

# The Columbian.

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NO. 3

## STATE'S WORK FOR FARMERS.

Annual Report of Secretary Hamilton Shows What the Department of Agriculture Has Done During the Past Year.

### Scarcity of Help Due to Industrial Activity.

Secretary of Agriculture John Hamilton has sent his annual report to Governor Stone. In the report Secretary Hamilton says there is a scarcity of farm and domestic help, due to the increasing number of industrial plants throughout the state, which offer larger wages than those obtained on a farm.

He refers to the necessity for continuing the farmers' institutes, which he says, have been of great benefit to agriculturists, and he asks for an appropriation to continue the work.

During the year 3023 samples of butter were analyzed, of which 1519 were pure, 840 oleomargarine and 664 renovated butter. The amount of license fees for the sale of oleomargarine was \$23,477.04; for license allowing sale of renovated butter, \$766.07, and for fines and costs, the result of prosecutions under the pure food law, \$17,409.79. State and national laws are further recommended for the betterment of pure food conditions.

#### NEW WORK SUGGESTED.

Secretary Hamilton recommends the creation of a division of animal husbandry, a division of horticulture and pomology, a division of high way improvements and a well selected library; a museum and an exhibit at the state fair and an appropriation of \$25,000 for an exhibit at the St. Louis Exposition.

He dwells on the question of good roads and shows that reports from other states place Pennsylvania in the background on this question. He recommends immediate legislation that will bring about the results hoped for and suggests that convict labor might be used to advantage in the service of the public roads.

#### CROPS OF THE YEAR.

The report says:—  
"The general condition and yield of the crops during the year have been about an average. Wheat was affected by early drought, but afterwards had an abundance of moisture. The rains continued through harvest and a good deal of the wheat was injured by sprouting. The yield, however, is above expectation. Corn in middle and western Pennsylvania was caught by the early September frosts and a large amount of immature and soft corn is the result. Oats was a good crop. Potatoes rotted considerably in many sections. The late crop is of a good size and quality. Hay was short but the rains during and after harvest brought forward the second crop to exceed the first in quality. Tobacco has proved a fairly good crop and was housed in good condition. The apple crop was large in some sections and of good quality. Peaches were only a partial crop. Pears were plenty, well developed and of good flavor.

"The general averages of prices for the year are as follows: Wheat, \$0.76; corn, \$0.62; oats, \$0.44; potatoes, \$0.54; clover hay, \$11.33; timothy hay, \$14.25; butter, \$0.24; ewes, \$3.50; lambs, \$2.75; horses, \$111.88; cows, \$33.22; chickens per pound (live), \$0.10; chickens per pound (dressed), \$0.13; labor per day with board, \$1.25; farm land per acre, improved, \$55; farm land per acre average quality, \$34. These prices are in nearly every case in advance of those of last year."

#### REFORM IN COUNTY FAIRS.

Referring to county fair associations he urges the obliteration of all catch-penny features, immoral shows, gambling and illegal liquor selling. He suggests as a remedy that the state appropriate sufficient money to allow fair premiums to be paid on all exhibits, and closer attention to racing and other legitimate sports.

In conclusion, Secretary Hamilton asks for an appropriation of \$1,000,000 for good roads; \$2500 for the State Board of Agriculture. Horticultural Society. State Poultry Association and State Live Stock Breeders Association; \$10,000 for farmers' institutes; \$25,000 for county fairs and \$3000 for an agricultural library.

The new sweeper did excellent service for the Electric Railway Company on Sunday.

## BERWICK'S AWFUL FIRE

One Human Life Wiped Out, Another May Die—Five Business Places and Two Dwelling Houses Reduce to Ruins

### MOST DISASTROUS IN YEARS

The thriving town of Berwick was visited by an awful fire Tuesday night. It was just 11:45 when the lurid glare of angry flames, the clanging of fire bells and all the concomitants of a great conflagration awakened the people from their slumbers.

The fire broke out in Dr. Gross Meyer's drug store and was first discovered by Frank Lohman, a clerk for George Unangst, who slept in the rear of the store two doors below. He sounded an alarm and in a few minutes the town's two fire companies, the Rangers and the Reliance, were on the scene. Connections were hurriedly made but in spite of the gallant work of the firemen the flames continued to spread until the entire building was enveloped. The flames spread in both directions igniting the grocery store of Clark & Scott on the right and the harness shop of George Seibert on the left. Fiercer and fiercer it burned and a few minutes later the residences of James Seesholtz, George Rabert and W. E. Kepner were ablaze. It was now roaring like a furnace, and the water was having little effect.

In the basement of the Seesholtz building there was located a shooting gallery, conducted by George Unangst. He had stored in the room quite a supply of ammunition. When the fire reached it the cartridges exploded and the bullets flying around made the work of the firemen so dangerous that the effort to combat the flames at this point for a time had to be abandoned.

#### ONE LIFE LOST.

Shortly after the discovery of the fire and before the Ranger Company, which responded first, had reached the scene, a man was seen to leap from the second story window of the doomed building. He alighted at the side of B. F. Sponengerg who assisted him to his feet. He was Daniel Rolands. Hewas borne to the St. Charles Hotel and when he had sufficiently recovered consciousness cried out "My God, my wife." This was the first intimation that a human soul was still imprisoned in the doomed building. It was here that there was displayed true heroism. Without any hesitation whatever William Roher, an employee of the steel plant, defied all danger and death. He climbed to the awning and leaped into the very window through which Rolands only a few minutes before had escaped. The smoke was suffocating and the heat was intense. But the thought that a human life depended upon his efforts moved all fear and he made his way into the very jaws of death. Groping about in the darkness he finally lit across a bed. He reached down and behold there lying face downward was Roland's wife. He carried her to the window. A blanket was taken from one of the horses attached to the Reliance hose cart into which the body was dropped. It came down with such force that Thos. Fairman, formerly of Bloomsburg, who had hold of one end of the blanket, was knocked down the body falling squarely upon him. Seldom, indeed, do we see such heroism as that displayed by Roher. By his noble work he won a place in the hearts of the people and he will not be forgotten.

The body of Mrs. Rolands was taken to Dr. McCrea's office. Her face was charred and her hair burned off. Portions of flesh clung to the blanket. She died at 3:40 without having regained consciousness.

Rolands' condition is critical but he may recover. His face and hands were severely burned and he suffered other injuries. He was removed to the hospital without having been informed of his wife's death. The news in the doctor's office as the woman's life was ebbing away and her husband just across the hall, helpless and unconscious of the fact that death's

## REPORT OF THE CONDITION OF THE Bloomsburg National Bank

At the Close of Business Nov. 25th, 1902.

RESOURCES.	LIABILITIES.
Loans and Investments, \$448,810.34	Capital Stock, - - \$60,000.00
Furniture and Fixtures, - 8,000.00	Surplus and Profits, (Net) 43,134.23
Cash and Reserve, - - 95,343.63	Circulation, - - 60,000.00
	Individual Deposits, - 386,545.12
	Bank Deposits - - 2,474.62
\$552,153.97	\$552,153.97

A. Z. SCHOCH, PRESIDENT.

WM. H. HIDLAY, CASHIER.

[READ MY AD ON 5TH PAGE.]

## BRIC-A-BRAC AND FANCY CHINA,

Our customers can spend a pleasant hour in this department of our store in studying the collections of

## Art, Bric-a-brac and Fancy China.

We have kept in mind the general demand for really artistic goods at moderate cost, and while the stock contains some elaborate and expensive pieces, it is made up mainly of the more practical sorts

### At Popular Prices.

A glance through our stock will satisfy our customers that our prices are secure from competition.

## J. Lee Martin, Jeweler and Optician.

Telephone 1842.

## J. G. WELLS,

# SKATES SKATES

FOR SALE BY

## J. G. Wells, General Hardware, BLOOMSBURG, PA.

#### Ex-Governor Hastings Dead

Daniel H. Hastings, Governor of Pennsylvania from 1895 to 1899, died on Friday of pleuro-pneumonia at his home in Bellefonte, after an illness of only four days. The announcement was a great shock to his friends. His family had hopes for his recovery up to the very last. He was conscious to the end and only an hour before his death was sitting up in bed.

Governor Hastings was born on February 26, 1849 in Lamar township, Clinton county, Pa. where he lived with his parents, teaching school in the country districts until 1867. He possessed that indomitable will and determination to advance that characterizes the Scotch-Irish. While principal of the Bellefonte schools he studied law, and was admitted to the bar of Center county in April 1875.

He was always an earnest advocate of the National Guard of the state and while Adjutant General rendered efficient services at the time of the Johnstown flood.

As governor he served his state with ability and dignity. At the end of his term he returned to his home in Bellefonte and has since devoted himself to his family and business interests.

The funeral took place on Tuesday and was attended by Governor Stone and staff.

#### FROM FIRM TO CORPORATION.

The business of Moyer Bros' wholesale and retail drug house will be changed from a firm to a corporation, the incorporators being L. N. Moyer, J. L. Moyer and Martha Moyer. The old firm name of "Moyer Bros." will be retained. A charter will be applied for on January 30th at the state department. Miss Martha Moyer holds the interest of her father, the late W. L. Moyer, and the business will go on under the same management as before.

The Philadelphia College of Pharmacy gave the poorest exhibition of basket ball in the 'gym' last night seen here for a long time. The score was 68 to 4 and Normal could have scored a hundred had they wanted to.

No. 4 and 5 coal is being sold at Lime Ridge for \$5.00 per ton.

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## It's About Now

That *YOUR TROUSERS* commence to fray at the bottom—bag at the knee and go into a general state of Collapse. Winter is a hard season for Trousers. A fresh pair about now will be welcome. Here is a lot of new patterns—stylish mixtures, dull checks, stripes, etc., all better-class worsteds, that will go well with good suits, hold shape and wear to please you.

**One Dollar to Six Dollars.**

# Ben Gidding

Bloomsburg, Penn'a.,  
Corner Main and Center Sts.

**Come in and see us,  
we'll treat you right.**

The Leader. The Leader. The Leader.

# Christmas

For the festive occasion, we have made extra arrangements at considerable expense. We have gotten our building ready for the crowds that favor us with their presence during the month of December. Under a gigantic umbrella, 18 feet spread, we have arranged our toys. The pleasure of seeing our artistic arrangements will repay you for a visit and the child will be delighted.

**BOOKS**

As usual we have a line of all the best selling books at wholesale prices. Nothing better for Christmas gifts.

## THE LEADER DEPARTMENT STORE.

<p><b>Sleepy Hollow Chairs.</b> \$20.00, \$25.00, \$43.00. Cure for insomnia.</p>	<p><b>DOLLS</b>—A very large family for adoption this year. From 5c to 50c.</p>
<p><b>ROCKING CHAIRS.</b> Golden Oak, Quartered Oak \$2.00 up to \$10.00.</p>	<p><b>GAMES</b>—A large line of iron toys. Indestructible and will last years.</p>
<p><b>COMBINATION DESKS.</b> 17.00, 22.00, 28.00 48.00. A useful present.</p>	<p><b>CROKINOLE</b>—for 1.00. We have a combination board upon which 26 games can be played for 1.50.</p>
<p><b>MUSIC CABINETS.</b> 20.00, 21.00, 25.00, 30.00. A beautiful parlor ornament.</p>	<p><b>HANDKERCHIEFS.</b> In a specially designed fancy box. The box itself is a beauty and designs are private to us.</p>

**The Leader Store Company Ltd.,**  
4th and Market Streets.