

The Columbian.

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IRA HICKS' FORECAST.

A HOT WAVE OF GREAT WARMTH PROMISED FOR EARLY AUGUST.

On the 2d and 3d of August will center a reactionary wave of great warmth, resulting in severe storms within the period embraced between the 2d and night of the 4th. At this time we will be nearing the center of the Venus equinox, and the phenomena will take on the characteristics so often defined as resulting from that disturber. Excessive heat is apt to end in lightning, thunder, hail and wind, and a sudden change to abnormally cool on the very heels of great heat. The storm period, 8th to 12th, promises the most active and dangerous storms of the month, having as the disturbing causes "Vulcan" central on the 8th, Venus central on the 9th, new moon on the 11th, and Mercury central on the 12th. There is reason to apprehend violence in the elements between the 8th and 12th.

The heat will become intense before the storm appears, the barometer will be depressed generally, reaching phenomenal "lows" at some points, and cloud formations will be black and ominous. Heavy hail, thunder and wind may be expected, and "cloud bursts" are sure to result here and there. Such are the results ordinarily following such a combination of causes, but there are exceptional cases, when instead of the heat breaking into storms of rain, hail, wind and thunder, the warmth is prolonged, growing more and more oppressive, the life element in the atmosphere seems exhausted, and the sky assumes a gray to brassy aspect, an incubus seeming to fasten up all nature, until violent earthquake phenomena break the spell and allow the elements to return to their normal condition.

If, perchance, this particular period should take this turn, we call upon the people and press everywhere to note carefully whether or not it terminates after the manner we have indicated. Whether it ends in storms or seismic perturbations, there will be sudden reversion from great heat to very cool, with probabilities of temperature falling almost or quite to the frost line in northern regions—say from 11th to 14th. About the 15th reactionary temperature with southerly winds will most likely result in another spell of storminess, and be followed by another northwesterly inrush of cool air.

From the 18th to 22d, falls another period of heat and storms. We name the 18th, 20th, and 21st as days on which the chief disturbances will be at their crisis. The moon's first quarter on the morning of the 19th, in connection with the prevailing Venus electric strain, is very apt to produce gales and thunder squalls within twenty-four hours of 6 p. m. on that date. Another series of disturbance for two or three days will be natural during this period, but the barometer, wind currents and temperature will plainly announce when the storm elements have been reduced to the normal—the wind coming cool and steadily from the west and north—the barometer moving upward, and the temperature falling. After these disturbances there will be a close approach to the first line in the north. Pleasant days and very cool nights will follow up to reactionary change and storms on and touching the 26 and 27th. The full moon on the 27th will tend to centralize the disturbances on and around that date, and will help to precipitate any tendency to seismic those that may exist, such being more than probable at the time, if electrical storms should not have been frequent and hard during the month.

August ends with the first stages of a storm period coming into action—that is, barometer will be falling in the west, with temperature rising in advance of it, fed by the southerly air currents that transport moisture, heat and electric force from the equatorial regions. August storms in most parts of the northern hemisphere will develop and move from the northwest, the first marked indication of their coming being generally a dark or leaden bank across the northwest at sunset. There is cause for this. It is the return of our globe toward the autumnal equinox, and an effort of nature to let in through our polar gates cooler ozone and atmosphere from outer space.

They tell a wicked story about a jovial son that came up to the gates of heaven and asked admission. "No," said St. Peter severely; "you can't get in; you are not fit." The traveller stepped back, looked the old saint steadily in the eye, and crowed three times. St. Peter colored, shuddered, and fumbled for his key. "You can go in," said he, in a rather shaky voice, "but don't do that to me again."

SUPERINTENDENT'S SALARIES.

ATTORNEY GENERAL HENSEL SAYS IT MUST BE FIXED UPON A BASIS OF 290 SCHOOLS IN A COUNTY.

Superintendent of public instruction Schaeffer recently wrote to Attorney General Hensel calling his attention to a mistake in the last sentence of section 1 of the act of May 23, 1893, relating to the salaries of county Superintendents of common schools and asking whether or not he should regard the words "one hundred and ninety schools" where they occur in the act as a mistake and base his calculations as to the minimum salaries of superintendents in certain counties on "two hundred and ninety schools," as contemplated in the act of April 29, 1878. In reply the Attorney General says:

"I am of the opinion that it was the manifest intention of the legislature to re-enact the act of 1878 so far as it fixes the number of schools in the counties in which the salaries of Superintendents shall not be less than \$1,500. If the citation of the old act were correct in the amendments and the same contained general or special repealing clause, I would hesitate to advise you to disregard the words of the new enactment, even if there were doubts whether or not it correctly expressed the intention of the legislature, but the mis-quotation of the old act in the recital of part of it in the act of 1893, makes plain and obvious the error of the draftsman. It nowhere appears either from the title or the contents that the legislature intended to alter or change the last proviso of the act of April 26, 1878, and I therefore advise and instruct you that your department should hold, as heretofore, that the minimum salary of \$1,500 is to apply to counties having over 300 schools or 1,200 square miles of territory, or a school term exceeding seven and one-half months."

Go to Bed Stories.

HORRIBLE TALES WHICH DESTROY SLUMBER AND MAKE A BODY NERVOUS.

"I wish I were able to write all the go-to-sleep stories that are told to the little folks all over the land every night," said a tender-hearted mother the other day. "It makes me positively sad to think of the small brains that are filled with distorted images, hobgoblins, ogres, giants and the like, just as reason is losing its hold upon them for several hours. I don't think mothers realize what an influence upon a child's life, and even upon its life after it has ceased to be a child, is exerted by this apparently trifling matter of how it goes to sleep."

"Every night when I watch my little daughter working off the big thoughts that sweep over her brain, as her tired body begins to relax while her mentality seems to be briefly and proportionately stimulated, I tremble to think of the harm that could be done to her or any child—for Mabel is not an abnormal child in any way—by an ignorant nurse or thoughtless parent."

"The fact that every normal child cries out for a bedtime story shows that its mental nature needs it just as its physical nature craves sweets. You want to give your child pure candy, so give him the unadulterated story. Leave out the fearful personalities, the grim and gigantic figures—these, even if they are properly vanquished by the gallant hero, are too distinct for the crib-side tale."

"Sit down by your little one's bed and speak low and evenly. Weave a fanciful but quiet story that tells of pretty fairies and birds and flowers and droning bees and loving little boys and girls—these woo sleep to the weary but active brain, not with the suffocating pressure of the gathering storm lit with lurid flashes, but with the soft clouds of the sunset horizon that change from rosy pink to tender enveloping gray, and gradually deepen into restful gloom."

A local newspaper is often accused of being biased in regard to giving personal notices—of mentioning the comings and goings of some and overlooking others. The fault is the people's, not the editor's. He is always willing to tell who comes and who goes if he can find out. If you have visitors let us know who they are, where they came from and how long they will remain in town.

Dr. H. Bierman has moved from Danville to Bloomsburg, and occupies one of Mrs. Smith's houses on Third street, next door to her residence. Dr. Bierman is a homeopathic physician and surgeon. His office is at his residence. His card announces that special attention is given to diseases of children.

THE FAIR LOSING MONEY.

CUTTING DOWN THE EXPENSES.

CHICAGO, Aug. 1.—With the closing of the gates last night the first half of the Columbian exposition passed into history. The number of paid admissions during the month was 2,759,971, the largest number of paid admissions was registered July 4, when 283,273 people deposited the admission fee. The smallest number was on Sunday last when only 18,637 paid admissions were recorded. The paid attendance for May was 1,050,037, while that of June was 2,695,113.

Officials of the fair are greatly pleased with the artistic success of the exposition, but this much cannot be said of the financial end of the enterprise. The attendance has failed largely to reach the mark it was expected to attain during the first half of the fair and especially during the month of July. For this the railroads are in the main held responsible and the officials do not hesitate to criticize their stubbornness and meanness in refusing to make a one-fare round trip at the beginning of the fair.

THE INVESTMENTS NOT PROFITABLE.

The present hard times have had much to do with the poor attendance, but the management thinks the people would have attended largely had the railroad fares been reduced. There must necessarily be a large attendance during the remaining period of the fair if the management expects to pay its debts, and this is all they now hope to do. It is a foregone conclusion that the stockholders of the fair will get nothing on their investment nor will their subscriptions be returned, as the money for which the exposition is legally liable amounts to so much that it will take a tremendous daily average of paid admissions to release the obligation.

President Higinbotham is as hopeful as any of the officials in the matter of finance. He said to-day: "I have only one fault to find with the first half of the fair. The attendance has not been what it ought to have been. In all other respects the exposition has been a success as no one can reasonably deny, but in that respect the first half is by no means the better half."

THE EXPENSES TO BE REDUCED.

"I believe that the attendance from now on will steadily increase. I believe that the admissions this week will exceed those of last. There have now been about six and a half million admissions. Certainly, more than that many will be registered during the remainder of the fair and the total attendance will more than double those figures. The latter half of the fair will surprise us as much with a large attendance as the first half has disappointed us with bad."

The retrenchment policy will be renewed at once with increased vigor. One of the first effects of economy is felt in the elimination of one "special" night per week. This feature has been abridged to two nights. There will be no music at night except upon those days and the hours for the day concerts have been changed so as to divide the music equally between the morning and afternoon. The free orchestral concerts will be given as usual, at least for the present. The new arrangement will work a saving of a few hundreds daily.

The very latest quotations on new wheat is 60 cents a bushel. A drop of five cents was made during the last week. This is the lowest price offered for wheat for many years. Dealers in flour report a corresponding decrease but the retailers seem to adhere closely to the old rates.

J. G. Wells has sold his residence on Fifth street to F. G. Yorks, for \$4,000. Mr. Yorks recently came to Bloomsburg from New Jersey and is interested in the silk mill. He will take possession of his new home on September 1st.

There will be a special meeting of the Board of Directors of the Bloomsburg School District Friday evening, August 4th to consider the question of the adoption of school books. A notice has been sent all teachers to be present.

The regular meeting of the Council of the Lutheran church will be held Friday evening, at which time will be considered the question of repairs for the church.

Preaching in the Presbyterian church next Sunday by Yorrin W. Arahaham, a native of Persia, and a student of Theology.

NO SUNDAY WORK.

An effort is being made in this town to enforce the law of 1794, which prohibits all kinds of labor on Sunday except work of necessity or charity. In pursuance of the object the following circular has been issued.

TO BUSINESS MEN:—Six days of work and business in every seven and one day for rest is a law of God and nature. Human life and happiness depend upon it. Church and State and National life seem also to demand a day of rest. In America—a Christian country—the rest day should be as dear as the flag. To lose the one is to lower the other. Our appeal is to all persons in Bloomsburg who are using Sunday for business purposes, contrary to the law of the State, which aims to protect the day of rest in the interest of all. You surely are not willing to give up this heritage that is so thoroughly a part of our nation's greatness and of our happiness as a people. The liberty of rest for one demands law of rest for all. We have that law. In two ways it may be maintained—

1st, By the voluntary closing of your places of business and abstaining from secular work on the Sabbath, except as far as the law allows. This we invite you to do.

2nd, By a strict enforcement of the law toward all offenders.

The Sabbath Protection Committee of Bloomsburg, co-operating with the American Sabbath Union, which society is organized in America solely to protect the day, ask you to help by acting upon the first suggestion from the receipt of this notice, promising that "with charity for all and with malice toward none we will employ the latter only where the former fails, and will follow the general closing of Sunday business and discontinuing of unlawful Sunday work with that watchfulness, which will prove a protection to the individual by enforcing the "law of rest for all."

Join us in this movement which is for the good of all concerned and unquestionably right.

The surrender of the rest day in this country would open the way for blight and desolation. To the good and true and patriotic citizen there is but one course to pursue. All such will help to save the American Sabbath.

SABBATH PROTECTION COMMITTEE OF BLOOMSBURG AMERICAN SABBATH UNION.

Personal calls were made upon all those who have been doing any unnecessary business on Sunday, and the result was that last Sunday all cigar stands, and soda fountains were closed. If strictly enforced, the law applies to livery stables, milk wagons, barber shops, ice cream saloons, and every thing else except what may properly come under the head of necessity or charity.

Within the past year Berwick has suffered from an average of one incendiary fire a month. Fortunately these losses have been confined to stables and dilapidated buildings. Last week Wednesday night there was another, which consumed the stable of William De Haven together with a valuable horse, cow, and large supply of grain and feed.

Next afternoon a young man named Warren Fenstermaker was arrested on strong suspicion. He comes from a good family, but the evidence that he has invariably been the first person upon the scene and in several instances has himself given the alarm has led the officers to place a watch upon him. That evening he was found loafing about the stable in question, but eluded the watchman. The case will be fully investigated.

There was considerable disappointment on Tuesday, when it was learned that Charley Shaffer had left town, and would not play with the Bloom team against Bellefonte. Manager Harman went to Wilkesbarre and saw Shaffer, but was unable to get him as he has signed with the Wilkesbarre club. There has also been some trouble about Watts, who was playing with the Tyrone club, and left there to play with Bloomsburg, without being released, and according to the constitution, he cannot play with any other club in the same league. The game with Milton last Saturday is reported in the Press as not counting for this reason.

Owing to the rain July 29th, it was necessary to postpone the Farmer's Excursion to Wynona Park near Coles Creek until Friday, August 11th, when all arrangements have been made for holding picnic. Come and see where "Wynona" sacrificed her life.

SCHOOL BOARD.

The regular meeting of the Board of Directors of the Bloomsburg School District was held Friday evening, July 29th, in the High School building, all the members being present.

The committee on buildings and grounds reported having attended to the repairs of fence about the Third street building. They also reported having made a contract with V. B. Moyer to place snow breakers, replace slate, and straighten tower and finals upon the High School building.

Treasurer Townsend reported having received the State appropriation. Secretary Rinker reported having completed the Tax Duplicate.

Committee on supplies reported that they would recommend that the Board furnish supplies to the scholars as follows: At the beginning of school term or admission of the pupil, two tablets, pen, pen-holder and lead-pencil; after the Easter vacation, one pen. Scholars from other districts will not be furnished supplies by this district. Children of the primary grade will be furnished with slates and slate pencils.

The text book committee recommended the adoption of new Arithmetics and new Histories.

THE NEW RESERVOIR.

The Bloomsburg Water Company awarded their contract for building the new reservoir to Messrs. Coon & Mooney of Kingston, on Tuesday evening. The contractors were on hand Wednesday morning with their horses and carts ready to begin operation. Anyone in need of work can find employment with these gentlemen for the next two or three months.

The new reservoir will be located in the rear of the old one, and when completed will have a capacity of three or four times that of the old. The banks of the old will be raised three feet higher, and terraced about eighty feet all around; This will increase its capacity over 500,000 gallons.

The "green goods" man is getting in his work. Hundreds of circulars have been sent here containing the usual facsimile of a newspaper clipping describing the alleged counterfeit money as being so perfectly executed that no one can detect it. A few days ago Casper Kressler received a letter of this kind, and in it was enclosed a one dollar bill as a sample of the kind of goods the writer manufactures. The bill was genuine money, and Mr. Kressler is grateful to the sender for his liberality, but he was not caught by the bait. Several other persons in town have also received letters with genuine money enclosed as "samples."

After many years of suffering Mrs. Eliza J. wife of J. Lloyd Dillon, died last Sunday morning at 5 o'clock. Her age was 44 years. She was a daughter of William Barkle, and her mother, a sister, and two brothers remain of her father's family. Her husband and two children survive her. The funeral took place on Tuesday, services being held in St. Paul's Church, of which Mrs. Dillon was a member. The deceased was an estimable lady, and her loss will be keenly felt by the sorrowing relatives.

The first League game between Milton and Bloomsburg [on Saturday] resulted in favor of the latter by a score of 25 to 11. A large crowd was present, but there was nothing exciting about the game, and some of Milton's best men were in camp and unable to get here.

Manager Harman has devoted much time and energy to securing good men for the home team, and has succeeded in making the strongest nine the town has ever had. The patronage at the Park thus far, has been good, and it ought to be continued throughout the season.

There have been rumors and rumors afloat the past two weeks about political combinations among certain candidates and their friends, but how much truth there is in any of these reports, we are unable to say. All the candidates are hard at work this week, and to-morrow will end the struggle so far as the delegate election is concerned. Between then and Tuesday the free votes in convention will be looked after by those who need them.

Eighteen members of the Y. M. C. A. male choir went up to Jamison City last Friday night, and gave a concert in Proctor Hall, under the direction of Prof. Niles. There was a fair audience, and the proceeds amounted to about thirty dollars. The money is to be used towards the erection of a church at Jamison City.

BRIEF MENTION.

About People You Know.

J. M. Gidding and M. Ellenbogen spent last Sunday in Danville.

Prof. G. E. Wilbur and family are at Hop Bottom, Pa.

Miss Sarah Moody of Sunbury is the guest of Mrs. S. F. Peacock.

Mrs. William Leverett returned to Wilkes-Barre on Wednesday.

Mrs. Clara Rupert is lying in a very critical condition at her home in Scott town.

B. P. Vannatta returned home last week, after an absence of several months.

J. M. Staver, Less Alexander and C. B. Robbins expect to start for Chicago on Saturday.

Frank Phillips recently visited his brother Ralph at Ridgway, going as far as Williamsport on his bicycle.

J. W. Raeder, the energetic book-binder of Wilkes-Barre, was in town on Wednesday looking up his trade.

Editor G. A. Potter of Millville called on his Bloomsburg friends on Monday.

Samuel B. Kisner, one of Millville's most genial and public spirited citizens, was in Bloomsburg on Monday.

Mrs. R. H. Ringler and daughter, Miss Dora, are visiting Edward Ringler in Ohio.

H. C. Jones has sufficiently recovered from his attack of rheumatism to return to his work again. He went back to Nanticoke on Monday.

Those veteran democrats, and leading citizens of Benton, John J. and Rohr McHenry, were among the visitors to the county seat on Tuesday.

Rev. I. E. Patterson and daughter Eleanor are visiting friends in Nova Scotia. They will be absent from home about four weeks.

Mrs. L. W. McComb, Miss Wells, and Miss Coppuck, of Philadelphia, have been the guests of Mrs. Samuel Wigfall. They went to Cresson on Tuesday.

George W. Bersch of Reading spent several days in town during the past week, visiting his friends. He is looking well, and is well pleased with his new location.

Prof. W. H. Butts is enjoying his summer vacation greatly. He spends much time on his bicycle, and takes long trips around the country. He has been to Hazleton, Sunbury, Danville, and many other points.

THE KLINE FAMILY.

A full family record of the Kline name is being prepared by Mrs. S. J. Houtz, Orangeville, Col. Co., Pa. The descendants of Abraham, Harmon and George, (sons of Abraham) will confer a favor if they will fill out and send to her address, a record of their family and descendants, being sure to give the name of father, maiden name of mother, also of grandparents, date of births, deaths and marriage, also number of generation, counting the persons above mentioned as first.

Governor Pattison has appointed John M. Buckalew a member of the Indian Fort Commission. Mr. Buckalew is thoroughly versed in the early history of this county, and knows the location of all the forts that were erected for protection against the Indians. It is proposed to erect monuments to mark the spots where these forts stood.

H. V. White & Co. shipped several car loads of new wheat during the past week. The outlook for an increase in the price of wheat is not very bright to the farmer, and many prefer to sell from the field at the low rate rather than hold it, in anticipation of an advance.

W. A. Hartzell runs a cab to the ball ground whenever there is a game. His new carriage, fine team and Dave Boughton as the driver, in black coat and high silk hat, make a very stylish turnout.

The P. O. S. of A. excursion to Mountain Park on Monday was attended by about 1000 people. Thirteen coaches left here, all well filled. The Bloom band furnished music. Everybody was well pleased.

The vines planted around the Episcopal Church are growing rapidly, and in a few years they will cover the stone work. The grounds are in fine condition and show great care on the part of the sexton, James P. Thornton.

I. W. Hartman offers his residence for sale for \$7,000.