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NO. 2

BANKING COMPANY AFFAIRS.

History of its Organization, and Statement of its Present Condition.

The Bloomsburg Banking Company was organized in March, 1871, under articles of copartnership. An office was opened in the room now occupied by the Farmers' National Bank while the present quarters were being prepared.

John A. Funston was its first President, and continued in that position until July 1889 when he was succeeded by L. S. Kuhn, who served up to the time of his death in November 1892. Col. J. G. Freeze was then elected President, and still fills the office. H. H. Grotz was the Cashier from its organization until the bank went into the hands of a Receiver.

On October 23, 1896 the bank doors were closed, and a statement was put up saying that as they were unable to realize on their securities, they were obliged to suspend business. On December 26 an application was made to the court asking for the appointment of a Receiver, and B. F. Zarr, Esq., was appointed. The application was made by a bill in equity in which the plaintiff is "John W. Shuman, a partner and creditor of the Bloomsburg Banking Company, for himself and such other partners and creditors as may become parties to the bill," and the defendants are "John G. Freeze, B. F. Sharpless, H. J. Conner, D. K. Sloan, B. F. Zarr, J. W. Shuman, and others unknown, trading as the Bloomsburg Banking Company."

The court made the following decree:

"And now December 26th 1896, came the complainant by his counsel H. M. Hinckley, and also the respondents by their counsel Chas. G. Barkley, and the complainant's bill of complaint properly verified by affidavit being exhibited to the court, as well as the admissions of the respondents that from their best information they believe the partnership to be insolvent, and that it would be for the best interests of the said partnership and all the individual members thereof that the said partnership be dissolved, and a Receiver be appointed, after due consideration it is ordered as follows: First, That the Bloomsburg Banking Company is insolvent.

Second, B. F. Zarr, Esq., is hereby appointed Receiver of all the property, equitable interest, things in action, effects, money, receipts, earnings, rights and credits of the said partnership, known as the Bloomsburg Banking Company, with all the power, rights and duties of Receiver as in like cases, and particularly with the right and power to enter into immediate possession, and turn into money the assets of said co-partnership, to wind up and terminate its business; and to report from time to time to this court his performance of these duties, and the sum or sums of money in his hands for distribution to the creditors of said partnership, said Receiver to give bond in the sum of \$50,000, with H. J. Clark, Geo. A. Herring, William Krickbaum, B. F. Sharpless and H. J. Conner as sureties, who are approved as sufficient and good.

Third, The members, officers and directors, of said partnership shall forthwith upon the giving of said bond, give up to said Receiver possession of all the property or assets of said partnership, and thenceforth in no way interfere with the same.

Fourth, That respondents file an answer within 30 days, to the bill of complaint and furnish therewith a list of all the members of said partnership from the time of its organization, together with the date of any thereof, the time of their becoming members, the number of shares held by each, and the purchaser or purchasers of any stock.

Fifth, That service be had of said bill upon all the members so furnished who do not join as plaintiffs in said bill, and they be required to answer the same, as well as the defendants now named."

On December 28th, on petition of the Receiver, the court appointed J. V. Logan and Frank Ikeler as appraisers to make an inventory of the assets of the bank, and on January 7th 1897, the inventory was filed in the Prothonotary's office.

WHAT THE INVENTORY SHOWS.

This document shows that the bank has assets considered good amounting to \$56,108.04, while those believed to be worthless amount to \$36,757.81. It also shows that accounts were allowed to be overdrawn to the amount of

\$14,307.34, of which \$12,823.45 is now uncollectible. Among these overdrafts is one of \$748.77; another of \$1894.48; another of \$1432.23; another of \$543.95; another of \$540.14; another of \$355.54; another of \$262.72; eight of over \$100, and a number of smaller amounts.

Among the worthless assets is a judgment against J. S. Cochran & Bro. for \$8694.52. Another item of loss is in Northern Pacific stock which was placed in the bank as collateral for notes not paid, and which the bank was compelled to take at par value, \$100, now worth \$30 and some of it less. The depreciation in the value of this stock alone is about \$12,000.

It is claimed that most of these losses occurred before any of the present board of directors were elected.

We are informed that there are about one thousand depositors, and that there is probably \$80,000 due them. If this be correct, the stockholders will have to raise about \$25,000 more than their good assets in order to pay the depositors. This, however, is only an approximate estimate, as some of the assets considered good may not be collectible, while some that is marked worthless may be collected.

While it is apparent that some very loose business has been done at the Bloomsburg Banking Company, by somebody, there is no reason to believe that any of the depositors will be the losers, as the concern is a partnership, and the individual property of the partners or stockholders, is liable for any deficiency after the assets of the company are exhausted.

MARCY.

For some time past a number of young ladies and gentlemen of Bloomsburg have been rehearsing a play called "Marcy," which will be presented at the Opera House on Thursday evening, January 21. It is a play abounding in pathos and humor, and will afford an evening of royal entertainment. The object for which it is given is to raise money for a new organ for the Episcopal Church.

Those who patronize it should remember that they will not only derive pleasure from this entertainment, but that they are helping to purchase what will be a source of enjoyment for many years to come. A new organ will add greatly to the excellence of the music at the church, and the public will have the benefit of it.

The prices of seats have been fixed at 25, 35 and 50 cents. Reserved seats can be secured at Slate's Book Store.

THE KELLOGG CONCERT.

The first entertainment of the series in the Students' Lecture Course was given in the Normal Auditorium on Monday evening. There was a large and well pleased audience present. Mr. Kellogg's warbling is something wonderful. Miss Dillman's recitations were pleasing, and her calisthenics and Delsarte gymnastics were novel and beautiful. The colored lights produced most charming effects. Mrs. Kellogg sang well, though suffering from a severe cold. Miss Bowman presided at the piano very acceptably. If this is a forerunner of what is to come, the holders of course tickets are going to get more for a dollar than has ever been offered in a lecture course in this town before. The next number will be a lecture by Mr. Geo. Keenan on January 25th.

Knights of the Golden Eagle.

The following are the officers of Theta Castle No. 276, of Bloomsburg, for the ensuing six months' term:

Past Chief—Henry Knorr.
Noble Chief—David Powell.
Vice Chief—J. E. Fidler.
High Priest—J. L. Shoemaker.
Venerable Hermit—Wm. Jones.
Master of Records—Jno. W. Lewis.
Clerk of Exchequer—William E. Shaffer.

Keeper of Exchequer—C. W. Funston.
Sir Herald—Mayberry Bachman.
Worthy Chamberlain—A. Fortune.
Esquire—G. Stineman.
First Guardsman—J. R. Jones.
Second Guardsman—A. E. Myers.
Trustee—S. W. Shutt.
Representative to the Grand Castle—Jacob Shaffer.

William, son of the late Dr. Har-der, who was a former resident of Bloomsburg, died at Nanticoke on Friday night. His remains were brought here for burial on Monday. The deceased was aged about twenty-three.

DROWNED ON SUNDAY.

Great excitement was caused Sunday forenoon by the report that several young men had fallen through the ice and drowned. The news spread fast and the road leading to the scene of the reported accident was lined with people, but after reaching the place it was found that the report had been somewhat exaggerated and that only one had been drowned. From what we could learn the facts are about as follows:

On Sunday forenoon Mr. Shaffer, who lives above Iron Dale opposite the company dam, heard the cries of a man, who he imagined was in trouble, and he at once started out to see what waste matter. On arriving at the dam he found that a hole had been broken in the ice. He gave the alarm and in about an hour the body of George Scott, was removed from the water.

Squire Jacoby was sent for at once, but after he had learned the facts in the case, decided that an inquest was not necessary, as all the evidence proved that the drowning was accidental. Undertaker Baker removed the body to Mr. Scott's home on Second Street.

A fish basket was strapped on his shoulder and it is the belief that he had been fishing through the ice. There appears to have been no one with him at the time, and the exact particulars about the accident will probably never be known. The unfortunate young man was a son of William Scott, a conductor on the B. & S. Railroad, who resides at the lower end of town. He was at Jamison City at the time of the drowning, and an engine was sent up to bring him down. The case is a very sad one, and the family have the sympathy of the whole community. The funeral took place on Tuesday.

Teachers' Association.

The Executive Committee of the Columbia County Teachers' Association met in the special court room on Saturday last at 10 a. m. The meeting was called to order by the President, Supt. Miller, who stated the objects of the meeting were to select a time for holding the next annual teachers' institute, to determine the dates and places for holding the several local institutes, to consider the preparation of a course of study and the advisability of holding uniform monthly examinations. The time for holding the next county institute was first taken up, and after a free discussion in which the Superintendent invited all to participate, a ballot was taken, whereby it was unanimously decided to hold it in December.

It was decided to hold a local institute for Montour and Hemlock at Rupert, Jan. 16; for Centre and Scott at Lime Ridge, Jan. 23; for Orange, Mt. Pleasant and Fishing-creek at Orangeville, Jan. 30; for Locust, Roaringcreek, and Cleveland at Numidia, Feb. 6; for Pine, Greenwood, Madison and Millville at Millville, Feb. 13; for Millin, Beaver and Main at Millinville, Feb. 20; for Benton, Benton Township, Sugar-loaf and Jackson at Benton, Feb. 27; for Berwick and Briar-creek at Berwick, March 6; for Bloomsburg March 27. The dates for institutes at Catawissa and Centralia have not yet been decided on.

It was recommended by the committee that Supt. Miller appoint a committee of teachers to assist him in the preparation of a course of study for the village and rural schools of the county. It was further recommended that the course be made to contain an outline of each year's work and that it be published in pamphlet form. The County Supt. in his treatment of his teachers shows that he believes in a democratic form of government, and in the treatment of educational questions that he understands his business.

The following members of the committee were present: H. M. Grotz, Beaver; E. K. Richardson, Berwick; L. P. Sterner, Bloomsburg; Rolandus Kocher, Centre; Laura B. Yocum, Cleveland; Maggie Petty, Berwick; Boyd Trescott, Greenwood; Emma Beaver, Locust; J. F. Fetterolf, Mainville; J. W. Houck, Millin; Edward Roth, Montour; Edna Eves, Millville; Lulu Appleman, Mt. Pleasant; A. F. Terwilliger, Scott.

At 12 m. the committee adjourned sine die.

George W. Rutter, aged ninety-four, the oldest citizen of Uniontown, Pa. died on Saturday.

TAKE THEM OFF.

Hats with large plumes and feathers are fashionable this winter. Some of them stand up in the air from six to ten inches. They are objects of beauty, and calculated to excite feelings of admiration or envy, according to the disposition of the beholder. But in order to be admired they must be seen at the right place and time. A front view or a side view on the street is far preferable to a rear view at a place of amusement. People who pay to see entertainments have a right to an unobstructed view of the stage, and this is a fact that should be remembered by ladies with large hats. This is particularly applicable to the floor of the Normal Auditorium, where the stage is low, and the seats are on a level.

This subject has been fought out in the cities, and it is now the almost universal custom for ladies to remove their hats in the theatres. It is not an unusual thing for ladies who keep them on to be requested to remove them by persons behind them. A small evening bonnet without plumes is in much better taste in public halls, and an uncovered head is better yet.

COURT PROCEEDINGS.

Court convened on Saturday afternoon at 4 o'clock, with Judge Ikeler and Associates Millard and Fox on the bench. Judge Millard now sits at the right hand of Judge Ikeler, being the oldest associate in commission. It was Judge Fox's first appearance on the bench.

Hearing in the application for the dissolution of the Bloomsburg Belt R. R. Line continued until Monday, Jan. 18, in the forenoon at 9 o'clock.

Estate of Elias George, deceased, J. G. Freeze appointed auditor.

Boyd Trescott, Samuel Demott and Eyer Allen appointed inspectors of county bridge in Madison township, near A. C. Smith's.

Estate of Wm. Wright, deceased, C. G. Barkley appointed auditor.

Ross & Co. vs. Leader Co., Ltd. Rule for judgement granted. Rule returnable at next argument court.

Wm. A. Fritz vs. Flora Fritz. Subpoena in divorce awarded.

A. J. Emmit vs. G. W. Sterner. Petition for rule to show cause why an execution shall not be issued. Rule granted.

Petition presented for the appointment of viewers for a county bridge in Hemlock township, near Buckhorn. Adjoined to meet January 18, at nine a. m.

OFFICERS ELECTED.

On Tuesday the stockholders of the Bloomsburg Banking Company elected the following board of directors: J. G. Freeze, B. F. Zarr, B. F. Sharpless, D. K. Sloan, H. J. Conner. There is no change from last year.

On the same day the following persons were elected directors of the First National Bank for the ensuing year: Dr. E. M. Low, Myron I. Low, C. R. Buckalew, A. Z. Schoch, E. B. Tustin. Dr. Low was re-elected President; A. Z. Schoch, Vice-President, and E. B. Tustin, Cashier.

The stockholders of the Farmers National Bank on Tuesday elected the following directors for 1897: W. S. Moyer, C. M. Creveling, Frank Ikeler, William Gingles, C. W. Runyon, C. A. Klein, N. U. Funk, William Kramer, J. W. Eves.

The Bloomsburg & Sullivan R. R. Co. held its annual election on Tuesday with the following result: Directors, C. R. Buckalew, J. K. Grotz, H. J. Conner, L. E. Waller, Samuel Wigfall, Morton McMichael, Charles Evans, H. H. Pigott, E. W. Clark Jr. The organization is the same as heretofore, namely, C. R. Buckalew, President; S. Wigfall, Vice-President and Treasurer, H. J. Conner, Secretary; E. M. Leader, general manager.

The old organ at the Episcopal Church was purchased in 1874, and cost \$1200. It was a second-hand instrument and had been rebuilt. It has done excellent service, but after twenty-three years of usefulness it is worn out and is not worth what it would cost to put it in good condition. Besides that, it is out of date, and even if it were thoroughly repaired it would not give the results that can be obtained from a modern instrument. A fund has been started for a new organ, and it is hoped that before long enough can be raised to procure one.

The

TRUSTEE SALE

of the

GIDDING & CO.

Stock Still Continues.

Suits, Overcoats,

Storm Coats, Reefers,

Hats, Caps

and Furnishings.

THE GIDDING & CO.

JOSEPH GOLDSMITH,

Trustee.

HE SHOT HIS BONDSMAN.

Postmaster Landers, of Newberry, Sought Tragio Revenge.

PROMINENT VICTIM MAY DIE.

The Office Was About to be Turned Over to a Clerk on Account of a Shortage in Its Accounts.

Hon. Seth T. Foresman, one of the most prominent citizens and leading lumberman, was shot, and it is feared fatally wounded, last Saturday afternoon at 4:30 o'clock, by George K. Landers, postmaster of Newberry, the Seventh and Eleventh wards of Williamsport. Foresman was one of Landers' bondsmen, and called at the post office to talk to the latter concerning a shortage in his accounts.

The two men stood inside the rack at the general delivery window, when Landers suddenly drew a small bulldog revolver. Landers declares that he drew it with the intention of shooting himself in the head; but Mr. Foresman made a statement to Alderman C. V. L. McMinn to the effect that Landers had the pistol aimed at his (Foresman's) heart, when he struck Landers' arm and knocked it downward, the ball taking effect in the bondsman's stomach, passing through the bowels.

THEN HE FELT A TWINGE.

Foresman says he felt a sharp twinge in the stomach when the pistol exploded, but that he did not know he was shot until ten minutes later, when he walked across the street.

Landers has been drinking considerably of late, and his bondsmen have during the last year paid to the Government \$390 to balance his accounts. Mr. Foresman called that day to expostulate with Landers, and demanded that he turn the post office over to Miss Blanche Layton, a clerk.

At this demand Landers remarked: "All right; I will," and pulled the pistol. There were no witnesses to the affair. Miss Myrtle Straub, a clerk, sat at a desk with her back toward the two men. She says she heard no excited conversation before the shooting.

VICTIM LIKELY TO DIE.

The doctors say that Foresman has but slight chances for recovery.

However, his rugged constitution is in his favor. Mr. Foresman represented Locoming county in the Legislature, was the Democratic candidate for Mayor of the city several years ago and served as Select Councilman several years. He is a member of the sawmill firm of Williams & Foresman. Landers is a cripple. He made no attempt to escape after the shooting, and is now in jail. He says he will put himself out of the way.

ANIMOTISCOPE COMING AGAIN.

On the 28th of December a unique entertainment was given in the Lutheran Church of this place, by Lyman H. Howe with the animotroscope and phonograph. Those who saw and enjoyed the marvelously realistic scenes and sounds, were delighted and amazed. This is not a magic lantern, as many people suppose, but is one of the wonders of the nineteenth century. With the exception of those who saw this marvelous invention when here before, it has probably never been seen by any of the residents of this town and vicinity. All objects appear to be life size. Scenes are shown as they actually transpire. Horses gallop, men run, water splashes and waves roll, smoke rises and wreaths about, and an express train, at the rate of a mile a minute, dashes rapidly by. The phonograph vividly reproduces the hissing of steam and the rattle and roar of the train. Tickets, and board for reserved seats at Slate's. Reserved seats thirty-five cents; general admission twenty-five cents. For the benefit of the Lutheran church, January 26, at the Opera House.

E. F. Row, whose barbershop has been located for some time in the lower room of the Central Hotel building, will move across the street to the room formerly occupied by Mr. W. H. Gilmore as a toy store. Mr. Row's old quarters when vacated will be used by Mr. Stohner as a first class sample room.

The house formerly occupied by Geo. Runyon, which was recently destroyed by fire is being repaired by the John Jones Estate, and will soon be ready for occupancy. Mr. Runyon will move back.