

The Fulton County News.

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REV. GEORGE B. SHOEMAKER.

Has Not Forgotten His Coasting Days With the Boys About McConnellsburg.

Eldora, Iowa, January 27.—December and January have brought us an abundance of snow, and some quite cold weather. On Tuesday last, we had a very disagreeable day. The thermometer did not get above twelve degrees below zero at any time during the day, and the wind blew a gale out of the northwest. Not much business was done that day, and all trains on the railroad were very late, or else abandoned. "What did you do to keep warm?" Oh, we shoveled "Black Band" Virginia coal into the Round Oak furnace, opened up all the heat pipes, and warmed the whole house. In my study, where a visiting minister and myself spent part of the time, we shut off the heat at times, because we were too warm. This is not a joke, but a fact.

The worst storm of the winter, and, indeed, for some years, came on Tuesday following Christmas. The cold was not so intense as it was during the storm of this week, but there was more snow, and it was more of a "blizzard" than a common blow. On this day, we had the largest fall of snow of the winter. It drifted until on the business streets it was six feet or more deep. The air at times was full of snow. The Court House, a large brick building, stands in the public square. The parsonage is about as far from it as the Methodist church in McConnellsburg is from the Hall of Justice. Many times through that storm we could not see the Court House because of the snow in the air. The wind blew the snow all off my front walk; but, as if to get even with me, it placed it in great drifts in my back yard. The memory of the toil incident to path making, lingers with me yet.

From my study window, I look out upon the yard of my neighbor, who has two lusty boys. He also has a hill or steep bank in his yard. His boys own sleds. Now, by some strange order of things, that snow clad bank attracts his boys with their sleds, and the fun they seem to have attracts other boys, until, at times, the hill swarms with boys and sleds, and boxes, and boards, and stabs of brooms—anything upon which a boy can manage to slide down the hill, and mirth and jollity reign supreme. They go down the bank, past the barn, through the alley to the street, where they turn abruptly to the right, and go down the street to the foot of the hill. A wood pile, needing attention, is for the time forgotten, and the boys work longer and harder at the coasting than they ever have or will at the wood sawing. And I say, "What is the matter with the boys of to day?" But my criticism is cut short, by the memory of the past. I see the hill back of Ettemiller's barn; and the one just west of where the postoffice used to be; and the field out by the old swimming hole when the thick crust was on the snow; and the hill from Dan Fore's barn down on to the business street; and the ridge road from about the place where the "toll gate" used to stand, down around the curve, past the Peach orchard and then on down the straight run, over the bridge, on to Hays' blacksmith shop. I awake to the fact that I am there with the other boys, and I very much fear there was a wood pile that needed my attention; but, like the one in my neighbor's yard, it had to wait. I wonder if any of "the boys" remember the sled with cast iron runners owned by Nat Duffield? How we used to envy him his piece of desirable personal property. I never see a company of boys and girls coasting but I want to join them. But I must preserve my dignity; hence I do not. And that reminds me: In my early ministry in the west, on a very warm day, I attended a township Sunday school

MISSIONARY WORK IN INDIA.

Miss Alice Wisbart Writes Encouragingly of Prospects.

[The following is abstracted from a letter from Miss Alice to her mother, and will be read with interest by Miss Wisbart's many friends.—Editor.]

Allahabad, India, Dec. 17.—I'm beginning your next week's letter early as there is a little time, for there will be none next week I know, for letter writing. How I wished for father to be here last night. We attended the popular meeting of the Presbyterian Alliance in Mayo Hall, which lasted nearly three hours, but didn't seem an hour. Representative men of all the thirteen different branches of the Presbyterian church both native, European and American were there; and one could seldom have the pleasure of seeing and hearing so many really fine men. Sir Andrew Fraser, not being able to preside, a fine old Scotsman, Dr. McKichan was moderator. There were six speeches—all in regard to the union of all the Presbyterian churches in India; and what is better, it has actually been accomplished at this meeting of the Alliance, and is a step toward a united Christian church (native) in India, of all denominations, and the beginning of the final union of Christ's church throughout the world, it is hoped.

I wish I could tell you all about it, but it was too grand, and soul inspiring to even try to express. Miss Todd and I are invited down to the Jamma to meet these same gentlemen this evening. Isn't that lovely! I've met more notable people since I came to Allahabad than I ever dreamed of, and and its a real inspiration to come in touch with lives which count for much in this world.

Ellen and I had a delightful hour down at the Swings' meeting the Presbyterian worthies, this afternoon. They preach in the different churches to-morrow. I'll send you programmes of the Alliance meetings and organ recital. How I wish they were a huge bunch of our lovely Marasch Niel roses like I have on my writing desk. We are having a heavy rain just now.

Just a minute to scratch off a bit more. As it was such a notable event in Presbyterian history in India, I took two hours and went down to the Jamma Monday morning to see the first General Assembly of the Presbyterian church in India formed, with a native, Mr. Chatterji as moderator. It was a meeting I shall always be glad to have been present at.

I will try to get a report of all the meetings to send to father, as he will surely be interested.

HUSTONTOWN.

A protracted meeting is in progress in the M. E. church in this place.

Mrs. Joseph Lohr spent part of last week visiting relatives in McConnellsburg.

Albert Stoner and daughter, Myrtle, of McConnellsburg, were visitors in this place last Saturday. They were accompanied on their return trip by Mrs. Stoner, who had been spending a few days at the home of her brother, John O. Hoover.

The Ladies' Aid Society will hold an "Envelope Social" in the P. O. S. of A. Hall on the evening of February 22. Music will be furnished for the occasion by the Hustontown Cornet Band. Everybody invited.

Ezra and James Heefner, of Petersburg, were in attendance at the funeral of their father, David Heefner, Tuesday.

convention. I was suffering from the heat, and I said to a lady near me, "If it were not that I would look undignified, I would take off my coat." She looked me all over, and then said, "Dignified! Why, you could not look dignified if you tried." That was when I was young. She would think differently of me now. Very truly,

Geo. B. Shoemaker.

OUR LAWMAKERS.

Some of the Bills of Local Interest that Were Offered Last Week.

Notwithstanding the zero condition of the temperature, and the exposure incident to the weekly journeyings of our lawmakers to and from the State capital each week they manage to have a fairly comfortable time while in Harrisburg; and if half the bills that have been introduced receive the final signature of Governor Pennypacker, the next edition of the "Pamphlet" Laws will be larger than a twenty dollar edition of the Revised Version of a family bible.

There are 204 lawmakers in the House, to say nothing of the ability of 50 others who sit over in the Senate; and if it is not the business of each one to make some new law, what is he put there for, anyhow?

If the "News" were to attempt to give the titles of the bills already offered it would be necessary to issue a supplement; hence we give a synopsis of those that we think will interest Fulton county readers.

Among the bills offered in the House last week was one by Representative Wm. T. Creasy, providing that counties and other municipalities shall be entitled to a license tax, and that the state shall get no share of them.

Mr. Creasy also offered one providing that nine-tenths of the tax on money at interest, known as the state tax on personal property, shall be retained by the county.

Halcomb, of Luzerne, offered one requiring bonds given by officers of township boroughs and school districts, to be approved by the Court and kept in the office of the Clerk of the Court; and that reports of township and borough auditors shall be made in duplicate—one to be filed with the clerk of the court, and one with the town clerk.

Truxell, of Lycoming, presented a bill making it the duty of adjoining landowners, each to build and maintain one-half of the line or division fences between their properties. This is to change the present law of 1842 which is considered defective. Also, one authorizing township supervisors to levy and collect a special tax for the payment of the debts of the township.

Another bill offered in the Senate makes District Attorneys salaried officers and provides the amount according to population. Should it be enacted into law the District Attorney of Fulton county would be entitled to \$400 per year.

A bill extending for one year longer the tax warrants of collectors who have let their warrants expire, offered by Representative Hoke of Franklin county was defeated on third reading.

Among the bills passed finally in the House, was one making it a misdemeanor to destroy or deface finger bonds erected by supervisors.

Also, the bill requiring proof of the burial of the carcasses of sheep killed by dogs, before payment by the commissioners of the damages assessed.

SPRUCE CREEK.

The people are very busy packing ice.

Our three champion cat trappers, Howard and Job Garland and C. W. Plessinger are customers for the fur purchasers.

The protracted meeting at Oakley is well attended.

We are glad to know that W. F. Hart, our merchant, is getting over his wounds caused by the fire and is again able to manipulate the yard stick.

The Needmore school is progressing well under the care of Howard Mellott.

Oliver Plessinger passed through our village on his way to Baltimore.

Benjamin Wilds and wife, of Fort Littleton, spent Saturday at the County Seat.

ON THE EASTERN SHORE.

James G. Kline and Family Went From Franklin County.

Mr. James G. Kline and family, formerly of this county, have removed from Franklin county to the Eastern Shore, Md., and the following letter from a member of the family will give their friends a little sketch of their trip.

"We left Mercersburg at 3:30 Thursday afternoon, January 26, and reached Salisbury, Md., next morning at 5 o'clock, accompanied by Mr. W. F. Trayer, of Mercersburg.

"The weather man greeted us with a blizzard and the mercury was "way down" for this part of the country. We found more snow in Salisbury than there was in Mercersburg when we left. About six inches more snow fell last night, and the roads are badly drifted. The natives here say they do not remember a winter so severe as this.

"Our car with furniture and stock did not arrive until Saturday noon, but everything was in good shape. We have to haul our goods four miles to the farm, and expect to move them in a day or two.

"We enjoyed our trip very much. We have a beautiful home, but poor accommodations just now, for we have been without chairs and beds since Friday. The good neighbors are going to turn in and help haul the furniture out of town. The people here do not wait to be invited to help—they come and offer themselves, when help is needed. We will get our chairs on Tuesday, as our canned fruit and potatoes had to come first for fear of freezing.

Some of the potatoes were frozen in the car; the canned fruit is not hurt very much. I will close now by sending you a one-dollar bill for the NEWS.

CLARA.

LEG BROKEN.

Hamsher Karper Slipped on Icy Sidewalk in Fannettsburg Last Thursday.

Hamsher Karper, of Chambersburg, one of the most popular of the salesmen that visit the merchants in this county, was painfully injured while in Fannettsburg last Thursday. He had been to the Fannettsburg postoffice for his mail, and was on his way to Elmer Walker's store when he slipped on the icy sidewalk and was unable to rise.

Two men were walking directly back of Mr. Karper and witnessed his fall. They went to his assistance and carried him to the hotel conducted by Mrs. Skinner. A physician was summoned who found that the bone in Mr. Karper's left leg between the knee and thigh was fractured.

Mrs. Karper was notified and went to Fannettsburg Friday to nurse her husband who will be compelled to remain in bed for several weeks, at least.

Stilly Clevenger for Second Term.

We notice in the Franklin Repository the announcement of our friend, S. A. Clevenger, as a candidate for the renomination for the office of clerk of the courts of Franklin county by the Republican county convention of that county. Of Mr. Clevenger the Repository has this to say, editorially:

"There is the strong desire that Mr. Clevenger serve another term in the office and there will be most earnest work done for him by his many friends.

Mr. Clevenger has made a most capable clerk and is entitled by virtue of this, more than by custom, to a second term. As said, his nomination is conceded and there will be no serious contest by any one to wrest the place on the ticket from him, so that there remains only the effort to give him a big majority at the polls."

Stilly is a Fulton county boy and a former student in one of the editor's summer normals and has a host of friends in this county who will join in wishing him success in winning the nomination.

ENJOYABLE SOCIAL EVENT.

Crowd of Fort Littleton People Spend Last Saturday Evening at Hotel Hamil.

The people of Fort Littleton do not have to go away from home to get something good to eat, nor to have a good time; so last Saturday evening was set as the time, and Hotel Hamil the place, where friends and neighbors might spend a few hours together in social intercourse, and enjoy one of those suppers for which this hostelry is so justly famous.

The necessary tip was given to Harry and his wife; and when evening came, everything was in readiness.

At an early hour the guests began to arrive, and soon the hum of animated conversation and the bursts of laughter were evidences that every one had left "dull care" at home and that the big spot on the sun had no chilling effect on that crowd.

In due time supper was announced, and McConnellsburg people need not be told what that was like, for there was an abundance of roast turkey with all the "trimmings," as well as oysters, &c., &c., &c.

Altogether it was a great success. Uncle Dan Fleck was there with his fiddle, and Frank Bare could turn his hand to a part in any kind of music; while Rev. Cline and George Fraker directed the amusements so carefully that nobody was hauled up before the board of stewards next day.

Those present were: John W. Fraker and wife, D. C. Fleck and wife, Geo. W. Parsons and wife, F. C. Bare and wife, Mrs. Bertha Bare, Geo. C. Fraker and wife, M. S. Wilt and wife, Charlie Fields and wife, Hon. S. L. Buckle and daughter Miss Annie, S. R. Cromer and wife, Dr. and Mrs. D. A. Hill, Rev. and Mrs. W. M. Cline, Dyson Fraker and wife, David Fraker and wife, H. I. Wilson and wife, and D. W. Cromer and wife.

HOT AIR.

Subterranean Heat and Vapor Issuing From Mountain Near McConnellsburg.

Is it a geyser, a young volcano, a subterranean coffee pot, or what is it, anyhow? These are questions that our local scientists have been trying vainly to solve during the past week. And it all comes about from the fact that the attention of a couple of fox hunters last week, when on top of the Ridge, west of the Cove, and at a point directly west of George Snyder's in Tod township, was attracted by volumes of hot vapor arising from the earth. Notwithstanding the zero condition of the air and the abundance of snow on the Ridge, the ground around the point from which the steam issued was as dry as a last year's bird's nest and as warm as the business end of a bumble bee.

A report of the discovery soon spread and duly there are persons visiting the place. An excavation of two and a half feet was made and the temperature tested with a thermometer, which showed a difference of thirty-three degrees between the outside temperature and that at the bottom of the excavation.

The vapor settling on the surrounding objects covers them with a coat of frost that glitters most beautifully in the sunlight.

The top of the Ridge is serrated and the steam issues from one of the low places. At a distance of about eighty rods from the opening already described hot vapor issues forth.

Just what this may mean to the future growth of McConnellsburg or to the future state of her inhabitants cannot be safely predicted at the hour we go to press.

The contracts for carrying the mails on the routes leading into McConnellsburg have been awarded as follows: To Saluvia, John V. Stouieagle, \$385; to Big Cove Tannery, Scott Reeder, \$105; to Fort Littleton, George Wagner, \$105; to Mercersburg, John Sheets, \$650.

WILL THEY PASS IT?

A Bill Introduced Into the House to Allow Trolley Lines to Carry Freight.

Representative Creasy, of Columbia county, has just introduced into the House at Harrisburg, a bill to allow trolley lines to carry freight as well as passengers.

No section of the State needs trolley service worse than Fulton county; and there are few more attractive fields for the capitalist interested in the building of electric roads. The steam companies, who have practically owned the Pennsylvania legislature for many years, have been smart enough to have a law passed prohibiting trolley lines from carrying freight, thus cutting their earning powers down so low that they cannot operate save in very densely populated districts. This is manifestly very unfair, both to the trolley companies, and to the general public. Should Mr. Creasy's bill become a law, it would not be long until the line now built from Pen Mar to Greencastle would be extended on through by way of Mercersburg, to McConnellsburg, to the latter of which places, they already own the right of way; and the road would, in all probability, be built over the turnpike on through to Everett. Another paying proposition would be a line from Three Springs, via. Brownsville, Madsdensville, Fort Littleton, through McConnellsburg on to connect with the Wabash road at the Potomac. Fulton county stands ready to lend substantial support to any company who may choose to take the matter up.

The bill is very popular in the country sections all over the State, which have a trolley service, but seems to be unpopular in the House. The farmers are charging this is due to the railway passes and other favors extended members of the legislature. Should the bill be defeated through this influence, there will be a lot of country legislators who will have a serious accounting to make to their irate constituents.

STORE CHANGES HANDS.

Elmer Ramsey Purchases the Huston Store at Clear Ridge.

Last Friday Elmer Ramsey purchased from the heirs of the late Thomas B. Huston, the stock of goods in the Huston store, and took possession at once. The Huston farm was purchased last fall by Cab L. Henry, and there remains now only the residence property of the family, which will be kept as a home for the heirs as long as they may wish to remain together.

DAVID HEFNER DEAD.

Expired at His Home in Hustontown Last Saturday.

Another of Taylor township's oldest and most worthy citizens has been called to his eternal home. After an illness of only a few days, resulting from a stroke of paralysis, Mr. Heefner died at his home in Hustontown last Saturday and was interred in the cemetery at that place on Tuesday. Rev. B. A. Salter, of the M. E. church, and Rev. A. S. Wolf, of the U. B. church, conducting the services.

Mr. Heefner was married many years ago to Miss Lydia Laidig, who, with eleven children, survives the husband and father. The children are Jeremiah, William, George, Jesse, and David, in Taylor township, and Ezra and James, at Petersburg, Pa., Sadie, wife of Rev. Sparks, Mollie and Jane at home, and Barbara, wife of Isaac McClain of Taylor township.

Mr. Heefner was a representative farmer—industrious, intelligent, and generous, and reared a large family, such as any parents may be well proud of.

Most of the boys are well settled on farms of their own, while Ezra and James are successful merchants.

Mr. Heefner was aged 75 years, 5 months and 2 days.

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.

W. Riley Bergstresser, of Waterfall, made a trip to McConnellsburg, last Saturday.

Joshua Heeter and wife, of Fort Littleton, are spending a few days in Trough Creek Valley.

George W. Decker, wife and son, Master Verley E., spent last Wednesday in McConnellsburg.

Rev. John S. Decker, of Mt. Pleasant, Iowa, in enclosing a dollar to renew his subscription says, "We cannot do without the NEWS."

J. A. Whitfield, of Bethel township, was an early caller at the "News" office last Saturday morning. Gus looks like the world was using him well.

James A. Mumma, of Saluvia, spent a few hours in town last Saturday and expresses himself as being much pleased with his recent trip to the Smoky City.

Mr. Jacob Winegardner, proprietor of the Winegardner store at Clear Ridge, spent Sunday night in the home of his brother-in-law James Henry, and was in town on business early Monday morning.

The hospitable home of Mr. and Mrs. James Henry, north of town, was invaded by about two dozen McConnellsburgers last Friday evening, who spent the time until near the hour of midnight most enjoyably.

Martin W. Truax and Nathan Truax, of Sipes Mill, were in town last Friday. Nathan spent the most of the last two years with W. F. Wink down on the Eastern Shore, but proposes to go to South Fork, Pa., about the first of March.

Miss Lab V. Hess and her niece, Miss Beattie Vanclve, who had been visiting among their many friends here, left town Monday to spend a few days in the home of Scott Trittle and wife in the Cove. On Friday they expect to go to Hancock for a few days' visit, and then go to Iowa, where Miss Vanclve is engaged very successfully in the millinery business.

Mrs. Mollie Runyan Dixon, of Pittsburg, in sending a remittance to advance her subscription to the NEWS, says it is just marvelous—the number of new dwellings that are being erected in that city. She says, "We look on and wonder when they will all be occupied; but it is but a short time after they are completed until there is not an empty house left. But a few squares from our home, one hundred and thirty-two houses are being built in one row that will readily rent at sums ranging from \$18 to \$30 a month."

BURNT CABINS.

A. J. Fore and A. V. Kelly made a business trip to McConnellsburg last Monday.

Miss Mamie Speck returned to her home Monday evening after a visit to Doyleburg among friends.

Miss Bessie Villence and sister, Nora, accompanied by Mr. Levi Cordell, of Loudon, spent Sunday with the former's aunt Mrs. Harry Miller.

Rev. Finney, of Shade Gap, was in our town last Thursday.

Scott Miller and wife, of Shirlleysburg, visited the former's father and mother last Thursday and Friday.

John Meek and family, of Met-al, spent Sunday at Thomas Briggs'.

Dick McGowan and wife spent Saturday night and Sunday with friends at Orbisonia.

A merry crowd of our good people attended the social on Tuesday night at Harry Foreman's near Decorum.

Mrs. Gambia, Mrs. A. P. Doran's mother, is very ill. Uncle Jake Miller is still getting along nicely.