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Commencement Week.

Large Audiences mark the Closing Days of the Term

IN THE PUBLIC SCHOOLS.

To-day is the closing of the year's work in the public schools of Bloomsburg. The program for commencement week began on Sunday evening, when the graduating class of the High school, and all the teachers assembled at the Presbyterian Church to listen to the baccalaureate sermon by Rev. Dr. Hemingway. A large congregation was present. The text of the sermon was Rev. 3rd chapter 11th verse: "Hold that fast which thou hast, that no man take thy crown." It was an eloquent discourse replete with wholesome advice.

THE DRAMA.

On Monday evening the Senior class presented a four act drama entitled, "Down in Maine", in the Opera House, and covered themselves with glory. The following is the cast of characters:

Zeph Cummings of Hardscrabble Farm, "way down in Maine," Mr. Silas Riddle, Believes in the Golden Rule, and practices what he believes.
Ralph, his brother, a New York Millionaire, Lewis Moyer.
Neil Wentworth, a young inventor, Eugene Quick.
Bingle, the old fisherman, Rowland Hemingway.
Toms, the hired man, George Keller.
Mr. Holden, a lawyer, Joseph Skeer.
Jimpsey, a "fresh air" kid, Milton Yorks.
Mose Gossin, a stuttering lover, Ralph Musher.
Susie Cummings, Ralph's daughter, Miss Edith Krumm.
Mrs. Cummings, Zeph's wife, Miss Mary Welliver.
Keziah, "forty-three and desperate," Miss Mary Welliver.
Betsy Toms, Miss Luzetta Davis.
Time—The Present. Place—Down in Maine.

The music was furnished by Schwarz's orchestra which played the following selections:

Medley Overture, "Comin' thro' the Rye," Von Tilzer.
Overture, "Bridal Rose," Lavalie.
March, "Happy Hayseed," Rolfe.
Overture, "Lutzspiel," Kela Bela.
March, "The Marconigram," Allen.

JUNIOR CONTEST.

On Tuesday evening the sixth annual contest in elocution, and the first contest in vocal music was held. Three prizes were offered in elocution, a medal, a fountain pen, and a book, to be awarded to members of the Junior class of the High School. A handsome picture was offered as a prize to the chorus doing the best work, and this was contested for by girls from the High School, and girls from the Grammar School. The judges of the oratorical contest were Mrs. Judge Herring, Mrs. J. L. Richardson, and Prof. Snyder of Berwick. The chorus judges were Mrs. J. K. Miller, Miss Pontius and Geo. E. Elwell. The reports of the judges will be announced tonight at the commencement exercises.

The program of Tuesday evening was as follows:

Reading, Scorching vs. Diamonds, Pauline Phelps.
Reading, The Confessional, W. W. Story.
Becker's March Chorus Number I, Anon.
Reading, How Ruby Played, Anon.
Reading, Zingarella the Spanish, Ed. L. McDowell.
Becker's March Chorus Number II, Becker.
Reading, Sally Ann's Experience, Eliza Calvert Hall.
Reading, My Little Newsboy, Ada M. Melville.
Reading, Mark Twain and the Interviewer, Harry Andres.
O, Hush Thee, my Baby, Chorus No. II, Sullivan.

The elocutionary exercises were all given with a degree of proficiency that surprised many in the audience. They were of varied character, and though each recitation was long, but not unpleasantly so, there was not an apparent skip of memory nor the slightest hesitation on the part of any participant. Each selection was thoroughly committed, and was delivered with accuracy, ease, grace, and a clearness of enunciation that was admirable. All did so well that it would be unfair to name one without naming all. It is not surprising that the judges were in session an hour before they could decide who was entitled to the three prizes.

Miss Houser has had charge of the

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THE CHORAL SOCIETY

Two Public Entertainments a Year will be given in the Future.

First One a Grand Success.

The first concert of the Bloomsburg Choral Society was given in the Normal Auditorium on Thursday evening, May 28th. The gallery seats were filled and nearly every seat down stairs except those under the gallery. Owing to an unavoidable delay it was 8.45 when Dr. Mason took his place on the conductor's stand. The program opened with a chorus, "O Hail us, ye free" by Verdi. It was sung with spirit, and it was at once evident that Dr. Mason had the chorus under complete control. Mrs. John L. Richardson followed with a humorous reading entitled "Guessing Nationalities," by Mark Twain. It was given in her usual excellent style and was much enjoyed by the audience. Miss Mary Albert sang "Orpheus with his lute" by Sullivan, in a charming manner. She has a voice which, though not of great strength, is remarkably sweet and clear, and her singing in public is always one of the attractive features of any program. The aria, "O God have Mercy," by Mendelssohn, was sung by Mr. Chas. O. Skeer in fine form. He has a rich baritone voice, and his tones are clear and resonant. His enunciation was perfect and every word was distinctly understood in every part of the house. His selection was a difficult one to sing, and of rather a sombre character, but he acquitted himself with great credit, and added much to the pleasure of the audience.

The closing number of part first was "The Arrow and the Song," by Longfellow, with music by Walter Hay. It was easily the gem of the evening among the choruses, both in beauty of composition, and the expression with which it was sung. Dr. Mason stated during the rehearsals that it was the most difficult piece on the program to sing effectively, and great care was observed in its preparation. The audience could have had it repeated by asking for it with a little more vigorous applause, and this may be said of every number of the first part. There were no encores because the audience evidently were given the impression in some way that owing to the lateness in beginning no encores would be responded to. This explanation has been given by a number of people sitting in different parts of the hall.

During the few moments intermission, Dr. Welsh, president of the society, thanked the audience for their liberal patronage, and explained the objects and benefits of the organization.

The second part consisted of the cantata, "St. Cecilia's Day." It is all good music, and was well sung throughout. Miss Albert, Miss Cope, and Mr. Colley were the soloists and performed their parts in a very pleasing manner. Recitatives are very hard to sing, and are not usually very highly appreciated by an audience, but these singers made the most of their assignments.

The most musical parts of the cantata were the chorus of men, "Rise and break the chains that bind us"; the chorus, "Incense odors hovering o'er us"; solo and chorus, "Come forward with pleasure," by Miss Cope and Society; and the finale "Holy Music." Miss Cope's solo in "Come forward" was a bright part and her voice seemed to be made for it. Endowed with vocal powers of a high class, Miss Cope has cultivated her voice by practice here and study abroad until she has reached a stage of culture in music that is a great aid to the Society and a delight to all her friends who have the privilege of listening to her. During the evening she was presented with a beautiful bouquet.

The cantata was sung from beginning to end with spirit and expression, and its very satisfactory rendition was owing largely to the thorough drilling by Dr. Mason, and to the interest and enthusiasm with which he inspired the singers. He is certainly a great conductor, and the society will undoubtedly endeavor to secure his services in the future.

The receipts of the concert were

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\$102.25, most of which will be absorbed by the expenses. This is a very satisfactory result considering that this was the first concert of the society, and the very low price of admission.

Much credit is due to the pianists Mrs. J. K. Miller and Mrs. R. F. Colley. They have been constant in their attendance at rehearsals, and it was a pleasure to sing with their accompaniments. Both of them are among the leaders in musical circles, and their abilities are frequently in demand on public occasions. The Society is fortunate in having two such willing and skillful pianists.

It is not likely that much work will be done until September. Then it is intended to get as many new members as possible, and to take up work preparatory for a public rehearsal either in November or January. It is intended to have at least two concerts a year.

CARS MUST STOP

Running Across the Bridge Until Road is Extended.

The Columbia and Montour Electric Railway Company must cease running cars across the river bridge at Catawissa, until their part of the agreement, that is, the construction of the road through the town of Catawissa is fulfilled. According to the report of commissioner Fisher made at the meeting of the Board on Monday, the company is running its cars across the bridge and allowing the car to stand on the bridge while passengers are being taken on or discharged, which is a violation of the agreement.

As a matter of course the Trolley Company cannot extend the line up into the town until they obtain the right to cross the tracks of the Reading Railway Company. They can however comply with the other conditions, namely, lay the track down along the wing wall so as not to obstruct the approach to the bridge, and put down the "felloe" guards, which are to be made of white oak. The clerk was instructed to notify the Trolley Company to cease operations on the bridge until these conditions are complied with.

The Trolley Company has erected a station at Willow Grove, which will afford passengers protection from the elements.

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All this Year's.

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General Hardware, BLOOMSBURG, PA.

Determined Suicide.

In a Moment of Supposed Mental Aberration, Barton Hawk, of Main Township, Ends His Life.

Decapitated by Car Wheels.

The dead body of Barton Hawk, of Main township, was found along the Philadelphia & Reading Railway tracks, a short distance from Mainville, about seven o'clock Tuesday morning. The body was lying face downward, and had evidently been pushed from the main track over on the siding. The head was completely severed from the body.

It was at first feared that murder had been committed, that after having been killed and robbed, his body had been placed upon the railroad, for the purpose of hiding the crime. Investigation and developments however, seem to indicate that it was a case of determined suicide.

He had been in ill health for several weeks, and frequently during that time many peculiarities in his conduct had been observed. Only the night before he was discovered in a tree adjusting a chain to a limb for the purpose of hanging himself.

The body was removed to the home of his parents, and Coroner B. F. Sharpless of Catawissa summoned. Mr. Sharpless went to the scene, and empanelled a jury, but no inquest was held. He gathered and considered the facts and concluded that it was purely a case of self destruction and that an inquest was unnecessary.

The unfortunate man was twenty-eight years of age. Illness had either unbalanced his mind, or else, discouraged him to such an extent, that life had become burdensome.

Onrb-Stone Market.

The curb-stone market will open on Saturday morning next. The order will be issued by the town council at its meeting to-night. It is past the usual time for opening the market now, but the dry weather has put back vegetation so far that there has not been much for the truckers to sell.



DO YOUR TROUSERS LOOK CAREWORN?

During the breach between Winter and Spring wearables you'll likely need a pair of independent Trousers to bridge the difficulty.

The Fashionable Trousers are somewhat on the wishbone order; big at the hips and tapering to the ankle. The variety is large enough to suit the taste of any legs.

Cassimeres, Worstedes and Cheviots—mostly striped—handsome patterns, all of them. Trousers at \$2.00, at \$3.00, at \$4.00, or at \$5.00.

Come, see our Spring Trousers Show.

BENCIDDING
Bloomsburg, Penn'a.,
Corner Main and Center Sts.
Come in and see us, we'll treat you right.

JUNE SHIRT WAIST SALE.
Commencing June 8.

Percalé and Madras were 50c. now 39 cts.

White Dimity were 75c. now 45 cts.

White Lawn, large and small Polka Dots were 1.75 now 1.25

White Etamine Plaited Back were 2.75 now 2.15

White Lawn All over Embroidery. were 3.75 now 2.75

Mussed Lots were 3.50, 3.00, 2.50. now 1.25.

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The fickle Goddess Fashion Flits To parts unknown When I appear, For I have come to stay. I, the Shirt Waist; I, the one fixed fashion Of the fair."