

The Fulton County News.

VOLUME 12

McCONNELLSBURG, PA., APRIL 20, 1911.

NUMBER 31

LOCAL HISTORY.

Wells Township Schools, Houses, and Teachers of Sixty to One Hundred Years Ago.

FOR THE NEWS BY M. M. HORTON.

EDITOR OF THE NEWS:

In the issues of your paper of October 27th, November 3rd, 10th and 17th last, you published an article, from my pen, on the old time military organizations of Fulton County and the part they had in the great Civil War. My reasons for contributing that article to your columns were these: I wanted to do what I could to save some very valuable history connected with Fulton county from passing into



M. M. HORTON.

A native of Wells Valley, but now residing at No. 13 S. Prince St., Shippenburg, Pa.

oblivion, as much such history and authentic tradition has already been in consequence of nobody being left alive who knew anything about it. I believed that the old boys, yet living, who were participants in the events, I mentioned would be glad to recall, with me, the memories of the long ago, and I indulged the hope that the reading of my article would afford pleasure to many of your readers who have no personal knowledge of the persons, times and occurrences of which I wrote.

For the same reasons I have mentioned, I have prepared another article for publication in the NEWS—an article which has to do with the schools of Wells Valley of 40 to more than 100 years ago; the old time school houses, the former school directors and teachers and their work, together with something of the comparatively few, yet living, white haired old grand fathers and grand-mothers of to day who were pupils in those schools 50 to 60 years ago. I have prepared such article and send it to you.

Near the lane leading from the Valley M. E. church to Mr. J. M. Lockard's place on north side of same and near the old graveyard at the church, is a pile of stones. This stone pile marks the site of a school house built prior to 1790. The stones lying there were a part of the old school house—the chimney. All school houses of that day and of much later times were warmed by fires of logs burning in a big stone fire place. During school terms of 1849 to 1852 I was a pupil in a school house which had a big fire place and chimney in one corner of it. This house, like all others of its time, was built of unhewn logs with spaces between logs "chinked" with blocks of wood covered with mortar without lins.

In 1806 an old abandoned dwelling house which stood where Mrs. Adams's running pump now is at Wells Tannery, was in use as a school house. The late J. B. Alexander and D. G. Duvall were pupils in that school. The teacher, during, at least, one term, in this house, was a hunter and trapper, and he used to set his traps along the creek above and below where Wells Tannery stood. In early winter mornings

(Continued on page four)

DECKER—MELLOTT.

Miss Mary Mellott, a Successful School Teacher Has Become the Bride of Chester A. Decker.

A very pretty wedding occurred at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Edward Mellott near Pleasant Ridge, this county on last Wednesday evening, April 12, at 5 o'clock when their daughter, Miss Mary became the bride of Mr. Chester Decker son of Mr. and Mrs. Milton Decker of near Harrisonville.

The ceremony was performed by the bride's pastor Rev. T. P. Garland of the Christian church in the presence of about 45 invited guests.

The bride was attended by Miss Anna Claybaugh, of Mattie, Bedford county, and Mr. Reuben Mellott of Sipes Mill, an uncle of the bride, was best man. The bride was handsomely attired in white silk mulle, while the bridesmaid wore cream serge.

At the conclusion of the ceremony a wedding supper was served.

The bride is a very highly accomplished young lady and very favorably known, having taught several terms of school in both this county and Bedford county. The groom is a man of unblemished character and excellent habits.

The bride was the recipient of many handsome and useful presents.

A reception was given the newly wedded couple at the groom's home on Thursday and after a few days' visit among relatives and friends they will go to house keeping on their farm lately purchased by the groom near Saluvia, where the best wishes of their many friends go with them for a long, happy and prosperous life.

Those present were: Edward Mellott, wife, daughters Daisy Eva, Belle and Gertrude, and sons Harry and Chester; Milton Decker and wife, and daughter Laura and son Herman; Oliver Oakman and wife, and daughters May and Stella, and son Willis; Mrs. Mary Mellott and son Reuben; E. W. Swope and wife, and sons Don and Paul; Mrs. Roland Sharpe and daughters Alda and Mabelle; Mrs. A. C. Deshong and daughter Ora; Rev. and Mrs. T. P. Garland; Joseph Sipes and wife, Homer L. Sipes and wife, and daughters Rebecca and Amy; Lee Truax, E. Norman Akers and Misses Margaret Daniels, Zoe Mellott, Maude Straut, Anna Claybaugh, Blanche Deshong and Maye Easley.

Passed His Seventieth Milestone.

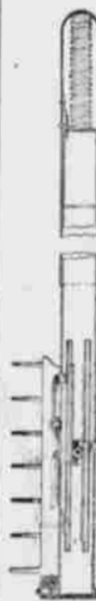
Rev. David W. Kelso a resident of Todd township wishes to thank through the columns of the NEWS his many friends who sent him so many congratulations by postal cards on April 7th—the 70th anniversary of his birth. From north, south, east and west, came these beautiful cards to the number of 242 expressing joy in his length of days, and congratulations on his excellent health. He also received many useful presents. During the three score years and ten that Mr. Kelso has lived, he has had an experience that falls to the lot of but few people, that of seeing six generations in the line of his lineal descendants. He has seen his grandparents, parents, brothers and sisters, his children, grand-children, and great-grand-children. He is the only surviving member of his father's large family.

There are two ways of spending a dollar. You can spend it at home, gain an easy conscience, make another friend and perhaps get the dollar back tomorrow, or you send it away, feel that you have sinned, offended the home merchant and forever lose the dollar and the blessed influence for good to yourself and neighbor.

USEFUL INVENTION.

Former Fulton Countian Makes Improvement in Horticultural Implement.

A recent number of the "Scientific American," published in New York, contains an illustrated description of a patent recently granted to Herbert McKibbin, of St. Louis, Mo. Mr. McKibbin, a former resident of McConnellsburg, was associated with the Fulton Republican a couple years ago, and is well known throughout the county. This, his third invention, is of especial interest to all who maintain a garden or do horticultural work, and we have been able to secure, through the "Scientific American," the accompanying illustration of his combined hoe and rake, which consists of a telescopic handle, having a hoe member on one side thereof and a rake member on the other, each of said parts being capable of being folded back while the other is in use. The novel form of mechanism by which both parts are operated simultaneously



—one part coming into operative position while the other is folded back out of the way—consists of an upper and a lower rack which are arranged to engage a common pinion, and which are shidably carried in their guides in opposite directions. Connected with these racks are two arms which, projecting through slots in the handle engage the rake and hoe members. The rake member consists of two parts and each part has a large tooth near the center to provide digging members which may be used in the manner of a grub-hoe. If the device is to be used as a hoe the end is placed on the ground and the handle is forced downwardly, thereby causing a movement of the lower rack and swinging the hoe member into operative position, as shown in the illustration. This movement will cause the pivot to revolve on its axis and simultaneously shift the upper rack in the opposite direction, causing the rake members to fold into practical alignment with the handle, where they are held securely by a locking device in the handle. Now, when it is desired to use the rake, the first pin near the end of the handle is pressed inwardly, disengaging the locking device, when the spiral spring will cause an outward movement of the telescoped handle and reversing the operation just described. The device is of simple operation, is rigid in either position, and has been pronounced a mechanical and commercial success. We are pleased to learn that the device is meeting with great favor, and the demand which has already been created will, no doubt, yield to the inventor a snug little fortune in royalties.

Change in Route.

Through the earnest and intelligent efforts of George W. Barnett of Clay township, Huntingdon county, the Committee on routes for the new State Roads, have accepted his suggestion to make the route from McConnellsburg to Huntingdon run by way of Knobsville, Hustontown, Gracey, Waterfall, Three Springs, Saitulo and Mapleton. Mr. Barnett used the argument with Highway Commissioner Hunter that the people along the first proposed line leading through Shade Gap and Orbisona had a railroad and that the route through Hustontown, would serve a large number of farmers that were practically excluded from better facilities.

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

RECORD OF DEATHS.

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

ALL SEASONS ARE THINE, O DEATH.

JOHN R. FISHER.

John Ready Fisher, son of the late Andrew and Elizabeth Ready Fisher, for several years residents of Hustontown, this county, was born on what is now the Allison S. Edwards farm in Wells township, October 11, 1836, and died at his home in Bedford, Pa., at 10 o'clock, Sunday morning, April 16, 1911, aged 74 years, 6 months, and 5 days. The funeral took place yesterday afternoon, and interment was made in the Bedford cemetery.

In August, 1859, Mr. Fisher was united in marriage with Miss Anna Eliza, daughter of Alexander Richardson who owned and lived upon the farm now owned by E. H. Kirk on the State Road in Taylor township. They went to housekeeping on the farm now owned by John F. Johnson, and later lived on the J. V. Deavor farm. About the year 1868 or '69, he came to McConnellsburg and conducted the Washington House, then owned by his father. About two years later he went to New Grenada and kept the hotel at that place about two years. He returned to the Washington House, McConnellsburg, then later went to Everett and kept the Junata House a few years, when he went to Bedford and engaged in the hotel business up to the time of his death.

Mr. Fisher was a veteran of the Civil War, he having served as Second Lieutenant in Captain Thomas Sipes' Company (H), 158 regiment, P. I., and was in the service from the fall of '62 until August '63. Two children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Fisher—a daughter that died in childhood, many years ago, and Harry K., who died last Thanksgiving a year ago. Mrs. Fisher survives, also one sister, Elizabeth, wife of Postmaster S. B. Woollet of this place.

Mr. Fisher was a generous, open-hearted citizen, and is well remembered by the older people in this county.

JAMES DORAN.

On Wednesday morning, April 12, 1911, James Doran, one of Fulton County's oldest and most highly respected citizens, died at his home near Center church in Taylor township at the advanced age of 86 years, 2 months, and 5 days. Mr. Doran was born in Path Valley on the 7th of February, 1825, and possessed a remarkable physical constitution. During his long life he was never sick a day until a very few months ago when he suffered a stroke of paralysis. Partially recovering from this, he had the second stroke, and this time the entire right side of his body became helpless. The third stroke, which came about a week before the time of his death, robbed him of the power of speech.

Mr. Doran was married in 1848 to Miss Catherine Atkinson, and to their union two children were born, George W. and Sarah. After the death of his first wife, he was married in 1875 to Anna Maria Booker, and to them one child was born, Edythe Gertrude, now the wife of Mr. William H. Heefner, of Taylor township.

Mr. Doran was a devoted member of the Methodist Episcopal church for a period of more than sixty years, and led a most exemplary life. He was a regular attendant upon the services at Center church.

September 29, 1864, Mr. Doran with B. A. Deavor and John W. Stevens—all of Taylor township—enlisted in the Union army. They were placed in the 58th regiment, Company A. 3rd Division, 3rd Brigade, and 24th Corps

(Continued on page five.)

SUNDAY SCHOOL TOURING PARTY.

Five District Conventions Held in Territory North of the Pike Last Week.

A Sunday school touring party, composed of Miss Martha Robison, State Worker; Rev. John M. Diehl, County Secretary, and Mrs. John M. Diehl, covered the part of the County lying north of the turnpike last week by holding five district conventions as follows:

TODD, Monday afternoon and evening, Knobsville M. E. church. Schools represented, Knobsville; not represented; Bethlehem, and McConnellsdale Union. Attendance, 135; offering, 86 cents.

DUBLIN, Tuesday afternoon and evening. All schools in district represented. Attendance, 110; offering, \$1.67.

TAYLOR, Fairview, Wednesday afternoon and evening. Schools represented: Fairview, Hustontown M. E., Center, Mount Tabor; not represented, Dublin Mills. Attendance 100; offering, \$1.20.

WELLS, Pine Grove, Thursday afternoon and evening. Schools represented: Pine Grove, Wells Valley, and Wells Tannery; not represented: Enid. Attendance, 130; offering, \$2.35.

LICKING CREEK, Greenhill Presbyterian church, Friday afternoon and evening. Schools represented: Greenhill Pres., Asbury, Sideling Hill, and Siloam; not represented: Shane's Union. Attendance, 100; offering, \$2.44.

Much interest was shown, and great things will be expected. In the words of a well known S. S. worker of Fulton county, the situation may well be summed up as follows: "Let us work for the Front Line, or work for the Lord, and Front Line be our motto." The touring party was received with wide open arms, and given the best in the homes. The County Association desires to express its hearty appreciation to the following persons for entertainment and transportation:

For entertainment:—Mrs. Lizzie Harris, Mrs. John Tice, Mrs. Baldwin Fraker, Mrs. Daniel Cromer, Mrs. Sarah J. Cromer, Mrs. Elliot Kirk, Mrs. A. F. Baker, Mrs. James Stewart, and Mrs. H. S. Daniels.

For transportation:—Mr. John Snyder, Mr. Baldwin Fraker, Mr. Howard Kirk, Hon. S. P. Wishart, Mrs. William Sprowl and Mrs. Scott Daniels.

JOHN M. DIEHL, Sec'y.

Is "Working" Europe.

Harry A. Irwin, son of Mr. and Mrs. John A. Irwin, of this place, has been a traveling salesman in the employ of the Landis Tool Company, Waynesboro, Pa., for several years. Owing to the demand for their products in Europe, the Company have recently sent Harry to that country, with headquarters at Cologne, Germany. Harry sailed from New York on the Oceanic on the 29th of March, and made the voyage across the Atlantic in 6 days, 7 hours, and 23 minutes. Harry enjoyed the voyage very much, and was selfish enough not to "feed the fishes." On his way to Cologne, he stopped at Paris, and is now settled down, to hard work. Harry is to be congratulated on his promotion, and the Company is to be congratulated in having the services of such a capable young man.

Child Burned.

Last Saturday John Rhodes of Ayr township was burning brush on his clearing. One of his children—aged about four years—was playing about one of the fires, when its clothing became ignited. Fortunately the father was within a few feet of the child, and realizing the great danger, stripped the burning clothing from its little body. Mr. Rhodes was burned worse than the child, which was not seriously injured.

WATERFALL.

The Writer Makes Earnest Plea for More Zeal Among Heads of Families in Christian Work.

April 5.—We are pleased to note the large number who turned out to see and hear the new preacher, Rev. Chas. Weise, who came to us from the Rays Hill charge. He preached his initial sermon at Zion M. E. Church, Sunday evening, April 2nd from the text: "God is a sun and a shield, and no good thing will be withheld from them that serve him." Rev. Weise comes to this charge highly recommended; and be bespeak for him the hearty support and co-operation of the entire Three Springs charge for the current year.

At the close of the sermon the following officers were elected for the Zion Sunday school: Superintendent, Geo. W. Barnett; Asst. Supt., Chas. Alloway; Secretary, Miss Myrtle Barnett; Asst. Sec., Roy Cutchall; Librarians Miss Ruth Cunningham and Roy Cutchall; Treas. G. W. Barnett; Organist, Miss Ethel Thomas. Rev. Weise spoke earnestly of the importance of this branch of church work, and urged the hearty support of every member of the church. It is to be regretted that there are a few people—good citizens, and faithful to their church vows in many ways—that have not been yet fully awakened to the great work they could help to do if they took a part in the Sunday school.

Zion church is situated about midway between the villages of Waterfall and New Grenada, at no great distance from either place, and yet there are comparatively few people attend. Of course, there are some who attend regularly and are teachers—but there are whole families who never go to Sunday school, and the parents do not set even this Godly example to their children. This should not be so. The Sunday school is for the improvement and welfare of the entire community and for the inculcation of the teachings and principles of Jesus Christ. May we hope that there will be an increased interest in the work this year, and that the Sunday school at Zion may be a real center of influence for the spiritual uplift of the community, and that all may accept the command "Search the scriptures, for in them ye think ye have eternal life."

PLEASING SOCIAL EVENT.

Mr. and Mrs. "Bub" Hess of Bethel Township Entertained in Honor of Miss Mason.

Wednesday evening of last week Mr. Bub Hess and family gave a bountiful supper in honor of Miss Goldie Mason. Refreshments consisting of chicken-swallow, crackers, sweet cakes of all kinds, peanuts, candy, pickles, and everything that goes with a good supper were served. The table was beautifully decorated. Those present were: Mrs. Nora Akers, Misses Goldie Mason, Goldie Akers, Verdie Sharpe, Lizzie Laferty, Connie Hess, Maye Carnell and Messrs Ross Bernhart, Thurman Sharpe, Rexie and Ray Hess; Benson, Hyson and Vernon Akers; Shelly Hill, Edward McCray, George Deshong and Mr. and Mrs. Bub Hess.

The evening was very pleasantly spent in music and party games, until a late hour when all departed, thanking Mr. and Mrs. Hess for their kindness.

ONE WHO WAS THERE.

The Brook's high license law needs to be repealed and succeeded by something better. Under this same law Bedford and Lawrence counties are entirely "dry," Somerset, Cambria and Northumberland counties are very "wet," while other counties are partly "dry" and partly "wet." Strange law.

ABOUT PEOPLE YOU KNOW

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

NAMES OF VISITORS AND VISITED

J. Tilden Hill, of Bethel was in town a few hours last Saturday.

R. R. Hann and E. C. Hann, of Saluvia, were among the town visitors last Friday.

B. A. Deaver, of Taylor, was registered at the Washington House last Saturday.

Mr. J. L. Duvall, of Wells Valley, spent a few hours in town on business last Saturday.

John F. Hess and brother Logue, of Belfast township, were in town last Friday attending to business.

H. O. Wible, one of Todd township's hustling young citizens called at the News office while in town last Thursday.

George Sheffield of Fort Littleton was among the out-of-town visitors at the County Capital last Thursday.

Harry Suders, of Pittsburg, spent the time from Thursday evening until Monday morning in McConnellsburg.

A. J. Fore and W. M. Comer of Burnt Cabins were in town last week attending a meeting of the stock holders of the Fulton County Bank.

Constable Jacob Dunkle and ex-Mail Contractor Christ Wagner—both of Dublin township, were in town on business last Saturday.

F. C. Bare, of Fort Littleton passed through town last Thursday on his way home after having spent several days in the eastern cities stocking up for his spring trade.

Philip B. Melus and Adam Kelter spent a few hours in town one day last week on business. Philip has just disposed of a bunch of timber to Geo. C. Fraker at Fort Littleton.

Harvey Bender, of the firm of Hull & Bender, has broken ground on the lot recently purchased from James Sipes on north Second street for the erection of a handsome residence.

Mr. W. Marshall McKibbin, spent the time from Thursday evening until Sunday afternoon with his wife in the home of her mother Mrs. S. M. Cook on north Second street.

Herman Cromwell, brother of Roy C. Cromwell was in town last Saturday attending to business. Herman left for Illinois a day or two ago, where he expects to engage in farming near Lanark.

James Fix, of this place, left for the state of Delaware last week where he will be engaged working on a farm for S. C. Yeakle, formerly of this place, but who removed to Delaware from Mercersburg this spring.

Mr. Geo. C. Sipes and daughter, Miss Pleasant, of Thompson township, were in town last Friday. Mr. Sipes owns and lives on what was known to the older people as the Peter C. Peck farm near Hesses Mill.

Alex. C. Lamberson, of Brush Creek township, came over to the Cove Sunday and was in town Monday morning attending to business. Alex bought the Seiling farm near Akersville, and is bringing it up in great shape.

Joseph H. Biddle Esq., editor and owner of the Everett Press, has purchased the Huntingdon Semi Weekly News. Mr. Biddle will continue to live in Everett, and the Semi-Weekly news will be in charge of E. M. King as managing editor.

Mr. and Mrs. B. E. Stevens, of Taylor township, were guests in the home of the former's uncle, Dr. F. K. Stevens last Saturday. Ed. who was formerly in the furniture business in this place, is now an enthusiastic farmer in the township of his nativity.