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The Columbian.

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VOL 29

BLOOMSBURG, PA., FRIDAY, MAY 25, 1894.

NO 21

WILD WATERS.

Great Destruction by Floods All Over the Country.

TOWNS UNDER WATER.

Williamsport, Milton, Sunbury, Montgomery Station, Harrisburg and Other Places Along the Susquehanna Among the Sufferers—Bridges Carried Away.

The down pour of rain, commencing Saturday afternoon and continuing with some intermission throughout the night, all day on Sunday and Sunday night, and taking it up again on Monday morning, rather more than gratified the complaining farmers who were lamenting the absence of moisture. Fishingcreek was so high on Monday morning as to materially affect passenger traffic and in a measure jeopardize and impede the progress of the trains. The train coming south on Monday morning was obliged to feel its way along cautiously from Jamison City. A barrier that stopped the cars completely was met just above Orangeville, where quite a large tree had fallen across the track, the removal of which had to be done in a heavy rain. To the credit of the company we must say that on this occasion a comfortable fire was to be found in the cars, and it was about the only enjoyable thing of the trip. If Fishingcreek gets much higher we, at least, have never seen it so. The stream was far above its natural bed, submerging the low lands all along and in some places putting the wagon road under water as well as strips of newly-planted corn and grain of all kinds. Because of the frequent blights to fruit and all manner of vegetation that is injured by our eastern storms, we are disposed to regard them generally as rather more calamitous than beneficial, and we fear our last eastern storm has been no exception to the rule.

GENERAL RAVAGES OF THE STORM.

The storm, which had been anxiously looked for by impatient farmers who were already muttering complaint, set in without much noise or bluster on Saturday afternoon. With but little intermission it rained for about 60 hours, when reports of disaster through floods, inundations, washouts, land slides, fallen timber, &c., began finding their way into print. Because of detained mails, however, it was difficult to get the news punctually. Culled at random the reports read as follows, somewhat:

Pennsylvania swept by floods. Streams still rising rapidly. Lock Haven shut off; Williamsport inundated; great damage throughout the State; the storm unequalled since the memorable Johnstown disaster in 1889; families surrounded by water in some cases and no assistance able to reach them; 25,000,000 feet of logs in the swim at Lock Haven; bridges swept away along mountain streams, creeks, rivulets, and rivers; the rise of the west branch of the Susquehanna said to be 25 to 30 feet. Nothing like it except, perhaps, the historic freshet of 1865. The river rose at the rate of a foot an hour, coming right up close to the lower chords of railroad bridges; in some places sweeping through the bridges, placing them in momentary danger of being carried from their piers and moorings; part of Lock Haven under water; Norristown flooded; Juniata Valley people suffered great loss; 75 cars loaded with stone run on a bridge to hold it there; passenger traffic necessarily retarded and, in some cases, entirely abandoned; Sunday services forgotten or neglected in the excitement, and yet if it ever stops raining the God who started it, the God of nature and of the elements, alone can stop it; miles of trolley tracks buried under debris; the last train to reach Lock Haven waded through 18 inches of water, and so did the passengers; 170 million feet of measured logs known to be afloat, with twice as many more, perhaps, that are unmeasured and unclaimed, because they came from nobody knows where; lots of work for "wage earners" carting goods to the highlands along swollen streams; everybody at work and nobody happy; railroaders heretofore nursing their dividends must now hire labor to make amends or quit running; Coxey's plan is nowhere compared with the elements for brushing up dormant capital and capitalists in dull times; little streams join the big ones, then they all join together, and the windows of heaven are

still open to let the rain down; Aaron Strausburger, a Williamsport liquor dealer, fell down stairs and hurt himself badly while trying to save his effects from the flood; perhaps he was excited; cellars filled also; in the dead hour of midnight the rain fell in sheets and the wind blew such a gale as Tom O'Shanter encountered; everybody on Front street, Williamsport, driven to their second stories for safety; a brewery struck by lightning at Reading; railroad tracks washed out at Tyrone; terrible damage throughout Luzerne county also; the steamer Mayflower loaded with Hungarian passengers driven against a pier and sunk quickly, the Hungarians didn't, but they narrowly escaped; collieries flooded; tenements unroofed; crops badly damaged; extensive and expensive tramways washed out at Paddy Mountain; people of the valley near Lewisburg fleeing to the hills and mountains for safety; storm severe and general along the coast, doing great damage to shipping and driving boats aground; destruction to growing crops inestimable upon the lowlands, and too much moisture for good fruitage upon the highlands; destructive winds and terrific rain not confined to Pennsylvania, but sweep the Atlantic coast; at Atlantic City a veritable hurricane blew from the south-east; ocean piers and handsome promenades destroyed; waves rolling over bulkheads and flooding the lawns; everything flooded; no boats presuming to venture upon the high seas; mountainous waves sweeping out across the beautiful meadows and submerging railroads and checking all means of travel; authentic and minute reports will verify the fact that the generally destructive results of the storm are unequalled.

Two bridges at Williamsport, the Muncy bridge, the Lewisburg bridge, were carried off, the latter tearing out one span of the bridge at Northumberland; and the P. & R. railroad bridges at Muncy and Milton are among the disasters. The Milton fair grounds were completely wrecked.

The water flooded Montgomery Station, and did much damage. The residence of S. B. Henderson, son-in-law of E. C. Wells, had eight feet of water on the first floor. Mr. Henderson and family removed to the hotel. His house had but recently been repaired. This is the second time it has been wrecked by the flood.

LOCAL STREAMS.

On Tuesday morning, while waiting the belated mails, the COLUMBIAN hitched up and took a drive around in order the better to report upon the true conditions of the Susquehanna and the historic Fishingcreek. At the river we found, upon inquiry from those who claimed to be familiar with high and low water marks that the stream then some fifteen or eighteen feet above low water, was slowly but surely rising. There was a margin of some four or five feet yet before the water would reach the highest known rise of the river in the past. Of course the coffer dam was out of sight and under water along with much other bridge building machinery and appliances that it is hoped will be found when the water recedes.

Looking across the river we observed quite a land-slide from under the Pennsylvania railroad tracks and upon which men were busily at work to make it passable. This work and the click of some stone dressers' chisel on the stone for the new bridge was about the only business activity to be observed. A few fishermen were there, indeed, but the conditions seemed to be unfavorable and they failed to show us their catch. The river was rising at about the same rate that we found Fishingcreek receding, and no great damage was found to have been sustained by this vicinity, though much low land that was unable to absorb the rain as it fell was found to be still underwater.

It has continued to rain most of the time since Sunday, with short intervals of stops. It is raining hard this Thursday morning, and there is no telling when it will stop. The river has fallen many feet, and the creek also.

Grand Army of the Republic.

The members of Col. W. H. Ent Post, No. 250, will meet at their hall Sunday, May 27th, at 10 a. m., to attend divine service at the Episcopal Church. All old soldiers and sailors are respectfully invited to meet with us.

THOS. E. GEDDIS, P. C.
C. P. SLOAN, Adj.

The COLUMBIAN is pleased to acknowledge receipt of invitation to attend the Commencement Exercises of the Pennsylvania State College, at State College, Pa., from June 10th to 13th inclusive.

THE FLOOD AT MILTON.

On Tuesday afternoon in company with about twenty others from Bloomsburg, we went over to Milton by the P. & R. railroad to see the devastation caused by the flood. The water rose on Sunday and Monday, until it had reached a point about fifteen inches lower than in 1889. All the business portion of the town was flooded, including Broadway and Main street. During Tuesday the water fell five feet, and by Wednesday morning the streets were passable again, the river being within its banks. Two spans of the P. & R. bridge were carried away by logs from the Williamsport boom, and it was expected that a third span would go, as the logs were banked against it higher than the top of the span.

The flood did not come as suddenly as in 1889, so that every body had time to move their goods to the second floors. Pianos, cook-stoves, and everything else movable was carried up stairs. In many residences, there was from four to eight feet on the first floors, and great damage has been done. Every train was crowded with people from adjoining towns who were brought to Milton out of curiosity. It will take months to get the water out of cellars, and to clean up and repaint and paper, and for a long time the dampness in the houses cannot but render them unhealthy.

The people of Milton are certainly entitled to much sympathy, for they have been very unfortunate.

The flood of 1869, the fire of 1881, and the floods of 1889 and 1894 have been heavy blows to the place, but the residents have borne up bravely and have struggled hard against adversity, and seem cheerful and hopeful in the midst of disaster. If they ask for help it ought to be most heartily rendered to them.

To the Citizens of Bloomsburg.

There is an organization in this town that has for its end the elevation of young men. It seeks to throw about the boys and young men of the place Christian influences, to give them wholesome reading matter to teach them cleanliness, Godliness and self respect. This organization is the Young Men's Christian Association. It does a work that is not done, and can not be done by the churches of the place, and which supplements rather than hinders their work.

Is the work done by this association worth anything to the citizens of Bloomsburg? Is it of any practical value to have the young men who work in the factories, clerk in our stores, engage in the different industrial pursuits, loaf on our streets, and marry our daughters, kept from the saloons, and other disturbing influences, and led into the paths of sobriety, respectability, honesty and piety? Looking at it from the cold, calculating, business point of view, does it pay to elevate and save young men? Does it not enhance the value of property, turn large sums of money into the legitimate channels of trade and make it a safer place to rear children, to have in our town an organization that looks after the morals, manners, and religion of our young men?

Now, we the undersigned citizens of Bloomsburg, who have given of our own time and means to manage the affairs of this organization, believing that the people of Bloomsburg want this work done, make this public appeal for financial means to do it. The fathers and mothers of this town who want to make it a safe town in which to bring up and educate and start successfully upon their life-work, their sons and daughters, ought to meet this appeal with welcome and substantial response. Everybody can subscribe something. Many can give of their abundance; as the Lord has blessed them, all can do something. Let us hear from you. Do not make us hunt you up.

We remain most respectfully,
yours for the young men.

J. P. WELSH, President,
H. G. SUPPLEE, Vice Pres.,
G. E. WILBUR,
A. N. YOST, Recording Sec.,
H. V. WHITE, Treasurer.
E. B. TUSTIN,
W. H. BROOKE,
W. B. CUMMINGS,
W. M. WEAVER,
M. I. LOW,
C. H. ALBERT,

Board of Directors of Y.M.C.A.

McCracken & Forbes, who had arranged to sell a car load of western horses at the Piatt livery stable in Nanticoke, on Tuesday the 22d, were among the many business men whose plans were disarranged by the elements not within man's control. The heavy rains prevented all possibility of getting their horses there in time.

BRIEF MENTION

About People You Know.

W. T. Creasy, candidate for sheriff, was in town on Wednesday.

Mr. A. M. Ruch spent Saturday among friends in Shickshinny.

Marid Wenner, of Van Camp, was a visitor to town on Saturday.

Among the sick of Bloomsburg, we must mention Thomas Hartman.

G. W. Belles, of New Columbus, was among those attending court.

Michael Wenner of Van Camp, transacted business in Bloomsburg on Saturday.

J. K. Lockard has had the hall way in his store building papered and varnished.

Oscar Hess, of Van Camp, was among those visiting the county seat on Saturday.

Ben. Johns, of the Normal, spends his Sundays at home in Shickshinny occasionally.

Cletus Jones is at home, and has been nursing fourteen carbuncles on his right arm.

Mr. and Mrs. Geo. Suplee are being visited by their daughter Mrs. Anna Nuss, of Mainville.

C. N. Nagle of Mainville, has entered Wood's Business College for a Business Course.

Mr. W. L. McHenry, of Stillwater, was a caller at this office on business on the 22d instant.

Miss Margaret Sober, a teacher of Danville, recently visited her sister Mrs. Dr. Bierman.

Mrs. Harry Eshelman and Mrs. Turnbach and daughter are visiting friends in Brooklyn, New York.

Mrs. Frea Hicks of Hummelstown, is visiting at her father's, J. K. Lockard, on Fifth street.

County Treasurer Heddens of Danville, was in town on Tuesday. He is a brother of P. B. Heddens.

Miss Lizzie Martena, of Berwick, is spending a few days with Mr. and Mrs. Bolline, on Normal Hill.

Mr. and Mrs. George C. Roan are entertaining Mr. J. E. Frederick, of Turbotville, the father of Mrs. Roan.

Peter Weaver, of Bendertown, was in town recently looking after a gun with which he hopes to hold the crows off of his corn.

Mr. Frank Ackery a successful merchant of Tompkinsville, stopped over in Bloomsburg yesterday while en route to Harrisburg.

Wellington Sands, who recently spent a short time visiting his home, is again at his post of duty in the carpet-mills of Bloomsburg.

Thos. Thorber, Gen. Sec. of Y. M. C. A. of Sharpburg, is in town and will address the Men's meeting on next Sunday at 2:30 P. M.

Alex. Knouse does not intend to be crowded out of the race for the sheriffship through false reports. He has a communication in this issue.

Dr. Willits has removed his office from the rooms over J. M. Gidding & Co's. store to Room No. 2, Bedal Gold Cure Institute, Sixth and Market streets.

Mr. Daniel Wenner, street commissioner of Fishingcreek township, visited Bloomsburg on Tuesday to make another payment on their road-making machine.

Mr. B. F. Armstrong, the efficient secretary of the Y. M. C. A., will soon transfer his labors from here to the running of a gospel wagon through the Wyoming Valley.

Rev. C. W. Hipple, of Nuremberg, was among those in attendance at the Christian Endeavor Convention, and who visited "THE COLUMBIAN" while in town.

The doctors of Philadelphia pronounce Mrs. Z. H. Stevens' long continued case of helplessness from spinal affection as curable in time. For years this lady has been bed-ridden.

G. M. Lockard and John Mosteller have returned from Harrisburg, where they took the Keeley Cure. They are looking and feeling well, and speak very highly of the treatment.

Mrs. McBride, of New Columbus, an aged and zealous church worker, accidentally discovered recently that she was blind in one eye. Upon examination, cataract of the eye was found to be the trouble.

Mr. E. J. Bowman, of Berwick, who has undergone successful treatment at the Bedal Cure Institute of Bloomsburg, is now a renovated and rejuvenated citizen of intelligent and gentlemanly deportment.

Mr. Boyd Trescott, of the "Millville Tablet," was in town on Saturday in company with other teachers. They came to be examined for permanent certificate to teach. Mr. Trescott is an experienced teacher.

Mr. Samuel Balal, a native of Persia, and graduate of Drew Theological Seminary after a two years' course of study, is now visiting friends in Bloomsburg. As an independent missionary he will return to Persia in August.

David Wenner, of Bendertown, who visited Bloomsburg recently, a well man upon his arrival, found himself scarcely able to speak after spending a short time here. He caught a cold in some unaccountable way that for a time rendered him almost speechless. Some folks talk too much when they come to town, but it was not so with David on this occasion.

County Treasurer J. R. Fowler, W. B. Taylor, M. Ellenbogen, J. G. Wells, Frank Ickler, G. S. Robbins, J. R. Schuyler, J. M. Clark, and many others, went down to Northumberland on Tuesday to see high water; and L. Gross, Isaiah Hagenbuch and others went to Milton, where they rode in a boat in the main business street with the water eight feet deep.

Splendid knee pants suits, 2 extra pair pants and coat, \$2.25. Gidding & Co.

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An Enormous Success.

The Trade Came Right Our Way! No Wonder.

The most daring undertaking in the mercantile line that Bloomsburg has ever known.

Actually selling a great many Goods at lower prices than other merchants pay for them.

Right in the very heart of the season, with a brand new stock of goods just bought at low cash figures, we are giving for a short time only

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Handed Right Back to the Customer.

WE LOSE MONEY, BUT WE DON'T CARE.

We must continue to sell more clothing than all the other stores in Bloomsburg combined.

We know that you have confidence in what Lowenberg's advertise.

That you like to come where the good clothes come from,

THE GREAT LOWENBERG CLOTHING STORE

Imitated by All. Equaled by None.

We are fitting out several G. A. R. Posts, and if you want G. A. R. Suits cheap, leave us your measure. The very best kind at what you pay for cheap goods elsewhere.



Don't Get Yourself in a Box

BY BUYING SHOES OF AN UNCERTAIN QUALITY.

It's a risk you can't afford to run—can't afford any way when we can supply you with

an article that is beyond question. We handle the best makes of Shoes for Children—BOYS need no longer wear girls' shoes as we have a line made especially for the small Boys, Ladies who wear Spring Heeled Shoes will find a good assortment at the store of W. C. MCKINNEY.



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