

CHESTER TIMES – June 12, 1902

CLIFTON'S BANK IS OPEN FOR BUSINESS – Seventy Thousand Dollars Deposited the First Day – Many visitors Make Calls

The First National bank of Clifton Heights which was incorporated by the Delaware County Courts in March last, formally opened its doors for business at 2 o'clock yesterday morning, and from the influx of depositors there is every indication that it will have a long and successful life.

There were about two hundred depositors, large and small, and it was estimated when the closing hour arrived, that at least \$70,000 had been deposited.

During the day refreshments were served to the patrons, consisting of ice cream, cake, coffee and sandwiches.

THE OFFICERS – The bank has a capital stock of \$50,000 and connected therewith is a saving fund, under direct connection of the banking business. The president is Henry T. Kent, of Clifton Heights, and the vice presidents, Henry Valle of Clifton Heights and J. Milton Lutz of Llanerch. The directors are Henry T. Kent, Clifton; H. H. Haines, president of the First National Bank of Rising Sun Maryland; D.M. Taylor, president of the First National bank of Oxford; W. Frank English, Lansdowne; Henry Vahia, Clifton; Frederick Schoff, Philadelphia; A.H. Eyles, Addingham; Thomas Wolfenden, Lansdowne; John Wolfenden, Cardington; Joseph K. Somers, Garrettford, Joseph H. Richards, Philadelphia, superintendent of Maintenance of Way of the Pennsylvania Railroad and J. Milton Lutz, Llanerch.

The bank building was built generally by home contractors. It is of stone, 36x50 feet, the contractor and builder being Edward W. Winterbottom. It is supplied with a Stiffel-Freeman vault, and a safe of the Hibbard, Rodman and Ely Company. The electric wiring was done by J.A. Girney of Lansdowne; the roofing by C. McCollough of Lansdowne, and the painting by W.B. Remley, Lansdowne.

ELECTRIC PROTECTION – The building is electrically protected by the Burglar Munity Company, and a demonstration was given of its virtue by Joseph Weatherby, Jr., assisted by William Hunter Freese, an illustration of which is interesting and is as follows:

The vaults of the National Bank of Clifton Heights are protected by the electric system of the Burglar Inmunity Company, 420 Sansom Street, Philadelphia.

The opening of the door as much as the fraction of an inch will set off the alarm bell on the outside of the bank building and at night light a red lamp.

The bell is twelve inches in diameter and may be heard for a long distance. The same result follows should the wires be tampered with or cut. The signals will be given in the event of any tricks performed by electrical experts to beat the system such as tampering with the wires or signals.

The vaults are so protected by metallic sheets electrically charged so as to prevent any entrance or attempt at entrance from any direction.

The system is in use and protecting banks in the West, Clifton Heights National Bank being the first to adopt the system in the East.

The installation here is based on the patents of H.F. Freed of Peoria, Ill., and Joseph Weatherby, Jr., of Philadelphia.