commissioners in office at that time inclined strongly toward the building of a wooden bridge; but when they found that what they might save in the superstructure would be more than expended in the additional cost of masonry, they abandoned the wooden bridge idea.

Three bridges had thus far been built, and all in the lower end of the County. The upper end, however, now succeeded in getting the ears of the "powers that be," and in 1894 a low truss bridge was built across the Aughwick at Fort Littleton 60 feet in length, the superstructure costing \$600, and the substructure, \$250.

The next year, 1895, the fording at Waterfall across Sideling Hill creek came in for its share of attention, and a low truss bridge with a span of 64 feet was built at a cost of \$750 for the superstructure, and \$250 for the substructure.

Three years later, 1897, a low truss bridge was built across Tonoloway creek in Deneen's Gap, 67 feet in length, at a total cost of \$1200 for the super- and sub-structure.

Bridge No. 8 was built across Tonoloway creek at Weaver's fording in Thompson township, in 1899. The pattern is low truss, length of span 65 feet, and the cost of the superstructure and substructure combined was \$1,500.

The same year a bridge was built across Brush Creek near Crystal Springs. The bridge is low truss, the span — feet, the contract price for the superstructure was \$1000, and for the substructure, \$450 a perch. On account of dissatisfaction as to the quality of the work, a settlement

## JENKINS GOT THERE.

Bicyclist Reached Destination Ahead of Time and Won the Cash.

We told our readers of George E. Jenkins, the bicycle tourist who passed through McConnellsburg on the 16th of June enroute from York, Pa., to Clinton, Iowa. He made the trip in one day less than the fifteen allotted. The Clinton "Daily Herald" of Tuesday, June 30, says: "Travel-stained and dust-be-grimed after an over-country jaunt of 954 miles a wheel, George E. Jenkins, of York, Pa., arrived in Clinton Monday afternoon, and is a guest of his sister, Mrs. Mary Willetts, of 1208 Prospect avenue.

"Jenkins departed from York, Pa., on the morning of June 15 on a wager of \$50 that he could ride to Clinton in fifteen days, or better. At first he rode leisurely, the weather having been warm and the roads not any too good. The last 300 miles, however, he was forced to make better time in order to reach Clinton in time to win his wager, and he came in from Chicago at a pretty stiff clip. Jenkins traveled about 12 hours a day and accomplished 79½ miles each day on an average."

#### Elliott Barber, Dead.

Samuel Elliott Duffield Barber, better known as Doc Barber died at his home in Licking Creek township on Saturday, June 27, 1903, aged 54 years and 6 days.—Funeral services conducted on the following Monday by Rev. S. L. Baugher, and interment made at Siloam church.

Mr. Barber was an honest and industrious citizen, and enjoyed the respect of all who knew him. Several months ago it was noticed that failing physical strength was accompanied by weakened mental powers, and during the latter part of his life, it became necessary for his family to exercise constant watchfulness over him.

He is survived by a widow and seven children, and by three brothers—John, Thomas, and Amos, and by two sisters—Mrs. D. H. Myers, and Mrs. Catharine Price of French Landing, Michigan.

was made very much below the sum above named.

A low truss bridge, with a span of 75 feet was built across Tonoloway creek at Maxwell's fording in Thompson township in 1902.—Cost of superstructure, \$1235; of substructure \$650.

The above statement of cost does not, of course, include cost of filling approaches, and the total cost of the masonry could not easily be obtained. Then, the fluctuation in the price of iron must be considered as the comparison of the different prices are considered. It will be noticed that there has been more difference in the prices paid for masonry than for anything else—as high as \$5.50 a perch in the Peck bridge, and as low as \$2.75 in the Gregory.

The following are the commissioners who built the respective bridges: James Daniels, Peter Morton, and George Snyder, Peck's fording; Lemuel Garland, W. H. Charlton, and John Wishart the one at Stiger's Mill; the bridge at Gregory's, by Isaiah Layton, Z. Bland Barnett and D. T. Fields; Lee K. Cline, Amos Sharpe and A. M. Corbin built those at Fort Littleton and Waterfall; John Stunkard, Albert Plessinger and W. L. Cunningham, those at Deneen's Gap, Weaver's and Brush Creek; and A. V. Kelley, H. K. Mallott, and John Fisher, the one at Maxwell's.

Thus it will be seen that when the one at Charlton's is completed Tonoloway creek will have five county bridges; Licking Creek, two; Aughwick, one; Brush creek one, and Sideling Hill creek one.

Miss Lydia Mann of Saluvia spent a day with friends in Everett last week.

## SURPRISE PARTY.

Given Mrs. Amos Clouser near Knobsville. Her Birthday Anniversary.

The neighbors and friends of Mrs. Amos Clouser in some way last week found out that she was about to pass another milestone in her journey through life; and while they had no intention to impress the fact upon the good lady's mind that she was an older woman than she was a year ago, they thought it a good opportunity to have some fun, and to show that they were glad Mrs. Clouser was living and glad that they, themselves, were living.

So the word was quietly passed around the neighborhood, and on the evening of that anniversary day about forty people found it convenient to call at the hospitable home of Mr. and Mrs. Clouser, and a joyous good time was had.

Among those present were J. W. Gunnells, wife and son; J. C. Tice and wife, W. H. Gunnells and wife, Henry Anderson and wife, A. L. Wible and wife, Samuel Divens and wife, Vanvert Divens and wife, Vanvert Kelso and wife, Mrs. Jacob Sharpe and daughter, Mrs. Bert Henry and son, Mrs. Maggie Kerlin and son, Mrs. Elizabeth Sowers, Mr. John Clouser and Mr. John Walters—both of Altoona; Mrs. Wm. Fleagle, Miss Lillie Anderson, Miss Mamie Fore, Miss Maye Clouser, Miss Nannie Mort, Miss Amy Fleming, Ira Fore, John Mackey, Joseph Sowers, Harry Clouser, H. O. Hamil, Samuel Kelso, and Paul Shimer.

After partaking of delightful refreshments, and staying until late in the evening, the company departed with the hope that Mrs. Clouser might see thirty-seven more anniversaries, and that all those present might help to celebrate them.

## HUNTING TROUBLE.

Some One Pilfering About the Premises of Charlie Stevens Last Sunday Night.

Last Sunday night about one o'clock Mr. and Mrs. C. B. Stevens were aroused from their slumbers by the barking of a small dog belonging to their neighbor, Merchant Geo. W. Keisner. Going to the window which looks out upon their wash house at the rear of their residence it did not take Charlie long to decide that there was some kind of a livin critter in the wash house and grabbing his shoe, he was just about letting it go at the door, when to his surprise a man darted quickly out of the wash house door, ran up the alley between his house and Patterson's store, sprang into the street, and disappeared.

As nothing of value was missed it is supposed the visitor was disturbed before he had time to carry out whatever designs he may have had in making his call.

## ANOTHER NEW SECRET ORDER.

A Printer Plans a Society Which all are Invited to Join.

A public benefactor with a sense of the fitness of things has devised a ritual for a new society. It is as follows:

"Persons wishing to enter a printing office at any time of the year should be governed by these rules: Advance to the inner door and give a distinct rap. The "devil" attends to the alarm.—You can give him your name, postoffice address and number of years you are owing for the paper. He will admit you. You will advance to the middle of the room and address the editor with the following countersign: Extend the right hand about two feet from the body with the thumb and index finger clasping a bank bill, which drop into the extended hand of the editor at the same time saying: "Were you looking for me." The editor will grasp your hand and the bill and press it, say, "Yes! Thanks!"

## ABOUT PEOPLE YOU KNOW.

Snapshots at Their Movements, as They Come and Go.

### NAMES OF VISITORS AND VISITED.

Home for a Vacation, Away for an Outing, a Trip for Business or Pleasure, You'll Find It Right Here.

James Tritle of Loudon spent last Sunday among friends on this side of the mountain.

Miss Maye V. Stiver, of Bedford, is visiting her uncle and aunt, Mr. and Mrs. B. W. Peck.

Miss Beatrice Myers of Hancock, spent from Saturday until Monday with the family of her uncle George W. Hays, in this place.

Aaron Garland, Clayton Deshong, John Bard and Obed T. Melott were among those from Belfast township who spent Monday at McConnellsburg.

Mr. and Mrs. Walter Hays of Hancock spent a few days during the past week with the family of the former's brother, George W. Hays of this place.

Mr. Harry Reinsner and family of Hagerstown came over last Saturday for a visit at the homes of his brothers, J. G. and Geo. W. of this place.

Misses Blanche and Jessie Unger, who had been spending two weeks with their parents, Mr. and Mrs. W. P. Unger, returned to Chambersburg last Saturday.

Elliott Ray and son have leased ground down at the First Mill and will put up a steam cider mill and be ready to serve customers by the tenth of August.

Mr. J. L. Miller and daughter of Pittsburg are visiting the family of his brother-in-law, Daniel Mock, and other relatives and friends in this county.

Mr. G. C. Fohner, a student in the Normal here this summer, has secured a position at Bedford Springs, but will return in time to teach a school in this county next winter.

Mrs. George W. Cooper leaves to-day, and will be joined at Greensburg, Pa., by her sister Mary, when the two will go to Peoria, Ill., for a visit of a few weeks among friends.

Rev. Lewis Chambers of Big Cove Tannery came up to town and attended preaching at the M. E. church Sunday and spent Sunday night the guest of Mr. and Mrs. A. U. Nace.

Among the teachers just elected in Logan township, Blair county we notice the names of Miss Fannie C. Lamberson, Miss Grace Mosser, Miss Bertha Madden, and George W. Ready.

Lieutenant John Dawney, of the Chicago police force, is spending a few days among his friends in this county. John has been in the Windy City about thirteen years, and now occupies a lucrative and responsible position.

Mr. and Mrs. Harry Dawney, who were injured by the falling of a pine tree near Hustontown a few weeks ago, are improving slowly. Mrs. Dawney is able to be up part of the time, and Harry is not well by a good deal.

Mrs. Melinda Logan of Davenport, Ill., arrived here last Friday and is visiting her sisters, Miss Rebecca Pott and Mrs. Crosby. Mrs. Logan's daughter, Miss Bess, a prominent teacher who had been in attendance at the annual meeting of the National Teachers' Association at Boston, joined her mother here Tuesday.

Ed Croft of Licking Creek township, brought to this office on Monday some fine apples of last year's crop. There is not a speck of decay apparent, and if they were any place else than about a printing office, might last another year. Ed says at his home they have not been without apples a minute in four years. While he doesn't know the name of this variety, he says they are good for use from fall until spring—or as long as they last.