

THE TIMES.

Local Department.

Brief Items.

Hon. David H. Shelbly has our thanks for a copy of *Small's Hand book for 1877*.

The Democratic County Convention will be held in the Court House in this borough, on Monday, the 27th inst.

John Rice has the thanks of our boys for a lot of fresh sweet cider. A Murphy man would not refuse it.

Mr. Grier, last week had thirty-three city boarders enjoying the accommodations of his pretty place on the hill.

Very material changes have been made in the running of trains over the Reading road. For new schedule see page 8.

William R. Dunn, had several bushels of wheat stolen from his granary last Wednesday night while he was in Bloomfield, serving as juror.

For the full and interesting report of the court proceedings which we publish this week, we are indebted to Charles H. Smiley, Esq.

A daily mail route has been established from Newport to Lakesburg via Marketville. This will be a great accommodation to citizens of that part of the county.

An exchange advertises "the prettiest things in corsets, for 75 cents." The prettiest thing we ever saw in corsets was a young woman, but no one would have thought of buying her for 75 cents.

George W. Morton, of Sterretts Gap, this county, while threshing near Mechanicburg on Saturday a week, had his arm so badly smashed that it had to be amputated near the shoulder.

Mr. J. A. NEWCOMER knows how to run a good hotel. Stop at the American House, at East Waterford, Pa., and you will be convinced of the fact. His table can't be excelled. Careful hostler always in attendance.

The friends of Mr. Willard at Marysville say that he did not commit suicide but was undoubtedly killed by falling, while passing over the train, as the blood on the wheels show that he was killed by the seventh car.

As the Pittsburgh express West was passing through Duanecon on Tuesday night some malicious scamp threw a stone in a window of the car containing members of a brass band on their way home from Kingston to Pittsburgh.

Eph. Jones is again prepared to serve out meat. It is not often that a butcher has so pretty a vehicle, but as Eph. is a number one butcher he is entitled to a "nobby wagon." His many old friends and customers will be glad to again have an opportunity to patronize him.

The Councilor of the S. C., of the O. U. A. M., of Pa., has appointed as Deputy State Councilors of Perry county, the following named persons to serve for one year:—Wm. H. Kaey of the 61st District; Geo. W. Reeder of the 62nd District, and Charles Dickinson of the 63rd District.

The Excelsior Literary Society will hold its first picnic in Little Germany on Saturday, August 25th, 1877. H. H. McKeehan, James G. Neilson, Andrew Kistler, Geo. W. Gehr and several other popular speakers are expected to address the Society. No huckstering except for the benefit of the Society. JOHN RICE, Secretary.

Last Tuesday a strange dog, of the bound species, came to Mr. James T. Freeland's hotel, on Duncan's Island, and took refuge under a bench in the bar room. A young man named Styles Brooken attempted to chain the strange canine, when it turned upon him and bit him in the wrist of the right hand, inflicting several severe scratches. The dog then ran into the street and fought with several dogs, meanwhile being shot at by Brooken and missed. The animal then headed across Clark's Ferry bridge to the Dauphin county side of the river, followed by Brooken. The young man chased him two miles up the road, the dog meanwhile swimming across the canal and entering a culvert, eluding his pursuer.

Church Notices.

Preaching in the Lutheran Church next Sunday at 10 1/2 A. M. Prayer meeting every Wednesday evening.

Preaching in the M. E. Church next Sunday at 10 1/2 A. M. Sunday School at 9 A. M. Prayer meeting every Thursday evening.

Preaching in the Reformed Church next Sunday at 2 1/2 o'clock P. M.

Presbyterian Church—Preaching next Sabbath at 10 1/2 A. M. Prayer meeting on Wednesday at 8 P. M.

Scared Farmers.—At Baskinsville, Perry county side of the Clark's Ferry or Juniata bridge, a report was circulated last evening that a panther is prowling about the neighborhood of Powell's church, in the valley. On Sunday a long and slender backed animal, of a mouse color was observed by a Mr Snyder, who pronounced it a panther. The cries of the beast were heard by a number of farmers, and some four or five parties have been hunting for it since Sunday. It is presumed the beast strayed away from its haunts on Mahontong mountain above the ferry.—*Patriot of 9th inst.*

Small Business.—On Monday last, this town was visited by the Constable of Marysville who brought with him nine of the employees of the N. C. R. W., who had been arrested at the instigation of 'Squire W. W. Farnsworth for breaking the Sabbath. People will be glad to hear that the 'Squire has become so con-

scientious, but it strikes us that his piety has broken out in the wrong place. Everyone knows that railroad men are sometimes compelled to work on Sunday, and to arrest them and make them lose the next day is very small business. A writ of certiorari was taken out in each case and the men returned to their duties. Perhaps after a while the people of Marysville will properly appreciate Mr. Farnsworth, if they do not by this time.

Attacked by Dogs.—On last Sunday evening as J. H. Zimmerman, foreman of this office, was on his way home from the northern part of Juniata township, where he had gone on Saturday afternoon to pay a visit to his uncle, and as he was walking leisurely along, about three miles from town, he passed a farm house when two large dogs made their appearance in the road in front of him. He turned to one side thinking that he would walk around them, when one jumped up and caught hold of a pocket handkerchief which he had tied around his neck. He struck the dog a powerful blow on the side of the head with his fist, stunning the dog so that he fell to the ground. He took a revolver from his pocket and immediately the dog made another attack when he fired, the ball taking effect in the dog's nose, and frightening the other so that he ran to the house. After standing and bleeding a short time the wounded dog renewed the attack when another shot was fired, and the dog fell lifeless to the ground, the ball having passed through his head. The owner of the dogs stood inside the fence and calmly watched all that was going on until the affair was over, when he caught hold of the dog to drag him to the house, and said: "Well, d— it, I told the old woman this morning somebody would kill that dog if we didn't pen him up."—*News.*

Court Proceedings.—Court convened at the ringing of the bell on Monday the 6th inst. at one o'clock, with Hon. B. F. Junkin and his associates on the Bench.

The reports of the Constables were received, and the Grand Jury called and sworn, and after receiving elaborate instructions from the Court were started to work. The usual miscellaneous business was taken up, and a large number of petitions were presented. Applications made and prayers were heard and answered.

A petition for the incorporation of the Borough of Blain was submitted to the Grand Jury in addition to an unusually large number of bills of indictment. This petition was reserved by the Grand Jury until all the bills before them were passed upon when it was taken up and returned with their approval. Application was made for the appointment of viewers to assess damages that would be sustained by the Newport Bridge Company upon the same being declared a free bridge in accordance with the Act of Assembly, and Henry Rhesmith, Dr. D. B. Milliken, Dr. Wm. Hays, Samuel Spotts, Robert Neilson and John S. Reber were appointed; 15 days' notice of the time of view to be given to the public and the County Commissioners. The trial list and the list of jurors were called over, and Court adjourned until 8 o'clock on Tuesday morning. The first case taken up on Tuesday morning was Francis English vs. John Borrell, Administrator, etc., of George Markel, late of Saville twp., deceased. This was an action brought for the recovery of compensation for service rendered by the Plaintiff to the decedent and his wife during their lifetime, and expenses incurred for their funerals. The Plaintiff was a son-in-law of decedent, and his claim was resisted by the heirs of George Markel, dec'd. It was a case of heirs quarreling over their patrimony, and another illustration of the cow being pulled by the horns and jerked by the tail while the milk was running into other people's buckets. The whole of Tuesday was occupied in the trial of this case. On the following morning the twelve men, "good and true," to whom the case was committed, reported that it was their unanimous opinion that the Plaintiff was entitled to a verdict of \$450.75.

At the conclusion of the trial his Honor Judge Junkin announced that the very large amount of criminal business to be disposed of would make it impossible to try more than one or two cases on the civil list, and accordingly two cases were selected and the remainder continued and the witnesses discharged.

Wednesday morning the pool was opened, the District Attorney troubled the waters, and the Commonwealth waded in for the healing of her injuries. The first culprit who came in was Wm. H. Harman. The garments of this man smelled of the Penitentiary. A few years ago he was convicted in this county on a charge of forgery, and his neighbors, with dry eyes, witnessed his departure for the East, where he became for a time the guest of the Commonwealth. Soon after his release his footsteps were on his native heath, and in order to satisfy the people of the county that he had returned with uninjured health, he whipped his sister, came into Court through the County Jail on a charge of assault and battery and was acquitted. His peculiar genius next was exhibited in the stealing of a horse from Mr. Solomon Kerchner at Liverpool.—He left a note upon the premises informing Mr. Kerchner that a neighbor had borrowed his horse, of which the readers of the *Times* were informed in a recent issue. However, the strong arm of the law was thrown around William, he was conveyed back to his old home in the County Jail and came into Court, pleaded "Guilty," and was sentenced to the Eastern Penitentiary for a term of three years.

The next case was that of L. Green

and John Clifford, two colored gentlemen who had offended the peace and dignity of the Commonwealth by stealing three chickens from Mr. Gantt at Millerstown. They confessed their guilt and were sentenced to pay the costs of prosecution.

This was followed by the case of the Com. vs. Charles Gardner, alias Charles Long, and William Moore alias William Long, indictment, Burglary. Sometime since, these two men came into the house of Samuel J. Loy, in this county, near Loyville, were entertained by him during the night, and left his premises the next morning. That same evening the house of Mr. Loy was entered and a silver watch was stolen. Suspicion attached to these parties, they were pursued to Carlisle, arrested, and the watch recovered. The parties were confined in the Cumberland County Jail until last Monday morning when Sheriff Williamson brought them over for trial. Moore pleaded guilty, went upon the witness stand and swore that he alone was the man who committed the crime, and that Gardner had no connection with it whatever. Having no counsel, Messrs. McIndre and Markel were appointed by the Court to conduct his defence. Verdict of not guilty.

The case of the Commonwealth vs. Charles Houser, alias Clarence Dunn was an indictment for horse stealing. At May Sessions 1876, Clarence R. Dunn was indicted for stealing a horse from the Messrs. Kilne, at Liverpool and upon being brought into Court pleaded guilty. He was sentenced for two years to the Eastern Penitentiary. Seven days after his release, a horse was stolen from the stable of Wm. Klatter, a tenant on the farm of Samuel Spotts near Landisburg, and a saddle and bridle were missing from the stable of David Long in the same neighborhood. Pursuit was made and information gained that a horse, saddle and bridle, closely answering the description of those above mentioned had been in Carlisle the next morning after they were missed and that they had passed down the turnpike from there through New Cumberland, and on through Wrightsville. Dunn was suspected, and after considerable search was arrested in Harrisburg where he dropped the musical cognomen that was associated with crime, and assumed the more sonorous name of Houser. He was identified as the same party that had made use of both names. Under a recent Act of Assembly he was permitted to go upon the witness stand and testify in his own behalf. "He told a very ingenious story in which he admitted that he had traveled over the route above described with a horse and equipments answering the same description but that he was entrusted with the delivery of them by a certain Mr. Johnson living near Dillsburg to certain parties living in Millersville, Lancaster Co. His reason for not being ready with this complete defense was that having been confined in the Dauphin county Jail, for safe keeping he could not communicate with counsel or witnesses and hence was not prepared. His Honor remarked in charging the jury that if they found him guilty he would not be sentenced until Mr. Johnson was brought into Court and either corroborated or denied the story. The jury found him guilty.

John E. Wilson was arraigned on Wednesday evening on a charge of larceny. This defendant was a young man of fine appearance, who wore good clothes and took his seat in the Court room with the airs and ease of a distinguished visitor. Having no counsel Messrs. McIntire and Selbert were selected for him. It was alleged that during the summer he called one morning at the house of John Sailor, Constable of the Borough of Newport, and asked for something to eat. Mrs. Sailor kindly invited him to sit down and eat his breakfast. While eating he heard the family talk of getting ready to attend a funeral. Taking advantage of the information thus gained he waited his opportunity and while the family were absent, broke into the rear of the house and, passing from the basement to the attic secured a revolver, a sum of money and other articles. Late in the day he was followed and captured at Perryville. While his captors were conveying him to Mexico where the warrant for his arrest had been issued he jumped into the canal and dexterously flung into the water stolen property in his possession. These articles were afterwards fished out and produced on the trial. He readily created the impression that he was a professional thief, and the evidence was so clear against him that very little deliberation enabled the Jury to return a verdict of guilty.

This was followed by the case of the Commonwealth vs. William Parker, alias William Taylor. This was the party suspected of having committed a murderous assault on Charles Raub and his wife some time since. Being an old man, deaf, dumb and friendless, he was unable to make much of a defense. A letter written in a good hand in the possession of his counsel denied his guilt, and spoke, in the kindest manner of the Raub family. The evidence against him was clear enough to justify the Jury in returning a verdict of guilty without leaving the box.

The case of the Commonwealth vs. Emanuel K. Bitting, John Sheaffer and Samuel E. Albright, indictment, Larceny and receiving stolen goods, came up next. This being Thursday and the day appointed for the hearing of surety of the Peace cases, the trial was suspended until they were disposed of. The first came up from the bosom of Fishing Creek Valley and was a complaint made by Joel Sharp vs. Samuel C. Grier and Simon Brubaker. It was only a fight on the highway, but it was history repeating itself. This was not the first time that the hill-sides of Grier's Point reverberated with the alterations of these belligerents and as it required both parties to make the fight, the Court directed that each party pay his costs and enter into his own recognizance in the sum of \$50, to keep the Peace.

No. 2 was a charge against Mary Rinehart on the oath of Elizabeth Bollinger. Both parties live in the lower part of Fishing Creek Valley, which has of late years become so prolific of petty criminal business, and the interest manifested by different parties upon both sides, called forth a reprimand from the Bench

for certain individuals who have been instrumental in thus blurring the reputation of this neighborhood. It proved to be simply a battle of the amazons, in which the weapons were words, the ammunition was slang, and the result, the county pay the costs of prosecution.

No. 3 was a charge against Roland Smith, Francis S. Gibson and Curtis E. Showalter, of Landisburg Borough. As this was a local conflict, in the midst of the great National excitement it was humorously characterized as the strike of The People's Freight Railway. The moral influence of the respectable citizens quelled the disturbance without a call for troops. It originated in the use of too much fire-water by some of the young pale face braves, who struck a trail and raised the war-whoop. Before any tomahawks were flourished or scalps raised the war was ended, and the home of their fathers was quiet as the deep woods. The Court decided, after a full investigation of the outbreak, that Gibson enter into recognizance in the sum of \$50 with one surety to keep the peace, and pay the costs of prosecution. That Roland Smith enter in to his own recognizance in the same sum, for the same purpose, and the complaint be dismissed, as to Showalter. All parties took a whiff of the enlivenment, gathered up their blankets and started towards the setting sun.

Curtis E. Showalter who had been indicted for assault and battery growing out of the above mentioned proceedings, pleaded guilty, and was sentenced to pay a fine of \$1.00 and pay the costs of prosecution.

No. 4 was a case from Carroll twp., in which Mrs. Joseph Brownell complained that Nelson Mendlinghall had called her names, shot at her dog and did other diabolical things to vex and harass her. The defendant proved that she hissed her dog upon him, called him names that were not suggestive of purity, virtue, high birth or good citizenship. The Court after investigation directed that each party pay their own costs and that the Prosecutrix pay the costs of prosecution.

No. 5 was the case of the Commonwealth vs. Margaret Lantz upon complaint of Isaac Crawford, and came from the lower end of the well-known Fishing Creek Valley. The allegation was that the gentle Margaret had suddenly started upon a rampage, and after the breeze had blown into a tempest, the said Isaac heard angry mutterings break forth to the effect that she would kill his chickens, his poor, unsuspecting feathered personal property whenever in their search for victuals they should attempt to gobble a worm or swallow a gravel stone upon her premises, and further that she might possibly be induced to destroy everything he had.—Margaret bathed in tears, earnestly denied the truth of the allegations and bitterly complained of the *allegator*, but the Court deemed her in fault and directed her to pay the costs of prosecution and stand committed until the sentence was complied with. This closed the surety of the peace cases. William Lindsay who had been indicted for fornication and bastardy was discharged because the Prosecutrix was not present, and this was the third Court at which the case was pending.

And the case of the Commonwealth vs. Bitting, et al., was again resumed. The defendants were charged in the bill of Indictment with Larceny and receiving stolen goods. On the night of the 15th of June last some twenty odd pieces of meat were taken from the barn of Mr. Jacob Buck in Buffalo township. Examination the following morning showed the footprints of a horse leading from the barn down the road to Bitting's stable. A search warrant was procured, the stable of Bitting was entered and one of his mares was found to have a decidedly strong odor of smoked meat clinging to her neck and shoulders, and further that the shoe of the mare corresponded exactly with the track they had followed from Buck's barn. The houses of Bitting and Sheaffer were searched but none of the missing meat was found. Sheaffer's declarations to certain parties afterwards, were to the effect that he, assisted by the two other defendants stole the meat and hid it among the paw paw bushes on an island in the river, and a subsequent examination of the ground seemed to indicate that meat of the kind that was stolen had been hidden there. Sheaffer was closely hedged in by his other declarations and surrounding circumstances, but the two other defendants sought to prove an *alibi*. Bitting proved himself so beastly drunk on this night at his own house that he was unable to distinguish the difference between a cured hog and his mother's own son, and Albright claimed to have passed the same night on the side of the Half Falls Mountain with three companions, two bottles of whiskey and a deck of cards. Much evidence was given on both sides, the general tendency of which was to establish the fact that the region of country round about Montgomery's Ferry would be a good field of operation for a few able bodied missionaries, and that no footsteps of any apostles of the Murphy movement had ever crushed the weeds of intemperance in this corner of the moral vineyard. When the great moral question "who stole the ham?" was submitted to the Jury, they gave as their deliberate judgment in the premises that all three were guilty. Immediately after the verdict was rendered a motion for a new trial was made by Defendant's counsel, which was entertained by the Court, and held over until the Argument Court in September.

The case of the Commonwealth vs. Leo Lantz, indictment, Larceny, was called. This Leo, so suggestive of the shaggy animal industriously engaged in disembowling the defenseless man on the back of John Bear's Almanac, was charged with appropriating the vital parts of an unraised church. This young man who had been incarcerated in Castle Williamson, grew tired of the monotonous enjoyment of playing checkers with his nose through a grated window, and having broke out of the jail skipped over the rugged top of Mahoney with the same feelings that animated Tell when he breathed the air of liberty on the mountain tops of his beloved Switzerland. As he came from near Marysville, (in the lower end of Fishing Creek Valley,) some further

development was expected, and the result showed that a recognizance had been entered into for his delivery from the jail about the time of his escape, but that Justice Farnsworth had seen proper to alter the amount from \$50 to \$200, without the knowledge of the recognizer and consequently the recognizance was respected.

The Commonwealth vs. Samuel Lantz was a charge of wilfully, maliciously, with malice aforethought, not having the fear of God before his eyes but being moved and instigated thereto by the Devil, stealing and carrying away a portion of the American, African, Methodist Episcopal, Zion Church, near Marysville, (which is in the lower end of Fishing Creek Valley.) The offending minister of this church, who is a colored woman, seems to have encountered as much trouble from the carnal minded people in this neck of woods as ever came over Donn Platt's Methodist Monumental Memorial Church with chimas attached. Samuel, however, seems to have done nothing with a criminal intention and was found not guilty.

Then the case of the Commonwealth vs. Wellington W. Farnsworth came on to be heard. Wellington is a Justice of the Peace, or more properly speaking a piece of a Justice in the Borough of Marysville (which is in the lower part of Fishing Creek Valley) and was indicted for forgery. He was accused of forging the names of S. H. Morley and John Rhiver to his official bond. This Justice although a small man, has wrestled with a larger amount of criminal business in the past four years, and presented more bills to the County for services in this way than any other Justice from the Round Top to the Susquehanna. The 'Squire has been a conspicuous object at each successive term of our Courts bounding around like a Kangaroo with a stone bruise and creating wonder in the minds of spectators as to how the Courts would be managed if a dispensation of Providence should call him hence. The evidence seemed to justify the conclusion that the scenes which have known him for four long years would soon know him no more as the great legal luminary that dispelled the darkness which brooded over them, when his Honor from the Bench announced that a legal interpretation of the law would interpose the statute of limitation as a bar to conviction, the offence having been committed for more than two years before the prosecution was commenced. The Jury were instructed that they would have to return a verdict of not guilty, but if they were of opinion that any thing was "rotten in Denmark" they could impose the costs upon him. A very short time spent in deliberation enabled them to return a verdict of not guilty in accordance with the charge of the Court, but that Defendant pay the costs.

The next Jury was sworn to try whether Wm. A. Kingsborough was guilty of Fornication and Bastardy, as was alleged by Susan Hassinger. After hearing the evidence and the charge of the Court, the Jury were of opinion that his offence was not rank, and did not smell unto high Heaven, and that he was not guilty, but should pay the costs, after the manner of the Irish Jury's verdict, "Not guilty, but don't it any more."

The next case was the Com. vs. Jacob Kinert (from near Marysville in the lower end of Fishing Creek Valley). Jacob was charged with malicious mischief in shooting a hog of Joseph G. Dare. This hog had come on Jacob's land for the purpose of gratifying a little *mathematical* curiosity, and was diligently engaged in the investigation of a matter in a *square root* when Jacob hove in sight. He drove the hog for a short distance to a lonely dell, from which not even the reverberating echoes of his gun might escape, and there shot down in his own tracks the porcine intruder.—The Judge instructed the Jury that they should examine the matter with regard to malice on the part of Defendant; that if he had killed the hog on his own land while it was committing its depredations, it was not malicious mischief, but if he had driven it for some distance for the purpose of wantonly and cruelly killing it through malice or ill will then he was guilty. They found a verdict of Not Guilty, but Jacob to pay the costs. As the trial of cases from Marysville and the lower end of Fishing Creek Valley had become monotonous, that region was dropped and Wheatfield township's criminality was next investigated. John McDonald charged Samuel Fonk with false pretence, in inducing him to become his surety to a note upon the representation that a certain party in Fishing Creek Valley was deeply indebted to him, and that upon a certain day he would receive a sufficient amount of bucksheesh from the Howards to pay off the loan he had contracted, all of which Mr. McDonald afterwards discovered was only a beautiful dream in which Samuel had revelled. The offence, however, having been committed more than two years before the indictment was made, the statute of limitation intervened, and a nolle prosequi was entered by the Court.

The last case on the calendar was a charge of larceny against Joe and Zack Page, Samuel Baker and Wesley Miller. The Page boys had traded a mule to James Flynn for a mare and colt, and after the mare was taken home they were soon led to believe that Flynn had come the Giraffe over them. Believing they had been cheated, they came under the cover of night and took out of Flynn's stable this unimpaired representative of a despised race "without pride of ancestry, or hope of posterity." This mule created a great deal of merriment in Court. The Irish wit of Jimmy Flynn who strove to impress the Court and Jury with a sense of the deep wrong he had suffered, enlivening the late hours of Saturday night, and when the Court announced that the crime of larceny had not been proven against the Defendants, curses not loud but deep, were muttered by the Prosecutor and his retainers. This was the last case and the prisoners who had not been sentenced were brought in, when the judgment of the Court was pronounced as follows: John E. Wilson was sentenced to 60 days in the County Jail; William Moore alias William Loog was sentenced to two years in the Penitentiary and William Parker alias William Taylor, three years in separate and solitary confinement.—Court then adjourned until 9 o'clock on Monday morning for the purpose of finishing up some miscellaneous business.

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