

Lancaster Intelligencer.

TUESDAY EVENING, APRIL 5, 1881.

Municipal Reform.

Philadelphia is, for the first time in many years, about to try the experiment of a non-partisan municipal government, in the executive branch ; and with its influence and that of the advanced reform sentiment reaching effectively into the councils, there will be a fair chance in all the departments for municipal reform to have a trial.

Majorities, elected outside of the regular party organizations and upon other issues than those which concern national parties, Philadelphia and other great cities of the country have had before. But in no instance which occurs to us was the issue so distinctly that of municipal reform as in that campaign out of which Mr. King's election to the mayoralty was the triumphant result. Mr. King is a Democrat, without evasion or turning, and he owes his election mainly to the Democratic voters of Philadelphia, but he has no right under the circumstances of his election and the obligations of his pledges to be a whit of a Democratic more than a Republican mayor—nor either for the matter of that. He gives evidence that he proposes to meet those obligations, by retaining all of Mayor Stokley's police who are worthy of retention on grounds of official fitness, making their tenure of office, however dependent upon rigid abstention from that prostitution of their office in political service, which has generally been characteristic of partisan police forces in large cities—notably so of Mayor Stokley's.

A non-partisan police force must necessarily be an initial step in municipal reform, since not only will filter men be selected for this service, but unfit men will be dismissed without regard to political considerations, and the time and ability of policemen can be exclusively devoted to their duties, instead of being diverted from them to the manipulation of primaries and the black-jacking of those who differ from them in their views of state and national politics. Moreover, a large police force, in the interest of an existing administration, is a powerful factor to defeat the will of the people after they had made up their mind to change it.

Mayor-elect King in his inaugural has a good word for other needed reforms in city government and throughout he declares for a non-partisan administration of it, by honest business men on honest business principles. He has the courage and the character to impress these things upon the city government of Philadelphia and if he succeeds he can be mayor as long as he wants the office.

But of much more account than to him or to Philadelphia will be the results of this experiment to the cause of good municipal government over the country. The awful growth of corporate indebtedness, the demoralization of the various departments, their waste of money and neglect of duty, and the dissoluteness of the police system generally, have made the people of the cities—tax-payers and renters have a common interest—earnest in their demands for reform, and the example of Philadelphia for good or evil is sure to be wide reaching.

And if this plan is to succeed in cities why not apply it to townships and counties? The cause of our political system is this remaining of local issues to national parties. Lines which run parallel should cross at right angles. The government of the country from Washington down, instead of from the ward and township up, is fatal to political honesty and purity of civil administration. What is needed is such independence and fairness as will induce the people of every community to elect their local officers and settle their local differences on local issues alone. Questions of national political or financial policy should have no more to do with the choice of mayors, school directors, councilmen, justices and supervisors than questions of religion. Everytime any concession is made to them in the choice of local officials the citizen sacrifices some of his self-respect, much of the common good and deals a blow at the integrity of our institutions.

THE PHILADELPHIA EVENING TELEGRAPH, so highly commended in the Senate by Mitchell—as a Democratic paper—speaks of Mahone as "a rebel brigadier, sitting on the Republican benches of the Senate of the United States, and resting in the bosom of a Republican president upon a pillow of flowers plucked from the government conservatory, with the arms of the Conkings and Hoars about him, and from that point of vantage boastfully proclaims his prowess as a rebel who battled for four years to destroy the Union which the Republicans saved with the most precious blood ever shed—boasting, too, of his efforts to induce his fellow rebels to repudiate at the present hour the debt of Virginia, chiefly and honestly due to Northern loyal creditors."

MR. CLARK, of Philadelphia, wants himself written down an ass on the records of the Pennsylvania Legislature. He yesterday introduced into the House a preamble and resolution lauding Mahone and eulogizing Cameron, and had read as part of his remarks the speech of Senator Cameron, lately read in the Senate. Mr. West moved to amend by adding after Mahone, Mr. Clark's name. Not agreed to. Mr. Bieri moved to attach "rebel brigadier and repudiator" to Mahone's name. The amendment was not received. Mr. Radiman opposed the whole thing, as sensational, and moved to commit the matter to the committee on federal relations. Mr. Brown, of Erie, said that when Mahone turned his back on the country and fought against the Union, he ought to be denounced, and he did not believe the resolutions expressed the sentiment of the people of the state. Mr. Clark then withdrew the resolution but not until after he was written down an ass.

PERSONAL. A "CARLEYLE LETTER" is to be founded at Edenburg university—on some such subject as history or German literature, as a memorial of the late writer.

It is reliably reported that GEORGE LONGSTREET is recalled to take the Georgia marshmanship, ex-Postmaster General Maynard, of Tennessee, will succeed him as minister to Turkey.

Disraeli has prepared his memoirs, which he means to entrust to his former secretary, Lord Rowton, not to be published until ten years after his death, when the pungent criticisms made on his contemporaries will strike less keenly on their descendants.

Prince Carlotta has obtained a decree of divorce against his obnoxious wife, Mrs. Countess Hertzfeld. Count HERBERT BISMARCK'S marriage with the divorced lady will soon take place. The count now appears to be reconciled with his father.

REVOLUTIONS do not go backward and if the dawn of municipal reform in Philadelphia is contemporaneous with the re-organization of the Democratic party there we have double cause for congratulation.

Is the firm of Sensenig, Geist & Johnson—general dealers in reform—to be enlarged by the admission of Slokom as a special partner?

MINOR TOPICS.

The Democratic candidate for mayor, Wm. Means, was elected by 1,200 majority in Cincinnati yesterday. Deacon Smith's paper was "fur'im."

The steamer Austrian, from Glasgow, shipped one hundred and twenty-three young men and women of the farming class at Galway Bay as emigrants for the United States. Preparations for emigration are being made throughout the country.

There is no place in the world under any government where so immense a revenue is paid as at the custom house in New York. A million of dollars in gold coin is not infrequently received in a single day, and the average for two thirds of the secular days of the year exceeds \$500,000. Those enormous duties are paid on imported articles that are consumed by 50,000,000 of American people.

OUR 13,000 federal officers in Maryland, Republicans of color hold only 39, and out of \$300,000 salary they only get \$30,000. To a delegation of this race complaining of these things, Garfield said: "I do not concur with any principle that excludes a man from public service because he is of one color or the other. I do not think the fact that a man is black entitles him to an office, or that a man should be placed in office because he is white. His qualifications for an office are, of course, the primary ground on which action ought to be had, and in so far as I can prevent the exclusion of people from their proper share of the functions of the government because of color I shall be very glad to do so."

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Mr. HORACE D. GAST, formerly of this city, has received the Republican nomination for city treasurer of Pueblo, Colorado. If the place was not such a Democratic stronghold he would have the pleasure before long of congratulating our friend upon his election to an important trust. As it is, Mr. Gast's nomination is a high compliment, and an indication of his popularity in his new Western home.

In Poughkeepsie, N. Y., yesterday Miss LILLA L. MORSE, youngest daughter of the late Professor Morse, and Mr. FRANZ RUTASKI, the eminent pianist, were married.

THE BRIDE wore white silk and satin, enriched with embroidery, beads and pearls. There was suspended over the bridal party a large bough, cut from a Marcechal Neil rose tree, heavily laden with buds. The presents were numerous and of rare beauty, not the least of which was a check for a large sum from Miss Moore's old friend, Samuel J. Tilden. After a collation Mr. and Mrs. Rummel started for Washington, where the German Ambassador will soon give a reception in their honor. They will sail in the steamship Main for their new home in England.

CHARGES AGAINST A MAYOR.

The administering of the oath to Mayor Rowe in Reading yesterday was accompanied with unusual scenes. Previous to the administering of the oath were presented charging the mayor-elect with having procured his election by unlawful means. The affidavits charge that shortly before the late municipal election, in which William G. Rowe was the Republican candidate for mayor, parties met at his place of business and arranged for certain considerations to carry their divisions for him. James C. Malston, the Democratic colored constable for the Tenth ward, swears that he promised to carry the ward for a keg of beer and the order for the beer was given him. Terence Shannon and several Democrats anxious to sell out Mayor Tyson were with him. Another man swears he was paid one dollar to vote for Rowe, the offer being made by the mayor-elect himself. There were several more affidavits, all of which charged Rowe with bribery. The affidavits were presented to counsel by George Rader, Democratic select councilman from Rowe's ward. The charges were read to Rowe before entering the joint convention. They made no impression on him, however, for a few minutes later he ordered that no affidavits be administered and he took it in the presence of a great crowd, who had come to see what he would do about the affidavits.

The next point against Rowe by the Democrats was objection to his bonds, which amounted to nothing, however. The convention adjourned with considerable bad feeling between the two parties. Some Democrats say that they will bring Rowe to the dust by entering a criminal prosecution against him. Select council elected William H. Kelley president and John L. Keppeler elected a committee of council James C. Getz president and George H. Felix clerk.

STATE ITEMS. The town council of Easton re-elected E. Henningway president, and D. W. Nevitt town clerk.

W. F. Jordan was yesterday inaugurated mayor of the growing city of Bradford, the metropolis of the "new oil dorado."

James Henry, colored, of Philadelphia, was struck upon the head with a brick and had his skull fractured by Braxton E. Henshaw, colored, on Sunday night at Twelfth and Pearl street.

Commissioner Saml Garrett, of Schuylkill, lately eminent for prosecuting embezzling commissioners has been arrested for failing to account for three \$100 bonds which he issued.

Erie's Vaudeville variety theatre has a "blinked" and a number of the artists are mourning the sudden departure of the prior troupe.

Mrs. Sarah Rodgers, aged 57 years, went into Murray's restaurant, Pottsville, Saturday night, drank two glasses of ale, and on being offered a third glass was seized with a violent attack of cholera, and expired several times, and died. Apoplexy.

Mr. H. E. Packer says that he will give \$25,000 toward a \$50,000 opera house in Mauch Chunk. Mr. Lafayette Leutz says he will give \$3,125. General Lilly says he will give \$5,000 toward an opera house if a room in it can be devoted to a library and reading room.

In the organization of the Pottsville borough council yesterday objection was made to the swearing in of Ephraim Phillips, a member-elect, on the ground of a violation of the election laws and conviction of a misdemeanor. It was ascertained that Phillips had been fined \$25 for the violation of the election laws and conviction of a misdemeanor. It was ascertained that Phillips had been fined \$25 for the violation of the election laws and conviction of a misdemeanor.

Violent squalls prevailed Saturday and Sunday in the vicinity of London. Many small boats were capsized, and the windmills were again in demand. Early seekers were capsize. Of the boats hired at Hammersmith on Saturday, eight have failed to return. It is thought that sixteen lives were lost. Four bodies have already been washed ashore. There are reports of a missing child, and Hammersmith for the missing.

Mrs. Louise Sargent, of Santa Rita, Cal., started alone on horseback to visit a neighbor. The horse was found sometime afterward grazing by the roadside, and upon search being made, the body of Mrs. Sargent was found buried near a sheep-herd's camp. She had overburdened her horse, and her head was crushed in. A Mexican shepherd was arrested on suspicion and is in danger of being lynched.

Maj. C. Maurice Smith fell from a buggy in Fort Royal, Va., and broke his neck. The cause of the accident was the sudden appearance of smoke and a cry of fire caused a panic among the audience, and a general rush for the street. The ushers threw open the doors, and the building was cleared in a few minutes, many of the audience losing eye glasses and articles of apparel, but none so far as known, suffering serious injury in the crash. The fire started in a closet in the basement, and was extinguished with little damage.

Cool-Headed People. Just before the beginning of the second act of "Felicity" in the Union Square theatre, New York, on Saturday night, the sudden appearance of smoke and a cry of fire caused a panic among the audience, and a general rush for the street. The ushers threw open the doors, and the building was cleared in a few minutes, many of the audience losing eye glasses and articles of apparel, but none so far as known, suffering serious injury in the crash. The fire started in a closet in the basement, and was extinguished with little damage.

Engene Bauer removed from the Excelsior saloon yesterday and took possession of the room recently occupied by Fred. Schoenberger, formerly at the Tremont house, has taken Mr. Bauer's old place, and Mr. Wehrle has gone to the Tremont. Dr. C. A. Greene has removed his office and consultation rooms from North Queen street, to No. 146 East King street.

LOCAL INTELLIGENCE.

BART ITEMS.

OUR GEORGETOWN CORRESPONDENCE. The first of April has passed and some of the terrors of poverty have lost their weight for at least a time, and not a few of Bart's citizens are no doubt relieved.

Mr. Arthur Armstrong fell from a load of "moving" a few days ago and was somewhat seriously injured, but at present is slowly improving. Arthur Thomas, of Green Tree, the coachmaker, has left Bart for a certainty this time, and gone across the river to York county. Many are the hearts that are sad since Arthur has left the township and no doubt some disappointed ones are looking with longing eyes to the westward.

The work on Martin & Fritz's tobacco warehouse goes steadily on, but has been delayed by the heavy frosts, the rough weather. The frame work is ready for raising, and in a few days the site of the burnt store will be covered with a more imposing building. John E. Draucker started with his tobacco to Lancaster on Saturday with quite a wagon train, he loaded light loads and it required eight two-horse teams to take his crop.

The sales of tobacco for the last week were not very large and some not fully ascertained. Martin & Fritz purchased of George Potts, 2 acres at 12 and 3; Jacob Leech, 3 acres at 12 and 3; Dilley & Rutter of J. G. Myers, 3 acres at 6 and 3; Robert Rea 3 acres; Isaac Gilliam, sold for 15, 5 and 3; Martin Pickel, 15, 6 and 3; Bentley, 14, 6 and 3; John Cain, sr., 8, 5 and 2.

OBITUARY.

Death of Rev. Charles Frederick William Hoppe. Rev. Charles Frederick William Hoppe, former pastor of Zion Lutheran church, this city, died at his residence in Rochester, N. Y., at noon on Monday, April 4, aged 37 years. Mr. Hoppe was born in Prussia, Germany, in 1844, and in that city studied both law and medicine. About the year 1851 he emigrated to America, and soon after commenced the study of theology, graduating at Gettysburg in 1853.

John D. Clinton is the most formidable opponent that Eaby has for clerk of quarter sessions. Dr. Gatchell runs for prothonotary to quarter sessions clerk may or may not help Fry. It is fatal to Settle.

The New Era people will support inter alia John Long for prison inspector, John Evans for poor director and Danny Shiffer for coroner. Give the old man a chance. They want to take Sammy for commissioner. So do the other side. Both are anxious; neither is quiet willing.

Catherine Lecher, wife of Anthony Lecher, died at the residence of her husband on South Line street this morning at 9 o'clock. She had been suffering for some time from dropsy and was thought to be better this morning. She was suddenly taken worse, however, and at the hour of her death she breathed her last.

Winter continues to linger in the lap of Spring. The mercury this morning fell below 20. Water standing in vessels in exposed places last night was covered this morning with ice an inch in thickness. Some of the stores pointed by Jack and Frost as nicely as they were in January. The wheel houses at the water works are clogged with frost and ice giving the building a decidedly wintry appearance.

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Yesterday August Nutto and family removed into the residence of their father, street between Lemon and James. In the evening they were surprised by the appearance of a party of their friends, numbering twenty-five couples or more, each of whom carried a basket stored with delicacies of all kinds, and, "with a leave of absence," took possession of the household and a banquet, "fit to set before a king," and after the good things had been liberally sampled, passed the evening in music and dancing. About a dozen members of the Mémorber dropped in during the evening and shared in the festivities, which were greatly enjoyed by all present.

Cornets Presented. Yesterday afternoon Messrs. D. N. Martin, J. G. and Geo. Fralm, members of the City band, in behalf of a number of liberal contributors presented their leader, Daniel Clemmens, and George A. Martin each with a silver E flat cornet. The instruments were manufactured by C. G. Conn, of Elkhart, Ind., and were obtained through the agency of Alex. McKillips, of this city. Mr. Clemmens' instrument is gold finished while the other is plain silver. The presentation speech was made by D. N. Martin in his best style. The instruments are on exhibition in the Cornet and Brass window and attract much attention.

Death of a Pair of Horses. A West Chester paper of last evening says: "On Saturday morning a Lancaster drove a pair of fine match horses to Conoverville, where he stopped, took dinner and fed his horses. After a short time he drove on toward Philadelphia and when near a tench, opposite George W. Jacob's buildings in West Whiteland township, one of the horses dropped dead in the road. The man procured a single set of harness and while on his way back to Downingtown the other horse dropped dead in the shafts when near the Belvidere store. The horses were high-priced animals and were valued at \$200. The cause of the horses' death is unknown. They did not show signs of hard driving."

Tobacco in Chester County. The Kennet Square Advance says: "Kennett witnessed a new activity last week. Every day wagon loads of tobacco passed through our streets in the direction of Lery's warehouse, and some of these teams came long distances, some of them, we noticed, as far away as Bart, Lancaster county, and any number from the upper end of Delaware."

Sale of Auctioneers, sold at public sale, April 4, 1881, at the Merriman House, Lancaster, Pa., for George Grossman, 18 head of Canada horses, at an average of \$178.24. The highest sold at \$351 for the pair.

Mayor's Court. This morning the mayor gave one drunk 30 days and two others 5 days each. One paid his costs and was discharged.

THE POLITICAL OUTLOOK.

Based on Activity in Republican Circles. The politicians who are arranging for the Republican primaries in May were very active yesterday, and the spirit which pervaded the best workers told very plainly that the first of April business once being disposed of there is to be no let-up in the hot contest that will grow in intensity from now until the day of political settlement. It is very certain that the new and startling combinations, on either side, of those who have hitherto been at daggers' points which have been outlined, are forming and will abide to the end. The spectacle of Lery, Sensenig and E. Frank Eshleman on the one side and Brother Geist is especially harrowing to Commodore Hiestand and he has tried to ridicule, coax and threaten the old Bull Ring leader into a dissolution of the untidy alliance.

The Eberlys are safe in the fold ; it is claimed that Ben Wissler, Fred Smith and Jack Weiss want to get there—that even Squire Slokom is resting on the top rail of the fence, to see where his position lies. A new element is introduced into the canvass for sheriff by the candidacy of Col. David Miles. His announcement looks as though it had some purpose other than his own success. He cannot win. He has been registered. He may hurt somebody but he will not see whom most. Certainly not High's strength is solid and the more candidates are run the more the opposition to him will be divided.

The prothonotary contest remains the centre of the battle. The vote between Eaby and Skiles will give the ruling strength of the factions. Each has strong personal following, but the factions will divide on them, as factions, more distinctly than any other office. Dr. Compton was getting in his work among the farmers yesterday. Umble was being rivaled by Settle, as usual, as the second or third candidate. Wissler will be on one of the slates, either Compton or Umble on the other. Either side would be glad to take Wissler, each claim him. Johnson prefers Compton and Eaby if the New Era party can secure the dusty miller they will consider their ticket complete.

For clerk of orphan court Keener and Spruill divide the leadership of the race. Alderman Spurrer was ranging on Barbary Coast for the first time yesterday. It may be set down that Spruill will be on the Ezemmer slate. Dr. Gatchell runs Sourber and John R. Smith is stumping for himself. n. g. Reeser is expected to swing in the east end for the New Era party.

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TOBACCO.

The State of the Leaf Trade. The past week has not been quite so lively a one as a few days that preceded it, and yet a great deal of tobacco has been bought and large quantities delivered at the city and country warehouses. There is a great difference of opinion to what the prices will be for the half of the crop yet unsold. Farmers are unanimous, we believe, that prices must come down for two substantial reasons: First, because a great proportion of the unsold crop is flea-bitten or injured by white vein; and second, because the dealers have already been pretty well supplied while fully half of the crop remains unsold. On the other hand the farmers who still hold their crops say that prices will be maintained if they do not advance.

First, because many farmers were compelled to sell for less than their tobacco was worth in order to raise money to meet their list of April engagements; and second, because most of those who still hold their crops and have weathered the 1st of April are able to hold on to them until there is no more active demand. As to white vein and flea bite, while they certainly reduce the value of the crop, they do not, they say, the buyers have exaggerated the extent of the evil, and they hold to day as good tobacco as was ever grown in the country. They profess to believe, too, that there never has been for many years so much good tobacco, as superabundance of good seed land, and long as there is a demand for it, Lancaster county tobacco, being the best, will have to sell.

Our Washington borough correspondent sends us the date of April 4, writes as follows: "There is a growing feeling in the tobacco business in this section at present. Buyers are scarce and farmers do not feel like sacrificing their crops. With the 1st of April past, I think that buyers of the weed will find the farmers less disposed to be 'cheap' than they were some days ago. The Era in reporting that William Ortman of this place raised 2,900 pounds of tobacco per acre, has made quite an error which can very easily be shown. If tobacco is planted 23 inches apart on the row, and the rows are 3 feet apart, there can be but 4,680 plants on each acre of ground, and 17,000 plants as the Era stated would show no less than 3-5 acres of ground, or an average weight of not more than 2,400 pounds per acre; the error is in estimating 5,500 plants for one acre, which, when planted as far apart, will require more than an acre, or as has been suggested one of those acres 'measured with a fox and the tail thrown in,' so the next time you hear of 2,900 pounds of tobacco from one acre of ground, you will know the kind of acre."

We understand that ex-Assemblyman J. L. Shuman has been engaged to purchase tobacco for Messrs Bonsof & Co. If the above proves to be true, we must compliment the firm in procuring the services of one who is so well qualified for the position; raised at a distance from the country, and noted for the size and quality of its tobacco, and having had "to do" with it from his boyhood it would be absurd to think that his ability to judge the weed would not rank among the best."

Our New Providence correspondent sends us the following list of leaf tobacco delivered to John Hildebrand on the 2d inst.: J. M. Miller, 1 acre, 10 and 3; Jessie Shaub, 2 acres, 12, 4 and 3; Joseph Shaub, 1 1/2 acres, 12, 5 and 3; Rudy Shaub, 1 acre, 17, 5 and 3; Ephraim Shaub, 1 acre, 13, 5 and 3; Benjamin Rowe, 4 acres, 13, 5 and 3; Leonard Rowe, 1 acre, 17, 6, 5 and 3; Mrs. Snyder, 4 acres, 15 and 3; Joseph Miller, 4 acres, 13, 4 and 2; John Barter, 1 acre, 16, 5 and 3; John Rowe, jr., 1 acre, 8, 4 and 2; John Rowe, sr., 3 acres, 13, 5 and 3; Peter Snyder, 4 acres, 8, 4 and 2; Lenoir Mower, 1 acre, 10, 4 and 3; Isaac Erb, 6 acres, 16, 4 and 2; John Seales, 1 acre, 10 and 3; David Huss, 1 acre, 12, 4 and 2; William Wentz, 3 acres, 17, 5 and 3; Emery Zell, 1 acre, 13, 6 and 3; Isaac Zell, 1 acre, 15, 5 and 3; Lewis Zell, through Elam Bleacher, 1 acre, 15, 5 and 3; Heaps & Armstrong, 3/4 acre, 7 round, Mrs. Heaps, 1 acre, 15, 3 and 3.

Our correspondent also notes that Mr. Hildebrand refused to receive the crop of Henry Schweitzer because he thought it did not pay out at all. He is of the opinion that Bunzl & Dumceter refused to receive the crop of J. P. Andrews for the same alleged reason.

The following lists among many others have been delivered in this city within a few days of the date of the crop of Marjie, to Mr. Falman at 15, 5 and 3; Lawrence East Hempfield, to same at 15, 5 and 3; H. R. Cassell, of Upho, to same at 24, 10 and 3; W. S. Gable, of Warwick, to Sellers at 18, 6 and 3; Emil Shirk of Warwick, to same at 15, 6 and 3; Samuel Mowbray, to same at 15, 6 and 3; David McPherson, of Chester county, to C. G. Herr, at 15, 7 and 3.

Elwood Eager, of Leaman Place, sold 1 acre to Becker Bros., for 15, 5 and 3; Robt. Eager sold 2 acres to same parties at same prices.

FIRE. Geo. W. Brown's Undertaking establishment burned out. Last evening between 8 and 9 o'clock the one-story brick building in East Vine street near Christian's occupation, owned by W. Brown as an undertaking establishment, was discovered to be on fire and in less than an hour was, together with its contents a mass of ruins.

The building belonged to the Swedenborgian or that Christian congregation of this city, and was built and for many years used as a place of worship, but for several years past has been used as an undertaking and cabinet manufacturing, first by Henry Swentzell and afterwards by Mr. Brown. There was no insured property on the building, which was worth perhaps not more than \$500 or \$600.

The contents of the building, which belonged to Mr. Brown, consisted of nearly one hundred coffins, of all sizes and styles, finishes and materials, wood and metal; a full set of undertaker's tools, nearly one hundred camp stools, a great variety of patterns, two preservers, one of which cost \$85; breast-pans, ornamental pedestals covered with black cloth, palls, flower-stands, trunks, undertaker's hardware, including coffin-handles, plates, screws, &c., lumber, veneers, paints, varnishes, &c., &c. Mr. Brown estimates the loss of stock at not less than \$1,600, on which he has an insurance of \$700 in the Universal insurance company of Philadelphia, of which Mr. Charles E. Wentz is local agent. He has no insurance on his fixtures, valued at \$50.

Mr. Brown saved his books and papers, but almost lost his life in doing so, as the heavy portico in front of the building fell with a crash within a few inches of him, and he was attempting to force open the window of the office, when the books and papers were kept.

It is not known positively how the fire originated. Mr. Brown says he believes it commenced in the northwest corner of the room near the window, and supposes it was set on fire, as there was nothing in that part of the room liable to take fire from spontaneous combustion. The partitions of the building being of pine boards and the greater part of the contents being of seasoned lumber, the fire spread rapidly and burned for some time, but only a very few articles were saved.

The firemen were promptly on the ground and prevented the flames from spreading to adjoining buildings.

The fire plugs in Christian street between King and Vine, and broken in the way while the fire was burning, and the water from one of the mains had to be shut off for a time. A new plug will be put in as soon as possible.