

THE COLUMBIAN.
BLOOMSBURG, PA.

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AN HISTORICAL ADDRESS.
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tried before Judge Elwell were those great trials in the murders by the Mollie Maguires, in Schuylkill, Northumberland and Columbia, because they were attended and tried by the most eminent criminal lawyers in the State of Pennsylvania. The first trial was in 1860, when Tom Donahue and John Duffy and Prior and Pat. Hester were arraigned in this Court for the murder of Alexander W. Ray. I knew Mr. Ray very well. He was a friend and companion of mine when I studied law in Danville, and I remember him and knew him all his life; and perhaps nobody, outside of his immediate friends and family was more hurt than I was at the death of Alexander W. Ray and the manner in which he came to his death.

But those cases were tried with a vim and vigor that I never saw before and have never seen since. Donahue and Duffy and Prior were acquitted. The District Attorney at the time, Mr. E. R. Ikeler, took a noli. pros. as to Pat. Hester, and the whole party were turned loose. That you will observe was in 1860, and with the exception of my friend at my hand here, Judge Marr, Mr. Wolvorton (who, unfortunately, is not able to attend this banquet) and myself, I believe not one single man is alive.

In 1877 there was another raid made upon the Molly Maguires, and Pat. Hester and Tully and McHugh were arrested and tried for the murder of Alexander Ray. I think I ought to say here that the counsel for Patrick Hester always believed him only technically guilty of the murder of Ray. Judge Marr and Mr. Wolvorton were with me, and Mr. Wolvorton and myself followed the case to the Supreme Court after it had been tried and he was convicted here, and the Supreme Court turned us down; and we went to Harrisburg and had the case heard before the Board of Pardons, and they turned us down, and the Governor of course had nothing else to do except to issue the death warrant for three men who were in the jail here in Columbia county.

At the request of Hester, I went with the Sheriff when he read the death warrant to these men in jail, and I stood beside my client (as was my duty, being local counsel in the county here) until the sentence had been read; and I shook hands with him and turned to the door to go, when he said to me: "Colonel, come and see me hanged." I said: "No, Pat, I can't do that. I have gone with you as far as I can go. Excuse me from that." I did not go, of course. I never saw Pat. afterward, and I now repeat that his counsel were always satisfied that, except technically, he was not guilty. In other words, I believe that Pat. Hester perhaps did go and was with the gang at Tom Donahue's saloon the night that the robbery of Alexander Rea was determined upon. But they were personal friends and had been for years; and Pat. assured me over and over again that there was no thought in his mind, and he did not believe there was in the minds of the rest of them, to murder Alexander Rea. But they did mean to rob him, because it was supposed he had that day a very large amount of money with which he was going to pay off some of the coal mining operations in the county of Schuylkill. But the fact that he was there and that that murder was committed in pursuance of the robbery they had agreed upon, was all that ever convicted Pat. Hester. Perhaps it was legal and right, but he never raised his hand against Alexander W. Rea.

Gentlemen, I have thought, as I said before, that this little historical sketch of the County of Columbia during the time of its existence, of the things that have been done in it, of the great lawyers that have sat upon its bench, of the great lawyers that had been before that bench practicing their profession, would be gladly listened to by you younger men. And I think, Mr. President, that these references to the olden times, to the old lawyers, to the old methods and manners in which things were done in those early times will have some effect in giving to you an idea of the terms and conditions under which we were practicing fifty years ago. They will also, gentlemen, give you some idea that the great men who have been before us, are the men to be followed in their profession by you, of the younger bar, who are coming on now to take the places of those gentlemen who have been for the last time before an earthly Court.

These young men have come to

Dragged-Down Feeling

In the loins. Nervousness, unrefreshing sleep, despondency.

It is time you were doing something. The kidneys were anciently called the reins—in your case they are holding the reins and driving you into serious trouble.

Hood's Sarsaparilla

Acts with the most direct, beneficial effect on the kidneys. It contains the best and safest substances for correcting and toning these organs.

the bar, all of them, and, if you will pardon me for saying it, a good many of them have been born since I came to the bar. I know them, of course I know them, and they know me. I want to repeat again that they have given me the greatest possible happiness in tendering to me this courtesy and their affection and confidence in me displayed here to night. They are gentlemen, as I know them, ready to take the places of those who have passed away, in knowledge, in judgment, in capacity, and that they need nothing more than the time and the experience to fit themselves for the bar.

Some of them, four of them at least, have already attained judicial honors. One of them has also been Senator. A half dozen or more have been members of the Lower House of Representatives at Harrisburg. And I haven't any doubt that the whole body seated here around me are willing to follow in the footsteps of their illustrious predecessors.

I might perhaps make one further remark in connection with that in a little matter of my own, which the Chairman has very courteously omitted to mention in his remarks, giving what I perhaps might properly call a descriptive catalogue of my career. But in the early days I got it into my head at a certain time that I would be first rate timber for the Legislature, and gave my friends in Columbia county to understand that that was my view of things, and desired them to take it into consideration. They did take it into consideration I think, and when the nominating convention came on in the Fall, almost unanimously they agreed that they could not spare me from Columbia county.

Well I stayed, and I am here yet. I think, gentlemen, I will take up no more of your time in any remarks; but I wish to add once more how very much I am gratified at this demonstration; how much I feel it; and I am certain that I can never forget your kindness and your confidence, and I thank you for your courtesy.

An Important Office

The Position of the County Commissioner is One of the Greatest Responsibility

The Philadelphia Press says editorially: In the interior counties of this state there are no more important officials to be elected this year than the three county commissioners. These officials make the contracts for county work, assess taxes and are responsible for the expenditures. Within the past few years scandals have attended the administration of affairs in a number of counties. Commissioners have not been wholly honest or they have been notoriously inefficient in the performance of their duties. Contracts have been made in which there was a rake off; county bonds have been sold without competitive bidding, the county losing the premium which could otherwise have been had; in several counties there has been unnecessary complication and costly delay in work on new courthouses; in others commissioners have charged and received pay for time they did not give to public service; in still others have commissioners have been before the bar of justice to answer serious charges. These are offices that in every county should be given to men of business experience and known integrity. They are about the last public places to be used for merely political purposes. Their duties are wholly of a business character. It is a matter of course that the candidates will be nominated by several parties, and that they will represent those parties, but they should be something more than just Republicans or Democrats. The citizens of every county should appreciate that in electing commissioners they are selecting men who will have the disposition of large sums of money and upon whom large responsibilities devolve. The fittest men for these offices are usually those who never seek them; men who have business affairs of their own and been successful in the management of them. When any such can be found to accept the county commissionership he should be chosen without hesitation.

The New York World gravely asks: "are pretty teachers best?" Homely old ladies will consider such a question ridiculous.

Bloomsburg Thursday, July 27

The Great SELLS and DOWNS United Shows.

THE MOST, ORIGINAL, MODERN Up-to-Date Amusement Enterprise on Earth.

Lofty in Conception, Regal in Equipment, Honorably Conducted, Truthfully Advertised. The **World's Best Circus Talent.**



The Immensity, Originality, Uniqueness and Novelty of this Show **EXCELLS ALL OTHER SHOWS.**

Not only in its exclusive features, Zoological Exhibitions and Horse Fair Displays, but in its **Great Trained Animal Department.**



Showing **REMARKABLE ACTS**, demonstrating the brute intelligence of Educated Elephants, Baboons, Monkeys, Dogs, Ponies, Goats, Pigs and Donkeys.

Sells & Downs' Circus Day Program:

- 10 a. m.—The Grand Street Parade. A unique combination of Glorious Street Carnival, Spectacular Street Fair, a Zoological Display, Horse Fair and Glittering Pageants.
- 1 and 7 p. m.—Doors Opened to the Immense Water Proof Tents.
- 1:15 and 7:15 p. m.—Prof. Neal's Concert Band of Renowned Soloist Musicians begin a 45-minute Grand Concert on the Center Stage.
- 1 and 8 p. m.—All-Feature Performance begins, comprising Multitudinous, overwhelming, Indescribable Gymnic, Acrobatic, Spectacular, Aerial, Trained Animal Hippodromatic Feats.

Low Excursion Rates on all Railroads to Bloomsburg July 27.

Special Prices Muslin Underwear.

All kinds reduced for a short time. Big variety now for first comers.

- 5.00 Gowns 3.95.
- 50c. Gowns 39 cents.
- 5.00 Skirts 3.95.
- 1.00 Skirts 84 cents.
- 50c. Drawers 42 cents.
- 50c. Corset Covers 42c.

All other kinds reduced in same proportion.



HALL'S VEGETABLE SICILIAN Hair Renewer
Renews the hair, makes it new again, restores the freshness. Just what you need if your hair is faded or turning gray, for it always restores the color. Stops falling hair, also.

Graft in Northumberland.

A Sunbury dispatch says: "Following closely upon the heels of the Schuylkill county graft reformation came news to day that a like sensation would be sprung in Northumberland County within the next few months, and that officials in high standing would be brought into the courts on serious charges."

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Shoes made of Good, Honest Material by Good Practical Shoemakers.

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