

The Columbian.

VOL. 31

BLOOMSBURG, PA., THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 24, 1896.

NO. 39

A DESTRUCTIVE STORM.

A Veritable Kansas Storm Visits Bloomsburg.

DESTRUCTION HERETOFORE UNKNOWN.

The most destructive storm that ever visited this section arrived here last Thursday afternoon. A few minutes past three o'clock the sun became obscured, and immediately afterward the wind blew a gale, which was accompanied by terrific peals of thunder and vivid flashes of lightning and in less time almost than it takes to write it, the rain descended in sheets, accompanied by a downfall of hail, some of which were as large as eggs. Whilst the storm was terrific in this place, yet the force appeared to have been expended at, and in the neighborhood of Espy, a village two miles east of us. Indeed at this late writing it is almost impossible to compute the damage. It seemed to travel in a comparatively narrow strip and did not extend further north than Light Street, south beyond Rupert, nor east beyond Willow Grove. A canvass of the town reveals the following destruction: The Magee Carpet works had twenty-eight hundred panes of glass broken, which with the damage to the roof will entail a loss of one thousand dollars. Mr. J. L. Dillon will sustain a loss at his green house of fully five thousand dollars caused by the breaking of his acres of glass, whilst the damage to his growing plants can not be estimated. The green house of Bryfogle Bros., below town escaped the severity of the storm and but about four hundred glass were broken. At the Keystone Machine shop, in addition to breaking nearly all the glass, the large stack was blown down.

The Silk Mill, Woolen Mill, School Furnishing Company, Elevator Plant and Furniture works had all the windows facing the north blown in, and at the Brass and Copper plant, in addition to ruining all the windows, the roof and sky light was damaged to such an extent as to cause a new one to be placed on the same. In fact there was not a building in the town escaped the ravage of the storm. Many persons when they saw the storm coming closed the blinds of their houses and the force of the storm can be imagined when we say that not only were they broken but the windows as well. The large plate glass in the front window of this office was broken close to the frame, and the Normal school suffered a loss, about six hundred large panes of glass. Neither were the churches exempt from the effects of the storm, as they were nearly all sufferers to a greater or less degree. In Mount Pleasant and Scott township the leaves were stripped from the trees and houses and barns unroofed.

It is estimated that the damage done will reach fully \$60,000, in Columbia County alone. Dozens of houses, barns and out building were unroofed, hundreds of fine fruit trees blown over, fences leveled, thousands and thousands of window panes broken, shutters damaged, crops and fruit ruined and even the interior of public and private buildings drenched with water, and furniture, carpets, plastering, &c., badly damaged.

All day Saturday people were busy repairing roofs, buildings and putting in glass and up to the time of going to press the damage has not been repaired owing to the want of glass and the scarcity of glaziers.

The Bloomsburg Poor District suffered the following loss: 30 old and young turkeys, 35 chickens, 350 bushels buckwheat, all the cabbage (5000 heads), all the apples (300 bushels), slate roof of men's building, tin roof on woman's building, 7 boxes of glass 9x14 and 9x12, shingle roofs on wash house, ice house, kitchen, wood house, wagon shed and barn requiring about 50 thousand shingles, and fears of the loss of all the unthrashed grain in the barn by the continued storms, as the water is running down into the stables, grain in barn about 75 bu. rye, 800 bu. oats and 200 bu. wheat, also 20 acres of fine growing wheat in the ground.

All in all, it was an experience that we hope we shall never be called upon to pass through again.

Received a Contract.

The Watsontown Boot & Shoe Company has received another big government contract for fifteen thousand pairs of shoes for the national soldiers' homes. The contract is to be filled within six months, and will keep business booming about the establishment during the coming winter.

Presbyterian Notes.

Brief Review of Work Done During the Last Seven Years.

This was the subject of the discourse last Sunday in the Presbyterian church. The pastorate of Rev. Isaac M. Patterson began Feb 1st, 1889. In every line progress was noted and the present condition of the church compared with what it was at the beginning of his services. Everywhere growth was indicated so that to day the congregation occupies a very different position in the community.

The old church, not more than half filled, has given place to the present beautiful and convenient edifice, holding twice as many, and always comfortably filled. The membership has grown from 175 to 315. The number of additions, during the same time has been 248, of whom 146 were received on a profession of faith, and 102 by dismission from other churches. Thirty-one were added since the beginning of the present year, 20 on profession and 11 by certificate.

The Sunday school has grown from 180 to 325. The Young People's prayer meeting, with an attendance of about a dozen has given place to a Y. P. S. C. E. with 70 members, and a Junior C. E. of equal size. The Mid-week services on Wednesday evenings often numbers one hundred.

During the seven years of Rev. Patterson's pastorate more than \$70,000 have been actually raised and paid over for church support, and the building of the new church, on which a small debt still remains. Even during the last year, notwithstanding the depression of the times \$3,000 has been raised for these objects, and \$1,500 for outside benevolences. In every department of church work was shown a great advance over any previous period of its fifty years history.

Fences Should Go.

Fences have their uses and in certain localities and conditions are well nigh indispensable. For instance, on the farm they are necessary to keep horses, cows, pigs and other stock from entering the fields which the husbandman has planted with grain and vegetables, or to exclude them from prematurely enjoying the harvest of grass in meadow and upland which is destined for their Winter sustenance. But in the town no such conditions prevail, and in the interest of beauty they should be relegated to the domain to which they belong.

There is no use of reason for a fence in the streets of a town. In days of yore, when cows and pigs wandered at will through the highways and byways, they were necessary only because the ordinances respecting cattle in the town were not enforced. But times have changed, and people no longer tolerate the man who permits his domestic animal to gain a livelihood at the expense of his neighbors' lawn and gardens.

A foolish custom it is, that of maintaining ill looking fences in front of residences. Remove them and note what a difference. The street has a much broader appearance, the houses appear to have more room, and what is worth considering, an item is taken from the expenses of the householders. Laws are not necessary to do away with the fence. Once the movement is started they will quickly disappear. The penalties provided in the town ordinance for stray animals is amply sufficient to protect lawn and shrubbery from their depredation.

At the Pennsylvania State Sunday School Convention to be held at Carlisle October 13 to 15, there will be an address by Governor Hastings, and also an address by Hon. John Wanamaker, President of the Association. There are many and varied features of interest provided in the program of the Convention. The program can be obtained by addressing Secretary C. J. Kephart, D. D. Annville, Pa.

Keep a Lookout.

The United States secret service officials are quietly advising merchants and others to watch the \$10 bills that pass to them. The counterfeiters are unloading a batch of these bills all over the country. The Martha Washington and Stanton \$1 and the Window and McPherson \$2 silver certificates are being raised to \$10.

Robert Fitzsimmons and James J. Corbett are again matched to box for the heavy weight championship of the world. The stakes are \$10,000 a side and the battle will take place in the near future.

Prices on Paper

Count for naught unless the advertisers are known to be truthful. Every \$5.00 suit or overcoat is not the same. The price must be backed up by quality. In that respect we claim to stand head and shoulders above any competition we know of, because we buy the very best merchandise consistent with the wants and needs of our patrons. We give best value because we're content with a small margin and large sales. Our goods and prices can be measured as a standard. We've inaugurated the present fall and winter season with values that only a very large outlet can afford. We say to you in all honesty and candor that our prices are fully 10 per cent. under any clothing house within a radius of one hundred miles, and as a proof of good faith in what we say, we will refund money upon demand. Prices here will give you an idea but the goods themselves are far more convincing.

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Beautiful fancy worsted cheviot suits in all the new weaves and overlaid, at \$8.75. \$10.00 and \$13.00 cannot be matched at from \$2 to \$3 more.

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COLUMBIA COUNTY FAIR.

The Columbia County Agricultural society will hold its forty-second annual fair Oct. 13th to 17th, 1896.

The fair will be larger and better than ever.

Bicycle races will be held on Wednesday, Oct. 14th, with the following events: One mile novice, one mile open, two mile county handicap, half mile open, and three mile handicap, followed by 2:30 class pacing and 2:50 class trotting.

Thursday's Races—2:33 trot, 2:22 trot, one-half mile running, and race for farmers' horses.

Friday's Races—2:24 pace, 2:40 trot, and 2:40 pace.

Saturday's Races—2:27 trot, free-for-all, and one mile running.

Prof. Carlisle's combination of latest attractions daily, high wire ascension, contortions, trapeze performances, club juggling, balancing tricks, ladder trapeze, dog circus, and other acts. Bands from Wilkes-Barre, Berwick and Bloomsburg have been engaged to furnish music. Every day a big day.

John Wenner of VanCamp, died September 19, 1896, aged 79 years, 11 months and 17 days. Mr. Wenner was born in Butler township Luzerne county Oct. 2, 1816. His father moved into Fishingcreek township when John was but one year old and hence he may be classed as one of the pioneers of Fishingcreek Germany. He never had the advantages of an education, yet he was a man of extraordinary judgment. He never held other than township offices, and the principal of these was supervisor. He was a man of temperate habits and sterling integrity. He was highly influential in the community as every body had implicit confidence in him. Of his father's household only one brother survives. Of his own household three sons and five daughters survive. He was a successful farmer, and by industry and frugality was able to own several farms. In the death of John Wenner the community lost a highly respected and exemplary man.

It is a wise child who goes out of the room to laugh when papa punctures his thumb with a tack hammer.

RAIN DRENCHES VETERANS.

The Columbia County Association's Celebration.

The first annual reunion of the Columbia County Veteran Association was held at Berwick last Saturday. An interesting programme had been laid out, but was greatly shortened by the rain. Just as the parade reached the grand stand, from which place the speeches were to have been made, the hardest storm of this season passed over the town and drove the crowds to places of shelter. The Opera House was secured, and addresses were made by C. D. Foster, Judge Ikeler and Alfred Dart, of the Department Committee of the Pennsylvania Grand Army of the Republic.

The Association elected for officers for next year: President, Major I. Seesholtz, of Catawissa; vice president, M. P. Lutz, of Bloomsburg; secretary, G. H. Reifsnnyder, of Catawissa. The next reunion is to be held in Catawissa.

Congressional Conference Meeting.

The Prohibition Conferees of the 17th Congressional district held a meeting Monday at the office of M. P. Lutz & Son. Northumberland county was represented by James Dickson Jr. and B. Budd Cannon; Montour by F. P. Johnson and R. W. Eggert and Columbia by J. B. Eves and W. B. Cummings. M. P. Lutz was nominated on the first ballot.

The 26 counties of Pennsylvania forming the district which will patronize the Odd Fellows' orphans' home at Sunbury are Potter, Cameron, Clinton, Centre, Tioga, Lycoming, Union, Snyder, Juniata, Perry, Northumberland, part of Dauphin, Monroe, Bradford, Sullivan, Columbia, Schuylkill, Susquehanna, Wyoming, Lackawanna, Luzerne, Carbon, Wayne, Pike, Monroe and Mifflin. In these counties are almost 400 subordinate lodges with a total membership of 49,000.

The W. C. T. U. of Stillwater will hold a Silver Medal contest in the St. James church on Saturday evening, Oct. 3rd. Admission 10 cts. Children under twelve years free.

FALL PRICE LEADERS!

The D. Lowenberg CLOTHING STORE.

Men's and Young Men's Suits, \$3.75.

Equally as good as those sold elsewhere for \$5.00.

Elegant Line Of Men's Suits at \$5.00.

Blacks and new fancy patterns, easily worth a couple dollars more.

Men's Suits, \$7.50, \$10, \$12, \$15, \$18.

In every new shade and pattern, made with fly front vests and fly front coats and vests, as desired. Dollars saved on every one.

Men's Pants, in a Dozen Different Shades, \$1.99.

Best value on earth.

Men's All-Wool Pants, \$1.00.

Best \$1.00 Tourist and Stiff Hats in Town.

Don't pay \$2.50 for the Dunlap style stiff hats, when you can get them in black and brown, new fall shapes for \$1.50.

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