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Somerset Printing Company.

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VALENTINE HAY, Attorney at Law. Office in the building formerly occupied by the late J. M. Kilmer, on the corner of 10th and 11th Sts., Somerset, Pa.

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LAW OFFICE. - ALFRED H. OFFERT. Office in the building formerly occupied by the late J. M. Kilmer, on the corner of 10th and 11th Sts., Somerset, Pa.

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G. W. GARDNER, Attorney at Law. Office in the building formerly occupied by the late J. M. Kilmer, on the corner of 10th and 11th Sts., Somerset, Pa.

J. G. O'NEIL, Attorney at Law. Office in the building formerly occupied by the late J. M. Kilmer, on the corner of 10th and 11th Sts., Somerset, Pa.

A. S. COOPER, Attorney at Law. Office in the building formerly occupied by the late J. M. Kilmer, on the corner of 10th and 11th Sts., Somerset, Pa.

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The Somerset Herald

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SOMERSET, PA., WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 5, 1874.

NO. 4

JOHNSTOWN SAVINGS BANK.
120 CLINTON STREET.



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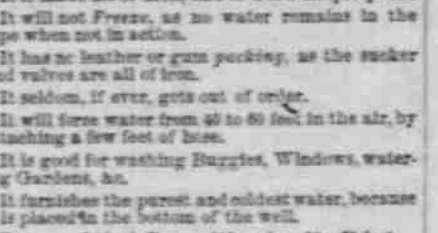
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THREE WORDS OF STRENGTH.
These are three words I would write. They are words of a burning passion. They are words of a burning love. They are words of a burning faith.

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seek her fortune, but seek somebody's misfortune. The way to Dr. Secrest's was through the mill-race from the black cotton mill down by the river; away from the street of stiff, white cottages, where the mill operators lived; away from the commonplace, two-story dwellings clustering around the church, the store, the blacksmith shop and the postoffice to a bit of level slightly removed from the "Hollow," by a sloping hill. Here was scattered a group of houses where the doctor, the mill-owner, the minister and two or three prosperous farmers lived. Lived, as the Hollow people said, "stuck-up" and apart from their neighbors.

But the aristocratic isolation was all the work of the Hollow, for, as Mrs. Woodcock often said: "Folks can choose their own place in this world. If they have a mind to hold up their heads and be something they can be, or they can be nobody or nothing, either one."

Accordingly she held up her head and made herself something, equally in the kitchen of Mary Duffy, the Irish laundress, in Speck Lane, at the lowest dip of the Hollow, and in the parlors of the spacious mansion that crowned the top of Quality Hill.

So now she went up the wide, flower-bordered road leading to Dr. Secrest's, with a woman's wit and an assurance of a welcome visitor, and tapping confidently on the open door, stepping in with a little nod and courtesy as much of respect to herself as deference to Mrs. Secrest and her daughter, Miriam, sitting sewing and looking as tranquil as though no storm had ever passed over either vineyard or spirit.

"Dear me! is it you Mrs. Woodcock? How you startled me! Come in. We were speaking of you not a half hour ago," cried Mrs. Secrest, who was a lively, cordial woman, as round and fleshy as a poppy, and always sitting in the sunshine, no matter what clouds there might be in the sky.

Mrs. Woodcock came in. "Quite a shower we have had," said she, dropping her veil as she entered, and looking as though she had been in a boat, but she was not wet. "I was out for a walk, and I should not wonder if a good deal of my hair were blown off," she said, looking at her hair.

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"I loved her ever since I have been in college, and she knew it, but we had to keep it to ourselves on old Drymar's account. And I was dying to marry her, but I didn't like the idea of marrying for money exactly. However, there wasn't any other girl in the town, mother, you see. Drymar was her legal guardian until she married, or was of a certain age. So chum and I fixed her up in her bridal dress, and here we are!"

"Upon that the irrepressible bridegroom put up and kissed his bride. The father had never been fully told. Those who visited the scene yesterday, saw the wrecked houses, and the long rows of bodies carried from the ruins—how gaged upon the ghastly forms of the dead, and the agonized faces of surviving parents and children, can form a faint conception of the terrors of that fatal hour. Whole families have been blotted out. In one case, a father alone survives of a family of eleven—the mother and nine children having perished. The father had been absent during the night, and thus escaped. There were scores of incidents of the most touching and harrowing nature, past the power of words to portray. It has been the aim of our reporters to gather such facts as they could obtain particularly in regard to our life. It will be several days before a complete list of the dead can be ascertained.

The greatest sympathy was everywhere manifested for the sufferers. Meetings for this purpose were held in every church, and another has been called to meet in this city this afternoon. That benevolence which has gone forth so nobly in aid of those sufferers from the fire, will be particularly well responded in double portion to the aid of distress which comes from our own stricken people.

Although the storm was, probably, the fiercest that has ever been experienced in this city and the loss of property in the aggregate, greater than any we know, it was only in the new district lying at the mouth of Saw Mill Run, on the south side of the Monongahela river—the extreme western portion of the corporation—that any lives were lost. In the old city, the fact of that portion lying between the Allegheny and Monongahela rivers, no lives were lost and no injuries to persons inflicted. In this regard under the circumstances, our people are to be thanked for mercy extended to the city.

George Kramer, laborer, on Fifth avenue, had his entire household furniture and implements destroyed. In the Sixth Ward there was considerable damage done, hundreds of dollars worth of property being destroyed. The loss of life was not great. All the lower portion of the city was flooded, and many small wooden articles floated away. As already shown, an immense volume of water was carried from Dinwiddie street via Miltenberger into the water named, while from the whole of that known as Bogard's Hill, the water rushed with great force into the valley beneath. Forbes street being the reservoir in the old city, the water from that street was divided into Forbes and Hope street, the larger portion going into the latter, and carrying a complete deluge of water, while their capacity was weakened by the debris thrown into the mouths of drops, thereby in many cases choking them up. Thus the water was forced upon the surface and covered whole tracts of the city, and many streets were rendered impassable. The water was everywhere inadequate. Night had closed in, and our people were comfortably housed at home, spending the evening with their families, and in some neighboring houses of worship. The rain was descending copiously, and the lightning's flash and the thunder's rattle incessant; but beyond this there was nothing unusual. There was no occasion for anyone to apprehend such a fearful visitation as occurred almost as unexpectedly as the Mill River disaster. Such a thing as houses being swept away in Pittsburgh or Allegheny, as if by the avalanche, was never heard of, much less anticipated. The fact that it occurred in our past history, which, even in the remotest degree, might lead us to anticipate such a dire calamity, much less attempt to guard against it. We have at times, ever since the great flood of 1862, seen large portions of Allegheny and suburbs submerged; and even in a night, or a few hours, the waters would rise and overflow the river banks, causing much destruction of property, and even sweeping away houses and destroying lives. But the flood on Sunday night has no parallel in our history.

The old city of Pittsburgh, owing perhaps, to the fact that it drains very rapidly, and not because the rain-fall was lighter, escaped with comparatively little damage, and without the loss of life. It never before, however, got such a complete washing.

In Allegheny the devastation was confined to two localities—one known as Butcher's run, and the other as Wood's run, being some three or four miles apart. The first locality is in the Third ward, and has for years been a densely populated mainly by Germans. The valleys leading into this run drain a large area, and the natural water courses have been materially aided by sewerage, so that there had never before been any difficulty experienced in carrying off the surplus of the heavy rain of the morning made an opening into the sides, and as we have already published, carried a lot of timber and debris into the already constructed portion of the sewer, making it ready as it were for an overflow from the sewer. The water was carried by hundreds of feet of scum, and the rushing of torrents in the streets, scores of men, women and children perished. The wonder is that the destruction of life was not much larger.

At Wood's Run the loss of life was

Lippincott's and above factory on the eastern side was partially overthrown, and yesterday work was suspended. This was occasioned, however, not by the overflow of water, but by the breaking of the twelve-inch water main already referred to. The earth surrounding it being carried off, the pipe fell to the ditch and separated, one section breaking. Had it not been that Superintendent Aikinson was on the ground and shut off the water, the damage must have been far greater than it was.

From Dinwiddie street down, more or less damage was done, on Fifth avenue, some of which has already been reported. On the north side of the avenue the three or four buildings east of Dinwiddie street erected upon the Lippincott property had the cellars submerged. Mr. J. C. Kober, dry goods merchant on the corner suffered considerably as did a grocery store and a hardware store. The water rushed across the street into the new market house but no damage was done. The water rushed into Miltenberger street also, and it was with difficulty that Mr. Suckley's workshop was saved from being carried off. From this corner down the next square upon Fifth avenue the cellars on both sides were flooded more or less. Special losses were reported yesterday. Mr. F. D. Geis' loss will reach \$500, and will equal in value the loss of the building at Price street (opposite Price street) half of the side walk attached to the Price pavement was torn out completely. All the way down Fifth avenue, in fact, the roadway was covered with water, which, being carried from the various side streets. The passage of the Oakland cars was seriously obstructed and the later ones of the night failed to reach their accustomed resting place on account of the absolute obstruction at Dinwiddie street. At all the corner streets the sewer drops were of course inadequate and the portion of water made to make way followed down the cross streets into Forbes or into cellar. J. & D. McCaffrey's food store, 101 Oakland run, was inundated, and had and fed to the amount of \$100 destroyed.

Messrs. Hill & Patterson, at their saw-mill on Old avenue, the damage will reach \$1,500. The first floor of the mill was submerged, the water covering the greater part of the mill, damaging the lumber and the being of the machinery. The old building occupied by the firm, which is very low, was also considerably damaged.

Downward street, from Clark to Caldwell, was torn up in places, pavement and curbs washed away. At Fulton street, below Clark, the pavement and curbs stones were washed out, and the street was plowed up in many places, and stones weighing from 100 to 200 lbs. were scattered over a space of five hundred yards. At the commencement, on Clark street, corner of the new sewer was a complete deluge of water, the entire street was inundated, and the water was carried from Dinwiddie street via Miltenberger into the water named, while from the whole of that known as Bogard's Hill, the water rushed with great force into the valley beneath. Forbes street being the reservoir in the old city, the water from that street was divided into Forbes and Hope street, the larger portion going into the latter, and carrying a complete deluge of water, while their capacity was weakened by the debris thrown into the mouths of drops, thereby in many cases choking them up. Thus the water was forced upon the surface and covered whole tracts of the city, and many streets were rendered impassable. The water was everywhere inadequate. Night had closed in, and our people were comfortably housed at home, spending the evening with their families, and in some neighboring houses of worship. The rain was descending copiously, and the lightning's flash and the thunder's rattle incessant; but beyond this there was nothing unusual. There was no occasion for anyone to apprehend such a fearful visitation as occurred almost as unexpectedly as the Mill River disaster. Such a thing as houses being swept away in Pittsburgh or Allegheny, as if by the avalanche, was never heard of, much less anticipated. The fact that it occurred in our past history, which, even in the remotest degree, might lead us to anticipate such a dire calamity, much less attempt to guard against it. We have at times, ever since the great flood of 1862, seen large portions of Allegheny and suburbs submerged; and even in a night, or a few hours, the waters would rise and overflow the river banks, causing much destruction of property, and even sweeping away houses and destroying lives. But the flood on Sunday night has no parallel in our history.

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From Dinwiddie street down, more or less damage was done, on Fifth avenue, some of which has already been reported. On the north side of the avenue the three or four buildings east of Dinwiddie street erected upon the Lippincott property had the cellars submerged. Mr. J. C. Kober, dry goods merchant on the corner suffered considerably as did a grocery store and a hardware store. The water rushed across the street into the new market house but no damage was done. The water rushed into Miltenberger street also, and it was with difficulty that Mr. Suckley's workshop was saved from being carried off. From this corner down the next square upon Fifth avenue the cellars on both sides were flooded more or less. Special losses were reported yesterday. Mr. F. D. Geis' loss will reach \$500, and will equal in value the loss of the building at Price street (opposite Price street) half of the side walk attached to the Price pavement was torn out completely. All the way down Fifth avenue, in fact, the roadway was covered with water, which, being carried from the various side streets. The passage of the Oakland cars was seriously obstructed and the later ones of the night failed to reach their accustomed resting place on account of the absolute obstruction at Dinwiddie street. At all the corner streets the sewer drops were of course inadequate and the portion of water made to make way followed down the cross streets into Forbes or into cellar. J. & D. McCaffrey's food store, 101 Oakland run, was inundated, and had and fed to the amount of \$100 destroyed.

Messrs. Hill & Patterson, at their saw-mill on Old avenue, the damage will reach \$1,500. The first floor of the mill was submerged, the water covering the greater part of the mill, damaging the lumber and the being of the machinery. The old building occupied by the firm, which is very low, was also considerably damaged.

Downward street, from Clark to Caldwell, was torn up in places, pavement and curbs washed away. At Fulton street, below Clark, the pavement and curbs stones were washed out, and the street was plowed up in many places, and stones weighing from 100 to 200 lbs. were scattered over a space of five hundred yards. At the commencement, on Clark street, corner of the new sewer was a complete deluge of water, the entire street was inundated, and the water was carried from Dinwiddie street via Miltenberger into the water named, while from the