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Republican Progress

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WM. A. GARR, Editor and Proprietor.

THE BUSINESS OFFICE OF THE PROGRESS IS NOW IN THE FRAME BUILDING JUST WEST OF THE BURNED BLOCK.

Fee Block Burned.

AN EARLY MORNING FIRE.
The Northwest Corner Out of Luck Again.

At 8:30 o'clock Thursday morning fire was seen to be curling from the roof of the Fee building, on the northwest corner of the square, near a chimney, and the alarm was immediately given by Craig Worley and Capt. Shoemaker, who chanced to be standing in an alley in the rear of the structure. The fire department responded promptly, and soon had two powerful streams of water playing on the roof. The wind was blowing hard from the southwest, and as the flames burst forth from the comb of the roof on the main building, it was generally believed that the building and perhaps those adjoining it were doomed. The building extended the full length of the lot, 132 feet, and was in two sections. The fire broke out in the south section, a three story structure, and burned so rapidly that the entire roof soon fell in, and the roof of the second section, also three stories, then caught. The firemen climbed upon the Sudbury building just east and fought the fire heroically, and with such success as to confine it to the upper story where it was extinguished. The second section was literally gutted, and the walls were finally pulled down. The wind carried burning shingles and heavy coals to the buildings owned by John May, directly northeast, and they caught fire several times, but were well organized work prevented further disaster. The main building was saturated with water and the large stock of goods owned by Breedon & Co. was damaged seriously, though some of it was carried to the court house yard for safety. An hour's hard, stubborn work placed the fire under control, and having exhausted the cistern the engine was removed to the branch near Waldrön's tannery.

The building was one of the old landmarks, and in its time one of the most pretentious structures in the town. Breedon & Co. occupied the first floor as a dry goods store; the room in the rear was occupied by John H. Wylie as a furniture and paper stock room; up-stairs was Dr. Whitted's office; next room was Benekart & Son's tailor shop, and the adjoining room was used by the Singer sewing machine company. Breedon & Co. had \$9,000 insurance, with a loss of \$13,000; Wylie saved nothing from his room, and had \$600 insurance; Dr. Whitted's effects were carried out with but few exceptions, and his loss will be about \$50, fully insured; Benekart & Son loss \$100, insurance \$200; the sewing machine office sustained but slight loss.

The building was owned jointly by Mrs. M. A. Buskirk and Mrs. W. O. Fee, and they carried \$6,000 of insurance.

The third story of the building had been occupied by the Odd Fellows for many years, but they had removed to their new hall on Walnut street early in the winter. The firemen did noble work from beginning to end. In fact no better management of a fire is seen in any of the large cities—as great risks being taken, and as much judgment being used as is ever seen at a fire. Of course there were some "kickers," as there always are, but they took good care not to do what they advised others to do.

In throwing down the north wall of the building the bricks crashed through the house owned and occupied by Dr. Crain, incurring it very seriously. The Bee Hive sustained a slight loss by the breaking of some heavy glass in the sky-light, owing to the extreme heat.

Ren. C. Smith was seriously cut in the head by a brick which fell from the east wall and struck him while he was at work.

The old "Cataract" hand engine was pressed into service and did good work.

Mrs. Buskirk has been unfortunate in the matter of fires in recent years. The building on the east side of the square burned some time ago, and on the 23d of December the Progress block burned, and now the Fee block has gone through the ordeal. In all these properties she owns a half interest.

Dr. Whitted & Son have secured an office in the building south of Worley's livery stable.

A strong pressure is being brought to bear on Mr. Cleveland to have him select a Commissioner of Pensions from a State east of the Alleghenies. Those who are exerting their influence to this end argue that the West has had the office too many times, and that it is now the turn for the East. Mr. Cleveland has given no signs as to his selection, if he has made any, but he has intimated that the new Commissioner will be a young man of known ability, not too closely allied to practical politics.

DR. PRICE'S
Cream Baking Powder.

The only Pure Cream of Tartar Powder. No Ammonia; No Alum. Used in Millions of Homes—10 Years the Standard.

[Indianapolis Journal.]

Married in a County Jail.
Miss Laura Euriich, who is now Mrs. J. Frank Benham, offered her resignation, Saturday night, as a teacher in the institution for the blind, to take effect at once. She said, "She left Griffith refused to accept her." She left the evening train for Richmond.

The marriage ceremony which united her and Dr. Benham was in the parlors of the sheriff's residence, Monday night. The parents of the groom, his two sisters, Mrs. Winterbotham of this city, sister of the bride, and several others, were present. The bride and her new-made husband and wife parted, he going to the jail and she taking up her home with her husband's parents.

The offense of which Benham was convicted was the criminal seduction of a daughter of a day laborer much beneath him in social position. When first accused he fled to Cincinnati, but was discovered and brought back, and was tried and convicted. Both criminal and civil were begun against him. Until he was found guilty and sentenced to two years in the State Prison South he was at liberty under bond. He was to have been sentenced Monday, but a stay of proceedings was granted by the court, and on the 15th J. Frank Benham is a young man, probably twenty-five years old, well educated and of quiet, retiring demeanor. He is a graduate of the State University at Bloomington, and also of a medical college at Cincinnati. It was while at Bloomington that he met and became engaged to Miss Euriich. At the time of the trouble he was here on a visit to his father, Dr. Griffith.

Miss Euriich is highly esteemed as a woman and a teacher by Superintendent Griffith.

He is a graduate of the State University at Bloomington, and also of a medical college at Cincinnati. It was while at Bloomington that he met and became engaged to Miss Euriich. At the time of the trouble he was here on a visit to his father, Dr. Griffith.

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