

# The Columbian.

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NO. 11

## CHARGED WITH MURDER.

The Authorities Claim that Young Mensinger Killed His Father.

It is claimed in and about Catawissa, that the authorities have discovered in a cave a gun, which is all covered with blood, and they will hold the find as evidence against young Samuel Mensinger, who is in jail here charged with the murder of his father, David Mensinger.

The last Mensinger was seen alive was on Thursday, March 4, when he was going around different places trying to sell a dog and gun which he had with him, and early in the evening he called on a neighbor, by the name of John Shell. He left the neighbor's house, and that was the last seen of him, until his dead body was discovered by John Shell on Sunday morning, March 7, lying on the earth near the cellar door, of the house where the dead man and his son had been living. From the position of the body when found, it is evident that some time elapsed from the time he was shot until he died.

It is alleged that the father and son had lived together at Beaver Valley, in the southern end of Columbia County, about nine miles from Catawissa. They quarreled, and the son left the house. After the murder, the hunt for young Mensinger began. He was found snugly domiciled in a cave about a mile away. His arrest and a complete search of the cavern followed. Samuel stoutly denies that he killed his father, and says he knows nothing about it.

## A BAD HABIT.

Ed. Columbian:

It would be a great convenience to many of the town people, if the front door of the post office could be left open on Sunday. There are some who have lock boxes and who find it impossible to get to the office on Saturday, could, if the door was left unlocked, step in and get their mail on Sunday. But this convenience can not be had unless the police exercise a little more authority, and break up the habit of loafing in the post office. There are a number of boys and young men who make a practice every time they find the door open on Sunday, of going in the office and stand around until some one chases them out. The attention of the police has been called to this before, but it seems they don't care or else have not back bone enough to perform their duty. Last Sunday the door was left unlocked, and when one of the employees of the post office stopped in on his way uptown he found four boys inside laughing and talking and making enough noise for several times their number. The employee on his way out spoke to the boys about their standing around, and thought that they would have sense enough to take the hint, but not so, for when he returned some minutes later, the boys were still there, enjoying themselves as if nothing had happened. This time they were informed that loafing was positively forbidden, and that the police had orders to put them out if they were caught there, and finally they went out but not until they had given utterance to considerable back talk. The employee now went down street, and as he had used pretty strong language on the last occasion, he never entertained the thought that the boys would go back. But to his surprise on returning after a few minutes absence, they had again gathered on the inside. They were again put out, and the door locked.

## Trinity Reformed Church Notes.

The Christian Endeavor Society will give a chicken and waffle supper on Friday evening February 19, at the house of E. F. Row on East First street. Supper will cost 25cts. Ice-cream and cake extra. Your patronage is solicited.

Services in the church next Sunday both morning and evening. In the evening the pastor will preach on the "Unpardonable Sin."

Next Monday evening a series of evangelistic services will be begun. These services will be in charge of Rev. R. N. Harris of Mt. Carmel, Pa. Mr. Harris has considerable reputation for evangelistic work, and all who come to hear him will be greatly pleased and benefitted. We give a cordial invitation to everybody to attend these and all other services of this church.

The Barton property on East Street below Fifth, was sold to William Yost on Saturday for \$1200.

## WHERE IS THE BAND?

How often do we hear that question asked, when out on the street, but no one seems to be able to answer it. We all know that Bloomsburg used to have a band, and that the music rendered compared very favorably with organizations of the same kind from larger cities. But some how or other, the bottom has dropped out our combination, and Bloomsburgers are pursuing the monotonous tenor of life, without a single strain of music to liven things up, and as lonesome as was Adam in the first day of creation when he walked barefooted in the Garden of Eden.

But this is not answering the question. There must be a cause for the "bust up." We have made several attempts to get at the bottom of the thing, but as yet have been unsuccessful. There always has been more or less contention among the members, and no organization can ever get along successfully, until that feeling is entirely done away with. They have had during the last few years some of the best instructors in the country, and for a little while everything would run along smoothly, but the harmony would never last more than a month, or so, until some of the players, filled with their own conceit, would imagine that they knew more than the leader, they would stay away from the rehearsals, and do all in their power, to influence some of the other members to follow suit, until the attendance would dwindle down so small that the teacher would give up in disgust. They would then secure another leader, but the same result would always follow. We do not know what other trouble there is, but the above is one of the principal causes for the present condition of things, and with the feeling of rivalry now existing, the organization of a good band in town is rendered impossible. The interest manifested in the music line is greater now than ever before, and there is plenty of talent here. Why not get together and retain for Bloomsburg the prestige that will come through having a band that can occupy a front row when it comes to competition. Why not get together boys? If you engage an instructor, let him instruct you. If he starts out by teaching you a few things that you already know, why let it pass by, don't imagine that you are the "only pebble on the beach." This is the only way to get along.

## HELP BOOM CENTRALIA!

The Philadelphia Times is offering a magnificent \$300 library to the public school outside of Philadelphia which shall before April 30th collect the most coupons cut from its columns. The Centralia High School has entered the contest for the prize and at present holds a creditable position in the race, having made a larger average gain per day than any other school in the contest since it has entered the arena to do battle for the prize.

Every school in this section should take pride in aiding Centralia to win such a grand prize. The High School at that place, under the efficient superintendency of J. H. Eisenhower, is a model in many respects and a first-class library would add greatly to the present meager equipment in that respect. Centralia's cause should be made the cause of the region.

No other school in this county has entered the contest, and hence there is no competition here. On Tuesday Centralia held sixth place. On Wednesday it stood fourth, having made a gain of about 6000 votes. If all persons who take the Times will cut out the coupons and leave them at this office we will forward them, and the donors will receive proper credit. Those who have helped thus far are THE COLUMBIAN, C. P. Elwell, R. W. Jacobs, F. E. Miller, D. Tasker. If the buyers of the Sunday Times will leave their coupons with R. W. Jacobs each Sunday it will be appreciated by the Centralia High School. Coupons more than seven days old cannot be voted. Cut out both coupons in each paper.

## COMING EVENTS.

March 19.—Chicken and waffle supper at the home of E. F. Row, on East First Street, for the benefit of the Christian Endeavor Society of the Reformed Church.

Announcements of any other entertainments will be made under this head without charge, by leaving word at this office.



See our handsome Young Men's Suits.

## Spring Overcoats.

Swell kinds for young men; Neat patterns for older people, or those who like them, \$5 to \$15.

New Spring Hats, \$1.00, \$1.50, \$2.00 and \$3.00.

## New Neckwear.

Scotch plaids are the swell things, 25 and 50 cents.

Largest and Finest Clothing Establishment in the valley.



# GIDDING'S.

Gidding's.

## SPRING CHAT.

We beg to announce the opening of Spring Lines of

## Suits, Overcoats, Hats and Furnishings

for men, young men, boys and children, which in point of attractiveness and style we think eclipse any of our former efforts. We hope to see a new era of prosperity enter in with the beautiful sun shiny weather, and that the wheels of industry may be kept humming and keep our workmen, mechanics, and neighbors busy as bees, for in your prosperity is ours and we want to give you a better and greater store than ever. Prices now are at their lowest, for with higher tariff which congress proposes, goods are bound to increase in value.

## Spring Suits.

Scotch Tweeds in all the new plaids. Cheviots, Vicunas, Thibits Worsted, etc., \$3-75, 5.00, 7.50, 10.00 and 15.00.



Everything new and stylish is embodied in our superb assortment.

## DEATH OF HENRY EDWARDS.

After reaching the advanced age of seventy-eight years, Henry Edwards departed this life, Monday morning at one o'clock, at the home of his daughter, Mrs. George M. Lockard, on East First Street, where he had lately been making his home. He was stricken with paralysis thirty some years ago, but this did not prevent him from walking about. Some time during February he suffered another and more severe stroke, which ended in his death. He was the father of William and Mrs. Thomas E. Geddes, of this town; George Z. of Mercer, Utah; James, of Wilkesbarre; Celinda, deceased wife of J. K. Lockard, and step-father of Mrs. G. M. Lockard, of town, and Alex. Thompson, of Nanticoke. The funeral took place Wednesday morning, interment was made at Summer Hill, above Berwick.

## ROBERT PURSEL.

The death of Robert Pursel occurred about ten o'clock on Tuesday at his residence near the town hall. His illness was a protracted one, he having been confined to the house for a long time. The deceased, had resided in town for a long time, and was held in high esteem by all who knew him. His wife died about six years ago. Funeral services at the home to-day at two o'clock, Rev. Hemingway, of the Presbyterian Church officiating. Interment in Rosemont Cemetery.

Ezra S. Lyons, an old resident of Pine Summit, died on Tuesday of last week, aged about seventy years. His death resulted from old age, the human machine, having been completely worn out. The funeral took place on Friday, interment in Pine Summit Cemetery.

## MILES A. WILLIAMS.

About three weeks ago Miles A. Williams of Orangeville had a paralytic stroke, and lingered along until Saturday evening last when he expired. His age was about sixty-eight years. A widow, his second wife, and four children by his first wife, survive. The children are Warren, Mrs. D. Megargell, Mrs. Cameron of Orangeville, and James, who resides

at Fowlersville.

Mr. Williams had lived at Orangeville about fifty years, engaged in the tanning business, which trade he learned there. The funeral services were held at the residence at ten o'clock on Tuesday morning, and were conducted by Rev. Mr. Martin, pastor of the Presbyterian Church.

## A SUDDEN DEATH.

Joy was turned to deep sorrow, at Espy Tuesday evening. A farewell party was being given Mr. and Mrs. Jacob Aul at that place. Mrs. David Whitmire left home, with the expectation of spending a pleasant evening, but shortly after her arrival she was taken with heart failure, and expired in a few moments. The deceased was a devout member of the Lutheran Church, and was seventy-three years of age. Thus we are again warned of the fact "that in the midst of life we are in death." Funeral services will be conducted at the house on Friday at 10 o'clock.

## MRS. SARAH J. BROWN.

Mrs. Sarah J. Brown, widow of the late Freas Brown, died in her room at the Exchange Hotel on Wednesday morning, aged nearly seventy-two years. She went to Washington D. C. about five weeks ago, but caught cold and was confined to the house part of the time. She returned here on Friday accompanied by her niece, Mrs. Shuman. Mrs. Brown was born in Catawissa township on July 23, 1827, and married Freas Brown in 1847. She was a member of the M. E. Church. The funeral will take place on Friday at one o'clock.

Postmasters are required about once every four years to weigh all the mails sent and received, in order to give the railroad companies some idea of the weight, when bidding for carrying the same. The weight of the mails at the Bloomsburg Postoffice for the first day was as follows: Received 612 lbs. Sent 469 lbs. Total weight 1081.

S. D. Neyhard has secured the general agency for the gas and water switch patented by our former townsman, Webb S. Garrison, now living in Philadelphia.

## COOUNCIL PROCEEDINGS.

All Members Present. Very Little Business Transacted.

A special meeting of the Town Council was held on Tuesday evening. President Holmes, and members Gorrey, Kunkle, Rawlings, Brobst, Richard and Kocher being present. The first business coming up for the consideration of the Council was building permits, and upon motion duly seconded the following permits were granted:

To R. B. Angell for a two and a half story frame house on north side of East Fourth street.

To R. R. Ikeler for a three story mill of frame and brick, on Locust street.

To Mrs. Wyncoop for alterations to her property on Third street.

To W. H. Bauman for addition to his home on Third street.

In the matter of exonerating Mrs. Rush Cook from the payment of taxes, the Finance Committee reported that upon careful inquiry they do not deem it wise to grant the request. Upon motion the report was accepted and approved.

R. B. Angell asked permission to put a cess pool under the pavement in front of his new house on East Fourth street, until such time as the sewer is extended up that far. As that part of the street has not been accepted by the town, Council has no jurisdiction in the matter.

Bills were presented and the Secretary directed to issue orders for same as follows:

A. V. Hower, watchman November to April.....	\$ 5 00
Creasy & Wells, for lumber.....	25 35
T. L. Smith, sharpening picks.....	4 30
H. A. McKillip, professional services in damage cases of Sterner, Wolverton, Mears and Evans.....	200 00
L. E. Waller, cinder for highways, covering part of '95-'96 and '97 to February inclusive.....	262 55
This order to be applied on the Waller taxes.	

R. R. Ikeler and W. S. Fleckenstine asked council to open Locust street from Fifth to Espy road so that they can get to the mill they are building. Referred to Street Committee, they to consult the new members of Council.

A petition however must first be presented.

No further business appearing Council adjourned till Thursday night April 1st, or at call of the Pre sident.

## "SCRAP."

In the hall above the First National Bank, was the scene of a fist fight on Monday night. Two young men or town, became enraged over an argument. The wordy war became very heated and they decided to settle their difference a la Marquis of Queensbury. The two were about evenly matched, there only being about ten pounds difference in their weight, but weight didn't count much, for the heavier fellow was getting decidedly the worst of the fisticuffs, when the appearance of Policeman Culp, put an end to the "scrap," and a knockout was avoided.

## BASKET BALL.

The Normal team went down before the superior work of the Wilkes-Barre aggregation, in the gymnasium on Tuesday night. This is the first time they have suffered defeat at home, but this is probably due to the fact that the team they presented was very much patched up, four of the players who have helped establish Normal's basket ball reputation in former games, being absent. But even with the Normal's weak team, the visitors had no "cinch" by any means, they had to exert themselves for all they were worth in order to win. The score at the end of the first half was a tie 10-10, but in the last half the Wilkes-Barre boys made a rally, scoring two more points, making their score 12 to 10 in their favor. The game put up by the visitors was by far the roughest seen in the "gym" this season. They resorted to all kinds of unfair tricks, which were in direct opposition to rules governing the game, which showed that they had been trained for that kind of play. Normal defeated this same team some time ago, and their record is now a tie, each having won a game.

The annual convention of the Columbia County Sabbath School Association will be held this year in Benton on Thursday and Friday June 3rd and 4th.