

The Fulton County News.

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SEVENTY-NINE YEARS AGO

Twenty-four Days Making Journey from Philadelphia to Pittsburg Over Turnpike.

NOW MADE IN FOURTEEN HOURS.

Seventy-nine years is not such a long time. There are several persons living in McConnellsburg who are more than seventy-nine years of age, and we are sure that any one who sees them on the street from time to time, engages with them in conversation, or observes their general manner of life, would not suspect that any one of those folks thought he was old. People are only old, you know, when they begin to think they are old—when they begin to withdraw themselves from the society of those who are younger, advertise the fact by their every action, and show that they are only waiting around for some friendly undertaker to remove them from the scenes of activity and usefulness.

But when we measure seventy-nine years by what has been accomplished in that time in the way of inventions and discoveries that add to the comfort and pleasure of the people—then it seems like a long time. The homes in our rural communities are now connected by the telephone, so that when the day's work has been concluded, supper eaten, and the heavy shoes give place to the comfortable slipper, the farmer steps to the phone, calls up his neighbor, and exchanges the local happenings, attends to little items of business, all of which would consume hours of valuable time, if it were not for the telephone.

If a trip is to be made, the express train, the trolley, or the automobile is at hand to whirl him along, and instead of spending twenty-four days in making the trip between Philadelphia and Pittsburg, he may make it over the very same road in almost half that number of hours, and the journey, instead of being full of hardships, privation and peril, is one continuous round of pleasure. Through the courtesy of J. M. Murdock, of Johnstown, and of our townsman, J. Kendall Johnston, we have been furnished with the diary of J. Aspinall, who made the journey from Philadelphia to Pittsburg during the month of January, 1831. Our neighbor, William Stoner was living in this town when Mr. Aspinall went through here on the journey mentioned; although, the former did not remain here long enough to form lasting acquaintanceship with all the people living here at that time, and Mr. Stoner does not remember distinctly the event.

The following account of Mr. Aspinall's journey is taken from his diary, and reads as follows:

January 3rd.—This morning at 5 o'clock we went on board the Packet for Philadelphia. The river being frozen up, we were obliged to go to New Brunswick which is 33 miles S. W. of New York. From thence in the stage to Trenton which is 27 miles S. W. of New Brunswick. From thence in the Packet to Philadelphia, where we arrived at 9 o'clock in the evening.

January 4th.—I have this day been making inquiries about the Pittsburg wagon, but can not arrange for our passage as they are mostly full and engaged.

January 5th.—I am determined to engage with a wagoner this day, if possible, as we are much annoyed by rats. This morning we were much alarmed on finding they had been in bed with us. I have arranged with Mr. Wm. Bell to take us, and our baggage, to Pittsburg for three dollars per hundred weight. If I had not determined on going to join my relatives, I would settle there. This evening we stopped 5 miles from Philadelphia.

Thursday, January 6th. This

morning at 9 o'clock, we started on our journey again. During this day, I have regretted much that we ever started this journey in a wagon; we have scarce room to move, and what is worse, we cannot keep our seat for the shaking of the wagon. I am happy to see the close of another day.

January 7th.—This morning I got to our carriage as if I was going to some place of execution. I would gladly wait, but my dear wife does not choose being left by herself. This day we pass through a small town, namely, Boweringtown, in Chester Co., on the Brandy-wine, 33 miles west by north of Philadelphia.

January 8th.—This morning I am so sore by the shaking of the wagon, I cannot sit. I shall be obliged to give up riding. Our dear child is much the same as myself and is very ill.

January 9th.—There is a deal of snow this morning and I am glad our carriage runs more smoothly. We are now going up the South Mountain which is four miles to the top.

January 10th.—Through Humblestown, a small town over Sevestera Creek. Very snowy day.

January 11th.—Through Harrisburg, which is the Capital of Pennsylvania, on the Susquehanna, 97 miles N. W. of Philadelphia, over the Susquehanna bridge which is one mile over, built of wood, and roofed over. We put up this evening at Carlisle. The day has been cold and frosty.

January 12th.—Carlisle, Cumberland county, 19 miles to Harrisburg. We begin to reconcile ourselves to our traveling equipage. This evening we arrive and stop at Shippensburg, which is 21 miles west of Carlisle.

January 13th.—We are stopping at Shippensburg, waiting the arrival of a wagon from Pittsburg.

January 14th.—The wagon has arrived, but has to wait for repairs.

January 15th.—Leave Shippensburg with a very snowy morning. Arrive and stop at Chambersburg, which is 143 miles west of Philadelphia.

January 16th.—Leave Chambersburg, pass through Cambelstown. The roads are drifted so full of snow we are obliged to take the rails down and go through the fields. One wagon which was in company upset when getting into the fields. I never expected to get through these fields without being upset. Stumps of old trees which the snow had buried made it very dangerous as the wagon passed over them. We have cause to be very thankful we got over them without any particular accident. We have traveled four miles this day. It had been a bitter day both for horses and man. Our wagoner has given it up, he cannot stand the cold any longer. As luck would have it, Mr. Bell soon got another man.

January 17th.—Stopped this evening at Loudon. We have traveled 5 miles this day.

January 18th.—Over the Cove Mountain, it is four miles to the top. The snow is 7 and 8 feet deep in many of the drifts which causes it to be very dangerous. There are 17 wagons in our company, and I must say it is a wonderful sight descending the mountain in every direction, but most bitter and awful to us in the wagon, as there is a large mountain on one side of the wagon and on the other a complete gulf, nearly perpendicular, and the snow being drifted on the sides of the bank, makes the road bad. The four horses belonging to one of the wagons in company got off the road and it was with difficulty that the wagon was saved from being dashed to pieces. This wagon put up at McConnellstown. [McConnellsburg.]

January 19th.—Over these hills and over Licking Creek Bridge

(Continued on page eight)

RECORD OF DEATHS.

Persons Well Known to Many of Our Readers, Who Have Answered Final Summons.

ALL SEASONS ARE THINE, O DEATH.

VALENTINE HOUPPT.

After an illness of four weeks, of acute articular rheumatism, Mr. Valentine T. Houppt, died at his home on East Water street on the evening of the last day of the year, 1909. The funeral, conducted by his pastor Rev. L. H. Rice, of the Reformed church, assisted by Rev. J. L. Grove, of the U. P. church, and by Rev. J. M. Diehl, of the Presbyterian church took place at ten o'clock Tuesday morning, and interment was made in Union cemetery.

The deceased was the son of the late John and Rachel (Hege) Houppt, and was born February 17, 1862, hence he was aged 47 years, 10 months, and 24 days. He was twice married—the first time, on the 10th of September, 1890, to Miss Annie E., daughter, of the late Simon Wolf, at that time pastor of the Reformed church in this place. To this union, three children were born, two of whom—Miss Rose and Miss Lillie—survive. His second marriage occurred December 20, 1900, to Miss Wilhelmina Furry, of the Little Cove, Franklin county, who survives him, together with three sons, William Francis, Carl Valentine, and Jesse Leroy, the eldest of whom is a little more than eight years of age.

"Volle," as he was familiarly known, was one of those jolly, good hearted, fellows that is always surrounded with a large circle of friends, who sincerely mourn the unexpected loss of friend, husband and father.

Chas. D. Houppt, of Altoona, is a full brother, and Mrs. C. C. Crouse, Mrs. Philip Hann, and Mrs. A. T. Wink, are half-sisters.

JOHN W. BOLINGER.

John W. Bolinger, a well known and highly respected citizen of Taylor township, died at his home one-half mile west of Dublin Mills, on Saturday, January 1, 1910. Funeral took place at 2 o'clock, Monday afternoon, a short service being held at his late home, when the remains were taken to Center church, where Rev. Huffman preached a touching funeral sermon to a very large assemblage of friends who had gathered to pay their last tribute of respect to the deceased.

Mr. Bolinger was born and reared on the farm on which he died; and while he never got far from his home, he was a good neighbor, and was loved by all who knew him. Always ready to lend a helping hand in time of need, he will be much missed in the community in which he had lived so long.

Mr. Bolinger was employed at the mines at Jacobs, Huntingdon county. He was a good miner, an energetic industrious workman, and was making good money. But getting wet while at work in the mines, he was stricken with pneumonia, was taken to his home near Dublin Mills, physicians summoned, but the progress of the dread disease could not be stayed.

John W. Bolinger was the son of the late Jacob B. Bolinger, and was born on the old Bolinger homestead, on the 29th day of December, 1869; hence he lived three days more than forty years.

Besides his wife, who was Miss Jennie Wilson, of Waterfall, he is survived by three children, Teresa, Robert and Effie—the oldest of whom is about ten years of age. His mother is living, as is also his two sisters, Etta, wife of Samuel Stans, of New Granada; and Emma, wife of John D. Cutchall, near Huntingdon. Six brothers survive: Foster, Martin and Bert at Jacobs, Pa.; Isaac, in McConnellsburg; Charley, at

BEDFORD SPRINGS HOTEL AS IT APPEARED 50 YEARS AGO.



While the fame of the Bedford Springs has been spreading over a wider and still wider field for more than a hundred years; and while more than a half million dollars have been spent in improving the property in the last decade—making it, to-day, one of the foremost summer resorts in the country, it will be of interest to its many patrons to see what it looked like fifty years ago.

"Jimmy" Buchanan, the bachelor president of the United States, and a familiar figure about the Springs for many years, occupied a room in the first large building to the right in the picture, known as the "Swiss Cottage" and it is pointed out with pride to visitors to the Springs for the first time.

Wood, Pa.; and Lee, in Illinois.

JOSEPH BRIDENSTINE.

At the ripe age of 74 years, 8 months, and 26 days, Joseph Bridenstine, a highly respected citizen, died at his home in Wells Valley on Wednesday, December 29, 1909. The immediate cause of his death was a stroke of paralysis. The funeral took place on Friday, services conducted by his pastor, Rev. Fleeger, of Three Springs, and interment was made in the cemetery at the Valley M. E. church.

Mr. Bridenstine was a veteran of the Civil War; and with the exception of the time that he was away from home in defence of his country, he spent most of his life in Wells Valley, where he had the esteem and most kindly good will of his numerous friends and neighbors. He was a consistent member of the Valley M. E. church, from early life, and passed from earth's scenes with the closing of the year, with that blessed hope of immortality that is born of an implicit faith in Jesus Christ. He is survived by his wife and one child—Herbert, the latter, of whom resides at Plumville, Pa. There were in all, six children, but five of them have passed to the Great Beyond, namely, Elmer, Seward, Emma, Martha, and Libbie—the last named was the wife of James L. Grissinger.

MALLOTT.

At the home of her grandparents in Licking Creek township, on Thursday, December 30th, Nellie L. Mallott died, aged 3 years, 9 months, and 11 days. Funeral conducted by Rev. John M. Diehl of McConnellsburg, took place on Sunday, and interment was made at Greenhill.

Mr. D. A. Washabaugh, who owns the Wilson Farm just across the Bridge west of town, was the first man to call at the News office Monday morning to advance his subscription to the News. Mr. Washabaugh is one of the "charter members" of the News, he having taken the paper from its very beginning—September 21, 1899.

Subscribe to the "News" only \$1.00 a year.

NEW YEAR GREETING.

Rev. A. G. B. Powers to the Members of His Several Congregations and Christians Everywhere.

Dear Brothers and Sisters in the Lord: This day, January 1, 1910, being the birthday of a new year, and the 64th anniversary of the advent of your humble servant, the writer, into this world of pain and pleasure, I am led to ask the indulgence of the Editor of the Fulton County News, to allow me through the columns of his excellent paper to address to you the following thoughts:

First, I want to say to the members of the churches of my charge, that I thank my Heavenly Father for the preservation of my life throughout the year just past, and hope to enjoy our labors together as pastor and people during the year just begun.

Now, as we have come to this the beginning of another year, let us consider that there hath no temptation taken us, but such as is common to man; but God is faithful, who will not suffer us to be tempted above that we are able; therefore, let us strive to do God's holy will in every way possible. There are many ways to do his will—some of which I wish to mention. Let us read and study his Word, and pray to him for his grace to help us obey his Word, which teaches us to love Him, for He is love; and that we should love each other as he has loved us. And, in order to love each other, we should be willing to forgive each other their trespasses, that our Heavenly Father may forgive us our sins. If there be any malice or hatred in our hearts, let us throw it all away, forgetting the things which are behind and reaching forward to the things which are before. Let us press toward the mark. Moreover, we can do his holy will by faithfully attending the House of God, where we can worship him together according to his Word.

I desire that all the members of the different churches of my charge be faithful in attending all the means of grace—the preaching service, Sunday school, Christian endeavor, song and prayer service, &c., working out your own salvation with fear and trembling, and in this way our light may shine before others, that they may see our good works, and especially they of our own household. Oh, fathers, mothers! What kind of an example do we set before our children? Is it such an example that when we are gone to our graves that our children will rise up and call us blessed? Now, in conclusion let me say, that I hope that all of our beloved Zion who may chance to read these few lines may be interested; and, also, those of other denominations who have so kindly appreciated our Christian fellowship will continue faithful to the end. Then some sweet day we will be gathered at His great white throne, where there will be no separation. Let the wicked forsake his way and turn unto the Lord and He will have mercy upon him.

A. G. B. POWERS.
Needmore, Pa.

David A. Nelson and James H. Kendall, two of the Big Cove's enterprising farmers, left McConnellsburg on the noon hack, Monday, December 28th, and arrived in the city of Pittsburg, Tuesday morning about 7 o'clock. After brushing the coal dust off their clothes, washing the cinders out of their eyes, and getting a good warm breakfast, they went to a big sale of horses, bought seven of the best ones, chartered a car on the B. & O. railroad, and had their horses in Hancock by 8 o'clock the same evening, and were home with them by Wednesday evening. Whatcher know 'bout that?

Mrs. Lizzie Unger of Riverside, N. J. spent a few days with friends in town during the past week.

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

Joseph M. Laidig and wife, of Minersville, Huntingdon county spent a week with relatives in this county.

B. A. Deavor and wife, of Husbontown, spent a few days recently with relatives in the vicinity of West Dublin.

Miss Lula Snider, and her sister Mrs. George Mock and daughter Mildred, spent last Wednesday at Daniel E. Fore's.

Mr. Logue Hess, one of Belfast township's substantial young farmers, was in town attending to business a few hours Monday.

A. D. Hess, of Sideling Hill, stopped in McConnellsburg a short time last Saturday on his way home from a trip to Mercersburg.

Mrs. Mary Fahnestock, of Chambersburg, spent a few days during the past week visiting her sister Christina, and her brother Jacob Henry, in this place.

County Auditor William Wink, of Belfast township, dropped into the News office early Monday morning and renewed his subscription for another year.

Miss Blanche E. Sipe, of Cito, has returned to her home after a pleasant two months' visit to her sister, Mrs. Edgar S. McKnight, at Chambersburg.

Mr. and Mrs. Edward Rotz, returned to their home at Altenwald, Pa., after having spent Christmas with the former's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Nat Rotz in the Cove.

Miss Lena Dunlap, a popular teacher in the schools at Bellville, N. J., spent her holiday vacation with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. G. E. Dunlap, at Hotel Sherman, Shippensburg, Pa.

After an absence of six years, Wm. B. Sipes, one of the leading merchants in Mt. Carroll, Ill., spent a few days during the past week visiting his parents, Ex-sheriff and Mrs. D. V. Sipes west of town.

T. K. Downs, of Iddo, who is Corresponding Secretary and Lookout Committee for Christian Endeavor work of Belfast district was in town looking after the interests of the society of his district, Tuesday evening and Wednesday.

Among the visitors in the home of Mr. and Mrs. Ahimaz Clevenger, in the Cove last Sunday, were Judge Morton and wife, Mrs. Amos Palmer, Geo. Keefer and wife, and little daughter Lydia, and Asa Keefer and wife and son Colonel.

Mr. J. M. Foreman, of Laidig, spent a few hours in town Monday. When Mr. Foreman got up Monday morning, it was a "toss up" to know whether he should go to Waterfall, Everett, or McConnellsburg. As it was not practicable to go to all three of the places the same day, he chose McConnellsburg.

AUTOMOBILE TRAVEL.

Twelve Hundred Fifty-four Automobiles Passed Through the Toll Gate East of Town Last Year.

To Edgar Alexander, son of A. K. Alexander, are we indebted for the information that, during the year 1909, twelve hundred and fifty-four automobiles, or an average of more than one hundred a month, passed through the toll gate east of town. This shows to what extent the turnpike leading through this place is a thoroughfare across the State for automobile travel. The number by months is as follows: In January, 4; February, 4; March, 2; April, 28; May, 62; June, 130; July, 207; August, 220; September, 192; October, 139; November, 44, and December, 10.