

THE MIDDLEBURGH POST.

GEO. W. WAGENSELLER,
 Editor and Proprietor
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Berlin is short 120,000 people of what she was supposed to have. A just completed census gives her 1,016,381.

The utilization of the phonograph to give the complete burial service of the Episcopal Church, including the hymns, in the absence of a clergyman, marked the forethought and enterprise of a New York Coroner a day or two ago.

A prominent electrical engineer claims that twenty to thirty miles is about the limit for electrical transmission to obtain economical and satisfactory results. The same engineer also states that notwithstanding the fact that electricity is comparatively new, it is more advanced than any other branch of engineering.

Canada and Norway are the only two countries on earth where the passenger rate per mile is as low as in the United States per mile. The average here is 2.34 cents per mile. In Great Britain it is 4.2 cents for first-class and 3.2 cents for second-class passengers. In France the charge is 4 and 3 cents respectively for the two classes. In Turkey the rates are 5.8 and 5.2 cents respectively. Norway is the lowest, with rates of 1.6 and 1 cent, respectively.

Statistics recently compiled show that in the United States the colored race has 379 colleges and schools of higher education, in which 646 teachers out 1175 are colored; 23,899 teachers and 1,460,477 students in the common schools; 204 newspapers and forty-seven magazines; 259 lawyers and nearly that number of physicians; an aggregate wealth estimated at \$263,000,000, and a degree of ability and industry is possessed sufficient to have produced last year 3,000,000 pounds of cotton and \$150,000,000 worth of cereals.

The Pilgrim Society of Plymouth, Mass., has ordered a bronze tablet cast, which will be sent to Scrooby, England. It will bear the following inscription: "This tablet is erected by the Pilgrim Society, of Plymouth, Massachusetts, United States of America, to mark the site of the house where lived William Brewster, from 1588 to 1698, where he organized the Pilgrim Church, of which he became ruling elder, and with which in 1698 he moved to Amsterdam; in 1699 he moved to Leyden, and in 1620 to Plymouth, where he died April 16, 1644."

A French electrician, M. D. Arsonval, has succeeded accurately in measuring the electric energy of the torpedo fish, and the result is astounding. A fish sixteen inches across gives an electric current of two to ten amperes, with a difference of potential energy of fifteen to twenty volts, capable of lighting an incandescent lamp of ten candles. If the fish be teased it betrays its feelings so violently that the carbon filament flies off into vapor. It is mere fish's play for the torpedo to illumine a Geissler tube or fire a dynamite cartridge. M. Arsonval is of the opinion that the torpedoes have a special muscle which instinctively or deliberately gives electrical instead of mechanical energy, another instance of the equivalence of all forms of energy.

KEYSTONE STATE COLLINGS

PICKPOCKETS IN LUCK.
 They Strike a Rich Field at the Uniontown Fair.

Pickpockets reaped a rich harvest at the State and county fair at Uniontown. From reports received at the police headquarters over \$6,000 was taken one day. J. J. Barnhart, treasurer of Dunbar school board, was robbed of \$5,000 in notes and checks and considerable money, while on a train bound for the fair. D. K. Ramsey, who was with him, was relieved of \$400 in cash. D. P. Gibson had \$100 taken out of his pocket while purchasing a ticket at the box office. Numerous smaller robberies are reported.

DISASTROUS WORK BY LIGHTNING.
 During a heavy storm Thursday Mrs. Benjamin Yeager, of near Altoona, was struck by lightning and instantly killed. A Methodist church was also struck and badly wrecked. Butterfield Falls, on the Conemaugh river, east of Johnstown, went wild again, as it did during the great flood of 1889 and made an ugly washout of the Pennsylvania railroad tracks, causing trains to be delayed several hours.

CHILD WITHOUT HEAINS.
 The remains of a most peculiarly deformed child were buried in Fairview, cemetery West. The child was born on Monday to Mr. and Mrs. E. M. Chapin, of Union avenue. The body was perfectly formed, even to the face and ears, but the child had no skull nor brains. The infant lived three hours.

THE JUNIORS WERE KEPT OUT.
 At the opening of Pennsylvania State college at Bellefonte, the junior class was refused admission. The students and faculty are firm in the stand they have taken, but President Atherton expressed the hope that a settlement would soon be reached, but did not advance an opinion how it would be done.

HYDROPHOBIA CAUSED HER DEATH.
 Mad, the 8-year-old daughter of George Shirk, died at Waynesburg, from hydrophobia, after three days' terrible suffering. She died on Wednesday morning, after the dog, which it was suspected had rabies and was killed. This is the second death from hydrophobia in the county within a month.

Mrs. Alfred Niehaus, of Bellefonte, took a dose of Paris green with suicidal intent, and died in terrible agony a few hours later. She stated in a box of the poison and drank the whole dose. She was found some time after in the cellar in a dying condition and medical aid summoned, but she was beyond help.

The suicide was the result of mental aberration. Before the unfortunate woman died she retained consciousness and told those about her that she had a horrible illusion that she had killed Christ and had to give up her life for the sin she had committed. Mrs. Niehaus is an English woman. Her husband is employed at the Bellefonte glass factory.

There is much talk in Clearfield of annexing the borough to West Clearfield. Albert Anderson was drowned in the Youghiogony river near Ohio Pike.

Archie, the 7-year-old son of John Beaghey, of Upper Barrell township, Westmoreland county, was struck by lightning and killed. His 2-year-old sister was stunned, and a barn set on fire and destroyed.

Judge Ewing, of Uniontown, revoked the liquor license of Donahoe & Elliott, proprietors of a hotel at Ohio Pike, because of testimony that they had sold beer on Sunday.

The tobacco warehouses of J. F. Pfeiffer and H. B. Brubaker at Lancaster, were destroyed by fire. Loss \$115,000. The stocks of tobacco in the adjoining warehouses of J. Brunel & Sons were greatly damaged by water and smoke.

A charter was granted to the Clarion Railroad Company, capital \$110,000. It will be built through the town of Johnstown to Dagschahenda, in Elk county. The President is D. H. Jack, of Bradford county.

Joseph Norross, of Fayette county, committed suicide by hanging himself in his barn in Jefferson township.

REVIEW OF TRADE.

Wheat and Corn Coming Forward Rapidly—Iron Still Booming.
 R. G. Dunn & Co., Weekly Review of Trade says: A slight setback, which may mean much or nothing, according to the final outcome of the crops, is not unexpected at this season. If the government crop reports were correct, the situation would not be encouraging. But no such confidence is placed in the reduced estimate of corn, none at all in the estimate of wheat, and even the most enthusiastic bulls do not think it worth while to quote the government report on cotton. The fact is that we are beginning to market not far from 2,000,000,000 bushels of corn, though only about 400,000,000 bushels will be moved from the counties where it is grown; about 450,000,000 bushels of wheat, of which the farmers are unwisely holding back a large proportion; and about 7,200,000 bales of cotton, if the latter indications are not erroneous, as they very easily may be, to add to the stock carried over.

If we are to have a large crop of grain and a small crop of cotton it is natural to infer that manufacturers may find large transactions at the west, but not at the South. There is in fact a very large demand for goods at market by the first of the year, nearly all lines, especially iron, steel and glass, will be paying almost the old rate. However, the increase in wages is coming from higher selling prices, and wages do not reach the rates which would have been paid with commodities selling at the same rate as three years ago.

The call for iron and steel workers has never been greater than at present. Every mill, furnace and steel plant in Middle Ohio Valley is fully employed, and many of them are arranging for increasing their production at an early date. The Bessemer workers are getting the cream of the business, and the furnace men are following second.

Scarcity of Skilled Workmen.
 The increasing activity in the iron and steel trades is developing a scarcity of skilled workmen, says the Iron Age. Thus far no serious difficulty has been experienced in securing the men needed, but the supply is seen to be steadily growing smaller. Lower applications are now being made when vacancies are announced or when employers advertise for additions to their force. Only few months since the reverse was the case. A manufacturer could then make a selection from an enormous number of men. Next year, it is predicted, the lack of a sufficient supply of good men will be felt quite severely. Especially is this the case in the lines in which a long apprenticeship is essential for the development of the practical skill required.

Coke Strike Ordered.
 The miners' delegate convention at Scottsdale, Pa., passed the following resolutions, which declare a general strike.

They Want an Advance.
 At Dubois, Pa., six hundred Bell, Lewis & Yates miners held a mass meeting and decided to demand a uniform scale, now, and an advance of 5 cents a ton, beginning October 1, with a proportionate advance for machine mining. A committee presented the demands to S. B. Elliott, general manager of the company, and returned with the report that there would be no advance under the present conditions.

Have Secured a Big Contract.
 The Union Iron and steel company of Youngstown, Ohio, has obtained a contract to supply the Standard oil company and a few other firms in a combination with 65,000 tons of hoop iron. The iron will be nine-twenty, 23 gauge. The rate is \$28 a ton. This contract will go far toward keeping the mills busy the next two years, at the end of which time the contract must be filled.

Employees of the Illinois Steel company threaten to strike if they are designated by numbers instead of names.
 The H. M. Myers-shovel company, of Beaver Falls, states that the year just closing has been one of the most prosperous the company has ever enjoyed. The president of the company given the men about this time last season, it is expected there will be an advance in wages October 1 of 10 per cent.

THE INDUSTRIAL OUTLOOK

CANNOT FIX WAGES.
 Power of the Government Concerning Corporations and Labor.

In the course of an address in St. Paul United States Labor Commissioner Carroll D. Wright referred to the decision of the interstate commerce commission in regard to the justness of freight rates, and said: "The adjustment of difficulties arising between the employees of railroads and corporations must rest upon precisely the same principles yet it must be emphatically understood that the government has no right and no power to fix the rate of wages. It cannot, under any circumstances, fix the price of commodities."

There is no room for complaint concerning lack of employment in the Wheeling district. But few workmen are getting as much for their labor as they were three years ago, but wages are picking up slowly as the demand for labor increases, and there is reason to hope that by the first of the year nearly all lines, especially iron, steel and glass, will be paying almost the old rate. However, the increase in wages is coming from higher selling prices, and wages do not reach the rates which would have been paid with commodities selling at the same rate as three years ago.

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Driven Out by Whites.
 Two Negroes Killed and Twelve Wounded.
 Two negroes were shot to death and several wounded by a band of masked men in the northern portion of Holmes county, Florida. The tragedy occurred near a large saw mill owned by Henry Grimes. The firm employs many negroes, and operates a small railroad from the saw mill to the Choctawhatchee river. A freight car had been fitted up with banks, and within this about thirty negroes slept. The car, in which the negroes were sleeping was surrounded by masked men who then opened fire with Winchester rifles. The shots and the screams of the negroes brought Grimes, Beatty and a number of white employees who live near the scene and then the masked men fled.

Examination showed that Henry Johnson and Sam Evans, negroes, had been killed, and that a large number had been wounded, of whom will die. The attack has so terrorized the negroes that they have refused to work for Grimes & Beatty longer. It is thought that the attack was instigated by white men who had been discharged by the owners of the plant.

TELEGRAPHIC TICKS

A list of killed in the Great Northern railroad wreck at Melby has increased to seven. A still at the Kendall oil refinery, New Bedford, Pa., was burned with a loss of \$5,000.
 Judge Ewing, of Uniontown, Pa., revoked the liquor license recently granted Donahoe & Elliott, of the Ohio Pike house.
 James Walsh, 60 years of age, ran amuck near Sherburne, Wyo., and shot and killed H. E. Robinson and Herzert Livvile.
 Melville Scranton and Paul Shuetele, of East Saginaw, Mich., were drowned in Upper Lake, N. Y., while out boating.
 As the result of a family quarrel, Louis Hoffman, of Chicago, shot his wife and sent a bullet into his own breast. Both will die.
 Mrs. Ross, of Toledo, O., was knocked down by a blow of a sledge by a footpad, at Louisville, her head badly cut, and her satchel and pocketbook stolen.
 A man and two children, names unknown, were swept away while attempting to cross the Verdigris river, near Talala, I. T., and several similar deaths are reported.
 A woman giving her name as Mrs. Joseph Bellah, is victimizing many persons in the west by means of bogus checks, drawn on the Market street national bank of Philadelphia.

FROM THE OIL FIELDS

The Wild-Catter Has Had Poor Luck in Finding Pools.
 With nearly three-quarters of the year gone, and despite the fact that there has been an unprecedented activity in oil operations, there has not been a single new pool worthy the name discovered north of the Ohio river. Shooting and cleaning out increased the production for a time, but the action has set in and the oil wells are fast settling down to their normal condition and are producing but little more than when they began tinkering with them to increase their production.
 The recent discoveries in Monroe county, O., have developed on the part of operators an eagerness to get into the territory. The fancy prices paid for leases is evident that a sufficient number of good men will be felt quite severely. Especially is this the case in the lines in which a long apprenticeship is essential for the development of the practical skill required.

The Oxford Oil company's well on the L. M. Thomas farm, which came in last Saturday at the rate of 30 barrels an hour, is now down to 120 barrels a day. Its rapid decline is not unusual for Keener sand wells.
 Two miles southwest of Wilson creek in Washington county, O., the Kelly Bros. & Co. have drilled through the sand on the Stephen Hayes farm, and have a gusher. The Kelly Oil company's well on the Grey farm, near Braden pump station, Tyler county, W. Va., is causing a little flurry in that locality. The well is producing 120 barrels a day and its owners will make two new locations at once.

IN FAVOR OF DEFENDER.

The Protested Race Given to the American Yacht.
 The regatta committee of the New York Yacht club, consisting of S. Nicholson Kane, Irving Grinnell and Chester Griswold, rendered a decision sustaining Mr. Iselin's protest against Valkyrie and awarded Thursday's race to Defender. Lord Dunsraven and his friends held that his boat was crowded by the Defender, and that the accident was unavoidable. The committee gave each side ample opportunity to state their case and took the testimony of the captain of each yacht and of others who were on board. The decision was in the form of a letter to Mr. Iselin and was as follows:
 We beg to acknowledge the receipt of your letter protesting Valkyrie. We have given the matter our careful consideration and believe that the foul occurred through the calculation of the distance between the two yachts at a critical moment. From our observation, sustained by that of others who were in good position to see, we find that the Valkyrie, in contravention of section 11 of the racing rule, bore down upon the Defender and fouled her by the swing of her main boom when luffing to straighten her course. We also consider that Defender allowed Valkyrie sufficient room to windward to pass clear of the committee boat. Your protest is, therefore, sustained.

CIVIL SERVICE RULING.

Members of Boards Must Not Indulge in Partisan Activity.
 Replying to a recent communication charging that a member of a local civil service board of examiners for the internal revenue service was guilty of improper partisan activity in connection with a recent political convention, the civil service commission asked the accused for such reply to the charges as the facts may warrant and in its letter to him added:
 "While attendance at a political convention is a privilege and not a violation of the civil service rules the commission holds that partisan activity sufficient to impair usefulness as a representative of the civil service commission is sufficient cause for removal from membership in any of its boards of examiners."
Train Blown To Pieces.
 Passengers arriving by the steamer Mascotte at Key West, Fla., report that a big battle has been fought near Camaguey between the insurgents under Maximo Gomez and the Spaniards under Gen. Melo. The battle is said to have lasted 48 hours and the Spaniards were repulsed with heavy loss. A column of 60 killed and wounded on the field.
 Rooft's band has been active during the last week, having blown up a troop train by dynamite near Santiago de Cuba at a bridge near Sagua. The Spaniards admit that the train was blown up, but claim that only five men were killed. Advice received here states that nearly 100 soldiers were mangled by the explosion.

SEVEN BURNED TO DEATH

STEAMER ON FIRE.
 Five Women, The Stewardess and a Child Cremated.
 The London and Edinburgh steamship company's steamer Iona, plying between Leith, London, caught fire on her trip to Glasgow Monday morning. The fire started in her cabin, and five women and one child, passengers, and the stewardess were burned and otherwise injured. The fire was extinguished by the use of the ship's apparatus. The manager of the company made this statement:
 "The steamer Iona left Leith Saturday evening at 7 o'clock with 103 passengers and 39 crew. A second-class passenger part of the boat in which the second-class passengers slept was used as a saloon for the day and at night it was divided by partitions into sleeping compartments for women and men. At 2 o'clock this morning fire was discovered in the ladies' compartment, among the passengers. The saloon was in the clouds of smoke were so stifling that the crew were prevented from securing a means of escape. Several times driven down from the burning part of the ship. I was gotten under control about 4 o'clock when the charred bodies of seven passengers and a child were seen, so badly burned as to be unrecognizable.
 The cabin on the starboard side of the was only slightly injured, the spread flames to that side being checked by the testing steel deck. During the progress of the flames the well-lit compartment present among the passengers. The saloon passengers, men, women and children, rushed to the deck, some of them nearly naked, and the stewardess and the children crying, but not until the flames were subdued that they were pacified.
 The Iona is lying in a dock at Glasgow, Scotland, and the bodies of the seven passengers and their child were found almost in situ on the floor. The fire originated in the room, which adjoined the saloon."
AS A LIVING TORCH.
 Train Load of Oil Explosives and One is Burned to Death.
 The Chicago, Burlington & Quincy had a peculiarly bad wreck just east of Toana, Ills. A west bound train bearing oil as the front part showed up in the tank the rear part ran into the front, and a car of naphtha was ignited. There were cars of naphtha and petroleum in the train and all were soon ignited. The flames hundreds of feet high. Three men were killed and three others injured. The Craver, near by, was set on fire and burned, and Mr. and Mrs. Craver barely escaped with their lives. Samuel Welsh, 20, a tenant, a village fireman, was covered in burning oil and burned to death. Other men were badly but not fatally burned.
 The injured men were taken to the Rock House a quarter of a mile away and revived by the burning oil. C. O. Carson, a motive fireman was thrown from a tank injured about the head. Oil cans strewn along for half a mile. The twisted, telegraph poles pulled down, burned, and blasted and the whole scene one of ruin.

ON ITS MISSION OF PEACE.
 Columbia Liberty Bell Started a Tour Around the World.
 The Chicago Columbia liberty bell started on its tour of the globe. The train pulled out of the Van Buren station, Chicago, Saturday, consisting of bell-car, specially constructed by the Union Pacific, and the engine, pulling the bell and a special passenger car. The bell is Atlanta, Ga., but on the stops will be made at all the principal cities on the line to give the people an opportunity to see and hear it.
 At Atlanta the bell will be received by civic ceremonies, and will be installed in the city hall and will remain in the city close as one of the principal attractions. The close of the Cotton States' exposition bell will be carried through Florida and other Gulf States to Mexico, where it will be welcomed by President Diaz and a place of honor in the Mexican capital. It will then proceed to Havana, Santo Domingo, and finally to the continent and on around the world.

MRS. PIETZEL TESTIFIES.
 She Came Before an Indiana Jury.
 Mrs. Carrie A. Pietzel, the wife and mother of H. H. Holmes' victims, was before a jury at Indianapolis, on Monday, her grand jury Tuesday, with her daughter Bessie.
 She told the story of Holmes' modus operandi in leading her over the sea while he was making way with her. She identified her son Howard's skull and testified by grief. Mrs. Pietzel described the argument as she packed September last.
 She also described the garment which it was then shown to her. She burst into lamentations and said: "It is poor Holmes' coat. Oh, I must see him."
 Mrs. Pietzel was so distracted that the investigation was suspended. In an hour with her Mrs. Pietzel said she would take Holmes by the throat, "Not to let see I could not commit murder, but I will see him punished."

Death in a Wreck.
 Passenger trains Nos. 2 and 3 on the Northern had a head-on collision at Wilmont, Minnesota, Wednesday morning. Both running at a high rate of speed and together with terrific force. The fatal James Tithonus, fireman of No. 2, an engineer of No. 3, and both baggage carriers of whom it is thought to be John Howard. Five were injured, including three clerks, one brakeman and one passenger. No. 3. Wrecking crews were hurried to scene from Barnesville and St. Cloud, and doctors from St. Cloud, Fargo and Alexandria.

Gave a \$1,000,000 Mortgage.
 A million dollar mortgage was filed with the auditor at Tacoma, Washington, given by the Tacoma Land Company to Tacoma property, which is valued at \$5,000,000. The mortgage was given by the Company of Philadelphia, to secure \$1,000,000. The proceeds are being used for the construction of a 2,000-ton wharf house, the purchase and filling in of a part of the Tacoma tide flats and dockwaterways.

Fleeing From Quitoo.
 The remnant of the Ecuadorian army is fleeing from Quitoo toward the coast of Columbia. There, it is reported, agents of the United States government are waiting to take the field against the fugitives. The latter, fearing that a reaction might be fomented by the United States, has dispatched an envoy to Colombia measures to be taken to prevent the reaction of armed forces hostile to him or public.

THE ADVANCE IN IRON.

A Strong Feeling that the End Has Not Been Reached.
 The "Iron Age" says: There has been a little less excitement during the past week, and there are indications that there may be a temporary halt. While many say that there is no farther advance in prices, there is a strong feeling in the trade that the end is not near. In some directions labor is growing scarce again, and it may be deemed prudent to aver an stoppage of work by pig iron advance in wages, in the hope that the consumer may be made to pay for it. This is particularly true of Conneville coke, which will probably witness a rise in wages, with a corresponding advance in prices, which furnace men will be asked to pay. In the central West, Bessemer pig and steel billets have been rather quiet, although somewhat mysterious intimations have been thrown out that a very large deal in Bessemer pig is under negotiation. There have been further sales of basic pig. In the West the Carnegie steel Company has taken 10,000 tons additional, making 25,000 tons, the Illinois 10,000 tons in all; the Nelderburg interests at St. Louis 12,000, and two other concerns 12,000 together, so that the Tennessee Company has now sold about 80,000 tons outside of sales to Eastern producers. The steel rail makers have decided to make the advance fore- shadowed by the steady rise in raw material, although it may appear at the first blush that \$4 a ton is a pretty large jump. The highest point has been reached in pig iron production in the history of the industry. On September 1 there was in blast 215 furnaces, making 194,325 gross tons of pig iron. Since the beginning of the month additional furnaces have started and others are getting ready, so that it looks as though the 200,000 ton mark would be reached before the end of the current year.

VALLEY RAILROAD SOLD.

Baltimore and Ohio Buys the Line at a Good Price.
 The Valley railroad was sold at Cleveland at public auction under an order issued by United States Judge Biels. There was only one bidder, the Baltimore & Ohio railroad company, and the price realized was \$3,070,000, being \$70,000 more than the minimum figure set by the court.
 It is stated that the B. & O. will be immediately incorporated under the laws of Ohio with a capital stock of about \$6,000,000. The only company interested in the sale, aside from the Baltimore & Ohio, is the Wheeling and Lake Erie, which has an agreement under the reorganization plan whereby it gets traffic facilities which will extend to bring a large part of its lake business to Cleveland.

RAILROADERS KILLED.

Five Trainmen Met Death in a Collision in Minnesota.
 Five persons were killed and 12 were injured by a head-on collision between passenger train on the Great Northern railroad near Melby, Minn. The dead are: Engineer J. K. Emerson, Fireman Jas. S. Thiebode, Express Messenger W. H. Kerssarsaw and Mail Clerk E. T. Johnson, of the east bound train, and Engineer Ira S. Halnes, of the west-bound train, all residents of St. Paul. The west-bound train had passed its meeting point at Melby. Several of the wounded may die.

The Railroads.
 "Poor's Manual" for 1895 shows that the length of railroad track laid in the United States up to December 31, 1894, was 179,279 miles, the increase in the calendar year 1894 being 5,681 miles. The total liabilities are put at \$11,302,000,207, of which aggregate \$5,655,734,249 is funded debt, and \$5,646,266,957 is stock. The railroads carried 383,243,670 passengers and 675,127,747 tons of freight, and earned altogether \$1,080,305,015, of which \$222,539,276 was net profit. Other receipts were \$12,000,000, and \$41,916,713, but they paid out \$42,484,939 in interest, dividends, rentals, etc., or \$10,468,225 in excess of their available revenue. In other words, they had a deficit of that amount.