



Photo courtesy of Francis Artz

When Lettie Schaeffer (standing in doorway at left) took a job as a teacher at the Pleasant Grove School in the Stonewall District of Shenandoah County in September 1902, she probably didn't expect to get a husband in the deal. But she did. She married fellow teacher James Arts (at right in doorway). Under terms of her contract, Miss Schaeffer was to record attendance, open school at 8:30 a.m. and close it at 4 p.m. She was to build and stoke the fire, sweep the floor and keep the building in good repair. She was paid \$18 per month. If she lost the school register, the contract stipulated that she would be fined as much as \$5 which, of course, would be deducted from her wages.

Pages from newspapers past

Aug. 6, 1897 9/8/05

Base Ball News. The base ball fever is raging among our people, and has extended out to the country. Every game brings a crowd to see it, all of whom get excited and remain so until the last ball is batted. On Thursday it was Front Royal's turn at Woodstock...Norcon pitched for Woodstock with a cool, steady delivery that was good to see. Joe Laughlin played behind the plate as fine as silk until he unfortunately had his thumb split by a hot ball...This took Meade from third base and put him to the catcher's position...the score was tied four to four at the end of the 8th inning. In the 9th Front Royal was shut out and the home team made one run, thus winning the game by a score of 5-4.

Died. Charles W. Fravel, son of P. J. Fravel, aged 41 years.

Mrs. Elizabeth Rutter of New Market on last Monday.

Mrs. James Ray, who for many years was under the B & O management, was watchman at Toms Brook railroad bridge, at his home in that place on Tuesday.

Aug. 12, 1897

The charter for the Riverside cemetery of Strasburg was recorded in the Circuit Court on Monday.

Hugh Morrison of Harrisonburg has opened a photograph gallery at New Market and is prepared to take photographs in any size and style.

Married. July 21 by Elder B. W. Neff, Miss Ina E. Bynaker and Mr. Andrew J. Sisler.

Near Rude's Hill by Elder B. W. Neff, Aug. 8, Mr. Noah W. Bowman and Miss Nellie Carper.

Powell's Fort News. Miss Matilda Smith was buried last Wednesday, age over 71 years...Mr. David Clem says he recently killed a very large rattlesnake that had swallowed a full-grown grey squirrel, and Mr. Jerry Clem reports that he also killed a rattlesnake that had in it a ground squirrel, and when the snake was opened the little fellow jumped on the fence and began to chatter at him. We now think Dan Clem and Jake Funk must hand over the belt to Mr. Jerry, as he certainly is up ahead.

County Court Proceedings....last will and testament of Rachel Chapman, deceased, admitted to probate; last will & testament of George Strother admitted to probate...last

will and testament of Rhoda Biller admitted to probate...last will and testament of Eliza Taylor admitted to probate, last will and testament of Philip C. Dellinger admitted to probate, last will and testament of Jacob W. Stover admitted to probate; Jas. E. Beazley appointed and qualified as administrator of Ann R. Beazley, deceased; Sarah A. Johnson administrator of Thos. Johnson, deceased; Elon O. Henkel administrator of Joseph Salyards deceased; Mary H. Payne administrator of Emma P. Payne deceased; C. P. Wightman, Sheriff, administrator of Daniel Mowery deceased...E. L. Zirkle, Overseer of Poor ordered to bind John Shipe, an inmate of the Alms's House, aged 12 years, to Romanus Rinker...A special grand jury of inquest sworn and brought in following indictments for felony viz: two against H. H. Irwin and William Wilkin, against George Sine, Charles Funk & William Sine, and one each against Geo. Sine, Charles Funk and Annie M. Weaver...On petition of Jno. D. Coffman for a public road in Madison district from Lemuel Day's to a point near Thomas Hines

Aug. 20, 1897

Died. Mrs. Mary E. Smoot, wife of Dr. James H. Smoot, Aug. 17, aged 23 years.

Mrs. Jane Dellinger, wife of Mr. John Dellinger, on last Tuesday of acute attack of fever. Her age was about 62 years.

Mrs. Laura E. Hottel, beloved wife of M. H. Hottel, last Tuesday morning, after about two weeks of typhoid fever. She leaves a sorrowing husband, a lovely little daughter of twenty months, two brothers, William H. and R. Lee Bargelt.

Mrs. Catherine A. Hottel Aug. 12th at the residence of her son-in-law, Rev. P. L. Miller, in Benton, Ohio, aged 71 years. She was born and raised in Toms Brook and married Mr. Obed Coffman, he died in 1872. Mrs. C. then married a Mr. Lonas of Ohio, who died in a short time and she married Mr. Henry Hottel. She leaves an only son and daughter, Mr. Milton Coffman and Mrs. Rev. Miller.

Mr. William Gochenour grows weaker and weaker and it is likely he will not be living when this reaches your readers.

Aug. 27, 1897

Mr. William Gochenour, who was born Oct. 20, 1821, departed this life Aug. 20, 1897, aged 75 years. He leaves a widow.

Mr. Jacob B. Keller Aug. 22d, aged 38 years. He leaves two sisters and two brothers.

D. F. Burner Aug. 21, aged 38 years.

Sept. 2, 1897

Married. Aug. 30 in New Market by Rev. J. Paul Stirewalt, Mr. William M. Lloyd and Miss Anna M. Estep.

Aug. 29 in New Market, Mr. Arthur B. Clem and Miss Ida A. Rosenberger.

Died. Henry Williams, colored, one half mile east of New Market, aged 22 years.

Mr. Samuel Lambert put his name upon a terrapin in 1887 and a few days ago found the same terrapin within a few yards of the same spot. It is very probably that that terrapin will continue to hold his ground long after Mr. L. shall have gone to sleep with his fathers.

Sept. 9, 1897

Mr. Lemuel Johnson, colored, who had been absent for years, returned here from Wheeling, W. Va. last week. A year ago it was reported that Lem was dead, but he personally denies the statement and is still able to give a vocal banjo recital.

Sept. 17, 1897

At private sale. I will sell the property known as the Fadely Saw Mill property at private sale. Geo. C. Rhinehart, Lantz's Mill, Va.

County Court Proceedings. Last will and testament of Wm. Gochenour, deceased, admitted to probate; last will and testament of Sallie H. Kramer, deceased, admitted to probate; M. E. S. Osburn appointed and qualified as administrator of Dr. Alex Osburn deceased; A. J. Kagey appointed and qualified as administrator of Ezra E. Kagey; Thomas E. Kingree appointed and qualified as administrator of Samuel Kingree deceased; Annie E. Keller appointed and qualified as administrator of Jacob B. Keller deceased; Frank L. Bushong appointed and qualified as administrator of Daniel F. Burner deceased; last will and testament of John Ryman, of Joseph, deceased, admitted to probate and Jas. F. Hepner appointed and qualified as executor.

Married. Mr. Will N. Grabill and Miss Ada Hilleary Wednesday afternoon.