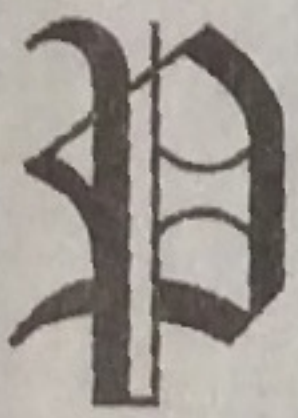




Photo courtesy of the Shenandoah County Historical Society

The Shenandoah County Courthouse has changed little since this photo was taken sometime in the late fall or winter of the 1940s. A military recruiting poster was still being displayed out front, and the jail across the street was still the home of the county's sheriff. The sheriff, who then was limited by tradition to two terms in office, was expected to live in the apartment above the dispatching office that also served as the jailer's office. Dispatchers in those days processed prisoners and dispatched deputies and emergency vehicles, including fire trucks and the ambulances operated by local funeral homes. Shenandoah County had no rescue squads in those days. All of which seemed archaic by modern standards. The budget to operate all county services in those days, including schools, was less than \$1 million per year. Today it exceeds \$80 million.



Pages from newspapers past

March 3, 1898 11/3/05

Died. After a long illness with Bright's disease, Ab. Hoffman died very suddenly

Tuesday at the home of his cousin, Jos. S. Bowman at Edinburg, about 50 years old, and a bachelor.

Dr. Mattingly of Washington, D. C., who married Mrs. Mollie Evans, daughter of Mr. Jacob Shockey of Woodstock.

Mrs. Mary Frances, wife of Thomas Wilkin of Saumsville Feb. 21st aged 42 years.

Mr. Joseph Tysinger of Lantz's Mill killed his big hog on Friday last, over a hundred were present to see the big fellow and guess his weight. The big animal brought down the beam to 823 pounds.

Jerome News. Messrs. O. R. and C. G. Miller took a trip to Lost City on last Friday...Mr. J. H. G. Dellinger and Mr. C. G. Miller will soon begin work in their shop which they recently have rented. They are very able blacksmiths...We learn that Mr. H. D. Funkhouser has rented the sugar camp belonging to Mr. Jackson Fry.

Married. On Feb. 20th by Rev. M. L. Carpenter, Mr. George Shipp and Miss Rebecca Rinker.

At Pugh's run Feb. 27 by Rev. Mr. Bushong, Mr. William G. Jackson of Franklin County, Pa. and Miss Virginia F. Bowers of this county.

Jan. 20 by the same, Mr. Jacob M. Miller and Miss A. E. Headley.

March 2d by the same, Mr. Lottie E. Bowman and Miss Mary A. Miley.

Mar. 10, 1898

Died. Nathaniel Armentrout of Moore's Store suddenly one day last week.

John Hambleton, west of Conicville, last Thursday. He was the father of eight children and was 77 years of age. He has for some time been running the Nesselrodt Mill. He died from some throat trouble.

Charles F. Rush, aged 39 years, at his residence a few miles east of Woodstock after a brief illness with pneumonia. He leaves five or six children and a widow...Mrs. Rush was very sick in another room in the house and could not be present when her husband died. When the remains were removed from the house, the coffin was opened in the yard and tender hands of friends carried her to the window to look for the last time on one whom she had spent the last eighteen years with.

Married. Mr. John Baker and Miss Virgie Estep in New Market Wednesday evening.

Because of the extreme illness of her father, Miss Josie Hoffman had to give up her school at Painter's school house and the place is now filled by Willie Lantz, son of Lon. Lantz.

Stony Creek and Vicinity. Mrs. Ann Drummond of Columbia Furnace, moved into Milt Hite's house at Green Hill... George Stickley, who occupied the house of M. L. Hite at Green Hill, moved to St. Luke on Tuesday.

The new Post office at Readus is quite a convenience to the citizens, as many persons heretofore had to perform a journey of three miles, but now obtain it within easy distance of their homes.

County Court Proceedings. Settlements of Thomas L. Wilkins, exr. Christena Layman, dec'd; George C. Rhinehart exr for John Coffelt, dec'd; C. P. Wightman admr. Wm. A. Fry, dec'd; H. S. Bowers admr. Ephraim Ryan, dec'd; R. S. Rinker admr. Mary E. Neff, dec'd; Samuel Holler, admr. Jonathan Holler dec'd; Michael J. good admr. D. B. Good, dec'd; P. W. Magruder admr. Anna M. Good dec'd; H. R. Mowery, admr. Rebecca Ryman dec'd; George A. Copp, admr. George W. Keller dec'd; C. P. Wightman admr. Eli C. Fadeley dec'd; Ed. Newman, committee George Grove, insane; Henry Windle, guardian Jno. S. Evans.

Mr. Abram Barb of near Fisher's Hill is not the kind of man to be beaten out by a sheep as he fairly demonstrated not long since. One of his ewes recently gave birth to twin lambs, one black and one white. She positively refused to have anything to do with the little white one until Mr. Barb colored it black.

Lebanon News. Mrs. Sallie Ambrose and Miss Virginia Mowery, two sisters, died last Thursday evening a few hours apart. Both resided near his place.

Mar. 18, 1898

The buzzard with the bell on its neck has been seen recently in Washington County. The bell was put on the big bird in Texas, but for a number of years it has confined its travels to the Valley of Virginia between Tennessee and Maryland.

Died. Mar. 14th at the home of his parents, William and Frances Peer on the Sugar Hill road, one and a half miles from Van Buren Furnace, Mahlon L. Peer, aged 15 years.

Mr. Nathan Funkhouser of Mt. Olive last Sunday aged 5 years.

Joseph Hoffman of Edinburg Saturday night. He was about 70 years old.

Mt. Clifton News. Mrs. Liza Harpine is still very poorly at this time...old Aunt Sallie Pence is very poorly. There is no hope of her recovery...Jos. Clem has purchased a wheel. The bike craze has struck our town.

Rates of toll on the Valley Pike under bill before legislature: For every 10 head of sheep or hogs 5 cents; for every 20 head of cattle 10 cents; for a horse, mare, mule or gelding three cents; for a one-horse wagon five cents; for a two-horse wagon 10 cents; for a wagon drive by four horse 16 cents; one horse spring wagon six cents; two horse spring wagon 10 cents; one horse 4-wheel riding carriage 6 cents; two horse ditto 10 cents.