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THE MASONIC CENTENNIAL.

THE GREAT BANQUET OF LODGE 43. ANCIENT YORK MASONS.

Nearly Four Hundred Members of the Order Assemble in the Lodge Room, March to Maennerchor Hall and Hold a Banquet—Some of the Toasts.

There was a large gathering of Masons in their hall on West King street, Tuesday afternoon, where and when the formal literary exercises of the centennial celebration of Lodge No. 43, A. Y. M., were to take place. Most of the old members of the lodge, from town and country, and some who had come afar, were on hand, together with many visitors and invited guests who are members of sister lodges in this and other states. Among those were to be noticed representatives from the following lodges:

Montgomery, No. 19, Philadelphia Lodge 51, of Philadelphia; Washington, No. 156, Drumore Centre; York, No. 266, York; Bellefonte, No. 268, Bellefonte; Mountain, No. 281, Altoona; Columbia, No. 286, Columbia; Melita, No. 295, Philadelphia; Barger, No. 333, Allentown; Goddard, No. 383, Coatesville; Apollo, No. 386, Philadelphia; Perkins, No. 402, Philadelphia; Robert Burns, No. 464, Harrisburg; Lamberton, No. 476, Lancaster; Union, No. 479, Morgantown; Casiphia, No. 551, Mount Joy; Trenton, No. 5, Trenton, N. J.; Mercer, No. 50, Trenton, N. J.; Ashlar, No. 75, Trenton, N. J.; Columbia, No. 129, Trenton, N. J.; Eureka, No. 82, Concord, N. H.; Lafayette, No. 111, Baltimore, Md.; Lowville, No. 134, Lowville, N. Y.

THE ADDRESS OF WELCOME.

After a prayer by Rev. Pratt, of St. John's P. E. parish, Worshipful Master J. L. Lyte, in the chair, delivered the following address of welcome:

Brethren of Lodge 43, Free and Accepted Masons—This special meeting has been called to celebrate the centennial anniversary of our lodge. One hundred years ago, on the 21st day of April, 1785, the Right Worshipful Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania, in extra session assembled, considered "a petition from a number of brethren from the borough of Lancaster, praying for a warrant," and directed that the "Secretary prepare a warrant, No. 43, with the name of Stephen Chambers, Master, John Doyle, S. W., and Henry Stuber, J. W.," by this act creating a Lodge that has an uninterrupted existence of a century, and to-day stands upon the threshold of its second century, full of life, vigor and hope. It is highly gratifying to the officers of lodge 43, that so much interest has been manifested by its members in this meeting and so many brethren are here to participate in its exercises on this anniversary occasion.

Brethren, members of the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania, and of the various subordinate Lodges, who are here to join with us in these exercises, in the name and on behalf of Lodge No. 43, I extend to you a welcome, a cordial Masonic welcome, to this the centennial anniversary of the lodge.

This is an interesting and important meeting in the history of Lodge 43, and the members are to be congratulated that the lodge that was organized by a few Masons a hundred years ago, has outlived the gnawing tooth ten decades, and is now in the full tide of Masonic prosperity, with hundreds of members, a neatly furnished hall, a well filled exchequer, and a standing second to none in the jurisdiction of the grand lodge of Pennsylvania.

A century ago when Lodge No. 43 was organized, our country had just passed through the thrilling events of the Revolution. Two years before, in 1783, the Continental army was disbanded, and on the first roll of members of this lodge are the names of those who joined in the war for independence. Our beloved Brother General Washington, took his seat as president of the United States four years after this lodge was organized. The federal constitution became the law of the new republic of the United States, in 1789, so that warrant of Lodge 43, is four years older than the constitution of our nation.

Its century of existence is full of Masonic history, and a record of its struggles and triumphs would make a volume. It passed safely through the anti-Masonic period, when ignorance, superstition, jealousy and uncharitableness waged a cruel war against an order founded on Truth, Justice, Toleration, Brotherly Love, Charity, and a firm and full belief in the existence of a Supreme Being, and threw our country into a political revolution that lifted anti-Masonic officers into places of the highest rank and power in the state.

It has numbered among its members many of every degree and station in life. A president of the United States, a governor, a United States senator, a judge of the supreme court, ministers to foreign countries, mayors, and many other of the most prominent citizens of our beautiful and prosperous inland city, have stood in the Worshipful master's station in the east, and with justice and equity ruled a lodge of which it might be truly said:

"We meet upon the level, though from every station come,
The rich man from his palace and the poor man from his home;
For the rich must leave his wealth and state, outside the Mason's door,
And the poor man finds his best respect, upon the checkered floor."

A sketch of the history of the lodge will be given by Brother George R. Welchans, P. M., and to this I invite your attention, knowing that the account he will read of the notable events in the life of the lodge, will be both instructive and interesting.

I trust, too, that all the exercises of the afternoon, and the banquet that follows this evening, will be fully enjoyed by every one.

And now, with the hearty wish that the close of the second century, will find Lodge 43, as happy and as prosperous as the close of the first, and the earnest prayer that the blessings of our beloved fraternity maywiden as "the thoughts of men are widened with the process of the suns," I again bid you, brethren, welcome, thrice welcome to our festivities.

Centennial History of the Lodge.

Brother George R. Welchans, P. M., then read an abstract of the centennial history of the lodge, the following comprising the main features of his paper:

One hundred years ago, this now prosperous city of 30,000 inhabitants was a borough containing from 3,000 to 4,000 people, residing mainly in small plain houses, and surrounded by the limited conveniences of those early times. This rural hamlet, though denied the pomp and splendor, the wealth and grandeur of the oriental cities, yet was not without its seven good and wise men; for among this 3,000 or 4,000 people were to be found seven good and true brother masons.

These seven brothers were Stephen Chambers, Solomon Etting and Henry Dering, past masters; and John Doyle, Henry Stuber, Adam Hubley, jr., and William Feltman, master masons. All of them were highly respected and honored citizens, and most of them had been officers in the Revolutionary army.

Stephen Chambers was a soldier and a lawyer. He served with distinction as captain in 12th Pennsylvania regiment in the Revolution. He was a leading lawyer at the Lancaster bar. He fought a duel with Dr. Riger, May 11, 1788, was wounded and died five days afterwards.

Solomon Etting was commissary of prisoners during the Revolution. He was afterward a merchant and Indian trader. He was a man of sterling integrity and was loved and respected by all who knew him.

Henry Dering was burgess and chief burgess of the borough of Lancaster and a member of the legislature.

John Doyle was a captain in the 1st and 6th Pennsylvania regiments. He distinguished himself at the battle of Green Springs.

Adam Hubley, jr., was a very prominent officer of the Revolutionary army. He was a lieutenant in De Haas' 1st Pennsylvania batallion in 1775; Major in 1776 and subsequently lieutenant colonel of the 10th Pennsylvania regiment, and on June 5, 1779, was made lieutenant commandant of the new 11th Pennsylvania regiment of the Continental line. He enjoyed confidential relations with Washington, Lafayette, Wayne and other high officers. He was a member of the legislature and state Senate.

Wm. Feltman was a lieutenant in the 1st and 2d Pennsylvania regiments, also paymaster in the 10th regiment.

Such was the character of the seven brother Masons who honored the borough of Lancaster as citizens in the early part of the year 1785.

These seven brothers, separated by many miles from their respective lodges and feeling the need of fraternal communion, determined to organize a Masonic lodge in their place of residence, and accordingly made application to the Provincial grand lodge, meeting in the city of Philadelphia, for a charter. On the evening of April 21, 1785, just 100 years ago to-night, the grand lodge in an extra communication, granted them a warrant, "No. 43," with Stephens Chambers named as worshipful master, John Doyle senior warden, and Henry Stuber, junior warden, for a lodge to be holden in the borough of Lancaster, or within five miles of the same. On July 14, following, R. W. Grand Master William Adcock, esq., issued a dispensation, authorizing and empowering brother P. M. Solomon Etting to install the officers named in the warrant as the officers of lodge No. 43. Accordingly on the evening of Sept. 14, 1785, the seven before mentioned brethern assembled at the public house of Frederick Hubley, which was situated on the southeast corner of South Queen and Vine streets, and then and there formally constituted lodge No. 43.

Lodge No. 43 is the seventh oldest lodge now working under the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania. Those of greater age being Nos. 2, 3 and 9, of Philadelphia; 21, of Harrisburg; 22, of Sunbury; and 25, of Bristol.

The lodge continued to meet at the public house of Frederick Hubley until February, 1788, when it was removed to the public house of Thomas Edwards (now the Fountain Inn). In August of the same year they returned to their first place of meeting, the house being then kept by Geo. Ross. The following January the lodge was removed to the public house of Matthias Slough, which was situated on the southeast corner of South Queen street and Penn Square, the present site of the *New Era* building. In 1792 the place of meeting was changed to the residence of John Julian Sonnet, and 1793, to the "Bull's Head," kept by Leonard Eicholtz, and situated on the southeast corner of East King and Christian streets. Here the meetings were held until January, 1800, when the lodge again removed to the Edward's hotel (now Fountain Inn). In September of the same year the new Masonic hall being completed, it was occupied by the lodge.

In October, 1803, the lodge rooms were rented to the comptroller and register generals, and the lodge was removed to the "Indian King," kept by Robert Wilson, and situated on the S. W. corner of South Queen and German streets, where the meetings were held until June 14, 1809, when the last removal was made to Masonic hall, and where the meetings were held for the past 76 years.

In the year 1798, an agreement was entered into between the lodge and borough authorities, to build jointly the market house and lodge rooms. This building was finished in the early part of the year 1800. One of the lodge rooms was for many years used by the corporation. The rooms were also used for holding the county courts, for the meetings of the Philharmonic Musical society; also for parties, balls and exhibitions. The reception and ball which was given to General Lafayette, on the occasion of his visit to Lancaster, in July, 1825, was held in this hall.

Some of the most prominent men in the history of our county and state were members and held official positions in our lodge; among them we note the following: Matthias Barton, an able lawyer, member of the legislature and state senate, a student of natural history and mineralogy, a man of superior culture, and one of the ablest men in Pennsylvania.

Hon. Charles Smith, LL. D., a leading lawyer, member of the legislature and state senator, and president judge of the Ninth district, and afterwards president judge of the court of Lancaster city and county.

Hon. J. Bannister Gibson, LL. D., an able lawyer, member of the legislature, president judge of the Eleventh judicial district, associate justice of the supreme court, and finally chief justice of the supreme court. He was R. W. Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania in 1824-1825. General Jeremiah Mosher served under Arnold in the attempt to storm Quebec, served in the American army until the close of the Revolution, was wounded at Valley Forge in 1778.

Wm. Kirkpatrick was a wealthy merchant, president of the Columbia bank, was one of the incorporators of nearly all the turnpike companies running into Lancaster. He was a man of the strictest integrity, and was one of the most active and useful members of Lodge No. 43 for many years. Hon. Molton C. Rogers was a prominent and eminent lawyer, state senator in 1819, secretary of the commonwealth under Governor Shultz, and a justice of the supreme court in 1851. John Reynolds was the editor of the *Journal*, the leading paper of Lancaster county at that time; he was a member of the legislature; he was the father of Gen. John F. Reynolds, Rear Admiral William Reynolds, and Gen. James L. Reynolds.

George B. Porter was a leading lawyer at the Lancaster bar, and in the front rank in his profession; he was prothonotary in 1818; adjutant general of the state in 1824; member of the legislature, and governor of Michigan Territory.

Hon. James Buchanan, a lawyer in the front rank of his profession, member of the legislature, representative to Congress, United States minister to Russia, United States senator, secretary of state, United States minister to England and fifteenth president of the United States. George H. Whitaker, Thos. Jeffries, Henry Keffer, Ebenezer Wright, all were men of prominence, ability and social standing.

These fathers, having enacted their parts in life's drama, were laid away to rest and their spirits winged their flight to join the Great Architect in the Grand Lodge above, it is fitting that we, the children of another generation, should resurrect their memories to-day, that they might be with us in spirit upon this joyous occasion.

The lodge passed through many trials and difficulties, and it was only in the latter third of the century that she became prosperous and able to extend the practical charity for which she is justly noted. In 1820 to 1822 she took the initial steps in a reform movement in this jurisdiction, which shook the very foundation of the Masonic structure in this state; and, although in her zeal, she went so far as to have her charter suspended for a period of five weeks, yet her efforts resulted in much good to the craft.

In 1828 to 1838, she passed through the anti-Masonic craze, and although her influence and usefulness was for a time arrested, and for a period of twenty months no meetings could be held, yet she came through this fiery ordeal unscathed, and from this date acquired renewed vigor, which soon led to her age of prosperity. All honor to the brethren who upheld the lodge through these trying times. With unwearying devotion they anxiously watched its flickering spark of life, and when almost extinct, fanned it into renewed existence. We here reverently and with fraternal gratitude, call the roll of honor: Henry Keffer, Thomas Jeffries, Arthur Toner, Philip Reitzel, Alexander Miller, Thomas Barry, Elijah McLenegan, George R. Withers, Robert Moderwell. Not one is here to answer to roll call. They have long since finished their pilgrimage here below and have gone to their rewards. But they have left us this inheritance—our beloved lodge, saved by their unwearying efforts and devotion. But for them we would not be here to-day to celebrate this centennial anniversary.

The Masonic hall was subjected to numerous improvements and changes in the 85 years of its existence. The first change of importance was in 1827, when the partition between the two rooms was removed and the hall repaired. In 1850 a lot 16 feet front by 40 feet deep, adjoining the hall on the west, was purchased from the city and a three-story building erected thereon. The first story then and still used as a store room, and the other two floors for lodge purposes. The old entrance back of the postoffice was abandoned and a new entrance made at the west end facing on Market square. The lodge room was also enlarged by removing the partition between it and a long entry way which ran along the entire north side of the building.

In 1879 $3,500 was expended in improvements, which made this hall one of the handsomest in the state. In September, 1884, the new entrance on West King street was commenced and finished in February of this year. This stairway has no superior in Pennsylvania. Lodge No. 43 is the mother of nearly every lodge meeting in Lancaster county.

During the 100 years of her existence 1,085 members have been initiated, and 106 admitted, making a grand total of 1,191 members. The present active membership is 269. The lodge has had 75 worshipful masters, 24 of whom are living at the present time. She furnished ten of the fourteen district deputy grand masters who have officiated in this district, while two of the remaining four were formerly members of the lodge.

The oldest living member of the lodge is Brother Christian Gast, who was made Mason January 10, 1838. The oldest living past master is Brother J. Henry Brown, who was master from 1844 to 1845. He withdrew from the lodge in 1849. Brother Chas. E. Wentz is the oldest past master now an active member. Brother Chas. A. Heinitsh has been treasurer of the lodge for fifteen years. Brother Hugh S. Gara has served as secretary for twenty years. Brother Christian Widmyer has served as trustee for twenty-seven years. Brother John Rees has served as trustee for twenty-five years and Brother George Lutz has delivered the notices and tyled the lodge for twenty-seven years. The value of the lodge property and investments is $34,000 to $35,000.

Our work is ended. Step by step we have traced the progress of our lodge from the days of its conception, through its dependent infancy, through its hopeful youth to its present vigorous maturity. Through all its struggles, trials and difficulties, through all its successes and triumphs until today, with the weight of a century upon her shoulders, she stands out bright and conspicuous; second to none in her devotion to the principles of our order, in her fidelity to the Grand Lodge, under whom she has her being, and in her usefulness and importance among her sister lodges in this jurisdiction. Thus we find her to-day as she enters upon the second century of her existence, and we bid her god-speed in her upward progress to scenes of brighter glories and deeds of greater usefulness. Great names and great events lie buried in her dead past, but they have "left footprints upon the sands of time," and the memory of them lives to-day to stimulate the present and to ennoble and glorify the future.

Impromptu Addresses.

Further pleasant addresses were made by Clifford P. McCalla, senior grand warden; Thos. R. Patten, treasurer of the grand lodge; W. A. Sinn, grand tyler; Chas. E. Meyer, grand secretary, and past grand high priest; and by Rev. Henry Baker, of Mountain lodge, Altoona, now a resident of Lancaster; by Past Masters Chas. M. Howell, W. A. Atlee and J. P. Wickersham.

An Old Notice.

One of the interesting features of the occasion was the presentation to the lodge, to be hung upon the walls of its chamber, by J. Henry Brown, who was the master in 1844-45, of a framed copy of a notice for a lodge meeting in 1792. It is plainly printed and well preserved, and it is notable that the hour of meeting in those days was 6 p. m. A note appended tells that Mr. Brown received it from Jacob Albright, who was worshipful master in 1838-40.

THE EVENING BANQUET.

A Feast of Reason and a Flow of Soul at the Maennerchor Hall.

After the private meeting of Lodge No. 43, A. Y. M., in the rooms of the Masonic hall on Tuesday afternoon there were no further ceremonies until the members and their guests assembled at 7 p. m., in the central hall to proceed to the centennial banquet. At an early hour in the evening the throng began to assemble and by 7:30 p. m., the rooms were crowded, it seemed, to their utmost capacity. The beautiful new staircase was the cynosure of much attention and of universal admiration; and the concourse that ascended it and crowded the hall was very largely made up of visiting brethren from the country and remoter districts. At 7:45 p. m., to the music of the band, the line was formed, and about four hundred members of the order, nearly all wearing high hats, but distinguished by no other regalia or uniform, marched up North Queen street, and to Maennerchor hall, through crowded streets and sidewalks. Arriving at the hall they grouped themselves around the well-spread tables. The stage was set with scenery and a mass of blooming plants, behind which Thorbahn's orchestra discoursed sweet music, while the guests inspected the following:

MENU.

"Read o'er this;
And after, this, and then to feast with
What appetite you have."

SHREWSBERRY OYSTERS, ON HALF SHELL.

SNAPPER SOUP. PURÉE OF CLAM.

COLUMBIA SHAD. FRENCH FRIED POTATOES.

Of the various fishes that come from the sea,
There are none so fit to be had,
And none that's so juicy and toothsome to me,
As a nice baked Columbia shad.

ROAST BEEF. ROAST MUTTON. ROAST CHICKEN.
HAM. BEEF TONGUE. SPICED OYSTERS.

HAMMONDSPORT SEC. SPECIAL "CENTENNIAL" VINTAGE.

"Give me a bowl of wine,
In this I bury all unkindness."

FRIED OYSTERS. SARATOGA POTATOES.
LOBSTER SALAD. CHICKEN SALAD.

"Small cheer and great welcome,
Makes a merry feast."

VANILLA ICE CREAM.
ORANGES. BANANAS. APPLES. NUTS.
FRENCH COFFEE.

(JOHN COPLAND, Caterer.)

REGULAR TOASTS.

"My tongue within my lips I rein,
For who talks much must talk in vain."

1. The Right Worshipful Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania.
2. Masonry Around the World.
3. Our Centennial.
4. Our Sister Lodges.
5. Bro. George Washington.
6. The Ladies.

And nature swears, the lovely dears
Her noblest work she classes O;
Her prenticed hand she tried on man,
And then she made the lasses O.
—*Bro. Robert Burns.*

Song—"Auld Lang Syne."

THE FLOW OF SOUL.

Past Master and ex-Grand Commander B. F. Breneman, chairman of the committee of arrangements for the centennial celebration, presided at the central board, around which were grouped the other past masters, certain of the local clergy who are members of the order, the officers of the grand lodge and other distinguished guests.

Rev. Dr. J. Y. Mitchell offered prayer and the material feast had progressed through several courses when Maj. Breneman rapped the company to order and, after explaining the absence of the senior members of the grand lodge, introduced Clifford P. McCalla, editor of *The Keystone* and *The Church*, and grand senior warden, who responded most happily to the first toast. He explained the absence of his seniors and their regrets; and fittingly referred to the antiquity of the order and the 155 years history of the grand lodge of Pennsylvania.

A number of letters were read by Mr. Gara from invited guests unable to be present; and Rev. Dr. Mitchell read a poem written for the occasion:

CENTENNIAL LINES.

[Written by Rob. Morris, Poet-Laureate of Free-Masonry.]

How the souls of friends departed
Hover o'er the joyful scene!
Tender, brave and faithful-hearted
They have left their memory green:
Could we see them,
Smiles on every face were seen.

As they view our gladsome meeting,
It recalls a thousand joys;
As they hear our cheerful greeting
'Tis to them a glorious voice:
'Tis the echo
Of one hundred years of joys.

One by one the loved ones perished,
But they left the chain still wound;
Every virtue that they cherished
Here is found as here they found;
Thus in Heaven,
Blessed souls with ours are bound.

So shall we, though long departed,
When an hundred years are sped,
Join the brave and faithful-hearted,
Who around this Lodge shall tread,
And our memories
Shall be cherished here, though dead.

W. A. Wilson, esq., was greeted with enthusiastic cheers when he arose to respond to the toast of "Masonry Around the World," and his references to the universality of the order as he had experienced it in Europe, and his prospect of the next centennial of No. 43 drew out deserved applause.

Bro. Andrew J. Kauffman sang his "I'm Going Back to Dixie," while the rest of the assembly rapturously joined in the chorus.

Dr. J. P. Wickersham spoke eloquently for "Our Centennial," of Masonry here and abroad, and of the glorious history of Lodge No. 43.

B. Frank Eshleman, esq., was drafted to speak for "Our Sister Lodges," and with characteristic felicity, he referred to the sisters and daughters of the local organization and the happy relations which existed between them and the venerable lodge in whose centennial all rejoiced and in whose second like celebration all hoped to participate.

A toast to the memory of "Brother George Washington," who was once a visitor to and guest of No. 43, was offered and drank by the company—standing and in silence.

W. U. Hensel then responded in behalf of those outside the order, and to the toast, "The Ladies."

Volunteer toasts were responded to by A. C. Reinohl, Chas. E. Wentz, Hon. D. P. Rosenmiller, mayor; Geo. R. Welchans, Dr. H. Carpenter, Jere. R. Rohrer, D. M. Boffenmyer, W. J. Fordney, W. A. Morton, J. A. M. Passmore, Dr. J. R. Morris and others. Prof. Thorbahn played a solo and it was after midnight when the company dispersed to the grand chorus of "Auld Lang Syne," from hundreds of voices.

The whole affair was a signal success, due largely to the splendid management of the committee and the happy tact of the toast master, Major Breneman. Mr. Copland, caterer, very successfully managed the details of the banquet, and Jere Rohrer vindicated the excellence of the American vintage in his supply of "Golden Age," and "Hammondsport Sec," both of which gave the highest satisfaction to those who participated in one of the most brilliant banquets ever given in Lancaster.

The "special vintage" of the wines was a happy idea, conceived by Mr. Rohrer, and carried out by a handsome label, printed in gold and crimson, with the dates "A. D. 1785—A. L. 5785;" "A. D. 1885—A. L. 5885," and "Lodge 43 F. & A. M." "Centennial" and Mr. R's trade marks well displayed. Two of these labels crossed and a centre piece were pasted on every bottle of wine.

Old Masonic Badges.

J. M. Westhaeffer has several old Masonic badges. The first is the chapter mark of Frederick Hubley, who was the first master mason of Lodge No. 43. It was gold-plated and contains the emblem of the order with the name of the owner and the date 1815. This mark was found in an old lodge house, which was torn down on North Prince street a dozen years ago. It was afterwards purchased from a boy by Mr. Westhaeffer. Another badge is of silver and belonged to John Landis, the late museum manager of the city. Mr. Westhaeffer secured it from the widow of the deceased.

FIRES IN NEW JERSEY.

The Warm Weather Opening Up With Some Disastrous Timber Fires.

The wood fires which devastated hundreds of acres of timber on Monday at Hayes' mill and the strip of country between the Camden & Atlantic and the Philadelphia & Atlantic City railroads, after being subdued, broke out afresh Tuesday, and burned over the entire Chesilhurst tract, from Central avenue north to Ziba Cain's place at Hays' mill, Camden county, N. J. Several hundred acres of young oak timber was ruined. As far as learned no houses were destroyed, but this good fortune was through the gallant efforts of the residents of Waterford, Chesilhurst, Atco and other villages. Had the flames crossed Central avenue at Chesilhurst a number of new residences would have been burned. This conflagration was reported Monday night to be under subjection. Another fire is raging in the wood country five miles below Williamstown, and it is presumed that the White Hall cranberry bogs will be burned over. Between 2,000 and 3,000 acres were devastated by the conflagration, which swept over the Quinton barrens in Salem county on Monday, and comprised a track some two miles wide and three miles long. The flames were subdued by the exertions of the farmers, who turned out to fight them en masse. Early Monday morning this fire again broke out and began to spread in a southerly direction toward Jerico. A dispatch from Atlantic City says the vast forest fires have been burning for the past two days in the lower section of Atlantic county. The swamps are so dry that it is impossible to check the flames. This conflagration is traveling in the direction of Egg Harbor City.

A fire is reported to be burning on the side of the Blue Ridge spur, near Penmar, the dividing line between Pennsylvania and Maryland. It is located between Penmar and Edgemont. There is also one on the mountain between Penmar and Blue Ridge, and large forces of men are engaged in checking them. The mountain spur is generally covered with low growth, and the damage cannot be serious if confined within the present limits.

A DAGGER IN A LADY'S FAN.

It Disables Joe Dion for the First Nights of the Billiard Tournament.

Two handsomely dressed ladies left an elevated train in which billiardist Joe Dion's room-keeper was a passenger on Friday evening. After they had gone the keeper saw what he supposed was an elaborate Japanese fan lying on the vacated seat. It had a string entwined about it near the end.

"Here, Joe," the room-keeper said to the veteran expert on Saturday, "see if you can open the fan, I'll be blowed if I can."

Dion took hold of the string and tried to spread the fan with his left hand, but couldn't. Then he tugged the string. In an instant the upper part slipped off and the keen edge of a long dagger slid across the middle finger of his left hand, cutting it to the bone.

"Well," cried Dion in amazement, as he hurried to staunch the flow of blood, "I wonder what on earth a woman wanted with a fan like that? That's a fine thing to run against on the eve of the tournament."

Dion was to have opened the balk line tournament on Monday night with George F. Slosson. The accident necessitates the substitution of William Sexton. Dion won't be able to play for several nights.

Litigation Probable Over the Pullman Lease.

From the Philadelphia Times.

Now that the Central Transportation stockholders have refused to modify the Pullman lease the question as to the future of the company becomes a very interesting one. The new directory, which includes a majority of the members of the committee whose investigation furnished the facts upon which the stockholders voted, is composed of business men, and from among them must be selected the future president of the company. An insider said yesterday that the disruption of the company's relations with the Pullman company would be certain to be followed by long and costly litigation. The new directory would probably feel called upon to demand of the Pullman company the payment of the old rental of $264,000 a year up to the date of the refusal to modify the release, and this demand he thought, would be resisted. Then, again, the Central Transportation managers would claim their 119 cars or an equivalent in money, and more trouble would arise over that. Besides their cars and their sixteen contracts the central transportation directors will claim that their original lease covered another valuable consideration—their good will. Without this, they claim, the Pullman company, then a mere beginner in the sleeping-car business, could not have so rapidly spread itself over the whole country.

The Columbia Dam and Fishway.

The state fishery commissioners held a meeting in Harrisburg on Tuesday, at which various matters in the interest pisciculture were considered. It was decided to appoint fish wardens at all necessary points and strongly enforce the fish laws. It was agreed to request the United States fish commissioners to supply shad for the Delaware and Susquehanna rivers, and to confer with the attorney general as to allegations of the Tidewater canal company to keep the Columbia dam and fishways in repair. The biennial report, now in type, discusses the subject of fish ways and stocking of streams at length. It is proposed to distribute 300,000 brook trout fry and 200,000 California trout soon in different portions of the state.

Dies While Witnessing a Play.

TORONTO, Ont., April 22.—At the Grand opera house last night just before the curtain rose on "Over the Garden Wall," C. J. Starling, of Belleville, dropped dead while seated in the orchestra. He died of heart disease.

POTTS GETS FIVE YEARS

IN WHICH HE MUST LANGUISH IN THE EASTERN PENITENTIARY.

The Full Text of Judge Livingston's Sentence in the Notorious Abortion Case—Henry Fisher Also Draws a Term of Two Years' Enforced Confinement.

Tuesday Afternoon.—Upon the re-assembling of court the trial of Georgianna Blottenberger for receiving stolen goods was resumed.

The defense was that the accused had no knowledge that the goods brought to her house on the night of the Myers store robbery were stolen, and in support of that defense, James McCann and Benjamin Weaver, who robbed the store, testified that they did not tell the defendant that the goods taken to her house were stolen. The jury after a short deliberation rendered a verdict of not guilty.

The next cases attached for trial were those of commonwealth vs. Henry Fisher, burglary and felonious entry. From the testimony it appears that the jewelry store and residence of M. J. Weidenhoffer, on West King street, was entered and a number of pieces of silverware stolen last October. There was no clue to the robbers until March 27, when Fisher was seen to be acting suspiciously in a field in the western part of the city; when Fisher saw he was observed he walked rapidly away. After he had gone four men working in the vicinity went to where Fisher was digging in the field and found several pieces of silver ware which Mr. Weidenhoffer identified as the property stolen from him in October. In addition it was shown that Fisher was seen on West King street, a few doors from Weidenhoffer's residence between 11 and 12 o'clock on the night the robbery was committed.

The defense was that on the afternoon of March 27th, Fisher was sent for kindling wood by Lizzie Kulp, and on the road to the country he passed a held, fronting on Columbia avenue and saw something glister; he went into the field and made an effort to get from the earth the substance that glistened, but the ground was frozen too hard; Fisher intended to go back the next day to dig up the earth with a hatchet, but was arrested before he had an opportunity. The defense endeavored to find an alibi, but the only witness called was Lizzie Kulp, and she testified that Fisher was at her house on the night of the robbery, from supper time until he went to bed after midnight.

Thomas Quinn and Frederick Telly were indicted for defrauding a boarding house keeper. These defendants secured board from John Little, living on East Vine street, and remained with him from January 22 until April 13, on which date they skipped out, leaving an unpaid bill of $54. On trial when court adjourned.

PLEAS OF GUILTY.

Benjamin Weaver, Joseph McCann and Elijah Armstrong, colored pleaded guilty to robbing the store of Ephraim E. Myers, at Chickies, of a large number of goods. They were each sentenced to undergo an imprisonment of two years.

Charles Jackson pleaded guilty to stealing a pair of shoes, and was sentenced to four months' imprisonment.

John Henry Stevens pleaded guilty to stealing a horse, saddle and bridle, the property of Wm. F. L. Morrison, and was sentenced to undergo an imprisonment of three years and six months.

GRAND JURY RETURN.

True Bills—William E. Kendig, false pretence; Henry D. Smith, assault and battery; Conrad Garber, assault and battery; James Wiley, malicious mischief; Henry Leonard, assault and battery; Caleb Townsend, larceny; Daniel Tammany, jr., assault and battery.

Ignored Bills—H. E. Boettner, assault and battery, with prosecutor, G. J. Hildebrand, for costs; Charles F. Crawford, George H. Kendig, aiding a prisoner to escape, with county for costs.

Adjourned to 9 o'clock on Wednesday morning.

Wednesday Morning—The jury in the case of commonwealth vs. Henry Fisher, burglarly, rendered a verdict of guilty with a recommendation to mercy. He was sentenced to undergo an imprisonment in the Eastern penitentiary for two years; separate and solitary confinement.

The trial of Fred Telly and Thomas Quinn, defrauding John Little of a boarding bill, was resumed. The accused denied having absconded from the house of Little with intent to defraud him. They were unable to pay the bill; were told to leave; did so, and were arrested before they had an opportunity to raise the money to pay the board bill. The jury rendered a verdict of not guilty, with county for costs.

Richard Snowden, who is as black as the ace of spades, was charged with fornication. The offense, it is alleged, was committed with Malinda Hunter. George W. Hunter, the husband of Malinda, figured as the prosecutor. The testimony of the commonwealth's witnesses pointed strongly to Snowden's guilt, but when Malinda and the accused were put on the stand, they positively denied that the offense charged was committed. The jury rendered a verdict of guilty. He was sentenced to pay a fine of $50 and costs of prosecution.

Emanuel Heiselman, a resident of this city, was indicted for embezzlement. The testimony showed that on January 9 he was in the employ of John Welsh, a fruit and oyster dealer of Columbia. On that day he was sent away with peanuts, lemons and oysters, valued at $40.70. A few days afterwards Welsh was informed that his team had been abandoned at Marietta by Heiselman. Welsh went to that borough and got his team, but the goods were nearly all gone. Heiselman was arrested a few days afterwards and admitted his embezzlement.

The defense was that Heiselman was robbed of the money, and that he agreed to pay Welsh the amount of the embezzlement, but he declined to accept the same. The jury rendered a verdict of guilty with a recommendation to mercy. He was sentenced to undergo an imprisonment of three months.

George W. Frane was indicted for committing an assault and battery on Daniel Rhoads, at the St. Charles furnace, at Chickies, on the 13th of March. The prosecutor testified that without any provocation Frane struck him on the face with a lantern.

The defense was that Rhoads was the aggressor, and that all the accused done was in self-defense. Jury out when court adjourned.

Caleb Townsend plead guilty to stealing some money from Tshudy's oyster saloon, under the old market house. He is only 15 years old, and the aunt decided upon sending him to the House of Refuge.

DR. POTTS SENTENCED.

Dr. Joshua Potts was called before the court for sentence. His counsel R. F. Davis asked the court to take into consideration his age—73 years—and the fact that the jury recommended him to mercy. Judge Livingston then passed sentence in the following words:

Joshua Potts. You now stand at the bar of the court convicted of the charge of having unlawfully and feloniously, by the use of an instrument upon the body of Katie Doerson, who was pregnant and quick with child, committed the crime of abortion, one of the most cowardly, unnatural and brutal crimes a human being can be guilty of; one of the most detrimental to society and the most shocking to humanity. You have had a fair and impartial trial. You were defended by very able counsel, who made for you a most ingenious and powerful defense, but the proofs were so clear, and the evidence of your guilt so convincing and satisfying, that the jury could do nothing but return a verdict of guilty, which they have done, and we now take occasion to say we are entirely satisfied with their verdict. They were more merciful than you have been. They recommend you to mercy. Upon what ground we are unable to say mercy. Upon what ground have you a right to expect mercy? You showed no mercy to the innocent, inoffensive, living, though unborn child in its mother's womb, with premeditation and cold blood, without even the motive of interest to hide the shame of being charged with its paternity. You brutally destroyed it, without mercy. You have assumed the livery of one of the most noble, praiseworthy and honorable professions to enable you to ply more readily your nefarious and illegal practices, and, in so far as you were able, you have attempted to degrade and disgrace that profession by acts which no honorable physician would be guilty of. Have you, therefore, any right to expect or claim mercy from society, from the law, from a jury, or from the court. The legislature of Pennsylvania has wisely enacted laws, providing, that when men or women have committed the crime of abortion, and been convicted thereof, they shall in mercy to humanity, be retired from active out door practice, to one of our large state institutions, and provided with office room, board and lodging, at the expense of the public, for some time; and under the law, it now becomes our duty to give you a free release to one of those office rooms, with boarding and lodging free, for a definite period, that you may rest from your unlawful and dangerous labors here and have ample time for meditation, that society may rest secure from your illicit and pernicious practices during your absence, and that others may be deterred from following your evil example.

Therefore, the sentence of the court is that you, Joshua Potts, shall pay a fine of $300 to the commonwealth of Pennsylvania for the uses prescribed by law; that you shall pay costs of prosecution; that you shall undergo an imprisonment in the Eastern penitentiary in the city of Philadelphia in separate and solitary confinement at labor, in the cells and workhouse yards of said penitentiary for and during the period of five years, to be computed from this the 22d day of April, 1885, to be fed, clothed and treated as directed by the acts of assembly in such case provided and that you shall stand committed until this sentence is complied with.

GRAND JURY RETURN.

True Bills—John Linton, seduction and fornication and bastardy; Lemon B. Dennis, carrying concealed deadly weapons; Frank Spilinger, seduction and fornication and bastardy; Edward Hummell, assault and battery; John F. Smith, embezzlement; John C. Marshall, fornication and bastardy; Carson Devan, fornication and bastardy.

Ignored Bills—David Reese and Benjamin F. Bibb, assault and battery, with John A Wetzel, prosecutor, for costs; Elizabeth Richards, adultery.

LITTLE LOCALS TAKEN ON THE FLY.

Alderman Spurrier committed John Francis, colored, to jail to answer in court for assault and battery and surety of the peace, on complaint of Emma Graham. He also sent James Riley, a drunken and disorderly tramp, to jail for ten days.

The court to-day appointed the following board of health for the ensuing year: H. R. Fulton, Michael F. Steigerwalt, Dr. John Levergood, Anthony Lecher, and Christian Widmyer.

The commissions of the aldermen and justices of the peace, of the several townships of the county, elected in February, were received this morning at the recorder's office, and will be ready for those entitled to receive the same on Monday next.

E. M. Lance & Co., confectioners, 648 South Queen street, and Mrs. George M. Steinman's residence, No. 52 South Prince street, have been connected with the telephone exchange.

Mrs. Mary Keating, the mother of Sister Teresa Joseph, of St. Mary's academy, this city, died at her residence on Twelfth street, New York, on Tuesday morning. Her funeral will take place on Thursday from St. Bridget's church, New York.

Abram Nowlen was heard by Alderman A. F. Donnelly, on Tuesday afternoon on charges of assault and battery and surety of the peace, and required to enter bail for trial at the present term of the court.

B. F. Hamilton, press agent of the Barnum show, and wife, are registered at the Grape hotel to-day.

Mrs. Christian Haller, residing on South Queen street, corner of Chestnut, while working on the premises this morning was prostrated by the heat, and rendered totally helpless. Dr. Shirk was sent for, and under treatment she is in a fair way of recovery.

The Farmers' Western market directors met for organization yesterday afternoon and elected J. Frederick Sener, president, and Wm. O. Marshall, secretary and treasurer.

FOREIGN INTELLIGENCE.

The News From Europe To-day By the Submarine Telegraph Line.

United States Minister Taft, of St. Petersburg, who has been seriously ill for three weeks, is now convalescent.

It is learned from Warsaw that the entire first class of the military reserve of Prussia Poland has been mobilized. The