

# The Columbian.

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## HON. E. R. IKELER.

His Death Occurred on Monday Morning After a Week's Illness.

Hon. Elijah R. Ikeler, President Judge of the 26th Judicial District of Pennsylvania, died at his home on Market street, Bloomsburg, on Monday morning, August 1st, 1898, aged sixty years, five months and four days. He was taken suddenly ill just a week before, and remained in a critical condition until the end came. His disease was acute Bright's disease, and congestion of the lungs from weak action of the heart. He was attended almost constantly by Drs. Hower of Mifflin, and Bruner and Brown of Bloomsburg, but careful nursing and medical skill were not able to combat the disease, and at about ten o'clock Sunday night the Judge became unconscious, and died at 2.45 Monday morning. His wife, and two sons, Frank A. and Fred T. are the surviving members of the family, and they have the warm sympathy of the whole county in their sudden and terrible affliction.

The funeral was held at the house on Wednesday afternoon at 3 o'clock, conducted by Rev. Dr. Hemingway. The burial took place in Rosemont. The members of the Bar attended in a body, and the attendance of citizens from all over the county was very large.

During the hour of the funeral all business places were closed.

The pall bearers were Col. Freeze, Dr. McHenry, C. G. Barkley, W. H. Snyder, C. C. Evans, W. S. Moyer.

Elijah R. Ikeler was born in Greenwood township, this county, February 27, 1838, a son of Isaac Ikeler, an old and respected farmer of that township, now deceased. At the age of sixteen he became a student at the Greenwood Seminary, Millville, subsequently he learned the miller's trade at Millville, and on completing it bought a part interest and continued the business until 1865, when he moved to Bloomsburg, meanwhile keeping up his studies. After coming here he registered as a law student with Col. John G. Freeze in the fall of 1864. April 1, 1865 he became a regular student in his office, and was admitted to the bar in May, 1867. In 1869 he was elected district attorney and served during the first of the "Molly Maguire" trials, and upon the town organization was elected its first treasurer. Mr. Ikeler was a Democrat and during the war was an active supporter of the Union cause. In 1865 he bought the COLUMBIA DEMOCRAT and consolidated it with the Star of the North, and called the paper the Democrat and Star. He was connected with it one year when he sold his interest and devoted his time exclusively to his profession. He married, March 23, 1863, Miss Helena Armstrong, a daughter of Ephraim Armstrong, of Bloomsburg, and a descendant of the Rittenhouses, of near Philadelphia. The ancestors of the Ikeler family in Columbia County were originally Germans and came to America in 1760. The great-grandfather of our subject was Joseph, who settled in Belvidere, N. J.; the name was then spelled Egler. He was a farmer, and on the outbreak of the Revolution enlisted and served on the colonial side. His son, Andrew J., was the founder of the family in Columbia county. He was married in New Jersey to Christiana Johnson, and was a magistrate in this county about the year 1835. He and his wife came the entire distance from New Jersey on horseback, bringing with them their effects, and located in Greenwood township. He took up about 1000 acres which still remain in possession of his descendants. He was a leading citizen and held many local and county offices. He died in 1854, aged eighty years; his widow in 1866, at the age of ninety-three. Both are buried in the family lot on the old homestead. He was for a long time colonel of militia; raised a regiment for the war of 1812 and led it to the field. His son, Isaac, married Mary Taylor, a native of New Jersey, and they became the parents of Elijah R. Isaac was a farmer and a highly respected citizen. He died in 1884 at the age of eighty years, and his wife in 1879, aged sixty-five years. Both are buried in Mount Pleasant township, this county.

Mr. Ikeler was nominated for President Judge of this district by the Democrats in August 1888. He was elected in November following, defeating H. M. Hinckley, the Republican nominee, and entered upon his duties on the first Monday of January

1889. His term would have expired the first Monday of January 1899. He was a candidate for renomination this year, and the conferees of Montour county were instructed for him. Columbia county was carried against him by R. R. Little, and the conference has not yet been held. What effect his death will have on the Judgeship is not yet known.

Judge Ikeler was a self-made man. With a limited education, he came to Bloomsburg and in a few years he was recognized as one of the leaders of the bar, his practice comparing favorably in volume with many of the older practitioners. He was ambitious, and when Judge Elwell resigned he aspired to the bench, and succeeded in obtaining the nomination and election. He was industrious, and being of apparently robust health, he would often spend the day in the hayfield on one of his farms at manual labor, when not engaged in mental pursuits. He was a kind and indulgent husband and father. Nothing was ever too good for his boys, who were given every possible educational advantage, both being graduates of Lafayette College. He was successful as a lawyer, and accumulated a comfortable fortune.

Judge Ikeler was a man of genial and social disposition, a pleasant companion, a good neighbor, and a respected citizen. To say that he was a great Judge would not be doing justice to his memory, for it would not be true. He made no pretense himself as ranking among the most distinguished jurists. But he was a much better Judge, and a much better man than some of his enemies would have the public believe. Very few cases tried before him have been reversed by the higher courts, and he will be remembered by most of those who have practiced before him as a patient, careful, and pains-taking Judge desiring to do right according to his best judgment.

### MEETING OF THE BAR.

Pursuant to a call issued by the President, the Bar Association of Columbia County met in the court room on Wednesday, August 3rd, at 2 p. m. to take proper action relative to the death of Hon. E. R. Ikeler, President Judge, of the 26th District of Pennsylvania. The meeting was called to order by Col. J. G. Freeze, President of the Association. The following members of the bar were present: C. R. Buckalew, C. G. Barkley, J. B. Robison, B. F. Zarr, Grant Herring, W. H. Snyder, R. R. Little, W. H. Rhawn, C. B. Jackson, L. E. Waller, C. C. Evans, C. W. Miller, R. Buckingham, A. L. Fritz, C. C. Peacock, G. M. Tustin, W. D. Chrisman, H. A. McKillip, W. D. Beckley, E. Flynn, J. H. Patterson, J. H. Maize, R. R. John, J. G. Harman, J. L. Evans, C. A. Small, R. R. Zarr, Geo. E. Elwell, N. U. Funk, A. N. Yost, C. Weiss, C. M. Blaker, W. A. Evert, G. M. Quick, Prothonotary Henrie, Associate Judge Fox, and Stenographer Howerly.

Hon. John J. Metzger, President Judge of Lycoming county, was also in attendance.

The chair stated that a committee on resolutions, consisting of Hon. C. R. Buckalew, W. H. Snyder and H. A. McKillip, had been appointed, and called upon them for a report, when the following resolutions were offered and unanimously adopted:

The members of the Bar of Columbia County in view of the sudden death of our President Judge, do resolve as follows:

Resolved: That the Members of the Bar of Columbia County sincerely regret the recent unexpected death of Hon. E. R. Ikeler, President Judge of the 26th judicial district of Pennsylvania, and desire to express their appreciation of several features of character for which he was distinguished as citizen and judge and for which he will be remembered among us in future years.

He possessed much natural kindness of heart, and was reluctant to give pain or offense to others.

He was upon the whole successful in the interpretation of the laws and in securing approval of higher Courts to which cases tried before him were taken.

He exhibited uniform courtesy toward members of the Bar and patient consideration for all matters of business brought by them before him.

He was, both as lawyer and judge industrious and diligent, and therefore prompt in the dispatch of judicial business.

Finally: He was in his social relations with family and friends without reproach; a devoted husband, an in-

dulgent father and a genial friend.

Resolved: That we tender to the widow and sons of the deceased, our deep sympathy in their great bereavement.

Mr. Buckalew moved and Mr. Small seconded that the Bar attend the funeral in a body this afternoon at 3 p. m. Carried.

He also moved that the bench be draped in mourning for not less than 60 days. Carried.

It was ordered that the resolutions adopted by the bar be entered on the court minutes, and a copy be presented to the family of the deceased.

At the invitation of the President, Judge Metzger of Williamsport made the following remarks:

MR. CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE BAR.

I was not aware of the Bar meeting upon this occasion when I came here, but I think it is very proper and appropriate, and I heartily approve of the resolutions which you have passed, because from my intimate acquaintance with Judge Ikeler, he merits all that has been said of him in those resolutions. So far as his kindness and courtesy were concerned, whatever else might be said of him, I never heard, during his sittings in the Courts of the District over which I have the honor of presiding, any criticism on his uniform kindness and courtesy or upon his patience and impartiality. It was his very nature to be good and kind, and I never could forget the kindness which Judge Ikeler did for me in days when I had a great deal of trouble. You all know, I presume, that we were elected to the bench at the same time, and that we both had to pass through severe contests; mine, however, extended away beyond the election. I remember that I was in a dilemma as to how I should dispose of the judicial business during the contest. The Judges in my vicinity to whom I wrote for help seemed fearful for some reason, to render the assistance they otherwise might have done, and I finally wrote to Judge Ikeler who immediately responded, and held my Courts for me at great inconvenience to himself, and from that day forward to the present I always had the kindest feeling for Judge Ikeler. He would do anything for a friend; nothing was too much for him, no task too hard or arduous, and no one could help but admire these traits of his character. His qualities of heart were such that he certainly was entitled to the respect of all who knew him intimately and well. Whatever animosities may have existed, whatever criticisms might be made, his record in the Supreme Court will compare favorably with the average Judges throughout the Commonwealth of Penna. He was industrious, painstaking and careful, and his great aim was to seek the ends of justice. I remember one time when in the trial of a trivial cause in my own District in which I thought he was taking rather too much time, I spoke to him about it and his answer was a very proper and appropriate one: he said he thought this man, though poor, and his case small, had as good a right to a patient hearing as anyone in the land.

I would gladly say more upon this occasion. I felt it was my duty to come here to-day to attend the funeral and pay the last sad tribute to a friend whose memory I shall ever hold dear. He had a great struggle in life, there is no question about that, they were fearful, some of them, but he overcame all of them, and rose from being a mere boy among the common people to filling the highest office in the gift of the people in this District, and so far as I know and have been able to observe, I think he filled it remarkably well.

The meeting then adjourned to proceed to the funeral.

GEO. E. ELWELL,  
Secretary.

Among those from out of town who attended Judge Ikeler's funeral were Judge Metzger of Williamsport, Judge Savidge of Sunbury, Judge McClure of Lewisburg. From Danville were Judge H. M. Hinckley, James Scarlet, Thos. Deen, H. Rebmam, Dr. S. Y. Thompson, Register and Recorder Sidler, Ex-Sheriff C. P. Harder, Ex-Associate Judge Divel, ex-commissioner Wesley Perry, Sheriff Myers, Henry Schoch, Henry Gross, President of Danville Borough Council, Horace C. Blue.

From Williamsport were Attorneys Watson, Chas. Geddis, and Stenographer Geo. Graff.

From Benton: Ex-Sheriff Boyd McHenry, Rohr McHenry and John G. McHenry; Col. A. D. Seely and

S. C. Jayne of Berwick; Alexander Billmeyer, Montour county; Ex-Judge Phillips of Sullivan county; Dr. Thos. Curry of Philadelphia; Representative W. T. Creasy, Catawissa.

In our issue of last week we stated that the train carrying the P. O. S. of A. excursionists to Glen Onoko left Bloomsburg at 6:45 and arrived at their destination at 10:30. This appears to have been wrong. The train left here at 7:15 and reached Glen Onoko at 10:30. Returning, the picnicers were safely landed at the P. & R. depot at 8:00 o'clock. Considerable apprehension was felt by many that the going and coming would take up the greater part of the day, but the committee informs us that there were no unnecessary delays, which usually is the case on occasions like this, and that the Railroad Company, for accommodations and quick transportation, gave perfect satisfaction.

The danger of eating raw pork ought to be understood by every one, and probably is by those who read the newspapers. But there are some who do not read newspapers and the VanZastrow family belong to that class. Eating raw pork caused the death of six members of the VanZastrow family, at Sherburne, New York, and the surviving member is ill and may not recover. It had been suspected that the members of the family were suffering from trichinosis, but the father and mother stoutly denied having eaten raw meat, and the case was diagnosed as typhoid fever. The body of one of the children was dissected, but no germs of typhoid fever were found. A portion of the body was then placed under the microscope and it was found to be swarming with trichina. One of the children afterward confessed that the family had been eating raw pork.

Do not forget that the sixth annual picnic of the farmers of this and adjoining counties, will be held in Grassmere Park, near Guava, on Thursday, Aug. 11, 1898. A number of eminent speakers have been engaged for the occasion, and excursion rates will be issued over the B. & S. R. R., and connecting lines. Should the weather prove stormy on the above date, then the picnic will be held the following day, Friday. A cordial invitation is extended to the public to attend, and those desiring refreshments, can procure them on the ground.

John Kenyon, manager of the local telephone exchange met with a serious accident on Thursday night of last week. He was going from his room to the bath room. It was very dark in the hall, and he had to feel his way, touching the wall with his hands as he went along. He miscalculated the location of the stairway, and when he reached out to touch the wall he missed it, and fell to the bottom a distance of sixteen steps. He is badly bruised, but very fortunately no bones are broken. He was unable to get up out of bed for several days.

The Novelty works of this town will have steady work, for the next six months. They have secured the contract for the manufacture of all the necessary machinery for a large new copper rolling mill at Elizabeth N. J. The contract also includes the setting up and starting of the machinery. This is acceptable news to the employes of the plant and we are also very glad to hear it. We would like to be able to speak in this manner of every industry in town.

The A. M. E. Campmeeting attracted upwards of one thousand people to Hess Grove, Rupert on Sunday. It is one of the most successful meetings ever held, and is being attended by the very best class of people. Rev. Butts and Brown delivered able sermons, and the music was very enjoyable. The best of order is being maintained, and no intoxicating liquor is allowed on the ground. A large attendance is expected next Sunday. Everybody invited.

All who are desirous of enlisting in the regular army can now do so. Lieutenant Switer has opened a recruiting office in Williamsport. The age limit is 18 to 35, and pay from \$13 to \$23 per month, with an addition of 20 per cent in time of war. No married men are enlisted except with the approval of a regimental commander. Recruits are enlisted for a term of three years.

## Take Advantage

OF THIS

### OPPORTUNITY

WHILE IT IS HERE.

YOU MIGHT REGRET IT LATER.

Hundreds of Suits for Men and Boys.

Hundreds of pairs of Fine Shoes for Men, Boys, Women and Children.

Hundreds of Hats are here and must be sold out completely, and at

### ABSOLUTE COST.

\$5, 6, and 7.50 buys Men's Suits that cost from \$2 to \$4 more at any other store.

\$1.50 and \$1.98 Buys Boys Suits worth from 75c. to \$1.00 more.

98c. and \$1.98 buys Men's or Women's Fine Shoes, retailing from 50c. to \$1 more at any other store.

50c. buys \$1 Percalé Shirts, attached collars.

25c. buys 50c. Straw Hats.

Single pants to match up coats and vests, beautiful kinds at \$1.50 and up.

## CIDDING & CO.

### COLES FOR AUGUST.

Earth is now in the "House of Fortune," opposed by the "House of Death." Therefore the death rate this month will be far above the average. But out of the grave of financial despair and despondency will spring up a new life that will cause business to boom along the line; for America is God's favorite nation this year, as she is free from the shadow of a sun's eclipse, and at High Flood all the year. This will give her the ruling power over all other nations of the earth. Surely America is getting rich at a rate utterly unmatched in history. Awful plagues, massacres, accidents, crimes, earthquakes, tidal waves and revolutions will sweep over the Old Country and carry thousands to death: for the great planets, Uranus, Saturn and Jupiter will concentrate their evil influences upon the Eastern countries in general; and upon America only in part. Let Sampson and Dewey watch their vessels well, and find a harbor safe from the coming storms.

### THE STORMS AND SIGNS.

Our predictions last months that the Eastern States would be bombarded by greatest electrical storms, and that the Southern States would be flooded, etc., came true. If a break does not occur this month in the great sea of gaseous matter now passing over the sun, Pennsylvania, New York and New Jersey will become the magnetic target for the electrical storms; and all the cities and towns situated in the main electrical belts had better watch out for a still harder attack than they experienced last month. If a break does occur then great storms and floods will sweep the Eastern and Middle States, and produce a tidal wave along the sea coast, and the Western and Southern States will be storm swept by storms unprecedented. The heat will be so great in some sections of the West as to produce spontaneous combustion on prairies and in cities. The Eastern States may also get a fair sample of the heat. This month will prove whether Scranton is really an electrical city, as her pet name indicates, or whether she is only electrical in name.

### THE NEW REVELATION.

The great sea of gaseous matter now passing over the sun seems to increase in volume each month, and

out of it comes the numerous meteors that fall to earth from time to time. We believe that these meteors will increase in dimensions and numbers until whole towns and cities will be in danger of being blotted out in the twinkling of an eye, by these awful meteors; and great heat will in time pour down upon us, as mentioned in Revelations, 16th chapter, 8th and 9th verses. Our prediction that typhoid and yellow fever would commence its work of destruction last month, was fulfilled. This month the planets are in position to assist these terrible microbes in their awful mission of destruction and also to allow the cholera microbes admission into this fair land of ours Spain will sue for peace; and Germany will be cast into deep mourning. New forms of disease microbes will appear and attack the abdominal region of both man and beast.

### WHEN TO PLANT.

As this is the month to destroy obnoxious weeds and brush, such as Canada thistle, Locust, willow, hazle, plantain leaf, etc., we have prepared, at our own expense, thousands of instructions which we will send to any address free for postage (two stamps). These instructions will also contain the best days for the sowing of winter grain for to procure best results, and the days to pot flowers, etc.—Prof. Coles in Storms and Signs.

Electrical storms have been very frequent during the past two weeks. Last night about nine o'clock, a storm of unusual severity visited this section. Sharp flashes of lightning illuminated the heavens, and the downpour of rain was tremendous. The storm appears to have been general. News from different parts of the state tell of the great damage done. At Philadelphia, two lives were lost, buildings were burned down, and the city was deluged.

A special feature of the fourth annual Race Meet, to be held by the Bloomsburg Wheelmen, August 20, will be a match race between C. W. Krick, of Sinking Springs, and Will McMichael, of Berwick. Each man to furnish his own pacer. The great rivalry existing between the two men will be a sufficient guarantee that the race will be for blood.