

# The Fulton County News.

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## CROSSING THE ROCKIES.

Dr. Swartzwelder and Family Have Completed Their Journey, and are Now on the Pacific Coast.

SPENT A DAY SEEING THE GRAND CANYON.

Reedley, Cal., Dec. 15.—We left Galesburg, Ill., at 1 p. m., 14th inst., in a tourist sleeper. The weather was fine and the sun shined nice and warm, as it did throughout our journey. The scenery through the Mississippi Valley is fine and the crossing of the river is one that we will not soon forget. The Mississippi is the longest river in the world, but the Amazon the largest body of water. The Mississippi runs through a level country. Miles on either side the land lies like a floor, and as low water mark is not many feet below the surface, it is not strange that during high water that miles of that beautiful country is under water. We crossed the river at Fort Madison and the width is nearly one mile. We crossed the Missouri river, which is quite different from the former as it is clear water and the latter is muddy as our streams are in Fulton county after a hard rain, due to the continual changing of the river bed. It was getting dark when we crossed the Missouri river and dark when we ran into Kansas City. Kansas City is a beautiful place, about one-fourth the size of Baltimore, Md., but lies better and not so densely built. (I have been there before). After leaving Kansas City we took our berths for the night and we saw nothing, except in our dreams, and when we awoke, which was before day, we were close the Colorado line. The land in western Kansas, southeastern Colorado, New Mexico, and Arizona, is a waste prairie desert. A distance of probably 1,000 miles. Occasionally you see a herd of cattle, sheep or goats, numbering from fifty to five or six hundred in each flock, and a little rude hut made of plank, or an adobe house one story high made of mud and poles—or mud alone, with a mud flat roof. Some have two flat roofs with a span of one or two feet between. The upper one some larger to keep the scorching sun off the house. The buildings are either plank or adobe, are built about 10 feet wide, 7 high and 20 to 30 feet long. Each building has two apartments, one part or about one half of the building, I presume, is used as a cooking and eating department, and the other half, for sleeping. The two buildings are set some ten or more feet apart, and this space is covered by a continuous roof over both buildings. I have seen some rude buildings in Fulton county, but none to compare with these. These buildings are owned and used by the Mexicans, which is their ancient as well as their modern method of building and living.

In some parts of this desert region water is very scarce and must be hauled in by the carload for the stock as well as the people; and, therefore, it is bought and sold at prices from 35 cents to \$1 per bbl. The towns through this country are composed chiefly of Chinese and Mexicans. Our train carried no dining car from Kansas City, and those of us who took no food with us, had to stop at dining places along the road. Our first stop was at La Junta (La Honta), Col., for breakfast. Mr. Fred Harvey, said to be worth seven million dollars, owns a system of hotels from Kansas City to Los Angeles, which are run on the American plan; also, lunch counters. It is said to be the best eating system in the world, and I have found nothing better. Our next stop was at Trinidad, Col., for dinner, and a lunch for supper at Raton Pass. Here the extreme altitude, which is nearly 8,000 feet above sea level, caused Mrs. Swartzwelder to get very sick, and I had to put her to bed; but the next morning, she was

better. The high climate was delightful and invigorating, but it makes a good many sick, especially persons having weak hearts. The Rocky Mountain scenery is fine. The mountain peaks are quite different from the Alleghenies, or the eastern mountains. The ascent is so gradual, and you pass up so easily, you scarcely know it; but those peaks stand up like monuments, and their summits seem to kiss the skies. The highest is Pike's Peak about 14,000 feet. They are nude of all vegetation, and their walls are nearly vertical. The general lay of these peaks is in a range, some are square, others round and irregular, and seem to stand out alone. The highest are covered with snow the whole year.

After leaving Raton Pass we took our berths for the night, and arose in the morning to take our breakfast at Gallup, New Mexico. The stop at each place for meals was from 25 to 30 minutes, which was ample time to eat and get a little stroll in the fresh air, which every one enjoyed. Our next stop was Holbrook, and we arrived at Williams, Arizona, about 3 p. m. Here we decided to take a side trip of 80 miles up to the Grand Canyon at Bright Angel, Arizona. The trip was nothing remarkable in itself, but the Grand Canyon is one of nature's greatest wonders, and pen and words are lost in the description of it. We arrived at the Grand Canyon Dec. 6th at 6:30 p. m. At this place is located the El Tovar, the Bright Angel, and the Cameron Hotel, and the Hepi House—the last named, is an Indian souvenir house, occupied by Indians, and where we attended an Indian dance. The El Tovar is run on the American plan, and the rates are \$4 a day and up. The Bright Angel is run on the European plan, rates \$1 for lodging and the meals what you make them, coffee 10 cents a cup, and beef steak 40 cents, &c. The Cameron is \$2 per day on the American plan. We took lodging at the El Tovar and after supper retired. The next morning my wife, family and father-in-law decided not to go down the trail into the canyon, but to take a drive of 14 miles to Grand View Hotel on the rim of the canyon. Myself, and eight others, took guides for the trail down the canyon. We left the hotel at 9:45 a. m. and returned at 5 p. m.

The most simple description I can give of the canyon is, that it is a fissure or crack in the earth's surface, whose walls are perpendicular in places to a depth of 900 feet or more. The surface of the canyon is between 7000 and 8000 feet above sea level. From the rim to the Colorado river, which runs at the bottom of canyon, is 4465 feet. The river is 2436 feet above sea level, or nearly four times as high as Needmore (680). The distance by trail to the river is 6 miles, and the way to get there is either to walk or ride a mule. The width of the canyon at Bright Angel is thirteen miles. We rode a mule. The one I rode was named "Monkey" and one that a friend of mine rode "Carvation." They are good trusty animals and they pick their steps with care. The whole trip is a hazardous one, and much of the way we had to walk and hug to the rocks, with our hair standing on end. Sometimes one mule and rider would be above the other, and a precipice below, of several hundred feet, and only a path of two feet for mule and rider to walk on. The river at the bottom is continually muddy on account of the great precipices over which it falls and the sandy deserts it passes through. I could write much more but my letter is growing lengthy and the editor may pass this to the waste basket.

In summing up, it is a wonderful freak of nature and those who can stand the nerve strain should see it, and not forget that the scenery is the only great thing; but keep an eye to your bill—I was there two nights and one day or 38 hours, and my bill was six-

## REFORM LAWS DUE.

Legislature Will Convene Next Week. Many Interesting Things to Consider.

McCLAIN WILL LIKELY BE LEADER.

Legislature will convene in special session in the new capitol on New Year's Day. It looks at this time as though the session will be marked by many reform laws, and that Frank McClain, "the Red Rose of Lancaster," as he has come to be known, will be chosen to preside over its doing. Up to this time, the Lancaster man has had smooth sailing, and there are no storm clouds on the horizon of his prospects. McClain has been Republican floor leader and is thoroughly conversant with legislative procedure.

Here are a few of the most interesting topics likely to have prominent places in the discussions of the assembly:

A uniform two cent rate passenger fare bill.

A bill permitting trolley and electric companies to carry freight.

A new pure food bill.

An investigation of alleged "graft" in the erection of the new capitol.

A more vigorous child labor law.

A bill to be introduced by Senator Fox for the extension of Capitol park.

A report from the committee appointed to investigate conditions in the state hospitals for the insane, with recommendations for relief.

Bills increasing the powers of the State Department of Health, and increasing the appropriations of the State Highway Department to \$5,000,000, and the State Armory Board to \$500,000.

A bill to amend the fish and game laws, and forbidding aliens to carry fire arms.

A bill to regulate the granting of divorce and separation papers in Pennsylvania.

Already there are indications that some of these bills will have easy sailing. The two cent rate bill seems to be marked for early passage. The railroads may decide to fight it, but there is no sign of this at present. Many of the legislators—some say two-thirds—stand pledged to support the two cent bill, and it is hard to see how the railroads could put up a successful fight against it, even were they so inclined. It is safe to predict that the day of the two cent rate is near at hand.

But it is different with the trolley freight bill. The railroads will probably fight that measure to the last ditch. Even now, it is understood, they are preparing to show how the passenger facilities of the trolley roads would be hampered and traffic greatly delayed if freight were to be made a part of their traffic.

It is probable that good roads legislation will be popular, and that Commissioner Hunter's request for \$3,000,000 to carry on his work will be granted.

Every team in the country is engaged hauling pipe for the new oil line. One dollar a pipe is paid for hauling. Ervin Fisher runs three and four wagons drawn by two traction engines and hauls 40 pipes at each load. Some teams go out with two pipes on. One man with one horse is hauling one pipe.—Hancock Star.

ty-five dollars; but it was worth it. The remainder of our trip to Reedley is not remarkable, except down the Rocky Mountains—where the scenery is beautiful as well as exciting. The descent is more precipitous, and reminds me of running down an anger, making complete loops and passing through some 17 tunnels, and running along precipices several hundred feet high. With best wishes to my many friends.

DR. J. S. SWARTZWELDER.

## ELECT OFFICERS.

Those Who Will Direct the Interests of the Local Council During the Next Six Months.

At a regular meeting of Tuscarora Council, No. 1212, Royal Arcanum, last week, the following persons were elected to manage the affairs of the local council during the first half of 1907: Regent, Hon. S. W. Kirk; Vice Regent, Geo. B. Daniels, Esq.; Orator, Frank P. Lynch, Esq.; Secretary, B. W. Peck; Collector, M. W. Nace; Treasurer, George W. Reiser; other officers, Hon. Jno. P. Sipes, W. H. Greathead, S. A. Nesbit, W. S. Dickson, and John D. Smith.

As a fraternal and insurance organization, the Royal Arcanum stands among the very safest and best in the world to day. A small sum paid in every month will secure your beneficiaries against want in case of your death.

## MINE WORKERS' BIG EARNINGS.

Official Report Shows that Average Yearly Pay is Nearly \$750. Only Two Industries Pay More.

New York, December 26.—Only two classes of labor in Pennsylvania are as highly paid as the mine workers. This fact is shown in the report of the State Secretary of International Affairs giving the result of an investigation of the yearly earnings of all the principal classes of labor. It appears from this report that it is more profitable to work in anthracite coal mines than in mills or factories, not only because of the higher pay received but on account of the lower rents paid by miners.

Last year the hard coal miners received, on an average, \$690 34 each. The average annual wages of the skilled and unskilled employes of 84 manufacturing industries, representing 710 establishments, were tabulated; in only two of them, the tool steel and steel pump industries, did the wages of the anthracite miners although they are popularly supposed to be underpaid.

In 82 out of the 84 industries cited the average earnings of the workers fell considerably below those of the anthracite miners, and 42 pay their employes at least \$200 less a year than the coal companies pay the miners.

The Department of Internal Affairs also learned the average annual rent paid by the employes of manufacturing industries in the state. The statistics show that from his larger income the miner does not pay out as much in rent as the manufacturing employe. The average rent paid by anthracite miners last year was \$78. Of 73 industries investigated the workers in only three of them paid less. Those employed in the other 70 paid from \$90 to \$204 a year. Most of them paid as much as \$140.

The difference in the rent paid by the miner and that paid by the manufacturing employe is explained by the fact that the latter usually lives in a city. The miner generally speaking lives where good houses can be had for less money, and the smaller rent does not indicate inferior accommodations.

The sixth local institute was held at Webster Mills, last Friday evening. The meeting was called to order by the teacher, Mary Huston, who appointed J. F. Johnson, president. The questions were well discussed by the five teachers present, others being absent on account of the condition of the weather. Many songs and recitations were rendered by the school, which added to the credit of both teacher and pupils.—Lillian Bishop, secretary.

During the last twenty years, according to well authenticated statistics, there have been over 3000 lynchings in this country. From 1884 to 1904, the average was 142 per year, or the five years from 1899 to 1904 it was 107.

## SHOOTS BACK.

At the Fellow Who Wrote the Article on the Long Range Guns.

NOT SAFE TO BE ON SAME MOUNTAIN.

DEAR READERS:—You saw in the columns of our loved Fulton County News, in the issue of the 6th of December, an article signed "Hunter." I want to say right here that if he is a hunter, I would want to be on the other mountain when he is in the woods, and on the other side of it too. In his article he said that a fellow with one of those long range repeating rifles, begins to shoot at the first thing he gets his eyes on, whether he is sure that it is a deer or not, and bangs away as long as he can see a bush shake.

Now, my dear reader, it is very easy to see that such men as he are not fit to hunt with a repeating rifle—or with any other kind; for he is only judging other people by himself—and he would be sure to injure some one. He also stated that a hunter that shot at a deer more than two hundred yards, was only shooting to hear his gun crack. It may be that's what he would do, but a sportsman that would go a hunting would have heard the crack of a rifle often enough, that he wouldn't have to shoot to get used to a rifle crack, or the fun of hearing it crack.

In his suggestion to State Game Warden Kalbfus to use his influence with the incoming legislature to limit the number of deer to be killed by any one person in one season, to one deer, and that the season for deer should be reduced to ten days. We know by his talk that he is not much of a hunter, or he would know that the law for the last two seasons, has been that the limit for any one person is to kill but one deer; and, also, that the season is only 12 or 13 days. Now, do you think that by cutting two or three off, would add much to the protection of game?—An Owner of a Long Range Repeating Rifle.

## Yes, Lift Your Hat.

Man of the world, lift your hat as you pass the teacher of your children on the street. Of all the guardian angels of this great republic, she is chief. Next to the beneficent influence of its mothers—bless them—hers is greatest of all. She takes your restive little boy, fresh from the home nest, full of pouts and passions and weaknesses, a spoiled and ungovernable little chap who may be the tyrant of the household, and starts him in the path of self-restraint which no human being may ever leave if he expects to succeed in this world. It is through her that he must get whatever of culture and refinement you may have neglected. To her, as much as to you, will be indebted for those habits of thought which afterwards crystallize into character. Hers is the task of exerting for you, for him, and for posterity, that measure of human influence which even the best of homes cannot compass.

But oh—the cost! What weary months of preparation, what schooling of the patience, what financial sacrifice, what expensiveness of toil and peace of mind!

And the reward? Only the solemn pride of having laid the best young years of her life and her brightest talents upon the altar for human welfare, of having sacrificed much for others, of being God's instrument in the uplifting of a race from that ignorance wherein lies the way to slavery. Only that. Yet the healing of the world is in these heroines whom its history does not even mention.

Yes, lift the hat as you pass her. You are in the presence of a superior.

Subscribe for the "News," only \$1.00 a year.

## GEORGE W. MOSSER DEAD.

Former Resident of Fulton County. Dies at His Home at Claysburg, Blair County.

A telegram received by Dr. J. W. Mosser, of this place, last Sunday morning, conveyed the sad intelligence of the death of his father, which occurred at Claysburg, Blair county, early that morning, after a lingering illness.

Mr. Mosser was born in Franklin county, September 22, 1842, and came to this county when his father, John Mosser, moved to the farm now owned by A. J. Mellott, south of Webster Mills, more than a half century ago.

George learned the trade of miller in the Hunter's Mill, at Webster Mills, with Elijah Baldwin, and later had charge of one of the mills in Bedford, and after ward moved to Blair county, where he spent the remainder of his life.

Besides being a first class miller, he was an excellent Christian gentleman, having been converted and joined the M. E. church in Bedford under the ministry of Rev. Pennypacker many years ago.

Mr. Mosser served in the 21st Pennsylvania Cavalry in the Civil War, going after the burning of Chambersburg—D. T. Fields of this place, and B. F. Shives and John Harris of Ayr township, being members of the same regiment.

Mr. Mosser was twice married—the first time to Miss Lizzie Besore of Ayr township, and after her death, to a Blair county lady.

He is survived by his last wife and two children—Marjorie and Ed. The children surviving by his first marriage are Dr. John W., of this place; Miss Grace, a teacher in Altoona; Frank, McKees Gap; Sallie, wife of Marty Walters, McKees Gap, and Harry at Chambersburg.

## CHRISTMAS IN McCONNELLSBURG.

Weather Ideal, and All Other Conditions Combined to Make It a Day Long to Be Remembered.

Conditions have never been more favorable for the enjoyment of a regular old fashioned Christmas, than were those which attended that greatest of holidays which was observed Tuesday.

The year just closing has been one of exceptional prosperity to the masses of the American people, and the home gathering of absent members of families, the exchanging of gifts, the family dinners—all tended to make it a season of peace and good will.

The display of Christmas goods in the windows of our merchants was unusually fine, and the holiday trade has never been more satisfactory to our people.

The Christmas tree for the children received its full share of attention, and in many homes the display was simply grand, and the toys so abundant and varied that the children hardly knew which toy to play with first.

While McConnellsburg has no poor people, in the sense in which real poverty is used, the less fortunate homes, and the home in which there were sick, were not overlooked, and baskets containing toys, candies, and fruits for the children, and tempting viands for the sick were carried in, and everybody was made to feel the genuine spirit of the day.

While the ground was covered with snow—not enough for sleighing—the day was clear and bright, the air crisp, and the weather ideal for Christmas. About three o'clock in the afternoon, the McConnellsburg band appeared on the principal streets, and added to the enjoyment of the town by playing a number of splendid selections.

While our stores have not quite arrived at the point of closing on Christmas, there was not much doing, and the time is probably not far distant when every business house will be closed on Christmas same as on Sunday.

## ABOUT PEOPLE YOU KNOW.

Snapshots at Their Comings and Goings Here for a Vacation, or Away for a Restful-Outing.

NAMES OF VISITORS AND VISITED.

Miss Mollie Saylor, of Pittsburg, is the guest of her sister, Mrs. S. M. Cook.

Robert N. Shimer, of Harrisburg, spent Christmas day with friends in this place.

Dr. J. W. Mosser, left Monday noon to attend the funeral of his father at Claysburg, Wednesday.

Miss Emma Sloan, principal of the schools at West Fairview, Pa., is home for her holiday vacation.

T. W. Walker and wife, of Mercersburg, spent Christmas in the home of the latter's parents, W. A. Sloan and wife.

Miss Dixie Robinson, of Baltimore, is visiting her parents, Editor and Mrs. S. M. Robinson in this place.

Scott Alexander, of McKeesport, Pa., is visiting his parents, Mr. and Mrs. A. K. Alexander at the toll-gate east of town.

Miss Blanche O. Peck, of Lancaster, is home for the holidays with her parents, Jonathan Peck and wife at Knobsville.

Harvey A. Black and wife, of Johnstown, are spending the holiday season among their friends and relatives in this place.

George Speer and wife, of Chicago, are spending their holidays in Cuba. Mr. Speer is a son of the late W. A. Speer, of Saluvia.

Nathan Everts, who is employed at Harrisburg, is spending his holiday vacation with his mother, Mrs. Ed Shimer, in this place.

Mrs. Annie E. Metzler, of Decorum, who has been visiting her daughter, Mrs. H. C. McGowan, at Mt. Union, has returned home.

Mr. and Mrs. Clarence Wilson, of Chambersburg, spent Christmas day with the latter's parents, Mr. and Mrs. E. A. Largent, in this place.

William W. Largent, an employe in the Times office, Tyrone, Pa., is spending the holiday week in the home of his parents, Mr. and Mrs. E. A. Largent.

Mr. and Mrs. Charles H. Heikes and little daughter Dorothy, of York, Pa., are spending the holidays in the home of Mr. and Mrs. Aaron Clevenger.

Sophia Hohman and Jessie Mason, students at the Indiana State Normal, are spending the holidays at their respective homes in this place.

John Spangler, a student in the Pennsylvania State College, is spending his holiday vacation in the home of his parents, Mr. and Mrs. C. S. Spangler, on North Second street.

T. W. Greathead, wife, and their little son Arthur William, spent a few days during the past week in the home of the former's parents, Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Greathead.

Clarence Conrad and W. L. Motter, both of whom hold nice positions with the Frick Manufacturing Company, at Waynesboro, are spending the holidays at their respective homes in Ayr township.

Master George L. Reiser went down to Harrisburg Monday to spend a few days the guest of the Jennings boys, sons of W. W. Jennings and wife, who spent their summer vacation in McConnellsburg last summer.

Frank Kaufman, of Pittsburg, accompanied by his nephew James Fix, who had been visiting friends in Pittsburg, drove from that city starting Tuesday and reaching the home of Daniel Fix on Friday. They enjoyed the drive very much.

At a Christmas family dinner given by the Misses Dickson, Senator Alexander announced the marriage engagement of his niece, Miss Nellie Dickson Robinson, of this place, and Mr. Wilson H. Elder, of Baltimore, formerly of Chambersburg.