

# The Columbian.

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## RETROSPECT AND PROSPECT.

With this week the winter term at the Normal School closes. It has been a remarkable term. Remarkable because every one has been unusually busy. Everybody? Yes, everybody, from the never-resting Principal on down through all the grades and departments to the elevator boy—all have been busy. The great body of students seemed to realize as never before, the importance of properly and profitably employing every day of the term.

It is certainly most gratifying to know in so large a body of young people as are here gathered, almost every student manifests clearly that he understands what he came to school for. He understands that, surrounded by conditions and influences such as are found in the Bloomsburg Normal, his duty is to get out of these splendid opportunities every possible advantage.

Speaking of the conditions and influences of our school, leads us to note that the great number of visitors that have come from far and near, during the past term, express great surprise at the splendid equipment of the school.

We are not permitted at this time to go into a detailed statement or enumeration of all the several departments. Suffice it therefore, to say that with the well-planned Manual Training Department, the Vocal Music, and Drawing Departments, all without any extra cost, and adding to these the splendid opportunities for physical training as afforded in one of the very best gymnasiums in this country, there are very few schools if any that present to the young people of its district, such splendid advantages for securing an education.

Many other things also compel the interested visitor to say unhesitatingly that this is a well equipped and well organized school. The well selected library, chosen with special regard to the various courses of study, and having direct bearing upon the work of each year of each department, and in addition to this the advantages arising from the possible culture to be secured from the two well conducted literary societies, all combine to furnish the student of to-day with advantages for literary culture that were unheard of until within very recent years.

And these influences and this environment are bearing fruit. Yes, truly, for never before have there been so large a number of inquiries for information concerning the school, as in this year. Almost every mail of each day brings from one to a score of letters wanting to know one thing or another about the school. And even more tangible evidence is manifested in this, that rooms are being rapidly taken for the Spring term. Every available part of the great dormitory will be put in readiness to receive the throng of anxious students, who will knock at our doors within the next three weeks. Let them come. Bloomsburg's great home school, for it is as much a home for its busy toilers as any school can be, will receive them with kindest welcome. And then as these new members of the great family go forth in the days to come, to tell the praises of our school, other sons and daughters of our great commonwealth will be drawn hither, and thus the future is made bright in the hope of continued usefulness and prosperity.

## For Odd Fellows.

A proclamation has been issued from the sovereign grand lodge of the I. O. O. F., directing the grand and subordinate bodies of the organization to take suitable action for the observance of the seventy-seventh anniversary of the order, which will occur April 26th. The suggestion is made that the celebration take place on the 25th or 27th, seeing that April 26th falls on Sunday. A general order, recently issued by the commander-in-chief, calls for a national cantonment of the entire Army of Patriarchs Militant, to be held at Buffalo, N. Y., August 5th. It is expected that cash prizes, amounting to not less than \$2,000, will be awarded to the best drilled cantons parading on that occasion.

## Why Not Advertise?

The most successful business men prove, by liberal expenditure, that there never have been times so dull that extra advertising did not pay. The foolish business man cuts his publicity appropriation when business appears to be poor, and allows the neighbor in business to cut into his old customers, and keep new ones away from him.

## A SUDDEN DEATH.

The whole community was startled Monday afternoon when the news was passed from one to another that Mrs. J. M. Gidding had suddenly died at her residence on East Street, about one o'clock. A sudden death always carries with it a shock, and the circumstances attending this one were of such a nature as to render it more startling than usual.

Mr. and Mrs. Gidding were married in January, 1894, and she by her general manners and kind disposition won and held the esteem of a large circle of friends, who deeply sympathize with Mr. Gidding in this his great affliction. She was a daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Samuel Goldsmith of Danville, and a sister of Mrs. Max Gross of this place. Her age was twenty-six years. The funeral services were held at her late residence Wednesday morning at 10:30 o'clock, and the remains taken to Danville for interment on the noon train.

The services were conducted by Rev. Adolph Meyer, Rabbi of the Jewish Synagogue of Danville, of which the deceased was a member. Mr. Gidding has been severely afflicted since he came to this town a few years ago. A short time after he went into the clothing business with Peter Salsburg, the latter died suddenly from the rupture of a blood vessel. Not long after that Mr. Gidding's mother died at Scranton, and now his life partner and help-meet, is snatched from him by the Destroyer. Truly the ways of Providence are past finding out.

## THE M. E. CONFERENCE.

Some Distinguished People Who Will Attend these Sessions at Williamsport.

The Methodists at Williamsport have made elaborate preparations for the entertainment of the Central Pennsylvania Conference, which met in its twenty-eighth annual session, in that city, on Tuesday March 17th. Bishop John H. Vincent was the presiding officer and is the guest of Presiding Elder M. K. Foster. Many other prominent church people will be there, among them being: Gov. D. H. Hastings, the guest of Attorney General McCormick; ex-Governor Pattison will be entertained by Mayor Elliot; Dr. A. B. Leonard, Secretary of the Missionary Society, New York; Dr. Spencer, Secretary of the Board of Church Extension, Philadelphia; Dr. Goucher, President of the Woman's College, Baltimore; Dr. Bleiler, Chancellor of the Washington D. C. University; Rev. J. W. Hamilton, secretary of the Freedman's Aid Society, of Boston; Dr. George B. Reed, President of the Dickinson College, Carlisle; John G. Wooley, the temperance orator of Chicago; Dr. C. W. Rishel, of the Boston University.

The sessions began Tuesday evening with a temperance anniversary meeting, at which Williamsport's recently elected Prohibition Mayor, Mr. James Hansel, presided and made an address. The program for the week includes the regular business meetings each morning, with the several society anniversaries in the afternoon and evenings. It is believed that the various reports this year will show a goodly increase in all branches of church work in this Conference.

## STILL IMPROVING.

Over 300 pounds of type have been thrown out of the cases at this office within the past week, and its place filled by new types. The new material includes a large font of poster letter, body type, and several fonts of new job type of the latest faces. A new Acme binding machine has also been added to the machinery of the office. This machine has both table and saddle binding attachments, with which books can be bound through the back or through the fold. The reason why our job department is always crowded with work, is because this office is up to date, and is one of the best equipped establishments in this end of the state.

"Peck's Bad Boy" Company, which has been so many years on the road, will appear at the Opera House March 23d. An excellent programme is promised, one which presents an excruciatingly funny farce comedy, with the assistance of pretty women and witty comedians. Special scenery, including the famous grocery store, may be expected, and also magnificent costumes, bright music, specialties, fun of a wholesome kind from the moment the curtain rises until its last fall.

## THE BLOOMSBURG M. E. CHURCH.

At a meeting of the official board of this church on Monday evening the annual reports for the year were submitted and the business for the past year settled.

The year closed has been one of marked success both along financial and spiritual lines. The missionary contributions are from the church \$708.00 and Sunday School \$252.00 or a total of \$960.00. The benevolent collections &c., are \$824.00. The trustees collections \$631.00. Pastors salary \$1700.00. Elders salary \$100.00 and Sunday School \$452.00 or a total of \$4467.00.

Probationers received during the year 139 besides 40 accessions by letter. After deducting those who have taken letters of removal and striking off those who cannot be found and those who have withdrawn their support it leaves a membership of about 700.

The Sunday School has an enrollment of 615. The Epworth League and Junior Leagues have doubled their membership and the attendance at class meeting has also doubled. It will thus be observed that there has been an advance on all lines. The trustees, Sunday School and stewards treasurers all have a balance on the credit side. The new church has been started and the prospects are that before the close of another year this congregation will have completed one of the finest and most comfortable church edifices in this conference.

Resolutions appreciative of Rev. B. C. Conner's labors and requesting his return were unanimously adopted by a rising vote.

F. B. HARTMAN.

## Y. M. C. A. Convention.

The sixth annual convention of the Y. M. C. A. of Wilkes-Barre district will be held at Catawissa on March 20th to 22nd. The district includes Luzerne, Columbia and Carbon counties, and the Associations of Berwick, Bloomsburg, Hazleton, Mauch Chunk, Pittston, Wilkes-Barre, the Normal School, and Wyoming Seminary. C. K. Taylor is a member of the District committee for Bloomsburg.

The exercises will open to-morrow evening in the Lutheran Church, and the sessions will be held alternately in the several churches of Catawissa. Among the participants in the exercises, of this town, are F. Freeman Boas who will deliver an address on "What is a successful men's meeting, and how obtained." Prof. A. K. Aldinger will discuss "What comprises a satisfactory social work; and how persistently should it be carried on." Dr. A. Graydon will conduct a song service on Saturday evening. P. L. Drum of the Normal will talk on "The need for the college Y. M. C. A."

All delegates will be entertained by the hospitable people of Catawissa.

## DAN'L A. KELLY.

Very few, if any, of our American comedians have a greater or more deserved popularity than Dan'l A. Kelly. Beginning at the bottom of the professional ladder he has by a thorough conscientious effort attained to the front rank. He is irresistibly funny, though his work is of that peculiarly refined and artistic order which appeals to the best and most cultured people. He never descends to "buffoonery" or other vulgar methods to create laughter. The charm of intelligence and refinement is always noticeable. He is remarkably versatile, and as an impersonator of comic, eccentric, and pathetic characters, is recognized without a peer. The announcement of the appearance of Mr. Dan'l A. Kelly and his talented company in his latest sensational comedy drama, "Outcasts of a Great City," is a guarantee of a thoroughly pleasing performance.

Opera House, Tuesday March 24th.

## ANOTHER SUDDEN DEATH.

Mrs. Amanda B. West died at her residence on Normal Hill on Wednesday afternoon, at three o'clock. She had been sick for a couple of weeks, but feeling better yesterday she left her bed, and died while sitting in a chair. One son, R. V. West, Superintendent of the Electric Light Works, and one daughter, Jessie, survive her. The funeral services will be held on Friday afternoon at the house, by Rev. D. N. Kirkby, and the remains will be taken to Woodbury, N. J., for interment.

## An Old-Fashioned Revival.

It has probably struck some people as strange to hear rectors of Episcopal churches proclaiming their wish for an old-fashioned revival and to see the efforts put forth to accomplish that object. The Episcopal Church has always been conservative in its methods and has trusted to the steady inculcation of its doctrines, the growth of population and its splendid organization to increase its numbers, rather than to revivals and special efforts to make converts. This has made its growth slower than that of most churches, but it has probably held better the gain it has made. Its growth in large cities in recent years has been great, but this has been largely at the expense of other denominations and not as the result of unusual efforts.

But now, apparently, the old methods are to be abandoned and the Episcopal Church is to enter the field as a proselyting sect. The season of Lent, which has been regarded as the time for penitence, is also to be regarded now as a season for revival. An English preacher, who has made a wide reputation at home as a revivalist, is in this country working among Episcopal churches. His methods do not vary much from those employed by revivalists of other denominations, except that he does not attempt to awaken excitement, and trusts more to sympathetic words than to appeals to the emotions. His sermons are simple, earnest and intended to touch the reason as well as the hearts of his hearers. At times he will discard his priestly robe and stepping down among the congregation will offer counsel and advice to whoever may ask it. By these and other methods he is awakening a revival spirit in the Episcopal churches he has visited.

But the efforts of this English clergyman are only one phase of the situation. The home clergymen have shown as much zeal, earnestness and sympathy as their English brother and have been fully as successful. Lenten weekday services have been crowded, and no more powerful and searching sermons have been heard than those preached by American ministers. A few years ago it was found that a noonday service for men could be made to succeed in old Trinity Church, New York City, and when the late Phillips Brooks occupied the pulpit the edifice was filled to its utmost capacity. Similar services in churches in Philadelphia, situated in the business district of the city, have attracted crowds of hearers, and it has been demonstrated again what power the Gospel, when simply and directly preached, has over the minds and hearts of men.

This new spirit in the Episcopal Church is not a sudden manifestation, but a gradual growth. It is like the effort made in other churches to adapt their methods to the growing changes of the time. All the great movements in religious life during recent years have been in the direction of exchanging form for reality. The world has demanded of the Church that it give an account of its stewardship, and that it show itself to be a vital force in society. The Church has responded by stepping out into the field of active work and showing by results that the time, money and effort it spent were well employed. This spirit has infected the Episcopal Church as well as others. The success of voluntary religious organizations is another reason why Episcopal clergymen are asking for an old-fashioned revival. To cite one example only, the rise and progress of the Christian Endeavor Society has been a revelation to the churches. It has shown what wonders voluntary effort when directed by the right spirit can accomplish.

The latest statistics of the Episcopal Church placed its membership at 626,290, with 5979 churches and 4580 ministers. This is an increase of about 75,000 in membership, of 870 in churches and of 350 in ministers in the past five years. Gratifying as this increase is, it will probably be exceeded by the growth made in the next five years as a result of the new revival spirit now animating the Church.—Philadelphia Press.

Prof. Hendricks, who has been one of the familiar figures at the Normal for a long time past, has decided to give up teaching and engage in business at Selinsgrove. Monday afternoon he brought the pupils, who sit at his table down to the Exchange Bakery and treated them to ice cream, cakes and other delicacies, after which they repaired to the Market Square gallery and had their pictures taken.

Owing to death in the family, our store will be closed until Saturday morning.

J. M. GIDDING & CO.

For printing Paper Books, Catalogues, or Pamphlets of any kind

## The Columbian Office

is the best equipped of any establishment in this section. All kinds of Job Printing neatly and promptly done at prices that compete with city work. When other offices cannot do your work, come to us and we will get it out for you.