

# The Columbian.

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## Heinous Crime of Two Mt. Carmel Men.

Charged With Raping Two Young Girls. They are Brought Here and Lodged in Jail.

### Men Barely Escape Lynching.

Joseph Thirloway and Abe Kreisher, of Mt. Carmel, aged 25 and 16 years respectively were brought to Bloomsburg and lodged in jail yesterday charged with having committed a rape, upon two little girls, Catharine McArdle, and Theresa Jordan, both 14 years of age, of Mt. Carmel.

The crime was committed near Aristes, in this county on Tuesday, hence their arrest and incarceration in the jail here.

Nearly all day Tuesday Thirloway had been drinking heavily. He fell in with Abe Kreisher, and toward evening they procured a sleigh to take a ride. The little girls were skating at Fourth and Walnut Streets, and the men asked them to take a ride. The girls, the two above mentioned and Ella Jordan aged 12 years, accepted the invitation gladly.

They drove at full speed to Centralia, thence to Aristes. Here, the girls, becoming alarmed at the distance from home, begged the men to turn back, but they continued on toward Brush Valley.

At a point in the road, where Thirloway concluded they would be safe from detection, he stopped the horse, and seizing Catharine McArdle, lifted her from the sleigh, brutally and frightfully assaulted her. Then he drew a revolver and pointing it at Kreisher ordered him to assault little Catharine, which he did.

Little Ella Jordan, thoroughly frightened, leaped from the sleigh and ran to the Aristes Hotel, where she fell unconscious. After she regained consciousness she told her story, and a posse on horseback immediately started in pursuit. They reached the scene just in time to prevent an assault on the elder Jordan girl. The McArdle girl was lying on the ground, suffering terribly.

The men were seized, bound hand and foot and taken to Mt. Carmel. Much sentiment was aroused, and threats of lynching were heard. The crimes are the most brutal on record. The men were given a hearing Wednesday morning before Justice Courtright at Mid Valley, who held them under three counts.

### HE WAS TOO LIBERAL.

It happened at a recent social function in town. The guests had been entertained with card games, and at the close there was a distribution of prizes. A prominent young business man of Bloomsburg was present, and to him was handed a box of cigars, which he in some way understood was the prize awarded to a gentleman from Danville. As is often the case, he at once became very liberal with another man's property, and passed the box around to all the men, urging the cigars upon them whether they smoked or not, and so the box was nearly depleted. Then, elated with the success which had crowned his efforts to dispose of his Danville friend's cigars, he returned the balance to the supposed owner who accepted them with thanks, and then for the first time he who had been passing them around so freely, discovered that he himself had won the gentlemen's first prize, and the box of cigars was his own. But it was too late. Most of them were gone and the remainder the Danville man insisted on retaining, and so Ben lost the whole box.

### SOCIAL.

Miss Sarah Van Tassel entertained thirty of her lady friends at a card party on Tuesday afternoon.

Miss Marie Funk gave a Washington's Birthday party to about a dozen of her young friends on Tuesday evening. The national colors were prominent in the decorations, and one of the prizes was a hatchet shaped box of candy.

Miss Letha Dietterich will go to Jamison City this week, where she has accepted a position as clerk in O. B. Ammerman's store.

## MILLIONS INVOLVED IN THIS SUIT.

Outcome Is Of Immense Importance to Every Coal Producing County.

### Decision Eagerly Awaited.

Seldom has there been a case in which the outcome involves so many millions of dollars as that of Michael Madden against the Lehigh Valley Coal Company. Counsel for the plaintiff, Edward J. Flynn, of Centralia, and ex-Judge Walter, of Mt. Carmel, have filed the praecipe in the appeal from the decision of the court of this county, and it is now up to the Supreme Court to say whether or not the Coal Companies have the right to rob their pillars, after having sold the surface of the lands, reserving all the mineral rights. Should the Supreme Court decide in favor of the plaintiff, numberless actions against Coal Companies involving millions upon millions of dollars are certain to follow, and if the decision of the court of this county is affirmed it would mean that the coal companies will continue to rob the pillars of the mines, which, the Coal Companies claim under the deeds by which the surface rights were transferred, they are privileged to do.

Representing the Coal Company in the action are Hon. Fred Ikeler and Hon. S. P. Wolverson, of Sunbury. Every coal producing county of the state is interested in the outcome and the decision of the Supreme Court is awaited with intense interest.

### CARPET MILL RECEPTION.

A reception will be given at the Magee Carpet Mills by Mr. James Magee II, on Saturday evening, February 25th, in commemoration of Washington's Birthday. The entertainment will begin at 7 o'clock, and arrangements have been made for a very enjoyable evening. Mr. W. Law will be the Master of Ceremonies, and committees have been appointed on entertainment, reception, dancing, decoration, amusements, and refreshments.

The first part of the program will be a minstrel show by the 20th Century Troubadors, composed of mill employees. The second part will consist of musical selections, recitations, and songs. Much time has been spent in preparation, and the entertainment will undoubtedly be a great success. After the show is over, the balance of the evening will be devoted to dancing. A handsome program has been issued, the first page being printed in red, white and blue, with an eagle and shield at the top. Mr. Magee never does anything by halves.

### FIRST NATIONAL GETS BOND ISSUE.

At a special meeting of the Bloomsburg Town Council held Thursday evening, and attended by President Townsend, and members Rhoades, Hughes, Giger and Reimard, the new bond issue of \$11,000 was awarded to the First National Bank, at its bid of \$101 and accrued interest.

The Bloomsburg National Bank's bid was \$1000, payable in 1909, \$100.41, each with accrued interest; \$2000, payable in 1914, \$101 each with accrued interest; \$3000, payable in 1924, \$101.23.

The Farmers National Bank made a bid of \$100.50 and accrued interest for the entire \$11,000.

John W. Lewis representing the First National Bank, stated that any individual of town would have an opportunity to buy the bonds at the same prices that the Bank paid.

Tuesday's thaw rendered the crossing from the First National Bank to Rishton's drug store almost impassable. For a considerable space the crossing was completely inundated, and rubber boots was about the only protection against wet feet. This crossing has long been the cause for complaint, and if the Council will see that it is raised as soon as spring arrives they will get themselves many thanks.

Dartmouth College will be here Saturday evening. Normal is prepared for a hard game.

## "IF YOU WOULD BE WEALTHY, THINK OF SAVING AS WELL AS GETTING."

Ben Franklin.

It is easier to get FIVE dollars than save ONE, but wealth without saving is impossible. Learning to spend less is more important than learning to earn more. Start now if only with one dollar, and watch it grow in the

## Bloomsburg National Bank

A Sound, Conservative, Safe Institution.

A. Z. SCHOCH, President.

WM. H. HIDLAY, Cashier.

### FARMERS' INSTITUTES.

A Farmers' Institute will be held in the M. E. Church at Mainville, on Wednesday and Thursday, March 1st and 2nd. Among the speakers who are announced to take part are Rev. G. V. Savidge, W. F. Hill, E. L. Hoover, R. L. Watts, J. S. Burns and Supt. W. W. Evans.

On Friday and Saturday, March 3rd and 4th, an institute will be held in the Presbyterian Church at Rohrsburg which will be addressed by Rev. Mr. Frisby, and Messrs. Hill, Hoover, Burns and Watts.

On Monday, March 6th, an institute will be held at Jerseytown in the M. E. Church which will be addressed by Rev. H. C. Munro, and Messrs. Hill, Watts, Hoover, Burns and Evans, and John S. Hanse. The evening program includes recitations by Misses Maud Leighow and Blanche Morris. These exercises are all public and free, and everybody is welcome.

These Institutes are held under the auspices of the Department of Agriculture of Pennsylvania.

A Question Box will be placed on the Secretary's desk and questions deposited therein will be answered from time to time as occasion allows.

Papers and discussions should not occupy more than twenty minutes, and all papers prepared and read in the Institute should be handed to the Secretary, as they become the property of the Department of Agriculture.

For full particulars concerning these Institutes address A. P. Young, Millville, Pa.

### A Magnificent Production.

A grand, spectacular production will be "The Story of the Reformation" which will be given at the Opera House on Friday and Saturday evenings of this week. As the work for this entertainment develops it becomes apparent it will be one of great spectacular beauty as well as instructive, it being historically correct. Much has been accomplished at the rehearsals during the past week and the participants will be ready to give the production a fine rendition.

Luther's trial at the Diet of Worms is the central scene of the evening and is one of magnificence. It will be given with all the military pomp and ceremony usual in a royal court. John Watson as Emperor Charles V, of Germany, will wear the robes of royalty and carrying a scepter, seated upon a throne, he will open the Imperial Diet. He will be escorted by a Guard of Honor—a detachment from Theta Castle No. 276, Knights of the Golden Eagle. The Elector Frederick III, of Saxony, personated by W. C. Johnston, will also have a Guard of Honor from K. G. E. The Cardinal, Mont Smith, is preceded into court by a Guard of Honor. Hon. Fred T. Ikeler as Martin Luther is accompanied by his two great friends, Spalatin and Melancthon—Howard Traub and Samuel J. Johnson.

### Plate Glass Doors.

The First National Bank has had its front doors changed by cutting out the upper panels and placing therein plate glass. It adds much to the appearance and increases the light. In the near future the bank will put a new flat roof on the front part of the building which will throw the water to the back end, and thus avoid the ice on the pavement in front of the U. S. Express office and Townsend's Clothing Store.

## BEN GIDDING

Our Lines For Spring Are Coming in Daily, And Our Store is Becoming Complete.

Come in and Look Over Our Stock and See What We Have.

## BEN GIDDING

Corner Main and Center Sts.

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

## FEBRUARY SALE OF Carpets and Furniture.

Quality is just as important as price. Poorly made Furniture is dear at any price. We only sell such goods as we can guarantee, and you'll often find that our prices for this good kind are lower than some stores ask for the low grade kind that soon falls to pieces.

During February we will give a Discount of 10% on all Furniture.

## - - CARPETS - -

On carpets we will show you greater values than ever. You will have an opportunity to get good choice designs at low prices. It will pay you to watch this sale even if you do not use them until April.

A Discount of 10% on all Carpets During February.

## THE LEADER STORE CO., LTD.

4TH AND MARKET STREETS. BLOOMSBURG, PA.