

The Fulton County News.

VOLUME 7.

McCONNELLSBURG, PA., SEPTEMBER 13, 1906.

NUMBER 5

JOHN E. HUSLER, DEAD.

Victim of Tragedy at Fort Littleton Died Last Saturday Evening. Miller S. Jones in Jail to Await Trial.

POST MORTEM EXAMINATION HELD.

John E. Husler, who was shot at the Eagle Hotel at Fort Littleton on the 18th of August, died at the home of George Sheffield, in Fort Littleton, last Saturday evening. Mr. Husler was aged about 33 years, and was unmarried.

Soon after the death of Mr. Husler, District Attorney Daniels was notified over the phone, and he gave notice to Justice of the Peace Wible to at once proceed to the holding of an inquest over the dead body. Mr. Daniels and Mr. Wible, accompanied by other citizens from this place, went to Fort Littleton, and the following persons were sworn in and acted as a jury: Chas. E. Barton, James Henry, C. B. Stevens, D. W. Cromer, D. W. Gress, and Irvin Wilson.

Dr. H. C. McClain, of Hustontown, and Dr. D. A. Hill, of Fort Littleton, made a postmortem examination, finding the bullet imbedded in Husler's brain.

The finding of the inquest was, briefly, that John E. Husler, from the evidence, and from all the circumstances tending thereto, came to his death in the dwelling house of George Sheffield, in the village of Fort Littleton, about the hour of 5:30 o'clock, Saturday evening, September 8, 1906, by means of a wound inflicted by a bullet from a pistol fired by one Miller S. Jones, on the 18th day of August, 1906, at the Eagle Hotel at Fort Littleton, which bullet penetrated the brain of said John E. Husler, and that the said wound was administered and the death of the said Husler caused by premeditated, felonious, and malicious act of Miller S. Jones, against the peace and dignity of the commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

The funeral of the deceased was held Monday morning, and services were conducted by Rev. J. C. Grimes, of the Methodist Episcopal church. Interment was made in the cemetery at Fort Littleton.

An information was made Saturday evening by Thomas S. Husler, father of the victim, before Justice Wible, charging Miller S. Jones with the murder of his son, and Sheriff Alexander went up to Fort Littleton Monday morning and brought Mr. Jones to town and lodged him in jail.

Didn't Lose Somedings.

John W. Funk, well known in this county as a former popular landlord at the Cooper House in this place, went to the "Eastern Shore" after selling his hotel here, and bought a farm, and became a tiller of the soil. Whether John has any hayseed in his hair may, or may not, be true; but he evidently has some shekels in his clothes, if one may judge from his real estate deals since he went to Maryland. Two years ago, last Saturday, he purchased a farm of 200 acres for \$5,000. The January following, he sold the timber right on the farm to Cohen & Bock, of Princess Anne, for \$2,500 cash; and having made some improvements about the place, he sold the farm on the 25th of last month to C. M. Doenges, of Putnam county, O., for \$5,000, possession to be given January 1, 1907. In making the sale to Mr. Doenges, Mr. Funk reserved all present crops, and it is said that his tomato crop alone will net him over \$400.

Second Crop of Raspberries.

Mr. J. J. Conrad, of Ayr township, placed upon our desk, a few days ago, a bunch of fine ripe raspberries. The bushes upon which the berries grew, had produced a crop earlier in the season, and were taking advantage of the favorable weather to try their hand on a second crop.

TO WELLS VALLEY IN 1824.

Interesting Reminiscences Written Several Years Ago by Mr. S. Hays Bradley, Now Deceased.

PLACES AND PEOPLE MOST FORGOTTEN

(Continued from last week.)

Adjoining his place going up the valley was the farm of Joseph Edwards, Esq. (John A. Ready) the next was an old place out of repair, afterwards bought by John Woodcock, upon which he erected a small tannery. The next place west was the widow Ready's (Moseby). The next was the "Little Billy" Alexander place, (Moseby). The next was the farm of John Alexander, Esq., who also had considerable improved land upon the high ridge running down from Rays Hill. The next place west was the Baltzer Swartz homestead (Moseby). There was a small ridge or rather plateau of land between Alexander's and Swartz's improvements, of open timber, which the old gentleman would not have cleared. The next farm west was the original homestead of Alexander Alexander, the father of John and Joseph, and Mrs. Gray, Mrs. Sarah Bradley, Mrs. Copenhagen, Mrs. Ready and Mrs. John Gibson. John Wishart, whose father was Dr. John Wishart, who married a sister of Mrs. Reamer and removed to Washington, in western Pennsylvania, obtained the old homestead, (now Harvey Wishart). Mrs. Copenhagen's place lay above Wishart's near to Ray's Hill. Johnny Gibson owned one hundred acres adjoining Wishart's lower down the run, (J. W. Gibson and Geo. A. Stewart). Benjamin Bradley's farm adjoined that of Wishart's westerly, (W. H. Spangler), and adjoining that was an old place which was afterwards bought by John Foote and upon which he lived when I left, and upon which he died (Jas. W. Barnett). Above Foote's place was the old homestead of the elder Dr. Wishart. Going down the north branch of the creek and adjoining the Guest place there was a tract of wild land bought by John White, who improved it and remained upon it until his death. Adjoining John White's was an old place occupied when we removed there by old Johnny Giles. Still further along Harbour Mountain Martin Giles had a small place which he afterward sold to Jonathan Horton. Between that and the south branch of the creek, was a small farm owned and occupied by William Pinard, a blacksmith. In 1831 he sold it to John Wesley Duvall, who built a sawmill on the south of the creek (John N. Duvall). He was a rather peculiar genius. He cleared off some land above the sawmill which was not very productive. He had some corn planted on it. B. B. Allender and John Dickson went up there to fish for trout. The corn was very short, and they spoke to him about it. "Oh," said he, "that is a new kind of corn that pushes the ears out just above the ground."

When we went to the Valley there was no public school house in the Valley. There had been one built on the edge of the Green farm, (near the Giffin place), by subscription, but it had been burned down. The Methodist's had a small log church on the corner of Allen Willet's place, upon the same ground upon which they afterward built a frame one. The Presbyterian church upon Stunkard's place was built about 1830 or 1831. In 1828 the people built a log school house on the corner of the farm afterwards owned by Emer Markley, near the Methodist church. After the passage of the first school law in 1833 and '34, there were two public school houses built, one below A. Ready's (known as the Bivens school) and the other up the valley upon the lower end of Gibson's place. The Presbyterians would occasionally have service at Squire Alexander's.

(Continued next week.)

THE ISLE OF PINES.

Interesting and Instructive Letter About This Gem of the West India Islands.

BY A FORMER FULTON COUNTY BOY.

LOS INDIOS, ISLE OF PINES, WEST INDIES.

In the short year I have been in the West Indies, I have seen and learned more than I could get on twenty reams of paper. In this descriptive sketch, I will give you a short narrative of Treasure Island history. Probably no one spot in the world has been before the reading public in the last six months more than this "Gem of the Caribbean." Most people have heard of this country, far away, little thinking that it is at their very doors. "Presto!" and we are there with the warm waters of the south seas lapping the coral reef and palm grown shores of Isla De Pinos. Fringed coconut sprays with nut clusters at their base, broad banana leaves sheltering rather bunches of fruit, tangles of graceful ferns, clumps of supple bamboo, lanced leaved mango trees heavy with purple and gold deliciousness—these and a hundred more delight the tourist and charm the artist.

Mid the silence of eternal summer, thousands of beautiful plumaged birds dart here and there amongst the thick green foliage—chief of which is the noisy parrot. They remind one of a room full of ladies all trying to speak at once and the result can easily be imagined. "Repose," "peace" and "quiet" are Pinerio watch words. It is a lazy, happy climate; and from the slow sailing clouds to the swing of the palms, nature moves languidly. But the people are far from being idle dreamers. Most of them are wide awake, twentieth century Americans, and are making splendid progress in domestic pursuits, and a still greater struggle for national existence.

The people of the south coast live near the sea, and like most all southern people, are generous to a fault—always happy, smiling, and of fine physique, and almost all English descent. Houses are only used to sleep in—so much do they live out of doors; and people may well live out of doors where the thermometer ranges from 60 to 90 degrees—tempered by the cool salt zephyrs of the surrounding balmy seas. From the southwest stretches out the long arm of protecting coral reef that makes Siguena Bay—a haven in which in olden days the Buccaneer found rendezvous.

The Rio De Los Indios: Iver upon which our bustling American town of same name is built, empties into this spacious harbor which is large enough to hold all the war ships of Uncle Sam's Navy.

We hope to see the day when this deep water bay will be great commercial harbor. Upon entering this harbor one sees the lofty mountains or Canada rising airily into a blue sky that has all the suggestiveness of a far country.

The story has been told that in an earlier generation it was known as the "Isle of Pirates." A time when there floated upon the bosom of these tropical seas great fleets of slow sailing galleons—carved, gilded, and painted—crawling centipede like across the face of the water, protected only by war galleys. A ship would lag from the rest of the fleet, and from behind some fringed headland a load of half naked out throats—white, black and yellow—would dash upon the fated ship and amid the rattle of musket shots, the crack of fire locks and pistols, yells, curses and jeers, they would swarm headlong over the rails and upon the decks of the galleon to finish what they had begun. So these treasures of gold and silver and pearls that were gathered in by Spain were snatched from her again by the

IN FORT ALEXANDER.

Jim Hess Committed on Monday, by Justice of the Peace, H. S. Daniels, of Licking Creek Township.

Charged with Larceny

AT CRYSTAL SPRINGS CAMPMEETING.

James Hess, of Licking Creek township, is now in jail awaiting trial at court, on a charge of larceny and receiving stolen goods. Information was made before Justice of the Peace Daniels, of Licking Creek township, by Henry H. Shaw, of Monroe township, Bedford county. The warrant was placed in the hands of Constable H. E. Deshong, who with two deputies, Howard Hann and Levi Hockensmith, arrested Mr. Hess at his home on Monday morning.

Amos A. Williams took a Miss Williams and a Miss Shaw to Crystal Springs campmeeting. The young ladies had their extra wearing apparel in a telescope, which was left in the wagon for a short time after their arrival at Camp. When the driver returned to the wagon the telescope was gone. From the fact that James Hess and his son Charlie had been seen about the wagon, suspicion was directed toward them, and a search warrant revealed the missing property in Mr. Hess's home.

Both father and son were arrested; but the son gave bail for his appearance at court; the father was committed in default of bail.

CLEAR RIDGE.

All the talk: Vaccination. Miss Lilhan Henry spent a few days recently with her uncle and aunt, Lynn Kesselring and wife, at Gracey.

Mrs. T. E. Fleming and daughter Ada, spent a few days the past week with the former's brother, at Shade Gap.

Mrs. Jacob Winegardner and daughter Inez, spent Sunday with the family of Howard Demsar.

Harry Carmack and wife, of Sixmile Run, visited the former's uncle, J. V. Carmack, last week.

Mrs. N. B. Henry and son Smith, spent the past week with her brother, Alex Richardson, at Newville.

Bessie E. Fields and brother Earle, spent Saturday night and Sunday with their Grandmother Fields.

Bess Ritchey, of Hustontown, spent Saturday night with Mrs. J. W. Mower.

Elmer Ramsey is moving to Rocky Ridge, where he expects to go into business. Taylor Ramsey is moving on Elmer's farm.

Mrs. Martha Wible is on the sick list.

Henry Wilson and wife are visiting their son Charley, and other friends, at Waynesboro.

Miss Mae Mort has returned to Pittsburg, after having had a very pleasant visit in the home of her parents, J. S. Mort and wife.

Chas. E. Stevens spent part of last week in Huntingdon county on business.

Miss Bess Stevens, of Harrisburg, was the guest of her cousin, Myrtle Stevens, recently.

Mrs. Mary A. Fields spent part of last week with her sister, Mrs. E. J. Miller, near Hustontown.

Gertrude Henry, who has been spending some time with Edward Hoover's, spent Saturday and Sunday at home with her parents.

Louie Brown spent Sunday with her cousin, Minnie Grove.

Goldie Winegardner was the guest of Louie Kerlin, Sunday.

Howard Kerlin has gone back to his work at Altoona.

Mrs. J. W. Mower and H. J. Grove spent one day last week with Mrs. Bergstresser, near Gracey.

There will be a festival in the grove on the 22nd of this month.

TOURNAMENT A SUCCESS.

Weather Ideal and a Large Number of Persons Witnessed the Sport.

PREPARATIONS BEGUN FOR NEXT YEAR

The tournament and all day picnic in Trout's woods last Saturday was a success from start to finish, and its promoters are to be congratulated on furnishing a day's entertainment during the outdoor season that will soon have passed. The weather was ideal, and a large number of persons took advantage of the "day off." Visitors were attracted here from Chambersburg, Mercersburg, Clearspring, Hancock, Riddesburg, and other neighboring towns.

The first demonstration was made about 11 o'clock, when the parade was formed at the west end of town and made a very pretty showing as it passed through the principal streets. The parade was led by that matchless horseman, D. M. Kendall, assisted by his aides, Chas. Dennis, president of the Clearspring tournament association, Judge Humbert, James Henry, Joe W. Lake, Horace N. Sipes, J. Lind Patterson, J. K. Johnston, C. B. Stevens and John Reisner. Then followed the McConnellsburg Band in their bright new uniforms, and then came the brave knights with their long lances, making one feel that he had been suddenly transferred to scenes of ancient chivalry.

This parade was repeated about one o'clock, and when the grounds were reached, the formal exercises of the afternoon were begun. The organization was as follows: Judges—J. F. Johnston, W. C. Patterson, and S. W. Kirk; Timekeeper, M. W. Nace; Scorekeeper, Geo. B. Daniels, and Announcer, J. K. Johnston. The knights mounted were now drawn up in solid front, and, in the absence of the gentleman who had been assigned the duty of addressing them, Parker R. Skinner, of Chambersburg, was pressed into service, and proved himself equal to the occasion.

FIRST EVENT.

In this event, known as the Coronation Event, the following knights took part, namely, Frank Duffy, Walter Sloan, Hal Trout, Dr. Sappington, Cam Patterson, Dan Trout, and Alex Patterson. For the first honor, Dan and Cam tied with six rings each, and in the ride-off, Dan took 3 and Cam 1. Dr. Sappington and Walter Sloan, each having taken 5 rings, rode off, the former taking 3 and the latter 1.

SECOND EVENT.

This was the prize event, and in addition to the seven persons who rode in the first, three others entered: Geo. Sword, of Clearspring, Md., Ira Diehl and David Morton, both of Ayr township. The riding was exciting, and the contestants displayed much skill. Doc Sappington took seven rings and carried off first prize, a dandy set of harness. Geo. Sword and Dan Trout, each took six, and so evenly were they matched that it took three trials in the ride-off to decide which should have the second prize. Finally Geo. Sword won, thus taking the second prize—a nice bride, and Trout, the third prize, a pair of fine spurs.

THE CORONATION.

After all this is the event of the day—the event in which the ladies come in. The coronation address which was one of Captain Skinner's most happy efforts, was greatly enjoyed by his old neighbors and friends on this side of the mountain. D. F. Trout placed his crown upon the brow of Miss Maye Johnston, as Queen of Love and Beauty; Campbell Patterson crowned his wife, first maid of honor; Dr. Sappington, his wife as second maid, and "Boney" Sloan felt that no one was more deserving of the honor he had bestowed than his sister, Miss Mary.

Arrangements are already taking shape for the annual meeting next year, which will take on the additional feature of a Horse and Colt Show, open to the farmers and stock fanciers of this county.

FULTON COUNTY SCHOOLS.

County Superintendent Barton's Fourth Annual Report to the State Department at Harrisburg.

BRIEF SUMMARY OF YEAR'S WORK.

In reviewing the school work of the past year we feel that substantial progress can be reported. A comparison of the work of the year just closed, with that of previous years, shows advancement along all lines of school work. Directors and patrons have given more time and attention to the schools than in former years—especially was this true in the selection of teachers, in school visitations, and in the support of the compulsory attendance law. This interest on the part of directors and patrons, coupled with faithful and efficient work on the part of an enthusiastic corps of teachers, makes educational advancement certain.

The County teachers' institute of the week of December 4th, marked the educational high-water mark in the history of the county. Every teacher of the county was present at every session of the institute, thus breaking all former records in point of teachers' attendance. It was also a record-breaker in point of general attendance, and in practical and efficient work. In the past few years our county institute has awakened such interest and enthusiasm among our people that we can not accommodate those who would attend—hundreds must be turned away from the sessions for want of room.

The directors' annual convention was held at the county seat on March 28th and 29th. This convention surpassed any previous one in point of attendance and interest. We believe that these yearly meetings of directors will become as strong factors in educational progress as the teachers' institutes.

Teachers' preliminary meetings were held in all districts of the county on Saturday preceding the opening of the schools. At these meetings questions pertaining to school organization were discussed, and the local institute work organized for the term. Local institutes were held monthly in all the districts throughout the term. Most of our teachers are thoroughly alive to the advantages of these meetings and make sacrifices to attend all within their reach. However, there are a few who seem to feel themselves beyond the necessity of any further improvement; hence, they are growing weaker each successive year.

Our teachers' reading course has continued to grow in favor, and has become a very strong element in the improvement of the teachers.

Five new school libraries were established during the year and additions made to twenty-two others. These libraries in the hands of wide awake and judicious teachers are giving our boys and girls an opportunity that we trust will develop habits of study and research that we trust will continue to educate long after leaving the public schools.

Ten were graduated from the McConnellsburg high school and five from the Wells Township high school. Appropriate commencement exercises were held by each class. Twenty-four pupils in the rural schools passed the spring examinations and received diplomas.

No new school houses were built during the year, but we are glad to be able to report that a new building will be erected in McConnellsburg during the coming year. At an election held in May it was voted to bond the town in a sum sufficient to insure the erection of a thoroughly modern and up-to-date school building—something that our town has greatly needed.

Some of our rural schools are so situated and are becoming so small that it would be wisdom on the part of the directors to close them. Ayr township closed one school this year and we trust that other

ABOUT PEOPLE YOU KNOW

Snapshots at Their Comings and Goings Here for a Vacation, or Away for a Restful-Outing.

NAMES OF VISITORS AND VISITED

N. H. Alloway, of Waterfall, spent a few hours in town last Thursday.

Mrs. Mary Strait and her son Harvey were among the tournament visitors last Saturday.

Mrs. Lola Morgret and her sister-in-law, Miss Goldie Morgret, of Berkeley Springs, W. Va., were guests in the home of their cousin, J. B. Runyan, of this place.

Mrs. Annie Burkhardt and sister, Miss Alice Gordon, of Cleveland, O., who are visiting their mother, Mrs. A. D. Gordon, of Fort Littleton, spent last Saturday in town.

Wm. Kuhn and wife were guests of D. L. Alexander's family Sunday afternoon.

J. W. Mellott is erecting a new dwelling house on one of the lots east of town.

Rebecca Sipe has been visiting her sister, Mrs. Annie Mellott, near Knobsville.

Mrs. F. K. Stevens returned home last Friday after spending a few days with friends at Shippensburg.

May Johnston will re-open her millinery store in this place. Look for her ad in next week's News.

Mrs. N. B. Henry and son Smith stopped over night with the family of Dr. F. K. Stevens on their return from Shippensburg last Friday.

Mrs. Frances Fraker, of Fort Littleton, spent the past couple of weeks visiting her sister, Mrs. Hannah Cromer, in Pittsburg.

Miss Carrie F. Charlton, near Maddensville, spent from Thursday to Sunday, the guest of Gertrude Finley, at Decorum.

Mrs. S. R. Fraker, who with her children, Clair and Beatrice, spent the past two months with her mother, Mrs. Rebecca Orth, at Fort Littleton, returned to Mt. Alto last week.

Julian, son of Chas. McGeehe, at Burnt Cabins, fell from the upper part of the stable and was so badly hurt, that his life was despaired of for awhile. He, now, seems better.

Married.

ANDERSON—MORT

At four o'clock, last Sunday afternoon, Rev. J. M. Myers united in marriage at the home of the bride's parents, J. S. Mort and wife, Miss Annie Mort, of Maddensville, and Mr. J. B. Anderson, of Millin, Pa.

RAMSEY—TAYLOR

On Sunday, August 26, 1906, at the residence of the officiating justice, J. S. Mort, Howard E. Ramsey, of Maddensville, and Miss Nellie Taylor, of the same place, were united in the bonds of holy wedlock.

districts may follow this example. Where schools have an attendance of only half a dozen pupils, as is the case with a few in the county, it were better in our opinion to arrange for the education of boys and girls in other schools where conditions are more favorable.

The subject of centralization and township high schools is now receiving consideration in several of our districts. Public sentiment is growing in favor of these movements, and both could be carried into effect in, at least, one half of the districts of the county with much profit to both the tax-payers and the children.

In closing this report I wish to thank the Department for assistance given me, and the directors, teachers, and citizens of the County for their cheerful support and co-operation.

Very respectfully,
CHAS. E. BARTON.