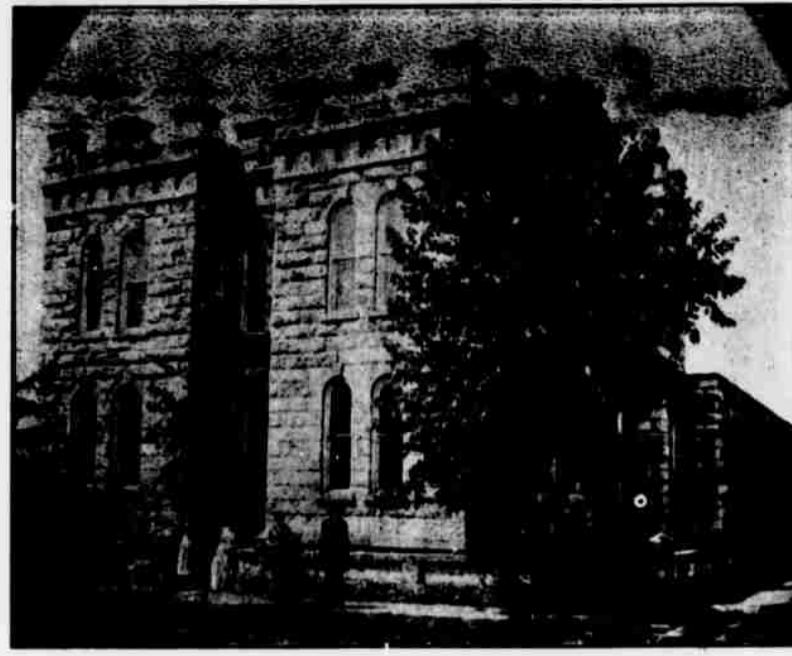


SNYDER COUNTY.

A Brief History of our County Written for our Readers.

Snyder County was formed out of Union County by an Act of the Legislature of Pennsylvania approved March 2, 1855. Union County was formed from Northumberland March 22, 1813. Northumberland County was formed from parts of Lancaster, Cumberland, Berks, Bedford and Northampton Counties March 27, 1772. What is now Snyder County belonged at one time, at least partially, to Cumberland County which was formed from Lancaster County Jan. 27, 1759 and Lancaster was formed from Chester, Mar. 10, 1729. Chester, Bucks and Philadelphia Counties were the three original counties established at the first settlement of the province of Pennsylvania in 1682. The act creating the new county of Snyder, March 2, 1855 provided for an election to be held March 16th following to deter-

mination of no less than \$5000 to be approved by the Court and the money paid to the Commissioners, who were required to proceed at once to erect suitable public buildings fully as good as those in Lewisburg, the county seat of Union County. A majority of the commissioners refused to comply with the provisions of this act and hence nothing was done to erect new public buildings at Selinsgrove. They were arraigned before court for being derelict of duty. They took every advantage to delay the erection of buildings until too late in the summer to begin building. At the next session of the Legislature the county seat question was again agitated and an act was passed March 21, 1866 authorizing an election to be held April 24, 1866 for and against the removal of the county seat from Middleburg to Selinsgrove. The reason given for the Legislature re-considering their action of the previous session was the representation



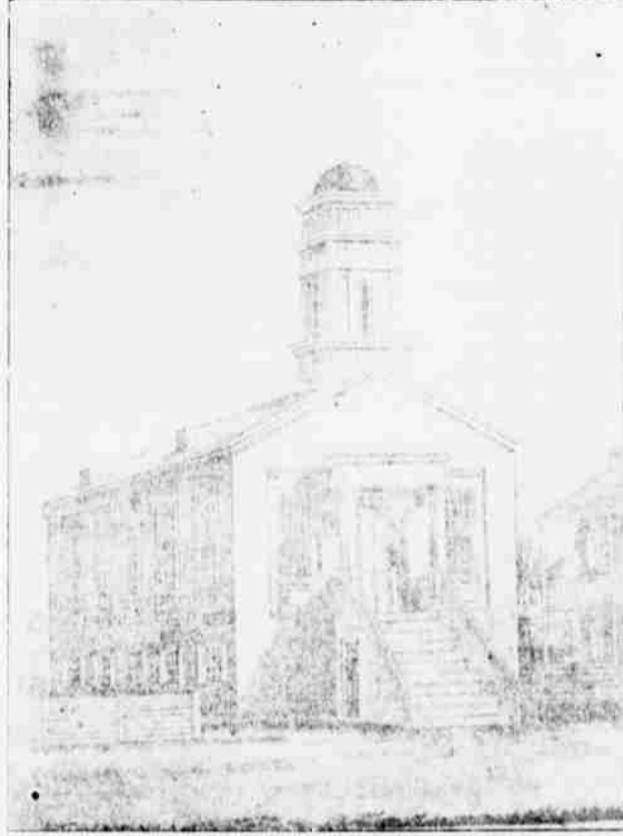
SNYDER COUNTY JAIL.

ment started which finally resulted in the division. The first public meeting was held at Froeburg, Feb. 28, 1853 and the citizens of what is now Snyder County were aroused and they demanded a division. Other meetings were held at various points and this finally terminated in the erection Snyder County, March 2, 1855, named in honor of Simon Snyder, Governor of Pennsylvania, from 1808 to 1817. His remains now lie buried at Selinsgrove and a beautiful bronze monument marks his last resting place.

MEMBERS OF THE LEGISLATURE.—Daniel Wittmer elected Oct. 1857; William F. Wagenschler elected Oct. 1858 and 1859; Henry K. Ritter elected 1861, 1862 and 1863; Dr. Isaac Hottenstein elected 1865; J. H. Wright elected Oct. 1866; Geo. G. Glass elected Oct. 1867; Wm. G. Herrold elected Oct. 1868; John Cummings elected Oct. 1870; G. A. Schoch elected Oct. 1874; Charles Miller elected Oct. 1876 and 1878; Leonard Myers elected Oct. 1880; Chas. Miller elected Oct. 1882; G. Alfred Schoch elected 1884; Aaron

G. M. Shindel, 1891 to 1897; John H. Willis from 1897 to the present time.
PROTHONOTARIES.—William G. Herrold, 1855 to 1858; Jacob P. Bogar, 1858 to 1861; Henry S. Boyer, 1861 to 1864; Jeremiah Crouse, 1864 to 1885; W. W. Wittenmyer from 1885 to 1891; J. C. Schoch, 1891 to 1897; G. M. Shindel from 1897 to the present time.
DISTRICT ATTORNEY.—Charles Merrill, 1855 to 1858; Chas. How- er, 1858 to 1862; Samuel Weirick, 1861 to 1864; A. C. Simpson, 1864 to 1867; B. T. Parks, 1867 to 1873; Leonard Myers, 1873 to 1876; J. H. Arnold, 1876 to 1879; H. H. Grimm, 1879 to 1882; F. E. Bower, 1882 to 1888; H. E. Miller, Jr., 1888 to 1894; J. M. Baker, 1894 to 1899.
COUNTY COMMISSIONERS.—Geo.

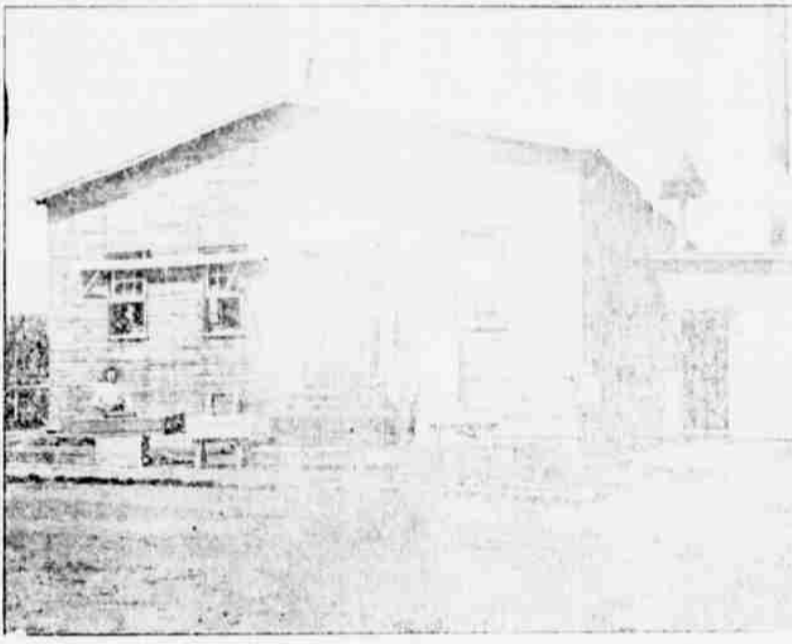
Isaac Beaver, 1861 to '63; G. F. Miller, 1865 to '67; Jacob Gross, 1867 to '69; J. K. Hughes, 1869 to '71; Jacob Gross, 1871 to '73; G. W. Row, 1873 to '75; Henry Beaver, 1875 to '77; Reuben Dresser, 1877 to '79; A. S. Heltrick, 1879 to '84; C. A. Balender, 1884 to '86; C. C. Sebold, 1887 to '90; L. Fisher and Geo. C. Wagenschler, 1890 to '93; C. C. Sebold, 1893 to '96; Wm. F. Reigle, 1896 to '99.
SURVEYORS.—Henry Motz, elected before division of the county 1854; 1854 to '58; Willis Moyer, 1858 to '61; Daniel Weirick, 1867 to '70; A. K. Gift, 1870 to '76; Geo. B. Benfer, 1876 to '81; Jas. Middleswarth, 1883 to '86; Chas. L. Wetzel, 1892 to '98; Geo. A. Boddorf, 1898 to the present time.
CORONERS.—Henry Mussere elected Oct. 1855; Dr. A. J. Sump-



SNYDER COUNTY COURT HOUSE AS ERRECTED 1856.

tion by a vote of the people of what is now Snyder County whether the election should be made. There were 488 for division and 1643 against division giving a majority of 1 for severing the county. The act provided that the county seat

that it was hastily done at the close of the session against the expressed will of the people. The election was held in accordance with the provision of the act and it was a most exciting contest which resulted as follows:



EXTERIOR VIEW OF THE COURT HOUSE.

GROWTH OF THE COUNTY.—We append below a tabular statement showing the growth of population of Snyder County during its existence as a county.

Township	1855	1860	1870	1880	1890
Adams	80	100	150	200	250
Beaver West	150	200	300	400	500
Centre	172	211	326	436	546
Chapman	254	300	450	600	750
Franklin	378	462	700	938	1176
Jackson	47	62	92	122	152
Middleburg	79	102	152	202	252
Monroe	109	132	192	252	312
Perry	132	162	232	302	372
Selinsgrove	162	202	292	382	472
Washington	192	232	332	432	532
Total	1,000	1,200	1,700	2,200	2,700

(a) Adams formed from Beaver Sept., 1874.
(b) Part taken to form Spring township, 1880.
(c) Formed from Centre 1852.

Heltrick elected 1864 and 1888; Dr. E. W. Toole elected 1890 and 1892; C. W. Herman elected 1894 and 1896 and Dr. A. M. Smith elected Nov. 1898.

SHERIFFS.—Nathan Ferry of Perry township from 1855 to 1858; Levi S. Herrold of Chapman township from 1858 to 1861; Fred. P. Baise from 1861 to 1863; Moses Specht of Beaver township from 1864 to 1867; Daniel Balender from 1867 to 1870; John S. Wolfe of Union township from 1870 to 1873; Daniel Balender of Franklin township from 1873 to 1876; Daniel Eisenhart from Washington township from 1876 to 1879; Daniel Balender of Middleburg from 1879 to 1882; David Reichley of Centre township from 1882 to 1885; Ner, R. Middleswarth of West Beaver township from 1885 to 1888; Reuben Dresser of Spring township from 1888 to 1891; Daniel Balender of

Dr. Miller, 1855 to 1857; Isaac D. Boyer, 1858 to 1857; Geo. Swartz, 1858 to 1859; Samuel Scholl, 1857 to 1859; George Boyer, 1858 to 1861; Henry R. Knapp, 1859 to 1862; George Wahr, 1860 to 1863; Jacob Stoffen, 1861 to 1864; A. K. Middleswarth 1862 to 1865; Joseph Weirick, 1863 to 1866; Wm. Snook, 1864 to 1867; Peter P. Mertz, 1865 to 1868; Abraham Eyer, 1866 to 1869; Joseph Weirick, 1867 to 1870; J. J. Mattern, 1868 to 1871; L. S. Langere, 1869 to 1872; Philip Kinney, 1870 to 1873; Adam J. Fisher, 1871 to 1874; J. E. Huff-nagle, 1872 to 1875; Joel Row, 1873 to 1875; Elias R. Swartz, 1875; Moses Krebs, John Romig and Joel Row, 1876 to 1879; John Romig, John Reitz and Henry N. Wetzel, 1879 to 1882; John Reitz, Henry N. Wetzel and John M. Moyer, 1882 to 1885; John Mohr, Isaac Erdley and James N. Houser, 1885 to 1888; Samuel Walter, Daniel Beaver and Samuel H. Stroub, 1888 to 1891; J. M. Duck, A. A. Romig

elected Oct. 1858; Dr. Wm. Christ elected Oct. 1861; Dr. B. Wagenschler elected Oct. 1862; Bolender elected Oct. 1867; P. Hartman elected Oct. 1870; Dr. M. Smith elected Oct. 1875; Dr. J. Herman elected 1881; Dr. E. V. Toole elected 1883; Dr. Maria Rothrock elected Nov. 1890 and 1893; Dr. J. E. Bogar elected Nov. 1895. For several years there was no coroner elected.

JURY COMMISSIONERS.—Geo. Schoch and Wm. Munkley, 1860 to '70; Henry Brown and G. G. Harberger, 1870 to '73; A. S. Heltrick and F. P. Weiser, 1873 to '76; F. Sheary and Elias Strouse 1877 to '80; A. A. Usher and Henry H. mel, 1879 to '82; Levi Fisher, J. O. Goss, 1882 to '84; Wm. Glass and B. Smith, 1884 to '87; Taylor Gemberling and Isaac Shill, 1889 to '92; J. P. Zeman and John Reichley, 1892 to '95; J. Knapp and C. S. Dunn, 1895 to '88; Joseph Hendricks and H. Harberger from 1898.

ALDERMEN.—Francis A. Boyer



SNYDER COUNTY COURT HOUSE.

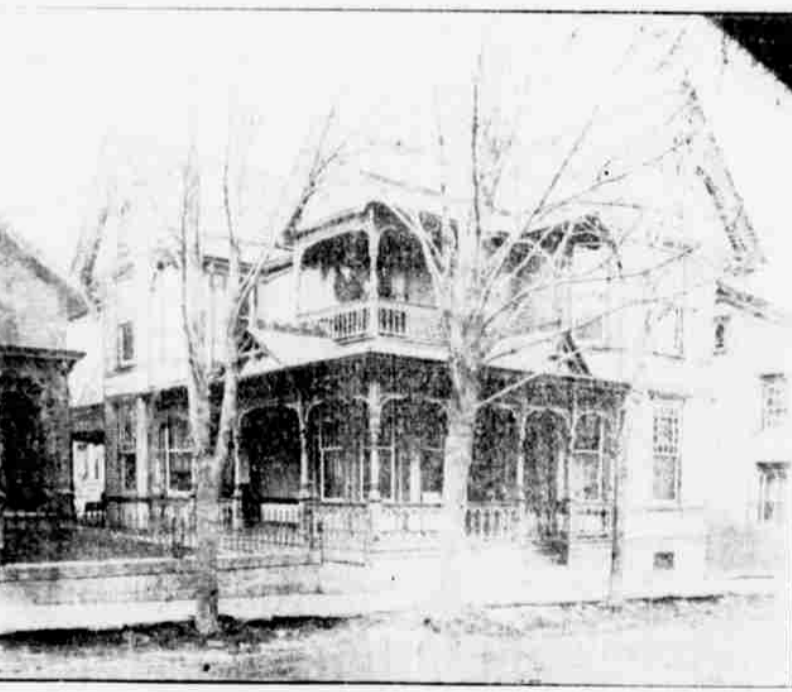
should be located by a vote of the people and any town furnishing a guaranteed subscription of \$10,000 towards the erection of a new court house and jail should be entitled to the seat of justice. Middleburg, Selinsgrove and Froeburg raised the amounts and the contest resulted; Middleburg, 1,057; Selinsgrove, 922; and Froeburg, 288 votes. Middleburg won.

An act to change the county seat from Middleburg to Selinsgrove passed in 1865. The reason for this, as given in the bill, is that great dissatisfaction existed in consequence of the location of the county seat and that the necessary county buildings had not yet been erected and that the grand jury at the February term 1865 reported the court house unsuited and the public records insecure and that new buildings must necessarily be erected. The act provided that Wm. F. Eckbert, Wm. F. Wagenschler and L. R. Hummel become Commissioners by the act to select grounds in Selinsgrove on which to erect public buildings, a fee simple deed to be delivered to the Commissioners of the County, without expense to the county and guaranteed

For Bonded Against Removal.

Beaver West	244
Centre	182
Chapman	71
Franklin	200
Jackson	34
Middleburg	81
Middlebrook	73
Monroe	29
Perry	275
Perry West	25
Selinsgrove	313
Washington	99
Total	1,404
Mid. against removal	353

As stated above the County was taken from Union County in 1855. The division and its accomplishment has some history. The county seat of Union County prior to the division was located at New Berlin. For many years the old buildings at New Berlin had been unsatisfactory to all who had business there. In 1852 the people of New Berlin petitioned the grand jury to take measures toward the erection of new county buildings. This action on their part incensed the people throughout the county and at once there was a sen-



JOHN W. RUNKLE'S RESIDENCE.

(d) Formed from Franklin and Middleburg from 1891 to 1894; Alfred Specht of Beavertown from 1894 to 1897; P. Scott Ritter of Shamokin Dan from 1897 to the present time.
(e) Organized since 1880 from a part of Beaver.
(f) Formed from Chapman April 23, 1869.

OFFICERS OF SNYDER COUNTY.—We give below a list of the officers of Snyder County that have served since the organization of the County and the members of the Legislature.

REGISTER & RECORDER.—Frederick Mertz, 1855 to 1858; A. J. Peters, 1858 to 1861; John Dorn, 1861 to 1864; Jacob Aurand, 1864 to 1867; Samuel S. Shuck, 1867 to 1873; James M. VanZandt, 1873 to 1885; H. J. Duck, 1885 to 1891;



D. A. KERN.

and H. J. Heiser, 1891 to 1894; James Erdley, Thomas Herlster and Phares Herman, 1894 to 1897; Wm. Dresser, Isaac Spotts and Phares Herman, 1897 to 1900.
TREASURERS.—Frederick Rathfon, 1856 to '57; Isaac D. Boyer, 1857 to '59; R. W. Kern, 1859 to

Ner Middleswarth, Henry W. Sanders elected 1855; Daniel Rohr elected 1857; Henry Smith, 1857 to 1859; J. Y. Shindel, 1859; F. C. Moyer, 1859; H. S. Boyer, 1860; E. Bross, 1861; J. Y. Shindel, 1861; Specht and David Schwenk, 1861