

Republican Progress

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WILLIAM A. GAGE, Editor and Publisher.

ITEMS OF NEIGHBORHOOD NEWS
ARE SOLICITED.

THE STEAM FIRE ENGINE.

A 4th of July CELEBRATION IN MARCH.

Wind, Water and Snow.

Fraternal Speech
making in a Driv-
ing Show
Storm,

While Thousands Look-
ed on and Listened.

The Visitors Were:

Members of City Council: A. J. Kistler, B. McClellan, J. S. Day, P. M. Kepley, John Shrader, John Newhouse, D. Lemon and Wm. H. Stephens.

Joseph Adams, Chief of the Fire Department.

James Spence, Engineer.

John Stanford, Fireman.

H. J. Reamer, Wharf Master.

H. F. Farn, City Marshal.

W. B. Jackson, Clerk.

M. M. Hurley, Postmaster.

Daniel Shrader, City Sexton.

J. B. Applegate, Editor of the New Albany Ledger.

A. H. Gwin, New Albany Press.

Citizens: T. S. Bradford, John McQuiddy, H. M. Cooper, R. E. Burke, Andros C. Rimer, E. W. Black, L. Stout, J. B. Frank and John Merker.

The committee of arrangements performed their work well, last week, and as a result all things were prepared for the reception of the New Albany visitors in due time, on Tuesday. The steam fire engine arrived in the morning on the freight train accompanied by an engineer and fireman, and was put in order before the hour for the arrival of the express train from the South.

Snow began falling early in the forenoon, and continued to fall during all the time of the ceremonies on the streets. At 12 o'clock the train arrived, bringing the New Albany guests, and a line of march was promptly formed for the National Hotel, where the visitors were to partake of dinner. The following was the order of process:

Chief Marshal McKinney.

Bloomington Brass Band.

Steam Fire Engine.

Visitors in Carriages.

Mayor and City Officers.

City Council.

Committee of Arrangements.

Citizens of Bloomington.

The dining-room was handsomely decorated with banners and mottoes, and the tables literally groaned beneath the smoking viands.

A stand had been erected in front of the "ruins," and it was two o'clock before the procession arrived at this place to take part in the presentation ceremonies.

The steam fire engine was placed

in front of the stand, and around and about it and the speaker's stand, were congregated about 2,000 people, oblivious to the heavy fall of snow which melted, saturated and chilled all who were exposed to it. The programme at this place was as follows:

Music by the Band.

Play by Prof. Ballantine.

Address of Welcome by Hon. W. F. Browning, Master of Ceremonies.

Address of Visitors from New

Albany, Indiana.

Presentation of the Engine, on behalf of the Citizens of New Albany, by J. B. Applegate, Esq., Editor New Albany Ledger.

Speech of Acceptance by Mayor of Bloomington, C. F. Dodds.

Address on behalf of Citizens, by J. R. East, Esq.

Short addresses by Hon. Robt. W. Miers, W. P. Rogers, H. H. Friedley, and Dr. Ross, Bloomington, and Messrs. Hurley, Stephens, McQuiddy, Keppley, Hunciman and Kestler, of New Albany.

Mr. Browning's address of welcome was as follows:

A few weeks ago there came to us an appeal for help from the towns and cities on the Ohio River that were inundated by the flood of 1883. With this appeal was a cry from men, women and children who had been made homeless and destitute of food and raiment. In response to these appeals from the suffering thousands, the good people of Bloomington and vicinity contributed in money, clothing and food \$2,000, of which a large portion was sent to the city of New Albany. This contribution has truly been to the citizens of Bloomington, as "bread cast upon the waters," and is seen to-day in the presentation by the city of New Albany of a steam fire engine, by a committee of her citizens. And now, in behalf of the citizens of Bloomington, I most cordially welcome you gentlemen of the committee in this magnificent donation to this our city, and extend to you the hospitality of the ever generous hearted people of Bloomington.

Mr. Applegate's speech was as follows:

A few weeks ago the people living on the banks of the Ohio were overwhelmed by a dire calamity.

The usually peaceful and beautiful stream rising in the Alleghany mountains and flowing along the borders of six great states, finally mingling its current with the "Father of Waters," had suddenly risen, burst its bonds and spread consternation and desolation in its course.

It is a grand sight to behold a majestic river rise nearly seventy feet above its usual level, but terrible in its grandeur—a mighty element moving with resistless force.

When the banks of that river are lined with great manufactories; when its shores are dotted with peaceful and happy homes, such a raging torrent carries destruction and death in its flow.

Mingling with the roar of angry waters went up a cry of distress. It went not in vain. Soon came the answering cry, swift as lightning flash;

"Bootheagor," Ind., Feb. 17.

At a meeting of citizens held to-night one thousand dollars was sub-

scribed for the flood sufferers and a car load of provisions donated.

There will be a collection taken up in the College and churches."

Other cities and towns and villages responded, and responded nobly. Their acts deserve to be inscribed in "letters of gold upon pillars of brass." They are recorded in thousands of grateful hearts, where they will be cherished through life.

A few days ago the same wires which bore tidings of aid and sympathy from the generous people of Bloomington to the suffering people of New Albany, bore a calamitous story of the ravages of fire, another element of destruction, which in a few hours laid waste a large portion of this beautiful city. Our hearts went out in sympathy for those who had remembered us so kindly in the day of our tribulation. With some of our citizens, Mr. Andros Hunciman and others, that sympathy took active practical form. A petition was circulated, numerously signed, and a generous council resolved to donate to Bloomington a steam fire engine to help ward off future devouring flames—not those Calvin and Wesley used to talk about—but those which may come in the near future.

By the partiality of friends it is made my pleasing duty, on behalf of the Mayor and Common Council and citizens of New Albany, to present to the City of Bloomington this useful as well as beautiful engine.

Well may we all hope that the services of the "Sanderson" may never be needed; but should the time of trial come, she will not be found wanting.

If called into active service, may the stream of water poured out prove as strong, as swift and well directed as was the stream of charity poured out by the good people of Bloomington in our time of trouble. May a shiver of light upon the sparkling drops of water as they are hurled against the destroying flames, cause a rainbow, emblem of promise and hope, to span the scene, to remind us of the bond of friendship between the two cities, New Albany and Bloomington.

Response by Rev. Brant.

9. Louisville, New Albany & Chicago Railway. Response by H. H. Friedley.

10. Relief Committee of Bloomington. Response by Rev. Brant.

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