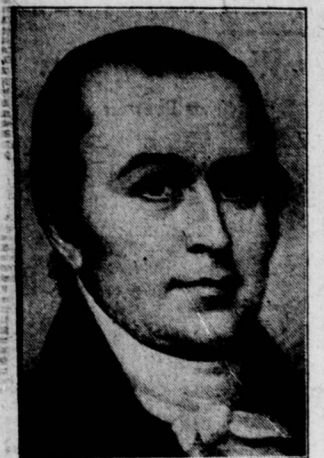


TELLS OF MOVING THE CAPITAL HERE

Life of Simon Snyder, Governor of Pennsylvania During the War of 1812

FIRM ADVOCATE OF FREE SCHOOLS

George W. Wageseller Reads Interesting Paper Before Snyder County Historical Society Giving Events of Very Important Administration



GOVERNOR SIMON SNYDER

The above picture of Governor Simon Snyder was executed from an engraving taken from a painting in the possession of the heirs of General Simon Cameron, which was painted by the celebrated artist, Jacob Eicholtz. In a note to the publisher, General Cameron said in referring to the painting: "My clear recollection of the person of Governor Snyder enables me to assure you that it is a very excellent portrait of him."

The Middleburg "Post" of February 4, 1915, contains an exhaustive account by its editor, George W. Wageseller, of the public documents, life and character of Governor Simon Snyder, and which was read by him before the Snyder County Historical Society on January 19, 1915. It covers fifteen columns in the "Post," and in part is as follows:

Important Events of Administration
While Simon Snyder was Governor many important events transpired to make more difficult the duties of his official position.

First in importance, probably, was the War of 1812, and through this he won the distinction of being the noted War Governor of his time.

2. The resignation of Hon. Samuel Maclay as United States Senator, January 4, 1809. There was a story that Senator Maclay had expressed himself in favor of James Ross for Governor at William McAllister's, in Juniata county, when he and the Hon. Daniel Montgomery were on their return from Congress.

3. The removal of the Capital from Lancaster to Harrisburg. The Act was passed February 21, 1810. Ten acres from William Maclay and four acres from John Harris were accepted by Governor Snyder, January 11, 1811, for the new capital site. The business was transferred during the summer of 1812.

4. The erection of Union county, in 1813, out of Northumberland, changing the Governor's own home county, and the bitter fight in connection with making New Berlin the county seat of Union county.

5. The Act creating the "General System of Banking" twice forced on him by the Legislature. Governor Snyder first vetoed the bill, March 19, 1813, giving nine reasons why it should not become a law. A year later, March 19, 1814, he vetoed the measure the second time. Two days later the Legislature passed the bill over the Governor's veto.

6. 1812-23. John Snyder's heirs brought a suit against Governor Simon Snyder claiming 93 acres of land lying west of Penns Creek where Selinsgrove now stands. The property was struck down at public sale, November 12, 1790, to Anthony Selin, Sr. Governor Snyder's heirs won the case after 20 years' litigation.

Advocates Free Public Schools
The Governor of the Colonies and of the Province of Pennsylvania, the latter being designated as the President and the Supreme Executive Council, were succeeded under the

GRANDMOTHER KNEW

There Was Nothing So Good For Congestion and Colds as Mustard

But the old-fashioned mustard-plaster burned and blistered while it acted. You can now get the relief and help that mustard plasters gave, without the plaster and without the blister.

MUSTEROLE does it. It is a clean, white ointment, made with oil of mustard. It is scientifically prepared, so that it works wonders, and yet does not blister the tenderest skin.

Just massage MUSTEROLE in with the finger-tips gently. See how quickly it brings relief—how speedily the pain disappears.

And there is nothing like MUSTEROLE for Sore Throat, Bronchitis, Tonsillitis, Croup, Stiff Neck, Asthma, Neuralgia, Headache, Congestion, Pleurisy, Rheumatism, Lumbago, Pains and Aches of Back or Joints, Sprains, Sore Muscles, Bruises, Chills, Frosted Feet, Colds of the Chest (it often prevents Pneumonia).

At your druggists, in 25c and 50c jars, and a special large hospital size for \$2.50.

Be sure you get the genuine MUSTEROLE. Refuse imitations—get what you ask for. The Musterole Company, Cleveland, Ohio.



"Constitution of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania," adopted in 1790—by the Governor of that Commonwealth.

Simon Snyder was a prominent member of the convention, and signed the document, which declares "We the people of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, ordain and establish this constitution for its government."

Article VII, Section 1 provides that "The Legislature shall, as soon as conveniently may be, provide by law for the establishment of schools throughout the State, in such manner that the poor may be taught gratis."

Governor Snyder was the third governor under this constitution, having been preceded by Governor Thomas Mifflin and Governor Thomas McKean.

Governor Snyder was the first governor to personally advocate in his messages the free public school system. Senator Simon P. Wolvort, made this statement in the Senate of Pennsylvania, when advocating the bill, in a magnificent speech he made for the appropriation which resulted in the State erecting to Governor Snyder a monument at Selinsgrove.

It is clearly sustained by his message to the Legislature. This is an important matter because the Pennsylvania Public School Memorial Association, chartered by the Philadelphia courts, proposes to erect a monument in Capitol Park to the original advocates of the free school system and to Thaddeus Stevens, and former governors and others who aided in saving the public school system from defeat in the Legislature of 1855.

Governor Thomas Mifflin, so far as we can find, made no mention of this subject in his messages.

Governor Thomas McKean, November 21, 1800, referred to the matter in the following words:

"Considering the diffusion of useful knowledge among the people, to be the best auxiliary to the administration of a free government, allow me, gentlemen, to remind you of a constitutional injunction, that the Legislature shall, as soon as conveniently may be provide by law for the establishment of schools throughout the State, in such manner, that the poor may be taught gratis."

That is all he said—merely called attention to the provision in the constitution. He never said whether he was in favor of it, or against it.

In a subsequent message he again repeats the provision contained in the constitution, and simply adds, "Let me then claim an early attention for the important subject."

Governor Snyder referred to the matter frequently, and proved by his messages he was for free public schools.

In his first message to the Legislature, December 7, 1809, he said:

"Moral virtue consists in a knowledge of duty, and a conformity of will and action to that knowledge. Political virtue, in a republic, bottomed on moral rectitude, consists in a love of the republic and esteem for its institutions. Hence the immense importance of a system of education. Can a man be morally or politically virtuous, who is ignorant of the blessings of education, and understands not the principles of, nor knows the duties which the latter enjoins?"

"To establish, therefore, a system of education, calculated to diffuse general instruction, is at once of primary importance, in both a moral and political point of view; affording the strongest bulwarks against the subversion of good morals, and sound political principles. The importance of education is enhanced by the consideration that in a republican or representative government, every citizen may be called upon to assist in the enactment, or execution, of the laws of this country; and will hence necessarily engage your attention."

The above is the first and an unanswerable argument for free schools under the constitutional provisions of 1790.

In a subsequent message, December 6, 1810, he repeats the constitutional provision and says:

"Twenty years have elapsed since this injunction became a part of your constitutions during which time various grant of colleges and academies have been made, and several laws have been enacted in the spirit of this provision; but it is yet much doubted, whether there has been such a legislative act, as guarantees the poor throughout the State the blessings of education, free of expense. To enforce the importance of a general diffusion of knowledge in a republican representative government, would surely be unnecessary to an enlightened and patriotic Legislature; nor will the difficulty of ascertaining the best and most certain means of effecting this great good, discourage them from further attempting to attain an object so extremely desirable, as it regards the peace, harmony and happiness of society, and secures the stability of our republican institutions."

Still urging the matter he says, December 5, 1811, in another message:

"To the subject of education I would again invite your serious attention. Of its beneficial effects upon moral

and political institutions I need not to enlarge. To ignorance our prisons, our penitentiaries, and our poor houses, are principally indebted for their inhabitants. The value of education is incalculably enhanced in government of the people, such as ours, where every citizen may be called in his turn, to legislate, or to execute. A general diffusion of knowledge, can alone ensure and perpetuate our republican institutions. Without a competent portion of information rational liberty cannot be realized. It ceases, indeed, to be a blessing. It degenerates into licentiousness. Your predecessors have made some progress in the business, but not to the extent of the constitutional injunction."

The poet sings:
Oh fares the land, to hastening ills a prey,
Where wealth accumulates and men decay.
Princes and lords may flourish or may fade,
A breath can make them, as a breath can make them, their country's pride,
But a bold peasantry, their country's pride,
When once destroyed, can never be supplied.

And Governor Snyder again, December 3, 1812, calls for free schools and says:

"Many have been the essays of your predecessors to carry into complete effect, that constitutional injunction, for providing 'by law, for the establishment of schools throughout the State, in such manner that the poor may be taught gratis.' Let not their failure discourage, but rather prompt to extraordinary exertion to surmount the difficulty. On the want of a general diffusion of knowledge, the ambitious found their hopes of success in overthrowing our invaluable political institutions, and on their ruins to erect the throne of despotism; but, a generally enlightened and well informed people, once free, cannot be enslaved. In proportion, therefore, as we value liberty, let our efforts be to diffuse knowledge as the most certain pledge of its security."

In his message December 10, 1813, he says:

"The preservation of morals and our free institutions, together with the true interest of humanity would be much promoted and their perpetuation secured by the general diffusion of knowledge among all our citizens. A solemn injunction contemplating these important objects, by the establishment of schools throughout the State, though contained in the instrument from which the departments constituting the government derive their powers, remains yet to be fulfilled on the broad plain and liberal principles which actuated those who enjoined the duty."

In a subsequent message, December 8, 1815, in speaking generally on the subject of education he said:

"While on this subject I feel it a duty to say, that from various considerations and local causes, the injunction, that schools be established throughout the State in such manner that the poor may be taught gratis, has not been entirely in effect, to the extent nor in the liberal spirit of that instrument."

In another message, December 5, 1816, he again urges this matter, and in his last message December 5, 1817, on the subject said, among other things in regard to it:

"To expiate upon the utility of a general diffusion of knowledge, would be as like as the means of effecting it appears to be embarrassing. The fact, however, is palpable, that science and intellectual improvement are far behind the progress of wealth and population."

We have gone thus fully into this matter and made such liberal quotations, because it is of the greatest importance that it should be known and established from the records that the palm for being the first Governor of the Commonwealth, to personally urge the legislature to give the State free public schools, belongs to Governor Simon Snyder. They were not established under his administration, because the legislature would not pass the law which he urged, and which he was anxious to approve.

Protests Against Slavery
The interests of the nation were equally dear to the heart of Governor Snyder with those of the Commonwealth. He was a man of high moral character, and his annual messages he alluded to them with as much devotion as though they were the objects of his immediate care.

In his message of the 5th of December, 1811, he thus uttered his convictions upon the subject of slavery, the first of the Governors to enter his protest against it. Elevated as is his character for humanity, there is yet permitted to remain one other stain on the otherwise fair and benign features of his policy. The galling yoke of slavery is still felt by some of our fellow creatures, in different parts of this Commonwealth, and its pressure is made the more severe, by witnessing the happiness and freedom of surrounding multitudes. A recent act of cruelty which came under my notice and the awakened feelings of a painful and distressing nature, will, I trust, excuse the introduction to your notice of a subject so interesting to the whole human family, and embracing facts and practices palpably inconsistent with the terms and spirit of that fundamental and immutable law of reason, 'That all men are born free and equal.' The allusion above to the act of cruelty shows that the Governor's heart was open to generous emotions, and that it was touched with pity by every pang; the result of wrong and injustice, inflicted upon even the lowliest of the human species.

Opposed a Selfish Combination
The following incident, given by John Binns, a friend of the Governor who was present when the facts related transpired, also illustrates the goodness of the Governor's heart and his readiness to vindicate the rights of the weak when unjustly assailed. "Soon after the inauguration of Governor Snyder," says Mr. Binns, "in 1808, I was sitting with him in a room at his lodgings at Bausam's tavern in Lancaster. The room was upon the second floor, and it was evening. A waiter entered and said, 'There are some gentlemen below who desire to speak with the Governor.' 'Tell them to walk up,' said the Governor. 'In a few minutes seven well-dressed persons entered. The foremost of them said, 'We wish to speak with the Governor on a matter of business.' The Governor answered, 'I have no objection that my friend, Mr. Binns, should hear anything

you may wish to say to me, or anything I may have to say in answer.' The speaker for the party then said, 'We are all applicants for the public offices in Chester county. We have waited upon Your Excellency to say that we shall be quite satisfied, and shall zealously support your administration whoever you may appoint, with the exception of Charles Kenny. He is an enemy to the public good, and his appointment would be very unpopular. The Governor bowed and made answer, 'I shall consider, gentlemen, what you have said. The gentlemen applicants bowed respectfully and retired. The Governor turned promptly towards me, and said, 'That's a selfish combination against an absent individual. I shall appoint Kenny.' He did appoint him Clerk of the Orphans' Court of Chester county, and he was as good as officer and a popular appointment as any that he made."

An Important Veto
Governor Snyder was too honest to seek personal honor or preferment at the sacrifice of principle, and he refused to sell his party, in order that he might be Governor. In the session of 1813-14, a large majority of both branches of the General Assembly passed a bill chartering forty banks. The candidate for Governor was at that time nominated by the members of the Legislature. They were practically unanimous for the bill. A caucus was called, and it adjourned without making a nomination, letting it be known it would not take action until it was known what action the Governor would take on the bill. The legislative caucus tried to threaten in this way the Governor.

He vetoed the bill in a message which is a masterpiece. We can only quote one of the opening paragraphs: "I cannot divest myself of the fear that if it should become a law, it would tend only to enrich the wealthy and the speculative while it would in various forms heap burdens on the poor and the industrious. Permit me to hazard an opinion that changes of law have a great effect in a popular government to weaken its force, by preventing or destroying habits. A steady operation gives force to laws and the government acquires dignity and respect in proportion to its uniformity of proceeding. This bill I presume to say, will produce in society an unhappy effect. It legalizes the acts of illegal associations, and thus proves the weakness of the government; nay it carries on its face a warrant for the infraction of the repressive provisions therein contained, and in my opinion goes far to encourage the infraction of all law."

Instead of being a glib shoe politician, seeking how by sneaking around himself, he could catch some un-democratic doctrine, or lend his aid to some passing hysteria, he boldly plants his banner on fundamental principles, and instead of going over to his and his party's enemies, he forced them by the unassailable force of his argument to come to him and so astonished that Legislature that he was again renominated by the caucus for Governor, and elected by nearly thirty thousand majority.

March 19, 1814, Governor Snyder, the second time vetoed the banking bill. The one prior to this act provided for thirty-five banks, while this act provided for forty-one. He said, "It would tend to enrich the wealthy and the speculative, while it would in various forms heap burdens on the poor and the industrious." Further "on the ground of principle, generally, I may confidently say that industry is the only permanent source of wealth. It secures subsistence, and advances our interest by slow, yet sure and regular gains, and is the best preservative of morals."

Snyder a War Governor
The period during which Snyder was Governor was an important and exciting one in the national life. Napoleon was on the throne in France. On the throne of Spain, Holland and Italy he had, by his sword, seated his three brothers. All Europe, amazed at his giant strides, took up arms against him. The United States preserving a perfectly neutral attitude was allowed by her commercial marine to visit freely the ports of the belligerents and was greatly prospered. In violation of the neutral rights of the United States, Great Britain in 1806, issued an order in council, declaring the whole coast of the continent from the Elbe to Brest in a state of blockade. Napoleon retaliated by issuing his decree at Berlin declaring the entire coast of the British

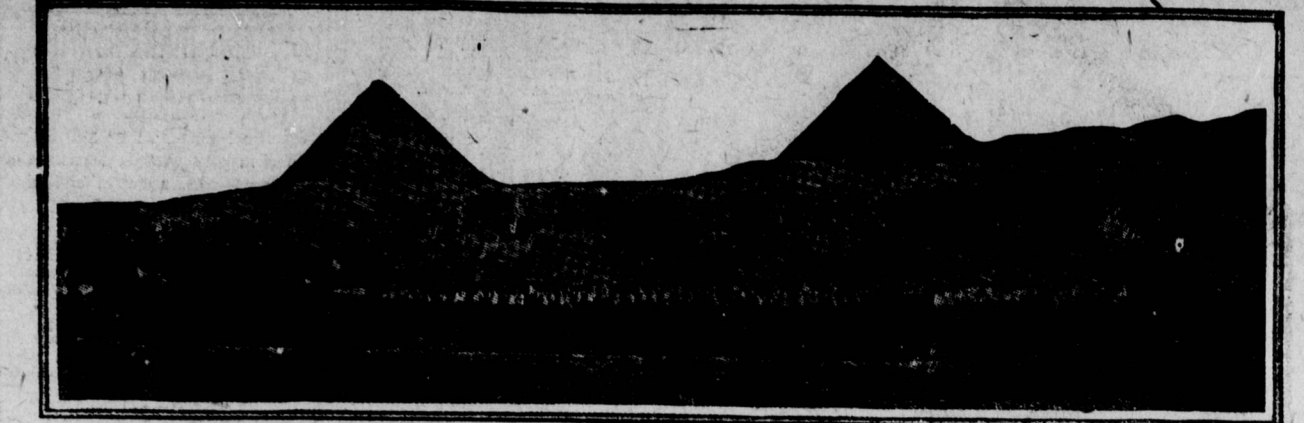
Islands also in blockade. As a consequence, American vessels were seized by both French and English cruisers, and her commerce, though preserving a strict neutrality, was suddenly swept from the ocean. The baneful effect of the "orders" and "decrees" was aggravated by the haughty assumption of the right, by Great Britain, to search unceremoniously American vessels for suspected deserters from the British navy, under cover of which the grossest outrages were committed. American seamen being dragged from the decks of their vessels and impressed into the royal service. In retaliation, President Jefferson, in July, 1807, issued a proclamation ordering all British vessels to leave the waters of the United States, and forbidding any to enter until satisfaction for the past, and security for the future, should be assured; and upon the meeting of Congress in December, an embargo was laid, detaining all vessels, American and foreign, then in the ports of the United States, and ordering all American vessels home that were abroad, that the seamen might be trained for hostilities. Negotiations were conducted with varying success, but without any pacifying results. In the meantime the causes of irritation increasing, until finally the state of feeling became so embittered, that in 1811 President Madison, by authority of Congress, declared war against Great Britain. The war, which lasted for a period of nearly four years, is known as the war of 1812, and resulted in the establishment of a really national character to the United States. Dr. Franklin once heard a person in conversation speak of the revolution as the War of Independence and reproved him, saying: "Sir you mean the Revolution; the war of Independence is yet to come. It was a war for independence, but not of independence."

Son Raises a Company
His son, John Snyder, a mere boy at the time, without the knowledge of his father, raised a company, he being chosen captain, took them to Harrisburg, and woke the Governor up in the early morning hours, presenting his company of soldiers, all of whom saw service. This pleased the Governor who subsequently presented the captain with a handsome sword, made of Damascus steel, with elaborate handle, and which is now the property of his grandson, Thomas Kitters VanDyke, Harrisburg, Pa., who also has an original war order dated in 1814 and signed by Governor Snyder.

Mr. Van Dyke also owns a picture of Governor Snyder, which was issued while he was governor, by John Binns, and which was gotten up in an artistic way, with the coat of arms of the State, and says: "Simon Snyder, Governor of the State of Pennsylvania. To the People of Pennsylvania, this portrait of the Man of their choice, is respectfully dedicated by their Fellow Citizen, John Binns."

His Last Message to the Legislature
His last message to the Legislature,

HOW THE LAND OF THE PHARAOHS WILL BE HELD AGAINST ALL COMERS



Australian Troops Massed Under the Pyramids of Gizeh.



Indian Troops Occupying Sand Buttes in the Desert Near the Suez Canal.

Commenting on the impending attack on Egypt by the Turks, a correspondent writes: "In spite of economic distress and Arab discontent and the lack of equipment even among many of the Turkish troops, the Ottoman leaders, inspired by their German advisers, seem decided to attempt an advance next Tuesday in behalf of Congressman A. R. Brodbeck in his election contest against Congressman-elect C. William Beales, of the Twentieth district. 'This action sets at rest, at least for the present, reports that Mr. Brodbeck will withdraw the contest. The new witnesses are all in the Sixth and Ninth wards.'

December 5, 1817, opened with the following words, viz:

"Fellow Citizens—At this auspicious moment, when our country has reached the goal of her wishes and obtained the objects for which she has twice contended and so ably struggled."

And closed as follows, viz: "Having discharged as well the constitutional injunction as those duties assigned by law, and recommended what in my judgment would promote public weal, it remains for me to add that it has given me the purest pleasure to co-operate with the General Assembly in such measures as were calculated to perpetuate the happiness of our constituents, and in the discharge of executive functions I was ever solicitous to collect my duty from a just appreciation of every circumstance by which it might be affected. I heard with attention and endeavored to decide with integrity. I had a wish, it is true, to regard the public voice, and I confess myself to have been anxious to conciliate and enjoy the public confidence. But I could never abandon the superior claims of self-approbation and conscious rectitude. Satisfied on these points (and ever aware that in the performance of executive duties by a merely practical man it is difficult, if not impossible, to avoid error) I have ever acted without in the least regarding what the world might say about it, and those who know me best can bear witness that I have borne with patience the consequences which to me have casually resulted from them. For the errors I may have committed I am consoled with the reflection that perhaps no important good was altogether free from alloy and that my fellow citizens will, I trust, charitably find a palliation in the motive which at any time may have misled me."

"The confidence and support which I have experienced from my fellow citizens, for the greater portion of my active life, has impressed my mind with deep and lasting gratitude. A consciousness of having with diligence and fidelity endeavored to discharge the duties which a partial public has on various occasions assigned me, and of the liberality which has been evinced towards me by a succession of the Legislatures during an arduous administration, heightens the satisfaction I have in surrendering it to an able successor."

Compare, if you please, this record and these sentiments with those of later day Governors.

Estimate of Gov. Snyder by Senator Simon Cameron
Senator Simon Cameron had a high appreciation of the character and virtues of Governor Snyder, as the following letter, written to Mary K. Snyder, a granddaughter, will show:

"Harrisburg, Pa., Nov. 26, 1855. 'My Dear Miss Snyder—'It is not possible for me to endure the labor of penning all I know about Governor Snyder as well as an obscure man of 18 could know one as distinguished as himself, for I had made the acquaintance of his third wife, through her sister, Mrs. Peacock. Both of these ladies treated me with great consideration, and were very superior women."

"Governor Snyder was greater in all the qualities that make a statesman than any of the Governors we have had since, as you will find by examining his state papers."

"He was the early advocate of all the internal improvements which the State perfected during his term, including turnpikes, bridges and canals. One of his great ideas was to make a canal from Chesapeake bay to Lake Ontario, so as to connect the Susquehanna with the Great Lakes. He was personally a man of fine address, spoke remarkably well in public and with great ease. I knew your father more intimately than your grandfather, and he was one of the handsomest men of the day, sprightly, full of good intentions and a great favorite with everybody. Very truly yours,

"SIMON CAMERON."

357,000 IDLE IN NEW YORK
Metropolitan Insurance Company Completes Canvass of City
New York, Feb. 6.—The Metropolitan Insurance Company reported yesterday to the Mayor's Committee on Unemployment the results of the canvass of its industrial policyholders that it has been making for the last two weeks. It showed the percentage of unemployment to be 17.7.

The committee has estimated the number who would be at work under normal conditions at 2,017,000, so that if the ratio holds good throughout the number now out of work in this city is about 357,000.

PEN FOR CHICKEN THEIF
Franklin County Judge Hands Out Two Stiff Sentences
Chambersburg, Feb. 6.—Frank Keckler, of Waynesboro, was sentenced to pay \$1 fine and costs and to serve a term of not less than two and one-half years and not more than three years in the Eastern penitentiary on the charge of stealing chickens from James R. Johnson, Ridge avenue.

Abram Heiser, also of Waynesboro, was also found guilty of the larceny of chickens from Mr. Johnson and was ordered to pay \$1 fine and the costs and undergo an imprisonment of nine months in the county jail.

Dies Suddenly While On a Visit
Lebanon, Feb. 6.—While visiting Frank Heffelfinger, Maple street, this city, yesterday John Helms, 35 years old, of Myerstown, died suddenly of heart trouble. He was sitting on a chair conversing with his host when he gave a gasp and expired before medical aid could be secured.

Directory of Leading Hotels of Harrisburg

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No. 25 South Fourth Street
Directly opposite Union Station.
Equipped with all modern improvements.
Baths, perfectly sanitary; electricity furnished throughout. Rates moderate.

European Plan.
JOSEPH GIUSTI, Proprietor.

THE PLAZA

423-425 Market St., Harrisburg, Pa.
At the Entrance to the P. R. R. Station.
EUROPEAN PLAN.
F. B. ALDINGER, Proprietor.

The Metropolitan

Strictly European
For something good to eat. Everything in season. Service the best. Prices the lowest.

Take Care of Your Eyes and They'll Take Care of You
For advice, consult

E. Schaeff
EYE SPECIALIST
With E. C. Claster, 302 Market Street.

No Compromise

You must conquer Stomach ills at once if you would retain the controlling power in health matters. Such ailments as Poor Appetite, Indigestion, Biliaryness, Constipation, Colds and Grippe soon undermine your health. Help Nature conquer them with the valuable aid of

HOSTETTER'S Stomach Bitters

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