

## CHURCH NEWS.

### TRINITY REFORMED CHURCH.

Trinity Reformed Church, situated on the north-east corner of Third and Iron streets, is one of the oldest congregations in the Town of Bloomsburg. From the time of its organization it has kept pace with the other churches of the town, but some years ago elements became potent, which was very disastrous to its progress. It suffered greatly in every department of its work. Not only were many of its members alienated, but it failed to add its quota of new ones. However, within the last three years, all this has been overcome. During this time a fair proportion of its former members have returned to the fold, and new ones have been added until more than one-third of its present membership is made up of the latter class. Likewise during this time the congregation has met all its obligations, and, in addition thereto, has paid off nearly the whole of a debt of over \$1100, so that now it is one of the few churches in Bloomsburg which is not burdened with a heavy debt. The Sunday school has made the same progress during this time. Both the enrolled membership and the average attendance has been trebled. To such an extent has the Sabbath school grown that additional room had to be provided to accommodate the new comers. Peace and harmony and united activity prevail throughout the congregation, and as these insure a continuous and healthy growth, it will soon be one of the strong and influential churches of this place. Rev. C. H. Brandt is the pastor, and A. N. Yost, Esq., is the superintendent of the Sunday school.

The Holy Communion will be observed next Sunday—both morning and evening. The services will begin at 10:30 and 7:30 respectively. Preparatory services will be held on Saturday evening at 7:30. All members and friends are urged to be present.

### BAPTIST NEWS AND NOTES.

The Baptist Church, in Bloomsburg, is approaching the close of the thirty-sixth year of its history, having been organized in November, 1859. While the past year has not been the most prosperous in its history, yet the membership is steadily increasing, and is larger now than it has ever been before.

The pastor, Rev. George E. Weeks, came to the church in April, 1892, and is, therefore, in the fourth year of his pastorate. This is the longest pastorate the church has ever had, except that of Rev. J. P. Tustin.

The annual meeting of the Northumberland Association, to which the church belongs, has just been held in Jersey Shore. The delegates in attendance from Bloomsburg were Rev. Mr. Weeks, Paul Tustin, Mrs. L. McPherson, and Mrs. M. Hazeldine. The Association comprises the churches in the vicinity of the two branches of the Susquehanna, from Berwick on the north, to Lock Haven on the west. It has no control over the churches whatever, but meets for conference and stimulation in religious work. The meeting last week was the seventy-fifth annual gathering, and was of unusual interest. About 180 delegates and visitors were present.

All the members of the church here who love the church will be very busy for the next two weeks, as the ladies have charge of the dining hall on the Fair Grounds this year. They hope to secure funds sufficient to pay off the whole indebtedness of the church.

The Sunday School has a very faithful and successful superintendent in the person of Mr. H. G. Supplee. One great difficulty with which he has to contend is the constant loss of teachers. Only five teachers are now serving, who were in the work three years ago. At the present time the membership of the Sunday school is exactly the same as the membership of the church. The Sunday school roll is revised so as to include only those who are in actual attendance.

The attention of members is called to the fact that the annual business meetings will probably be held a little later than usual this year. The Sunday school meeting will probably be held October 16th, and the church meeting October 23d. All officers for the coming year will be elected at these meetings.

### ST. PAUL'S.

Rev. John Rockwell, rector of St. Gabriel's Church, Cole's Creek, assisted Rev. D. N. Kirkby in the services at St. Paul's church last Sunday.

During Mr. Kirkby's absence of two weeks the latter part of this month, Mr. Rockwell will officiate for him.

A souvenir containing views of the exterior and interior of the church is in preparation, and will be sold for the benefit of the organ fund.

The first year's subscription to the Diocesan paper has expired, and subscribers are requested to renew for the coming year. The price is fifty cents, and can be paid to the rector, or sent direct to the editor, Rev. T. B. Angell, Harrisburg, Pa.

Three ladies with either alto or soprano voices, and four boys between the ages of ten and fourteen years of age are needed in the choir. Will any one volunteer?

The Rev. Archdeacon Kirkby, of Rye, New York, is expected to visit his son, the rector, some time this fall.

The Sunday School will give an entertainment in the Parish House soon. The proceeds will be used in procuring a carpet for the chapel. The program will consist of an operetta by the children, a Brownie March, music &c. The date in November has not yet been fixed.

The Circle of King's Daughters will meet in the Parish House next Monday evening at the usual hour.

The Vestry meeting, postponed from last Tuesday, will be held next Tuesday evening at 8 o'clock.

### METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH.

Bishop Simpson in his Cyclopedia of Methodism says: "In 1831 Rev. George Lane occasionally preached in Bloomsburg which was then a small village. A few persons had attended services at a distant appointment and had united with the church, prominent among whom was Dr. Gearheart who was a popular physician. They applied to be a regular appointment on the Berwick circuit and so continued for some years. The first class consisting of nine persons, was organized September 30th, 1832. They worshipped for a time in the village school house and then in a wagon shop fitted up for their accommodation." Who the original nine members were we can not state with certainty; but the following were probably eight of the nine: Jesse Shannon, Moses Coffman, Delilah Creveling the late Mrs. Caleb Barton, Thomas Bennett, a colored man, Dr. Gearhart, Mrs. Dr. Gearhart, Ziba Ruggels, Joseph Stouffer.

December 17th, 1836 a subscription was started for the purpose of securing money with which to buy a lot and erect a house of worship. This effort proved unsuccessful. But on January 9, 1837 they started out again and were this time successful. The original subscription book is still extant and it is quite interesting to look over the names of the subscribers and the amounts they gave. The largest amount given was \$50.00.

The lot then purchased was the one on which the present Methodist Church now stands. The building was small and of frame structure. This served the purpose for twenty years. In 1857 it was torn down and the present brick church was erected instead.

In recent years Bloomsburg has grown rapidly and the membership of the Methodist church has of course largely increased. The present building is entirely too small to comfortably accommodate the members of the church and Sunday School, to say nothing about the friends of the church. For some time there has been talk of erecting a new church building. At the first Quarterly Conference of this present conference year a committee on church plans was appointed. During the past five months this committee has been busy in securing plans for a church that would meet the present and future needs of the congregation. Mr. Thos. P. Lonsdale of Philadelphia has been selected as the architect and he has submitted plans that have been accepted by the committee and been unanimously adopted by the official members. Blue prints of these plans have been framed and are now hanging in the vestibule of the church.

It is proposed to erect the new church of stone. It will consist of a main audience room located on the vacant lot corner of Third and Market Street, which with the gallery will have a seating capacity of 1200 persons. Adjoining this and communicating with it and located where the present church now stands will be the lecture room or Sunday School room. This room will have galleries on three sides divided into class rooms for Sunday School purposes and will have a seating capacity of 800. As

indicated, the two rooms can be thrown into one, thus furnishing sittings for 2000. It is confidently believed that at least 1700 of these can both see and hear the speaker who occupies the pulpit platform of the main audience room.

In planning the church the committee has considered the needs of the future as well as the present. They have also tried to provide modern conveniences for the Sunday School.

To build this church according to the plans adopted will be quite an undertaking, but the membership is large and united in the project and with faith and works they surely will succeed.

It is expected that this fall the cellar will be dug and the cellar walls of the main building put up. It is hoped during the winter to get everything in readiness so the building may be pushed along rapidly with the opening of the Spring. Such an enterprise as this claims the attention and interest and co-operation not only of the Methodists but of all persons interested in the town of Bloomsburg and in the moral and religious welfare of the community, and we feel confident that many persons of other churches and of no churches will gladly help in such a laudable undertaking.

### THE LUTHERAN CHURCH IN 20 YEARS.

The changes in the Lutheran Church of Bloomsburg have all been progressive changes. Twenty years ago Rev. John McCron, D. D., was pastor. After two years' service he resigned. Rev. O. D. S. Marclay succeeded him, in March, 1878. He died January 10, 1881. Rev. F. P. Manhart succeeded him, and served for eight years. The present pastor, Rev. P. A. Heilman, will finish his sixth year with 1895. The church has been repaired and improved from time to time, the most costly of which was made three years ago. A handsome new parsonage was erected five years ago at a cost of more than \$6,000.00, including the lot. The church is in splendid working condition, large congregations attending the regular services, and all the current obligations promptly met.

A number of prominent citizens, who were members of this church, have passed away in the past twenty years, among the more recent ones who will be well remembered, are Mr. and Mrs. Philip Unangst, Newton Boone, I. S. Kuhn, Mrs. W. R. Tubbs, Mr. and Mrs. David Stroup, Mr. John Kressler, and many more. This church has a membership now of about 500, with a Sunday school of about 450. There are about ten different departments of church work, and every member is interested in one or more of these. If the town continues its growth it will be necessary in the near future to enlarge the building. A few months ago the primary department was compelled to make more room and a new study was built for the Pastor at the parsonage, and the room given to this thriving organization, in charge of Misses Florence Wirt and Edith Weiss. The Sunday school has just added about 200 new books to the library, with a new black board. Other improvements are being talked of. A new piano will be placed in the parlors, likely before the winter is past.

The annual Harvest Home services will be held next Sunday. The church and Sunday school room will be handsomely decorated with grains, fruits and vegetables. The Sunday school will give up the morning to a Harvest Home service. The communion will be administered in the church—both morning and evening.

### YOUNG MEN'S CHRISTIAN ASSOCIATION.

The Young Men's Christian Association was founded by Sir George Williams, of London, England, in 1844, and at the present day its influence and work is felt in all the earth. Associations exist on the continents of Europe, Asia, Africa, North and South America. Little did Mr. Williams dream when he, a clerk in one of London's great dry goods stores, called together his fellow clerks and organized the first Christian Association of young men, for the purpose of mutual help in the Christian life, and leading young men into a saving knowledge of Jesus Christ, that in 50 years his example of faith and zeal in the Master's work would result in the great brotherhood known as the Young Men's Christian Association. Clearly the organization was of Divine institution, and God is in the movement to-day.

The seed was planted in American soil in 1851, the first Association being organized in the city of Boston

Since then it has swept this country from ocean to ocean, and from the lakes to the gulf. The United States of America is distinguished as having the greatest number of Associations of any country in the world. The Association idea took root in Pennsylvania early in the sixties, the first State Convention being held in Philadelphia in 1866, when an organization was effected. At the International Convention, held in Portland, Me., in 1869, the work was re-organized. In 1871 Pennsylvania had two Associations employing general secretaries, and one Association owning its own building. To-day there are 146 Associations, as follows: City and town, 79, Railroad, 16, German, 2, Colored, 3, Indian, 1, College, 49, entrusted with property worth \$1,881,214, and expending for current expenses, about \$250,000 a year.

The first Young Men's Christian Association was organized in Bloomsburg in 1876. The present organization was effected in 1891, and is nicely housed at 42 West Main street. The work is organized under four departments, viz: Religious, Social, Educational and Physical. The Association is not equipped to do the complete work to which it is called, for lack of a building of its own, with all the necessary furniture, but it is hoped this need will be met by the people of Bloomsburg in the near future. Notwithstanding its lack of means, the local Association has performed its mission in the community. Some idea of the extent of the enterprise may be gathered from the work of the different departments. Under the religious, which is the chief work of the Association, are the gospel meetings, cottage and jail meetings, special evangelistic services, Bible classes, evening prayers, and visitation of the sick. Under the social, the holding of socials, receptions and the giving of concerts, lectures and entertainments. The educational department provides for the reading rooms and arrangements for evening classes and practical talks. The physical department instructs in the care of the body and its relation to the higher nature. Beside these the Association conducts a boarding house register and employment bureau.

The year 1895 has been a prosperous one for the local Association. It has won its way into the hearts of the people, and we have faith that they will not suffer it to lack any necessity, when its needs become known. About \$700 will be needed to carry the work through to the close of the year. Let everybody help, contributing what they can, if only a mite, and God will smile upon both giver and worker. He has blessed the effort of the workers abundantly this year, the Association occupying a position attained by very few, if any, Associations, that of having three-fourths an attendance at the religious meetings, of the daily attendance at the rooms. The record for the first three-quarters of 1895 is as follows:

84 meetings, for men, av. att., 206..... 7014  
Attendance at various religious meetings, 10,409  
Total attendance at all..... 17,474  
Daily attendance..... 36,141  
Professed conversions..... 39

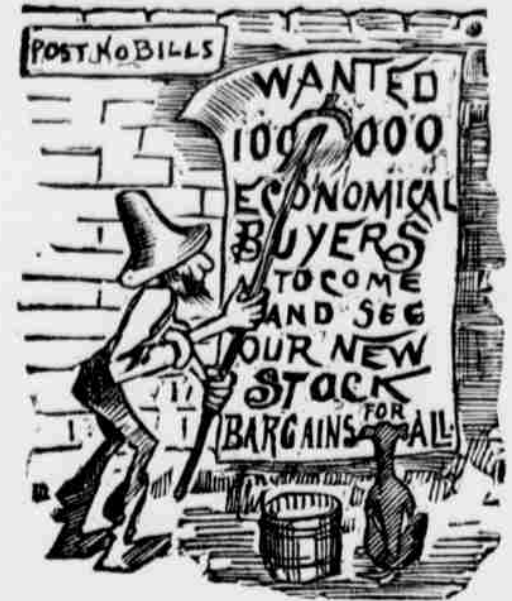
The officers for 1895 are: President, S. C. Creasy; Vice Presidents, Prof. G. E. Wilbur, Dr. Andrew Graydon; Recording Secretary, A. N. Yost; Acting Treasurer, W. R. Kocher; Directors, E. B. Tustin, M. I. Low, W. H. Brooke, W. B. Cummings, Prof. C. H. Albert, W. R. Kocher; General Secretary, F. Freeman Boas; Superintendent of Building, Robert Moore.

### CHRISTIAN ENDEAVOR CONVENTION.

The Eighth Bi-County Convention of the Christian Endeavor Societies of Columbia and Montour counties will be held in the United Evangelical church at Light Street on Thursday October 31st, 1895. A full programme has been prepared. Further notice will be given later.

Those who visit the Opera House Monday night will get more than their money's worth in the splendid acting of a splendid play. It may seem odd, after so many non-dividend-paying shows, to witness one like this, which pays amusement profits like Bell Telephone used to. Romeo and Juliet is the play, and as fine a one for a woman kind has never been seen in this vicinity. But even such a moving, soul and heart-stirring play, would come to nothing, were it not acted in the fashion it merits. This will be done. Charles B. Hanford, Ellis R. Spencer, and Nora O'Brien, are the stars. They appear as Mercutio, Romeo and Juliet. The fifteen remaining parts are in the hands of first-class actors, and the scenery is superb.

## See Last Page.



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## ROCHESTER CLOTHING SALE!

Saturday, October 5th, one of the largest stocks of clothing ever brought to Bloomsburg will be on sale at Lowenberg's. The surplus stock of Rochester manufacturers bought for spot cash, will be sold at way below the regular price. Remember this no fake sale of shoddy clothing, but a genuine sale of fine

## Rochester Clothing

at lower prices than you pay for cheap goods. Brings the prices of fine clothing down so low that it is within the reach of the smallest purse. Here are a few items which will bring crowds of people to our store:

## MEN'S FINE WOOLEN SUITS AND OVERCOATS,

\$5.00, \$6.75 and \$7.50. Finest dress suits and overcoats, the long cut blue overcoats that were \$15 and \$18 are \$10, \$12 and \$13. Big boys' wool suits, \$3. Children's woolen suits and overcoats, \$2, \$2.50, \$3.00.

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