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SHIRLEY.

News Items.

Miss Inez McMurray spent Christmas holidays with relatives in Everett; Mr. and Mrs. John Leopold with friends in Groton; Mr. and Mrs. Guy Cook with relatives in Gardner; James E. Richardson with his brother in Putnam, Conn.; Michael Cotter with his parents in Middletown, Conn.; Dr. W. B. McMichael and family of Boston at the home of his sister, Mr. and Mrs. E. H. Allen; Mr. and Mrs. Oliver W. Balcom with their son Frank in Baldwinville; Mr. and Mrs. John G. Coant with their daughter, Mrs. Ernest C. Pevear of Lynn; Mr. and Mrs. Philip Bolger with their daughter, Mrs. Fred W. McGrath of Leominster; Master Walter and sister, Rita Slocomb, in Fitchburg; Mr. and Mrs. Miah Flynn with Mrs. Flynn's parents in Ashburnham; Miss Mamie Doolan at her home in Ashburnham.

Mr. and Mrs. Albert Deardon entertained Christmas Mr. and Mrs. Simpson of Clinton, parents of Mrs. Deardon, and other relatives.

Arthur Bassett left town last week for a visit to Montreal.

Amos and Gervais Gionet of Lowell visited friends in town, Christmas day.

Mr. and Mrs. Ben White of Lawrence were visitors at the home of Marshall Perry, Christmas day.

The society's Assumption will hold their regular meeting, Sunday afternoon, January 2, at three o'clock, at St. Anthony's hall. Officers for the ensuing year will be installed at this meeting. All people of French descent are invited to attend this meeting.

Among the guests at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Frank Snell, Christmas day, were Mr. and Mrs. H. D. Allen of Brookline with their daughter, Miss Hazel. After a bountiful dinner and an afternoon of enjoyment, Mr. and Mrs. Snell with their guests assembled at the home of his sister, Mrs. Julia Kilburn, where the evening was spent in merriment and the exchange and distribution of gifts.

All the Protestant churches of the town held a very pretty and fitting observance of Christmas, last week Friday evening. A concert was given in each church with a Christmas tree heavily laden with gifts for the Sunday school children and others. All the pastors were the recipients of substantial gifts from their parishioners.

Christmas day was very fittingly observed at the Shirley Industrial school for boys. At noon-time a varied and bountiful collation was served, and three o'clock in the afternoon a concert was given which included vocal and instrumental music with literary features. Every boy in the home was given a reminder of Christmas.

Mr. and Mrs. Robert Simpson, Jr., of Providence; also Mrs. Simpson of Revere and the Misses Fannie Lowe and Lena Ferrault of Clinton, spent Christmas with Mr. and Mrs. Walter Knowles.

Herbert Richardson and family of Worcester spent Christmas at the home of his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Herbert B. Richardson of Main street.

Misses Annie and Nina Holbrook spent Christmas holidays with their aunt in Framingham.

Miss Mabel Hazen of Lee, Miss Edna Ely of Gilbertville, and Miss Barbara Hazen of Boston spent the holidays in town at their homes.

J. C. Ayer lodge, A. O. U. W., held its regular meeting, Monday evening, when the following officers were elected for the year 1910:

John H. Logue, m. w.; Jacob C. Beach, fore.; Thomas C. Burrill, o.; John E. Adams, g.; John M. Leopold, fin.; Chas. W. Wolf, treas.; Walter Knowles, sec.; Fred Smith, l. w.; John Simpson, o. w.; Joseph H. McClellan, trustee three years; D. Chester Parsons, rep. to g. l.; John W. Will, alt.

Miss Ruth Burrage of Medford is spending the holidays with Mrs. Louise Butler.

Mr. and Mrs. Eddie Young of Westminster spent the Christmas holidays with Mr. and Mrs. George W. Balch.

Miss Annie Hunter of Charlestown spent the holidays with her mother in town.

James L. Holland, the secretary of the Shirley Co-operative bank, gave a talk on co-operative banking at Littleton, December 8, and at Townsend on December 14. The shares in the Fifth series are now on sale, and a goodly number have already been sold. Mr. Holland will be at the bank office every night next week up to and including Thursday night, and any one desiring to buy new shares can do so at that time.

Miss Stella A. Woodward of Fitchburg will lecture in the vestry of the Universalist church this Saturday afternoon, January 1, at three o'clock, on the subject "Holidays and holy days in Europe." This lecture is being given under the auspices of Miss Mabel Hazen, school teacher at Lee, who is assisting a worthy young man to obtain a college education. He has lost his mother through death, and his father, a storky man, has become insane and consequently has left this young man with a younger brother to care for and no source of income for his education, which is nearly completed. It is hoped that a large number will be present and encourage a worthy cause.

Center.

Melvin Longley took a large number of young folks to a sled ride, Wednesday evening.

M. W. Carey and wife entertained friends from Leominster Christmas day.

Orasmus Andrews, who is at Burbank hospital, is still in a dangerous condition and has not yet been operated upon.

Next regular meeting of Shirley Grange, Tuesday, January 4.

The Storm.

We up here on the hill surely got it good and solid this time in the way of a blizzard, not less than fifteen inches of snow, and the wind fairly outdid itself in piling up the snow in huge drifts and sifting it into every crack and crevice. The middle road is drifted full and has not yet been broken out, and where they have

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Hart Schaffner & Marx clothes

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been through it is well-nigh impossible to turn out of the track.

Mr. Hubbard, who drives J. W. Farrar's meat cart, tipped over his team and fell in such a way as to hurt him quite badly, and his horse came near running away.

Mr. Ware and family came up Sunday to spend the Christmas week, and as the only means of heating the house is by fireplaces, they could not keep warm, and so went back after shivering around one day.

The Goodspeeds are here for a week, as are also Mr. and Mrs. Pray. It seems as if these so-called "summer people" were making a very strenuous effort to have a good time under most discouraging circumstances.

Church Services.

Rev. W. H. Desjardins will preach as usual at the Baptist church, Sunday morning, January 2, at 10.45 a. m., and in the evening at seven o'clock.

Rev. C. A. Knickerbocker will occupy his pulpit at the Universalist church, Sunday morning, January 2, at eleven o'clock. Regular meeting of the Y. P. S. C. U. in the vestry at seven p. m. Subject, "Consecration service." Leader, Miss Mildred Tilden.

Rev. A. A. Bronson will occupy his pulpit at the Congregational church, Sunday, January 2, at 10.45 a. m. Regular meeting of the Christian Endeavor society in vestry at seven p. m. This is the monthly rollcall and consecration meeting.

Altrurian Meeting.

The Altrurians held their regular meeting, Thursday afternoon, Mrs. M. W. Hazen presiding. After the business was concluded the club adjourned to meet again with Mr. and Mrs. Bolton, who so kindly opened their beautiful home for a reception of the club members and their friends. The directors had charge of the arrangement for the day and evening, and had planned a pleasant surprise for all who attended. A large number availed themselves of the opportunity for a sleigh ride and a social meeting. The Misses Sampson of Cambridge gave a musical program. A group of songs were given by Miss Sampson, accompanied by the sister on the piano. Miss Sampson has a very musical and powerful contralto voice, and the audience were charmed with her singing.

After a social meeting the ladies were invited to partake of a very dainty and bountiful lunch provided by the directors, Mrs. Bolton doing her part towards its success. During the evening the president announced that a Christmas greeting had been received from Mrs. Harriet T. Wilson, a former member of the club, who is now residing in Alabama. A vote was taken to send thanks and a new year's greeting for her remembrance.

The chairman of the directors then announced that the civil service reform, legislative and civic committees had engaged Miss Clara B. Beatty of Boston, though the kindness of Mrs. Kate E. Hazen, to address the club at the Congregational vestry at three p. m., on the above subjects. The members will invite their friends to be present.

BOXBOROUGH.

News Items.

Mrs. Sarah Maria Battles, formerly of this place, died at her late residence, West Acton, December 28, aged seventy-four years. Services were from the house, Friday afternoon, December 31. Rev. F. J. Willis of the Universalist church officiating.

Mrs. John Cobleigh entertained a party of twenty-five relatives on Christmas day. An equally large number gathered at B. C. Steele's festive board, and another large family party enjoyed the hospitality of W. H. Furbush. Edgar Mead and family spent the day with the sons in Townsend. Mrs. S. P. Dodge went to Clinton. Mr. and Mrs. Frank Davidson spent the day in Lincoln.

Among the returning sons and daughters for the holidays are Ruth Wetherbee and Ella Furbush from Ashburnham; Mary Hager and brother George from Clinton; Ira Whitcomb from Fitchburg; and Daniel Wetherbee from Worcester, those last two prolonged their visit beyond their expectations, but made themselves useful with shovel and plow.

Miss Grimes of Gardner is a guest of Mrs. Austin Lawrence.

Mrs. Burpee Steele is entertaining her husband's two sisters from South Greenwood, N. S.

Mr. and Mrs. Charles Hemenway of Framingham are at Littlefield farm for the silver wedding and will remain all the week.

A Winslow Wetherbee was drawn juror for the grand jury, and Charles Littlefield for traverse jury, both to begin the term next Monday.

Interesting Christmas exercises were held in the schools on Friday afternoon, and Friday evening the Congregational church had a tree and a pleasing program of music and recitations in the hall, to which every one was welcome.

Miss Nellie Whittier, who gave up No. 1 school on account of ill health the middle of the fall term, hoped to return after the holidays, but, although better, she has thought best not to return this year. Miss Lucretia Gale of Gloucester has been engaged to take her place.

Geo. F. Brown
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YOUNG MEN'S OVERCOATS--Overcoats for Young Men, cut in the very latest styles, many with the new Presto or Military Collars. The fabrics are the new fancy mixtures so popular this season. All very stylish and well-made garments. Sizes, 32 to 38.

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FUR-LINED OVERCOATS--Men's Fur-Lined Overcoats, made with Kersey or Astrakan outside and lined with Dog Skin, Marmot or Muskrat. The Collars are made of Marmot and Blended Muskrat. Splendid values.

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FUR COATS--Men's Fur Outside Coats, made from Dog Skin, Calf Skin, Horse Hide, Galloway and Raccoon Skins.

Prices, \$20.00, \$28.00, \$30.00 and \$60.00.

DRIVING COATS--Men's Heavy Driving Coats, made from Montana Buffalo and Astrakan Cloth. They are made with large storm collars and are wind proof and storm proof.

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BOYS' OVERCOATS--We are showing the new models in Boys' and Children's Overcoats.

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SHEEP-LINED COATS--We have a full line of Men's Sheepskin-Lined and Blanket-Lined Short Coats. The outside is made from Corduroy and Heavy Ducks. Also, Leather and Corduroy Reversible Coats, some with Corduroy Collars, and some with Fur Collars.

Prices, \$3.00, \$4.00, \$5.00, \$6.00 and \$7.47.

Calendar Week.

During the coming week you will find displayed in our window several very beautiful Calendars for 1910.

They are reproductions of beautiful and costly paintings by well-known artists.

You will want one of these Calendars after you have seen them and realize their value.

You can get one free by visiting our store and making a purchase of \$1.00 or upward.

Our out-of-town customers who may find it inconvenient to come to our store next week can have a Calendar reserved for them by dropping us a postal card.

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ONE DOLLAR AND FIFTY CENTS A YEAR.
 To All Advance Paying Subscribers One Dollar.
 Subscribers are urged to keep their subscriptions paid in advance.
WATCH THE DATE OF YOUR PAPER.
 Entered as second class matter at the postoffice at Ayer, Mass.

Saturday, January 1, 1910.
WESTFORD.

Center.

Mr. and Mrs. A. A. Hildreth and little daughter spent Christmas with the Andover relatives.

Miss Eva Fyne is enjoying the last week of her school vacation with relatives in Warren, N. H.

Socorilla, the Greek fruit pedler, lost a valuable dog at Westford station, Wednesday morning, by being run over by the cars.

There were many pleasant family gatherings on Christmas day. There were gatherings of relatives at Julian A. Cameron's at O. E. Spaulding's and at Mrs. A. A. Fisher's were gathered thirteen of the family of twenty-two, composed of sons and daughters of the household and their families. The Henry M. Wright's of Quincy were at N. H. Wright's.

The H. V. Hildreth's spent the holiday with the Fred A. Hildreth's at Maiden. Teachers and students whose home town is Westford are enjoying the holidays at home. Among these are Miss Jennie Chandler at Mrs. J. B. Fletcher's; Miss Lila Fisher, Miss Ruth Tuttle, Miss Edith A. Wright and Miss Edith Bicknell at their homes. Fred Johnson of Amherst Agricultural college has been spending his vacation in town. Miss Gertrude Hamlin, who is a pupil at Miss Kimball's Home School for Girls in Worcester, is enjoying her vacation at home, and Miss May Day is at home from Mt. Holyoke college.

Annual installation of officers by Walter A. Morris of Billerica next Thursday evening at the grange, followed by a supper.

The ladies' missionary society of the Congregational church met with Mrs. John B. Fletcher, Thursday afternoon.

Miss Ruth Fisher entertained the Thimble club with full attendance, Wednesday afternoon, at her home.

The Christmas mail at the local postoffice this year was the largest ever sent through this office. Christmas morning 864 pieces of mail were handled by the rural free delivery carriers. This amount did not include the mail given out to the patrons of the office by Postmaster Fletcher.

It has been a very hard week for the R. F. D. carriers, but they have managed to cover their routes each day, of course, not being able to make their usual time.

We wonder if even the oldest inhabitant has anything to say just now about not having the winter weather that was experienced in former times. Sunday's storm seemed the real thing. In places on our hill top, where the wind has full sweep, the drifts were something to be remembered. There were few pedestrians or teams out. All who could were glad to make it a fireside day. The board of selectmen and road superintendent Miller had several gangs of men out Monday shoveling and clearing roads, and Tuesday Mr. Miller had the snow roller with four horses abreast making rounds, and they did effective work. The car service on the branch line has been tied up and has been seriously missed.

Miss Hazel Hartford has been enjoying her vacation with her Melrose cousins.

Mrs. Frank E. Miller, who has been so seriously ill with typhoid and other complications for many weeks, is convalescing slowly, able to sit up a little each day. Edmund Baker is also on the gain from a hard attack of congestion of the lungs.

Charles O. Prescott attended on Wednesday the funeral of an aged aunt in another town. This leaves his mother, Mrs. Augusta Prescott, the surviving member of her generation in which was a large family circle.

Congregational.

The Christmas tree and entertainment of the Sunday school of the Congregational church took place on Christmas eve in the vestry. The rooms were appropriately trimmed with wreaths, stars, mottoes and hemlock branches. There was an entertainment of carols and recitations by the members of the Sunday school, after which a cantata by the "Santa Claus" was presented by the Parker-ville children. Miss Elizabeth Kimball was the Santa Claus. The parts were well carried out and were much enjoyed by all present, older and younger alike. After this came the distribution of gifts from the Christmas tree. Santa Claus arrived in season to lead this ceremony. He made speeches of greeting and of farewell that were good. All the children received presents and boxes of candy, and there were many other pleasant interchanging of gifts, among which was a generous purse for the faithful pastor and family.

Owing to the storm, there were no services at this church Sunday, either morning or evening, an occurrence that has not happened for many years. The special Christmas music that had been prepared for the morning service has been indefinitely postponed.

The annual meeting of this church with dinner and rollcall takes place on Monday, January 10, and it is expected every member who can will make an effort to be present.

About Town.

The Sunday snow storm as a disturber of the peace has had no equal for several winters. Travel by auto, team, electricity, a-foot, wagon, sleigh or horse back, all met with a nearly unanimous highway hold-up. Travel and attendance at church, which never crowds the highways, even when the sunshine lights and warms the way, was reduced by the storm at the Congregational church to the minister, janitor and someone else, just enough

to cover the scripture where two or three are gathered together. At the Unitarian church there was not a scripture quorum. Considering the frowning attitude of nature against travel, it is clearly debatable who displayed the best judgment, quorum or no quorum. The Christmas tree at the Unitarian church, which was to have met with appropriate pruning last Sunday evening, came in for its share of "snow bound." In accordance with storm-bound postponement, the appropriate time for Christmas cheer will be the vestry next Sunday evening, January 2.

Miss Nettie Stevens, professor of biology at Bryn Mawr and graduate of Westford academy, is visiting Miss Emily Fletcher. Both are attending the meeting of the American Science society in Boston, at which Miss Stevens was asked to read a paper. She is considered one of the twenty scholarly women in this country.

Westford grange will devote its next meeting, Thursday evening, to the installation of the officers elected for 1910. Walter Morris of Billerica, easily efficient and dignified, has accepted the invitation to perform this service.

Rev. J. D. Sallee, preacher at Hanover, and student at Boston university, is exchanging old-time friendships with John A. Taylor and gathering fragments of Christmas echoes.

Miss Sarah Richardson is ill at her home at Brookside and under the care of Dr. Wells. As she has passed the limits of four score and ten by several years, it is evident that an old-fashioned New England rugged constitution has been her carefully guarded heritage.

The Misses Alma and Luanna Decatur have been enlivening up the Christmas days at the old homestead and lighting up old Stony Brook associations and remembrances generally.

The next meeting of the Middlesex North Pomona grange will held next Friday at the usual place in Lowell. Part of the day will be devoted to the installation of officers.

The Fortnightly club will hold its next meeting Friday evening, January 7. To know that the program will be good, Mrs. Fred L. Snow will be in charge.

Christmas Exercises.

The Fortnightly club decorated its headquarters at the Wright schoolhouse with the evergreen Christmas emblems, trees and the usual cheer that is gathered as remembrances. Even better than evergreens and gifts were the decorations of "The day we celebrate," with a varied literary and musical program. On the list was a song by all the children; recitation, Grace Dane and Clarence Wyman; song, Alice and Mabel Dane; readings, Mrs. Walter Wyman and Ernest Wright; song, Mr. and Mrs. Edwin Gould; reading, J. Frank Chandler; song, Mrs. Alma Gould and Miss Lillian Wright; reading, Annie Wyman; readings, Mrs. Edwin Gould and Miss Lillian Wright; reading, Mabel Dane; recitation, Carl Wright; recitation, Clarence Dane; reading, Mark Morrison; recitations, Grace Mayberry, Ralph Barnam, Bertha Mayberry. Following this abundance came Edward Ward, trimmed and distinguished, the most interesting number on the program, as impersonator of gifts that were useful, humorous, literary or eatable. All were remembered and all will remember this evergreen occasion. The committee in charge were Mrs. Fred C. Snow, Mrs. William Wyman and Fred Blodgett. It shows what is doing when women are majorities.

Forge Village.

The Christmas services, which were to have been held in St. Andrew's mission, Sunday evening, were postponed on account of the storm. The New Year communion will be celebrated Sunday morning, January 2, at nine o'clock. The choral evening song with festival to deum will commence at seven o'clock. The mission house is tastefully decorated with laurel and flowers, and an elaborate musical program has been arranged for the evening service.

Sunday witnessed the severest storm here in many years. One milkman got stalled while trying to reach his customers, and had to get help to shovel his horses out of the deep drift. All electric wires were late and made but few trips. The last car reached Ayer at eight o'clock, Sunday evening and did not leave the barn again. The 2.45 train from Lowell to Ayer was two hours late, while the stations were filled with Christmas visitors from Boston, Providence and Worcester, who were anxiously awaiting the arrival of the electric and trains.

Among the many homes where family reunions were held Christmas day, was that of Mr. and Mrs. Daniel Hanley, who had eighteen to dinner. Mr. and Mrs. William Burnett also had a large gathering, and Mrs. Elizabeth Splaine had all her children and grandchildren.

Among the out-of-town visitors over the holidays were Mr. and Mrs. William Bennett, and Mr. and Mrs. C. Ellsworth of Providence, R. I., with Joseph Bennett; Mr. and Mrs. Henry Tyler of Worcester with Mr. and Mrs. William Weaver; Mrs. Herbert Cockroft and Miss Sarah Hunt of Ware with Mr. and Mrs. William Hunt; Archie S. Bennett of Somerville at his grandfather's, A. S. Bennett; John Hinsley of Worcester with Mr. and Mrs. W. C. Precious.

Thomas J. Larkin, a former resident, was in town Monday, calling on old friends. He has an excellent position as boss comber at Springvale, Me.

A large number of Lowell people, who spent some time enjoying at Forge pond last summer, camped skating on the pond Christmas day.

John Kavanaugh spent the holidays with his relatives in Providence, R. I. Mrs. Kavanaugh and little son James, who spent some weeks there, returned home with him.

The mills here will close down for new year's day; the reason given is stock-taking. A large number of French Americans passed a paper round the mill last week to have new year's for a holiday, so with the arrangements made everyone is satisfied. Commencing Monday, January 3, the mill will run fifty-six hours per week, in accordance with the recent law. An increase will be given in the pay, so that employes will earn as much as

if working fifty-eight hours per week. Every one is content with the announcement. All the overseers and second hands received their usual box of cigars Christmas eve, the gift of Julian A. Cameron.

Granvilleville.

The glorious festival of Christmas was fittingly observed in St. Catherine's church, when a high mass was celebrated at 9.45 o'clock, Saturday morning, by Rev. J. J. McNamara. The choir, under the direction of Miss Mary F. Hanley, organist and director, sang McDonough's mass. "Adeste Fideles" was also given as a solo by Rev. J. McCarthy, with chorus by choir. After the mass the benediction of the Blessed Sacrament was given. The services were very largely attended.

Mr. and Mrs. John Hollows of Fitchburg spent the holidays at the guests of Mr. and Mrs. Henry Smith in this village.

That long-looked for snow storm has arrived at right, and when it started in as a slight flurry of snow early Saturday evening, finally turned out to be a typical New England blizzard, and continued to snow and blow all Sunday. The steam cars were somewhat delayed in the morning, but made better time during the afternoon. The electric road did very good work, considering the weather, for the snow plow was kept busy during the day. The storm coming so suddenly made it very inconvenient for people visiting here from out of town, as well as those spending the holidays in the city.

Miss Margaret O'Hara, a former member of St. Catherine's church choir, but now actively engaged in district nurse work in Concord, N. H., has been a recent guest of Mr. and Mrs. W. H. Healy in this village.

In compliance with the new corporation law, the mills of the Abbot Worsted will close for stock-taking, Saturday, January 1. On Monday, January 3, the mills will commence on the new schedule of fifty-six hours per week as follows: 6.30 a. m. to 12; 12.45 to 5.30; Saturday, 6.30 a. m. to 11.15.

Tuesday was a very cold day, the glass showing from eight to twelve degrees below zero in various parts of the village.

Christmas Exercises.

The Sunday school children of the M. E. church held their Christmas tree exercises at the main part of the church on Friday night, Christmas eve. The entertainment was very good and the committee in charge are to be congratulated for the success of this event. The following young ladies had charge of arrangements: Miss Luella Beebe, Miss Bertha Wilson, Miss Addie Day. Willie Gilson impersonated Santa Claus, and made a decided hit. Miss Grace Robinson presided at the piano during the evening and played in her usual clever manner. The committee as well as the members of the church and Sunday school, are very grateful to the Abbot Worsted Company for their thoughtful act in sending a substantial check for the purpose of providing presents for the little ones. It surely is a practical way of showing the true Christmas spirit. Following is the program:

Song, "It came upon the midnight clear," by the school; invocation, Rev. S. H. Armand; solo, Alice May Olson; reading, Grace Robinson; recitation, Earl Robinson; recitation, Walter Robinson; chorus, Maud Robinson, Madeline Holland, Hilma Hanson; recitation, Earl Robinson; recitation, Herman Anderson; duet, Maud Robinson, Madeline Holland; recitation, Fred Robinson; reading, Luella Beebe; song, "Hark! the Herald angels sing," Sunday school; recitation, Nettie Hanning; vocal trio, Maud Robinson, Madeline Holland, Hilma Hanson; recitation, Madeline Holland; recitation, Hilma Hanson; recitation, Maud Robinson; recitation, Chas. Woods; song, "Santa is coming," Maud Robinson; recitation, Mrs. Annie DeFord; solo, "Song of Christmas," Mrs. Armand, accompanied by Mrs. Percy Blood; vocal solo, "Christmas," Miss Bertha Wilson; piano solo, George Wilson.

Interesting Meeting.

Cameron Circle, C. of F. of A., held a very interesting meeting in its rooms on Tuesday night. This was the last meeting held for 1909, and much important business was transacted. The following officers were duly elected for the ensuing term:

Miss Mary Sullivan, J. p. c.; Miss Maria Wall, c. c.; Mrs. Theresa Marchione, w. c. c.; Mrs. E. J. Healy, sec.; Miss Lena De Lorenzo, rec. sec.; Mrs. Ellen Healy, r. g.; Miss Mary Mattson, l. g.; Miss Daisy Gagnon, l. g.; Mrs. Annie DeFord, o. g.; Mrs. Nellie Reeves, trustee for three years; Dr. W. H. Sherman, physician.

After the meeting a social hour was enjoyed, and it was decided to hold a social dance in Healy's hall, Saturday evening, January 8.

DUNSTABLE.

News Items.

Wedgewood Moody is taking treatment for tuberculosis at Rutland. It is reported that he has sold his place to Mr. Hosford.

Among the holiday visitors in town are the Misses Menut, Miss Cora Swallow, Harold Stevens and family, Fred Cheney and family, Miss Lettie Goodhue, Fred Osgood, Miss Sophie Ekstrom, Miss Florence Fletcher.

The Christmas tree exercises at the town hall were well attended. The usual program of recitations, songs, readings and remarks was rendered, after which presents were distributed by Santa Claus and his helpers. Two songs given by Miss Susie Dickinson were especially pleasing and added very much to the occasion.

Fred Merrill has been drawn as a juror.

The schools will reopen Monday, January 3.

The annual church meeting for election of officers and transaction of other business is called for Saturday, January 1.

The young son of Mr. Goldthwaite seems to be recovering from a severe illness of pneumonia.

About Town.

The town number of the Littleton Lyceum course will be especially interesting. It is a stereopticon lecture on "The holy land," by Dr. David Gordon Lyons, Ph. D., D. D., of Harvard university. Dr. Lyons is well qualified to speak upon this subject, for he has been to Palestine and made a careful study of the country. This lecture will hold the attention of young and old, and a large attendance is expected.

The date is Tuesday evening, January 4th.

Orthodox Church Notes.

Rev. Paul Gordon Favor, for two years pastor of the Congregational church, has accepted a call to one of the churches of greater Boston, Prospect Hill Congregational church, Somerville. This pastorate was made vacant last summer by the resignation of Rev. William S. Thompson, owing to ill health. Mr. Favor will take up his work in the new field, February 6. It is expected that he will read his resignation, Sunday, January 2, at the morning service.

The annual meeting of the Congregational church is planned for Saturday, January 8, at twelve o'clock. Last year the attendance was large and all the members of the church and parish are cordially urged to be present at this important meeting.

Sunday, January 2, the communion will be administered. The pastor will give a homily upon the "Incarnation."

Not this Saturday, but the following one on the calendar, which brings it to January 8, will be the next for the dancing class so ably conducted by Mrs. White. If you are there promptly at two you will have the pleasure of seeing the little ones in their opening march. These afternoons are all too short, judging from the happy faces of the children, and the attention given their instructors is very interesting to the spectators. New pupils are coming in each week.

Miss Nora Studley of Harwichport is the guest of her niece, Mrs. Mattie Priest on Foster street.

The Littleton Senate.

The Littleton Senate had just convened. In the barber shop up near the Green. Johnny Hutch was in the chair. And Joe McPherson was on the stool.

Hiram the barber had the floor. And Charles Bonnell was tending door. Deacon Reid sat on a stool. Teaching Deatur the Golden Rule.

Clarence Boyd sat on a box. Waiting for a move from Edward Brotz. Daniel Stetson leaned on the sink. And said Arch Godfrey was on the blink.

Linwood Newell sought to place The nose "H" cut from Hutchy's face. Elmer Boynton sat alone. And sung a hymn in an undertone.

Elmer Flagg was keeping time. And St. Clair tried to make a rhyme. Fred McCoy told Bunnie how George Brown had tried to steal his plow.

Then Capt. Frank of the wood brigade Told of the records he had made. And charged all comers in their turn. Then all arose and the Senate adjourned.

John Gililand.

New Advertisements.

MORTGAGEE'S SALE OF REAL ESTATE IN SHIRLEY, MASS.

By virtue of a power of sale, contained in a certain mortgage deed given by Melina Coteaux to Theophile Lambert, which said mortgage is dated the fourteenth day of October, A. D. 1908, and recorded with Middlesex South District Registry of Deeds, Book 3337, Page 465, and for breach of the conditions contained therein, and for the purpose of foreclosing the same, will be sold by public auction on the premises hereinafter described, in Shirley, aforesaid, on Saturday, the Twenty-ninth day of January, 1910, at two o'clock in the afternoon, all and singular the premises described in and conveyed by said mortgage deed, to wit:

"A certain tract of land with the buildings thereon, situate in said Shirley, on the northerly side of Fredonian Street, and bounded: Beginning at a stake and stones on said Fredonian Street; thence South 68 1/2° East 70 feet along said Fredonian Street to a post at a corner of a street; thence on said street North 18 1/2° East 105 feet to land of Nelson Brasseur; thence North 68 1/2° West 70 feet on said Brasseur land; thence South 18 1/2° West 105 feet on said Brasseur land to the point of beginning. Containing seven thousand three hundred fifty (7350) feet."

The above described premises will be sold subject to any unpaid taxes or liens.

Terms made known at time of sale.

THEOPHILE LAMBERT, Mortgagee.

Shirley, Mass., Dec. 30, 1909. 3t16

YOU CAN ORDER your COAL by TELEPHONE?

YOU CAN ORDER your COAL by TELEPHONE?

A WAG has said that married men are divided into two classes—those who put in all their coal at once and those who buy a ton at a time.

It doesn't make any difference which class YOU belong to, the TELEPHONE is your purchasing agent. It saves you delays, steps and trouble, and meets any emergency that can arise.

To the COAL DEALER, the telephone is indispensable. It keeps him in constant touch with both ends of the track,—the sources of supply and of demand,—for the Bell Long Distance lines cover the country.

New England Telephone and Telegraph Company
 EVERY BELL TELEPHONE IS THE CENTRE OF THE SYSTEM

This Full Size No. 8-20 Range
 Set up in your house complete with smoke pipe and zinc for **\$45.00**
 Chas. E. Perrin, the Plumber
 West St., Ayer, Mass.
 Tel. Store, 96-4 Tel. Residence, 56-12

Watch Our Windows FOR BARGAINS
 Ayer Variety Store
 Globe Special Mountings
 Toric Lenses
G. H. Bullock
 Optometrist & Optician
 R. R. Square, East Pepperell, Mass.

Oculist Prescriptions filled. Open Wednesday and Saturday Evenings. Will call at your residence on request. Tel. 12-3.

Every Saturday Evening
BIOGRAPH
 Moving Pictures
 Page Hall, Ayer
 Marion Valentine
 of Lowell, who sang so acceptably Christmas Night, will be a regular feature hereafter. Come and hear the latest Illustrated Songs sung by a Fine Singer.

Fur Hats
 Like Cut
 In Brown and Black
 Coney at \$1.25
 The style and price here quoted is but a hint of what we are showing.

Geo. L. Davis
 Ayer, Mass.
 FOR SALE—In Fitchburg, a Two-Tenement House with modern improvements, near Normal School. Inquire of W. A. WOOD, 414 Main St., Fitchburg, Mass.

Advertising rates reasonable and furnished on application.

Items of local interest are solicited, and must always be accompanied by the name of the writer, not for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith, and will always be considered strictly confidential. Kindly mail items soon after the day of occurrence, and do not wait unnecessarily.

"The daily labors of the Bee, Awake my soul to industry; Who can observe the careful Ant, And not provide for future want?"

Saturday, January 1, 1910.

The circulation of our nine papers is ten times larger than that of any other paper circulating in the nine towns.

GROTON.

News Items.

The Groton Improvement society will meet with Mrs. Boutwell, Tuesday, January 4, at 3.30 o'clock. Annual meeting.

The Groton Historical society will meet in lower town hall on Tuesday evening, January 4, at 7.30 o'clock. It is hoped there will be a large attendance at this annual meeting.

Mrs. William Fernald of Knopp's Pond farm, who was a patient at Dr. Kilbourn's for several weeks, has returned home much improved, but still very far from well.

Mr. and Mrs. Louis E. Currier of Watertown announce the engagement of their daughter, Marjorie Harrington, to Howard Graves Tuttle, formerly of Groton.

Mrs. Woolley left Tuesday morning for Lee, N. H., to visit her daughter, Mrs. George H. Cook and family, and returned home Thursday.

William L. Patterson came home for Christmas.

Mr. and Mrs. H. H. Rockwood returned to Lunenburg, Monday, having visited among relatives Saturday and Sunday.

W. W. Ames was called to Enfield, N. H., last week by the illness of his father, C. L. Ames, who died on Friday, December 24, from pneumonia at the age of 87 years, 8 months. Mr. Ames was well known in Groton, having made his home here for six years or more, his place at that time being near Baddacook pond. He is survived by a widow, also one son, W. W. Ames of this town. Interment was in Enfield, N. H.

Rev. Mr. Ellis of North Chelmsford will give the address at the annual rollcall at the Baptist church, Wednesday, January 5. There will be a business meeting of the church in the forenoon, followed by the usual church dinner.

The E. S. Clark post received a Christmas present of twenty-five dollars cash from the W. R. C.

C. H. Bixby was obliged to call a doctor a few days ago for a severe attack of nose-bleed, caused by the bursting of a blood vessel.

Hon. William F. Wharton of Groton is in Boston for a few days, where he is a guest at the Hotel Lenox.

The Springfield Republican of December 22 has an item concerning the annual meeting of the North Congregational church, Amherst, Rev. B. F. Gustin, pastor. The dinner was enjoyed by about 145. The rollcall followed and was responded to by ninety-seven. The Sunday school superintendent's report showed an average attendance of 113 out of a total of 123. Other reports showed a prosperous condition of different societies connected with the church.

The result of fishing through the ice by a party of three, George Tuttle, G. W. Shattuck and Joe Bateman at Knopp's pond one day last week, was a catch of twenty-three pickerel. The plan to go again on Christmas didn't materialize.

Myron P. Swallow and family spent Christmas with his brother and family in Gardner. The Misses Bertha and Gladys with their brother Guy prolonged their visit at their uncle's until Tuesday.

Mrs. Maria A. Bowers, who continues to improve in health, was remembered by a shower of postal cards on Christmas from members of the W. R. C.

The Book and Thimble club meets this week Friday afternoon with Mrs. M. W. Parkhurst. Subject, to compare and talk over a list of ten eminent Americans. Each member present giving a list and tell wherein these had distinguished themselves.

Holiday visitors have made many complimentary remarks over the electric street lighting here, and the townspeople are not yet through expressing their appreciation of the service, all of which must be gratifying to the committee. How cheerfully and bravely the lights shone through the snow storm and how splendidly they glistened over the freshly covered streets, making a brilliant spectacle, as well as giving secure and safe traveling.

The twenty-second annual dinner and rollcall of the Union Congregational church will be held in the vestry, Wednesday, January 5. Dinner will be served at twelve noon, followed by the rollcall and that by the annual business meeting.

Views of Ireland from Cork to Killarney will be on exhibition at the public library from January 1 to January 17.

A. H. Mason went to work at West Windham, N. H., this week.

Miss McKee will be soprano soloist at the Unitarian vesper service.

Miss Boutwell and family dined at Groton Inn on Christmas day.

Mrs. M. J. Blood entertained her son and wife, Mr. and Mrs. Albert Blood from Wollaston, at the Christmas holiday.

We have been told since last week that it was nearer eighty dollars than forty dollars that was stolen from the freight depot, last week Friday morning.

All public schools begin again Monday, January 3.

After a merry Christmas day last Saturday all Groton, like the rest of New England, awoke Sunday morning to find a fierce snow storm raging and themselves snow-bound for the day. No church bells rang and no worshippers ventured out. The clergymen of

all the churches had a vacation. The milkmen by dint of hard work got through to their customers, but it was no easy task, especially for Raymond & Smith of North Groton, whose route to the village was filled by many drifts. This genuine old-fashioned snow storm made work for teams, and a large force of men and boys worked all day Monday and Tuesday, and then not completely broken. Measured on a level the snow was sixteen inches deep.

The E. S. Clark post and W. R. C. will meet together on Tuesday, January 4, at 1.30 p. m., for the joint installation of their several officers. It is hoped that a full attendance of both orders will be given. The holding of the installation exercises in the afternoon, instead of in the evening, is a new departure, and calls for remembrance of the hour—1.30 p. m.

J. T. Shepley started December 27 for Sheldon, Vt., to attend to matters connected with his manufacturing plant at that point. The mill is running full time, twenty-four hours a day, and employing about sixty hands.

The Birds' Christmas carol of last week given in the Luther Blood Free series deserves mention as a pleasing and opportune event of Christmas week.

Hollingsworth & Vose are putting on an addition to their machine shop at West Groton. The work is being done by George H. Woods and he expects to have it nearly completed this week.

Christmas Exercises.

The church Christmas festivals on Friday evening at the different churches are all reported successful and well attended. At the Unitarian church there was the usual supper followed by the recitations and other exercises. The pastor, Rev. P. H. Cressey, passed the presents from the Christmas tree. At the Congregational church there was the lunch served the children followed by the exercises, recitations, etc. Marshall Swallow personated Santa Claus. At the Baptist the exercises were also very satisfactory, everybody having a good time.

The West Groton festival was very enjoyable to the large attendance of children, parents and other friends. Christmas recitations and singing by the children made pleasing exercises. This year Santa Claus, alias Jerome Bowles, came down the chimney before them all, making quite a sensation and doing his part just right.

On Christmas night there was a merry time at the residence of John H. Sheedy, when his son, Clayton, and a number of friends enjoyed the tree of the season. Clayton did all the work himself of preparing his Christmas tree, decorating it with tinsel and other ornaments. It stood when finished an attractive sight and had a heavy yield of handsome presents, every one there receiving a number.

Sudden Death.

Wesley Richie, for many years a favorably-known resident of this town, died here very suddenly from heart disease early Monday morning, December 27. His birthplace was in Boston, and his age 64 years, 7 months, 27 days. His death was entirely unexpected and came as a sudden blow to his friends. Only Saturday he went with his wife and spent Christmas day with relatives in Shirley.

The funeral was on Wednesday, December 29.

He is survived by a widow and other relatives. Among them are his nieces by marriage, Mrs. Carrie Sawyer Bruce and Miss Blanche Sawyer, also their brother, Fred Sawyer. The three are young people well known in Groton.

The interment was in Groton cemetery.

LITTLETON.

News Items.

Miss Reba Fletcher Doyle of Mt. Ida school for girls in Newton is the guest of the J. H. D. Whitcomb family, coming in time for the Backlog ball Wednesday evening.

Mrs. S. Elizabeth Whitcomb is visiting her sister in Worcester.

Communion will be observed at all the churches to-morrow.

Miss Elizabeth Smith will leave town Monday for Morristown, N. J., where she is to teach in one of the public schools.

Rev. Paul G. Favor expects to enter upon his new duties as pastor of the Prospect Hill Congregational church in Somerville, the first of February.

The annual meeting of the Congregational church will take place Saturday afternoon, January 8.

At the Sunday school Christmas tree, held in Nashobah schoolhouse, Westford, last Saturday afternoon, about forty persons were present and enjoyed the festivities. Rev. H. B. Drew and Thomas Elliott each gave presents to the Sunday school scholars, and a good time generally was enjoyed.

Miss Orissa Baxter of Hartford, Conn., has been a guest of the G. W. Sanderson family this week.

The suspender factory has been closed this last week. It is expected that the doors will be open again for business next Monday.

The Alliance will meet in the Unitarian vestry next week Friday.

The Outlook club of the Congregational church will meet with Mrs. Geo. W. Canney, Wednesday afternoon, January 5.

Mrs. A. M. Hendley and family spent Christmas with her sister, Mrs. Caroline Hosmer at F. A. Hosmer's.

Mr. and Mrs. Comiskey of Clinton were guests of her sister, Mrs. Charles A. Hartwell, through Christmas and several days following.

The Littleton Lyceum will be honored by the presence of David Gordon, Ph. D., D. D., next Tuesday evening. He will give a lecture on "The Holy Land," illustrated by the stereopticon. Dr. Lyons is Hollis professor of divinity and curator of the Semitic museum at Harvard university.

Herbert J. Harwood is gaining slowly, and, as last reported, was up and about the house, but not yet able to go out of doors.

Christmas.

The Sunday schools of the three churches observed Christmas in the usual manner, the Unitarian and the Congregational Friday afternoon, and

the Baptist in the evening of the same day. Christmas carols, dialogues and recitations formed an important feature in the program, the exchange of gifts and trees laden with cards, candy and other remembrances filled a large place in the interests of the children.

N. H. Whitcomb impersonated Santa Claus at the Unitarian church, having had, as he said, some difficulty in making good time on account of dodging the numerous airships in his course.

Rev. P. G. Favor and Rev. H. B. Drew respectively appeared in the role of Santa at the Congregational and Baptist churches. The children of the former Sunday school enjoyed the usual generous donation from Frank Farmer, confectioner. He contributed over seventy-five pounds of choice candy. Candy canes, as usual, were given to everybody present, a large box of candy was provided for young and old, present or absent, and a cradle box of sweets was sent to each member of the cradle roll. Great was the pleasure of those who received it was immediately distanced by the genuine delight of the giver.

Malcom and Dorothy Priest entertained a party of their young friends very pleasantly at their home on Foster street, Friday evening. The invitations in verse were unique and attractive. The company played whist and merrily awaited the going of the old year and the coming of the new.

Members of the Woman's club can obtain for guest evening of Mrs. D. H. Woodbury and Mrs. C. M. Hartwell after the middle of next week.

Urtaro Tsukakoshi, Avery Chemical chemist, enjoyed the hospitality of Boston mates Saturday and Sunday. Mr. Davies, the Chemical bookkeeper, returned to his home in Williamstown for the holidays.

Mrs. Lucy A. Pickard spent Christmas with her son and his family in Chelmsford.

Rev. H. B. Drew was the guest of Everett Kimball, Christmas day.

Frank McKinlay enjoyed the fun of catching a four and a-half pound pickerel in Fort pond on Christmas day.

Miss Helen Jones of Waltham is visiting her cousin, Florence Whitcomb.

The ball of Wednesday netted more pleasure than dollars. The music was superb, and evidently everybody had a good time; however, the attendance was not sufficient to warrant the expense incurred, and consequently a shrinkage in the treasury is reported.

The thermometer registered 8° below zero Wednesday morning. The roads have required constant attention since the storm of Saturday night. Many places on King street were bare and men have been busy covering it with snow from the sidewalks that were buried beneath banks several feet in depth.

Fire.

In the Saturday morning Globe of December 25 appeared an account of the destruction by fire of a large tub and box factory in Montgomery Center, Vt., involving a loss of \$75,000 and throwing out of employment one hundred and fifty men. On the ordinary reader this doubtless made but slight impression since no lives were lost and no injuries reported, but to our oldest citizen, Orman Ewings, the account carried special significance since the factory was built on the farm owned by his father and where the latter died in 1823.

Mr. Ewings, sr., was the first white man buried in Montgomery. At the time of his death the farm, which included many acres each side of Trout river, contained but six acres of cleared land, the remainder being covered with forests. Near his dwelling house was a beautiful cascade, which our venerable townsman pleasantly recalls with many other objects of interest about the home of his boyhood.

Annual Meeting.

The annual parish meeting and supper of the Unitarian society was held Monday night in the vestry, and won the distinction of being the largest known in the church annals. Enthusiasm was in perfect harmony with the members. The supper provided was pronounced unsurpassed in quality, quantity and sociability. Business was dispatched very easily since the former officers with one exception were re-elected. J. W. Ireland, after a long and honorable service in the capacity of treasurer, begged to be relieved of the office, and D. G. Houghton was chosen to succeed him.

Then followed several brief addresses. Rev. C. A. Drummond spoke very inspiringly and also suggestively of the different church organizations and their future possibilities, particularly in the way of improvement. Joseph A. Harwood gave an interesting account of the church history. Mrs. A. M. Hendley, as representative of the Ladies' Sewing Circle, outlined its development from the time of its organization in 1830, when its chief object was charitable and literary, to the present day of its special aid to the church. Its founder, Mrs. White, she happily alluded to as "Mother of the circle," as Rev. William H. White was "Father of the lyceum," organized the same year. Hon. F. A. Patch spoke on the business interests of the church, church attendance and other subjects, presenting a favorable and encouraging aspect. The meeting concluded with an entertaining farce, "The cloudy day," acted by Mr. Drummond and Mrs. Frank B. Priest.

Death.

Mr. and Mrs. Sherman Jewett were called to West Acton, Tuesday morning, December 28, by the death of his sister, Mrs. Battles. Funeral services were held in West Acton, Friday afternoon, December 31, and the remains were brought to Littleton for interment in Westlawn cemetery.

Mrs. Battles was born April 18, 1835, in the house now owned and occupied by James Nixon, Sr., on the Ayer road, and much of her life was spent in Boxborough and West Acton, where her husband, who died some twenty-five years ago, was engaged in farming. Throughout her life, however, she has retained a keen interest in her native town, where it was her custom formerly to visit frequently.

Death came not unexpectedly, since the deceased had experienced three shocks, the last of which was attended by conditions that could terminate in only one way.

Mrs. Battles was a woman of fine principles, who will be missed and mourned by a large circle of friends.

Mrs. Leon Nash had a beautiful new piano for a Christmas present.

Miss Norris of Acton has been engaged as teacher at the academy in place of Miss Bubbitt, resigned.

The regular correspondent is not responsible for the item that appeared in last week's column contradicting an assault previously reported. It is farthest from her intentions to offend anyone or to report an untruth. Neither has she a desire to publish anything of the sensational order, and while she wishes in no way to cast reflections upon the writer of last week's item, she begs the good people of Littleton not to take too many risks on the street after dark.

Capt. Wm. H. Sawyer writes encouragingly of his health, which has very much improved since his arrival in California. He speaks of the weather as rainy and very chilly much of the time during the last few weeks.

Death.

George Parker, oldest son of Eugene B. Parker, died recently of pneumonia at an infirmary in Atlanta, Ga., after an illness of one week. The sad news was communicated by his brother, Roger Parker, through a letter to his uncle, Waldo E. Conant, mailed December 27. E. B. Parker was away in Florida at the time of his son's death.

George was born in Littleton twenty-two or three years ago, and here he lived the greater part of his life, moving with the rest of the family to the South a few years ago. He is remembered as a promising youth of clean character and manly bearing. He possessed unusual musical talent and played several instruments well. Engaged in business that admitted of his living with the rest of the family, he furnished much cheer in the home through his music and other interests. The sympathy of their many Littleton friends will go out to the Parker family in their recent affliction.

HARVARD.

News Items.

The King's Daughters will hold their regular monthly meeting at the Memorial rooms on Thursday, January 6, at 2.30 p. m.

W. H. Davis from Colon, Neb., is visiting his relatives, Miss Susie and Stowell Davis of this town.

Miss Winnifred Bryant, who is attending Fitchburg Normal school, is at home this week here in town.

The annual ball and concert given by the Harvard Complimentary club will be given at the town hall on Thursday evening, January 20. Music by Hibbard's orchestra of Lowell. Supper will be furnished by the Unitarian society.

Mr. and Mrs. Horace K. West of Bangor, Me., visited over Sunday with their brother here.

Burton O. Stone of Enosburg Falls, Vt., for several years a resident here, is visiting this week with his wife's mother, Mrs. Dudman on Oak hill.

Rural carrier, Frank M. Hynes, made the complete trip of his route on Monday last and served every box on the route. He reported a little real weather on Oak and Prospect hills. He arrived at the office at 6.30 p. m. with a large mail.

On account of the very bad condition of the roads and the inability of some of the teachers to get back there was no school on Monday.

Members of the Congregational parish presented Rev. H. B. Mason with a telephone for one year as a Christmas present.

Installation of officers will take place at the grange on Tuesday evening, January 4.

Miss P. M. Lee, who is staying with Miss Louise Dyer for the winter, was taken very suddenly ill with erysipelas this week and is now confined to her bed.

The day for the meeting of the Up-to-Date club is changed and now is to be the second Tuesday in January.

Miss Susie Marsh of Ware is visiting with her aunt and uncle, Mrs. and Mr. J. A. Barry.

Tyler Rogers of Allston is visiting this week with Ellery Royal.

Turning out for a team last Thursday, Frank Hynes, R. F. D. carrier, broke a shaft bolt. His horse jumped and left Mr. Hynes with his sleigh, the horse and shafts going to Stow. Mr. Hynes borrowed a horse and finished his route. No serious damage outside the shafts was done.

Mrs. Lindley has her niece, Miss Osborne from Waltham, with her for the winter.

Otis H. Forbush, auctioneer, will sell by auction the household goods belonging to the estate of Mrs. Mary E. Wood on Monday, January 3, at 12.30 p. m., at her late residence.

Mr. and Mrs. James A. Barry entertained at Christmas dinner Mr. and Mrs. Warren Fairbank, Miss Mildred Fairbank, also Mr. and Mrs. J. Frederick Barry of Schenectady, N. Y.

To the Editor:

Will you give space to correct a mistake on the article on the Houghton family in last paper, of which the writer is willing to plead "guilty." In the family line somehow one generation, the fourth, was accidentally omitted. It should have been:

First, James, who built the ancestral home; second, his third son, Thomas, who married Mariah Moore; third, their only son Elijah who married Mercy Whitney; fourth, the eldest of their eleven children, Thomas, who married Betsy White; fifth, Cephas, one of their thirteen children, who married Sarah Whitney; sixth, Edward Warren, who married Francena F. W. Whitney, and has one daughter, Miss Anna Gertrude.

KATHERINE L. LAWRENCE. Still River, December 28, 1909.

WESTFORD.

About Town.

Real family and friendship reunion amidst the Christmas and evergreen decorations was gathered on Christmas day at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Arthur T. Blodgett on Depot street, which is never short-handed in hospitality. Dinner at the family table for the full company, at which fourteen were insufficient to surround its



Men's Furnishings

Signal Coat Shirts Learn the Solid Comfort of Wearing

The Signal Shirts Coat Style

You'll be pleased with the way this Shirt Fits and Feels; the Excellent Workmanship and Durable

Fast Blue Percalé it is made of.

TWO HANDY POCKETS, and TWO FOUR PLY COLLARS with every Shirt.

Price, \$1.00

Sizes, 14 1-2 to 17.

Geo. B. Turner & Son.

Special ANNOUNCEMENT

Commencing

December 27, 1909

For 15 Days

we will give you a great discount on Holiday Goods and some other lines of Goods for CASH. A good time to make presents to some that have been overlooked.

W. A. MOORE & CO.

Groton, December 22, 1909.

liberality. After dinner Henry Tyler of Worcester acted as toastmaster and suggested varied good thoughts, which were responded to with a ready wit sharpened by the temptations of the table. This was followed by the allurements of the Christmas tree, at which George E. Gould skillfully acted the art of the historic Santa Claus. This proved a happy prelude to singing several popular Christmas carols in keeping with English customs. The singing was led by Fred Naylor of Forge Village, with Mr. Blodgett as accompanist, who also followed with cornet solos. Among those present were Mr. and Mrs. William Weaver, Mrs. Mary DeRoehn and three sons of Forge Village, William and Elmer Emerson, Mr. and Mrs. Henry Tyler and daughter.

John Wilson has gone to Cochocton, Ohio, to attend the funeral of his nephew, Edson H. Wilson.

New Advertisements.

For Sale

One Chestnut Horse, six years old; weighs 1550 lbs.; sold for no fault. Have one more than we want. He is a good one. Come and see him.

A. E. Lawrence & Son. Ayer, Dec. 24, 1909. 1115

FOR SALE—Stock Hay, Lumber Wagon, Buggy, Hens and Pigs. Horse to let for keeping this winter. OWEN Grotton, Groton, 2116

FOR SALE—Dry Hard Wood; \$1.50 per cord; also Green Birch Wood, \$2.25 per cord. C. H. YAFF, Littleton, 1116

FOR SALE—Dry Hard Wood; \$1.50 per cord; also Green Birch Wood, \$2.25 per cord. C. H. YAFF, Littleton, 1116

To the Honorable Board of Selectmen of the Town of Ayer:

The Lowell and Fitchburg Street Railway Company respectfully petition your honorable board for permission to transport as common carriers newspapers, baggage, express matter and freight upon any and all parts of its line within the limits of said Town of Ayer, in accordance with the provisions of Chapter 402 of the Acts of the year 1907.

Lowell and Fitchburg Street Railway Co. By D. C. Parsons, Attorney.

Ayer, Dec. 20, 1909.

Upon the foregoing petition it is ORDERED, that a public hearing be given in the Selectmen's Room in the Town Hall, on Monday, January 17, 1910, at 7.30 o'clock p. m.; and that the petitioner give public notice thereof by publishing an attested copy of said petition and this order thereon in Turner's Public Spirit and the Ayer News, newspapers published in said Ayer, fourteen days, at least, before the date of said hearing.

Edward A. Richardson, Frank S. Pierce, John M. Maloney, Selectmen of Ayer.

A copy of petition and order thereon. Attest: John M. Maloney, Clerk of Selectmen, 3116

FOR SALE—Dry Hard Wood; \$1.50 per cord; also Green Birch Wood, \$2.25 per cord. C. H. YAFF, Littleton, 1116

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Subscription price, \$1.50 per annum, if paid in advance, \$1.00.

Subscribers are urged to keep their subscriptions paid in advance.

"Tis to the Pen and Press we mortals owe,
All we believe and almost all we know."

Saturday, January 1, 1910.

AYER.

News Items.

A pleasant surprise party was given to Mr. and Mrs. Samuel B. Gelo and daughter on Friday evening, by their friends and neighbors. After a social hour with music and games and refreshments, Mrs. Thomas stepped forward and with a few well-chosen words, in behalf of the company, presented Mrs. Gelo with a pair of gold bracelets and wished them a pleasant and safe journey to the southland and a happy return in due time to their friends in Ayer. Mr. and Mrs. Gelo were taken by surprise and Mr. Gelo responded, thanking the donors for so finely remembering them on their departure. Then Rev. J. W. Thomas offered prayer and all joined in singing "Blest be the tie that binds."

The Ayer Whist club met with Mrs. W. W. Manning, Tuesday evening, December 28, and the prize winners were: Mrs. George L. Osgood, first; Mrs. Geo. A. Sanderson, second; A. M. Phelps, first; Miss Ruth Penner, second. The next meeting of the club will be with Dr. and Mrs. C. A. Fox, January 11.

A. H. Messenger, a former employe at H. S. Thomas' printing office, is now playing French horn in the orchestra traveling with H. W. Savage Western Merry Widow Company, which is en route to the Pacific coast, playing at Seattle, San Francisco, Los Angeles and all of the prominent cities of the west, the northern part of Mexico and the southern states. They are playing in Omaha, Neb., this week.

The date of the bal masque of Geo. J. Burns Hook and Ladder Co., in town hall, will be changed to Tuesday evening, January 25. Wilson's orchestra of Fitchburg.

The Unitarian Woman's alliance will meet on Thursday, January 6, with Mrs. S. M. Barker.

The Christmas tree and concert at the Baptist church, last week Friday evening, was well attended, and many gifts from the vicarage presented to the Sunday school children and friends by Philip Delano, who personated Santa Claus. The pastor and his wife were remembered with a sum of money.

Sunday, January 2, the pastor, Rev. J. W. Thomas, will preach at the Baptist church, at 10.45, a new year sermon. Sunday school at twelve. Praise meeting at seven with special singing and a short address.

Mrs. L. H. Merchant and husband of Boston spent Christmas with her parents, Rev. and Mrs. J. W. Thomas in Ayer.

Mrs. J. W. Thomas has been in Worcester this week, where she went to see her father, Rev. C. H. Carvell, who has been quite ill for several weeks.

The annual parish meeting of the Unitarian society will be held at the vestry next Wednesday evening, at 7.30 o'clock. A full attendance is desired.

Mrs. N. T. Duncklee, mother of E. E. Duncklee, died December 23, in Keene, N. H., aged 90 years, 10 days. Burial was in Milford, N. H. The deceased was well known here, having been a frequent visitor in her son's family.

The Loyal Temperance Legion will meet in the Baptist vestry, Thursday afternoon, January 6.

There is to be a meeting in selectmen's room in the town hall, Monday evening, January 17, at 7.30, in the interest of the Lowell and Fitchburg Street Railway Company, petitioning for permission to transport as common carriers newspapers, baggage, express matter and freight upon any and all parts of their line within the limits of the town of Ayer, in accordance with the provisions of chapter 402 of the acts of the year 1907.

A barn dance will be given in Page hall, Ayer, on Friday evening, January 7, by the pupils of Benjamin B. Lovett's dancing class. Two prizes will be given for the best costumes. This will be an interesting and pleasing affair, and there should be a large attendance.

Installation of officers of Division 7, A. O. H., will take place at the A. O. H. hall on Sunday afternoon, January 2, at three o'clock. The members of the Pepperell division will be present to witness the installation.

As a token of appreciation and good will, the boarders at the Hillside presented Mrs. Thayer with a handsome silver service on Christmas day. The boarders received very acceptable presents from Mrs. Thayer.

Owing to the storm of last Sunday, which prevented church services, Rev. L. E. Perry will preach his farewell sermon Sunday evening in the Congregational church and conduct the communion service at 10.45 a. m., and preach a short sermon.

Miss Edith L. Perry entertained her Sunday school class at a Christmas supper, Friday evening, December 24. The table was fittingly decorated for the occasion, a tiny Christmas tree being the center-piece. Miss May Peterson, in behalf of the class, presented Miss Perry with two beautifully engraved gold bar pins as tokens of their love and appreciation. Miss Perry's gift to each girl was a picture of Hoffman's Christ at twelve years of age. The following were present: Dinna and Mary McLeod, Violet Viall, Mildred Bales, Flora Cole, Pearl Carley, Ethel Nixon, May Peterson.

Mrs. Elizabeth B. Denison, member of committee on household economics of Massachusetts state federation of women's clubs, will speak before the Ayer Woman's club, January 5, at 3.30 p. m. The public are cordially invited to be present. Admission free.

Mrs. Fred Simonds of Cambridge street, after a very severe attack of muscular rheumatism, is able to be out again. Mrs. Simonds was the recipient of a very beautiful painting in gilt frame, a Christmas gift, from the Ladies' Circle of the Baptist church at Shirley, where she is president and a former resident of that town.

There will be a basket ball game in the town hall this Saturday evening, January 1, between the College Chums of Leominster and the local Civic Gymnasium team. The visiting team is a strong one and a close and interesting game is looked for. The game last Saturday afternoon with the Fitchburg Y. M. C. A. Intermediates was won by the local gymnasium team, the score being 36 to 11.

Rev. Edwin Evans, who has preached at the Unitarian church here for the past fourteen months, has accepted a call to be pastor of the Universalist church in Fort Plains, N. Y., Herkimer county, a very prosperous town of about 5000 inhabitants, fifty-eight miles w. n. w. of Albany. Mr. and Mrs. Evans left Friday of this week, and their furniture was shipped to its destination on Thursday. Mr. Evans is a man of superior attainments, a scholar, a forcible preacher, a man of strong convictions and fearless in expressing them. He preaches next Sunday his first sermon as pastor of the Universalist church in that town. We wish Mr. Evans success in his new field of labor.

Thomas F. Mullins has sold the lots on Fletcher and Third streets, recently purchased by him, to Moses P. Palmer.

The Sigsbee Co. shut down their factory Monday for a week or ten days.

Charles S. Wheeler of Pepperell, disturbing the peace at Pepperell, December 24, was in court December 27, and on trial was found guilty and fined ten dollars.

Miss Frances Donovan of Lowell is the new teacher of the seventh grade in place of Miss Eagles, who is teaching in Everett.

A joint installation of the newly-elected officers of the G. A. R., W. R. C. and S. of W. will take place in G. A. R. hall, Tuesday evening, January 4. Supper will be served at six o'clock in the Unitarian vestry. Exercises in the hall commence at 7.30.

The cellar is completed on the lot of Capt. Palmer, near Franklin Lawton's house, for the Harvey A. Woods' house, so-called, on Washington street, which he is taking down, and purchased of Dr. Coles and will be rebuilt on his cellar lot.

Joseph Mullin was taken ill with a sore throat over a week ago, and it afterwards proved to be diphtheria. He is still quite sick, but is improving. His little daughter, Margaret Pauline, twenty-two months, was stricken with the same disease and died Friday evening, December 24. His little boy, who would have been four years of age this coming March, died Monday, December 27, of diphtheria. The bodies were placed in the receiving tomb and later burial will be in St. Mary's cemetery.

A Greek service was held last Saturday in St. Andrew's church and a Greek priest from Lowell conducted the services.

Class Reunion.

The third annual reunion of the class of 1906, Ayer high school, was held at the home of Walter W. Filibrown, Monday evening, December 27. The first part of the evening was taken up by a "drawing contest," the first prize being awarded to Miss Lillian Leahy, and the booby prize to Hartwell Bigelow. This was followed by music, consisting of two vocal solos by Miss Leahy, and selections on the piano by Arthur Carley, John Hooley and Miss Mamie Dailey.

At 10.45 the happy party set down to dinner, which was greatly enlivened by a discussion on football, and a short speech by John Carrigan, president of the class, who hoped that he could have the next reunion at his house on the following year. The party dispersed at midnight after an evening well spent.

This is the only class of the high school that holds reunions and cannot only boast of the largest class, but has also the youngest graduate. Those present were: Mamie Dailey, Lillian Leahy, Katherine McGuane, John Carrigan, John Hooley, Frank Ryan, Fred Barrows, Chester Tarrant, Hartwell Bigelow, U. M. '13; Arthur Carley, U. P. '12; Edward Wilson, U. P. '10; Alfred Richardson, Harvard '10; Herbert Allen, Tufts '13; and Walter W. Filibrown.

To be Installed.

The installation of officers of Caleb Butler lodge of Masons by Worshipful brother Ira G. Dwinell, will take place in Masonic hall, Monday evening, January 3, 1910, at 6.30 o'clock. Worshipful brother A. A. Filibrown will act as marshal. Supper in Banquet hall at seven o'clock. E. H. Bigelow, caterer. Entertainment after the installation services. Music furnished by the Standish quartet of Boston. Reader and entertainer, Miss Bertha Wells of Boston. The following is a list of the officers to be installed:

Robert Henry Irwin, master; George Orrington Filibrown, s. w.; Warren Lester Preble, j. w.; George Henry Bixby, p. m.; Elson Hayward Bigelow, p. m.; sec.; Stephen Noble Lougee, chaplain; Ira Grant Dwinell, p. m.; marshal; Warren Herbert Fairbank, s. d.; Bert H. H. Hopkins, s. d.; Charles Augustus Nourse, s. d.; Philip Roscoe Andrew, j. s.; Stanley Latham Cotton, l. s.; Ellis Bacon Harlow, organist; Henry Edwin Sanderson, tyler.

About Town.

Robert Burns lodge, I. O. O. F., at its meeting, Tuesday night, elected these officers for the coming half year: Harvey Winslow, n. g.; Joseph Kyle, v. g.; Stanley L. Cotton, sec.; Peter Tarbell, treas.; E. D. Stone, trustee.

The attendance at the churches was very small last Sunday, owing to the storm.

The executive board of the Woman's club meets this Friday evening with Mrs. Nina M. H. Beverly.

Miss Madeline Burns from Smith college is at home for the Christmas holidays.

In the seventh grade school this week there has been a substitute teacher, Miss Donovan from Lowell. In the eighth grade Miss Stubbs has remained in charge, as her other school does not open till next week.

Accident.

Harry Mason, who is employed as brakeman in the yard here, was injured Christmas morning about five o'clock. It seems that while he with the other members of his crew were trying to remove an obstacle from the track in



WE SHOW HERE

One of the Splendid Values we are offering to the Holiday Shopper, a 6 ft. Extension Table in American Quartered Oak polished top with heavy claw feet, a bargain at \$9.50.

Fancy Rockers, Rugs, Pedestal Centre Tables, Desks, Buffets, Children's Rockers, Taborets, Pictures, Etc., in large and varied assortment, making selections an easy matter.

W. WRIGHT & SON, AYER.

front of the tannery, he was thrown over the steep embankment, striking a stone wall and landing some ten feet below. When his friends picked him up he was unconscious and remained so until he was carried to the baggage room, where he was attended by Dr. Hopkins. An ugly gash was found in the back of his head, which required four stitches to close. There was also severe bruising on his hips where he struck the stone wall. He was confined to his room for a few days, but is getting along nicely at present.

Moving Pictures.

The feature picture for Saturday night at Page hall is "The broken locket," a Biograph picture that stamps this company as being at the head of the film-producing firms. In "The broken locket" we are introduced to the finesse of acting and staging, which within the past year has created a world-wide demand for Biograph subjects. The sad story of a young man's downfall through yielding to temptation, the consequent blighting of the life of a trusting sweetheart, the repentance that came too late, are all presented in a manner so convincing that as a moral lesson "The broken locket" ranks with any of the sermons in pictures ever issued by this company, which is the highest praise that can be given. Photographic excellence also prevail throughout. The singer, Miss Marion Valentine of Lowell, who sang so acceptably Christmas evening, although not seeing the illustrated songs before that night, will be a permanent feature hereafter at these popular entertainments.

Obituary.

Caroline Augusta Hildreth, widow of Abel Prescott of Ayer, born at Westford, died Monday, December 27, at her home in Reading, aged 82 years, 10 months.

She was the daughter of Joseph and Parmelia Hildreth of Westford. Her early life was spent at Westford, where she attended the academy. After her marriage she came to Ayer, where she remained until she went to Reading in 1887.

She was exceedingly patient as she busied herself about the house or sat quietly waiting, deprived of her ability to read by failing eyesight and shut out from intercourse with others by her great deafness. She was very fond of books and reading, and her supply of quotations included all the best-known authors. She loved flowers dearly and indeed all forms of nature very much. She was very unselfish in her devotions to her home and friends, and best loved by those who knew her best.

She is survived by a son, Abel E. Prescott, and a daughter, Olive A. Prescott of Reading, and one sister, Mrs. Maria T. Noyes of Waltham. Services were held Wednesday afternoon from the late home, Rev. Marion B. Horn officiating. Interment was at Ayer.

Her husband, Abel Prescott, died June, 1885, and Mrs. Prescott had been a resident of this town for thirty-two years.

Ministers' Meeting.

The winter meeting of the ministers of the Middlesex Union association will be held in the Congregational church at Ayer, Tuesday, January 18, at one o'clock in the afternoon. Rev. Dr. Ames Chalmers, Fitchburg, moderator.

Program: Devotional exercises by the moderator; election of officers, scribe, treasurer, auditor and one member of the executive committee for 1910, in place of A. F. Newton, whose term expires.

Practical topic, "Vital elements in pulpit discourse," Rev. Mr. Adams, Concord Junction.

Biblical topic, "The book of Daniel," Rev. C. J. Holm, Fitchburg.

Homiletic topic, "The value and use of poetry in preaching," Rev. A. F. Newton, North Leominster.

Every member is expected to be present; twenty-five minutes to each paper; fifteen minutes to discussion. Meeting closes at 3.55 p. m.

Church Services.
Unitarian church service at 10.45. Rev. Dr. Plak will begin his ministry of the church with a new year sermon on "How Jesus Increases the world's faith, hope and love." Sunday school at twelve.

New Year's Sunday in St. Andrew's church will be marked by the choral celebration of the holy communion at eleven o'clock and the recital dedication to newness of life. It begins the twenty-first year of St. Andrew's parish and the eleventh of the present pastorate. There is a service of common prayer and address every Monday evening at eight o'clock in St. Andrew's church.

Items of Interest.

We have 14,974,448 men in this country available for military duty, but, fortunately, most of them are engaged in more useful occupations.

None of the maidens in Guatemala are allowed to go abroad from their homes without the company of a chaplain, and a lover is only allowed to come and court his sweetheart through the heavily barred windows of her father's home. After they are married they pass along the streets in Indian file, the woman marching ahead, so that the husband can be in a position to prevent any flirtations.

Canadian immigration figures show that in the last eight months nearly seventy-three thousand settlers have gone from the United States, taking more than \$72,000,000 with them in property and money.

Obed Smith of the Canadian emigration office believes Canada would be glad to take ten thousand children from the British poor-law schools a year, and would find homes for them under mutual arrangements, but negotiations have not been opened on either side. It is estimated, says "Canada," that each child in the poor-law school

costs the country, on an average, \$250 a year, the figures being arrived at by adding to actual cost a proportionate share of capital expenditure and interest on money expended in buildings, etc.

Voting in Spain is held to be a duty to the community, not merely a privilege of the individual, and neglect of civic obligation carries its own penalty. Male adults of legal age and under seventy, with the exception of priests, notaries and judges, are required to vote in municipal elections. Failure to cast a ballot is punishable by having one's name published as censure for neglect, by having taxes increased two percent, by suffering a deduction of one percent in salary if employed in the public service, and for a second offence the loss of right to hold elective or appointive office.

The use of artificial flowers has increased amazingly, a well-known florist and decorator said the other day. Nowadays when persons find it necessary to decorate their houses with flowers for weddings, receptions, dances, even funerals, they take a tip from the experienced florist. He explains that it is just as nice and much cheaper to use artificial flowers for three-fourths of the decoration required. The artificial flowers are made so cunningly that it is extremely difficult to detect the imposture. The artifice is strengthened by perfuming the artificial flowers delicately. Florists keep on hand four or five complete sets of artificial flowers for house decoration.

There is a secret code hidden in the hotel labels with which travelers hater on the continent of Europe are so profusely decorated. Globe trotters are aware that in Switzerland, and in other tourist countries, porters and waiters stick bills or labels with the name of the hotel on the luggage when one leaves. The trunks look very ugly at the end of a trip and require a sound washing. A writer in Notes and Queries says he has been told that the place where these labels are stuck and the way of putting them—upright or upside down or crosswise—form an unwritten and unsuspected "character." Forewarned, forearmed, according to an English proverb. These labels speak and tell in the next hotel if the traveler is generous or not, if good "tips" are to be expected—in short, what the prey is worth.

Old tin cans which find their way to the domestic rubbish heap have been turned to good account by the Liverpool corporation. Last year, from this source, the health committee realized \$1500. In future the revenue is likely to be increased, because the authorities are engaged in putting down a new plant. It is estimated that at least \$6000 a year might be derived from this form of municipal trading.

Vermont's fish and game commissioner reports that 4736 deer were killed in the state in the open season this year. The number of does slain exceeded the number of bucks by over 500. The greatest slaughter was in Windsor county, where 936 animals were killed.

It seems that the mortgage business is going to be better still next year. The prediction is made that the price of automobiles is going up.

All of the food served to a guest at a Japanese banquet and not consumed by him at the time is taken to his home by the servant of his host.

Interest has been aroused lately in the natural bridges of the country, with the result that a number of new ones have been brought to light. The state of Utah has four that were heretofore practically unknown, and the last one to be investigated is the largest. It is about four miles north of the boundary line between Utah and Arizona and the Navajo mountains. The rock is a hard sandstone. One end of the bridge juts out from the wall of the canon, with the springing line high above the canon floor, while on the other side the springing line is at the base of the cliff, so that the arch is not perfectly symmetrical, though the curve is smooth and has scarcely a break, having a clear span of 274 feet, with its crown 301 feet above the bed of the stream which flows beneath it.

What may be fairly expected, we think, is that the army engineers will be permitted to spend \$500,000,000 on the lock scheme, and that it will then be abandoned and a sea-level canal dug at a cost of \$500,000,000 more. When the American people shall have dropped a billion dollars into the jaws of the dredging machines and steam shovels at Panama, they will perhaps, have a waterway for big ships across the isthmus, and this may be accomplished possibly by 1925.

The Rittenhouse charts show for greater New York, from 1887 to 1907, a fall in deaths from consumption from thirty-five in every ten thousand of population to twenty-one and a fraction. In the same period they show a run up for heart, kidney, apoplexy deaths from nineteen to thirty-six and a fraction. In the United States the consumption death rate has decreased forty-nine percent in twenty years; the kidney death rate has increased 131 percent. The Chicago rate has increased 167 percent. In Connecticut there has been an improvement since 1900, but as against 1880 the rate in 1907 showed an increase of 139 percent.

That not only the healthy recreation of the sportsman but the nation's health and agricultural prosperity as well are seriously threatened by the lack of federal protection of migratory birds is shown by recent records of the investigations of government authorities. Hosts of insects that harm the crops and carry deadly germs are now known to be consumed by these very birds that the nation is asked to guard from wholesale slaughter. If the lack

of uniform protection of these birds by the states which they must cross is allowed to menace the interests of the American people any longer it is pointed out that the consequences will be serious.

Illegible handwriting, which has given rise to so many comedies, led to a tragedy in the case of Bacher, a musical enthusiast of the last century, who devoted several years to the composition of a history of Viennese music. His task finished, he submitted the manuscript to the Austrian Imperial academy, which he had been led to believe would defray the cost of its publication. After three months his manuscript was returned; despite their best efforts the members had been unable to decipher it. Bacher then endeavored to have his work copied, but every professional copyist who undertook the task had to confess himself baffled. He thereupon attempted dictating the work, only to find that even he could not decipher it, and, heart-broken at the discovery that his years of toil had proved fruitless, he attempted suicide, and finished his days in a lunatic asylum.

England for English Girls.

The countess of Egerton, widow of Earl Egerton of Tatton, whose first husband was the duke of Buckingham, according to report, has planned a movement among titled English women to resist the "Yankee invasion," by which the most eligible of England's unmarried nobles are being captured by the daughters of aspiring American millionaires.

The plans of the countess contemplate nothing less than a campaign of education among women members of the English aristocracy, particularly the mothers, with a view to securing intelligent and intelligent action to influence their sons and brothers against marrying American girls.

Under the countess' plan, it is said, the mothers will begin to inculcate in their sons at an early age scorn for American girls and women who come to England and sell themselves for titles and contempt for Englishmen who sell their titles.

A Tribute.

Walter—They do say you're a great hand at a Welsh rabbit, sir. The Clubman—They do, eh? The Walter—Yis, sir. O' heerd wan man say ye made wan that was worth all the trouble it gev him afther he ate it.

More in His Line.

"Do you think I will make a player?" asked a sluggish applicant for football.

"You may make a chess player," said the coach. "You are slow enough in moving."

The morose man takes both narrow and selfish views of life and the world. He is either envious of the happiness of others or denies its existence.—Simmons.

New Advertisements.

SLEIGH FOR SALE.—Good Style, Shifting Shafts, Shoes 13-8 inches wide, nearly new. Price, \$10. J. A. SHAW, 22 Park St., Ayer, Mass. 1116

Wanted

Young Woman to do Cooking and Housework in family of two and one hired man. Wages \$5.00 per week. Communications confidential. Address, Clarion-Advertiser Office, East Pepperell, Mass. 1116

Wood and Lumber

Am in the market to buy standing Wood or Lumber Lots. Will pay highest Cash Price. G. M. BALLOU, Shirley, Mass. 1116

NEW LINE OF

Holiday Goods

JUST RECEIVED, CONSISTING OF

Boys' and Girls' Sleds @ 50c. to \$1.50

Flexible Flyers @ \$2.25 to \$3.50

Dressed Dolls @ 25c to \$1.00

Go Carts @ \$1.00

Flyng Machines @ \$1.25

Foto-Scopes @ \$1.25 to \$2.50

Boys' Tool Chests @ \$1.00 to \$1.50

Rocking Horses @ \$1.00

WATER SETS WINE SETS

TOILET SETS

Complete line of Crepe Paper, Tinsel, Garlands, Colored Twine, Christmas Cards, Stationery, Books, etc.

American Red Cross Stamps for sale.

P. Donlon & Co.

AYER, MASS.

Judgment Reversed.

A middle aged and nervous tenant in an apartment house had summoned his next door neighbor, a young woman student at the conservatory, into court and charged that the peace and quiet of his lodgings had been disturbed by her singing.

The court was inclined to regard the proceedings as unwarranted. "How much do you sing?" he asked the defendant.

"Only two hours a day," she answered. "An hour in the morning and one at night."

"Two hours?" said the judge. "It appears unreasonable to complain of that."

"But, your honor," interposed the complainant, starting up excitedly, "I trust you will not decide the matter until you have heard the defendant sing."

The defendant was not at all loath to sing. In fact, her personal assurance and professional pride urged her to make the most of this opportunity in the interests of high art.

She began an aria from Wagner, but she had sung but four or five bars when the court interrupted her.

"That will do—that will do," he said. "No further testimony need be taken. The court's judgment is reversed."—Youth's Companion.

A Bobolink With a Canary Song.

A friend of mine tells of a bobolink which learned to sing like a canary. He was captured when quite small and given a cage beside a fine singer, for which he soon exhibited a great attachment. He would sit perfectly still on his perch for a long time watching his friend intently, then try his best to imitate his sweet notes. He tried for three or four weeks before making any progress; then he succeeded in sounding one note almost correctly. When he realized his success his wild joy was pathetic, and the canary's pleasure was very evident. Then he redoubled his efforts until he could sing nearly the whole canary song. After that he and Dick always sang in concert. But, stranger of all, his character seemed to change with his song. Instead of singing but a short time in the spring, as bobolinks do, he sang all the time except when molting. And he imitated his friend's characteristics so perfectly that he became a canary in all but appearance.—Ella H. Stratton in Suburban Life.

Was it Worth It?

Workmer Smeargent, royal academician, was painting the portrait of Lady Anstruther Anstruthers, and Lady Anstruther Anstruthers was very plain—well, as a matter of fact, she was jolly ugly. And, though she was paying him 300 guineas merely for painting the portrait and was going to pay him 600 guineas more for the portrait itself when it was completed, Workmer Smeargent was not satisfied. He felt he might be going blind. Looking at her face so much hurt his eyes.

"Now, what I want, Mr. Smeargent," said the unfair lady, "is for you to do me plain, simple justice."

"My dear lady," replied Smeargent, "what you require is not justice, but mercy. When I tell you to look pleasant you don't look natural, and when I tell you to look natural you don't look pleasant."—London Express.

A Cod Liver Oil Fiend.

"When I was anemic," said a pale man, "I took cod liver oil. I had a careless habit of leaving the oil uncorked, and it began to disappear. Some one was drinking it. There was a cod liver oil fiend in the house. I decided to trap the thief," he went on, gazing thoughtfully at his large white feet, "and one night I purposely drank two cups of black coffee so as to keep awake. Gentlemen, you will hardly believe what happened. The thief was a rat—a big, sleek, fat rat. The oil, I guess, had agreed with him. As I watched him from the bed he leaped silently on to the bureau, dipped his tail in the bottle, lifted it out and licked it clean, and then dipped and licked it again and again till a good two inches of the oil was gone."—Exchange.

Trees That Explode.
All lightning blasted trees explode as overcharged boilers do. The flame of the lightning does not burn them up, nor does the electric flash split them like an ax. They simply explode, overcharged, as may be a boiler with steam. The lightning is conducted into the damp interstices of the trunk and into the hollows under the bark. Its tremendous heat at once turns all the moisture in those cramped spaces into steam. This steam in its immediate explosion blows the tree asunder.—Philadelphia Bulletin.

The First Day Out.
Steward—Did you ring, sir? Traveler—Yes, steward, I—I rang. Steward—Anything I can bring you, sir? Traveler—Yes, steward. Bring me a continent, if you have one, or an island—anything, steward, so I'll-long as it's solid. If you can't, sus-sink the ship.—London Tit-Bits.

Pleasure.
Some men move through life as a band of music moves down the street, flinging out pleasure on every side through the air to every one far and near that can listen.—Henry Ward Beecher.

At the Bookstore.
Unattractive Spinster—Can you get me "A Man to Love"? Bashful Clerk—Er—ah, you might ask the gentleman at the next counter.—Uncle Remus Magazine.

God grants liberty only to those who love it and are always ready to guard and defend it.—Webster.

Smokeless

Until science discovered a way to construct the Automatic Smokeless Device, and make it completely dependable, all oil heaters had one common great fault—smoke.

With the advent of the Automatic Smokeless Device, and its practical application to the



PERFECTION Oil Heater

(Equipped with Smokeless Device) the smoke problem was successfully solved.

The Perfection Oil Heater is the only heater equipped with this

Automatic Smokeless Device

which insures a steady, full-glowing heat, with the wick turned up as high as it will go, without a shred of smoke. Reverse the motion, turn the wick down—there's no odor. The smokeless device automatically locks and prevents the upward movement of the wick beyond the proper exposure. That is the secret. This splendid result gives leadership to the Perfection.

You may now have all the heat you want—when you want it—and where you want it—without the annoyance of smoke or odor. Brass font holds 4 quarts of oil, which permits a glowing heat for 9 hours. Brass wick tube—damper top—cool handle. Cleaned in a minute. The Perfection is beautifully finished in Nickel or Japan.

Every Dealer Everywhere. If Not At Yours, Write for Descriptive Circular to the Nearest Agency of the

STANDARD OIL COMPANY
(Incorporated)

An Opportunity for a Few Investors

The 8 Per Cent 10-Year Purchasing-Fund Gold Certificates.

ISSUED BY

The Wheel-Motor Traction Co.

This company has the sales monopoly of an improved form of commercial automobile, now in successful use by the U. S. Government and leading business concerns. The \$25,000 accumulated by the sale of these certificates is to be used for one purpose only—buying machines at the factory to fill orders. The machines are then shipped C. O. D. to the purchasers. Thus there is no credit risk, and the investors' money is neither tied up in equipment nor dissipated by expenses, but is either in cash on hand or convertible thereto at short notice.

Investors in this purchasing fund have the option of withdrawal of principal before maturity. A strong National Bank has agreed to act as Trustee of this fund for and on behalf of investors—to see that it is kept intact and used only as a purchasing fund. This bank will pay dividends as they fall due and will return to any certificate holder, upon sixty days' notice, the amount of his investment or any part of it, should he desire to withdraw same at any time before maturity.

The total issue is only \$25,000, each certificate being for \$25. For the present, with each \$25 certificate is given one share of 8 per cent. preferred stock, par value \$10; and with each \$100 purchase five shares of preferred are given. This unusual opportunity really brings the net return up to about 12 per cent., with the prospect of selling the preferred for nearly enough to pay for the whole investment. We make this offer so that it will not be necessary for this announcement to appear extensively, as previous issues have been largely oversubscribed.

If interested in absolute security of principal, large and definite interest return, and opportunity of speedy withdrawal of principal before maturity if desired, this investment should receive your immediate attention. Communications and orders should be addressed, and checks made payable to,

THE WHEEL-MOTOR TRACTION COMPANY.

N. E. Distributing Plant Allston District, Boston, Mass.



Something New In Kitchen Ware

The "1892" Pure Spun Aluminum Ware is rapidly coming into use for cooking purposes. It is taking the place of agate and enamel ware because while its first cost is a trifle more than ordinary ware, it is really much cheaper in the long run, as it is guaranteed for twenty-five years and will last practically a life time.

The genuine "1892" Ware, made only from pure SPUN (not cast) Aluminum, will not crack, scale, peel, break, scorch or burn.

It looks like silver but weighs only about one-quarter as much, is easily cleaned and handled, and will not rust, corrode or tarnish. Absolutely pure, non-poisonous and wholesome; saves money, time and doctor's bills.

Be sure you get the original and genuine ware stamped with the Maltese Cross. At your dealers.

A. A. Fillebrown

Ayer, Mass.

Sportsmen, Attention!

L. SHERWIN & CO.

HAVE A GOOD LINE OF

Revolvers, Rifles and Guns, Ammunition, Etc.

In addition to their large stock of other goods.

Main Street, Ayer.

HUMOR OF THE HOUR

Will It Come to This?

The crowd at the tape was immense. Three minutes before the starting time Dr. Cook, aided by a detachment of police, pushed his way to the front. He was closely followed by Commander Peary.

The president of the American Geographical society drew out his watch. "You know the conditions, gentlemen," he said. "Are you ready?" "Ready," said Cook. "Ready," said Peary. "Get set. Go!"

Eighteen months later the discoverer of the south pole was duly credited with discovering the north pole, and the great polar controversy happily ended.—W. R. Rose in Cleveland Plain Dealer.

A Suspected Sportsman.

"Bliggins never comes home empty handed when he goes after redbirds. He must be a skillful hunter."

"Not so skillful as prudent," answered Miss Cayenne. "I understand that he never goes into the marshes without taking the price of a few dozen with him."—Washington Star.

Glad to Get Rid of Her.

Zeke Weatherby—Josh, while I was up in town I saw the churn drummer that ran away with your old woman. He's not a bad fellow, Josh. He's just full of sympathy.

Josh Redhawk (grimly)—He ought to be full of it, by heck. He's got mine.—St. Louis Republic.

A Business Poet.

Langley—Is it true the first edition of your poems is exhausted?

Longlocks—True, indeed.

Langley—How many copies did you print?

Longlocks—Two, one for my mother and one for myself.—Boston Herald.

Not So Likely.

"The beautiful Miss Brewster has finally agreed to marry that horrid old Mr. Goldstox."

"But everybody says he's likely to live to be ninety."

"Yes, but he's just taken up aeroplaning."—Cleveland Plain Dealer.

Our Funny Language.

First Chorus Girl—The comedian isn't a bit funny any more. He seems to have lost his grip.

Second Chorus Girl—Oh, he hasn't exactly lost it, but his landlady refused to let him take it away until he pays his bill.—Chicago News.

Drawing the Line.

"In making campaign speeches," said the ordinary citizen, "I suppose you never promise more than you can do?"

"Oh, I don't carry it quite that far," replied the politician, "but I never promise more than I can make the people believe I can do."—Judge.

An Expert.

"The boss called me in consultation today," declared the office boy.

"G'wan!"

"Fact. He had a dispute with the junior partner as to who wuz leadin' the league just now in battin'."—Louisville Courier-Journal.

Their Own Victims.

"Why is it," said the discouraged housewife, "that all our cooks become so discontented and irritable?"

"That's easily explained," answered Mr. Groucher. "They have to eat their own dinners and get dyspepsia."—Washington Star.

Just Like Him.

Howell—Do you think that Dr. Rowell will make much of a record in the legislature?

Powell—Sure. The first thing he will try to do will be to perform an operation on the foot of the calendar.—New York Press.

More Room.

Mrs. Benham—How do you like my new hat?

Benham—It seems pretty large.

Mrs. Benham—The woman next door has one still larger.

Benham—But her house is larger than ours.—Puck.

Taking Heart.

Miss Oldgirl—Now, what do you think of the theory that Methuseleh was really not as old as report said he was?

Mr. Frank—I think it is very encouraging, Miss Oldgirl.—Baltimore American.

Awakened Interest.

"Ynas, indeed; she has sixteen families to wash fur."

"Yo' doan' tell me! Dat woman ought er git married. She needs a man to manage her interests."—Washington Herald.

A Mystery.

Belinda has a gentle face And spiritual style. She moves about with languid grace And wears a plaintive smile. And yet she'll eat a box or two Of candy ore each day is through. And sections vast of pie and cake And everything they broil or bake. And all the while her glance will gleam With delicate disdain. As if her life were but a dream, Beyond this earthly plane.

Our rugged ways we all lament With genuine distress. She seems a chiding vision sent Of fleeting loveliness. But half the salad she devours Would keep a man awake for hours. And frozen sweets, confections rare, Are her persistent bill of fare. And still she fades until we fear Belinda will take flight And only leave behind her here A haunting appetite.

—Washington Star.

The Key Under the Door.

"It is customary for the back door key to be put halfway under the door so that I can reach it when coming off duty late at night," remarked an artist to a London Tit-Bits writer. "The other morning at breakfast my landlady said to me, 'Do you know, I had an awful fright last night. I put the key halfway under the door, as usual, when, to my horror, I saw it drawn slowly out of sight. I of course thought some one had got the key and would unlock the door and come in, so I quickly bolted it and shouted through the keyhole, 'My word, if you don't bring that key back!' Not daring to retire to rest, I sat quietly listening for a time. Then I got a table knife and pushed it under the door to see if the key had really been taken right away and to my surprise drew the key back again. So, very cautiously, I unlocked and unbolted the door, looked out and found not a burglar, but our own wicked cat, who, while sitting on the doorstep and seeing the key pushed under the door, must have drawn the key out of sight with her paws, thinking I was playing with her."—

An American Joke From England.

The typical American, says a contributor to the English Illustrated Magazine, is often quick tempered and unable to recognize a joke made by another, with results that are sometimes unpleasant.

Thus, a senator was once at a fashionable dinner party at Washington when he was asked what fish he would take.

"Waal," he said, "I reckon I'll take plaice."

A wit who chanced to be present remarked, with a twinkle in his eye, "Ah, senator, still a plaice seeker?"

"Yaas," answered the senator, at the same time whipping out a revolver and shooting the wit dead, "but what's that to you, you derud' stranger?"

Afterward, when the joke was explained to him, the senator confessed that he had acted rather hastily, and to show that he bore no grudge he went to the funeral of the inopportune wit.

A Queen Elizabeth Joke.

Queen Elizabeth liked her jokes, and, although her pleasantness were of a less sanguinary turn than her father's, she must have been even more formidable than usual when disposed to be frolicsome. A tale may be found in one of Lord Essex's letters with regard to a new dress belonging to one of her maids of honor, over the possession of which the owner had been rash enough to exhibit some elation.

The young lady, it seems, was several inches taller than her majesty, hardly perhaps quite a nice or loyal thing to be. Having desired that the dress should be made over to her custody, the queen, first carefully selecting an extremely wet day, was pleased to put it on and trail it for yards behind her in the mud, the owner of the humiliated garment having to appear as delighted with the royal fun and condescension as the rest of the lookers-on.—London Tatler.

And All With Company There.

"Now, children," said the mother as a whole roomful of company had come in, "suppose you run off and play by yourselves."

"All right, mother," replied Edith. "Can we go up and play Hamlet and Ophelia?"

"Certainly," smiled the mother, while her guests looked on at the tableau.

"Goody," replied Edith. Then, turning to her sister, she said, "Now, Maude, you run up to mamma's room and get all her false hair that you can find."—Ladies' Home Journal.

Love.

Properly there is only one verb for love. It is not "amo." It is not "almer." It is not the softest Italian verb. No printed language of man knows it. But the violin knows it, and the wild bird knows it; even the sea knows it. The rose is it, and the moon is it, and the look of a man's eyes into a woman's is it, and the look of a woman's eyes back again is it. But no man or woman can say it in any language that endures.—"Love Letters of the King."

Wanted No Trimmings.

Little Ollie was much frightened at a thunder shower, and her father told her she shouldn't be, as the rain was good for the grass and her flowers.

Looking up through her tears, Ollie said, "W-well, why c-cant we have j-just plain r-rain?"—Exchange.

The Intricacies of It.

"Why don't you study the time table, and then you wouldn't have missed your train?"

"That was the trouble. While I was trying to translate the time table the train pulled out."—New York Herald.

At His Best.

Blobbs—The doctor told Guzzler drinking was the very worst thing he could do. Slobbs—I guess that doctor didn't know Guzzler or he would have realized that drinking is the best thing he does.—Philadelphia Record.

Strong Proof.

"Sued for a breach of promise, eh?"

"Yep."

"Any defense?"

"Temporary insanity, and I expect to prove it by the love letters I wrote."—Washington Herald.

Utter Contempt.

"I s'pose you wouldn't marry me if I were the only man on earth?"

"I wouldn't even be engaged to you," responded the girl. "If you were the only man at a summer resort."—Kansas City Journal.

Championing the Worm.

An incident that occurred some years ago during a session of the British parliament furnished an amusing illustration of the power of satire to bring about results that sober argument often fails to accomplish.

There had been introduced a bill designed to prevent cruelty to wild animals in captivity. It was opposed on the ground that, if passed, it would endanger certain kinds of legitimate sport.

When the Earl of Kimberley arose he gravely admitted the force of this argument.

"There can be no doubt," said he, "that the bill would put an end to fishing with worms as bait. It is a bill to prevent cruelty to wild animals in captivity. The schedule states that the word 'animal' shall be held to include reptile. A worm may be held to be a reptile. A worm impaled on a hook must certainly be held to be in captivity; therefore the angler who uses a live worm for bait would be guilty of cruelty to an animal in captivity."

The laugh that followed at the expense of those against the bill robbed the opposition of whatever force it had and carried the measure to a successful issue.—Cincinnati Commercial Tribune.

Sun Cooking.

Sun cooking—roasting and boiling by sunlight instead of by coal or gas—has been going on for 300 years. There are sun stoves that roast a sirloin or boil a soup to perfection. They are only used, however, by scientists. A sun stove consists mainly of a mirror—a spherical mirror—on a joint. There is also a reflector. The place for pot of plate is so situated that the mirror's rays can be focused on it accurately.

A German, Baron Teherhausen, was the first sun cook. He began in 1637 to boil water, and in 1688 he had very good success in boiling eggs. Sir John Herschel and Buffon are other famous names associated with sun cooking.

In California various sun cooks have boiled a gallon of water in twenty minutes, roasted meat in two hours and poached eggs in fifteen minutes, quite as good time as the ordinary fire makes.

An odd thing about meat roasted by sun rays is that it has an unpleasant taste. This is avoided by the insertion of a plate of yellow glass between the meat and mirror. In all solar stoves the sheet of yellow glass figures.—London Tit-Bits.

One Sided Gambling.

"One need only to try his luck at any of the Riviera gambling palaces to learn how slender are the chances to win at roulette," says a German correspondent writing from Ostend. "But if he would experience the gambler's disadvantage at its best let him come to Ostend and join the baccarat players. The game as it is played gives the man who places his money against the bank no chance whatever, and if it were known how much money is sacrificed in a season in the endeavor to win by luck and by system the public would be horrified. It is nothing unusual for the bank to win twenty-four times before an outsider wins once. The people who play, if they have ever played before, know this, and still they come again, respond to the call until they depart and plant their gold in the baccarat mire in the hope that it will bear fruit. It does. But what is the harvest?"

A Shocked Scot.

The London Chronicle says that two Englishmen recently touring in Scotland found that Sabbatarianism occasionally extends to the middle of the week. They were forced by the weather to take refuge in a small country hotel and after lunch adjourned to the billiard room to kill time until the rain stopped. The game had hardly started when the landlord entered in a very drunken condition, upbraided his visitors for their unseemly conduct and insisted on their leaving the billiard room. They received profuse apologies from the landlord. Her husband always got drunk on Sundays, she explained, but, mistaking the day, he had got drunk on Thursday instead, and from force of habit, believing it was Sunday, had been shocked at the creak of the billiard balls.

Rebuked the Bishop.

The bishop of Petersburg, England, is a great motorist and is also a staunch teetotaler, and thereby hangs a tale. On one occasion, while out in his car, the chauffeur ran short of petrol and applied at a public house for some more. The publican came out, and, seeing the bishop in his episcopal dress in the car, said: "Yes, I've got plenty of petrol, but I don't sell it to the likes of them what never buys my beer."

Making Herself at Home.

Last summer five-year-old Lola's aunt came to spend a week with them.

"Now, aunty," said Lola, "you must make yourself at home."

"How can I do that, dear?" queried her aunt.

"Why," answered Lola, "you can pitch in and help mamma work."—Chicago News.

The Finisher.

Lawyer—What is your occupation? Witness—I'm a piano finisher. Lawyer—Be a little more definite. Do you polish them or move them?—Boston Transcript.

The Gossip.

Nell—She's an awful gossip. She tells everything she hears. Belle—Oh, she tells more than that.—Philadelphia Record.

Do Not Make Unjust Gains.

They are equal to a loss.—Bealoid.

FOGG'S ORCHESTRA
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Music For All Occasions
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RESIDENCE, HARVARD, MASS.

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS. Middlesex ss. Probate Court. To all persons interested in the estate of Nathaniel Fogg, late of Ayer, in said County, deceased:

Whereas, John W. Parker, the executor of the will of said deceased, has presented for allowance, the account of his administration upon the estate of said deceased:

You are hereby cited to appear at a Probate Court, to be held at Cambridge, in said County, on the Twenty-eighth day of December, A. D. 1908, at nine o'clock in the forenoon, to show cause, if any you have, why the same should not be allowed.

And said executor is ordered to serve this citation by delivering a copy thereof to all persons interested in the estate fourteen days at least before said Court, or by publishing the same once each week, for three successive weeks, in Turner's Public Spirit, a newspaper published in Ayer, the last publication to be one day at least before said Court, and by mailing, post-paid, a copy of this citation to all known persons interested in the estate seven days at least before said Court.

Witness, Charles J. McIntyre, Esquire, First Judge of said Court, this fourth day of December, in the year one thousand nine hundred and nine.

3w13 W. E. ROGERS, Register.

NOTICE.
The annual meeting of the shareholders of the First National Bank of Ayer will be held at the Banking Rooms in Ayer, Mass., on Saturday, Jan. 10, 1910, at one o'clock p. m., for the purpose of acting upon the following business:

To choose a Board of Directors to serve for the ensuing year, and to transact any other business that may come before the meeting.
HOBART E. MEAD, Cashier.
Ayer, Mass., Dec. 10, 1910. 4t13

When You Kill Your



Send Us
The Hams
The Shoulders

AND
The Bacon
For Curing

HARLOW & PARSONS
Ayer, Mass.
Telephone 21-2

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS. Worcester ss. Probate Court. To the heirs-at-law, next of kin, creditors and all other persons interested in the estate of CALVIN D. BLANCHARD, late of Harvard, in said County, deceased, intestate:

Whereas, a petition has been presented to said Court to grant a letter of administration on the estate of said deceased to SAMUEL P. BLANCHARD, of Harvard, in said County of Worcester, without giving a surety on his bond:

You are hereby cited to appear at a Probate Court, to be held at Worcester, in said County of Worcester, on the fourth day of January, A. D. 1910, at nine o'clock in the forenoon, to show cause, if any you have, why the same should not be granted.

And the petitioner is hereby directed to give public notice thereof, by publishing this citation once in each week, for three successive weeks, in the Harvard Herald, a newspaper published in Ayer, the last publication to be one day at least before said Court.

Witness, William T. Forbes, Esquire, Judge of said Court, this fifteenth day of December, in the year of our Lord one thousand nine hundred and nine. w14 JOHN W. MAWBEY, Register.

NORTH MIDDLESEX SAVINGS BANK
The annual meeting of the Corporation of this Bank will be held at its Banking House on Monday, the third day of January, 1910, at two o'clock p. m., for the election of officers and the transaction of any other business that may legally come before the meeting.
S. T. TUTEN, Treasurer.
Ayer, Dec. 14, 1909. 3t14

FOR SALE—Four nicely marked Collie Pups, two months old. GEO. F. STONE, Littleton, Mass. 2w1f

TRUTH ABOUT CATARRH.

Sensible Methods Will Cure It. Wm. Brown Guarantees Hyomei to Cure Catarrh.

Catarrh can never be cured by taking medicines into the stomach nor by sprays, atomizers or douches. Intelligent physicians have long ago discarded such ideas, and not one of them would be worth consideration were it not for the fact that unscrupulous persons prey upon the ignorance of the people in regard to new discoveries.

Catarrh is caused by germs and just as long as these germs thrive in the folds, crevices, nooks and corners of the mucous membrane that line the nose, throat and chest, just so long will you have catarrh.

There is only one way to cure catarrh, and that is to kill the germs.

There is only one remedy that will kill the germs when it gets where the germs are, and that is Hyomei.

Hyomei is made chiefly from Australian Eucalyptus and Eucalyptol combined with other germ killing antiseptics. Just breathe it through the hard rubber inhaler that comes with each outfit and relief is immediate. Used regularly for a few weeks Hyomei (pronounced High-o-me) will cure chronic catarrh. Complete outfit, \$1.00 at Wm. Brown's and leading druggists everywhere.

MI-ONA Cures Indigestion

It relieves stomach misery, sour stomach, belching, and cures all stomach ills, ease or money back. Large box of tablets 50 cents. Druggists in all towns.

Just One Trial



WILL DEMONSTRATE TO YOU The Superior Quality of Napoleon Flour. AND WHY IT IS RECOGNIZED AS THE BEST ON THE MARKET TO-DAY BY THE MOST EXACTING HOUSEWIFE. WE WOULD LIKE TO HAVE YOU TRY ONE BAG AND COMPARE IT WITH WHAT YOU ARE USING.

Mullin Bros Ayer, Mass.

Edwin N. C. Barnes Voice and Public School Music, Symphony Chambers, Boston. Chaffoux Building, Lowell, Mondays. Training of Supervisors and Grade Teachers in Public School Music. The course includes the work of the Tonic Sol-fa College, London, Eng., the American Institute and observation work in the principal cities of America.

CUSTOMERS WAITING

From Joseph Breck & Sons, Real Estate Agency, an from my own efforts new inquirers and farm hunters are still coming almost daily in spite of winter being near. So long as snow keeps off there is a good chance that I can sell your place, if it is attractive and the price right. 324 different inquirers since March 1, some of whom are still waiting for me to find the right place and price for them. What have you to offer? Offers on five places now under consideration. Who wants an apple farm bargain for \$3500 with good buildings that has supported a family and cleared \$2800 in the last 4 years? Speak quickly! Do you want a fine dairy farm, 1 mile to depot, tax rate \$9. R. F. D., trout brook, pond, wood, running water, slate roofs, free from stone level, complete with hay, tools, wagons, sleds, 16 head stock, 2 fine horses, etc., etc., for \$4000, one-half cash?

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TO RENT—Upper or Lower Tenement on Fourth Street, Ayer. Apply to Mrs. E. L. WOOD, or Public Spirit Office, Ayer, Mass.

The Descending Scale.

"The first letter John ever wrote to me," said a married woman to her friend, "was shortly after we had become acquainted and before there was really anything like an understanding between us. This is the way he signed it:

"Yours, my dear Miss Weston, most sincerely,
JOHN HAMILTON EASTON.
"There, you see, were ten words—enough for a telegram—just to bring a commonplace friendly letter to an end. But after we became engaged his first letter to me was signed in this way:

"Yours, my darling, affectionately,
JOHN.
"That, you will observe, was a reduction of 50 per cent from his conclusion as a mere friend. The first letter he ever wrote to me after we were married was signed:

"Yours,
JOHN."
She stopped for a moment and sighed and then continued:
"We have been married seventeen years now. Yesterday I received a letter from him. Here is the way it was signed:

"J."

Settled the Duel.

Lord March, afterward the Marquis of Queensberry, was not accustomed to view a duel with unbecoming apprehension and usually attended an affair with an air of enjoyment that often was decidedly displeasing and embarrassing to his adversary. But he was served at last with that saucer which the proverb explains is for the gander as well as for the goose. It was when he was challenged to fight an Irish sportsman. Lord March appeared on the ground accompanied by a second, surgeon and other witnesses. His opponent arrived soon afterward with a similar retinue, but added to by a person who staggered under the weight of a polished oak coffin, which he deposited on the ground, end up with its lid facing Lord March and his party. Lord March became decidedly uncomfortable when he read the inscription plate, engraved with his own name and title and the date and year of death, and peace was patched up.

Scaring the Conscience.

Of all her curious customs London cannot boast of a more singular one than that formerly so strictly adhered to at Holland House, one of the most historic old mansions in the British capital. The last of the Lords Holland shot himself during a fit of despondency. Everything pointed to a clear case of self murder, yet the Holland family could never be dissuaded from the notion that the old man had been murdered by some unknown assassin. Accordingly every night for years it was the custom for one of the family to go to the rear of the house punctually at 11 o'clock and fire a gun for the purpose, it is said, of "scaring the conscience" of the murderer. This curious practice is a relic of mediaeval days in continental Europe, and the case in point is probably the only instance where it has been noticed since the days of the crusades.

Pigeons' Air Sacks.

The air sacks of the pigeon, says Bruno Muller, constitute a system of interspaces the value of which lies in their emptiness—that is, absence of weight and resistance. Flying is possible only to a body of high mechanical efficiency, and we attain this with machines divested of all superfluous material. Just so the original reptiles, which by evolution became birds, were divested of superfluous material, and the body spaces thus obtained were filled with air sacks. The body wall, adapting itself to the mechanical requirements, became a hollow cylinder serving as a support for the organs of movement, the mobility of whose parts was assured by the surrounding air sacks. The air cavities in the bones of birds are similarly explained.

Tonsorial Triumph.

"What was the best job you ever did?" inquired the first barber.
"Once shaved a man," replied the second ditto.
"Well?"
"Well, then I persuaded him to have a hair cut, singe, shampoo, face massage, sea foam, electric buzz, tar spray and finally a tonic rub."
"What then?"
"By that time," concluded barber No. 2, "he needed another shave."—London Answers.

Live Spiders Food For Young Wasps.

The young of some wasps can live only on live spiders, and the mother wasp therefore renders the spider powerless by her sting, after which it can live a month, and then deposits it in the cocoon where she has laid her egg. On hatching out the wasp grubs feed on the bodies of the living spiders. Another wasp deposits her egg in the body of the spider, which is then buried alive and is fed upon by the wasp grub.—London Standard.

On the Fence.

"That woman won't take either side of the social dispute until she is reasonably sure which one is going to win. She's a cat!"
"Ah, then that accounts for her being on the fence!"—Baltimore American.

The Drawback.

"Elsie says there was only one drawback to her wedding."
"What was that?"
"She says her father looked too cheerful when he gave her away."

His Provisions.

Bootmaker (to arctic explorer just returned)—How did you like those boots I made for you, sir? Arctic Explorer—Excellent! Best I ever tasted.—London Tatler.

The Babbitt Co Opticians

81 Merrimack St. Lowell, Mass.
277 Main Street Nashua, N. H.

BOSTON AND NORTHERN ST. RY. CO. LOWELL DIVISION.

TIME TABLE.
Issued June 21, 1909.
(Subject to change without notice.)

WEEK DAY TIME.

Leave Merrimack Square, Lowell, for Boston via Tewksbury and Reading to Sullivan Square Terminal, Charlestown—6:45 a. m. and every 30 mins. until 9:45 p. m. Sundays—Same as week days. Return—Leave Sullivan Square—6:45 a. m. and every 30 mins. until 8:45 p. m. Sundays—7:45 a. m. and every 30 mins. until 9:15 p. m. Boston via North Billerica, Billerica Centre, Burlington, Woburn, Winchester and Medford to Sullivan Square Terminal, Charlestown—5:25, 6:25 a. m. and every 30 mins. until 9:55 p. m. (10:25 p. m. to Woburn only.) Return—Leave Sullivan Square—5:20, 6:10, 6:50 a. m. and every 30 mins. until 9:32 p. m. Sundays—7:32 a. m. and every 30 mins. until 9:32 p. m. Lawrence—5:15, 6:15, 6:40 a. m. and every 30 mins. until 10:40 p. m. Sundays—7:10 a. m. then same as week days. Return—Leave Lawrence—5:20, 6:10, 6:50 a. m. and every 30 mins. until 10:50 p. m. Sundays—7:20 a. m. then same as week days. North Chelmsford via Middlesex Street—5:18, 6:00, 6:30, 6:55, 7:03 a. m. and every 15 mins. until 11:33 p. m. Sundays—5:18 a. m. and every 15 mins. until 10:33 p. m. Return—Leave North Chelmsford—5:30, 6:55, 6:30, 6:57, 7:03 a. m. and every 15 mins. until 11:03 p. m. then 11:45 p. m. 10:33 p. m. and every 30 mins. until 11:03 p. m. Nashua—6:15 a. m. and every 30 mins. until 10:15 p. m. Sundays—7:15 a. m. then same as week days. Return—Leave Nashua—5:35 a. m. and every 30 mins. until 10:45 p. m. Sundays—5:35 a. m. then same as week days. Tyngsboro via Middlesex Street—5:18, 6:00, 6:30, 6:55, 7:03 a. m. and every 15 mins. until 11:33 p. m. Sundays—5:18 a. m. and every 30 mins. until 10:33 p. m. Return—Leave Tyngsboro—5:40, 6:57, 7:03 a. m. and every 30 mins. until 10:33 p. m. then 11:33 p. m. Sundays—9:03 a. m. and every 30 mins. until 10:33 p. m. THOMAS LEES, Supt.

LOWELL AND FITCHBURG STREET RAILWAY CO.

Change of Time Beginning Monday, Oct. 12, 1908.

First car leaves Ayer for North Chelmsford and Lowell at 6:05 a. m., then 15 minutes past every hour up to and including 10:05 p. m., connecting with cars from Fitchburg and Leominster. First car leaves Lowell for North Chelmsford, connecting for Ayer, Westford, Fitchburg and Leominster at 6:18 a. m., then 15 minutes past every hour up to and including 10:48 p. m. Last car from Lowell for Ayer leaves North Chelmsford at 11:18 p. m., due at Ayer at 11:58 p. m. Sundays.

First car from Ayer 7:05 a. m., last car from Ayer 10:05 p. m.; first car from Lowell 7:35 a. m., last car from Lowell 9:35 p. m. For Ayer, Westford, Fitchburg and Leominster; last car from Lowell 10:35 p. m. For Ayer only leaves North Chelmsford at 11:05 p. m., due at Ayer at 11:50 p. m. L. H. CUSHING, Supt.

The Ayer Electric Light Co. ARC AND INCANDESCENT LIGHTING

All applications for service will receive prompt attention. RATES REASONABLE. SPECIAL INDUCEMENTS TO LARGE CONSUMERS. Office at the Plant DISCOUNT ALLOWED ON METERED BILLS PAID BEFORE THE TENTH OF EACH MONTH. NO DISCOUNT ALLOWED AFTER THE TENTH.

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Union Cash Market AYER

BEST JAPANESE RICE, 4 lbs. for 25c.
PORK, ROAST, 14c. lb.
GOOD SIRLOIN STEAK, 18c. lb.
ROUND STEAK, 15c. lb.
GOOD ROAST BEEF, 10c. and 12c. lb.
FOREQUARTERS OF LAMB, 12c. lb.
SUGAR-CURED HAMS, 15c. lb.
SIRLOIN ROASTS, 16c. lb.
BONELESS CODFISH, 8 lbs. for 25c.
7 BOXES SARDINES, 25c.
NICE COOKING BUTER, 20c. lb.
POTATOES, 70c. in five bushel lots.
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Why He Was Deaf.

Scene—Stable of Scottish village inn. Landlord is busy repairing a piece of harness and is carrying on at the same time a conversation with the village blacksmith. Enter farmer.

Farmer—Look here, landlord! Can ye gie me a bottle o' yer best whisky? Landlord—Weel, ye see, the horses are a' out, an' I dinna ken when ony o' them 'll be hame.

Farmer—It's no a horse I want; it's a bottle o' whisky.

Landlord—Aye; but, ye see, they're a guid bit awa', an' it'll be late before the first o' them's back.

Farmer (louder)—I tell ye, it's no a horse, but a bottle o' whisky, I want.

Landlord—Weel, ye see, the beasts 'll be tired, an'—

Farmer—Gang awa' w' ye an' yer beasts! Exit.

Blacksmith—Man, John, ye're gettin' as deaf as a doormat. It wasna' a horse, but a bottle o' whisky, the man was askin' for.

Landlord—Ou, aye, I heard him sue, but he didna' pay for the last bottle he got.—Pearson's Weekly.

The Order of the Bath.

The last Knights of the Bath made according to the ancient forms were at the coronation of Charles II., when various rites and ceremonies, one of which was bathing, were enforced. According to Froissart, the court barber prepared a bath, and the candidate for membership in the order, having been undressed by his esquires, was thereupon placed in the bath, his clothes and collars being the perquisites of the barber. He was then removed from the water to the words "May this be an honorable bath to you" and was placed in a plain bed quite wet and naked to dry. As soon as he was quite dry he was removed from the bed, dressed in new and rich apparel and conducted by his sponsors to the chapel, where he offered a taper to the honor of God and a penny piece to the honor of the king. Then he went to the monarch and, kneeling before him, received from the royal sword a tap on the shoulder, the king exclaiming, "Arise, Sir," and then embraced him, saying, "Be thou a good knight, and true."—London Strand Magazine.

England's Patron Saint.

The story of England's patron saint is surrounded by a mixture of truth and fable which defies definite sifting. He is generally believed to have been born at Lydia, but brought up in Cappadocia, and suffered martyrdom in the reign of Diocletian, A. D. 303. The legend of his conflict with the dragon may have arisen from a symbolical or allegorical representation of his contest with the pagan persecutors. When our crusaders went to the east in 1096 they found St. George elevated to the rank of warrior saint, with the title of the "victorious," and as they believed that they were indebted to him for aid in the siege of Antioch they adopted him as the patron of soldiers. Edward III. was thus led to make him patron of the Order of the Garter, and so gradually St. George became the tutelary saint of England.—London Mail.

Eve and the Apple.

Princess Duleep Singh at a dinner in New York said that she found the American woman a marvel of beauty and the American man a model of good looks and kindness. "The American man," said the charming princess, "is rightly held up to the world as the pattern husband. In Europe they have a saying about Eve and the apple which shows how wretched a failure the European husband is. This saying is unknown in America, I am sure. It would have no point, no application, here in the land of pattern husbands. The saying is this: 'The evil one didn't give the apple to the man, but to the woman, because the evil one knew well that the man would eat it all himself, but the woman would go halves.'"

Aisle of the Car in a Railroad Wreck.

A veteran railroad man gave a piece of valuable advice not long ago. "If you ever get into a wreck," he said, "and have time to follow out this suggestion remember this: Always stand in the aisle. Most of the injuries that are suffered occur because the victim is crushed between the seats. If you are in the aisle you may be thrown forward and bruised a little, but there is much less chance of receiving serious hurts. It isn't always possible to get out of your seat before the crash comes, but if it is follow that advice."—Louisville Courier-Journal.

A Use For Arithmetic.

"My boy," said the head of the firm, "I've noticed that you have a great head for figures, although you don't seem to be able to spell or write at all. How does it happen?" "I studied 'rithmetic," replied the office boy, "cause I wanted to know how to figure de battin' averages."—Chicago Record-Herald.

A Myth Chaser.

"What makes your youngest son so eager for athletics?" "Fillad admiration," answered the worried looking mother. "He believes all the stories his father tells about the wonderful things he did when he was a boy and is trying to equal the record."—Washington Star.

Perseverance.

Perseverance is more prevailing than violence, and many things which cannot be overcome when they are together yield themselves up when taken little by little.—Plutarch.

Late repentance is seldom true, but true repentance is never too late.—Vendling.

Good-Looking Brides Wanted.

Shortly after an angry looking couple danced out of the chapel the pastor of an uptown church presented a perplexed countenance before the busy sexton.

"As you know," said he, "I am new in this parish and new in the city. Perhaps there are a few things I ought to know. Why, for instance, do so many people who never attend service in this church wish to be married here?"

"Because our church," said the sexton, "has the name of turning out the youngest and handsomest brides in New York. Our reputation for good works is dwarfed by our reputation for beautiful brides. To say that a woman is married here is equivalent to saying that she is a 'good looker.' We are not supposed to deal in brides of any other description."

"No wonder," groaned the pastor, "that that plain looking woman went away in a huff. I earnestly advised her to be married in her own parish." —New York Globe.

Wonders of a Japanese Hamlet.

Perhaps the most astonishing presentation of "Hamlet" ever seen on any stage was a Japanese version given by native actors at Kobe. The Kobe Herald describes it as "a wonderful mixture of the beautiful and the grotesque. With an Ophelia sometimes in graceful kimono and sometimes in western evening costume and a king who at one time appears in the picturesque costume of a Japanese nobleman and at others dons a silk hat and a swallowtail coat, the effect is so kaleidoscopic that a spectator has the sensation of being perpetually transferred from one phase of civilization to another. The climax is reached in Hamlet himself, who in the earlier scenes wears the uniform of a student of the Imperial university, in the third act makes his appearance on a bicycle, clad in a bright blue cycling suit and striped stockings, and at the finish is seen in conventional evening dress with a flower in his buttonhole."

The Sixteenth Century Carver.

At the formal banquet of the sixteenth century the man who carved the meat was bound with the red tape of precedent. When carving for distinguished guests he had to remember that certain parts of the birds or meat must be set aside. In carving for his lord and lady he was expected to exercise great discretion in the size of the pieces he sent round, "for ladies will be soon angry and their thoughts soon changed, and some lords are soon pleased and some not, as they be of complexion." He was expected to have the rules both of the kitchen and the peerage at his knife's end. A pike, for instance, must be sliced up whole for a lord and in slices for commoner folk. The rank of his diners, too, determined whether a pig was to be served up whole, sliced, plain or with gold leaf or whether new bread or bread three days old should be eaten.

A Hungry Rabbit.

"I do not think I was ever so nonplussed in my life," said a conjurer, "as once when performing my card and rabbit trick. I ask a member of the audience to tear a card into small pieces and give them all to me except one. Later in the trick I produce a rabbit from a box, and tied round its neck is a card with a piece missing. It is then found that the piece which the member of the audience holds exactly fits and completes the second card. On this particular occasion I allowed the rabbit to remain in the box too long and when I produced him found that he had chewed the card round his neck to bits. Needless to say, the laughter when the audience grasped the trick the animal had played on me was loud and long."

As Walter Saw It.

Walter, aged seven, is a wise son who knows not only his own father, but his own mother likewise. "Now, Walter," said the teacher, "if your father could do a piece of work in one hour and your mother could also do it in one hour, how long would it take both of them to do it together?" "Three hours," replied the scholar without hesitation. "Wrong!" said the teacher. "How do you make that?" "Three hours," repeated Walter stolidly, "counting the time they'd waste arguing about how it should be done." —London Scraps.

All Marriages Are Love Marriages.

"Was it a love marriage, do you think?" "Certainly. All marriages are love marriages." "Isn't that rather a sweeping statement?" "Not at all. There is a love of adventure, you know; love of luxury, love of advertising and various other kinds of love. There is no need of going into details when one speaks of a love marriage."—Chicago Post.

As to Luck.

"I wonder if anybody's as unlucky as I am," grumbled the first pessimist. "I never have any luck at all." "Huh!" snorted the other. "You're lucky. It's better to never have any luck at all than to be always having bad luck like me."—Philadelphia Press.

The Average.

"Pa, what's an average man?" "One who thinks his employer's business would be run a good deal better if he could have more to say in the matter himself."

The owl may not be as wise as he looks, but he is wise enough not to try to work both the night and day shifts.—Aitchison Globe.

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Saturday, January 1, 1910.

PEPPERELL.

Center.

Mr. and Mrs. L. P. Blood, Misses Margaret G. and Annah P. Blood, and Mr. and Mrs. John R. Shattuck, celebrated Christmas at the home of S. Thompson Blood in Concord Junction. George and Wisner Park were included in the party. The rooms were beautifully decorated with evergreen and crepe paper and a border of bells in the parlor above the tree, which was very beautiful with its glittering ornaments and laden with an abundance of fruit. Sixteen recipients enjoyed a bountiful share of its treasure. There were four friends outside the circle of relatives and twelve in the party at the Christmas dinner.

Charles Park, the oldest of the Park family, has a position in a bank in Minneapolis, Minn. His brother, Geo. Park, has received the office of assistant teller in the office of the Old Colony Trust Co.'s business in Boston. He has his home in Concord Junction with his maternal aunt, Mrs. S. Thompson Blood, going to and from there to Boston daily.

Rev. and Mrs. Dudley Child spent Christmas at Charlestown, N. H.

The churches at the center were not opened last Sunday on account of the storm.

Rev. Dudley R. Child will preach on January 2 at Unitarian church, Pepperell, at 10.45 o'clock. Communion service at usual hour.

Sherman Parker of Fitchburg and Miss Lucy Woodward, one of the corps of teachers in Newton, spent Christmas at the home of Charles S. Parker on Townsend street.

Mr. and Mrs. Charles E. Boynton went to Winchester to celebrate Christmas at the home of Mr. and Mrs. William Belcher and Mrs. Clausen. Mrs. Belcher is Mrs. Clausen's sister, and their mother, Mrs. Clausen, has her home there now.

Mrs. Lester R. Qua visited her friends out of town at the Yule tide, returning last Monday to her home in Pepperell.

Mrs. J. E. B. Jewett is very ill this week with pneumonia.

There was a happy party around the Christmas tree at the home of Lucius Wilson's family on Townsend street.

Walter Avery visited his sisters in Wollaston.

Mr. and Mrs. Andrew Jewett of Hollis were at Mrs. William Kendall's for a Christmas visit.

The family at the town farm did not have their usual Christmas festival on account of sickness there. It was postponed awhile.

Selectman Charles H. Miller is reported on the list of the sick this week.

About Town.

Mrs. Anna Nutting, Fred Nutting, Mrs. Nutting and little Madeline spent Christmas with Roy Nutting and family, also Albert Parker and family.

Arthur Bolles of the Hotel Touraine, Boston, was at his father's, Frank Bolles of Heald street, for Christmas holidays.

Martin Brown of Worcester and Dwight Richardson spent Christmas at E. A. Richardson's.

Samuel Marshall of Elm street, with his family, spent Christmas holidays at Concord, with Mrs. Marshall's parents.

Sherman Parker of Fitchburg is visiting his parents during the holidays, also Frank Wiley of the same place.

Mrs. L. P. Shattuck's condition, we are pleased to learn, is improving, also Howard Shattuck is on the gain.

The weather being so severe, there were no services at any of the Evangelical churches last Sunday.

Miss Mae Meriam, Elba and Marshall Meriam were at the parental home during the holidays. Miss Meriam is an instructor in music at Mt. Ida seminary of Auburndale.

The tenement house of John Henry Minor on Townsend street is being newly painted by William E. Chapman. Mr. Minor's buildings add much to the appearance of the street.

Mr. and Mrs. Charles Taft and their son Roger spent Christmas with Mr. Taft's sister in Harvard.

Miss Katherine M. Lawrence of Nashua was in town Friday, calling upon her many friends.

Mrs. Millie Richards of River street entertained her sister, Mrs. George E. Shattuck and family on Christmas day.

Verner, youngest son of Fred S. Bancroft of Heald street, is very sick. It is reported that he has one form of pneumonia.

Little Edgar Frost of Sheffield street has gone to the Massachusetts General hospital for an operation on his head.

Thomas Halley, who is employed at Dr. Heald's, being in poor health, has gone home to his father, Patrick Halley of Tarbell street, until his condition is improved. His place is filled by Lawrence Baker.

One of the children of William Dow of North Pepperell is very sick with pneumonia.

George E. Griffin, a life-long resident of North Pepperell, son of Moses Griffin, was found dead in bed Monday, December 27, aged 47 years, 2 days. He was in poor health a short time before his death. Mr. Griffin lived on

the old home place with his sister, Mrs. Adelbert McNayr. Funeral was held, Wednesday afternoon, December 28. Services were in charge of Rev. R. W. Drawbridge. Roland H. Blood, undertaker.

East.

The East Village social club will hold its next meeting, Wednesday afternoon, January 5, at the home of Mrs. Edgar Blake.

There will be a meeting of Prudence Wright chapter, D. A. R., at the home of Mrs. Elizabeth Heald, Monday afternoon, January 3, at 2.30. Board meeting at two. It is at this meeting that the annual dues are to be paid.

The Ladies' Aid society of the M. E. church will hold their annual meeting for election of officers, Wednesday, January 5, in the ladies' room. Tea will be served at five o'clock.

Miss Madelaine Graham entertained a number of her friends, Thursday evening, at whist. Light refreshments were served.

Mr. and Mrs. M. L. Bartlett entertained on Christmas Mr. and Mrs. Walter A. Stiles and Edward E. Bartlett of Hartford, Conn.; Rosamond S. Bartlett of Springfield, Ernest G. Bartlett of Boston, and Edward C. Simmonds of New York city.

Mr. and Mrs. Harris G. Tarbell of Boston spent several days during Christmas week at Mrs. Tarbell's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Henry W. Lakin. Mr. Lakin has been confined to the house for several weeks with rheumatism, but is now improving.

Mr. and Mrs. Frank P. Kennedy announce the engagement of their daughter, Elizabeth Beatrice, to Claxton N. Ely of New York city.

The fourth quarterly conference will be held at the M. E. church, Saturday evening, January 1, at 7.45 o'clock. Dr. C. F. Rice will occupy the pulpit at this church Sunday morning, January 2.

John Monteith and family spent Christmas with relatives at Natick. Mr. Monteith returned Sunday, but Mrs. Monteith and child will not return until the last of the week.

There will be a meeting of the soliciting committee of the Nurse association on Friday evening. Preliminary reports are decidedly encouraging.

The schools will all reopen Monday, January 3.

Mrs. John Slincy, who returned a few days ago from the hospital at Nashua, is reported about the same. Her brother, John Hannigan and Mrs. Hannigan of New York, are in town. It is understood there is to be a consultation of physicians in the hope of quicker relief and recovery.

There will be a business meeting of the L. S. C. at Mrs. E. B. Heald's, Thursday afternoon, January 6, at three o'clock.

Louis Rowe has entered a number of exhibits in the Boston poultry show, which is from January 11 to 15. He not only breeds high-class stock, but exhibits their eggs, as well as dressed poultry.

Roger B. Taft enjoyed a trip on snow-shoes on Monday from his home to the office.

Mrs. Charles Kenfield is away for a short visit with relatives in Connecticut.

W. C. Perry was in town from Maine and spent Christmas at his home in North Pepperell.

H. F. Hobart has just returned from a trip north, where he purchased a lot of choice fox, coon, mink and skunk skins. His shipment of furs this month is about the largest ever made from this town, totaling about \$500.

Mr. and Mrs. John Milan and children of Nashua spent Christmas at Mr. Milan's parents.

Three members were initiated last Tuesday evening at Acome Rebekah lodge. Many visitors were present from Groton. Refreshments were served.

Among the many home-comers for Christmas we notice Thomas Cunniff, Joseph Garvey, John Lillis, William Scannan, Joseph O'Toole, all from Boston.

Charlie, son of Frederick H. Parker, is quite ill at his home with tonsillitis.

There is a great amount of sickness throughout the town at present. Verba Bancroft, younger son of Mr. and Mrs. F. S. Bancroft, is very ill, threatened with pneumonia. Lester Foss is ill at his parents'. Little eleven-year-old Edgar Frost has been very ill with abscess in head and was taken to the Massachusetts General hospital, Thursday. Many cases of grippe and rheumatism are reported.

The mother of Mrs. George H. Spooner, Pleasant street, who is here on a visit, met with a serious as well as painful accident, Wednesday evening about nine o'clock, when she fell and received injuries from which she did not recover consciousness for about an hour. Her daughter in Denmark, Wis., has been sent for, and, owing to her age, it is feared it will be a painful and slow recovery.

Mr. and Mrs. W. H. Drury spent Christmas with friends at Holden.

Tuesday over one thousand sweet peas were shipped by L. A. Boynton.

Miss Ruth Fowler of Wesleyan academy is a guest of Miss Marian Webber.

I. J. Rowell has moved his office to the grain store. While not so central, it is much more conveniently located, and only a few steps from his old office.

William H. Woods, who lost his home by fire recently, has disposed of all his live stock. He has been stopping at William H. Clapp's, but is now at Mrs. Abbie Weatherbee's.

Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday evenings of next week will be devoted to prayer service at the M. E. church.

Death by Burning.

A man by the name of McQuade met with an accident, Thursday evening, in the lock-up here, which resulted in his death at the Groton hospital. He was seen entering the lock-up about three o'clock by the chief, who called there a little later, and gave the fellow permission to stay there, as he stated he was from Boston and was going in the woods chopping. It is quite customary to allow wayfarers protection from the elements in this way and when the chief called at about six o'clock to see if the fellow wanted

some supper, he could hardly enter the building as it was full of smoke. He quickly found the unfortunate fellow with his clothes on fire.

He quickly smothered the flames, and by hasty examination he saw the burns were serious. He summoned Dr. Chas. G. Heald, and the fellow was rushed in a temporary ambulance, furnished by Greenacres stables. He arrived at the hospital about an hour after being discovered, accompanied by the chief and Dr. Heald, and although everything that medical aid could do was done, he expired about midnight without regaining consciousness. His remains were brought to the undertaking rooms of Roland H. Blood, to await identification. He is about 5 feet, 8 inches, black hair and moustache, weighs about 170 pounds. Several clues of identity have been discovered by the police, and it is hoped there will not be much trouble in locating his relatives and friends. At Nashua the day before Christmas he gave his name as McQuade, and from there he came here.

Deaths.

George E. Griffin, aged forty-five years, died suddenly, Monday morning, at his home in North Pepperell of hemorrhage of the stomach. He has not been in the best of health for sometime and was under the doctor's care. He retired Sunday night not quite as well as usual and was found dead in the morning by his sister, Mrs. A. S. McNayr, with whom he made his home. Funeral was Wednesday afternoon, Rev. R. W. Drawbridge officiating, and the body was placed in the receiving tomb.

Daniel Dwyer passed away, Thursday afternoon. Mr. Dwyer was over eighty years of age and one of our oldest citizens. He has been in failing health for some months. His familiar figure will be missed in the business district, where he would often be found, inquiring of the news and doings in town. Funeral is in charge of Roland H. Blood.

At the Office.

Chief of police, Mr. Monteith, went to Providence, Tuesday, at the expense of those who lost the property stolen by Velshiloff Vedofski, who is under arrest for another theft in that city. He was successful in recovering all except the watch. Mr. Monteith generally gets prisoner or property when after them, and his quiet way of doing his duty has won him many friends. This was particularly true the day before Christmas. He advised a certain drunk to go home. This same fellow had been told many times previous to "cut it out." He has failed to do as commanded, and on Friday he was causing much disturbance, and instead of going home he became abusive and hit at the officer with his whip. It was quick and neatly done, and he was jerked by the coat collar to the ground. His actions resembled a jumping jack, and with the assistance of a couple of onlookers he was carried to the lock-up and spent Christmas there. Monday he was taken to court, but only the crime of disturbing the peace was charged, which resulted in a fine of ten dollars.

HOLLIS, N. H.

News Items.

The Sunday school had a Christmas tree with appropriate entertainment in the town hall, Christmas eve, December 24. The weather was perfect, and the hall was filled. Before the arrival of Santa Claus, who came in an air-ship, there were recitations by Doris Dudley, Ruth Hazard, Elwin Wheeler, and Master Budro, and a piano solo by Raymond Lovejoy. These were followed by a cantata given by the fairies and brownies, who rallied to the assistance of Santa Claus, who feared he hadn't presents enough to give all worthy children. It was a pleasing exercise and prettily rendered by the little folks. This was followed by the distribution of gifts and a general good time.

Many of our young people are home for the holidays, Miss Bertha Colburn, New York; Miss Sallie Bell, Swampscott, Mass.; Otis Goodwin, Lynn, Mass.; Horace Hardy and Luther Tarbell, from the state college; Helen Hazard from a preparatory school, Providence, R. I.; Louise Hardy and George Jones from Sanborn academy.

Fifteen braved the blizzard last Sunday and attended church.

Mrs. I. J. Wetherbee of Groton with her infant daughter have removed to the paternal home in Hollis.

The Hollis Woman's club met with Mrs. Anna Bell, Wednesday afternoon. Owing to the bad traveling from the recent blizzard, but few were able to attend. The program was current events by Mrs. Greenleaf; a paper, "Christmas in the Netherlands," by Mrs. Perley Powers; and a special paper on Henrik Ibsen by Miss Bertha Colburn of New York.

News was received in Hollis, Wednesday, of the death of Prof. Arthur Gilman, who has spent the past three summers in town. Prof. Gilman was an author of many books; among them was the popular one, "My Cranford." Prof. Gilman established the Gilman school for girls in Cambridge. He made many friends in Hollis and had called Hollis his summer home. He died at Atlantic City, N. J.

Annual Church Meeting.

The annual reunion and meeting was held in Grange hall, Thursday, commencing at eleven a. m. Fifty or more were in attendance in the forenoon. The clerk and treasurer's annual reports were given, also reports of auxiliary societies, Y.P.S.C.E., Ladies' Reading and Charitable society; report of King's Daughters; report of W. C. T. U., W. R. C., and pastor's report. The church has lost two members, one by death and one by dismissal. Two have been received into membership. After the dinner hour more than one hundred were in attendance. The pastor gave for the watchword for the year, Matt. 28: 19-20. The great commission. After the pastor's talk, election of deacons was in order, resulting in the election of F. A. Lovejoy as deacon. Election of clerk; motion carried that clerk promote, casting the ballot for Miss Lucinda P. Reed, and Miss Reed was elected. Motion carried that the clerk cast one ballot for Miss L. M. Stratton as treasurer, and Miss Stratton was elected. Voted to observe the week of

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prayer on holy week. Report of Sunday school showed a gain in home department. Rollcall responded to by texts of scriptures. Report of church improvement committee showed approximately four hundred dollars. The church meeting was followed by the annual meeting of the Sunday school. Rev. C. H. Davis was elected superintendent; Mrs. Perley A. Powers, assistant superintendent; Leo McInnes, sec. and treas.; Mrs. Bessie McInnes, primary sup.; Mrs. Elizabeth Russell, home dept. sup.; Mrs. Lizzie H. Busbee, Mrs. L. H. Busbee, W. L. Marshall, Mrs. E. K. Jewett, directors.

Preparing For a "Dewel."

One of the most remarkable documents that have ever come under our observation, says a law journal, is to be found in the case of ex parte Scoggin, 6 Tex. App. 546. Mr. Scoggin was under indictment for the murder of one William Gerrard, and an extract from a memorandum book in defendant's handwriting and found near the body ran as follows:

Johnson Co., Tx., Jan. 24, 1875. As it may be the last penciling that I may ever do on earth May heaven Bless me and the man that I am going to die for we have been traveling to gether some time and have felt out a bought a sum of \$25 and have agreed to light a dewel this Butiful night of our lord, and as one of us has to die May heaven bless us, as this is the last half hour on earth with one of us, heaven Preserve me now and forever. Written by Jesse Scoggin, Borne and rased in Tx. Sined by William Jirod, Borne in Illinois.

Mr. Scoggin's piety apparently brought victory to him in the "dewel," for his adversary when found appeared to have been struck behind the ear by a thirteen inch shell.

New Advertisements.

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