

The Columbian.

VOL. 31

BLOOMSBURG, PA., THURSDAY, OCTOBER 1, 1896.

NO. 40

SWEPT BY A TORNADO.

Bloomsburg Visited With a Heavy Wind That Unroofed Houses and Factories, Uprooted Trees, and Caused Great Damage Everywhere.

MORE DESTRUCTIVE THAN THE HAIL STORM.

THE OLDEST INHABITANTS NEVER BEFORE WITNESSED SUCH A GALE AS THAT OF WEDNESDAY MORNING.

Bloomsburg arose very early on Wednesday morning, and there was good reason for it. It had been somewhat stormy on Tuesday evening, and towards midnight the wind began to rise and gradually increased until about two o'clock, when it had reached the proportions of a terrific gale. It howled and shrieked, and shook the houses until everybody was thoroughly awake, and nearly every family in town crawled out of their beds, dressed themselves and descended to the first floor to avoid being hurt when the roof went off, or to await the subsiding of the tornado.

The tornado lasted only about an hour, but in that time it got in its work most effectively, chimneys were blown off, roofs torn off, trees torn up by the roots as though they were but flowering plants, or twisted off through the trunk like matches. To add to the terrors of the night, the electric wires were broken by the wind and falling trees, and the town was left in darkness.

No sooner had the storm subsided than people started out with lanterns to see what damage had been done, and from three o'clock until morning there were crowds of sight seers. And such sights as they beheld! On every street the sidewalks were blockaded by fallen trees, and here and there a great mass of tin indicated that some building had lost its roof.

THE DAMAGE.

The Woolen Mill of E. C. Caswell & Co. suffered the most. The roof, and walls of the third floor were lifted off completely. Heavy timbers a foot square and thirty feet long were carried some distance away. A piece of the roof struck the Silk Mill, but did only slight damage. Thousands of dollars worth of machinery is left standing on the floor covered with debris and some of it badly twisted. Work was at once begun at clearing up, and the third floor will be rebuilt at once.

At the Keystone Foundry & Machine Works the roof was partly blown off.

The south end of the Brass & Copper Co's works was blown in, and the stack blown down.

The Novelty Works are badly damaged, both ends being torn out and the roof falling on the machinery.

Tin roofs were blown off the Exchange Hotel and the house on Fifth street occupied by F. R. Carpenter.

One-half of the main building at the fair grounds is completely demolished, sheds blown down, fences down.

The grand stand on the Normal athletic field is destroyed.

Elmer E. Melick's house is unroofed. The chimneys on James Magee's house are down, glass broken and roof damaged.

The barn of Dr. H. Robbins was turned over, and went down over the rocks into the creek.

Horace Supplee's barn was demolished, but two horses escaped injury.

awnings in front of the Farmers' Produce Exchange, the Leader store and M. L. Kline's are down.

The tin roofs of the Sanitarium building were thrown over on the Waller lot.

The new plaster mill on Seventh street is almost entirely destroyed.

Among other buildings damaged are William Rabb's house corner 5th and Railroad; School Furnishing Co.; Bloomsburg Furniture Co.; Acme Oil Co.; Gas house; Steam plant; Electric Light house; Harvey Creveling's buildings out 5th street; Mrs. Worthington's house, Presbyterian and Episcopal churches, Bryfogle Bros. smoke stack is down and it will take 75 boxes of glass to replace broken ones.

These are only a few instances of the many. The loss will run into many thousands of dollars.

Espy suffered again most severely by the unroofing of buildings.

At Danville, silk mill blown down and Exhibition building at fair ground unroofed.

In Mifflin township Isaac Spade's barn was blown down and two horses killed.

William Mensinger of Main town-

ship lost four horses by the destruction of his barn.

The wagon sheds of Riter Smith and Geo. Keller in Mifflin township were moved from the foundations, and the barns of Nathan Everett, Geo. Mowery and John Lutz were unroofed. The straw sheds of Wilson Creasy and Al. Henry were blown down, and several cows of the latter injured.

In Main township Harrison Miller's barn unroofed, and one end blown out, and the grain in the mow scattered broadcast.

The Catawissa river bridge was lifted off the piers from end to end and tumbled over into the river. Under a law passed in 1895, it will be rebuilt by the State.

Boyd Yetter's hotel and stable in Mainville have lost their roofs.

At Buck Horn the steeple of the M. E. Church, and the tower and roof of the school house were carried off, and much other damage was done.

Telegraph, electric light and telephone wires were down, and in many places the poles were torn out of the ground and the arms wrenched off.

Never before was Bloomsburg visited by such a storm. The total damage may reach \$100,000.

The Brass Works and Novelty Works began repairs at once.

A FATAL RAILROAD WRECK.

The Engineer Disobeyed Orders and, With His Fireman, Lost His Life.

A freight wreck occurred between Mooresburg and Maudsall, on the Catawissa branch of the Philadelphia and Reading Railroad, early Sunday morning, in which two men lost their lives, another had a leg broken and three young men of Milton, who were stealing a ride, are supposed to be under the wreck. Twelve coal cars were piled up and one of the engines is badly wrecked. Freight train No. 84, south-bound, was going down the steep grade at this point, when it was run into by a pusher returning from Danville. The pusher had orders as far as Danville, but Engineer Mitchell ran ahead, hoping to reach the siding at Mooresburg and there rest, until train 84 had passed.

Engineer Mitchell and Fireman Kelly, of the pusher, were both killed. Mitchell was buried beneath the wreck and his body was recovered that afternoon. Kelly jumped from the engine and received injuries from which he died. Both engineer and fireman were from Milton.

ENJOYED THEIR VISIT.

St. Mark's Church Monthly is a parish paper issued by Rev. Dr. Zahner, rector of St. Mark's Church, Adams, Mass. In the September number appears the following:

"The rector, with his son, Robert, had a most delightful visit during his vacation, in Bloomsburg, Pennsylvania, where, for ten years, he was rector of St. Paul's Church. It seemed good to meet the old friends and to see the old town, than which there are few more beautiful in Central Pennsylvania. The beautiful stone Church was consecrated and the handsome rectory built during his rectorship and a fund of a thousand dollars started towards the parish building which has since been completed. We regretted very much not meeting the present rector, the Rev. D. N. Kirkby, who was off on his vacation."

OPERA HOUSE IMPROVEMENTS.

The Opera House has just undergone a thorough overhauling. All the wood-work has been repainted, and the walls and ceiling newly tinted and decorated. This part of the work was in the hands of P. K. Vannatta. The advertisements on the old drop curtain will no longer stare the audience in the face, as a new curtain has been put up, on which the handiwork of an artist is displayed. The greatest improvement is in the replacing of the old scenery that has done duty for twenty years, with an entire new lot, including the following scenes: parlor, kitchen, street, prison, woods, park, cottages, and several others. These will be seen for the first time on Friday night, when "Hogan's Alley" will be presented. The house has been thoroughly cleaned, and new matting laid on the floors.

Every man in town is urged to be present at the men's meeting in Y. M. C. A. hall next Sunday afternoon at 2:30 o'clock. The meeting will be addressed by Rev. I. M. Patterson. One-half of the hour will be devoted to singing. Come and bring a friend with you.

GIDDING'S.

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\$25,000 worth

of Best CLOTHING,
HATS and FUR-
NISHINGS to Select From.

MATCH
THEM IF YOU CAN.

Largest and
FINEST STOCK IN
THE VALLEY.
Prices fully 10 per cent. the lowest.

PRICES ON FINE ROCHESTER MADE SUITS AND OVERCOATS that are guaranteed 10 per cent. below any other clothing house within a radius of 100 miles. A stock of fine clothing, Gent's overcoats, single trousers, boy's and children's suits and overcoats not shown elsewhere in this community. A stock as large as is shown by all other clothing houses in town combined. Don't be deceived by other clothing houses who claim to show you Rochester clothing. Notice carefully every price quoted here. If you can match them at any other house in this community, or come within 10 per cent. of our prices, even with our high grade goods, come back and get your money.

Men's Elegant Clay Worsted Suits. Warranted strictly all wool and fast color. Farmer satin lined, silk piped seams, heavy weight clay. Cannot be matched elsewhere for less than \$10.00; for \$7.75.

Men's Beautiful Scotch Cheviot Suits, plaids, mixtures and plain colors, \$10 and \$12 values, at \$8.75.

Men's Fine Worsted Suits, strictly hand made throughout. Elegantly lined, elegantly trimmed. Tailors cannot improve on it at \$20. Other stores prices, \$15. Our price \$11.00.

Men's Extra Fine Worsted Suits in neat pin stripes and plaids, extra well made, regular \$18 quality at other stores—for \$13.00.

Boy's Waists. "Mother's Friend," and Union makes. House or plain, heavy Domet Flannel, 19c. Extra good Domet Flannel Blouse Waists, 50c. quality, 39c. Best grades, 75c., \$1.00 and \$1.25.

Men's and Young Men's Overcoats. Long satin yoke, clay serge, body lining, blue and black, pure Kersey, strictly guaranteed throughout as to color and wear. Sold everywhere at \$12.00—for \$9.00.

Men's Good Wool Suits, in blue, black and grey. Elegant weaves, worth fully \$7.00; for \$5.00.

Men's Pant Valves. Grey, neat stripes, all wool Reading cashmere, sold everywhere for \$2.00. For \$1.65.

Men's Strictly All-Wool Pants. Never rip, extra heavy, stripe or plaid, \$1.25.

Half and Half Natural Wool or Camel's Hair Underwear 39c.—50c. kind.

Pure wool fleece lined underwear, 50c.
Boy's underwear, winter weight, 35c.
Sole agents for "Luzerne" Health Underwear. Light, medium and heavy weight.

Children's Reefer Suits, blue with brass buttons. Sizes 3 to 6 \$1.98. Brown or grey cassimere, with large sailor collar, handsomely braided, \$2.50 kind, \$1.98.

Children's Junior Suits, handsomely braided, blue with brass or black buttons, brown with brown braid, grey with black braid, 1.48 and \$1.98, or \$2.50, \$3.00, or \$4.00.

Vestee Suits, blue with red trimmings, \$3.48.
Blue with Astrachan trimmings, \$5.00.
Scotch chevrons, with silk trimmings, \$5.00. Ages 3 to 8.

Boy's Suits, ages 9 to 15. All wool, small plaid mixtures, 1.98; regular \$2.50 kind. Same sizes in wool mixed suits, 3 patterns, at 1.25.

HATS for everybody. The lot of 3 or the man of 50. Newest shapes and colors. Pure fur Fedora or stiff hats, 89c. Best grades, 1.50 and 2.00. A saving of from 10 to 50cts. on every hat.

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DEMOCRATIC MEETING.

Band Parade and Address at Evans Hall.

The Democrats of Bloomsburg, held an enthusiastic meeting in the interest of Bryan and Sewell and silver at Evans' Hall on Friday night last.

Previous to the meeting the Band paraded the streets and when they marched up to the Club room a large crowd had already gathered. Just before the meeting was called to order the alarm of fire was given and this made the meeting somewhat late.

At 8:30 the meeting was called to order by T. C. Harter, President of the club who spoke a few words to the club. County Chairman Chrisman then took the floor. He bid everybody welcome to the hall and asked all the democrats to stand by their colors at the approaching election.

He told of the many republicans, who are daily deserting their party and coming over to the people's party for Bryan and Sewell and Silver.

Mr. Harter then introduced the speaker of the evening, Mr. W. C. Lawrence, of Luzerne County. He talked very forcibly for some time and used arguments and figures which were convincing. He is an orator of commanding presence, and his many telling comparisons of the ruinous effects of the gold standard were received with great applause. The meeting closed with three rousing cheers for Bryan and Sewell and free silver.

Last Friday afternoon about four o'clock, the team belonging to Frank Boone, who lives on the Boone farm near Rupert, was hitched to a post at the Farmers' Produce Exchange. Something frightened them, and they broke loose, and ran up Market street. Though pulling a heavy farm wagon, they made good time, and when in front of F. D. Dentler's they turned to the left, crossed the gutter, and came in contact with a tree. One of the horses was thrown down, and the other one broke away and ran up Market and down Main to its home. The wagon was somewhat damaged but no apparent injury was done the horses.

Williamsport had snow early in the morning one day last week.

NO PAY FOR CONSTABLES.

On Monday, Judge Ikeler made an order directing the County Commissioners to allow no pay for the day to constables making their returns to court, but to allow them ten cents mileage. Heretofore they have drawn \$1.50 and mileage.

This order is in conformity with the fee bill of 1893, in which no provision is made for the pay of constables. It is no doubt a hardship to compel constables to attend court and bear their own expenses, but it is the fault of the law, and not of the court. The constables are indignant, and many of them threaten to resign. We would advise them not to be hasty in the matter, as the legislature will convene next January; and then no doubt this defect in the law will be remedied.

SLAIN WITH A STILETTO.

Men Quarrel in a Speak-Easy and One is Killed.

Joseph Poppel, the proprietor of a speak-easy at Boston, a mining village near Pittston, was stabbed and disemboweled with a stiletto by Michael Pressaus Sunday morning and died in the Pittston Hospital Sunday night.

Poppel had been away from home during the night and on his return found Pressaus in his saloon. He ordered him to leave, and on refusal to do so the fatal fight resulted. Pressaus was arrested.

A fire broke out at the Brass & Copper works on Friday evening about 8 o'clock, which caused considerable excitement for a time, and a large crowd soon gathered at the scene. It was soon quenched however without doing much damage. It is supposed to have originated from some hot ashes that were thrown out late that evening.

The Pottsville district, United Mine Workers of America, has resolved to inaugurate a permanent system of relief for such widows and orphans as were left unprovided for by the Pittston mine horror.

A young man whose name we failed to learn, while coasting down East Street on Saturday, his saddle broke and he was thrown to the ground, sustaining severe bruises about the face.

OVERCOATS

Largest Line Ever Shown.

PRICES Lower Than EVER BEFORE.

\$5.00 buys beautiful Overcoats

Swell Rochester Overcoats up to \$20.

Stout Mens' Suits and Overcoats.

A LARGE ASSORTMENT.

We fit men as large as 64 inches around the waist and fit them right.

Handsome Reefer Suits for Children. Astrakan Effects worth \$5.00,

OUR PRICE \$3.75.

Lower Prices if You Want Them.

It is just another instance, THAT THE BEST CLOTHES AT THE LOWEST PRICES are only to be found at

Bloomsburg's Grand Old Stand

THE D. LOWENBERG
CLOTHING STORE.