

# The Columbian.

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NO. 20

## NOT TO BLAME.

Coroner's Jury Exculpates Nagle and Hoffman for Death of Ruth Swayze.

### Citizens Give Evidence.

The jury empaneled by Coroner B. F. Sharpless of Catawissa to inquire into the death of little Ruth Swayze whose life was crushed beneath the trolley car in front of her parent's home in Berwick on Tuesday of last week, met at the St. Charles Hotel in Berwick Saturday evening to hear the evidence and render a verdict. The jury was composed of Edward Schenke, foreman, Philip Clemens, Hud Kline, James Ruch, Harry Rabert, and Kinney Freas.

District Attorney A. W. Duy was present and assisted the coroner in taking the deposition.

Ray Hoffman who was the motorman on the car, was first heard. He stated that he had seen the little ones playing in the street when some distance away and had given the customary warning with the bell. He saw the child run out from behind the pile of shingles and directly in front of the car. He stopped the car as quickly as possible but it had already passed over her.

Conductor Nagle was in the rear of the car when the accident occurred, and of course his evidence was mainly to show the rate of speed at which the car was traveling. The cars, he said never run through the borough limits at a greater speed than about eight miles an hour. He was not familiar with the special speed regulation in the borough. In answering a question as to motorman Hoffman's carefulness, he replied that he was considered the most careful and watchful motorman in the company's employ. Others who testified were James Smethers, Andrew Dupuy, Mrs. C. H. Fritz, George Clemens, Frank Carey and Henry Cope. The evidence of all of them tended to show that the occurrence was an accident and wholly unavoidable. District Attorney, after the testimony had closed, stated that there was no state law which provided for fenders on trolley cars. The municipal law he said made provision for them.

The jury after some deliberation returned this verdict:

"That the jury finds that Ruth Swayze met her death by being run over by car No. 2 of the Columbia & Montour Trolley Company on the first day of May, 1903 at 2:35 p. m., and that Conductor Nagle and motorman Ray Hoffman of said car are exonerated from any blame in connection with said death. We further find that the speed of cars at certain times has exceeded that prescribed by borough ordinances and recommend that the required limit of speed be observed. We further recommend that the cars should be equipped with fenders or some other safety device whereby such accidents might be averted in the future."

### ORGAN RECITAL.

Several hundred people attended the organ recital given by Prof. Alexander of Wilkes-Barre, in the M. E. Church last Friday night. The program was interspersed with vocal solos by Mrs. Harry Barton and Mr. O. H. Yetter, and a violin-cello solo by Prof. Alexander, and with selections by the male quartette, Messrs. Colley, Yost, Entand Yetter. Mrs. Fred Holmes was the accompanist. It was a very pleasing program. The organ selections might have been of a more popular character if there been fewer of the piano and andante movements, and a little more brass band, but it was very artistic, and enjoyed by those present.

### SHOT BY ACCIDENT.

While demonstrating the advantages of a Winchester rifle to Simon Kunkle at Jamison City on Friday, Mark Andrews accidentally shot himself in the foot. The ball entered the foot near the toes and came out near the heel. Dr. Carey dressed the wound, but as the patient suffered considerably he was taken to the Williamsport Hospital for treatment. Dr. Carey was of the opinion that there was a small fragment of the shoe in the wound.

## A SOCIAL EVENING.

Car Shop Men Entertained at the Parish House.

On Monday afternoon there were distributed at the shops of the Bloomsburg Car Mfg. Co. cards reading as follows:

"The Rev. D. N. Kirkby invites the men of the Bloomsburg Car Works to spend a social evening at the Parish House, Tuesday, May 12th at 8 p. m.

Pursuant to this invitation a goodly number gathered, though not nearly so many as there ought to have been. An informal program had been arranged. Mr. W. P. Meigs opened the proceedings by stating that the object of the gathering was to give the men an idea of what the Protestant Episcopal Church is, and to overcome the prejudice that seems to exist in many places, that it is the church for the wealthy and fashionable, and not for the poor. Dr. A. K. Aldinger then favored the audience with two songs, accompanied on the piano by Mrs. Frank Colley, and Mrs. J. K. Miller played three selections on the violin. Refreshments were served, consisting of coffee, sandwiches and wafers. Rev. Mr. Kirkby then addressed the audience. He said he wanted it distinctly understood that he had no thought of influencing any present who were members of other churches, to leave their own church and come to ours, but if there were any present who were not connected with any church he urged upon them the necessity of going to church somewhere, and said that they would be welcome at any time to St. Paul's. He spoke of the prejudice often existing against this church by people who know nothing of the history, the aims, and purposes of the Episcopal Church. Some people think of it as a church where they read everything out of a book and the clergymen wear funny kinds of vestments but he would be very glad to explain at any time that there is something more than that in this church. His address, which was an informal talk, lasted about fifteen minutes. He was followed by Col. Freeze in a few brief remarks, who said that by reason of developments in electricity the different parts of the earth have been brought very close together. We read in our morning papers accounts of what happened yesterday in China and Egypt, and other distant points. So the Christian religion and the churches have drawn men closer together, all aiming at the same mark, no matter to what church they belong, all Christian men believing in the same Almighty Father, the same Son of God, and the same Holy Spirit, and such gatherings as this cannot help but strengthen all the churches.

Prayers were then offered by Mr. Kirkby and all joined in saying the Lord's Prayer, after which all were invited over to look at the church. Some present had never been inside the building before. A few selections were played on the organ by DeForest Hummer and Geo. E. Elwell, and then the evening's entertainment came to a close. It was a novel idea on the part of Mr. Kirkby, and was most successfully and agreeably carried out.

### TOWN FINANCES.

The town statement appears this week in the *Republican and Morning Press*. The total liabilities are \$80,489.17, and the total assets \$41,624.76. In the assets are included a number of items which will never be available as cash to reduce the indebtedness. They are as follows:

Fire apparatus.....	\$ 7100.00
Town Hall & lot.....	15000.00
	\$22100.00

This subtracted from the assets named above would leave only \$19,524.76, which deducted from \$80,489.17, leaves the indebtedness \$60,964.41. This is upon the supposition that all the taxes due on the duplicates of 1895, 1896, 1901, and 1902, amounting to \$12,585.82 shall be collected. The indebtedness will be increased by whatever amount is lost on these duplicates.

The funded debt as stated is \$62,745.00. The floating debt not secured by bonds is \$17,744.17.

The auditors report that the books of the President, Secretary, and Treasurer are in excellent condition.

REPORT OF THE CONDITION OF

## The Bloomsburg National Bank

At the Close of Business April 9th, 1903.

RESOURCES.		LIABILITIES.	
Loans and Investments,	\$404,591.20	Capital Stock,	\$60,000.00
Furniture and Fixtures,	8,000.00	Surplus and Profits, (Net)	45,538.74
Cash and Reserve,	90,889.45	Circulation,	60,000.00
		Individual Deposits,	326,189.39
		Bank Deposits,	11,752.52
	\$503,480.65		\$503,480.65

A. Z. SCHOCH, PRESIDENT.

WM. H. HIDLAY, CASHIER.

## CALENDARS FOR 1904.

Samples now Ready at the COLUMBIAN OFFICE.

Don't place your order out of town before you see our lines. We can save you money, and we know it. Call and see samples, or a postal card will bring them to you.

NOW IS THE TIME TO ORDER.

COLUMBIAN PRINTING HOUSE, Bloomsburg, Pa.

## TOWN COUNCIL.

Synopsis of Regular Monthly Meeting.—An Interesting Session.

### ALL POLES TO BE TAXED.

The town law makers held an interesting session Thursday night. The meeting attracted quite a goodly number of citizens some of whom evidenced a lively interest in the proceedings. Men who never before attended a council meeting were there Thursday night, not because of the importance of any of the business to be transacted, but simply as one of them expressed himself to the COLUMBIAN reporter, "to see the municipal body in action." It was truly an interesting session and all the members entered into the work of transacting the business that came before them with a spirit that was exhilarating and showed that they have the good of the town at heart.

Chairman Hughes of the Highways Committee, in his report, stated that no definite action had yet been taken in the matter of the proposed sewer on Fifth street. The committee was therefore continued.

The committee appointed at a previous meeting to investigate the complaint made regarding the unsanitary condition of Snyder's Run was also continued as they have not yet arrived at a decision as to the proper remedy. They made an examination, however, and found that there was just cause for complaint. There is considerable stagnant water in the run and it will become more beneficial to health as the hot season advances unless something is done.

Street Commissioner Neyhart reported many pavements in a bad state of repair. Secretary was instructed to notify property owners to place same in good condition or the work will be done by the town at owners' expense.

After an extended discussion it was decided that all garbage must be buried in the coal ash banks at the foot of Market street, and that the dumping of garbage and waste paper along the Light Street road and along Fishing creek must cease.

Harry Dawson, for the Rescue Fire Company asked council to make some arrangement to haul

the company's apparatus to and from fires. Referred to Fire Committee.

The following petition was presented by C. W. Miller, Esq. To the Town Council of the Town of Bloomsburg, gentlemen:

The undersigned citizens and taxpayers of the Town of Bloomsburg, most respectfully ask your honorable body to ordain the following highways, viz:

1. Fifth street from its present terminus westward to the western side of Magee avenue.
2. Leonard street from Fifth street to Sixth street.
3. Magee avenue from Fifth street to Sixth street.
4. Sixth street from West street to the public road east side of Fishing creek.

To the petition was affixed the signatures of seventy-three citizens.

Two-thirds of the expense of the paving of this street with brick Mr. Miller stated would be borne by the property owners. The matter was referred to the committee on Highways.

A communication was read asking that the fee for making an arrest be increased from 50 cents to \$1.00, but as it was without a signature it was consigned to the waste basket.

The Sons of Veterans were given permission to use third story of Town Hall for drill purposes.

The Secretary was instructed to advertise for bids for the construction of the new Iron street road, said bids to be based on plans made by Town Engineer. It was decided that definite action in the matter of a special tax for the construction of the road will be taken at the next special meeting.

In the matter of taxing telegraph, telephone, electric light and trolley poles, it was decided to count the poles and a tax for each will be determined upon at the next meeting.

It was moved and seconded that the tax duplicates of 1895 and 1896 be placed in the hands of the solicitor for prompt collection.

The tax rate of 9 mills for built up, 6 mills for suburban and 4½ for farm, was fixed same as last year. Of course whatever special tax is levied for the construction of the Iron street road will be added to the above.

Bills were approved after which the meeting adjourned.



## CLOTHES OF QUALITY

Our smart, handsome Spring Suits are decidedly well bred—and you can call them "Clothes of Quality," for they certainly contain all the qualities appreciated by good dressers. The newest fabrics are here in single and double-breasted sacks, with the new narrow collars and lapels.

The suits have not been out of the makers' hands long enough to lose their bloom of freshness—splendid time to make your selection.

## BENCIDDING Bloomsburg, Penn'a.,

Corner Main and Center Sts.

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

TURN YOUR STEPS RIGHT TO OUR STORE

If you are looking for Carpets. Stock the Best and Choicest we have ever shown you. And prices? Just consider the bargains we offer in an

All Wool Velvet for \$1.00.

You cannot match it anywhere. Heavier goods at higher prices. Always bear in mind you have a variety from

20c. to \$1.50 to Select From.

To Clean up—three patterns in stock.

All Wool Ingrains at 55c. per yard.

Furniture

For Every Room.

Go=Carts

Celluloid Handles.

Wash Goods

Cool things for Summer.

Groceries

We Eat 'Em.

The Leader Dep't. Store, 4th & Market Streets., Bloomsburg, Penn'a.