

Read what the Holiday Advertisers have to offer this week.

The Columbian.

HOLIDAY EDITION, 12 pages.

VOL. 32 BLOOMSBURG, PA., THURSDAY, DECEMBER 16, 1897. NO. 50

COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS.

The regular monthly meeting of the Town Council took place last Thursday evening. President Kocher and all six members attended. Minutes of last meeting read and approved.

Numbering the houses was discussed at length, but no definite action taken.

R. R. Little was appointed a member of the Board of Health.

Considerable time was then taken up in talking over the electric light question. Policeman reported that many lights were often out all night.

Mr. Harding, of the Electric Light Company who was present admitted that the arc lights were not as good as they should be, but said that as soon as some necessary improvements are made their contract to furnish good light will be faithfully fulfilled. He also deducted \$19.29 from the November bill.

M. I. Hennessy claims damages for the grading of Leonard Street from Main out to the Ralston addition. He says that by reason of said grading, there being a considerable cut made, it is almost impossible for him to get his horses and wagons in and out of the barn. The matter was referred to the Committee on Finances.

Orders were issued for the following bills:

G. B. Martin, for smithing.....	6 35
Creasy & Wells, for lumber	46 02
Harman & Hassert, crossing plates.....	32 18
Moyer Bros., Board of Health mater.....	1 50
Steam Co., for Town Hall Water Co., for water.....	37 70
C. W. Hassert, rent for Rescue Co.....	90 84
J. R. Schuyler & Co., hardware.....	3 00
Geo. W. Moyer, plumbing	2 93
I. Hagenbuch, health officer, 2 ms.....	1 60
O. B. Mellick, concrete work.....	20 00
W. Sleeman, work on stone wall.....	7 56
Creveling & Co., filling Catharine street.....	9.00
Harman & Hassert, lumber, &c.....	23.77
F. Baum, police service..	2 96
A. Herbine " " " " " "	3 00
F. Drake " " " " " "	1 25
G. Shultz, " " " " " "	50
J. Corbet, " " " " " "	2 50
A. Shultz, " " " " " "	1 88
G. F. Quick, Secretary...	40 00
W. H. Cook, repair bill..	15 00
Gas Co., for gas, Town Hall.....	130 30
J. C. Brown, Town Engineer.....	7 95
Electric Light Co., 1 month.....	55 25
Lock Haven Clay Works, pipe.....	400 00
W. F. Hartman, plumbing, &c.....	196 29
D. L. & W. R. R. Co., pipe.....	7 69
M. T. Ohl, for stone.....	84 41
John Hennessy, stone at \$2, a perch for wall opposite Barton farm..	20 51
Chas. Culp, Constable....	425 20
	8 00

Complaint was made about the Court House alley. It is almost impossible, Referred to Street Committee.

Council granted the request for an arc light at corner of Seventh and Cherry Streets.

Some little time was occupied in the discussion of minor affairs, after which the meeting adjourned.

WASHINGTON EXCURSION.

Over one hundred students of the Normal started on Monday morning to spend the week in Washington, D. C. They went by special train on the Pennsylvania railroad. They were accompanied by Dr. Welsh, Prof. Cope, Dennis and Detwiler.

This is the second excursion of the school, and they will probably be continued so long as they are well patronized. The party will visit the Navy Yard, the Capitol, Congressional Library, Supreme Court, Senate and House, all the public buildings, Mount Vernon, Arlington Cemetery, Alexandria, Washington Monument, and the White House, returning home on Friday.

Keep in mind the series of illustrated lectures in the Opera House during the week beginning February 7th under the auspices of the Episcopal Church. Season tickets will be placed on sale about the first of January.

FIRE SWEEPS DURYEA.

Firemen Forced to Send to Pittston For Help in Fighting Flames.

A fierce fire prevailed in the business portion of Duryea, a short distance from Pittston early Monday morning, destroying Dilt's livery, furniture and undertaking establishments; the large general store of Simpson & Watkins, coal operators; the clothing store of S. Feman; five dwelling houses owned by R. A. Freeman; the residence of Joseph Brown; Grimshaw's barber shop; Connell coal company's barn; Hackin's tailor shop; Doherty's saloon, and Percy Grimshaw's store.

The local firemen were unable to stay the flames and called on Pittston for aid. That town sent up an engine and hook and ladder company.

William H. Law, mine superintendent of the Edgerton colliery of Simpson & Watkins, entered the store building to save some books and papers and was burned to death. His body was recovered Tuesday morning. John Pleasantine, township clerk, and a member of the fire department, is missing, and there is little doubt that he perished in the flames.

MORNING WEDDING.

The Presbyterian Church was the scene of a happy marriage, Wednesday morning at ten o'clock when A. N. Yost, the popular Secretary of the Columbia County Agricultural Society, and Miss Bessie J. Holmes were made man and wife. The ceremony was performed by Rev. G. H. Hemingway and was witnessed by a large number of relatives and friends. The bride was attired in a very neat traveling dress. The ushers were Frank Ikeler, Clyde Yetter, W. H. Brooke and Edward Holmes, brother of the bride. The bridal party entered the church to the strains of a beautiful wedding march rendered by Miss Maud Runyon.

After the ceremony the large number of guests presented their congratulations, after which a fine wedding breakfast was served at the residence of the bride's father, W. O. Holmes, on the corner of First and West Street. They left on the P. & R. Railroad for a short wedding tour. The couple begin life with bright prospects and we join with their many friends in wishing them much happiness and prosperity.

BISHOP TALBOT.

The Wyoming and Idaho Mission published at Laramie, Wyoming, states, in the December number, that Bishop Talbot received, by telegraph, notice of his election, on the evening of Nov. 10th; that it seems probable the Bishop will conclude to accept; that the Bishop will come here the latter part of January and stay until June, when he will return to Wyoming and arrange for a definite departure to Central Pennsylvania. Official notice has not yet been received from the Bishop, but will no doubt report very shortly. The present Missionary jurisdiction will no doubt be divided by the House of Bishops, upon its meeting.

MILLER WINS.

The great six day bicycle race which has been going on at Madison Square Garden, New York, since December 6, came to an end Saturday night. Miller, of Chicago, finished 67 miles ahead of Joe Rice who was a good second. The prize won by the victor is \$1500, beside several amounts offered by bicycle manufacturers, which added all together will aggregate in the neighborhood of \$4,500. This is considered very small pay considering the awful strain on the mind and body. Miller made the astonishing record of 2093 miles and four laps, which will probably stand for all time as human strength and endurance has been tested to its utmost. From the beginning to the end of the race, Miller had but four hours sleep.

INCORRECTLY REPORTED.

Our report in the court proceedings last week that a crossing over the B. & S. railroad in Orange township had been returned by the constable as in bad condition, was incorrect. It does not appear so in the official court minutes, and the constable's return shows that it is a crossing of the C. P. & W. that was returned as needing filling. The mistake was made by taking the proceedings from another paper instead of getting them direct from the records as will be done hereafter.

GIDDING & CO.

GIDDING & CO.

GIDDING & CO.

Sensible Christmas Gifts

For— Father, Grandfather, Brother, Uncle, Cousin, Nephew, or Sweetheart.

Useful. Appropriate Assortment not surpassed in central Pennsylvania.

Gloves, Lined or unlined, Kid, Castor, Dogskin, Mocha, Reindeer or Buck, 50, 75c, 1.00, 1.50, \$2.00. Fine wool knitted Gloves, men or boys, 25 and 50c.

Mackintosh Coats, With or without cape, blue, black, gray, brown or light covert; with cape, 3.50 to \$10.00; without cape, velvet collar, double breasted, lined with fancy plaid, very swell, 4.50, 5, 7, 8, 10, to \$18.

Umbrellas and Canes, Plain or silver mounted, 50c to \$5.00.

Handkerchiefs, Silk or linen, plain or initial, plain or fancy border.

White or Fancy Shirts, In the newest styles, laundered, 50c to \$1.50. Collars, 1/2 dozen or dozens.

Hosiery and Underwear, Night Robes, Smoking Jackets, House Coats. Children's Tams and Toques, 25 and 50c.

Neckwear, Special Lines for Holidays, 150 dozen to select from. 50c ties at 25c. Finest heavy satin Neckwear, latest styles, 50c.

Hats and Caps, All styles, all colors, for men or boys, 25 5c, 75c, \$1.00 up to \$3.00.

Boys' Reefers.

Especially appropriate for the boys' Christmas present. Chinchillas, Astrachan, Irish Freize, beautifully made, ages 3 to 8. Large sailor collar, and braided, 9 to 16, plain, 1.75, 1.98, 2.50, 3.50, 4, 5 and \$6. All colors—blue, black, brown, green and mixtures.

Boys' and Men's Sweaters.

Large collars or plain blue and white stripe, green and red, maroon and white, black and orange, maroon and lemon, green and white, regular \$1.50 grade, boys' 98c.

SPECIAL FOR HOLIDAYS ONLY.

Trunks, Telescopes, Valises,

All grades—50c to \$20.00; no such line elsewhere hereabouts, or if you wish to invest in something more costly, how about a Suit at 5, 7.50, 8.50, 10, 12 or \$15.

Or Overcoat, 3.98 to \$20.

Or Trousers, 2 to \$5.

Or Ulsters, 5 to \$15.

These all make useful and very appropriate Gifts.

GIDDING & CO.,

Nearly opposite Court House, BLOOMSBURG, PA. Two doors below Post Office.

An Intricate Swindle by a Spaniard. Unsuccessful Attempt to Fleece a Wealthy Man of Montour County.

An unsuccessful attempt to defraud Alexander Billmeyer, a wealthy resident of Washingtonville, out of \$1,000 was made during the past week, details of which were given out by Mr. Billmeyer upon the receipt of a letter from Barcelona, Spain, from which place the gang of conspirators operated. The police think that a number of rich farmers of this section, as well as along the Schuylkill Valley, have also been soundly by the conspirators. Mr. Billmeyer early in the week received a letter from Spain. Senior J. Basuala was the signature. It said that he was confined in a dungeon at Barcelona for stealing \$44,000 in gold three years ago while paymaster in the army. At that time he escaped to America, and while passing through Northumberland county learned that Pinkerton detectives, who had been notified by the Spanish Consul at New York to capture Basuala, were close on his tracks. The Spaniard drove to the suburbs of Washingtonville, and preparing a chart of a certain piece of ground, buried \$40,000. He went to Williamsport and then departed for San Francisco. There he resided in safety until last year, when he learned that his motherless daughter was very ill and poor in a convent at Toledo, in one of the Spanish provinces.

Her father, who was afraid to revisit Washingtonville to procure the money, sent the chart to his daughter, and a few months later he left for Spain, his idea in first sending the chart being that in the event of his arrest Miss Basuala would be in position to some day recover the buried gold. He was arrested upon landing at Barcelona, but one month ago managed to communicate with his daughter. She was told of a plan to raise \$1,000, with which she was to sail for America and meet Mr. Billmeyer at New York. Then they would visit Washingtonville and dig up the gold which had been buried on Mr. Billmeyer's land. In consideration for the \$1,000 and his aid, the latter was to have the amount he advanced refunded, together with one-third of the \$40,000. Wednesday week Mr. Billmeyer

received his second letter from Basuala, urging him to act quickly, as there was danger of his daughter going into decline owing to a severe cold on the lungs. The third letter urged immediate compliance with the request. The letter also contained an itemized bill of the daughter's indebtedness, filled out on the convent blank, besides a prison certificate or an excellent counterfeit of it bearing the coat of arms of Spain and the prison seal, setting forth in Spanish the offense which provoked the sentence. The letter also enjoins upon Mr. Billmeyer that he become tutor and guardian of the young lady, investing her portion of the treasure to good advantage and looking after her welfare generally, and at the proper time formulate a plan looking to Senior Basuala's release from the Barcelona prison.

DIVINE HEALER SCHRADER.

Schrader, the divine healer, who has been at Williamsport for the past few days, is at work healing the afflicted. Monday's Williamsport Sun, gives the following account of some of his cures:

"Miss Maud Cummings, of Watson-town, a sister of Miss H. A. Cummings, the milliner, of this city, has been lame since she was a child, one leg now being several inches shorter than the other. She could not walk over a half block without having to stop and rest, becoming much exhausted by the effort. This morning she visited Schrader, received his blessing and had a handkerchief blessed, after which she walked about town, visiting several stores, and never had to stop at all. She declared to a Sun man that, although she was still lame, she felt no ill effects from walking, as formerly.

Yesterday a man who could walk only with great difficulty with the help of a cane was blessed by Mr. Schrader. When he walked out of the hotel it was with the quick, firm step of a soldier at 21 years. A Sun man interviewed him, and he declared that, although not positive that he was cured, he felt he had been greatly benefited. He was as happy as a school boy, and called a friend to witness his former crippled condition.

This office will be closed on Christmas day.

THE BERWICK FIRES.

The town of Berwick is in the clutches of a fire fiend. The last fire took place early Saturday morning, which destroyed a barn belonging to one Mr. Fowler. The loss is estimated at about \$2500. Stock, grain and everything was destroyed. Last Sunday, the Philadelphia Inquirer contained a whole page article about the fires. We take the following paragraphs from that paper. "To the casual visitor or the ever present commercial traveler, the town of Berwick possesses all the requisites for happiness and contentment. The whirl of machinery and the pounding of ponderous hammers fill the air day and night. Noisy little locomotives go rattling over the endless network of tracks extending in all directions, and binding every department of the immense Jackson and Woodin Car Works with bonds of glistening steel.

From early morning till late at night the streets are filled with busy men and women. The numerous stores display stocks that are only to be found where prosperity reigns. Thrift, happiness and contentment are the apparent order of the day among all classes, whether bankers, laborers or farmers.

But with night-fall the scene changes. A general air of distrust and apprehension sweeps over all as a cloud. Farmers and others from out of town make no attempt to conceal their anxiety to get home, even at the expense of leaving their errands unfinished. The townspeople are none the less anxious, but try to suppress the evidence of their mental perturbation. By dark, the streets and shops are emptied of their gay throng, and contain only those who are compelled to be away from their homes.

In the homes the tension produced by nervous dread is everywhere in evidence. A footstep or unaccustomed noise, falling of a pan or crackle of a paper, and terror-stricken children cluster closer to their pale-faced parents, as though some fearful bogie-man was after them. And a bogie-man it is. A diabolical something. An intangible, mordacious somebody. An offspring of Satan, whose pretense is

never known until the wild cry of fire rends the night air, and hungry oil-fed flames paint the sky with a lurid glare that gives notice that he has passed that way.

For a time it was thought that the small socialistic element in the neighborhood was responsible for the widespread devastation, but the most careful investigation failed to connect any of them with the fires and the apparent absence of any definite plan or object other than to destroy property, points rather to a mono-maniac than to a club or society.

This phase of the problem was thoroughly discussed at a special meeting of the Berwick Medical Association, composed of every physician practicing in the township. At this meeting, held in the office of Mr. John W. Evans, the leading insurance man in the borough, as well as an active official, the entire subject of luncay in all its manifestations was discussed, and the consensus opinion was that they had in their midst a mono-maniac on the subject of fire."

HOLIDAY EDITIONS.

Last week THE COLUMBIAN contained more holiday advertising in the shape of reading notices than both the other town papers combined, and issued a supplemental sheet containing ten columns of reading matter. This week it gives its readers a twelve page edition, with twelve columns of advertising and twelve of reading matter in addition to the regular issue. A copy of the paper will be placed in every house in town, thus making it the best advertising medium in Bloomsburg. An extra number will also be sent out to the adjoining towns.

Remember the Ladies' Exchange on Saturday morning in Clark's basement. Next week the sale will be held Friday morning, Dec. 24. Dressed fowls, fruit cakes, pound cakes, plum puddings, pies and all good things for the Christmas table will be on sale.

Mary Boyer, aged nearly eighty-five years, died at her home Sunday morning. The funeral took place from the house on West Street Tuesday afternoon.