

The Columbian.

VOL. 34

BLOOMSBURG, PA., THURSDAY, APRIL 20, 1899.

NO. 16

FIRE! FIRE! FIRE!

THE FIRE DEPARTMENT CALLED OUT THREE TIMES LAST WEEK.

The Dwelling House, Owned by John Rheimard, on Railroad Street, Slightly Damaged Last Saturday Night—Exchange Bakery Suffers a Like Occurrence Sunday Night.

After a comparatively long period of inactivity, during which time there was scarcely a fire, or an alarm of fire a month, the Bloomsburg Fire Companies have been called out three times within the short space of three days.

The first alarm occurred Thursday night of last week, about half past seven in the evening. All was serene, when suddenly the quiet was disturbed by the shrill voice of a whistle down near the Woolen Mill, followed by the ringing of the fire bell and the yelling of men and boys. "The Woolen Mill is on fire," exclaimed some one, and at once people began hurrying in that direction, but when the scene was reached, it was discovered that the alarm was a false one, and that a locomotive on the Pennsylvania Railroad was responsible for the whole affair.

Commensurate with their record in the past, the fire boys were all on hand in good time, ready and anxious to display their ability to combat with the flames, and the English language is almost inadequate to express their feelings of disgust when they found out they were unable to do so.

The next and second alarm was more of a reality. This fire occurred about nine o'clock Saturday night, and was first discovered by some pedestrians who were passing by, and whose attention was directed by smoke in great volumes pouring from a window on the second story. The fated dwelling was the property of John Rheimard, and is located at the corner of Railroad and Fourth streets. Like the many which have taken place before it, the origination of the conflagration is a mystery. There was no one in the house at the time. Early in the evening the occupants, Mr. and Mrs. Eugene White, after putting out all the lights and taking the draft off of the stove, had gone out to call on some friends, and there was no possible way a flame could have been ignited, unless by a defective flue, and this seems hardly likely, when it is considered that the draft had been off of the stove several hours previous.

The establishment of the Good Will Fire Company in that section of the town a short time ago was proven to be good judgment. The close proximity of the company's hose house to the scene of the trouble, gave them a decided advantage over their rivals for honors in this direction, and in about four minutes after the alarm was given they had hustled out, made an attachment to the plug at Third street, and had a stream of water playing on the burning structure. There was only a short lapse of time until the Winonas and Friendships put in an appearance, and directly thereafter, the Rescues came jogging along, ready to assist in the good work. It was feared at first that the fire would spread to the adjoining buildings, but this was prevented. The roof of the house was badly burned, and the furniture and exterior of the second story considerably damaged, but the insurance, we are informed, will cover all the loss.

The last, and which for a time looked the most threatening, was at the Exchange Bakery. It was within a few minutes of twelve o'clock Sunday night when Night Watchman A. V. Hower, while walking up Main street, discovered smoke issuing out of the basement window. He at once hurried to the Town Hall and gave the alarm, by ringing the bell. The Friendships were the first to answer the summons. One of the basement windows was knocked in with an axe, through which a stream of water was poured, and it was only a little while until all fears were allayed. The Rescue Company also assisted in outening the blaze. The Winonas came too late to be of any service, and the absence of the Good Wills is accounted for by the inadequacy of our fire alarm.

The shrieking of men, rumbling of hose carriages, and the sound of hurrying footsteps on the hard pavements, disturbed many from their slumbers, until by the time the fire was about

over, a large crowd of people had assembled.

The proprietor of the bakery is John M. Smith, who recently purchased the business from H. M. Hockman. Mr. Smith was among the first on the scene. He said there was no fire in the building, and to his knowledge, never had been any in the cellar. His loss, if any, will be very trivial, as he had the place insured.

In such times as these Bloomsburgers have at least two things to be thankful for—an abundant supply of water and an excellent fire department. We still need a practical alarm system, and as the matter is now under consideration by the Town Council an early adoption of some system, probably electrical, is looked for.

Parish House Supper.

A supper was served in the Parish House on Tuesday evening, under the auspices of the choir of St. Paul's Church, which was in every way a success. Nearly three hundred people partook of the excellent meal, and no one went away feeling that they had not received the full worth of their money. The total receipts were \$75.62, and the expenses were \$8.62, leaving the net profits \$67.00. The success of the supper was owing to the liberal contributions of members of the congregation, to the large attendance, and more than all, to the very efficient and willing work of the members of the choir and their friends. Miss Anna M. Fox had general supervision of arrangements, and besides doing this in a very satisfactory manner, she sold ninety-one tickets. All the other young ladies performed the duties assigned them most thoroughly, and the male members rendered excellent service. To all those not members of the choir, who so generously assisted, either by contribution or helping in the dining room and kitchen, the choir makes grateful acknowledgment. The money will be used in paying off a balance of \$48.00 remaining unpaid on the organ, and the remainder in such manner as the choir shall determine.

There is no reason why entertainments of this kind should not be given at least once a month. They are beneficial, not only financially, but socially. The choir is so well pleased with the result of this effort that they may repeat it next month.

The Band Concert.

The Bloomsburg Band, under the direction of Prof. Frank H. Losey, gave the second of a series of concerts, in the Opera House Monday evening. They were assisted by Mrs. W. B. Sutliff, of the Normal School, Mrs. Fred Holmes and O. H. Yetter, of town, and E. N. Fischer, of Williamsport. The program, from beginning to end, was rendered in an excellent manner, and reflects great credit on all who participated. It is to be regretted, however, that it was so poorly patronized. Deducting the actual expenses of the entertainment, the Band realized only \$9.50. Far too little, when it is considered that two months of constant practice was required in preparing the program. The Band is deserving of better treatment. They are working hard to become proficient. There is no lack, either, of talent to make a good band, or of an efficient leadership in conducting it. All that is wanted is the financial support.

When a band, made up of men, most of whom work during the day, and are willing to practice night after night, in order to give the town an organization of which the citizens can feel proud, they deserve, and should be patronized in a more liberal manner than was the case Monday night. Let us all remember that music furnishes us an insight into the mysterious depth of things which we cannot describe with words. Aid the boys and let the band play.

The Presbytery of Northumberland, is holding its spring meeting in the Presbyterian church this week. The opening session was held Monday afternoon, at which time Rev. Dr. M. Cartline was elected Moderator. All the sessions are being largely attended and are full of interest. Want of space forbids a full account this week.

C. Bruce Geddes, of Reading, was married to Miss Blanche G. Huffman, at the residence of the bride's parents, at Williamsport, last week. The groom is a son of Willard Geddis, and formerly resided with his parents in Bloomsburg.

CRUSHED BENEATH CARS.

A DISASTROUS WRECK ON THE PENNSYLVANIA.

John McCloskey, Section Boss, and Two Assistants Seriously Injured While Clearing the Track, Spreading Rails the Cause of the Wreck.

Spreading rails on the Pennsylvania Railroad, a short distance above the Rupert tower, early Monday morning, caused a disastrous wreck, and may yet cause the death of Section Boss John McCloskey. The wrecked train was a freight. It had left Catawissa, and when at a point near the tower, the rails gave way, causing the whole train to leave the track and piling six or seven cars up on top of each other. Shortly thereafter the wreck train arrived, and a force of men were put to work to disentangle and clear up the wreck for the scheduled trains. It was here that the most serious and consequential feature was enacted. The men were busily engaged jacking up the cars, when suddenly the jacks slipped, the cars coming down with terrible force on McCloskey and two other workmen. It is said that it was fully half an hour before they were all liberated. McCloskey was crushed so badly that the amputation of one leg was necessary. His recovery is doubtful. The other two workmen were also seriously injured.

Resolutions of Condolence.

Comrade John Keller died at his residence in Orangeville, Pa., April 6, 1899. He entered the service for the defense of his country, Battery A Heavy Artillery Sept. 3, 1864, was honorably discharged June 30, 1865. He was mustered in Pealer G. A. R. Post No. 435, May 20, 1893, was Chaplain of the Post for the past four years. He was a good, an esteemed, quiet, unassuming neighbor, a man of integrity, a kind husband and father.

Resolved, that in the death of Comrade Keller the Post has lost a substantial member, and may our loss and the loss of his family be his gain. He fought a valiant fight—he has been mustered into the innumerable company above, where there shall be no more death, neither sorrow nor any more pain. "Blessed are the dead who die in the Lord."

Resolved, that a copy of the above be sent to the bereaved family. S. J. PEALER, one of the Committee. By order of G. A. R. Post.

Women's Missionary Society of Wyoming Classis.

The Woman's Missionary Society of Wyoming Classis held its twelfth Annual Convention in Trinity Reformed Church, Thursday and Friday of last week. The program was of a highly interesting and instructive nature. Rev. B. C. Conner made an excellent address on "The Object of Missionary Societies." There were several other short talks and addresses all of which were well received. The officers elected for the ensuing year are as follows: President, Mrs. Anna Share, Danville; Recording Secretary, Mrs. Anna McHenry, Stillwater, Corresponding Secretary, Miss Mary Houtz, Orangeville; Treasurer, Mrs. Rev. Bushong, Danville.

Delegate to General Synod which meets in Tiffin, Ohio, May 23 and 24 Mrs. Rev. Thomas, Bloomsburg; delegate to Eastern Synod, which meets in Lehigh next October, Mrs. Rev. Stoffer, Bloomsburg.

Death of Captain Millard.

The many friends of Captain Reese J. Millard will read with sorrow the announcement of his death, which occurred in Oklahoma March 31st, and which reached this town last week. The Captain was a brother of the late Associate Judge Millard, and also a brother of Mrs. Catharine Conner, who was summoned to the great beyond, at her home in Orangeville, about two weeks ago. He was born in this county, and when the war broke out resided at Stillwater. He enlisted with Battery F, second Penna. Artillery, and a short time thereafter was promoted to a captaincy. He suffered confinement in a southern prison, which completely ruined his health. He was sixty-eight years old and is survived by a family, consisting of a wife and four children.

The "Ancient Order of Hercules," as played by the Odd Fellows at Espy on Friday and Saturday of last week, was a pronounced success, both in point of attendance and presentation.

STRAY PARAGRAPHS.

—A choice play—"As You Like It."

—If the good die young, how do men live to a good old age?

—With wheels in his head, a man's thoughts probably travel incog.

—If a time-piece had the spring fever, wouldn't it be run down?

—Even the perfectly bald-headed man may have lots on his mind.

—A difference of opinion—A bird with one wing, and a bird with two.

—The great difficulty experienced in awakening the slumbering residents of town on the occasion of the fire in the Exchange block Sunday night, should warrant the adoption of some sort of a fire alarm system.

Business of the Week.

Dun's Review of Trade notes a tremendous increase in the business of the past week over that of the same week one year ago. It says:

There is still increase in all legitimate business, and the productive power of great industries increases even though some of their stocks decline. The sharp reaction in speculation a week ago in no way affected the producing capacity of furnaces or mills, and has been in part recovered, while the disturbance of business caused by the formation of great combinations has in large measure ceased. The money market is in safer and more wholesome condition, and in spite of four heavy payments by large syndicates, amounting to about \$50,000,000, has grown easier. The only stringency has been in call loans, about 1 1/2 per cent. more being paid on industrials than on railroad stocks as collateral, but with high rates on call, 4 to 4 1/2 per cent. has ruled in loans on time, while good double-named commercial paper commands on 3 1/2 per cent., with small demand.

It is not owing to speculation alone that payments through the chief clearing houses have been 80.0 per cent. larger than in the same week of 1892, and 103.3 per cent. larger than last year. New York transactions far exceed those of any previous week, \$1,468,502,709 in amount, but outside New York the clearings were 41.5 per cent. larger than in 1898, and 44.6 per cent. larger than in 1892. The truth is that no such expansion in the general business of the country has ever been seen before, and if such records only were considered there would be ground for fear that a wild passion of trading had again lifted the whole business community off its feet. But instead there is found surprising increase in the chief industries. Naming first some of which only returns of raw materials imported give definite indications, raw silk imports increased 87 per cent. for eight months of the fiscal year over last, hides 40 per cent. india rubber 26, tin 21, and fibres 19 per cent.

In Business at Hughesville.

C. F. Johnson, late of Bloomsburg, has purchased the jewelry store of C. F. Staddon, and will continue the business at the old stand. Mr. Johnson is an expert and competent workman of experience, having fitted himself specially for the business. He is a graduate of the E. F. Bowman technical school, at Lancaster, and has taken a course of training in theoretical and practical instruction in optics. Besides these he has taken a course in engraving and repairing of jewelry in a manufacturing establishment, and is therefore competent to do work in the various lines in a satisfactory manner. Mr. Johnson intends to enlarge his stock and carry as fine a line of goods as can be found in the state outside of the cities. He comes highly recommended as a gentleman of good character and habits, and we welcome him into our midst and bespeak for him the business his abilities merit. *Hughesville Mail.*

The L. N. Moyer building below Market street, has been selected as the future location of the Bloomsburg post-office. Notice to this effect was received from Washington by Postmaster O. B. Mellick yesterday morning. J. Wesley Moyer, the present occupant, will vacate, and the room will be enlarged by building an addition on the rear, extending it back to the alley. It will be lighted by electricity. The fixtures will all be new, and the lock boxes will be fitted up with combination locks, thus doing away with the use of keys. The change will be made just as soon as the room can be gotten ready, which will probably be in July some time.

TAKE TIME

To step into our store for a few minutes and look over our new styles of Hart, Schaffner & Marx suits. They are acknowledged to be the finest clothes made in this country. It will certainly pay you to see them and get our prices before you decide what to wear this season.



FOUR-BUTTON SACK SUIT
Copyright, 1899
By Hart, Schaffner & Marx



GUARANTEED CLOTHING.

Good Goods Gain Prestige

Everywhere. You'll take in consideration "your spring looks" at once if you've that enviable characteristic up-to-date-ness."

Spring Suits, \$5.00 to \$20.00.
Spring Overcoats, \$4.75 to \$15.00.

We have the kind that fills the man with self-satisfaction as to his appearance. Every garment a recent style, a stylish fit and a fit possession.

BEN. GIDDING, Clothier,
Bloomsburg, Pa.

The Leader Department Store.

CARPETS.

The old adage, that "the proof of the pudding is in the eating thereof," received a strong confirmation this past week. We have claimed all along that our carpet stock was larger and better than the combined stocks in the county, and that you could trade better with us than anywhere else. Our friends, after looking over all the stocks in town, came to us and made their selection. That tells the tale, and so generous has been the call that we have commenced already to duplicate on some of our patterns.

MATTINGS.

The largest stock shown anywhere, and at prices from 12 1/2c up to 35c.

CURTAINS.

We will give you Lace Curtains from 75c up to \$15.00 per pair, and prices between.

OLD CARPETS.

We forgot to say, under heading of Carpets, that we have a number of borders, which will go well with old carpets you want to piece out for larger rooms. It will save you dollars if you don't want to throw away the old carpet. We would rather sell you an entirely new floor, but we are here to save you money, anyway.

BABY COACHES.

We have them from \$5.00 up to \$15.00. You will easily pay 20 per cent. more for each class elsewhere than with us.

OAK BED-ROOM SUITS.

Seven pieces, \$20.00. Easily worth \$25.00.

DINING-ROOM TABLES AND CHAIRS.

New goods—just in.

CURLY BIRCH AND MAHOGANY BED-ROOM SUITS.

We have a few sets left yet of this class. Only one of a kind, and we'll shade the price 25 per cent. to clean up.

TABLE LINEN.

We claim that we carry the finest lines of these goods in the town. We always had the reputation of showing the best values for the money, and we are keeping it up. Just as a sample, we have the finest Crash Linen, Double Damask, for \$2.75 per yard. The patterns are beautiful. City stores show nothing daintier, nor at so low a price. Then we have a good Table Cover, unbleached, at 25c, and an absolutely pure all linen at 50c. Lots between. Before you buy your Table Linen look our stock over. It will give you the standard for comparison, even though you buy elsewhere.

GROCERY DEPARTMENT.

Goods fresh every week. No old stock to work off. Finest California Hams, 6c per pound. Regular, 10c. Have you tasted our fine 20c Mixed Chocolates? Equal to any 25c candy in town. Same brand sold in Philadelphia regularly for 30c. We will buy lard, eggs, potatoes and other country produce.

The Leader Store Co., Ltd.,
Fourth and Market Streets.