

# The Columbian.

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## REPUBLICAN CONVENTION.

After a Bitter Fight, a Compromise is Reached, and a Peace and Harmony Convention is Rushed Through in Nine Minutes.

The Republican county convention for the election of two delegates to the state convention, was held in the Court House on Monday afternoon. Every seat was filled, and the attendance of delegates was large.

At 2:10 County Chairman W. D. Beckley called the meeting to order, and stated that it had been agreed that this should be a harmony convention. He appointed A. W. Day and E. E. Straub secretaries, and R. S. Bowman of Berwick was elected chairman of the convention without opposition.

W. H. Magill and C. E. Geyer were elected delegates to the state convention by acclamation.

J. C. Brown offered the following resolutions, which were adopted:

**Resolved,** By the Republican Party of Columbia County in Convention this day assembled that we pledge anew our undivided support to the principles of the great Republican Party which were triumphantly vindicated in the election of Hon. Wm. McKinley in November last and especially to the doctrine of protection to home industry as declared in the Dingley bill.

**Resolved,** That we most earnestly endorse the public career of our senior Senator Hon. M. S. Quay and his matchless leadership of the Republican party of the State, and we hereby pledge to him our undivided and enthusiastic support.

**Resolved;** That we view with satisfaction and approval the public record made by our youthful and efficient congressman, Hon. M. H. Kulp and especially his earnest solicitude for the welfare of our maimed and crippled soldiers and their widows and orphans for whose interests he has assiduously labored with great success.

"Is there any further business," said the chairman. "I move we adjourn" said W. M. Monroe of Rupert. The motion was put and carried, and the convention adjourned, having been in session just nine minutes.

It was all done up so quickly that on coming out of the Court House one of the Bloom delegates said he would like to know "where he was at."

But while peace and harmony was all that appeared on the surface, there was blood on the moon, and a good deal of bitter feeling engendered by the fierce contest at the delegate election held through the county on Saturday afternoon. The fight was for supremacy in the county and is said to have been started by Congressman Kulp who had two things in view, one being to get control of the party organization in the county, and the other, to turn down Brown, McKillip, Beckley, and their friends, who he claimed had not been loyal to him. A vigorous warfare was started by Kulp's lieutenants, and on Monday morning they claimed that they had beaten the old organization, and would have a clear majority of 8 in the convention. On the other hand the Brown faction claimed that they had 62 delegates sure out of 99.

Congressman Kulp arrived here on Monday morning and established headquarters at Enterline's parlors. Dodgers were circulated on the street announcing this fact, and inviting all delegates to come and see him. Nothing was said about free beer, but it was well known that there was a bar handy.

During the morning delegates were interviewed by both factions, but towards noon a compromise was effected, it is said, at the suggestion of Kulp who sent for J. C. Brown and others. It is also said that a telegram was received from Senator Quay asking that matters be adjusted on a friendly basis. What the compromise was, no one outside of those who attended the conference seems to know.

The candidates for delegates to the state convention were W. D. Beckley and C. E. Geyer on the one side, and W. H. Magill and William Beck on the other. The compromise dropped Beckley and Beck, and the other two were elected. It looked as though the convention was rushed through as it was, for fear some inquisitive delegate might ask some unpleasant questions. It is generally understood that the compromise was not brought about purely from friendly motives, but that it was forced, be-

cause neither side felt sure enough of their strength to go into the convention and fight it out. The country delegates did not understand the contest, some of them did not know there was a fight, and many of them did not feel like taking sides when the only matter at issue was a struggle between local politicians for the position of political boss of the county. Hence the uncertainty, and hence the compromise.

Now the questions that are being discussed on the street are these: What was the fight about? Who won the victory? What did the winning side get as the result of their victory?

Congressman Kulp left here for his home in Shamokin on the 4:15 train Monday. If he wore a belt it was out of sight, and there were no gory scalps dangling from it.

When the time comes for the distribution of prize packages in the shape of post offices and other government offices we shall know better who is on top.

### CHARGED WITH LARCENY.

Several weeks ago a stranger who gave his name as W. R. Cook came to the St. Elmo Hotel and took up quarters, claiming at first to be a representative of some big insurance company, but finally he drifted from this into the soap business; he didn't seem to pay any attention to his board bill which was getting larger all the while, and from appearances didn't have very much money. After some weeks Mrs. Dieterick engaged a seamstress, and in order to accommodate her, Cook was given a room formerly used by Mr. and Mrs. Dieterick, and in which was a trunk, containing among other articles a considerable amount of money which had been placed there from time to time for safe keeping. About a week after Cook had changed rooms, he paid off his bill and took his departure. A day or so after he left, Mrs. Dieterick happened in the room and saw that the trunk had been opened, and upon further investigation discovered that about \$190 had been taken away. The circumstances in the case seemed pretty strong against Cook, and an officer was at once started in search for him. He was located by Chief of Police Wesley Knorr, at Homestead, Pa., on Monday, where he was arrested, and gave bail in the sum of \$600 for his appearance at court. The court will have to decide whether or not Cook is the guilty man. If he is, or whoever took the money either didn't want any more, or else overlooked it, as there was about a hundred dollars still in the trunk.

### BICYCLING.

The pleasant weather of the last few days has been the cause of much rejoicing among the bicyclists of town, and they can already be seen in large numbers riding to and fro on almost every street, and as the weather becomes warmer, and the trees take on their green foliage, the number of cyclists will be greatly increased. The roads were never in better condition. The season promises to be an exceptionally good one for the local agents, as it isn't likely that those who intend purchasing new wheels, will not let hard times stand in their way, for when a person becomes a victim to the wheel fever, everything else, as a rule, is lost sight of. In many cases wheels have decreased in value, but a few of the standard makes retain their price of last year. Of course some of the town dealers are selling a good wheel for \$50, while they can be bought as low as \$32 and \$35, but as a matter of course, in point of excellence they are completely out-classed by the \$100 wheels. There can be no question about the bicycle being here to stay, and this fact alone can account for the cheap prices horses are selling at, and the increasing number of wheels coming to towns is also very distasteful to the liverymen.

Judge Ikeler has received a letter from Judge Metzger, of Williamsport, saying that owing to the fact that the Civil term of Court in Lycoming County occurs at the same time, it will be impossible for him to try the Knorr-Wintersteen case here next month as had been the intention. As it is, Judge Savidge, of Northumberland, will probably try the case.

J. S. South, who has been in the grocery business with H. R. Snyder, for some time, left town on Friday, and moved to Yardly, Pa., where he will make his home.

### THE BAND.

Editor Columbian:

In your issue of March 18 appears an article concerning the Bloomsburg Band. The Band has had no rehearsal since Nov. '95, having become discouraged and suspended operations for want of funds to pay expenses. In regard to directors the band has employed from time to time, will state—Mr. Brooks was with the band several years. We managed to pay his salary but it was sometimes "nip and tuck" but for the courtesy of Mr. Brooks in regard to payments the band would have been compelled to dispense with his service long before we did and then only because there were no funds to pay with. Mr. Brooks follows the music business for a livelihood and does not play with the band as a member. Mr. Turner had charge of the band some time. Mr. Turner is a good musician and a perfect gentleman. The band was never better disciplined than while under his care, but desiring to take a special course of study at the Normal and being a night session, was obliged to resign for want of time to give the band proper attention. Later on Mr. Blair was engaged. As we all know Mr. Blair was the best director the band ever had. He remained with us until the treasury was exhausted and resigned because he could not see the way clear for the band to pay him his salary. Since then the band has been without a leader. Thus it will be seen the main cause for suspension is no money to pay current expenses which requires about \$600 per annum, \$500 for director and \$100 for music and incidentals. In years past the band has been supported mainly through contributions from members of the band and their friends. The band have a competent conductor waiting for the position. The band will send out a committee to solicit contributions; if they are successful the conductor will be engaged. If not the band will be forced to suspend. So far as the members of the band agreeing, I think we have a pretty fair showing when it is considered that we have maintained the same players and membership for several years. If there is sufficient funds provided the band for expenses that the members will not be obliged to go down in their own pocket for money to pay bills that they have no private interest in beyond the pleasure they can get out of the music, the writer will guarantee there will be no trouble to keep the band in good shape. It should also be borne in mind to be a good band member it is necessary to make some personal sacrifices—two meeting nights each week for practice and some time three nights when extra preparations are made, one night for concert, and other time for use of band, leaves but little spare time out of each week for individual or private use. There are many other things we could mention that the public know little or nothing about. This is sufficient for the present. Very Respectfully,  
BLOOMSBURG CORNET BAND.

### PRIZE FIGHT.

In the presence of about fifty spectators, two young bloods of town, after the fashion of Fitzsimmons and Corbett, met in Lorah's Hall, on Monday night for a prize fight. The purse is said to have been \$10. We have not heard whether the winner was to receive a diamond belt or not. It is said that honors were about evenly divided for three rounds, and in the fourth round when, to all appearances a knock out blow was near at hand, an officer interfered, and the fight was called a draw, and the crowd left the hall greatly disappointed. There was no doubt a great deal of science exhibited during the three rounds, as one of the fighters, we are told, put in a week of hard training, and was confident of victory. As it is he feels very bad over the outcome, and says that if he can just get another chance at his opponent, a stretcher will be needed before three rounds are fought.

### BIOYOLLES TO GO FREE.

Pennsylvania Railroad Makes a Great Concession to the Wheelmen.

Chief Consul Samuel A. Boyle, of the L. A. W. of Pennsylvania, on Monday completed final arrangements with the Pennsylvania railroad company whereby that company agrees to carry bicycles free over their entire system. Consul Boyle has had a number of conferences with the Pennsylvania railroad officials, but it was not until Monday that the concession was granted by the Pennsylvania people.

### MRS. E. C. WELLS.

After a brief illness Mrs. Anna Elizabeth Wells, wife of Mr. E. C. Wells, died at her home on Fifth street on Tuesday morning at five o'clock. Her husband and three children survive her, the latter being Mrs. S. B. Henderson of Montgomery, and Mrs. S. C. Creasy and J. G. Wells of Bloomsburg. Mrs. Wells was a daughter of Major Bruner of Muncy, and of her father's family four brothers and two sisters are living, all of whom reside at Muncy.

Mr. and Mrs. Wells came to Bloomsburg about twenty years ago, to accept the positions of steward and matron of the Normal School, which places they filled most admirably for several years until Mr. Wells resigned to engage in the lumber business as a member of the firm of Creasy & Wells. Mrs. Wells was a member of the Episcopal church from her girlhood, and was an earnest christian woman, a devoted wife, and a loving mother.

The remains will be taken to Muncy tomorrow morning at 7.30 on the P. & R., where services will be held in the Episcopal church at 11 o'clock, conducted by Rev. D. N. Kirkby. There will be no services at the house.

Judge Metzger has filed an opinion in the matter of the assigned estate of I. W. McKelvy, sustaining exceptions to the auditor's report. In the auditor's first report the personal fund was distributed pro rata among all the creditors, lien and general. In the second report the first lien creditors were paid in full, and the amount of the personal fund that had been given to the first liens was distributed pro rata among the second liens and the general creditors. To this distribution exceptions were filed by second lien creditors and the court has sustained the exceptions. This will give the second liens a further distribution of ten to fifteen per cent.

This is the forest fire season, and destructive fires are raging all over the Blue Ridge section of Pennsylvania. The time between the drying winds of March and April and the heavy bed of leaves is always the season for forest fires, and their appearance this year is a little earlier than usual. The Catawissa mountain has been burning for the last week and great destruction to timber has been the result. These fires will no doubt have at least a month yet to get in their work of destruction, and people living along the mountain should use every precaution to keep the flames within the narrowest limits possible.

The first meeting of the new Town Council will be held to-night. The oath of office was administered to President W. R. Koehler, and members Henry Hower, F. J. Richards, W. S. Rishton, Thomas Gorrey, John Kelley and H. G. Supple, by Guy Jacoby, J. P. on Monday. We hope that the work of these new law makers will be for the upbuilding and advancement of the town, and that Bloomsburg may make rapid strides in the year to come is the wish of all.

Charles Lowensine, and Harry Yarowski, two of the gang of swindlers, who were tried at Scranton last week for using the mails to defraud, and at which trial several Bloomsburgers were subpoenaed as witnesses, were sentenced to imprisonment in the western penitentiary. The former to sixteen and latter to eighteen months. This band of culprits had been operating in Bloomsburg, Danville and several other places.

### Supreme Court Cases.

The following cases have been fixed for argument in the Supreme Court next Monday: In re contest of election of Poor District, Directors of the Poor of Conyngham township, appellant, vs. Cain, et al.; Quarter Sessions Columbia County; and Ash Bros. et al. vs. Berwick Water Company, appellant, which was tried in Luzerne County.

The following letters are advertised April 6, 1897. Susan Crawford, Mr. John Dyring, Mr. William Myers, Mrs. Susan A. Potter, Mr. H. F. Rice, George S. Surling. Parcels, Miss J. C. Kitchen. Will be sent to the dead letter office April 20, 1897. JAMES H. MERCER, P. M.

William Decker has purchased an entire new set of fixtures and will open a barber shop at the corner of Fifth and East Streets. William is well liked by all who know him and will no doubt have a good share of patronage.

## IN FULL BLAST. Spring Goods Galore.

Everything your wants demand to clothe yourself and boys. Excellent, well wearing, stylish suits, hats and furnishings at prices that command the attention of every economical person within a radius of 50 miles.

### For Friday and Saturday only

we place on sale the following values, such as you cannot reasonably overlook if you're looking to benefit yourself.

About 12 different styles in men's and young men's suits—in dark and light grey, brown, blue, black and some light shades. Suits that would command \$7.50 at any store, and lucky purchase on our part make them yours for

\$5.00

Possibly 25 styles and colors in men's suits are here to select from, including all the different grey-mixtures, pin checks, hair lines, black, blue in worsteds, cassimeres, chevviots, tibets including great values in plaids—could easily command

\$7.50

Excellent, dressy, stylish and serviceable men's suits, in 3 or 4 button sacks or cutaways in all the newest imported and domestic materials, made equal to custom work; could easily command \$15, and worth it. Our special prices

\$10 and \$12

Spring Overcoats, \$5, \$7.50, \$10 and \$12.  
Childrens Novelties—Blouse, Eaton, Junior, Fauntleroy, Etc., \$1.25, 1.50, 1.75, 2.00, 2.50 and up.

## Gidding's

All the fashionable shades and colors in men's and boy's hats, 50 cents to \$3.00.  
Special lot of laundered percale shirts, 50 cents.

### TOWN COUNCIL MEETING.

The last meeting of the '96 Council was held at the Town Hall on Thursday evening, with President W. O. Holmes, and members E. A. Rawlings, Thomas Gorrey, and Charles Kunkle present.

The annual statement was submitted by Secretary Ringler. It was accepted and ordered published in the town papers.

Elizabeth Rawlings was granted a building permit, for a porch to her house on Iron Street.

The Novelty Works asked that they be exempt from taxation for five years longer, making ten years altogether. The matter was laid aside for the present.

On closing the meeting President Holmes said: "This meeting closes the eleventh year of my services in the Town Council, and I wish to say that this has been a most harmonious Council and has transacted more business in less time than any former Council I have been a member of."

About eleven o'clock last Thursday night many residents of town were greatly startled by the report of an explosion, which was the cause of making some few houses in town tremble. Many reasons were given for the shock but the truth was not known until Friday morning, when it was learned that the concussion was caused by the blowing up of the Shamokin Powder Company's works. It was distinctly felt for miles around. In Shamokin the shock is said to have been something terrific. Houses were shaken on their foundations, window panes were shattered, and stones and timber were hurled in every direction. The mill was located between Shamokin and Treverton, and was familiarly known as Mullins mill. No lives were sacrificed.

Congressman Kulp's headquarters in Enterline's Hall, on Monday presented a lively scene. The ball stairs were crowded with delegates and others all forenoon.

Republican politicians had their hands full on Saturday afternoon. Wherever one turned he was almost sure to see one of the leaders whispering in the ears of a voter.

### BLOOMSBURG BANKING COMPANY.

Several sets of exceptions have been filed to the statement of distribution of money among the creditors of the Bloomsburg Banking Company as filed by B. F. Zarr Esq., receiver, in compliance with the order of the court. The exceptions raise questions that it will take time to decide, and there will therefore be no distribution until they are disposed of by the court. The principal point raised is that of liability of stock holders. It is claimed that the money now in the receiver's hands should be applied to the payment of the debts of the present partnership, and that it cannot be applied to the payment of depositors whose money was deposited prior to the date of the partnership as at present constituted. If this position be correct, then the depositor's must ascertain who the partners were at the time of their deposits, and look to them for the payment of their claims. We understand a list is in course of preparation which will show the names of all stock holders and the time during which they held stock in the concern. This list will be filed in court.

### COMING EVENTS.

This evening from 5 to 10 o'clock, at the residence of Mrs. F. M. Gilmore on Catharine Street, the Methodist Church will give an oyster supper.

Saturday evening at the Opera House, Frank S. Davidson and Company will present the rural comedy "Farmer Hopkins."

A Household Bazaar and supper at rooms corner of Main and Iron Streets Thursday and Friday evenings, April 15 and 16, by the ladies of the Baptist Church. Ice-cream and cake will be served as extras.

The Missionary Society of the Lutheran Church will give a supper at the home of Miss Ida Herring on East Street, between Second and Third, Friday evening, April 9, from 5 until 10 o'clock. Price 15 cents. Ice-cream and cake will also be served. Everybody welcome.

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