

The Columbian.

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A Shamokin Constable Murdered and Thrown into a Creek.

John Graeff, constable of Coal Township, was murdered during last night and his body found in the creek near the Long Bridge, three miles east of this place, early Sunday morning by some people on the way to church. Whether he was slain for revenge or robbery is not yet known, but the preliminary inquest indicates that one of these theories is the correct one.

That the fatal ball sped from ambush is indicated by the fact that it entered behind the left jaw and made its exit between the eyes. Graeff must have dropped in his tracks without knowing what struck him, and his murderer then dragged the body to the creek and threw it in to make their work double sure. A jury has been empaneled by the coroner, but no testimony has been taken yet, and there seems now to be but little hope of clearing up the mystery.

Three years ago Graeff had a warrant for the arrest of John Yocombis, a Poleander, charged with felony. In attempting to serve the document he met with violent resistance, and finally, in self-defence, was compelled to use his revolver. His aim was fatal and Yocombis fell with a ball through his heart as he was rushing upon the officer, murderously brandishing a club. Graeff surrendered himself to the authorities and was promptly acquitted. These events are now recalled to establish the theory that his assassination may have been dictated by a vendetta Yocombis' friends having at the time made threats.

The other theory, that the murder was prompted by robbery, proceeds on the ground that Graeff was agent and collector for an installment house, and at times, especially directly after pay day, was known to receive a large amount of money in that section of the country. The murdered man was about 40 years of age and highly esteemed, and his violent taking off has created intense excitement in the community.

A Comet Nearing the Earth.

Professor Lewis Boss, of the Dudley Observatory, finds from calculations made that the comet in Andromeda, discovered by Holmes of November 6, is very probably identical with Biela's periodic comet, which has not certainly been recognized since 1852. This confirms the suspicion telegraphed from Berlin by Professor Berberich some days ago.

Professor Boss thinks there is likely to be a very close approach between the comet and the earth on the morning of November 28, in case the supposed identity between the comets of Holmes and Biela proves to be a fact.

It is probable that the comet will rapidly grow in brightness and that within two weeks it will appear many times larger than the full moon. No really accurate calculations as to the nearness of approach between the comet and the earth on November 28 can be made until a much greater number of observations have been procured. The comet can now be seen in small telescopes.

Hicks' November Weather.

Rev. Ira Hicks' prophecies are that we will have bright, frosty days and nights of November. About the 4th it will grow warmer, and during the days following storms will pass from west to east. Be prepared for cold waves to succeed all the regular and reactionary periods of the month. The 11th is a central day for reactionary movements. From the 16th to the 19th look for rain, sleet and hard autumnal gales. Hard freezing will follow on the heels of the storms, and continue to the 22d and 23d. These dates will bring higher temperature and storm, and in turn be followed by cold. Month ends with storms, 28th and 29th and cold wave the 30th.

Shickshinny's Methodist Church Rededicated.

The Methodist Episcopal Church at Shickshinny was reopened last Sunday. The services were in charge of Rev. John Donahoe, presiding elder. Rev. Richard Hinkle, of Berwick, preached the morning sermon. The church has been transformed into one of the most beautiful places of worship in Luzerne County. It has fifteen memorial windows one of them being in memory of Dr. John A. Gere, an uncle of President elect Cleveland. Rev. A. S. Bowman is pastor. The painting was done by W. F. Bodine.

The twenty-fifth annual reunion of the Philologist Society will be held at Normal Hall Thanksgiving evening, (Thursday Nov. 24).

ON THEIR TRACK.

A CLUE TO A MURDER COMMITTED SEVEN YEARS AGO.

A well known detective has secured important information, after long and patient research, which gives promise of leading to the discovery and capture of the devilish fiend who for a few paltry dollars, murdered two poor Italian musicians near Mt. Carmel about seven years ago, and then attempted to hide the crime by reducing their bodies to ashes.

The details of that dastardly crime, which was one of the most atrocious, barbarous, and inhuman deeds ever committed in the Anthracite coal fields, are still fresh in the public mind.

The two Italians arrived at Mt. Carmel early on the morning of July 4th, 1885, and while the air was filled with the rejoicing of patriotic America, paraded the streets one turning the crank of Italy's far famed music emanated; the other with cash box in hand going from door to door soliciting contributions from the many spectators who crowded the streets. All day long they persisted in their work and the sun had sunk in the west and the shades of night came as a silent messenger and told them that their day's work was done. They counted the contents of their miserable looking contribution box and stowed it away in a satchel which they carried with them for that purpose.

Intending to spend the following day at Centralia, after partaking of a light lunch at a local restaurant, they started on their journey to Columbia county's prosperous mining village. But the unfortunate fellows never reached their destination; a cold blooded assassin, divining their intentions, awaited their coming and for the sake of a few paltry dollars murdered them in cold blood.

It is not known whether the inhuman fiend, whose capture is expected in a few days, was aided in the consummation of the devilish purpose, and the manner in which he committed the deed will have to be ascertained when he is placed on trial for his crime. He succeeded in his purpose, however, took the life's blood of the two innocent victims, pilloined the little money in their possession and then carried the bodies to a cave in the north of the Centralia road, at a point almost due west of the scene of the murder of coal operator Alexander W. Rae, away back in the early seventies.

To cover the traces of his crime he ignited the bush of the surrounding woods and hurriedly stole away, leaving the inanimate bodies to the mercy of the flames. A hunter was attracted to the spot, where the half-consumed bodies lay, by the smell of burning flesh, and, horrified by the sight, made all possible haste to Mt. Carmel and spread the alarm. Hundreds of people at once flocked to the scene, and though the ground was minutely examined, the woods scoured, and a vigorous search instituted, no trace of the murderer could be found. There is now hopes of his identity being revealed and justice meted out to him.

No judge, jury, or people, will have any compassion for the perpetrator of such a cold-blooded deed.—*Ashland Advocate.*

Thanksgiving Day.

Governor Pattison has issued the following Thanksgiving proclamation: Profound gratitude to the Divine Author of all good, whose blessings have been so abundant in the past and whose benediction we fervently invoke for the future, make it fitting and right that the people should pause from their accustomed toil and pleasures to make acknowledgment of their dependence upon that Almighty Being from whom all blessings flow.

In conformity, therefore, with the recommendation of the President of the United States, I, Robert E. Pattison, Governor of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, do appoint Thursday, the 24th day of November, as a day of thanksgiving and prayer.

On that day let the people lay aside all secular occupations and meet together in their usual places of worship, in reverent thanksgiving for mercies received and prayer for a continuance of Divine favor. By the reunion of families and friends promote that love for home which secures contentment and prosperity, and, above all, in kind remembrance of the poor, put on charity, which is the bond of perfectness, and so render our Thanksgiving more pleasing to the Lord.

RATIFICATION MEETING.

A Democratic jollification will take place at Derr's store in Upper Greenwood on Saturday the 19th to celebrate the recent victory. Senator Herring will make an address, and a pole will be raised at noon.

THE NORMAL SCHOOL LECTURE COURSE.

The first entertainment of the Normal School Lecture Course will be given by the Boston Stars on Saturday evening Nov. 26. Two members of this company are as well known in Europe as America. Mrs. Pond, formerly Miss Nella Brown has perhaps no equal among elocutionist, and Mr. Chas. Kellogg the whistler, or bird warbler as he has been called, is simply wonderful. On account of the peculiar formation of the roof of his mouth it is highly probable that no other person in the world can approach his unique performance. When you "listen to his mocking bird," you hear the real bird.

He gives the audience an opportunity to see that he uses no device or instrument in his whistling.

The second entertainment of the course will be a lecture by Dr. Thomas Dixon, Dec. 8, Dr. Dixon is said to be absolutely the greatest orator now on the platform. His subject is "Back bone".

The other three, Caton, Elliott and Beck are all excellent beyond anything we have had in previous courses. This is not a padded course, consisting of two or three good lectures with cheap talent sandwiched between. Every member is the best that could be had, and the entire course costs nearly two hundred dollars more than any previous course.

Tickets will be on sale at Brooke's in a few days.

Democratic Celebration At Danville.

On Monday evening the members of the Young Men's Democratic Club of Bloomsburg started from the Town Hall each member wearing a Black suit and silk hats and carried red and blue lanterns to take part in the Danville Jubilee, we saw the advanced guard consisting of our active workers in Bloomsburg, namely: Chairman Mercer, Senator Herring, Ex-Chairman Townsend together with Sec. C. B. Robbins, followed by Marshall A. DeSheppard. The Bloom Band following, about 75 members carrying lanterns, being then followed by a number of other prominent Democrats. As the boys marched down Main St. the band played splendidly, the martial strains ringing through the air aroused the citizens to assemble on the side walks and cheer the club on the road to the depot. A special train of five cars had been engaged and were quickly filled arriving in Danville, the club was met by a mounted delegation and Band to escort the Bloom boys up town. They were given the place of honor in the Parade. On marching down Mill street the Danville Democrats had provided a supply of fireworks at the Club rooms and the streets were one blaze of red fire—fire-works of all varieties filled the air. While the Boys marched down cheer after cheer went ringing in the air, it was generally conceded that the Bloomsburg Delegation took the honors while the music supplied by the Bloom Band was very highly complimented by all who heard it.

The Boys arrived home a little after 12 o'clock all feeling pleased with the trip we noticed a number of our prominent Democrats with the delegation, Hon Judge Icker, Judge Millard, District Attorney Chrisman, W. B. Taylor, W. H. Gilmore, Chas. Hassart, Chas. Ohl, W. G. Quick, L. Cohen, O. Alexander, Louis Lowenberg, P. Freeze, C. C. Trench, Wm. Kramer, John Casey, Treasurer Kline, A. J. Derr and many others. We understand the Club is intended to be a permanent organization.

THANKSGIVING DINNER.

The following bill of fare will be served by the Lutheran ladies in the Old Presbyterian church on Thanksgiving Day:—

Roast Turkey, Stewed Chicken,
Irish Potatoes, Sweet Potatoes,
Lima Beans, Corn,
Cabbage, Celery,
Cranberries, Pickles.

DESSERT.

Plum Pudding, Mince Pie,
Pumpkin Pie, Tea, Coffee.
Dinner 50 cents.

The Bazaar for which extensive preparations have been made will be pleasing and attractive as well as useful and practical. This will be a fine opportunity to get your Christmas presents at an early date and a very modest price.

The Bazaar will be continued in the evening. Ice cream and cake will also be served.

On Friday evening a novel feature will be introduced in connection with the sale of fancy goods—"A conundrum Lunch". For the small sum of 5 cents you can select any article named on the "Hidden Menu".

COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS.

Town Council met in regular session Thursday evening. Present—E. P. Drinker, Thos. Gorry, William Kramer, W. O. Holmes and W. H. Gilmore.

C. W. Miller brought in the report of the town engineers approving the Catharine street bridge and its approaches and asked that an order for \$250, balance due on contract, be drawn.

Building permits were granted to the following: Mrs. G. B. Martin, Dr. J. J. Brown, I. W. Willis, Thomas Gorry and Cyrus Drake.

On motion of Holmes, J. K. Eyer is to be notified at once to abate the nuisance in the alley between his house and E. C. Wells either by connecting with sewer or otherwise.

A petition to change grade on Fourth by cutting down five feet at junction of Fourth and West was presented and filed.

Bond of M. C. Woodward, collector, was read and approved.

Following bills were presented and orders drawn:

Bloomsburg Water Company	\$104 24
M. C. Woodward, Sept.	7 02
" Oct.	6 42
Wm. Ferguson, work and material at fountain.	161 00
Lewis Gross, overcoat for policeman.	17 00
C. R. Richard, blacksmithing (Harman & Hassert, smithing, bolts, &c.)	5 98
J. A. Hutchins & Co., pipe.	32 03
N. Chromis and others, police service.	18 00
D. L. & W. R. Co., freight Silver Spring Quarry Co., spawls.	114 32
W. O. Holmes, work and fixtures at fountain.	114 99
Jas. C. Brown, Town Engineer Kesty & Hoffman, smithing, &c.	13 35
P. G. Miller, stone.	38 88
R. H. Ringler, Secretary.	15 00

Amusements.

BLOOMSBURG OPERA HOUSE NEXT WEEK

(Monday) evening, Nov. 21, the dancing ray of sunshine, Minnie Lester, supported by her talented company of dramatic artists, and superb band and orchestra, will commence a six-nights' (matinee Thursday, Thanksgiving Day and Saturday, at 2:15 p. m.) engagement, opening with the beautiful and amusing play, "Silver Ledge." Matinee plays will be announced during the week. The band will make a parade daily and give a free open air concert every evening in front of the Opera House at 7:15.

Miss Lester and company have been doing a splendid business wherever they have appeared, and the performance have given entire satisfaction. The plays presented are calculated to please the tastes of all—young and old, rich and poor, ladies and gentlemen, boys and girls. Miss Lester's singing and dancing have created quite a furore in the towns she has visited, the press being unanimous in their praise of this celebrated artists ability and versatility. The music rendered by the efficient orchestra is an important feature. The company has been playing in Reading, Pa., during the past week. The *Times* of that prosperous town says: Minnie Lester and her own company, band and orchestra opened a week's engagement last night to a packed house, in the western comedy drama, "The Silver Ledge." This little lady is rightly named "The dancing ray of sunshine." Her song and dances won several recalls. Miss Lester can act, and that most cleverly. She is given excellent opportunities to display her claims and her talent. The character of Bess is that of a vivacious and generous girl, full of animation and diversity sufficient to call into play to their full extent the comedy and emotional powers of the actress. Miss Lester acquitted herself admirably in the part. She is supported by an evenly balanced company, which gave an interesting performance. One of the features of the evening was the orchestra connected with Miss Lester company, which rendered selections from the latest operas in a very acceptable manner.

Will Meet in Lock Haven.

The Synodical Society of the Northumberland Presbytery, which was in session at Bloomsburg recently, has accepted the invitation extended to them by the Women's Home Missionary Society of the Presbyterian church of Lock Haven to hold their next annual meeting there next November.

Prof C. H. Albert was one of the instructors at the teachers' Institute at Dauphin County this week.

EAST BENTON.



Hail triumphant Democracy, Benton, the banner township.

Congratulations to the Shickshinny *Echo*. The *Echo* compared Cleveland's campaign to a game of base ball "three times and out." You're out, Mr. *Echo*—out of the Post Office. The good people did not "have their foot in", either, did they, eh?

The *Echo* seems to be about as much of "nuisance" to the community as he through Cleveland was to the Country.

"Hit'em" again, *Echo*.

Congratulations to John G. McHenry, Committeeman of Benton township, well done.

A Salt River Boat factory was started at Bendertown of which J. M. Wenner is proprietor. He furnished J. W. Larned of that place with one, and Amos Hess of New Columbus and Mr. Bidleman of Cambra another, the boats were loaded with vegetables.

On Tuesday night the comedian, Cary, gave a free show at Benton, it was grand. The show was preparatory to the election returns. In representing his medicines, he declared that his worm medicine did not kill the worms, but only made them limber and sick, as the election news which was momentarily expected, would make the Republicans limber and sick. This announcement was greeted with immense applause. Yea, verily, and so it was.

On Tuesday night of election great excitement prevailed at Benton on receiving the news. As soon as the *Tribune* conceded New York New Jersey and Indiana, Democratic joy knew no bounds. The town was painted red in a few minutes. The whole country took up the strain, and echoed the shouts of Benton Democracy. The storm which looked so threatening, burst with disastrous fury upon the Republicans.

Look out for great Democratic demonstrations in the upper townships for the next week or so. Several oratorios are in contemplation. We thought that there were a great many oxen roasted on election day.

Mr. Editor, there are a good many good feeling fellows up our way.

This campaign cured the Republican party of the grip.

MILLVILLE.

Ralph Kisner who has been successful in obtaining two Demorest medals one silver and one gold, started last Saturday for Philadelphia to compete for a grand gold medal, he was accompanied by Miss Allie J. Kester.

You can tell a democrat now as far as you can see him, he is all smiles.

The W. & W. are only running one train at present, the other engine is being repaired at C. M. Parks machine shop.

C. S. Ely the druggist is out with a petition getting signers with which he intends making application for the Millville Post Office.

L. M. German of Unityville expects to sell horse and cow, set of blacksmith tools etc, on Wednesday Nov. 30th, at his home.

Doctor Patton who has been confined to the house for several weeks with Sciatica Rheumatism is enough better so he walks out some.

Wm Masteller of Guava was in town last Monday.

A small boy in town who just started to school for the first this fall says that sometimes people call Pennsylvania, Uncle Tom, he meant they called the United State Uncle Sam.

Rev. Wm. Strickland of Robrsburg preached his farewell sermon at this place last Sunday evening.

There is prospects of having a new church built here by the Lutherans next spring.

One of our townsmen thinks that from present indications that other parties will have to get out nomination papers if they dont look out.

There are several who expect to make application for the Post Office. As only one can get it some one will get left.

W. B. Lawton, Jr., wife and son spent last Tuesday in town.

J. W. Bogert employed at Shoemaker & Co. planing mill is on the sick list.

The one thing about the electric light which has been the cause of much study, is that of decreasing the light without turning it off entirely. This has been accomplished, and now the light can be reduced on the same principal as gas. A sixteen candle power light can readily be reduced down to a one candle power, which gives plenty of light for a night service.

A. J. Derr, the ardent and uncompromising democrat of Greenwood township, was in town on Monday to make arrangements for a big democratic meeting in his township on Saturday next, 19th inst. A big delegation will go from Bloomsburg, and all the democrats in adjoining townships will be present. Speeches will be made, and a Cleveland and Stevenson pole will be raised, and a good old fashioned democratic jollification meeting. Everybody should go. The meeting will take place at noon, at Derr's store.

A number of our leading daily papers issued coupons in their papers during the late campaign, with which estimates, or guesses, could be made as to which candidate would receive the popular plurality, and how much it would be. One of the proprietors of the COLUMBIAN sent in a number of estimates among which was one that Cleveland would have 560,240 plurality. Has any one in this section made a closer estimate? The popular plurality has not yet been determined, but it will fall close to above figures.

A physician tells how worms find their way into chestnuts. He says when the nut is still green an insect comes along, and hunting a warm place in which to have its eggs hatched, lights upon the green chestnut and stings it. At the same time it deposits some of its eggs in the opening thus made. The chestnut begins to ripen and at the same time the eggs are hatching. The insect selects chestnuts as a place for depositing its eggs as being the best adapted place by instinct. The floury matter in the nut turns to sugar, and sugar contains carbon which produces heat. You don't need to look for worms in the early part of the chestnut season, as it takes some time for the eggs to hatch.

In an address at Fowlersville, on Saturday evening preceding the election, J. K. Bittenbender made a prediction that the people had resolved to send President Harrison to farming, and he would raise the largest "beet" that had been raised since '72 and probably would surpass even that of Horace Greeley's. The results show the predictions to be verified. The statement was based upon a knowledge of the false promises that have been made. The laborer was promised higher wages—the farmer better prices; but the promises all vanished while the expense of living has advanced and the mortgage upon the farms grown larger. The people have risen in their might and the silent ballot overthrown the monopoly party. Abraham Lincoln truly said: "You may fool some of the people all the time, you may fool all the people some of the time, but you can't fool all the people all the time".

The entire mail route system throughout the northern part of this county, except that carried by rail, is a completely bungled-up arrangement. We understand that a new route will soon be petitioned for to extend from Unityville, via Waller, to Benton. This is a move in the right direction; but, if possible, Derrs should be included in the route. It seems to us that a route from Unityville, by way of Waller and Derrs to Benton, leaving Unityville in the morning, arriving here at 10:20 o'clock, a. m., in time for mail south over the B. & S. R. R., and returning after arrival of mail north at 3:35 p. m., would be the most feasible as well as the most convenient and satisfactory for all the points named. It would enable them to get their daily papers and give them much quicker communication with Benton and the County Seat. As it now is, all mail matter sent to these points from Benton or Bloomsburg must be carried in a round-about way for nearly seventy-five miles, over three railroads and one wagon route before reaching its destination—and then sometimes it is detained a day or two on the way owing to having missed connection.—*Benton Argus.*

There will be no services in the Lutheran Church next Sunday except the Sunday School and Christian Endeavor both Junior and senior. Rev. Heilmann preaches in Berwick where the Lutherians have recently organized.