

The Fulton County News.

VOLUME 9

McCONNELLSBURG, PA., APRIL 16, 1908.

NUMBER 28

OUT ON THE PAN HANDLE

Cecil H. Sipes, A Former Licking Creek Boy, Writes An Interesting Letter.

TELLS HOW THEY DO THINGS THERE.

There is a natural desire, I think, among all natives of Fulton county—and, especially, among those who have gone elsewhere to seek a home or fortune, as the case may be, to know what has become of every body else. I read with pleasure the Fulton County News every week, and am always glad to read communications from those who have gone out. They give geography, history, etc., not found in books; so I think a few lines from me may not be amiss.

First, I have not gone very far, being settled on the Pan Handle of West Virginia, just thirty-five miles west of Pittsburgh. Colliers, our postoffice, is just across the State line. It is on the main line of the P. C. C. & St. L. R. R., and gives us the best of shipping and traveling facilities. The Wabash R. R. also crosses our county. My farm is three miles from Collier, and two and one-half from Virginia City on the Wabash. Steubenville, Ohio, a city of 50,000 inhabitants, on a bee line, is four miles distant, although by road it is nearly twice that. Then, there is Wellsburg, the county seat of Brooke county, with 5,000 inhabitants; Folsom, W. Va., with 2,000, and Mingo, Ohio, just across the river; so that within a radius of seven miles, we have a city and town population of more than 60,000. It is needless to say that anything that can be eaten sells for a good price.

By looking on the map, one may notice this narrow strip of West Virginia, running up between Pennsylvania and Ohio. It varies from two to six miles in width. At the place where I am, it is five miles wide. From several of my fields I can look in one direction and see Pennsylvania one mile distant, and by looking the other direction, see the hills of southern Ohio. You have heard the song "Oh, the West Virginia Hills." I shall not try to contradict it. Our country is hilly. In crossing it by railroad, it looks extremely hilly; but it is a well known fact that a railroad always follows the water courses, and thus runs along the foot of the worst hills. The only difference between our hills and many in my native county is, that our hills are larger. Instead of being cut off by two deep hollows and a narrow level, ours are wider and longer, and vary from forty to eighty acres in extent. This naturally gives a big lot of nice lying land on the hill tops.

Yes, our country is hilly; and yet, I do not think I have five acres but what I could not operate a binder on. But the best part of it is: Money just grows on trees, and can, also, be dug out of the ground. Mr. Greely said, "Young man, go west," but if money is what you are after, why go farther than this place? But the trees here on which money grows, are fruit trees, and you have to dig no deeper than a potato hill to get it out of the ground—potatoes and fruit being two of our most profitable crops. I have purchased a farm of 174 acres, and as it had been greatly neglected, I have found plenty to do in the way of improvements. It had a brick house, which is said to be ninety years old, but by my observation and experience as a builder, I see no reason why it would not stand for ninety years longer. The barn was small. There are but few large barns in this part of the country. The motto seems to have been smaller buildings and more of them. It is a prevailing idea that a large barn, and well filled, will draw lightning; and, in case of a fire, the smaller the barn the less the loss. The farmers depend principally on stacking their hay and grain. In the two years I have been here, besides doing my farm work, I put a cellar under the house, built a barn, a chicken house, a spring house and a hog house, besides putting up 400 rods of wire fence; this, without hiring a day.

The land—part of it—is limestone, and the balance clay loam. But the limestone is not like that in Fulton county; but is found only on the tops of the hills, and seldom has a stone among it. There is a nine-foot vein of limestone crops out in the hollows. I mean to burn some lime, but have not yet had time.

The best feature of this country is its natural blue grass. No one ever sowed it, and yet as fast as the brush gets cleared, the ground quickly gets covered over with a tight sod, which forms the best of pasture. I have 25 acres of bluegrass, where the plow has, as yet, never been; and so far as I am concerned, never will be. It is on rather steep land, yet never a sign of a gutter being washed, and easily pastures one cow to the acre. This country was formerly a great sheep-raising country, and until within late years, when the towns have built up, and so many worthless dogs are kept, that it has almost driven out the sheep industry, which has been followed largely by dairying.

The farmers, in general, do not work

A LAMP EXPLOSION.

Which Came Near Causing a Serious Fire in the Home of Aaron M. Garland, on Pleasant Ridge.

Upon entering the sitting room at their home on Pleasant Ridge, one evening last week, a little daughter of Aaron M. Garland noticed that a lighted lamp on the table was sputtering, smoking, and otherwise behaving badly, and she at once ran to give alarm. Just at the time, her father was entering the house, and he hastened to the room, seized the lamp, ran to the door, and threw it into the yard. The lamp had scarcely left his hand until it exploded with a loud report throwing the blazing oil in every direction. Fortunately none of it got onto the clothing of any of the members of the family, and the fire was soon under control. But what might have been the most serious result of the incident was the fact that the dog, which was in the yard at the time the lamp exploded, was covered with the burning fluid, and, all ablaze, ran yelling right toward the barn. Had he not been headed off in the nick of time, the barn would doubtless have been destroyed.

their farms hard, but put out a small acreage, tend it well, raise a big lot of hay, and keep lots of stock. Their methods are much different from what I was used to. Instead of poultry raising and butter making being a side line for the women, it is the chief business of the men. The men usually do the milking—sometimes both help. Two farmers meeting, seldom talk about raising wheat, but "How is your chickens doing?" or "Does this cold spell affect your cows any?" Wheat is raised only for chicken feed, or at best, is sold and the flour bought. The mills do not do a custom business, and in general, do not satisfy the people. One farmer said he took ten bushels to mill to get exchanged, and only got four empty sacks back, and one of them had a hole in it.

We have been having some nice weather this spring. I have been plowing with two teams, and have about twenty acres to plow yet. I keep five horses, twenty-two head of cattle, and aim to keep a dozen hogs.

There are many customs here that seem very strange to me at first. Two neighbors not having seen each other for three days, will shake hands most warmly. This is not a church habit, either, for it is the same among the non-goers. In threshing time no one will work for money, but all the neighbors will come and help you. If convenient you help him back; if not, no bill is charged. If you need anything of a neighbor, call on him; he responds freely; but in general, very little visiting goes on. In teaming you never see a man driving more than two horses. I have not seen a four-horse team since I came here, except where two teams had doubled up for a steep hill or a mud hole. About one-half of the vehicles used are narrow-gauge; the others wide. Walking plows are used; about one-half are right handed; the balance left. In making hay, they have another novel way. The hay is mown and raked in to windrows, then carefully made into shocks. Then they have a rope about 25 feet long; one end they fasten to one trace, then pass it around under the edge of the shock and fasten to the other trace, and the horse drags it to the stack with all ease and but very little loss of hay. The advantages claimed are, that the hay can be brought in by children and old men, who could not pitch onto a wagon, it being in flakes, it also stacks better. The stacks are scattered all over the field. It is seldom that two are seen close together. Needless to say that when I came to Rome I did as the Romans do. Farmers, in general, are well equipped with farm machinery of the labor saving kind—few of the younger ones can handle a grain cradle at all.

In general, it is a very healthy country. My family, myself and also my sister Olive, who is with me, have had the best of health since being here. In public affairs I think we have some advantages. One assessor has the whole county. The taxes are all paid at one time to the sheriff. I think our taxes are lower. My taxes last year on a valuation of seven thousand being only \$25.00. We can grow almost any crop here—but potatoes, berries and fruit are profitable. Gardening is a good business, if close to town. Land suitable for gardening sells for from \$200 to \$250 per acre. A farm adjoining mine was sold this spring for \$2500 per acre. There is considerable of an oil boom on just now. I have realized \$250 out of it but have had no well drilled yet. In conclusion I would say I think I have bettered my lot but I yet have a warm spot for dear old Fulton county. Yours respectfully, Cecil H. Sipes, April 6, 1908.

TRESPASSERS ON A RAILROAD.

Large Number of Persons Killed or Died From Injuries During the Past Year.

Some idea of the seriousness of the problem of dealing with trespassers on a railroad is to be gathered from the fact that the completed records, now compiled show that 809 men were killed or died from injuries received while in the act of trespassing on the line of the Pennsylvania Railroad System during the year 1907.

These cases of trespass are not only a source of expense to the railroad, but it is felt that common humanity should prompt the most thorough measures to eliminate this evil and danger as rapidly as possible. If these men infest the Company's tracks and yards in such numbers, they are certain to be killed or injured, no matter how careful the trainmen may be. Yet they have no business either as passengers or employees, which requires them to be in the way of trains.

So important has this matter become that the New York and Chicago General Managers' Association have taken it up. Officers of these associations estimate that more than half the ten thousand people killed last year on American railroads were trespassers. Some of the State Railroad Commissions are also agitating this subject, and it is stated that the topic will be one of the important matters of discussion before the next annual meeting of all the state railway commissions. The Indiana Commission has just published an "Accident Bulletin," in the course of which these comments are made on trespassing:

"As to these persons killed on the railroads while using these dangerous ways for footwalks and sidewalks, we can only reiterate our firm conviction that drastic legislation will be necessary to keep trespassers off the railway tracks. It is only fair and just to the carriers that they should be allowed to use their property exclusively for railroad purposes. It is especially unfair to the engineers, who on limited trains are under the severest pressure to perform their manifold work, that they should be disturbed by persons on the track, who often appear unconcerned and heedless of the signals and desperate dangers to which they subject themselves."

It is the contention of the railroads that they constitute the backbone of vagrancy. Tramps cannot pursue their occupation unless they steal rides on freight trains. If they are arrested, they are either put into the lock up for two or three days or told to "move on." This means that every town merely shifts its burden to another, and in return receives the vagrants unloaded by a third community. Thus the total number is never decreased. In many cases, local authorities refuse to make arrests at all, and if a tramp is put off a freight train, all he has to do is to wait for the next one.

To abate these nuisances, and to stop the many accidents resulting therefrom, railroads are seeking to enlist the support of all state and county authorities. If it becomes noised abroad that a railroad trespasser will usually get a heavy fine or the maximum term of imprisonment, this class will swiftly decrease in number.

How extensive this evil is at the present time will also appear in the fact that 4,156 arrests for trespassing and illegal train riding were made on the right of way of the Pennsylvania Railroad last year. During the same period, 463 men were arrested for larceny. Larceny, of course, is an extreme form of trespass, and the trespasser very frequently develops into a thief. What the Pennsylvania Railroad suffered from larceny in 1907 is to be seen in the fact that the Company paid out during the year \$438,000 in claims for losses which were traced to thefts. This, though but an infinitesimal proportion of the hundreds of millions of

Result of Primary Election.

DEMOCRATIC.

DISTRICTS:	Ayr	Bethel	Brush Creek	Dublin	Licking Creek	McCconnellsburg	Taylor	Thompson	Union	Wells	Woods
Delegates to National Convention.											
A. A. Bollinger	79	50	32	40	41	65	31	33	44	45	38
J. C. Dinn	59	27	38	37	24	44	23	54	39	23	32
Harry E. Petrie	83	42	40	37	31	73	55	40	55	34	41
Alternate Delegate to Nat. Con.											
Frank B. McCabe	96	58	52	57	48	90	67	59	54	44	54
Delegate to State Convention.											
David W. Gress	106	62	61	53	50	91	34	73	70	57	51
Representative in Congress.											
Geo. C. Benz	99	62	68	56	48	85	37	72	69	55	46
Representative in General Assembly.											
A. K. Davis	24	11	8	9	45	55	10	46	5	8	2
James A. McDonough	55	30	16	32	11	47	28	33	7	39	15
A. J. Hensburg	8	18	56	20	1	6	1	1	16	21	31
James P. Waltz	32	30	10	6	1	2	2	2	90	15	5
Associate Judge.											
John W. Hoop	56	23	35	16	40	69	35	27	35	28	15
W. L. Moseley	33	47	22	10	12	32	6	30	30	8	9
Albert Plesinger	31	19	22	42	2	5	9	17	37	27	13
Prothonotary, &c.											
Geo. A. Harris	107	71	55	58	62	95	43	65	91	55	44
County Commissioners.											
Aaron M. Garland	45	50	9	4	14	81	7	20	17	16	4
Simon N. Garland	35	27	28	59	7	12	7	13	30	9	37
Enos Keefe	97	42	17	22	33	54	39	56	91	55	22
John H. Lewis	41	16	57	28	22	8	30	17	21	32	10
James R. Sharp	17	29	37	11	29	50	12	44	31	15	21
County Auditors.											
David H. Myers	72	30	29	39	43	83	18	42	33	35	24
C. A. Shank	50	38	50	42	16	31	29	55	41	40	42
Wm. Wink	83	65	42	40	42	75	29	52	63	42	26

REPUBLICAN.

Delegate to National Convention.											
T. Frank Bayer	20	20	27	42	38	14	42	20	14	25	16
Wm. Hertzler	21	8	14	5	26	24	39	8	10	21	17
Jacob H. Stoner	10	18	13	37	29	15	18	15	10	8	13
Samuel S. Woods	8	13	6	2	15	4	14	6	4	4	3
Alternate Delegates to Nat. Con.											
Lewis K. Durr	35	30	25	41	55	33	51	24	21	35	27
Samuel I. Spiker	34	30	26	40	40	33	50	24	20	32	24
Delegate to State Convention.											
M. H. Hollinshead	34	31	27	41	55	33	55	24	22	37	27
Representative in Congress.											
Benjamin K. Focht	37	33	22	39	51	31	56	23	23	34	27
County Commissioners.											
Daniel W. Cromer	26	24	27	30	41	20	49	19	21	21	19
S. A. Nesbit	23	16	5	13	15	23	46	18	11	25	12
James D. Stevens	18	40	7	30	30	11	18	14	13	12	15
County Auditor.											
C. C. Rotz	37	25	21	40	50	30	54	22	22	33	23

The interest manifested in the Primary election, last Saturday, was equal to that of most general elections, and the vote cast was heavy.

The return sheets show that a good many scattering votes were cast; but in most cases, they were the result of the practical joker, and need not have a place in the regular returns. One case in which it was not a joke, was the voting for Judge H. K. Markley for the legislature. His vote was as follows: Ayr, 23; Bethel, 16; Brush Creek, 37; Dublin, 18; Licking Creek, 24; McCconnellsburg, 20; Taylor, 4; Thompson, 14; Union, 18; Wells, 16. Total 218.

Seventeen republicans cast their vote for J. H. H. Lewis in Bethel, for County Commissioner, which, of course, could not be counted for Mr. Lewis, and were wasted so far as doing any one else any good.

BREWER-COMERER.

Miss Myrtle Comerer Becomes Bride of William E. Brewer Last Week.

At the Lutheran parsonage at West Fairview, Pa., on Wednesday evening, April 8, 1908, Rev. A. G. Wolf, a former pastor of the bride, united in marriage Miss Myrtle, daughter of John Comerer, of this place, and William E. Brewer, son of Mr. and Mrs. Clayton J. Brewer, of Ayr township. The bride was attended in a cream satiste, and looked very pretty. The bridal couple are now away on a visit to Atlantic City and other points of interest, and will return in a few days.

The bride and groom are sterling young people and have the best wishes of their many friends.

Round Knob School.

The following is a report of the Round Knob school, Broadport township, Bedford county: Attended every day of term 1907-08—Ethel Poor, Elsie Chaney, Custer Poor, Glen Poor, Arthur Mort, Ernest Mort, Charles Mort attended 139 days; Esther Mort, 136 days; Goldie Chaney, 133 days; Lizzie Oneal, 133 days. The average attendance for term was—boys, 18; girls, 9. Percentage for term—boys 88, girls 88; average last month—boys 12, girls 9; percentage last month—boys 85, girls 90; attended every day of last month—boys 6, girls 4; lowest attendance any day of term, 16.

dollars worth of shipments handled, nevertheless represents, in itself, an item of serious importance to the Company, and constitutes another reason why the railroad feels justified in making an appeal for public support in ridding itself of trespassers.

MRS. RACHEL PECK.

Widow of the Late Job Peck, of Thompson Township, Died in Oakland Illinois. Buried at Oakley, Monday of Last Week.

Mrs. Rachel Peck, widow of the late Job Peck, of Thompson township died at her home in Oakland, Ill., on Thursday, April 2, 1908, of cancer. Her remains, accompanied by her daughter Miss Etta, her son Ralph and her brother, W. G. Hixson, was brought to this county, reaching Hancock on Sunday evening and from there taken out to the home of Wm. Sigel, near Covalt, from which place the funeral took place Monday. Interment was made in the cemetery near Oakley, services being conducted by Elder Calvin Funk.

Mrs. Peck's maiden name was Hixson, she being a daughter of the late Isaiah Hixson, of Maryland. She leaves to mourn their loss, seven children, namely Warren, Ernest, Florence, and Etta of Illinois; Raymond residing in Ohio; W. W., living in Alaska; and Ralph, in Montana.

Mrs. Peck was an excellent woman, and enjoyed the esteem of a large number of friends. She was a consistent member of the Methodist Episcopal church, and had resided in Illinois about eight years.

Summer School.

I will open a school at Wells Tannery, April 20, 1908, to continue eight weeks. Special attention given to teachers and those preparing to teach. Tuition \$5.00. It will pay you to start at the beginning of the term. For further information address, H. E. SEVILLE, Edtd, Pa.

FROM LONG BEACH, CAL.

Extract from a Letter from O. R. Cline, Formerly of Burnt Cabins.

The following extract from a personal letter from Mr. O. R. Cline, formerly of this county, will be read with general interest.

Mr. Cline is now busy building a home for himself. He says:— We are building a nice dwelling just two blocks from the ocean, with the famous Catalina Island stretching across the foreground about twenty-eight miles out to sea,—some days it looks to be less than ten miles away. Some thirty miles inland a range of mountains, with snow capped peaks stretch across the back ground, a beautiful setting and a mighty wall of climatic protection to this strip of transformed desert land.

To night one of Uncle Sam's war ships, the South Dakota, lies a few hundred yards off shore and is entertaining us by playing her search lights over the city and beach.

In two weeks the Atlantic fleet will be here to spend several days. Extensive preparations are being made for the entertainment of the officers and crews,—about eight hundred to each of the sixteen vessels. They will be readily provided for many as there are. The shore leave enjoyed by the Blue Jackets here seem to be too much for many of them; as quite a large number fail to report to their ships again and risk the penalties of desertion for the temptations ashore.

A couple of months ago or more the battle ships Pennsylvania, Colorado, West Virginia, and Maryland spent a week at the Long Beach Pier and the crews had a good time. Car fares and all manner of entertainments were free to them. A number of them attended and took part in christian services at the churches and Y. M. C. A.,—all were orderly and gentlemanly in all their visits ashore.

Wishing the best to the Editor and fellow readers of THE NEWS I must stop here trusting to send you something later.

O. R. CLINE.

High School Commencement.

The Commencement and Alumni exercises of the Wells Valley High School were held in the Valley M. E. church in the evening of April 8th.

The course having been changed to a higher one, the class was small—numbering but two, DeForest Gibson and George Edwards, who, creditably delivered carefully prepared orations.

The Alumni of the school took an active part in the exercises. The first class—1905 was represented by Mr. R. H. Earley, who made an excellent address; and, also, by Miss Ethel Edwards, who rendered well vocal and instrumental solos.

With much credit Miss Marjorie Sipe of the class of 1906 gave a recitation with elocutionary talent. DeForest Gibson being a past graduate of the class of 1907 represented it.

The music was furnished by the school which demonstrated their sterling musical qualities.

Excellent addresses were made by County Superintendent B. C. Lamberson and Prof. H. M. Griffith, the latter an ex-teacher of the High School. The diplomas were granted by the Principal H. E. Seville, after a very able address delivered by him.

The complete success of the program, as rendered by the pupils of the school, is an evidence of the manner in which the school was conducted during the past seven months.

The fact that the course has been changed from a two-year's to a three-year's, has proven to be wisdom on the part of the board and County Superintendent.

A SPECTATOR.

Subscribe for the News.

AUTOMOBILE RACE.

Pittsburg to Philadelphia and Return. Contestants Passed Through This Place Saturday Night.

One of the most exciting automobile races, and one that most severely tried the skill of the drivers and the endurance of the machines, came off during the past week. At 1 o'clock last Saturday afternoon two two-horse power touring cars stripped of their tonneaus and side lamps—one car a Maxwell and the other a Reo, each carrying three men, started from the Scheunly Hotel, Pittsburg, for a race to the Bellevue-Stratford Hotel, Philadelphia and return. The winner of the race was to get \$500 from the loser, and the loser's car. Side bets amounting to at least \$20,000 was put up by the friends of the contesting cars. The distance covered in the round trip is about 600 miles—much of it mountainous road. The Maxwell passed through McCconnellsburg at 12:10 Sunday morning and reached Philadelphia at 9:55.

After an hour's rest, the Maxwell started on its return, reached McCconnellsburg about 10 o'clock Sunday night and was in Pittsburg Monday morning at 9:30 o'clock.

The Reo was about three hours behind the Maxwell passing through this place, and reached Philadelphia at 6 o'clock Sunday evening. Returning, the Reo passed through here about 11:45 Monday forenoon. While she was behind, she was going some; for the car ran from town to the top of the Ridge west of town, a distance of about a mile and a half, in two minutes.

One of the drivers of the Maxwell was a Mr. Emmerling, of Johnstown, who has frequently driven over this road.

HUSTONTOWN.

Mrs. Mary Reeder, who has been employed in Chambersburg during the past year, is now spending a couple weeks with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Thos. Reeder.

Mrs. Dessie Pittman has returned home after having spent a short time with her parents, David Fohner and wife.

Walter Taylor is building a buggy shed.

Thos. Reeder is burning a lime kiln.

Frank Cunningham, of Emd, spent Wednesday night with the family of J. M. Chesnut.

Lewis Keiso, wife and son Furance and daughter Blanche, of Knobsville, spent Saturday evening with the former's sister, Mrs. Lizzie House.

Newton Alloway, of New Greendale, was here on business one day last week.

Candidate Plesinger was looking after the voters around here last week.

Our "deestrick school" closed last Wednesday, and young America is now free.

The people who have had time have been very regular in their attendance at the public sales within reach. The panic has surely not affected the value of horses, if the prices paid at these sales is worth anything as evidence.

Trailing arbutus is in blossom.

Miss Sadie Fohner has spent the past two weeks with her sister, Mrs. Mac Chesnut, at Burnt Cabins.

King Mellott has moved his saw mill on the farm of Dennis Hess, and sawing lumber for Mr. Hess.