

The Fulton County News.

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FROM CHARLIE PITTMAN.

Interesting Account of a Tour in Persia Last Summer.

MEETS A FORMER COLLEGE-MATE.

Glimpse of His Life and Work as a Missionary in that Far-Off Land, Likes the People Very Much.

[The many friends of Rev. Charles R. Pittman, who over two years ago, went from McConnellsbury to Persia as a missionary under the auspices of Board of Foreign Missions of the Presbyterian church, will be glad to read the following letter written recently for the young peoples society of Christian Endeavor in the Presbyterian church in this place.—Ed.]

Salmas Plain, Persia, Dec. 15, 1903. During the past year I have been absent from our station about nine months touring, but will only write particularly about a tour made last summer, which extended from May 18 to August 4. On that tour I traveled about 600 miles and visited several of the important towns and cities in our field. I was accompanied by two of our Syrian preachers, and we traveled on horseback, which is the usual mode of travel in this country.

We spent five days among Kurds, visiting among others a Kurdish chief who was baptized by one of our preachers seven years ago. He is the head of a large tribe which he estimates at 50,000. He is a man of peace, kind to his people and loved by them. When he comes out of his house the people of the village run to him and kiss his hand; and I saw several kneel down and kiss his feet. I was his guest over Sabbath and he invited me to dine with him, and we dipped our bread in the same dish of broth. This act is a pledge of friendship in this country, and makes significant the words of Christ concerning Judas, "He that dipeth his hand with me in the dish the same shall betray me."

The Kurds are an interesting and attractive people. I enjoy living among them. They are true and faithful friends, but cruel and merciless enemies. If you stop in one of their villages as their guest they will honor and protect you while there and conduct you safely to the border of their territory when you wish to go, while the very same Kurds would probably rob you if they met you on the road. I never feel safer than when a guest in one of their villages and surrounded by twenty or thirty of them. Every man carries a dagger in his belt; it can be truly said of them that they are "dressed to kill." The Kurds of this district south of Lake Urumia are much more peaceable than the wild tribes on the border between Persia and Turkey.

But the greater part of our work was among the Persians. We do not have formal meetings but find our opportunities in conversations with individuals or groups. Upon entering a town or village we first find a stopping place for the night, and the people hearing of our arrival come to see us—generally through curiosity; or we take a walk through the street and they gather about us and ask us where we came from and what our business is. This gives us the opportunity to give them the Gospel.

The Moslems of Persia are divided into so many sects that it is confusing, not only to us, but also to them. One of them said to me, "I am completely in the dark; our religion is divided into so many sects that each one points in a different direction and says, 'This is the way.' If I were to die at this moment I would die without any faith in any religion." I told him that we would be, indeed, hopeless were it not for the promise that all who seek the Lord with the whole heart shall find him.

When I reached the city of

FULTON COUNTY BOY WEDDED.

Charlie Houck Wins the Hand of Miss Mary Miake in Morrison, Ill.

The Coleta (Ill.) News says:—"Mr. Charles Houck was wedded to Miss Mary Miake in Morrison Wednesday, Feb. 17, at high noon at the M. E. parsonage of that place. The pastor of the church officiated. The wedding was unattended. In the evening they returned to the home of the bride where a bounteous supper and a host of friends awaited the arrival of the happy couple. The bride was attired in white henrietta trimmed in white silk. Mr. Houck is a trusty clerk now employed by Ackerman & Garwick. He has a host of friends who wish him success in his future life. Mrs. Houck is a very fine young lady and is well worthy of the gentleman she has wedded. The young couple have the congratulations of the community. Mr. and Mrs. Houck will be at home to their many friends soon after March 1. They will occupy the place now occupied by Gustave Winkey. They received many beautiful and handsome presents. A kitchen shower was given in honor of Mrs. Houck on Monday at which time many kitchen utensils were given her by the members of the M. E. church."

The groom is a son of Mr. and Mrs. Ephraim Houck of Ayr township.

McConnellsbury Boy Won.

In a literary contest at Ursinus College a few days ago, Mr. Ed Reinsner son of Mr. and Mrs. J. G. Reinsner of this place, won ten dollars on a prize essay among a large number of contestants. Here's our Ed.

Death of a Soldier's Orphan.

At the Soldiers' Orphans' school at Chester Springs, Pa., on Friday, March 4, occurred the death from consumption of Walter Cuff, a colored boy, son of the late Wm. Cuff of Ayr township. He had been an inmate of the school since September 1902, but was a very frail boy owing to an attack of pneumonia from which he suffered before leaving home. He was confined to bed for several weeks and had all the attention that a skillful doctor and a faithful nurse could give him, but owing to the nature of his disease his life could not be saved. In a message to Mrs. S. M. Cook, who placed him in the school, the superintendent says, "He was a good, quiet little boy and never gave any trouble." The body was interred in the St. Baptist church cemetery at Chester Springs on Sunday.

Zenjan, which is on the main road between Tabriz and Teheran, and about 200 miles distant from each, I was told there was a foreigner there wishing to see me, and, soon after, Mr. Euwer, a missionary from Hamadan, walked into the room. We were friends at Princeton but had no idea when we parted over three years ago that our next meeting would be in Persia and under these circumstances. We spent a week together very pleasantly, and before separating we had a Communion service. There were only four of us—the two preachers with me, Mr. Euwer and myself. The smallness of our number in the midst of such a large city made it an occasion of earnest prayer that others might be led to partake of this spiritual feast.

On the 16th of July Mr. Euwer left for Hamadan, and on the 20th I left for Ardabil, taking one of my companions with me and leaving the other in Zenjan to labor there. Ardabil is about 120 miles north of Zenjan, and we were six days on the way. A description of one day's journey will give you some idea of our daily experiences.

(Continued next week.)

MUST PAY TAX ON PARSONAGES.

Cannot be Classed as Actual Places of Worship, Says Supreme Court.

In a case brought for trial before him, President Judge Ross of Montgomery county, decided that parsonages are not places of worship in the sense that a church is, and not therefore, exempt from taxation. The case was appealed, and the supreme court affirmed Judge Ross saying:

"Upon the most liberal interpretation to be given to the ninth article, section 1 of the constitution, we do not think that a parsonage can be considered as an actual place of religious worship, though erected upon ground appurtenant to a church but not a part thereof."

PHILIPS GROVE.

Miss Roxy Sipes has returned home.

Mr. and Mrs. Frank Sipe spent Sunday at E. J. Wilson.

Nevin S. Strait and J. Riley Sipe have returned from Wells Tannery where they spent a week among friends and relatives.

Mrs. Della Mellott is spending a week with her father, F. R. Sipe.

Miss Cora Hoop is able to be out again.

Miss Sadie Barber is spending a week with her mother.

Dr. S. S. Hoop is kept busy now.

Mack Fix spent Saturday with N. S. Strait.

Mrs. Sadie Fix is spending a week with her father.

The bridge across Pattersons Run is about complete.

Nevin Strait and Miss Rox Sipe spent Sunday with G. B. Sipe.

William Hoop is having a job of sawing done.

G. C. Strait is able to be out again.

Elias Deshong has sold his farm lately purchased from M. P. Sipe.

Our supervisor, David Hann, has decided to go into the saw milling business.

There has been much sickness in our vicinity during the last month—colds, measles and diphtheria. There has been in all, nine cases of diphtheria.

R. P. Schooley was surprised the other day to find that his champion pumpkin was spoiling. He called in some of his nearest neighbors and cut it. Mrs. Elsie Sipe took a small piece of it and baked 22 pies. Although about one-third of the pumpkin was spoiled, there was enough left to make 125 pies.

NEEDMORE.

A. R. Bard and Miss Orpha Snyder were guests of W. F. Hart's family Sunday.

Services were held in the church here last Sunday—the first since it was repaired.

Scott Pittman of Thompson was here Saturday evening attending P. O. S. of A. camp.

Director H. K. Hill spent part of a day in the school here last week and reports the school O. K.

J. C. Funk of Sylvan spent Saturday and Sunday with the family of his father, Elder C. L. Funk.

L. C. Kelly of Burnt Cabins spent a night last week at hotel "Peck" in this place. Mr. Kelly was around fixing up his legislative fences.

Mr. and Mrs. Mack Litton of Timber Ridge spent Saturday evening and Sunday with the family of E. Sharpe and other friends here.

The people of Pleasant Grove and community are petitioning for a new mail route leading from Big Cove Tannery to Locust Grove, and the establishing of a new office on the line.

S. M. Clevenger returned from Piney Grove, Md., last Thursday bearing the sad intelligence of the death of Peter Garland, who was well and favorably known in this locality. Many of his old neighbors and friends here would have liked to go to his funeral, but could not on account of bad roads and high waters.

ANOTHER OLD CITIZEN GONE.

Mr. T. Riley Sipes of Licking Creek Township Died Monday Afternoon.

After several years of failing health, Mr. Tobias Riley Sipes died at the home of his son Reamer about 4 o'clock Monday afternoon aged about 82 years.

Mr. Sipes was born and spent his long life in the vicinity where he died. Many years ago he was united in marriage to Miss Elizabeth Pittman, daughter of the late Richard Pittman, and to them were born, eight sons and three daughters, namely, V. Reamer, and George Mc., of Licking Creek township; James, Filmore, and Herbert in the West; Oliver, Abner and Preston, dead; Clara, wife of David Strait, Sarah, wife of John Fix; and Della, wife of Ephraim Mellott.

The deceased was a member of the M. E. church from early manhood, and his body will be laid to rest at 10 o'clock in the little cemetery at Siloam church beside that of his wife who preceded him to that "better land" several years ago.

In politics, Mr. Sipes was an unflinching Democrat, and never missed going to the polls and voting a straight ticket, unless prevented by sickness or other providential hindrance. Although in feeble health he insisted on being taken to the late spring election; but his friends did not think it prudent that he should thus expose his health to the severe weather.

Of a genial generous nature, he was always companionable and had a great many friends.

The funeral services will be conducted by Rev. J. V. Adams of McConnellsbury.

WELLS TANNERY.

Miss Clemma Stunkard has gone to Kearney to stay a short time.

Among the sick in our community are Master Harry Swope, Miss Jennie Young, Mr. William Bivens, and Mrs. Harvey Wishart.

Miss Jessie Mellott of Everett is visiting her aunt, Mrs. A. S. Greenland. Jessie thinks she will stay until the small-pox leaves Everett.

It is almost impossible for us to secure a doctor when first called, as there is so much sickness. Every minute of the time of all doctors seems to be taken.

J. C. Kirk and family, who have lived in Everett during the past year, have come back to their home in the Valley. We welcome them, and know they enjoy living among us or they would not have returned.

Mrs. Jerry Sprowl and daughter, from the Sprowl mansion, spent a few days with her sister, Mrs. Bertie Dishong. Mrs. Dishong received a message one day last week from Langdonale stating that her sister, Mrs. Jas. Gibson, was very ill. We are glad to note that at this writing she is improving.

Wells Castle No. 350 last Sunday attended the funeral of one of their members, Walter Morgret. Assisted by Rev. Kennedy they conducted the services in Sherman Valley church in an impressive manner. Rev. Kennedy based his remarks on this text, found in Amos 4:12, "Prepare to meet thy God." Mr. Morgret was aged 21 years, was married to Robert Ford's daughter Margaret, and leaves a widow and little daughter and a large number of relatives to mourn his loss.

Mr. and Mrs. Guy Logue of Pittsburg, are visiting the former's parents, Mr. and Mrs. B. W. Logue in the Cove. Lester, who had been home a couple of weeks returned to Altoona, Monday.

Miss Minnie E. Mock, who is teaching near Lemaster, spent from Saturday until Monday with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Daniel Mock of Tod township. Miss Minnie was accompanied by her friend Miss Mary Neikirk.

MUTINY IN A SCHOOL.

Patrons say Flag is Being Placed Ahead of the Bible.

It is not often that the American flag is turned down in America, says a correspondent to the Pennsylvania Hawkeye, but that is what is being done over in Huntingdon county. Not a great while since, the teacher of the public school at Stonerstown decided to introduce a new flag drill in his school. The drill is nothing more than a salute to the flag. There is a pretty movement of the hands connected with it, the pupils saying "We give our heads and our hearts to our country," and concluding with the words "One country, one language, one flag."

It appears that some of the Stonerstown people who have children in the school objected to the drill on the ground that it was contrary to the religion in which they believed. These are Seventh Day Adventists and have taken to their heads the notion that the flag was placed ahead of the Bible. Of course, this is mere nonsense, but it has proved impossible to get the Seventh Day Adventists to see the matter in that light.—The trouble was begun by one man and inside of a week he had stirred up half a dozen families. Thus reinforced, the principal objector began to make things merry for the teacher. The children of the people, feeling that they had the support of their parents, manifested a decidedly independent spirit. In fact it was seen that mutiny was brewing and that unless prompt steps were taken to check it it would break out in a serious form.

This caused the directors to take action. They called a meeting at the school house and had the children go through with the drill. They saw nothing wrong with it and decided to let it stand. Then the school had its Washington's birthday exercises and the drill was publicly presented.—This raised a bigger hubbub than ever and it became necessary for the directors to again step in, which they did by telling the school teacher to go on with his drill and they would stand by him. So there the matter stands. What the next move will be remains to be seen.

FORT LITTLETON.

Katharine Cromer spent a few days with Mrs. Sadie Fraker last week.

Miss Sue Orth and Cora Fraker spent Friday afternoon with the family of Benj. Wilds.

David Fraker, wife and daughter Jessie spent Sunday with the family of Nathan Henry.

Maggie Laidig spent last Tuesday with the family of Mr. Amos Sipes. "Look out, Clarence."

Bert Fraker passed through our village yesterday enroute to Knobsville. What's the attraction Bert?

The people of this place presented their pastor, Rev. J. V. Adams, with a purse containing \$10.00 in cash as a token of gratitude to him.

Mr. and Mrs. Lemuel P. Kirk are visiting their daughter, Mrs. F. C. Bare.

KNOBVILLE.

Prof. A. E. Manley took dinner at Daniel E. Fore's on Sunday.

Mrs. D. B. Fore is visiting her sister, Mrs. E. M. Gelvin, near Fort Littleton.

The "chickenswallow" at B. F. Wible's last Wednesday night was a fine affair. All present enjoyed themselves, and were sorry when the time came to go home. The following persons were there: Mr. and Mrs. Will Gunnells, Mr. and Mrs. Amos Clouser, Misses May Clouser, Sadie Sharpe, Mamie and Mabel Fore, Katie Fore, Lucy and Amy Myers, and Lillian Anderson, and Messrs. Charles Tice, Harry Clouser, John Campbell, Joseph Sowers, Levi Hockensmith, Wm. Nangle and Roy Myers.

SURPRISE PARTY.

In Honor of Another Birthday Anniversary of Mrs. W. H. Gunnells.

A number of the friends of Mrs. W. H. Gunnells "conspired together" to give that lady a genuine oldtime surprise on last Saturday evening, with the result of having a most delightful time.

Early in the evening, there assembled at the Gunnells home the following persons: Mr. and Mrs. Amos Clouser, Mr. and Mrs. A. L. Wible, Mr. and Mrs. Frank Wible and their three little sons Bruce, Reed and Oscar; Mrs. C. K. Spangler, Misses Dora and Boyde Sherman, Maye Clouser, Della Ashwell, Katie Fore, and Messrs. Harry Clouser, Cyrus Wagner, John Mackey, L. M. Hockensmith, W. J. Nangle, H. O. Haml, John Campbell, Jacob Clouser of Big Cove Tannery, and Miss Bess Irwin of McConnellsbury.

At nine o'clock plenty of ice-cream, cake and other good things were served, after which the evening until eleven o'clock was spent in playing flinch and other innocent games, and in genuine sociability.

This was followed by the singing of a number of selections, led by Mrs. C. R. Spangler, closing with the good old hymn "God be with you till we meet again."

Mrs. Gunnells was the recipient of many useful presents for which she was most appreciative.

WEST VIEW.

How the March wind does blow!

Miss Maggie Charlton who has been in Baltimore, for some time has returned home.

W. L. Shaw is visiting friends and relatives in York county.

Mrs. Thomas Manning spent one day last week with Mrs. Isaac Culler of Timber Ridge.

Miss Lydia Truxel spent Friday afternoon with Miss Blanche Shaw.

Miss Anna Weaver is visiting friends at Franklin Mills.

Elmer Sinsel is proud over the arrival of a son. Elmer needed a wood chopper.

Harry Hill of Round Top, expects to move to Tonoloway in a few weeks.

Mr. Aldolphus Dickens spent last Sunday with Mr. John W. Truxel.

Jake Myers, who has been visiting in Fulton county, for some time, has returned to his home in the West.

PIGEON COVE.

Gordon's school is progressing very nicely under the instruction of Miss Zoe Mason.

Messrs. Geo. and Job Detrich of Franklin county, were visiting the families of H. P. Palmer and Joseph Fisher.

Miss Lenore Downs spent last Sunday afternoon with Misses Olive and Lula Slusher.

Miss Kittie Kirk spent Saturday and Sunday with Miss Catharine Golden of Franklin Mills.

Quite a number of the people from the Cove attended revival meeting at Cedar Grove last Saturday evening.

Miss Gertrude Foreback is visiting her grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Mellott.

Mr. Lee Charlton is singing "A charge to keep I have." It's a boy.

Misses Jessie Lewis and Anna Weaver visited Gordon's school last Wednesday afternoon.

J. H. Daniels and C. A. Palmer made a brief call at P. H. Kirk's last Sunday afternoon.

Zoe Mason and Laura Runyan spent Sunday evening with the family of J. S. Kirk.

Mr. Reede Downs spent Sunday evening at Joseph Runyan's.

Miss Dora Divalbiss was visiting her brother, Mr. Wm. Divalbiss.

Mr. Jeremiah Golden has been quite ill for some time, but is improving slowly.

Mr. Edward Golden and family are visiting relatives in this section.

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.

Miss May McEldowney of Genoa spent a few days last week with Miss Dora Peck and other friends in this place.

Mrs. Mary A. Kelley of this place, spent the latter part of last week among her friends in Thompson township.

Mr. and Mrs. O. B. Dunlap of St. Thomas, were circulating among their Fulton county friends part of last week.

Mr. and Mrs. Howard Skipper of Licking Creek township, called at this office a few minutes while in town last Wednesday.

W. S. St. Clair formerly of the Cove, but now a resident of Franklin county, spent a day or two on this side of the mountain last week.

Robert I. Huston of near Clear Ridge, was in town last Wednesday. He will change his post-office address to Dublin Mills April 1.

Jere Laidig of Hustontown called at this office a few minutes last Wednesday and left \$1.75 for the News and the Thrice-a-Week World a year.

Mr. Dora Yeakle of Thompson township, has been helping his brother Sam through a rush of work in the latter's blacksmith shop here.

Misses Marion and Jessie Sloan who had been spending a few weeks with their brothers in Buffalo, N. Y., returned home last Wednesday night.

Mr. William Conover employed at the Everett furnace was bitten by a mad dog last week. The dog was soon thereafter killed, but it is known that several other dogs were bitten.

Mr. and Mrs. George C. Sipes of Cross Roads in Belfast township, spent a few hours in town last Wednesday. They will move to the Big Cove in a few days and take charge of D. M. Kendall's farm.

During the thunder storm last Thursday the barn owned by William Ritchey just east of Everett, was struck by lightning and burned to the ground. All the feed and one colt were burned. The barn was nearly a new one.

Mr. J. L. Cowan of Bellwood, spent a few days last week visiting his mother Mrs. Catharine Cowan of Tod township. Jim called at the News office long enough to advance his subscription and to bring us a new subscriber.

Mr. George W. Sipes, a prosperous citizen of Silver Plume, Col. spent a day or two in this place last week. Mr. Sipes is a native of Licking Creek township, but has been absent from this county during the past twenty years.

A burglar or burglars entered the business places of Tax Collector Wolf, Druggist Kuhn and Saddler Bert Smith at Mercersburg, one night last week, and took all the cash they could get their hands on, besides damaging property.

Captain John D. Hook, a well known citizen died at his late residence at Hancock, on the 28th ult., aged 87 years. Capt. Hook was born at Jefferson in Frederick county, in 1827, but he had lived at Hancock for many years. He was formerly engaged in boating on the Chesapeake and Ohio canal and had the distinction of taking the first boat to Cumberland upon the completion of the canal. Capt. Hook once owned and operated the Rockdale flouring mills in Hancock. He was interested in the Round Top Cement Works near Hancock, in the early days of the industry and was superintendent of the plant for a number of years after Bridges & Henderson acquired it.