

# The Fulton County News.

VOLUME 12

McCONNELLSBURG, PA., NOVEMBER 3, 1910.

NUMBER 7

## OLD WAR TIME CAMPS.

Early Military Organizations in This County, and the Part They Played in The Civil War.

WRITTEN BY CORP. M. M. HORTON.

Continued from last week.

In 1856 the legislature of Pennsylvania repealed all laws relating to the military then in force and made a new law, for the government of the military of the state, which was essentially different from any that had preceded it.

The members of the legislature who enacted that law and the governor who approved it bided better than they knew. They did not know that their action was the initial step in Pennsylvania's preparation for the great contest which, only five years later was begun in Charleston harbor.

The passage of this new law had the effect of arousing the military spirit which had lain dormant everywhere for years. True, there was here and there an organized military company, such as the Bedford Riflemen, the Broad Top Riflemen, and Washington Blues, but I think it is safe to say that not more than 500 young men in Pennsylvania had any knowledge of things military at beginning of 1856, but in less than two years thereafter, there were tens of thousands of young men and many who were older, in Pennsylvania who were eagerly learning all they could of the art of war. Companies were organized everywhere and battalions and regiments were formed in every city and county in the State. Those young fellows who constituted these did not know that they were in training for a part in that sublime exhibition of courage, endurance, patriotism and devotion to flag and country which Pennsylvanians gave during those long terrible years from Bull Run to Appomattox. They did not know, but he who presides over the destinies of nations did know, "How wonderful are His ways and how past finding out are His judgments?"

The part the men of Fulton county had in the great awakening was the organization of three companies in spring of 1856, and reorganization of Harrisonville company in 1859.

The new companies organized were the National Guards at McConnellsburg, the Fulton Riflemen in Wells Valley and a company of cavalry at Fort Littleton. I have forgotten by what name this company was known. Some correspondence with parties at Hustontown and Fort Littleton fails to give me any information in reference to the company. The first captain of the company was the late David F. Chesnut, afterward Sheriff of Fulton county. At time of organization, W. W. Sellers was elected captain and J. B. Sansom, 1st. Lieutenant. At next election, Lieut. Sansom became captain. Captains Sellers and Sansom were the editors of the Fulton Republican and Fulton Democrat respectively. The young Guardsmen—young then-believed, evidently, that editors are well fitted to be military officers. I have no information as to who the other lieutenants were and have failed to obtain any records.

When the Fulton Riflemen were organized, W. H. Cunningham was elected Captain, J. C. Moore 1st. Lieut. J. F. Stuckard 2nd. Lieut. and Allison Edwards 1st. Sergeant. The next election resulted in the choice of the following: Capt. Dr. H. S. Wishart, 1st Lieut. W. W. Willett, 2nd Lieut. S. P. Wishart. These officers served from 1857 to April 1861 when Thomas A. Lyon became 2nd Lieutenant, and James Wishart 1st. Sergeant. These were the officers in Camp McAllen. In Camp Slifer the officers were: Capt. Dr. H. S. Wish-

art, 1st Lieut. Jacob West of St. Thomas, 2nd Lieut. James Wishart, 1st Sergeant J. Walker Johnston. These were the officers when the company was mustered into the service of the United States Oct. 9th 1861.

During the summer of 1857, Maj. Mellott ordered all the military of the county to report at Salvia on a certain day for drill, inspection and review. On that day I received my first lesson in military tactics in ranks of the Fulton Riflemen.

The command of the battalion was turned over to Joseph S. Reed, a veteran of the Mexican War, then Captain of the Broad Top Ranges, a Bedford county company organized about 1820. In 1858, Maj. Mellott ordered us to assemble at Clifford Manor. On that occasion, Capt. Austin of the Blues was in command. As before stated, Capt. Austin became Major in spring of 1859. In obedience to his orders, we reported for drill and inspection at Harrisonville on August 6th of that year. In spring of 1860, Major Austin was elected colonel, being succeeded as Brigade Inspector by Dr. R. I. Hunter of the Fulton Riflemen. Col. Austin ordered us to report for inspection and drill at Harrisonville on May 31, 1860. This battalion drill was the last ever had in Fulton county. The last company drill was by the Fulton Riflemen, July 4, 1851 on the occasion of a monster celebration of the day in Wells Valley. That loved and venerated,—that talented old veteran in the war against all wrong,—Rev. N. G. White, pastor of the Presbyterian congregations of McConnellsburg, Green Hill and Wells Valley during nearly forty years, was orator of the day on that occasion. The young Riflemen never forgot his stinging address. They recall it now when a few of them come together. O, those glorious old time battalion drills! None of those who had part in them can ever forget them. People didn't think of working on battalion day, but turned out to witness the drill and surely those Fulton County boys knew how to do that thing. They delighted and gloried in it.

The company drill days, once in two weeks or oftener, in spring, summer and autumn were important occasions, but the annual battalion drill day transcended all others in interest. It was the day in Fulton county.

(To be Continued.)

### Horton—Skipper.

A quiet wedding occurred Wednesday, October 26th, at the Tower Hill Presbyterian parsonage, when Mr. Will Horton and Miss Mary Skipper both of Pana, Ill., were united by Rev. McHenry in the bonds of holy matrimony.

The young people left on the 8 o'clock train to go to Springfield and other places of interest before returning to their home near Pana. The bride is a most popular and winsome young lady and is loved by a wide circle of friends. The groom is a prosperous young man and for nearly two years has been employed with Mr. O'Farrell on a farm.

Mr. and Mrs. Horton went to Illinois from Burnt Cabins in March 1908 with Mrs. Morton's friends.

The friends of the young couple all join in wishing them a long and happy life.

### Sliver.

Florence, wife of Mr. Percy Sliver, died at their home in Bedford, Pa., last Sunday evening of typhoid fever, aged about 23 years. Interment in Bedford cemetery, Tuesday afternoon. Percy Sliver is a nephew of the Editor of the News, his mother being the Editor's only sister.

L. G. Cline of Burnt Cabins, was a business visitor on Saturday.

### Hallowe'en.

While there was no special street demonstration Monday evening, there was quite a little band of mummies, in costumes that were decidedly in keeping with the occasion, and to the credit of the boys, there was absence of the usual mischievous conduct. Old and young, alike, enjoyed the evening. One of the most unique social events in this town for a long time however was a Hallowe'en party at the home of County Treasurer and Mrs. Charles B. Stevens. The paraphernalia included the latest 1910 models Parisian ghosts, and the male members were made to feel a decidedly creepy sensation as they, one by one, were introduced into the weird dimly lighted ghost inhabited halls. This was atoned for later in the evening by the hostess serving a generous quantity of good old fashioned ginger bread and fresh sweet cider.

### A Close Call.

On last Thursday our old friend James Woodal, Sr., narrowly escaped an accident which might have cost him his life. His son Will is tenant farmer on the Jared Pittman farm south of town, and James was down helping to get the corn in. A four horse wagon was being used and the team had just stopped at a pile in the field, when James stepped up to begin picking the corn into the basket. It happened that he was just in the rear of the off side lead horse, and the animal kicked striking Mr. Woodal on the head above the right eye inflicting an ugly gash an inch or more in length. Had it not been for a heavy wool hat which he was wearing he would doubtless have been killed outright, for a hole was cut through the hat by the horse's shoe.

### GRACEY.

The farmers are busy husking corn. The first snow squall for the season passed over this vicinity last Saturday.

Jesse H. Berkstresser is very ill.

C. N. Cutchall, wife and son Laurence spent from Saturday until Sunday at the home of Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Cutchall.

The sale of J. C. Barnett was well attended.

Estella Gracey left Monday for Norristown where she has employment for the winter.

Our school is progressing nicely under the care of Ray Hess.

Rev. Swank, pastor of the U. B. church at this place delivered a very able sermon to a large audience last Sunday evening.

P. B. Noremman and M. J. Barnett, who have been employed in the carpenter business at Youngstown O., have returned home. Viola McClain is employed at Petersburg, Pa.

Our sportsmen are preparing to bring down quite a lot of cottontails next Tuesday.

### NEEDMORE.

We experienced quite a cold snap last week.

Harry Beatty spent from Thursday until Monday with relatives and friends in Buck Valley.

A Runyan and wife, who spent the past two weeks with their daughter Mrs. E. C. Dixon of Emmaville returned Sunday.

Judge Morton of McConnellsburg was circulating among friends here Monday.

Frank Mellott the sole proprietor of the drilling outfit, is drilling a well for Wm. Truax.

Thomas K. Downes bought the old school house from Eh Peck and is tearing it down.

Mrs. John Lanehart is slowly improving.

Mrs. Funk is also improving.

Mr. John Hess's baby is quite sick.

Hallowe'en was strictly observed by the young people.

You would scarcely know the old Runyan store room. Mr. Peck has more than doubled the capacity of the room also put in a new glass front.

### EULOGISTIC

To The Memory and Life of George W. Hixson, Late of Brush Creek Valley.

DEAR EDITOR:—Many of the boys have wandered from the homes of their childhood, from the green fields, the babbling brooks, the pure air, and mountain scenery of old Fulton. A goodly number of those, who for various reasons have found it necessary to locate elsewhere, are in Cambria County. The "News" reaches us each week, a welcome visitor. It announces achievements and success, happiness and progress, but with these comes sometimes the mingled tones of sorrow, which takes us back to our boyhood days and associates, and we are shocked to learn that the chain which linked our hearts to those of our associates has been suddenly snapped. Such was the message borne in last week's issue that announced the death of George W. Hixson, of Crystal Springs. We are well aware that any thing we can say will neither add to nor detract from, the noble character exemplified in Mr. Hixson; but it is meet that we should mingle our griefs with those of his family and neighbors—that we should call attention to the life of a typical citizen, so that others may emulate his amiable and virtuous conduct, his unfeigned piety to his God, and his inflexible fidelity to his trust.

It was the good fortune of the writer to be associated with Mr. Hixson socially, politically, and in business transactions. To be entertained in his home was a real pleasure. "Gifts from the hand are silver and gold, but the heart gives that which silver nor gold can buy." He was a republican in politics, clean, upright, and fair. To say he was elected to office means but little; but to know he held the unlimited confidence of the voters which he represented, means much. In business transactions, his name was a synonym for integrity and honesty. His word was a bond. He proved in his dealings with others his belief in "Man's humanity to man."

It was also the pleasure of the writer, a few years ago, to accompany him on a trip to one of the hard coal districts of Pennsylvania. His keen business foresight, his anxiety for knowledge of affairs, attested his worth as a progressive citizen. His trip to the Hagerstown fair was in search of knowledge to improve him in his chosen profession. He realized the immortality of the soul, the grandest dream the human heart has ever cherished, and his christian life was exemplified in a constant devotion to God.

Our weakness in words makes us hesitate to cross the threshold of his home life to depict the manner in which he discharged his sacred obligation to his family as a husband, a father, a friend.

Every community will have its treasured names. Every mountain and hill will have some solemn title; every valley will cherish its honored register; but to the citizens of Brush Creek, no name will be held in higher esteem or kept brighter with reverent honor than that of George W. Hixson.

The poet could say of him: "He so loved that when the summons came to join that innumerable caravan, that moves to the pale realms of shade, where each shall take his chamber in the silent halls of night, he went not like the quarry slave but, sustained and soothed by an unfaltering trust, he approached the grave, like one who wraps the drapery of his couch around him and lies down to pleasant dreams."

### HIS FRIEND.

Preston Cowan of Dublin township was on our streets on Saturday.

### School Report.

Report of Akersville advanced school for first month ending October 14, 1910. Number enrolled, 12; average attendance, 10; percent of attendance—males, 99; females, 98; total 98. Those in attendance every day—Edith Clark, Ada Hixson, Lulu Schenck Lizzie Hixson, Myrtle Duvall, Bretz Comer, Harry Pee, Earl Jackson. Visitors: One director—M. A. Barkman.—S. E. Walters, teacher.

Report of Oak Grove School for first month ending October 18, 1910. Number enrolled: male, 10; female, 9; average attendance: male, 8; female, 9; per cent of attendance: male, 93; female, 95; total, 94. Honor roll: Sadie Ples singer, Reta Layton, Bessie Miller, Opal Plessinger, Ramon Morris, Roy Plessinger, Quinter S. Enslay, Earl Morgret, and Bexie Dingley.—Grant F. Spade, teacher.

Report of Cross Road school for the first month ending October 14th. Number enrolled: male, 17; female, 21; per cent of attendance: male, 92; female, 86; total, 89. Those who attended every day were—Blair Thess, Guy Mellott, Earl Hann, David Hann, Charley Sipe, Melvin Mellott, Ralph Mellott, Florence Harr, Mary Hann, Goldie McEldowney, Jessie Mellott, Jessie Sipe, Vera Mellott, Nettie Mellott, Blanche Mellott. Those who attended every day but one—Walter Hill and Edith Hill.—Blanche Smith, teacher.

Report of Akersville Primary school for the first month ending October 14th. Number enrolled: male, 21; female, 11; total 32; average attendance: male, 20; female, 9; per cent of attendance: male 97; female, 90. Those who attended every day—Sara, Mary and Styles Ott; Gladys Walters; Mary, Marshall and Frank Pee; Mattie, Piper, and Wm. Schenck; Mary Jackson, Bessie Spade; Carrie, Jacob and Frank Barkman; Ralph Duvall; Marion, Virgil, Grant, Ross and Clayton Barton; Ralph and Irwin Akers; Morton Hixson; Ernest and Orville Duvall.—Lucy L. Peightel, teacher.

### Surprise Party.

The home of Mr. A. L. Shaw, near Gracey was the scene of a very pleasant event last Saturday evening, when a number of the young people of the community gathered to commemorate the 18th Birthday of his daughter, Miss Mary. About 7 o'clock in the evening, friends and neighbors began to arrive and Mary, for her life, could not imagine what could be in the air, until, to her surprise, she suddenly thought of Monday, October 17th being her birthday. A very pleasant evening was spent in different innocent games and music.

Refreshments were served about 10 o'clock, and after a few more lively games, about 11 o'clock the guests began to depart for their respective homes wishing Miss Mary many more such happy occasions. Miss Mary was the recipient of many nice and useful presents.

Those present were:—John Knepper, Floyd Miller, Roy Miller, Harold Edwards, Jos. Snow, Ernest Berkstresser, Eimer Cutchall, Jamie Cutchall, Jesse Laidig, Edwin Brant, Dallas Brant, Raymond Gracey, Dawson Strait, Jay Alloway, Velma Alloway, Estella Gracey, Mary Shaw, Gladys Gracey, Alice Cutchall, Lillian Gracey, Jessie Cutchall, Addie Gracey, Kathryn Laidig, Helen Edwards, Mamie Kesselring, Nannie Landers, Janet Kesselring, Claire Laidig and Ethel Kesselring.

### ONE WHO WAS THERE.

Mr. and Mrs. Charles Rigdly of Chambersburg are spending a week in the home of Mr. and Mrs. Wilbur Grissinger.

### Local Institutes.

The second local institute of Belfast township was held at Pleasant Grove Friday evening Oct 21st. Order was called by the teacher, Miss Bessie Morton, who appointed Amos Mellott president of the meeting. The following topics were discussed: 1 Spelling—Primary and advanced. 2 How do you secure regular attendance? 3 Advantage of a good school to a community. Teachers who were present and took active part were:—Daisy Strait, Orpha Snyder, Bessie Morton, Blanche Smith. Amos Mellott an ex-teacher, helped to make the work interesting and instructive. The discussions were interspersed by songs and recitations by the school. The crowd present manifested interest by giving attention and good order. Next institute will be at Morton's Point in two weeks Nov. 4th.—Blanche Smith Sec'y.

The fourth educational meeting of Ayr township was held at Cito Friday evening, October 28th. The following subjects were discussed by the seven teachers present: 1 How do you keep the primary pupils profitably employed? 2 Individual teaching. 3 Written work, its value, how much do you require? Much credit is due the teacher and pupils for the well rendered literary work. Meeting adjourned to meet at Rock Hill, Friday evening, November 11, 1910.—Maude Rinecollar, Sec'y.

The second local institute of Licking Creek township held at Forest Dale school last Friday evening was called to order by the teacher Mary Mellott who appointed Chas. Mellott president. Questions:—1 Written work, amount of, and value. 2 What branches would you alternate and why? How do you arrange your classes? 3 Geography; how taught. Directors Roy Sipes, R. R. Sipes, and Joseph Sipes were present. All teachers of the township were present; also, Daisy Strait of Belfast. Prof. Lamberson was present and gave very interesting talks on each subject. The literary work was excellent, which speaks well for both teacher and pupils. Adjourned to meet at Vallance school November 11th. All friends of education are invited to attend these meetings.—Katharine Hoop, Sec'y.

The third local institute of Bethel township, was held at Alpine last Friday evening. The teacher Edgar Hann appointed A. M. Bivens, president. Questions discussed:—1. Should any of the branches be emphasized? If so, which ones? 2. Discipline—Means Ends. 3. Value of Education. A number of recitations were rendered by the school. J. C. Fisher was there with his graphophone. The teachers present were: Kathryn Yonker, Ottilie Hill and Edgar Hant; also Opal Sharpe from Union, and Blanche Smith from Belfast. The next institute will be held at May's Chapel, Friday evening, Nov. 4th.—Ottilie Hill, secretary.

The third local institute of Todd was held at Woodburn school Oct. 28th. It was called to order by the teacher Mabel Fore. The following questions were ably discussed by the twelve teachers present: 1 What work do you require of a third and fourth reading class. 2 Primary Geography. A number of excellent recitations interspersed the program. The teachers of Todd appreciated the help given them by the Dublin township teachers also by Prof. Thomas of McConnellsburg. Teachers present were:—Blanche Peck, Mabel Fore, Blanche Brant, Mary Ott, and John Kelso from Todd; D. K. Chesnut, John Woodcock, L. P. Morton, Myrtle Stevens, Dotie Deahong and Robert Ormer from Dublin, also Prof. Thomas of McConnellsburg. The institute adjourned to meet at Sumner's school November 11, 1910.—Mary O. Ott, Sec'y.

## 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

Wm. Wink, of Pleasant Ridge, was a town visitor on Friday last.

Barney Bivens, of Big Cove Tannery, was in town on Saturday.

Wm. Davis, of Hustontown, was doing business in town on Saturday.

Harry Shaw, of Big Cove Tannery, was at the County Capital on Saturday.

Jesse Barton of Akersville, was a visitor to the County Seat last Friday.

Banner and Absalom Bishop of Needmore, were town visitors on Friday of last week.

H. H. Hertzler, a citizen of Burnt Cabins, was a business visitor to the County Seat on Saturday.

Miss Jannett Patterson, who has been attending the Normal School at Shippensburg, is home for a short visit.

Mrs. M. B. Trout, and daughter Miss Mary are on a visit to friends in Buffalo, N. Y., and other points in the east.

Mr. and Mrs. Lee Kearns, of Jeannette, Pa., are visiting Mrs. Kearns parents Mr. and Mrs. Geo. Laidig in Hustontown, Pa.

Mr. and Mrs. Thos. Johnston returned to their home in this place after a very pleasant visit in the Western part of the State.

Miss Gertrude Sloan, of this place, left on Tuesday for a two weeks' visit to her sister, Mrs. T. W. Walker, near St. Thomas.

Nicholas Finif came over from his home in Franklin county, and on Tuesday, after bagging a number of rabbits returned to his home.

Mrs. Lydia Bobb, of Beaver-town, Pa., and Miss Nellie Bear of Salvia, were guests at the home of Miss Mary Daniels in this place on Tuesday.

Thad Shoemaker, of Harrisburg, and N. E. Hoover, of Green castle, passed through town Monday on their way to Hustontown for a few days' hunt.

John Motter and wife of Altoona and William Motter of Chambersburg, are visiting their parents, Mr. and Mrs. Jacob Motter, in Ayr township.

Harvey Helman and wife returned to this place on last Friday evening, after spending their honey moon with friends in Chambersburg and Shippensburg.

Miss Zola Raisbec, who has been visiting in the families of her grandfather, T. B. Stevens, and aunt, Mrs. Boyd Elvey, returned to her home in Erie, Pa., on Wednesday.

Mrs. Mary Gordon of Warfordsburg, Miss Kate Brooks, of Hancock, and Mrs. Laura E. Winters and daughter Gladys of Dot, were pleasant callers at our office on Friday of last week.

Mrs. Mary Crooks and little daughter Margaret, who have been visiting Mrs. Crook's father Rev. J. L. Grove, and sister Mrs. Cal. Patterson, for several weeks, left for their home, in Rose Farm, Ohio, on Friday of last week.

The Chambersburg Valley Spirit says: "S. D. Stevens, who represented the Singer Sewing Machine company for a number of years has severed his connection with that company. Mr. Stevens has other business mapped out, having completed arrangements to remodel his own store room, Main and Washington streets, by an up-to-date front with a corner entrance. Mr. Stevens is one of our substantial citizens, is a man of the strictest business integrity and we predict for him success in whatever business he may engage."