

# The Columbian.

VOL. 37.

BLOOMSBURG, PA. THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 4, 1902.

NO. 36

## BLOOMSBURG'S GREATEST EVENT.

The Centennial Celebration Was The Biggest and Best Show Columbia County Ever Saw.

IMMENSE CROWDS—BEAUTIFUL DECORATIONS—GRAND PROCESSIONS.

All the People Unite in One Splendid Effort, and Success was the Result.

In its issue of January 2nd, 1901 THE COLUMBIAN first suggested that as the centennial of the founding of Bloomsburg would occur in 1902, it would be fitting that the event should be properly observed, and urged that steps be taken at once so that there would be plenty of time for preparation. As it seemed a long way ahead no action was taken at that time, and so the matter rested until April of this year, when the subject was again agitated by the *Morning Press*, and on April 18 last a public meeting was held in the Court House for the purpose of ascertaining the wishes of the people, and if the sentiment seemed favorable to take the preliminary steps for a celebration. Mayor John R. Townsend presided, and the outlook was so encouraging that it was decided to organize and arrange for a centennial. A general executive committee was appointed and active work begun. At a second meeting the following permanent officers were elected: President, John R. Townsend; Secretary, Geo. E. Elwell; Treasurer, L. N. Moyer; Vice Presidents, Dr. J. P. Welsh, A. Z. Schoch. Subsequently numerous committees were appointed, a list of which has appeared in this paper for the past four weeks.

How well the work of the various committees was performed, the results have shown. As is always the case, there were a few on some of the committees who rendered no service, but the efforts of the active ones were united and energetic, and every detail was so closely looked after that the entire affair passed off in a manner highly creditable to the management, and to the satisfaction of everybody. The town was never so beautifully decorated, not only in the business portion, but along the residence streets. It was this loyalty on the part of all the people that helped to make our celebration the great success it was. Many strangers were heard to exclaim that the decorations were more elaborate than they had ever seen before in a town of this size. The appearance of the streets was much beautified by the small flags strung on the trolley guy wires, and on the trolley and telephone poles throughout the town. This was the conception of Mr. H. Bruce Clark who with the assistance of several others of the Decorative committee raised a special fund of nearly seventy dollars by small subscriptions. There were over two thousand flags used for this purpose. Mr. P. K. Vannatta is also entitled to special mention for his valuable services as chairman of the Decoration Committee, in supervising the construction and decoration of the various arches. So much good work was done by so many members of the various committees that it would be invidious to name any special ones. Chairman Townsend devoted his time and energies to the work for several weeks past, and if he and those who were working with him almost constantly made any mistakes they were of the head and not of the heart. It was impossible to please everybody, and when any supposed grievances were brought before the committee, all reasonable requests were cheerfully granted.

WEDNESDAY EVENING.

The Centennial exercises opened on Wednesday evening, August 27, in the Methodist church, where an audience of two thousand people assembled. It was an inspiring sight and an occasion never to be forgotten. On the platform sat all the clergymen of the town, and addresses were made by Rev. D. N. Kirkby, Rev. J. R. Murphy and Rev. Dr. Frysinger; Protestant Episcopal, Roman Catholic and Methodist. Never before has there been such an assemblage in Bloomsburg. The addresses were of an interesting character and were listened to with marked attention. We shall not attempt to give a synopsis of what the speakers said. These speeches

and those of Thursday morning together with all the details and proceedings of the three days ought to be compiled and printed in book form for our own pleasure and for the edification of future generations.

The music at this meeting and on Thursday morning was furnished by a chorus of about eighty voices, led by Prof. O. H. Yetter. It was composed of the best material in the town, and added greatly to the occasion. The program for this meeting as printed in last week's issue was carried out in detail.

THURSDAY MORNING.

On Thursday morning at 8 o'clock the ringing of church bells and blowing of whistles ushered in the work of the day. Bands arrived on incoming trains, including the Ninth Regiment Band of Wilkes-Barre, the Catawissa Band, Berwick Band, Buck Horn, and Lime Ridge. The Bloomsburg Band gave their services both days and cheerfully and ably performed all duties assigned them.

At 10.30 o'clock an historical meeting was held in the Normal Auditorium where Mayor Townsend presided, and opened the exercises with the following remarks: "To day our thoughts go back through the mists of a century, to the time when Ludwig Eyer selected the land on which the town plot of Bloomsburg was laid out. We can picture this little band of Pioneers running the lines and driving stakes to mark the town plot, the sound of the woodsman's ax startling the timid deer which abounded in the virgin forest which covered this part of our town. The location in those days must have been an isolated one, far away from the busy hum of life, requiring in those days as many days as now hours to reach the trading towns of that period. Here at peace with the world we will leave the pioneers who laid the foundation for the Town of Bloomsburg, and turn to our town of 1902. We are today celebrating our Hundredth Anniversary, and I feel proud to have the honor of extending a welcome to our visiting friends; proud because we can welcome you to a Town that is in touch with this progressive age. We can go to our telegraph office and communicate with any part of the business world—we can step to the telephone and talk with the great business centers of our country. Our railroads connect with the great trunk railroads of our country. Our town can boast of having good water, fine churches, good school buildings, handsome residences. Our houses are surrounded with all the modern conveniences of the age, heat, electric light, gas and good sewerage. We have an orderly community, the percentage of crime being very small for the amount of our population when compared with other towns. And why should we not be proud of our Town of Bloomsburg?"

The chairman then announced that he had been requested by the members of the Century Club of Bloomsburg to present the prize offered by them for the best Historical Essay on the "Town of Bloomsburg." The winner of the gold prize, value \$10.00, was Rowland Hemingway son of Dr. Hemingway, pastor of the Presbyterian church of Bloomsburg, who was congratulated on winning the prize by the Chairman.

Addresses were made by Col. J. G. Freeze, Hon. Fred Ikeler, Rev. D. N. Kirkby, and Governor Stone. On the stage sat members of the various committees, and invited guests from different parts of the county.

THE GOVERNOR DINED.

Owing to the uncertainty as to how many would be in the Governor's party it was impossible to arrange beforehand for those who would dine with him at the Normal School. He was accompanied only by his private secretary, and as this left a number of seats vacant at the table, members of the com-

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BSOLUTE security that moneys deposited will remain subject to the demand of the depositor; the knowledge that loans in the nature of discounts, will be granted with the utmost liberality possible under sound banking; the assurance that the bank has facilities for the prompt and proper transaction of such business as may be intrusted to it; the careful supervision of the officers of the bank so that customers may meet with courtesy, and consideration. These are the factors that have contributed to the success of this Bank.

—THE—

## Bloomsburg National Bank

A. Z. SCHOCH, PRESIDENT.

WM. H. HIDLAY, CASHIER

[READ MY AD ON 5TH PAGE.]

### Every Movement,

No matter what the grade, is carefully inspected before going out of this store.

### Every Watch

Is backed by our unqualified guarantee—a guarantee that's kept.

### J. Lee Martin,

Jeweler and Optician.

Telephone 1842.

### J. G. Wells' Special Gun Sale.

A first class single barrel gun, self ejector. This is a good one \$4.48.

Special price on double barrel hammer guns \$7.98 up to \$18.00.

Don't miss this one.

New Worcester Double Barrel Hammerless Gun \$19.40.

Hunting Coats, Leggins, Shell Vests, Belts, Etc.

J. G. Wells, General Hardware, BLOOMSBURG, PA.

mittees who were present, and prominent visitors were invited to remain. The party included the Governor, his secretary, Mayor Townsend, Rev. D. N. Kirkby, Dr. J. P. Welsh, Hon. W. T. Creasy, John G. McHenry, Judge R. R. Little, Hon. A. L. Fritz, W. H. Slate, Fred Godcharles, Republican candidate for congress; W. P. Hastings of Milton, J. C. Brown, Secretary Geo. E. Elwell, Louis Cohen, Dr. W. M. Reber, Assistant Secretary D. J. Tasker, and Prof. O. H. Yetter. A delicious dinner was served under the direction of W. H. Housel, steward, and at two o'clock the party came down town to view the parade.

CIVIC PARADE.

It was nearly 2.30 when the line of the civic parade came up Main street headed by Chief Marshal Holmes. The details of the line were given in last week's issue. The only visiting orders present were the Knights of the Golden Eagle of Catawissa and the John Knox Commandery, Knights of Malta, of Wilkes-Barre. This latter body gave an exhibition drill on the Court House pavement after the parade and received round after round of applause at their skillful manoeuvres. J. C. Brown and Geo. E. Elwell were the judges, and they awarded this Commandery two prizes, one of \$25 for best appearance of secret organization, and \$20 for exhibition drill.

After riding to the head of Main street in the procession, the Governor and Mayor Townsend returned to the reviewing stand in Market Square where they reviewed the line which passed that point twice.

At 4 o'clock the Governor was given a reception by Ent Post G. A. R. in their room, and after lunch at the Normal School he took the evening train for Harrisburg. He expressed himself as greatly pleased with our town, and with his cordial reception here. His honoring the occasion with his presence was highly appreciated by the committee, and by the throngs of people who had an opportunity to see him. Hundreds who could get near enough were favored with a cordial hand shake.

THE FLOATS.

Among the attractive features of this parade were the floats. It was known that there would be a number of them in line, but when they appeared there was an evident hum of admiration, and great surprise was expressed not only at the large numbers, but at the artistic skill displayed in their arrangement.

F. P. Pursel made a very nice exposition of his business with three floats. The first, representative of his grocery department, was drawn by four horses. Chase & Sanborn's coffee was the predominant article. Occupying an exalted position on the wagon was a huge coffee pot. His dry goods department float was a good one, gotten up with classic taste and trimmed with yellow and white material. It, too, was drawn by four horses. His third float contained a complete bed room suit nicely arranged under a canopy of muslin. The furniture displayed was the well known Hawley-Slate product.

A large wire drawing machine was shown by the Richards Manufacturing Company. These complex constructions are manufactured and shipped to all sections of the country by this company.

Geo. W. Keiter's showing was a handsome one. There was a profuse display of his celebrated brands of flour, surmounted by a great big loaf of bread. His son George H. Keiter held the ribbons over six fine horses. The float was one of the conspicuous figures of the parade.

Four expert cigar makers made and distributed cigars along the line for Alexander Bros. & Company. This was quite a novelty and made a big hit with the people.

The Stegmaier Brewing Company, of Wilkes-Barre did not count cost in their float. Particularly striking was the arrangement of bottled goods, the upper tier resting in the shade of several graceful palms. Four magnificent horses were hitched to the wagon, they having been sent down from Wilkes-Barre.

[Continued on 8th page 4th Column.]



What's What In Suits This Fall? Come and See

The new garments are here waiting for you. If you want to look like a New Yorker we have the new Fall Suits ready to give you that effect. Set your figure at one-half the made-to-order prices and we will furnish better

styles—better all round satisfaction. Costs only your time to test this proposition. No charge here for posting you up-to-date. Suits at \$8.00, \$10.00, \$12.00 or \$15.00, and satisfaction at every price. Money refunded, if anything goes wrong.

## Ben Gidding

The Clothier, Bloomsburg, Penn'a., Corner Main and Center Sts.

Come in and see us, we'll treat you right.

## FINAL SUMMER SALE!

We have been doing some vigorous price clipping and this final Summer Sale marks the end. If you are fishing for bargains be sure your hook is cast in the right place.

WAISTS.

Womens' White Lawn Waists tucked and trimmed with embroidery were \$4.00, and \$3.25 now \$3.00 and \$2.50.

Womens' White Lawn Waists tucked and trimmed with embroidery, were \$2.50 and \$2.00 now \$2.00 and \$1.25.

Wash Silks, extra quality, were 75 cents, now 50 cents.

Silk Gingham were 50c., now 35 cts.

STORE OPEN FROM 7 A. M. TO 8 P. M.

THE

Leader Store Co., Ltd.,

4th and Market Streets, Bloomsburg, Pa.

SHIRT WAIST SUITS.

Womens' Shirt Waist Suits of Lawn, Gingham and Chambray in solid colors, polka dots and stripes, exceptional values at price quoted: Were \$5.50 and \$5.00 now \$3.00.

Lawns, Dimities and Tissues were 25c. now 15 cents.