

THE TIMES.

New Bloomfield, Dec. 31, 1878.

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IT IS THE intention of some parties to get another new county formed at the next session of the Legislature. The proposition is to take a piece from each Centre, Clearfield and Blair.

ONE of those unreconciled Mississippi papers says: "The questions of the war have simply been removed from the battle-field to the ballot-box. The principles of the southern people must and shall rule this country."

GENERAL TOOMBS says that if the south must remain under Radical rule for another term, he wants "a full lion—not a sneaking sheep." Grant, he says, is a full lion, and he has respect for him, "because he kills or wins."

ENGLAND is now in a sad condition, owing to the financial troubles. To these is to be added the trouble caused by reduction of wages and strikes. At a meeting of the Board of Trade in Shields, Mr. Palmer, M. P. for the Durham, said that a revival of trade could only be brought about by workmen and employers uniting to secure production at the least possible cost. It was useless to haggle over an hour daily, or 2d or 3d per day, when mines and manufacturing were being closed in their midst. He did not believe in the cry of protection or over-production. Production at the minimum of cost would always command the markets of the world.

Petroleum in New Jersey.

The discovery of petroleum in the cellar of John Roover's house in Marshall street, Paterson, continues to be the principal topic in that neighborhood. So many persons rushed to see it that Roover had to lock up his cellar. Several have burned the oil taken from the cellar in their lamps. Lots in the neighborhood that were not considered worth \$200 a few days ago are now held at \$1,000, while the owner of the adjacent property says he would not take \$10,000 for his place. Whether there really is a deposit of oil in the rock or not remains to be proven; but all who have investigated the case say they are satisfied that it is just as represented.

A Sad Case.

Willie Williams was taken from the poorhouse in Detroit when he was a little boy, and made a drudge in a physicians family. He was sent to school, where he frequently complained of hard work at home, insufficient food, and severe punishment. A few days ago he went to market with \$5 to make some purchases. He returned with the change \$2 short, and said, on being questioned, that he spent the missing money for a pistol with which to shoot himself. The physician tried to take the weapon away from him, but he ran into another room, locked the door, and committed suicide. A man who would so abuse an orphan boy ought to receive the attentions of Judge Lynch.

A Girl Killed by a Threshing Machine.

One day last week Miss Mary Finley, house-keeper for Mr. Farlow, of Sewickley township, Westmoreland county, met death in a horrible manner. Mr. Farlow was threshing with a separator at the barn, when Miss Finley and two other young ladies left the house for the purpose of witnessing the operation.

The separator is connected with the other machinery by means of a horizontal shaft known in connection with old threshing machines as the "tumbling-shaft," and runs but a few inches above the ground. Over this two of the young ladies stepped in safety, and were being followed by Miss Finley, who, while in the act of crossing the rapidly revolving shaft, committed the fatal error of stopping for an instant to reach back for one of the children who had followed them. Quick as thought her clothing was seized by the shaft, when the unfortunate young lady was drawn beneath it and whirled around again and again, her body passing through the limited space between the ground and shaft, and striking the earth with a sickening thud at each revolution. The machine was stopped as soon as possible, but too late. The poor girl was dead, and her body mangled and mutilated in the most frightful manner.

Mrs. Norris' Story.

This lady who was chloroformed, gagged, crushed, and robbed at the Tremont House in Boston on the night of December 12th, gives in detail the story of the crime. She went to Boston several days ago for the purpose of completing a business transaction by which she was to receive money that she relied upon to raise a chattel mortgage on January 1st. After a short visit with her sister, who lives in West Medway, a little distance from Boston, she went into Boston to meet by appointment the gentleman from whom she expected the money.

As he was to take a train for the West and was only to pass through Boston, for convenience Mrs. Norris met him at the depot and received \$150, the gentleman going on West. Mrs. Norris went to the Tremont House, expecting to pass the night there. While walking up Tremont street she saw a tall man with a heavy dark beard and she thought that he was watching and following her, but when she got to the hotel she forgot all about him. Later in the afternoon, while in Washington street, she saw the same man again, and this time she was certain that he was following her.

In the same evening Mrs. Norris went to the theatre with an old family friend, and while there suddenly saw the dark eyes of the tall man fixed upon her. This made her nervous, and she spoke to her friend about it, but he thought the matter was of no consequence.

When she returned to the Tremont House she went direct to her room, having requested her escort first to have the office clerk to call her at 7 in the morning, as she wished to see her uncle, who was an employee in the Sixpenny Savings Bank, before she took the train for New York. The first Mrs. Norris did after entering her room was to bolt the door—there was no lock—and she wrote to her mother of her success in getting the money.

How long she had been asleep Mrs. Norris says she does not know, but she was suddenly awakened by a crashing sound, which was probably caused by the bursting in of the door, for it was found that the thief had forced the bolt. She sprang up in bed, and by the dim light saw the tall form of a man, but could not see the features. He sprang upon her, forced her back upon the bed, and sat with all his weight upon her. This was the most serious injury Mrs. Norris suffered, and the next day she had a hemorrhage, one of several she has had caused by this brutality. The robber put a pistol to her head, grasped her by the throat, and said in a low but clear tone:

"If you make a noise I'll kill you."

Then he thrust a handkerchief in her mouth and tied the ends, gagging her, and then held a towel that was moist and emitted a pungent odor to her nose, and she remembered no more.

In the morning at 7 o'clock the call boy found the door open and Mrs. Norris on the bed, bound, and, as he thought, dead. The housekeeper was summoned and applied restoratives.—Mrs. Norris gasped and whispered,

"There's a man in my room."

Then it was found that Mrs. Norris had been robbed, but besides the force the thief used to quiet her, no other indignities had been attempted. She was very ill for ten days, and insisted, against the advice of her physicians, on returning to New York. The housekeeper was sent on to New York with Mrs. Norris and she arrived at her home on Sunday morning.

The gentleman who visited the theatre with Mrs. Norris spent the night with his business partner at Parker's Hotel. The proprietors of the Tremont House were greatly chagrined by the outrage.

Forty-eight Children Drowned.

LONDON, Dec. 26.—The Telegraph's Paris dispatch says forty-eight children were drowned by the breaking of ice on a pond at Chapelle Moche, in the Department of Orne.

A Michigan Wolf-Slayer.

A letter from Charlotte, Mich., says: William Wall, who died Saturday morning, was one of the first settlers of Eaton county, and the oldest pioneer of Eaton township living. He moved from Ohio to this county in the fall of 1835, coming from Ann Arbor with an ox team, and obliged for some distance to cut a road through the woods before he could bring his goods and wife to the log hut in waiting for them on the present site of the brick residence in which he died.

An interview with one of his sons disclosed some very interesting reminiscences of early pioneer life in Eaton county. For several years but few settlements were made in Eaton township, but in 1842 Mr. Wall could boast of quite a "clearing," and four neighbors in a radius of as many miles. In that year the settlers were annoyed by a mad wolf, which would attack the stock in the night and bite promiscuously all within reach, the victim of the bite invariably going mad, and suffering great agony until relieved by death. It seems a peculiarity of the mad wolves that they leave the company, or flock of wolves, and, with remarkable persistence, bite and destroy every animal within reach.

The wolf in question had succeeded in doing considerable damage, and numerous attempts had been made to destroy it to no purpose.

One night in the middle of June Mr. Wall was awakened by the squealing of his pigs and bark of his dog. Jumping out of bed he ran to the pen, which was made of logs, and saw a wolf chasing and biting his hogs. He leaped into the inclosure, took the wolf by the hind legs, and attempted to dash his head against the logs. The wolf had a firm hold on one of the hogs and would not let go.

Wall ran to the wood-pile, got a club, and succeeded in killing the wolf, which proved to be mad. The dog had taken active enough part in the fray to get several bites, and, with three of the swine, went mad and died. This adventure gave Mr. Wall the name of "William Wall, the wolf-slayer," by which he was widely known.

Another time, while after his cows in the woods, he lost his way and wandered till dark, when the wolves commenced to howl, and had soon surrounded him, and began closing in from all sides. He could hear them running through the underbrush and howling in a frightful manner. The prospect of being compelled to spend the night in the woods with these half-famished wolves was anything but pleasant. The wolves became more and more daring, and occasionally one would dart past him and snap at his legs in a very suggestive manner.

At length he was compelled to take refuge in a tree. He climbed to a goodly height, and was trying to settle himself in a secure position for the night, when he noticed a light not far distant, and after a little cogitation convinced himself that it was made by a burning log-heap in a clearing, where he had been at work during the day. He decided to make a break for the clearing, and for his protection cut a limb from the tree and made a very formidable weapon in the shape of a club.

The wolves were howling and digging around the foot of the tree in almost endless numbers. Taking off his coat, he made a bundle of it, and when he had descended near the ground threw it far as possible. It hardly touched the ground before the wolves pounced upon it and began fighting, each attempting to get a chance at the garment, during which time Mr. Wall jumped to the ground, and running for the clearing had gained considerable ground before he was discovered by the pack, when they all sprang after him.—It was a hard run and a close race, but he succeeded in reaching a large burning log-heap built around a stump, and jumping over the smouldering logs reached the stump. The wolves come within a few rods of the fire and began circling around it, keeping up always their unearthly howling. Mr. Wall passed the night perched on top of the stump, but found no time to sleep, as he was kept busy poking up the dying embers, in order to keep the wolves at a respectful distance. At daylight they dispersed, and the prisoner hastened home to his family who had expected to hear that "William Wall, the wolf-slayer," had been slain by the wolves.

A Life History in a Paragraph.

CINCINNATI, December 24.—A special dispatch says that Eva Leroy, a young woman, was found lying in the road, badly frozen, near Rogers City, Michigan, last night. She was brought to town, and the surgeons decided the amputation of both legs to be necessary, but she died during the operation. She was a woman of bad repute, who had been driven out of Alpena without funds. Becoming exhausted, she had

fallen by the roadside, where she was found. It is said she was once a beautiful girl. She was a native of Cleveland, and went to Detroit, where a few years ago she created a sensation, but afterwards sank lower and lower until no one would give her shelter.

A Well that Lost its Bottom.

For thirty years or more, the family of Mr. A. Sawtelle, of Augusta, Me., have drawn water from the well in their cellar. The well was 40 feet deep, and the water therein never failed. The other night, during the severe storm and gale, the bottom of the well dropped out. During the night they heard a tremendous noise in the cellar, resembling a miniature earthquake. The next morning the cellar was visited, and lo! the well had vanished. It must have sunk to a considerable depth, as the pump was nearly buried out of sight.—A portion of the underpinning of the house was undermined and will have to be rebuilt.

OUR WASHINGTON LETTER.

WASHINGTON, D. C., December 25, 1878.

This is the day of all others in the year. Given up to the children, to be sure, but men and women, being but children of a larger growth, enter into the joys of the merry Christmas time with as keen a delight as the happiest of the little ones. For weeks past, what mysteries have been hidden, what secrets carefully guarded, what lies told, all about this lovely day and its belongings! Everybody is surprised today. That is a part of the pleasure of it. And it does seem that there was never before a year when so much could be made and obtained at small expense in the way of holiday preparations as the present one. Shopping is a dear delight this winter and the varieties from which to select small presents are boundless. Every taste, condition, age and sex may be easily suited. Another feature of the year, brought about, doubtless, by the vicissitudes of the stringent times which have affected all classes more or less, is the usefulness of gifts purchased for this day. Even articles of wearing apparel, gloves, boots, hats, coats, hose, handkerchiefs, etc., so often eschewed as gifts because they constitute some of life's necessities, are to-day given and welcomed perhaps even more than jewel cases, ornaments for the house and person, book racks, pictures and fancy things in general. The children are fully as happy to find their beautiful trees laden with such things as school books, satchels, warm mittens and leggings, hoods, scarfs and furs, useful chairs, books and writing desks, as to see upon them all dolls, blocks, puzzles, confectionary, sweetmeats, ribbons, sleds and skates, horns, drums and tea-sets.

Much care is very properly taken here that all children shall have a merry Christmas. Sunday schools, day schools, and private families cause their children to contribute from their store of toys and books, both old and new, something for the children of the Orphans' Home, Foundling Hospital, Foster Home and similar charitable institutions, so that the poorest and most friendless shall not feel themselves alone or forsaken on the birthday of the friend of all.

OLIVE.

Miscellaneous News Items.

At Gearysville, Bucks county, two tramps rewarded an old man for a night's lodging by gagging and robbing him of \$20 and some clothing.

An extensive dealer in counterfeit trade dollars, named Frank Osborn, has been arrested at Garland, Erie county. Hitherto he is said to have been highly respected, being a well-to-do farmer.

During Governor Hartman's administration about forty-five murderers have been executed, and four more are to be hanged before the expiration of his present term.

An oil well near Rixford, McKean county, is flowing 125 barrels a day, and is now the largest natural well in the State with the exception of some in the limestone region.

A lady was attacked on the road near Hyde Park, Luzerne county, on Friday, by turkeys, and before assistance arrived had been badly pecked in the face and about the body.

Oil City has an Enoch Arden case. A man who had been absent for four years came back the other day, and found his brother called papa by his children and husband by his wife.

Ninety per cent of the colored men of St. Louis will be disqualified from serving on juries through a decision that, under the general law of Missouri, jurors must be able to read.

Louis P. Therasson, a New York lawyer was sentenced on Saturday to two years' imprisonment at hard labor, for obtaining a signature under false pretences. A stay of execution pending appeal was granted, and he was admitted to bail in \$20,000.

At New Castle, Delaware, George Draper colored, convicted of murder in the

second degree, for killing John Wilson, was placed in the pillory in a blinding snow-storm, and afterward received sixty lashes, in accordance with his sentence. He will now be imprisoned for life.

Dr. Heyl, found guilty of grave-robbing at Zanesville, Ohio, has been sentenced to pay a fine of one thousand dollars and to undergo one year's imprisonment. Eaton, convicted as his accomplice, was sentenced to four months' imprisonment and one hundred dollars fine.

SHAMOKIN, December 23.—Saturday evening Richard Eisenhard and Joseph Derr, both men of families, became involved in a quarrel concerning a penny stick of candy, when Eisenhard drew a revolver and shot Derr in the neck. Derr is now lying in a critical condition. No arrest has yet been made.

BUFFALO, December 23.—The heaviest snow storm since 1871 visited this section last night, and is still raging. The snow is fully three feet deep on a level and badly drifted. Trains on all the roads running to and from the city are delayed, and it is uncertain whether any trains will leave before night. The weather is very cold. No serious casualties are reported.

A sensation has been caused by the discovery of a small out flow of petroleum through the fissures of the rock walls of a cellar in South Paterson, New Jersey. The oil has been tested, and is pronounced unusually pure. Indications of oil have been found about Paterson before, but nothing was ever developed.

Nineteen of twenty-six mules were found smothered to death in a coal mine of the Delaware, Lackawanna and Western Company on Friday morning. A fire had occurred in the mine the night previous, and the animals were found in positions that showed they had struggled terribly to free themselves.

PORTSMOUTH, N. H., December 22.—The late George M. Marsh, of this city, leaves the bulk of his property—estimate value between fifty and one hundred thousand dollars—to the Episcopal Bishop of the Diocese of New Hampshire, the rector of St. John's Church and other trustees for the purpose of erecting a church to be called "Christ Church" and Episcopal in form of worship.

The flood at Westfield, Mass., carried the house of Frank Ash, a large double tenement, a distance of a quarter of a mile and landed it high and dry in a meadow without breaking a dish on the shelves of the china closet. The owner is in a quandary, since it would cost about as much to move the house back as to build a new one.

Frankie Chapman, daughter of a Methodist clergyman in Jackson, Ohio, went to a public ball in Cincinnati, where she had been living, and drank so much wine with a friend Miss Agass, that she became intoxicated. They went home together, quarrelled, fought, and Miss Chapman killed her antagonist by striking her on the head with a pitcher.

Mrs. Wm. A. Lighter was struck by a train on the Pennsylvania Railroad while crossing the track at North Elizabeth last July. Mr. William A. Lighter sued the company for \$50,000 damages done to his wife and carriage. A sympathizing jury gave him \$3,000 for his carriage and \$5,000 for his wife's sufferings.

An Ohio exchange says: The body of an unknown man, nearly naked, was observed by the conductor of a southern-bound freight train, lying by the track near Grafton, last week. He was brought to town, is about five feet, seven inches tall, and weighs between 150 and 160 pounds, has light hair and a mustache; apparently 35 or 40 years of age. Supposed to have been robbed and killed by tramps.

Samuel Emery, in a saloon in Washington Wednesday afternoon, during a row, drew a revolver and accidentally shot James Coombs dead. They are both young men and quite respectably connected.

LANCASTER, Dec. 20.—A disturbance occurred at the Eagle Hotel, Smithville, Providence township, this county, last night, resulting in the death of Joshua Winters, an old resident of this neighborhood. It seems one Martin Krieder, a young man twenty-five years of age, and nephew of Mr. Winters, while under the influence of liquor, used insulting language to Miss Witmer shortly after 12 o'clock, and when the guests were about retiring for their homes Krieder grasped hold of Mr. Winters, when the latter struck him several blows. Krieder then gave Winters a sudden jerk, which caused the latter to fall over. He died shortly afterwards.

This morning Coroner Groff was notified, and repaired to the scene, accompanied by Dr. Compton, who held a post mortem examination. The Coroner also notified Alderman Spurrier to go with them and arrest Krieder if the reports were true. Krieder was found in a store near by and at once arrested. The result of the examination proved that the heart had been ruptured. Krieder was brought to this city and lodged in jail. The affair has caused considerable excitement. The deceased leaves a wife and four children.