

The Fulton County News.

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MELLOTT-HOOP NUPTIALS.

Miss Cora M. Hoop Becomes the Bride of Thomas G. Mellott.

One of the leading social events in Licking Creek township's society, occurred at the hospitable home of Dr. and Mrs. S. S. Hoop at Andover, last Wednesday, when at high noon Rev. W. J. Dumville, of the M. E. church, uttered the impressive words that bound the lives of Miss Cora M. Hoop and Thomas G. Mellott in holy wedlock.

For the ceremony the window shutters had been closed, and the beautifully decorated parlors brilliantly lighted, gave an effect that was decidedly pleasing.

The bride was gowned in blue velvet, and looked very pretty; while the bridesmaid, Miss Ada Barton, wore a handsome garnet. Charles Mellott was best man.

The ceremony over and congratulations tendered the bridal couple, the company was ushered into the spacious dining room where a sumptuous dinner was served.

The bride is a charming young lady, and the groom one of the township's best young men. The happy couple start out in life with the best wishes of their numerous friends.

The bride was the recipient of a choice lot of gifts.

About fifty guests were present, among whom were Dr. and Mrs. A. D. Dalby, Mrs. J. W. Mosser, and Justice and Mrs. L. H. Wible—all of McConnellsburg.

Fulton's Bi Trees.

Dear Editor.—I have read with much interest in the last issues of your paper, the account of a number of big trees in your county, and desire to thank the gentlemen for their kindness in responding to the request concerning "Big Trees in Fulton County" made several weeks ago through the "News."

It is my desire to know the name of the largest tree grown in the county—whatever the species. A Swamp oak is a large tree at the circumference, but the Black oak (*Quercus valentina*), the Scarlet oak (*Quercus coccinea*), and the White oak (*Quercus alba*)—all grow larger than the Swamp oak. Now, I am aware that Fulton county contains many of the latter named oaks, and I would be pleased to have some report of them. Then, there is the Chestnut (*Castanea dentata*), a large grower, and the Black walnut (*Juglans nigra*), and, perhaps, the Tulip tree, often called White wood, and Yellow poplar (*Liriodendron tulipifera*), and the Buttonwood or Sycamore (*Platanus occidentalis*). Of course, you have hickory, ash, mulberry, maple, etc., etc., but none of these grow into great trees, except, perhaps, the White ash (*Fraxinus americana*), several of which I have seen requiring twenty feet of tape to encircle their mammoth stems.

When last in the county, nine years ago, I noted several huge-appearing white oaks (the largest growing oak), in a field just below what we boys dubbed "The second mill"—about two miles south of McConnellsburg. My recollection is that they were on Mr. Fulton's land; and, if Mr. Ed Stoutengale still lives on the mill property, probably he will measure and report their girth. Trusting that I have not drawn too largely upon your space and some good may come to some of your people (including the school boys and girls) from these inquiries. I am very sincerely yours, WILLIAM FINDLAY HUGHES, 212 North Eighth street, Philadelphia.

Rev. H. G. Clair, of Millers-town, Pa., has accepted a call from the Presbyterian church at Newton Hamilton, Pa., and has removed with his family to the latter place and entered upon his work.

More Big Trees.

Johnnie Everts, at Plum Run, reports a sycamore tree standing on Benjamin Hollinshead's farm, on the bank of Tonoloway creek at Maxwell's fording, that measures 11½ feet in circumference, 5½ feet above ground; and a cucumber tree in Lemuel Kirk's field, along the road that leads from the Tonoloway Baptist church to George W. Chesnut's, 2 miles north of Hancock, that measures 24 feet, 7½ inches, 18 inches above the ground, and 18 feet, 3 inches, 5½ feet above ground.

Mr. George W. Barnett reports that there is a swamp oak on his farm near Waterfall that measures 15 feet in circumference 5½ feet above the ground; and the trunk runs up to a height of about forty feet to where the first limb appears. "This oak," writes Mr. Barnett, "stands in a pasture field on the east side of Siding Hill creek, and can be viewed from the public road leading from Clear Ridge to Waterfall at a point near where Mr. Jeremiah Gladfelter now lives. While this may not be the largest tree in Fulton county (and by the way, it comes pretty nearly belonging to Huntingdon county, for it stands only about a stone's throw from the line) it is recognized as being the largest tree in this community, and is a familiar object to those who hunt in the famous Squirrel Bottom. Many a weary hunter has removed his hat and thrown his head back that he might gaze at the mouster giant of the primeval forest. No doubt Postmaster Woollet of the Washington House will remember this tree as it stands on a farm formerly owned by him, and from which he moved, I think, when he went to McConnellsburg."

Answers to Correspondents.

Why do some rain storms seem to drench one more quickly than others?—Louisa D.

We have often noticed the same thing, Louisa, and recall that on a recent disagreeable day, in walking only to the postoffice, we were "soaked," while a lady in front of us with an umbrella, seemed entirely unaffected by the downpour. We have noticed in the winter season, however, that raindrops invariably fall with the wet side down, then turn over and freeze with the slippery side up.

Will you kindly tell me through the columns of the "News" how macaroni is made?—A Constant Reader.

We presume you refer more particularly to the formation of this so-called delicacy, which was a secret until, for the benefit of our readers, we have succeeded in procuring it at an enormous expense. It seems that in Italy, the birthplace of this commodity, large numbers of boys were employed to bore the holes with long gimlets. It remained, however, for one, Holes Marconi by name, to simplify the process, and today our factories buy the holes in three-foot lengths, drag them through the dough, which adheres to the hole. (This formula to remain our property.)

Dere Edditor.—I haftride for many times in der makin of doughnuts to economy der dough by makin der holes bigger. Can you helpe me oud.—Hermann Becker.

Although it is now three months, Hermann, since we have received your request for aid, we and our wife have exerted much ingenuity in our efforts to help you, and must confess that we are farther from the solution than at first. We readily understood, we imagined, that with less dough and a larger hole, an immense saving would result, until one night we awoke from a troubled sleep to realize that it took more dough to go around a big hole than a little hole. N. B.—We have seven or eight bushels of doughnuts to sell cheap.

Mrs. John Seylar of Holtz, was called to this place last week on account of the dangerous illness of her mother, Mrs. Rebecca Comerer.

STRANGLED HIMSELF.

Glenn Bechtel Commits Suicide in Nebraska Hotel.

A clipping from a western newspaper was received by Mr. Aaron Richards last Friday, which stated that Mr. M. Glenn Bechtel had killed himself in a room at a hotel in Schuyler, Nebraska on the morning of the 1st inst.

Glenn Bechtel was a former resident of Webster Mills, a son of John Bechtel, the miller, and a brother of Mrs. Ephraim Houck of the Cove, and Mrs. Rebecca Snyder of this place. The clipping says:

Mr. Bechtel was serving as a juror in district court at Schuyler in a libel suit. When court adjourned Tuesday evening he appeared all right, was jolly as usual, and he was generally of a jolly nature. He went to a hotel for the night, but did not report for duty next morning at the time of opening court. The hotel was called up and said Mr. Bechtel had not come down. They went to the room and were horrified to find him dead.

It seems that the act was deliberate. The bed had apparently been occupied all night, and physicians who examined the body were of the opinion that he had committed the deed about 6 o'clock. It was about 9:30 when he was found. Two towels were used, tied around his neck and to the bed post, and thus he strangled himself to death.

M. G. Bechtel was well and favorably known here, having lived in the Glencoe neighborhood for years before going to a farm near Howells. Mrs. Bechtel is a sister to J. H. and D. W. Montgomery. The report was a terrible surprise to all who knew him and could hardly be credited for a time.

Bechtel was of a cheerful disposition and no cause is known for the rash act. A few days ago he had a sale and disposed of his property, and moved to Howells where he had bought a home. The body was brought here last night and the funeral will be held from the home of D. W. Montgomery, conducted by Rev. M. B. Harrison of Scribner. Burial will take place at Glencoe today.

This is a sad case indeed and the wife and two children, a son and daughter, have the sympathy of all in their sudden loss of husband and father.

Mr. Bechtel was in Dodge a few days ago and did not have the appearance of a man contemplating suicide.

Local Institute.

The local institute held at Big Cove Tannery last Friday evening was called to order by the teacher, Gilbert B. Mellott, who appointed Prof. Barton, president.

The topics for discussion were: 1. Value of Thoroughness. 2. Vital Elements of the School. 3. Teacher's work at the Close of School. Some of the features of the discussions were, that we should teach the various branches with thoroughness and not aim to just get through them, and that we should make the last few months more interesting so as to awaken a new interest in the pupils and not let the school work become monotonous.

A great responsibility lies upon the superintendent, school directors, teachers and patrons, as to the way the school is conducted.

Teachers present were: Prof. Lamberson, Olive Kendall, Mayo Mellott, Maude Rinedollar, Virgie Truax, Hattie Kendall, G. B. Mellott, S. L. Simpson; also, Prof. Barton and Director Tobias Glazier.

The discussions were enlivened by singing, recitations, some select reading and music by two violins and a banjo. Excellent order prevailed and all passed off much to the credit of the teacher.

Virgie Truax.

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OUR STATE LAWMAKERS.

Bills of Local Interest Introduced Last Week.

TO AMEND SCHOOL LAW.

A bill has been offered in the House of Representatives providing that where pupils in the district in which they reside have by way of public roads, streets, lanes alleys, or any other highway, more than three-fourths of a mile to the nearest school in their district, such pupils shall be permitted, without any action on the part of the directors of either district to attend the school in an adjoining district, if more convenient, provided, the school has the proper seating capacity; and that the district where such pupils reside shall pay to the district where they attend school a sum per month equal to what it costs the district per pupil in which said pupils attend school for the same number of months that the schools are kept open in the district in which such pupils reside. If the district in which they reside refuse to pay, it may be sued and the amount due recovered the same as other debts of like amounts are collected.

This is a proposed amendment to the 23d section of the act of May 8, 1854, which provides that such arrangement shall be made as may be agreed upon by the directors of the adjoining districts, but it has proven wholly ineffective. It is to remedy this defect that the foregoing bill has been offered, and it would appear to be the proper thing.

TAX COLLECTOR'S WARRANTS.

The bill to extend for one year the life of tax collector's warrants which was defeated on final passage some time ago was, last week reconsidered and passed and went to the Senate.

COUNTY LINES.

An act passed the house finally to provide for the running, re-lotting, changing, fixing, and marking of county lines. It provides for five surveyors—two appointed by each of the adjoining counties concerned, and one by the four so appointed. The pay of the surveyors was, on motion Ammerman, seconded by Sipes, democrats changed from ten to five dollars per day.

PENSION TEACHERS.

A proposition to pension public school teachers who have served in that capacity for thirty years or more, will be submitted to the Pennsylvania Legislature this week, as the outcome of a conference held between Superintendent of Public Schools, J. P. Andrews, of Pittsburg, and State Superintendent of Public Instruction, Nathan C. Schaeffer. Mr. Andrews is backed by a number of school teachers, and hopes to have the bill introduced endorsed by school teachers generally throughout the state.

He wishes to have incorporated in the same bill or in another bill, if that shall be regarded as necessary, a provision that no person shall be employed as a teacher in the public schools under 18 years of age. He says that it is a mistake to have girls or young men under this age given certificates to teach.

Mr. Clarence Shimer, of Altoona, is visiting his mother, Mrs. Annie M. Shimer, of this place.

Mr. Robert Stout, of Greencastle, an employe of the Adams Express Company, and Mr. Fred Laubs, of Lanark, Ill., were the guests of Mrs. S. M. Cook for several days the past week. Mr. Laubs is an assistant on the farm of Claude B. Cook, and is at present on a visit to his parents in Greencastle, after an absence of four years. Like all visitors to our town, these young men were charmed with the kind courtesy and generous treatment extended them by our people, while here, and left town very regretfully after a stay that was all too short.

SAMUEL MORTON.

Born in This County in 1812, Died in Ohio on the 5th.

From the Steubenville Herald-Star, of the 6th inst., we learn of the death of Samuel Morton, one of the oldest citizens in that section, which occurred on Sunday night, February 5th, at the advanced age of 93 years. Mr. Morton was a son of William Morton, and brother of George Morton who died at his home on Licking creek in Belfast township a few weeks ago. He was born and reared on the old Morton homestead where George Morton spent his life and died. He went to Ohio in 1837. He was married in 1842 to Elizabeth Winters, who with four children survive. For a period of sixty years the deceased was a member of the Methodist church and a man of sterling qualities.

HUSTONTOWN.

Mrs. John Jones is visiting her mother, Mrs. Skinner, at Dry Run.

Harry Dawney and family visited friends in Huntingdon county last Saturday and Sunday.

Miss Winifred Metzler, of Harrisville, spent a few days last week visiting at the home of her uncle, George Clevenger.

W. F. Laing was awarded the contract last Friday for the building of the M. E. parsonage and other necessary outbuildings to be completed by July 1st.

Mr. and Mrs. Ross Foor and child, and Miss Myra Foor, and Mr. and Mrs. Albert Mills, of Jackson Mills, Bedford county, spent a few days last week with the family of C. J. Barton.

Rev. Sparks and family, of Liverpool, Pa., spent the fore part of last week at the home of Mrs. Sparks' mother, Mrs. David Heefner.

Mrs. Frank P. Lynch and son, and Miss Anne Selsor, of McConnellsburg, spent last Thursday with the former's sister, Mrs. Simon Fix.

In anticipation of the large crowd expected at the "Envelope Social" in the Hall on the night of February 23d, the ladies are considering the advisability of utilizing the basement in connection with the upper part.

Harry Dawney recently received notice from Washington that he was the successful bidder on the mail route from this place to Three Springs. Although not a novice in Uncle Sam's service "Scraps" is thinking seriously of introducing a new feature in the mode of carrying mail, that of using a pair of "Billie" goats during the summer season and a reindeer during the winter.

The peaceful slumbers of the good people in our quiet little village were disturbed at a late hour on last Friday night by a very loud noise, and thinking perhaps the much talked of young volcano or subterranean coffee pot down on the Ridge had turned loose many of our good people jumped from their beds, but on investigation it was found it was a sled load of Fort Littleton ladies returning to their homes, after testing the hospitality of the "Indian Queen," the ribbons being handled by the veteran teamster "Mac" Richardson. The names of those composing the party were Mrs. Mary Mayne, Mrs. D. A. Hill, Mrs. Harry Hamill, Mrs. S. C. Burkhart, Misses Anna M. Buckley, Cecelia Brubaker, Annie Mayne, Frances Fields, Florence and Margaret Cromer, and Mrs. Amelia Halston—all of Fort Littleton, and on the following evening another jolly crowd of young people took supper at the "Indian Queen." In the party were Amos D. Peightel, Clarence Hoover, Misses Lucy L. Peightel, Jessie B. Gress and Cinderella Raker of near McConnellsburg, and Miss Mary Daniels of Harrisville.

J. L. Garland and sons, Dale and Claude, called a few minutes at the News office while in town last Saturday.

THAT SCHOOL BILL.

The "Republican" Says Fulton County Has Not Asked for Such Measure.

The Fulton County News has no interest in the school bill as introduced by the Representative from this county, any further than it affects the interest of our taxpayers. When we see thousands and millions of the people's money voted away to increase the salaries of already overpaid officials, to create new places, and to pension—not the poorly paid public servant, but the man who has spent a lifetime drawing princely salaries, we feel it our duty to speak out. When it comes down to a matter that affects bread and butter, the interests of Republican, Democrat, Prohibitionist, or what not, are affected alike. The readers of the Fulton Republican will certainly be surprised at the attitude of the editor of that paper takes on the school bill, as is expressed in an editorial that appeared last week. It says:

"The suggestion in the Philadelphia Press that 'there must be a joker somewhere in Representative Sipes' bill' will bear second thought, and (if you have nothing else of greater importance on hand a little investigation will convince you that a lawyer often takes a hand in suggesting some very foolish laws. Fulton county has not asked for such a measure. Conditions and circumstances neither demand nor justify such action. The circumstance is regretted; but fortunately, one good can result, the election of a majority member to the Legislature two years hence."

This shows one of two things, either that the Republican does not know what the "conditions and circumstances" with respect to the tax burdens are, or it purposely misrepresents the facts. It is not contended, as we understand the Sipes bill, that every school district is needing, or will receive special aid; but only those districts where ten mills tax will not keep the school open seven months and pay the teachers \$35 per month.

What are the "conditions and circumstances" in some of the districts which the Sipes school bill designs to help? Licking Creek is paying thirteen mills school and four mills building this year and is threatened with a deficit at the close of the year. Belfast is paying twelve, and Thompson and Brush Creek each ten mills school tax, in addition to the building tax. Belfast is threatened with a deficit. Putting all the other taxes, county, state, road, and poor, to the school tax and if anybody besides the Republican will say that these districts do not need any relief from such "conditions and circumstances" it will be a pleasure to know him or her.

The writer, hereof, personally knows what burdens of taxation the people groan under, and how gladly they would hail any, even a modicum, of relief, the declaration of the Republican to the contrary notwithstanding.

Refusing to see conditions as they actually are, or pretending, from a false pride, that the people need no relief from them, is evidence of a lack of that broad public spirit which works for the best interests of the people, and of a narrow partisan spirit sees nothing good in anything done or proposed by anyone outside one's own family, party or circle of flattering friends.

The Sipes school bill is all right and has the approval of men who can see "conditions and circumstances" as they exist and who have catholicity of spirit to wish it Godspeed. We hope it may be enacted into law.

Christopher Deshong spent Saturday till Monday with his daughter, Mrs. George Bradnick near Knobsville.

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.

Frank Mason spent a day in Chambersburg last week.

Miss Alice Dickson is spending a week among friends in Philadelphia.

Rev. and Mrs. J. V. Adams spent a few days last week in Philadelphia.

Ross Mellott and Alexander Bradshaw, of McKibbin, spent last Friday in town.

Mrs. A. U. Nace has been visiting in the home of her son Wilson at Carlisle during the last few days.

George D. Heefner, of Gracey, and brother, D. W. Heefner, of Hustontown, spent a few hours in town Monday.

Mr. Stillwell W. Truax, of Gem, took advantage of the good sledding and made a trip to McConnellsburg last Friday.

Two dozen or more of Mrs. S. M. Cook's friends and neighbors spent last Thursday evening very pleasantly at her home on North Second street.

Morse Sloan left for Pittsburg last Wednesday, after having spent two weeks with his parents Thos. F. Sloan and wife in this place.

Mr. Clarence Wilson and lady friend, Miss Barbara Largent, of Chambersburg, were guests of the latter's parents, Mr. and Mrs. E. A. Largent, from Saturday evening until Monday noon.

Miss Maggie Michael of Everett, who had been visiting her sister, Mrs. George W. Hays and other friends in this place, has gone to Waynesboro, where she will spend some time with relatives.

Rev. James G. Rose, of Mercersburg, preached in the Presbyterian church at Greenhill last Sunday morning and in this place Sunday evening. Mr. Rose was the guest of Mr. and Mrs. J. G. Reissner while in town.

A large number of Mrs. S. B. Woollet's friends spent last Friday evening very pleasantly at the Washington House in honor of the anniversary of Mrs. Woollet's birthday. We did not ask her how many milestones she had passed, but some one intimated that you would never guess the number if you should judge from her youthful appearance.

Roy, Blanche and Joanna Morton drove over to Brush Creek last Friday and attended the institute Friday night at the Buffalo school, taught by their sister, Miss Bessie. There were thirteen teachers present and the institute was of course a good one. While in the valley they were the guests of M. E. Barton and wife.

Mr. C. B. Hockensmith, near Harrisonville, was in town last Wednesday arranging for the advertising of his sale on the 20th of March. Mr. Hockensmith has sold his farm and now means to dispose of his personal property and move to Johnstown. Mr. Hockensmith is one of the county's best citizens and we regret to see him go away.

Mr. A. C. Sipes, one of Dublin township's school directors, spent a few hours in town last Friday. Mr. Sipes said that many of the pupils of their schools have been suffering from an attack of grippe for several days and the attendance at the schools has fallen off materially. In speaking of the depth of snow, he said that there is more snow in the woods now than for a long time—on the north side of the hills there is from ten to fifteen inches. He has some reason for knowing, from the fact that he is getting timber in for the erection of an addition to his dwelling house next summer.