

The Fulton County News.

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THE GRIM REAPER.

Short Sketches of the Lives of Persons Who Have Recently Passed Away.

HENRY D. BETZ.

Henry D. Betz, a veteran of the Civil War, died at the home of I. W. Schooley in Licking Creek township, Friday, June 11, 1915, aged 83 years, 3 months, and 19 days. The funeral took place Sunday afternoon and interment was made at the Asbury M. E. Church at Greenhill. While Mr. Betz had been in declining health for some time, the immediate cause of his death was a stroke of paralysis.

The deceased, a son of Luke and Catherine Newman Betz, was born about a mile north of Greenhill. During the Civil War, he was a member of Company B, 3rd regiment Potomac Home Brigade, Maryland Vols. He enlisted February 25, 1862, and served to February 29, 1864. Four days later, he re-enlisted, served to the close of the war, and was honorably discharged on the 28th of May, 1865.

His first wife was Catherine Skipper who died about twenty years ago, and was buried in Clearfield county, Pa. To this union ten children were born, namely Ida, Maria, Anna, Rebecca, George, Sheridan, Hattie and Effie. Two children died in infancy.

His second wife was Rebecca Deshong, who died about ten years ago. To this union were no children.

The funeral services at the M. E. church at Greenhill Sunday afternoon were conducted by Rev. E. J. Croft, and attended by a very large number of people. The text was "He is not here; he is risen." The remains were laid to rest beside the graves of his father and mother—and a sister, Mrs. Dolly Metzler. His second wife, Mrs. Rebecca Deshong, lies in this cemetery.

All his daughters now living—some in Ohio; one in Harrisburg; some in Bedford county—got home in good time for the funeral. Three octogenarians near same age as deceased were at the funeral, namely, George W. Mumma, John H. Kline, Mrs. J. A. Stewart, with J. Wesley Hoop, Jacob Strait, and Solomon Deshong as close seconds.

MRS. CATHARINE KEGERISE.

Mrs. Catharine Kegerise, widow of Adolphus Kegerise, died Thursday, June 10, 1915, aged 84 years, 2 months, and 14 days.

Funeral was held on the following Sunday, interment being made at Hustontown, services conducted by Rev. Nathan T. Bishop. About four years ago, she went to live with her son-in-law and daughter, Mr. and Mrs. Geo. Arnold, near Mercersburg. At the time she became helpless, serious sickness in the family of Mr. Arnold made it impossible to nurse two patients, and several old ladies in the Franklin County Home undertook to care for her, and she was removed to that institution where she was well cared for until the end. Mrs. Kegerise was a member of the M. E. church. She was a daughter of Michael Butts, of Dublin township, deceased. The following children are living: Elizabeth, wife of Solomon Palmer, Connellsville, Pa.; Sarah Hill, of Ohio; Scott, of Altoona; Eliza, wife of George Arnold, Franklin county; Agnes, wife of Frank Hare, W. Va.; Rebecca, wife of W. D. McCurdy, Mt. Union, and Jennie, wife of Solomon Deshong, of Clearfield.

George Arnold and wife, and J. S. Arnold, wife and daughter—all near Mercersburg—were among those from a distance who attended the funeral.

MRS. HAYES SOWERS.

Mrs. Bessie Florence Sowers, wife of Hayes Sowers, died at their home in Ayr township, Saturday, June 12, 1915, aged 27 years, 5 months, and 27 days.

"AULD ACQUAINTANCE."

Bits of News and Gossip Extracted from the Letters from Our Distant Subscribers.

Mrs. Hattie Starr, Chestertown, Md.: This has been a good year, so far, for most crops. The weather was cool all through the spring, but fruit and vegetables have seemed to come through all right. Strawberries are plentiful, and are bringing 6 cents a quart. A man not so far from us picked 58 crates of berries off an acre last Monday. We are gathering for sale beets, onions, peas, cabbage, berries, and have tomatoes as large as walnuts. We are well on with our work. Corn is looking well and harvest will be here by the 20th of June. Wheat is short, but well headed. Mr. Starr was kicked by a horse and the smaller bone of the lower part of one of his legs broken the last Sunday in May. The rest of our family are well. Simon Deshong's family are all well as usual. Norman Deshong took unto himself a bride on the 24th of April—a lady of Milford, Del.

Will Build a Road.

It surely is rough to pay taxes and then have to build the roads by private work; but since Pennsylvania has made such a muddle of the system of road making, what else can a long suffering public do? Good Roads Day work in the State aroused people to see that they could do what fifty "bosses" riding in automobiles failed to do. (By the way, Governor Brumbaugh has dismissed those fifty men as useless ornaments of the Highway Department). To come to our story, the business men of Everett subscribed \$100, a private citizen subscribed \$100, and two townships subscribed each \$100, to re-grade and repair a road to Friends Cove. We congratulate our neighbors for their pluck. They expect to save many times \$400 in horse flesh, wear and tear on wagons, to say nothing of time saved in traveling, and the comfort of riding over good roads. Also, the business men of Everett will not be disappointed in their expectation of increased trade with the district connected up by a better road.

Morton Hess, of Needmore and his son Riley, of Taylor township brightened our sanctum last Monday. Call again.

Funeral was held Sunday afternoon, services conducted by Rev. J. L. Yearick, and interment made in Union cemetery. Mrs. Sowers was not sick when death came. Instead she was performing her accustomed household duties when she fell to the floor and expired immediately. Dr. Robinson was called, and pronounced the cause of death to be heart failure; but as he had never made an examination during her lifetime, he was unable to name the particular lesion.

Mrs. Sowers was a daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Geo. B. M. Souders and is survived by her husband and two little children—a boy aged about 6 years, and a baby girl aged 3 months.

GEORGE WALKER.

George Walker (colored) died at the home of his daughter, Mrs. Ed Keith, in Thomastown, Ayr township, Friday, June 11, 1915, at an estimated age of about 73 years. He died of heart trouble from which he suffered for about six months. Funeral was held on the following Saturday, services being conducted by Rev. Spriggs, and interment made in Union Cemetery. George had the misfortune to lose part of one of his legs a few years ago; but that did not prevent him from trying to make a living by labor at whatever he could find to do. Prior to the time he lost his leg, he was a dependable farm hand among Big Cove employers.

Good Citizen.

Mr. David Gregory, of Thompson township, spent a few hours in town Tuesday. Mr. Gregory belongs to one of the oldest families in the County and owns the farm which has been in the family name from the time of his great-grand father back in Revolutionary times. While David has been called on by his township to serve in local offices, the Gregories have never been office-seekers, and have not sought nor held a County office in the history of the County. By plenty of hard work and careful management, Mr. Gregory has shown ability in managing his own affairs, and as may be seen by his announcement elsewhere in this paper, he solicits the support of the Democratic voters at the coming primary election for the office of County Treasurer.

Chicken Thief Captured.

Miss Ellawea Johnston, of Ayr township, had seventy-five young chickens about ready for the frying pan. She now has but sixty. A thief had been helping himself to the tender morsels. Last Thursday morning she discovered Mr. Thief in the chicken house. She called to Harry Gress, her tenant, who came running with a club. A smart tap on the head put the Great Horned Owl to sleep. We measured its wings—four and one-half feet from tip to tip. The fact that the owl was found inside the house in daylight indicates that impudent fellow had resolved to take permanent board where living was so good.

Eyes Injured.

Harry L. Ott, foreman of a gang of men working on the Lincoln Highway, met with a painful accident last Thursday when a sharp spawl from a stone which he was sledging struck him in the eye. Workmen tried to remove the spawl, but the piece was too tightly driven in to be removed by ordinary means. W. C. Patterson took him to Chambersburg hospital. Fortunately the wound was at one side of the eyeball, and he will not lose the sight.

Arm Broken.

Mary, ten-year-old daughter of Mr. and Mrs. George McEldowney, of this place, fell and broke her right arm between the wrist and elbow while at play with companions last Monday evening. A party of little folks were roller skating on the smooth pavement on East Walnut Street, near Fred Black's shop and Mary had the misfortune to meet with the above accident. Both bones of the arm were broken.

I. O. F. Memorial.

The McConnellsburg Lodge, I. O. F., held Memorial Day services last Saturday evening by marching to the cemeteries and decorating the graves of departed members. The Lodge hereby expresses its thanks to the Band, and to the boys and girls, for assistance. The girls are especially commended for the many beautiful bouquets provided by them.

Billy Hoover Married.

Mr. and Mrs. Charles R. Williams of Chicago announce the marriage of their daughter Frances Beatrice to Mr. William Washington Hoover, on Tuesday evening, June 10, 1915. The groom is a son of Mr. and Mrs. John Hoover at Hustontown, this county, and is a rising young attorney in Chicago.

McConnellsburg Teachers.

At a meeting of the McConnellsburg Board of Directors last week the following teachers were elected; Primary, Miss Jeanette Stouteaigle; Intermediate, Miss Grace Lodge; Grammar, Miss Joan Morton; High, vacant for the present, and a principal will not be selected until July.

LETTER FROM GEORGIA.

J. Cal Mann Writes of His Impression of Conditions in the South Land. Cheap Farms.

J. C. Mann, whose business as an expert mechanic takes him all over the country writes interestingly of a State that the average Northerner knows but little about. Here's his letter:

"Thinking that some of your readers might be interested in some of the things that interest me in this south land, I will risk sending you a few items. First, let me say that I am especially interested in the railroad project you have in hand now to connect Fort Loudon and McConnellsburg. The Fulton county newspapers do not seem to be greatly excited over it, however, for an event of so much importance to Fulton county should be heralded in 6-inch type, and painted on all sign posts. Well I am hoping that when I come home I can buy a through ticket at Fort Loudon, and make the trip to McConnellsburg on a fast train without stops.

"On the 24th of May, I completed the building of a grain elevator at Norwalk, O. I had never before had opportunity to see Ohio in spring attire; and she is, certainly at this season, a beautiful state. I am led to wonder whether those thousands of acres of wheat, corn, and oats shall become sustenance for the warring nations across the seas or shall remain at home to make cheaper food for our own people. My trip through Ohio might be pictured by the letter Z. Going in out of Pittsburgh to Toledo; from Toledo to Zanesville and Cincinnati. Taking a night train out of Cincinnati I saw little of the country as I passed through Kentucky. Day broke probably an hour above the historic old city of Chattanooga. At one o'clock, p. m., we reached the city of Atlanta; at 4:45, we were at Macon, Ga., and Culverton—my point of destination—at 8 o'clock p. m.

"Culverton, the town at which I am at present located, is a little village in a farming district in Hancock county, Ga., about 50 miles east of Macon, on the Georgia railroad. We are about 150 miles northwest of Jacksonville. The northern part of Georgia is rough; but down this way the country is simply beautiful. The climate is fine, the sun of course comes down the near way, but there is always a nice breeze going. Hancock county is not flat, but rolling sufficient for fine drainage. There are no hills, one can see the head light of a locomotive six miles away. There is practically no twilight. After Old Sol sneaks behind the horizon, formed by pine groves, peean and peach orchards, it is dark. The soil is mostly of a red clay underlaid by a deep subsoil that is anywhere from six to thirty-five feet in depth. The eastern section is underlaid by gray ganister rock, and when there is an occasional rock cropping, it is always ganister. The soil is very productive of all kinds of crops, except where it has been robbed by successive croppings, and this is quite frequently the case. Two crops a year of almost all kinds of grain may readily be grown.

"When I came here on the 28th of May, oats harvest was in full swing. They raise a winter variety of oats which is sown in the late fall. After the oats is harvested in the last of May, they make the ground ready for cotton, corn, beans, peas, or potatoes. Two crops of Irish potatoes are grown, one succeeding the other.

"There is quite a colony of Northern people in this county, and the surprise to the writer is that there are not more of them here. Land changes hands at ridiculously low figures. I am reliably informed that land of elegant quality lying only three miles away from a railroad may

It Makes a Bad Road.

It would seem that there has been enough condemnation of roads made of broken stone and covered deeply with clay to forever exclude that method from practice. But it seems that there are still some road makers who think they must follow it. Who knows of a piece of road made in that manner where the stones did not sooner or later come to the top and become a real nuisance? The reason for the movement of the stones to the top is not hard to find. When clay is wet, it is slippery as grease; and when heavy vehicle pass over it when wet, the stones slip out from under the weight exactly as a cherry seed "scots" out of the skin when pinched between the fingers. Soapstone slate has the same greasy properties, and when very wet, the same results arise if stones have been covered with it. To make broken hard stones stay where they are wanted, they must be pounded or rolled down until face finds face of broken surface, and friction then holds them in place. It is better—ten times better—to let the public rattle over the bare stones for a time until they settle, than to ruin the work by covering it from sight temporarily with clay, only to have them reappear and torment travelers forever afterwards.

The only exception to this rule is in case mountain sandstone is used. These stones are easily crushed, and unlike limestone, and some others of similar breaking character, a very thin layer of dirt—not more than an inch—has been found to hold them in place. But experienced road makers tell us that more than an inch of covering for sandstone creates the conditions complained of.

Little Girl Injured.

Last Saturday evening, Beulah, aged about thirteen years, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Cyrus Wagner, of Tod township, went to the field to drive home the horses. In some manner which the little girl cannot explain, she was knocked down by one of the animals, and when picked up by her father, was unconscious, but she quickly recovered. She received a hard bump on the back of her head, her upper lip was badly cut, and she received many deep scratches across the chest. Dr. Robinson was summoned; but he could find no broken bones. She seems to be on fair way to recovery.

be had as low as \$8 an acre. Only a few days ago, an 800-acre tract was sold for about \$8.50 an acre. It was purchased by a man from Columbus, Ohio. At this writing, corn is shooting tassels, and cotton is knee-high. This is the land of the big Georgia watermelon, of pomegranates, and figs; the sweet, fragrant Magnolia and the Mocking Bird. I missed the strawberry crop, but was in time for peaches and plums. To a Northern man it is a novelty to pick perfectly matured peaches and plums in May.

"I am building here a brand new flour mill, to be the finest 75-barrel mill in the state. This modern mill is being built to encourage the growing of wheat, and I believe it will be a success. The Culverton Milling Company is composed largely of an old, and interesting Southern family. I am quartered in the home of the oldest son of one of Georgia's representative families. He recently completed a residential mansion that is grand almost beyond description; you could set the average McConnellsburg residence in the reception halls of this one. This home has its independent water and light systems. Here I am treated more as a guest of honor than as a representative of a commercial manufacturing company from Yankeland.

LETTER FROM CHINA.

John H. Reisner Tells of Country Life in "The Flowery Kingdom." Brush Used for Fuel.

In a letter to his parents Mr. and Mrs. Jacob G. Reisner, John H. Reiser gives an interesting account of a recent trip up the Yang-tse river in China, along with a party who went into the interior to study forestry conditions with a view to getting at the root of some of the evils prevailing in that section. The party traveled in two boats—one a launch owned and furnished by the governor of the province from which they started, and the other a small gunboat carrying a small number of native soldiers to guard against anything like robbery, &c.

It will be remembered by many of our readers that Mr. and Mrs. John H. Reiser went to China, last fall to teach in the University of Nanking. Each had prepared for work along special lines. In addition to graduating at Yale Mr. Reiser took complete courses at Cornell and elsewhere in scientific agriculture, and as soon as he requires sufficient mastery of the Chinese language to work along that line, he will devote his time in the Department of Agriculture in that institution. He will, during the coming winter, write an elementary agricultural text book for that college.

During most of the way up the river, Mr. Reiser and the foreign members of the party traveled on the gunboat. His stateroom was a cabin 6 1/2 x 5 1/2 feet, half the space being taken up by a bedstead with wooden springs. He had to furnish his own bedding, towel, soap, wash basin, etc. The arrangement was to travel by river between the mountain ranges and then go ashore to make observations. At all stops they were met by river police who acted as guides, and the soldiers accompanied the party up over the hills and into the mountains. He said it was good to get back into mountain regions again. The poor natives proved to be reasonably civil, and the soldier protection would hardly have been needed. As stated, the study of possible re-forestation of the denuded hills was the chief object of the trip. Near larger towns, they found no large trees except in the groves preserved about the sacred temples of which there are many in China. Even the brush is cut by poor people who carry it on their backs to the towns and barter it for rice. To some of them, this is their only way of making a living. This, coupled with the fact that ownership of land is always in dispute, makes it a hard matter for even the government authorities to set about re-forestation; for as soon as some improvements are made on a tract of land, some claimant bobs up, and—well—there you are.

Farther on during the trip up the river, they saw some fairly well cultivated fields of grain, and, in one or two instances they found some good beginnings at re-forestation under the protection of local police. The need of trees is great, and Mr. Reiser says that he saw abundant evidence that the barren hills could soon be clothed with timber if allowed to grow. His description of farm life, as he saw it, is about as follows: The house—or sometimes several of them on a "farm"—are always built of mud straw, and bamboo grass. They are occupied by the farmer and his family, and by his sons and their families, and by the pigs and their families. Each farm has a few buffalo and some goats and nearly always some pigs. The pigs are the privileged members of the live stock, and they may be found as frequently in the dwellings of the farmers' families as in their own quarters. The farming implements are of the simplest kind—machinery being almost unknown. The thresh-

ing is done with a flail, or by beating the heads of grain over the edge of a receptacle into which the grain falls. John does not seem to be stuck on Chinese horses; at least after having ridden one on part of this trip, he says, "before I had ridden far I wished for Pearl" Logue's "Dynamite" or "Lolley" the one I had at Fort Littleton the summer I was there."

Mr. Reiser's description of what they sometimes got to eat in some of the villages is amusing. A good sample was a hearty meal consisting of hard boiled eggs, lots of peanuts, and tea.

PICNIC DRINKING WATER.

Little Talks on Health and Hygiene by Samuel G. Dixon, M. D., LL. D., Commissioner of Health.

The Picnic season has begun. Every alluring spot for miles around in the vicinity of the towns and cities will be the Mecca for pleasure seekers from now until frost comes.

Almost everybody attends a picnic sometimes during the season. Now that the automobile has made even the remote districts readily accessible for city dwellers, the number of urban residents who seek an occasional day's relaxation in the country, has tremendously increased.

Nobody thinks of going on a picnic without a generous supply of food; but few people are far sighted enough to carry their drinking water. Some spring, brook, or farmers well they feel will be sure to supply this essential. As a result of the indiscriminate dependence upon unfamiliar sources of water supply, there are hundreds of pleasure seekers who contract typhoid fever every season.

That period of the year when typhoid fever is always most prevalent is that at the end and immediately following the vacation season. While this is not alone the result of picnics they unquestionably play an important part in this annual toll of illness and death.

It is not a difficult matter if one is taking an auto trip to carry a supply of drinking water from a source that is known to be uncontaminated. Moderate priced vacuum bottles or other form of containers can be secured and which will keep the water cool.

If a local water supply with which one is unfamiliar must be used, boiling the water for twenty minutes will make it safe. Unfortunately clear water is by no means pure water. Many a sparkling, crystal-clear, roadside spring is open to pollution and no matter how attractive the little brooklet which bubbles along under the overhanging trees may appear, one must needs follow it to its source to be certain that it is free from contamination. So for safety's sake, carry your drinking water in the picnic basket.

Inter-County Judiciary League.

Citizens representing almost every district in the County, met in the Court House, May 26th and formed an organization to be known as the Inter-County Judiciary League. The object of this organization is to co-operate with a similar organization in Adams county, and make it their business to find out from judicial candidates just how the said candidates would interpret the word "necessity" in the granting of liquor licences in the event of election. The officers of the local branch are; President, R. R. Sipes, Licking Creek township; Vice President, Amos Sharpe, Thompson township, Secretary, Rev. Robert E. Peterman, McConnellsburg; Treasurer, Hon. S. W. Kirk, McConnellsburg, Press Agent, George W. Reiser, McConnellsburg.

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