

A GRAFTLESS COUNCIL.

Those who oppose the municipal ownership of the public water system on the ground that it would result in a carnival of graft, will find an interesting statement in the report of the last meeting of council in this issue of THE STAR. The street committee of council had general charge of the construction of the big culvert over Pitch Pine Run, and if ever there was an opportunity for "easy money" it was there. Yet their report shows that the whole cost of construction will not exceed \$800, a sum so small that it had been the marvel of all who watched the progress of the work. There is one instance of a small bridge near town, constructed by contract, where the concrete floor alone cost about \$1,000. The borough's portion of the new culvert was 244 feet long, with a height of 4 feet, a breadth of 15 feet, and a solid concrete bottom runs throughout. The price is pretty good evidence that there is one municipal body in the state that is not tainted with graft and which can be trusted to honestly administer the financial affairs of the town, even if those affairs should become much more important than at present.

POLITICAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

Prohibition Candidate for Assembly—

ANDREW W. SMITH  
Of Washington Township, Jefferson Co.  
General Election Tuesday, Nov. 8, 1910.  
I will be honored by your support.

Notice!

JOHN W. SLAYTON  
Socialist Candidate for Governor  
Will deliver a lecture in the  
Centennial Hall, Reynoldsville  
Thursday, October 13

ADMISSION - FREE  
Women Especially Invited

Don't miss this opportunity to hear a most excellent lecture on very important issues.

BUSINESS CARDS.

- E. NEFF  
JUSTICE OF THE PEACE,  
Pension Attorney and Real Estate Agent.  
SMITH M. MCCREIGHT,  
ATTORNEY-AT-LAW,  
Notary public and real estate agent (collections will receive prompt attention). Office in the Reynoldsville Hardware Co. building Main street Reynoldsville, Pa.  
RAYMOND E. BROWN,  
ATTORNEY AT LAW,  
BROOKVILLE, PA.  
G. M. McDONALD,  
ATTORNEY-AT-LAW,  
Real estate agent, patents secured, collections made promptly. Office in Syndicate building, Reynoldsville, Pa.  
DR. B. E. HOOVER,  
DENTIST,  
Resident dentist. In the Hoover building Main street. Gentleness in operating.  
DR. L. L. MEANS,  
DENTIST,  
Office on second floor of the First National Bank building, Main street.  
DR. R. DEVERE KING,  
DENTIST,  
Office on second floor of the Syndicate building, Main street, Reynoldsville, Pa.  
HENRY PRIESTER  
UNDERTAKER.  
Black and white funeral cars. Main street Reynoldsville, Pa.  
HUGHES & FLEMING,  
FUNERAL DIRECTORS.  
Main Street, Reynoldsville, Pa.  
ROYAL ARCANUM,  
REYNOLDSVILLE, PA.  
Meets every second and fourth Thursday in I. O. O. F. hall.

THE FIELD OF GETTYSBURG.

The following sketch of the famous field of Gettysburg, written by Major John McMurray, of Brookville, will be of interest to every veteran.

Last week we made our first trip to Gettysburg. We were not in that battle, nor had we visited the battlefield during all the years since the war closed.

On Tuesday, September 27th, the fine monument erected by the state in honor of the Pennsylvania soldiers who fought at Gettysburg, was formally dedicated, and in company with many thousands of old soldiers and citizens we were present to witness the ceremonies and honor the occasion.

It is impossible to state how many visitors were present but the crowd was as large as any that ever visited the town since the battle was fought. We heard it estimated at thirty thousand, but think that estimate too large. However, the crowd present was an immense one, but it was orderly, good natured, and was well handled. The people of Gettysburg have become skillful in handling the large companies of people who go there from time to time.

The memorial structure erected by the state in honor of her sons who fought at Gettysburg is an imposing structure. We cannot give its dimensions, but it is large. It is a square structure, forty feet square, and forty feet high. The distinguishing feature about it is the series of tablets arranged about it at the base, on the outside, each tablet bearing a complete roster of a Pennsylvania regiment or battery that fought at Gettysburg. Each tablet, made of brass, or brass and copper, bears the names of all the officers and men who were in the battle. Of course the killed, wounded and missing cannot be designated. We understand here are over seventeen thousand names on these tablets. This indicates the number of men the state of Pennsylvania had in the battle—about one-fourth of the men Meade took into the fight. So far this memorial has cost over one hundred and fifty thousand dollars, and it is not completed.

The dedicatory services were brief and simple, and took place Tuesday afternoon. There was a prayer by Chaplain M. B. Biddle of Pittsburg; an address by General H. S. Huldekoper on the part of the commission that erected the memorial, turning it over to the state; Governor Stuart's address accepting it for the state; an oration by General James W. Latta, on behalf of the state infantry; an address by General D. McM. Gregg, on behalf of the state cavalry, and one by Captain James A. Gardner, on behalf of the state artillery. These addresses were all brief. We have not room to repeat any of them except the Governor's which was as follows:

"Soldiers of the Army of the Potomac:

"Of all the places made historic and immortal by heroic deeds there is none toward which the patriot turns with greater reverence of interest than Gettysburg. Here it was that the flower of the north and south met in battle array; here it was that the waves of rebellion broke and fell before the stern and unyielding bravery of the Army of the Potomac, and receded, never to return; here is found the story of courage, of bravery and fortitude, the like of which will ever remain unequalled. Forgetting not the men of other states who fought upon this field, we are here today especially to honor the heroic sons of Pennsylvania who here fought in defense of their country.

"And now, in the presence of your surviving comrades of the Army of the Potomac and the people of Pennsylvania, who have honored this occasion by their presence, I wish to express my sincere appreciation and thankfulness for the services rendered to the commonwealth by the Gettysburg Battlefield Memorial commission, and, as Governor of Pennsylvania, representing all her people, I accept from your hands this enduring evidence of a people's regard, which, for all time will be known as 'Pennsylvania's Memorial,' placed in honor of the soldiery of Pennsylvania who served this country at Gettysburg, feeling that it will always remain an inspiration to the succeeding generations, and remind them of the deeds that made this place immortal, remembering also that to those who fought here and to those who stood the test on the other fields of conflict, we are indebted for the preservation of the freest and best republic the world has ever known."

As we said at the beginning of our article, this was our first visit to Gettysburg. What we saw there was a revelation to us. We had taken part in a few battles, and had seen several battlefields, but had never seen anything beginning to equal this field of Gettysburg. The lines occupied by the two armies were over seven miles in extent, forming nearly a circle, enclosing several thousand acres of land. The Union lines were south of the town, nearly in a straight line, a little over two miles long. The Confederate lines extended around the west, north and east sides of the town, in a circular form, and were a little over five miles in length. The battle covered three

days, July 1st, 2nd and 3rd, of 1863. The fighting did not extend along the entire lines of either army, but took place at intervals. The armies numbered from 70,000 to 80,000 men each, General Meade's forces outnumbering Lee's by a few thousand. The most fighting was done during the first two days, in which the confederates had the advantage both days, especially the first day. The first day's fighting was done by Ewell's and Hill's Confederate corps, and Reynolds' and Howard's corps of the Union army. The heaviest fighting the first day, and the principal part of it, was done west of the town, out the Chambersburg turnpike. There General Reynolds, commanding the First corps, was killed. Some fighting was also done north and northeast of the town.

The heaviest fighting the second day was southwest of the town, along the Emmettsburg road, in the peach orchard, in the Wheatfield, around Devil's Den and the two Round Tops. This fighting was the result of Longstreet's corps attempting to get possession of the two Round Tops. It was in the second day's fighting, near the Peach Orchard and Wheatfield that General Sickles lost his right leg by a cannon ball. Sickles' stout resistance prevented Longstreet from gaining the two Round Tops, and really saved the battle of Gettysburg, for if Longstreet had gained those points the battle of Gettysburg would have been lost forever to Meade. While the desperate fighting was going on between Sickles and Longstreet there was also more or less fighting east of the town and around Culp's Hill, which Ewell was trying to occupy. The second day closed with Meade's troops all south of the town, and occupying Culp's Hill, Cemetery Ridge and Big and Little Round Tops, and the ground between Cemetery Ridge and the Round tops, and in front of Big Round Top.

Failing to get possession of the Round Tops Lee was compelled to assault Meade's position and drive him from it, or withdraw. He decided to assault the line about midway between the summit of Cemetery Ridge and Little Round Top. The assault was made about 4 o'clock on the afternoon of the third day, and was the only fighting of that day. The assault is known to us as Pickett's Charge. The Confederates call it Longstreet's assault.

Lee's purpose in this assault was to break Meade's line, thus cutting his army in two. All forenoon of the third day the armies remained quiet, and continued so until 4 o'clock in the afternoon. Between three and four o'clock the Confederates opened fire on the Union line with more than a hundred cannon, directing their fire against the center of Meade's line, held by Hancock's corps. For a while the Union artillery replied to the Confederate fire, but soon ceased. Long before the charge began the Union guns were quiet. About four o'clock the Confederate column was seen to emerge from the woods directly opposite to Hancock's position. It came in three lines of battle. The assaulting column numbered eighteen thousand men. It is most frequently spoken of as the charge of Pickett's division, but Pickett's men formed a good deal less than half the assaulting force. It numbered nearly as many North Carolina soldiers as Virginians. The distance from Lee's guns to Hancock's line was exactly a mile and an eighth. That was the distance the column had to march to reach our line. The first half of the distance was marched in ordinary time. Then the men quickened their pace as they neared our position. The terrible havoc wrought in the assaulting column was during the last half of the distance they traveled, where they suffered terribly from our artillery and as they neared our line also from our musketry. But on the column came until, decimated, torn, and bleeding about two thousand of them flung themselves against Hancock's low stone breastworks. A thousand or more, after a hand to hand contest with our men, got inside Hancock's line, only to be killed or captured. General Armistead, commanding a Confederate brigade, was killed about four rods inside of our lines.

This ended the fighting at Gettysburg, and that night Lee began his march back to Virginia. The first two days was almost entirely in his favor, but the third day he risked everything on Longstreet's assault, and failed, thus losing the battle. What the loss was in this charge I do not know. According to the reports made by the two armies, Lee's loss during the three days fighting at Gettysburg was 15,554 killed and wounded, and 7,465 missing, or prisoners. Meade's loss was 17,684 killed and wounded, and 5,365 missing, or prisoners. Lee's total loss was 23,029, and Meade's 23,049.

The Confederates reached high water mark at Gettysburg. Up to that time their armies in the east had been almost uniformly successful. From that time forward they met defeat after defeat, until the surrender at Appomattox. JOHN McMURRAY.

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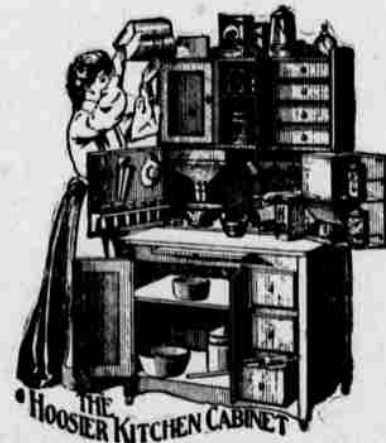
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