

TURNER'S PUBLIC SPIRIT.

Forty-Second Year

Ayer, Mass., Saturday, January 8, 1910.

No. 17. Price Four Cents

An Actual Fact

856 MILES for \$74.27. This is the number of miles run by a model 10 Buick from May 8th until Nov. 1st. The price included all repairs, and all supplies, fuel, oil, gas tank, etc. The car was run through all kinds of weather day and night, and was not laid up a single day. Who can beat this? The owner lives in Ayer.

FOR SALE

ONE RAMBLER TOURING CAR with detachable tonneau, just the thing for a Roadster. Two cylinders, 16 Horse Power, 2 new Goodrich Balley Tread rear tires, new tires in front, Generator and Search Lights. \$150.00.

ONE NORTHERN RUNABOUT, 4 good tires. \$80.00.

ONE STEAMER, Mason Engine, \$24.98.

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SHIRLEY.

News Items.

Edmund B. Wintherbottom is confined to his home with sickness.

The ladies of the Universalist church will hold a supper and entertainment in the church vestry next Wednesday evening, January 12. The entertainment will be under the direction of Mrs. B. M. Ballou. Music, also a farce, "The love of a bonnet," by Ayer talent. Public invited.

The civil service reform, legislative and civic committees of the Altruistic club have charge of the next meeting, which will meet January 13, at the Congregational vestry at 2.30. The committee have engaged the well-known speaker, Miss Clara Bancroft Beatley of Boston, who will give an address touching on these subjects, commencing at three p. m. All friends of the club are invited to be present as an exceptional fine lecture is expected.

The ladies of the Universalist church called a meeting, Wednesday, and made all arrangements for a fair, to be held in the I. O. O. F. hall, February 9.

The Ladies' Aid society will also have a supper and entertainment at the church vestry, Wednesday, January 12. All are cordially invited to attend. An entertainment will be given assisted by Ayer talent, who will present a farce called "The love of a bonnet," with music and other numbers for entertainment.

Mrs. Julia Kilburn is confined to home with sickness.

Misses Madeline and Mary Ann Cormier left town, Tuesday, for Memramcook, N. B., to be present at the occasion of their sister, Miss Bella Cormier, who is to receive the veil of the sister Notre Dame. Before returning home the Misses Cormier will visit friends in Rogersville, N. B.

Domitille Bourgois, formerly a resident here, arrived in town, Tuesday, from Rogersville, N. B.

The January meeting of the Old Shirley chapter, D. A. R., was held Monday evening, with the secretary, Mrs. George S. Wells. The hostess provided each member with paper and pencil. The paper contained fifteen important dates in American history to be filled in with the events. When time was called all made a good showing. After a game of months refreshments were served by Miss Eleanor Miner and Miss Blanche Wells. A very interesting meeting will be held in February.

The Congregational church held its annual dinner and rollcall in the church vestry, Wednesday afternoon. Dinner was served at 12.30, followed by reports. Elmer H. Allen was chosen moderator. About sixty were present. The following officers were elected to serve during the year 1910:

Mary A. Park, church clerk and treas.; Walter Knowles, Sunday school supt.; Victor O'Brien, assistant Sunday school supt.; Edwin H. Conant, church com. 3 yrs.; Frank P. Rugg, Rodney Brown, Stanley Wells, ushers.

The Franco Independent club held their regular meeting, Wednesday evening, in St. Anthony's hall, when

the following officers were elected to serve during the year 1910:

Sylvester Thomas, pres.; Richard Cormier, vice-pres.; Roger Gionet, fin. sec.; Felix Gionet, treas.; John J. Chaisson, cor. sec.; Michael Gionet and Charles Gionet, serg. at arms; George Stebbins, William Gionet, Willie Cormier, standing committee.

The installation will take place next Wednesday evening, January 12. At the close of the ceremony there will be a sociable basket party.

Moses Chaisson and Hubert Arsenault of Lawrence, also Rufus Buote from Prince Edward Island, were visitors at the home of John J. Chaisson, new year's day.

Luther and Raymond Richardson of Worcester returned home first of the week after spending a week with their grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. Herbert B. Richardson, Sr.

J. C. Ayer lodge, A. O. U. W., will install its officers, Monday evening, January 10. Deputy A. W. Allen with suite of Leominster will be the installing officers. Refreshments and a social hour will follow the ceremony.

W. Lloyd Allen returned to the University law school, Monday, after spending the holidays at home.

Miss Mabel Hazen, who has been spending the holidays at her home, returned to her school duties at Lee, first of the week.

Mrs. E. H. Allen, in company with her mother, Mrs. M. Michael, started Tuesday for a visit of about a week at the home of her daughter, Mrs. Dana B. Somes of Pittsfield.

The old Shirley chapter, D. A. R., is making extensive preparations for the production of a drama at Odd Fellows' hall, with over fifty young people in the cast. Miss Minnie L. Allen has charge of this event, which will be one of splendor and merit.

The regular meeting of Court Jacques Cartier of the société l'Assomption, was held in St. Anthony's hall, last Sunday afternoon. Three new members were initiated and the officers for the ensuing year were duly installed. Alpha Legère of Fitchburg and Amos Gionet of Lowell with suite installed the following officers:

Amos Gionet, chan.; John J. Chaisson, pres.; Edward Gionet and Phillip Legère, vice-pres.; Michael Gionet, fin. sec.; Sylvester Thomas, rec. sec.; Frank X. Gionet, treas.; Joseph Chaisson, a. s. S. Gionet, 2d s. s.; Alex. Gionet, William Gionet, Roger Gionet, dir.

Those who attended the lecture in the Universalist church, last week Saturday afternoon, given by Miss Stella A. Woodward of Fitchburg, were simply delighted with her talk on "Holidays and holy days in Europe," and Miss Mabel Hazen, under whose auspices the lecture was held, is to be congratulated on the success of her endeavor to help a worthy young man with no financial means of support to obtain a college education. Miss Hazen netted over fifty dollars.

Miss Edith L. Conant, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Edwin H. Conant, started for Chicago last Saturday, to take full charge of the welfare department of the large and well-known house of Montgomery, Ward & Co. Miss Conant is splendidly equipped in every particular for the many and varied duties of her new position, having held post-

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tions in clerical work and being a graduated nurse from a leading hospital, besides having experience in settlement work and endowed by nature with a kind disposition; also, being fluent and tactful in conversation. It is generally conceded by all that success in this important position is practically assured, and that Montgomery, Ward & Co. and Miss Conant are both to be congratulated in their selection and acceptance.

Misses Minnie and May Chaisson entertained a few of their friends at their home, new year's night. Games with vocal and instrumental music were the features of entertainment. Refreshments were served during the evening, and those present were:

Miss Lucy Chaisson, Miss Ella Arsenault and Miss Frances Guade, Brockton; Miss Emily Chaisson of North Grafton; Miss Clara Gionet, Emma Landry, Katie Perry, Tanis Landry, Levi Landry, Emilie Gionet, Bertha Tatro, Harold Landry, Emilie Guenette, Willie Cormier, Albert Gionet, Felix Gionet, Peter Ferry.

The Christian Endeavor society of the Congregational church has elected the following officers for the ensuing term:

Mr. Herbert W. McCoy, pres.; Shipley Ricker, v. p.; Miss Mary A. Park, rec. sec. and treas.; Mrs. Frank Brockelman, pianist; Andrew Phelps, cornetist. Committee: E. Conant, E. Conant, Mrs. Rugg, Mrs. Phelps, Sarah Knowles, Grace Adams. Prayer meeting, Mrs. Wright, Mrs. Collyer, Mrs. Holbrook, Miss Dammun, Social, Mrs. Gilbrook, Shipley Ricker, Herbert McCoy, Emma Hanna, Inez McMurray. Missionary, Mrs. E. H. Conant, Eugene Livermore, Leonard Hooper, Mrs. Brockelman, Cailling, Mrs. E. L. Harris, Mrs. Pomfret, Emma Knowles, Mrs. Bronn-Park, Eleanor Miner, Flower, Mary Park, Emilie Wilbur, Edna Harris, Flora Shepherd, Russell Miner, Usher, Leonard Hooper, Stanley Wells, Lester James.

Mrs. M. J. Collier of Watertown, for many years a resident of this town, fell down stairs recently, which was a serious affair for one who is eighty-three years of age. Mrs. Collier is one of the oldest subscribers of a few days ago speaks in the highest terms of its excellence and that she could not be without it.

Bowling.

The bowling teams have been organized in Shirley consisting of the following local bowlers:

Burrill's Team. Day's Team. Latin Allen, E. Gately, W. Gilmartin, O. Sibley, F. Dammun, C. Stebbins, F. Pierce, F. Mansur, T. Burrill, capt. M. Day, capt. Hocquard's Team. Collyer's Team. E. O'Neill, C. White, J. Gately, R. Pomfret, B. Bodah, G. Cook, J. McGinnis, J. Leopold, P. Hocquard, capt. H. Collyer, capt.

The first game was played Tuesday evening between Collyer's team and Burrill's team. Collyer's team won by taking the first and last strings and also winning the total pinfall by a close margin of three pins.

The special features of the game was the fast rolling of Frank Pierce, who scored 120 on the second string and finished with a score of 307. The summary:

COLLYER'S TEAM

C. White	66	78	110	254
H. Pomfret	95	81	73	252
J. Leopold	30	88	88	206
G. Cook	81	81	97	259
H. Collyer	98	95	53	276
	423	423	451	1298

BURRILL'S TEAM

Latin Allen	30	68	81	229
W. Gilmartin	90	98	80	268
T. Burrill	72	86	92	250
F. Dammun	30	80	80	240
P. Pierce	92	120	95	307
	414	452	428	1294

Church Services.

Rev. C. A. Knickerbocker will occupy his pulpit at the Universalist church, Sunday morning, January 9, at eleven a. m. Regular meeting of the Y. P. S. C. U. in the vestry at 7.30 p. m. Subject, "Mission study topic;" leader, Miss Mildred McNeil.

Rev. A. A. Bronson will occupy his pulpit at the Congregational church, Sunday morning, January 9, at 10.15 a. m. Mr. Bronson will also preach again in the evening at seven o'clock, the regular endeavor meeting being omitted.

Rev. W. H. Desjardins will preach at the Baptist church, Sunday, January 9, at 10.45 a. m. and seven p. m.

HOLLIS, N. H.

About Town.

Mrs. Flora Ord spent the day in Boston, Monday.

A new year's dance was given in the town hall on Friday evening. Music was by French's orchestra of Nashua.

F. A. Jones was in Boston on Monday and Tuesday.

Matthew M. Jameson was in Boston on Monday.

Mrs. Ella M. Farley is in Nashua for a few days' visit with friends.

New Advertisements.

TO RENT—House on Groton St., East Pepperell, with room to town water. Apply to JOE BERGEN, East Pepperell, Mass. 1117

TO RENT—Upper or Lower Tenement on Fobth Street, Ayer. Apply to MRS. E. L. WOOD, or Public Spirit Office, Ayer, Mass. 1117

FOR SALE OR TO LET—A Small Place on Oak Hill, Pepperell, good place for hens. Inquire of BENJAMIN PARKER, Box 56, Pepperell. Telephone 1217

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Our Line of

Fur Coats

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We have a very attractive line of

Overcoats for Young Men and Boys

made in the very Latest Styles.

MEN'S OVERCOATS--Regular Overcoats, cut 42 inches long. The fabrics are Black Kersey and Vicuna. Strictly High Grade Garments. Sizes, 34 to 44.

Prices, \$10.00, \$12.00, \$15.00 and \$20.00

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.

Prices, \$8.47, \$10.00, \$15.00, \$18.00 and \$20.00

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.

Prices, \$28.00 \$35.00, \$50.00 and \$60.00.

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.

Prices, \$15.00, \$18.00 and \$20.00.

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

Prices, Ages 3 to 10--\$1.98 to \$5.00; Ages 10 to 16--\$3.47 to \$10.00

SHEEP-LINED COATS--We have a full line of Men's Sheepskin-Lined and Blanket-Lined Short Coats. The outside is made from Corduroys 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.

Published every Saturday by John H. Turner, Ayer, Mass.
ONE DOLLAR AND FIFTY CENTS A YEAR.

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WATCH THE DATE OF YOUR PAPER.

Entered as second class matter at the postoffice at Ayer, Mass.

Saturday, January 15, 1910.
WESTFORD.

Centre.

At the monthly meeting of Edward M. Abbott hose company No. 1, the supper was in charge of John Feeney, Fred Clement and J. Henry Colburn. Committee appointed for the supper at the next meeting is Alex. Fisher, Peter Clement and W. E. Carlin. The topic uppermost in the minds of those having nimble feet was the second annual ball of the company, which is scheduled for the near future.

John R. Draper has been enjoying vacation days with his old school friend, Leon F. Hildreth.

Frank C. Wright and S. H. Balch, the two R. F. D. carriers, had a well-earned holiday new year's day. Sunday coming the next day made a two-day rest which after the Christmas work and the hard traveling from the snow storm must have been particularly welcome.

Schools reopened Monday after the winter vacation. Miss Norris, teacher of ability and experience, takes the place of Miss Babbitt, resigned. Miss Edith Lawrence did not return this week owing to an attack of tonsillitis.

Fred A. Smith went last week to Lake Weir, Fla., expecting to be gone until the first of April. This is the same town where Mr. and Mrs. A. H. Foss and Mr. and Mrs. Pearl Harmon are located for the winter.

Miss Althea Smith has been spending the Christmas holidays in town.

Mrs. James Spinner is ill at her home with pneumonia and at this writing is quite fairly comfortable.

Rev. Mr. Marshall gave his hearers a talk suitable to the new year, Sunday morning, at the "making good" in whatever way undertaken. He went out on the first of the year cards of greetings and good wishes to his parishioners. During the remainder of their stay in our midst, Mrs. Marshall will preside at the organ for the morning service.

Elizabeth Wells is the name of the little lady who has come to dwell in the home of Dr. and Mrs. Wells.

Runaway.

Late last Thursday afternoon, when S. H. Balch, carrier of R. F. D. route No. 2, returned to the postoffice at the center he left his horses standing for a moment unhitched while he went inside. The animals were tired and fretted with the severe cold and started for home on their own account, breaking into a gallop down the Main street. They ran straight by their home driveway, and it was well that they did, for they would probably have had an upset at the pace they were going. They ran for about a mile, and when opposite George Whitney's, Will E. Wright, who was coming from Lowell with his team, met them. He at once took in the situation and with characteristic dexterity and precision stopped the frightened animals, which is something of a feat where there are two. Nothing was broken and the outfit was safely returned to its owner.

Tadnuck Club.

Owing to the severity of the weather, Tuesday afternoon, it was but a small group of the members of the Tadnuck club who met in Library hall for the first meeting of the year. Miss Loker was unable to be present, and Miss Ella F. Hildreth, the vice-president, presided. The subject for the afternoon was the first of the series on Alaska, this one being "Alaska: topographical features." Miss Emily F. Fletcher, chairman. Miss Lawrence, who was to have given a paper, was unable to be present. Miss Cushing and Miss Grant gave their respective parts describing the route one would take to visit this country. At the close of the program those present enjoyed informally an inspection of the first group of pictures now on exhibition of scenes in the famous Yosemite valley. At the next meeting, January 18, Principal Woodward of the academy will have charge of the program, the subject being "The history of Alaska and its inhabitants."

Resignation.

On Sunday, at the Congregational church Rev. Mr. Marshall gave his hearers a good sermon based on lessons of the Christmas tide. After the preaching service he conducted the sacrament of the Lord's supper, and at the close of this members were asked to remain for some items of business, and when these were concluded L. M. Wheeler, clerk of the church, was asked to take the chair. Mr. Marshall retiring from the assembly. The following letter which speaks for itself was then read by the clerk:

To the Union Congregational Church, Westford.

Dear Friends: It is nearly five years since you called me to be your pastor. For all the kindness you have shown to me I want to thank you. These four years have been happy ones, they have been in our memories as we cannot hope any others ever will. Westford must ever be remembered as our first home. But I feel that the time has come for me to ask you to release me from this pastorate on Jan. 31st.

For me to go means not only the breaking of my relationship with the church, but my citizenship in the town which I have enjoyed and into the life of which I have entered with great pleasure and above all it means a separation from friends we have both learned to know and love.

It is only the duty that I feel that I owe to the kingdom that I have asked that I may be allowed to take up another work.

Most sincerely yours,
CHARLES P. MARSHALL.

It was voted to accept this resignation with much regret. Mr. Marshall has made many warm friends among his church people and in the community, entering into their joys and sorrows with a genuineness and sincerity which will always be cherished. He also had the energy and ability to identify himself with the larger welfare of the vil-

lage life. He has been an active member of the grange, serving efficiently as its lecturer, chaplain, and on its committee for entertainment courses for several seasons. He has also been most helpful in the Tadnuck club since its organization. Mr. Marshall resigns to accept the pastorate of the Washington Street Congregational church, Quincy, which is a much larger field than this. Both he and Mrs. Marshall and the little daughter of the parsonage, who has been the pet of the whole parish, will take with them the heartiest good will and good wishes of the Westford people.

About Town.

Miss Sarah Richardson, who has been seriously ill with indigestion at her home at Brookside, is regaining her youthful appetite and other symptoms of recovery. Ninety-one years does much for constitutional ability and the skill of Dr. Wells to encourage.

Wednesday was inauguration day at Boston. Among those present as part of the new state government and as a wise advisory councillor to the governor, was our own well-equipped Hon. Herbert E. Fletcher. If he proves as wise in council for the state as in council to himself in business and social life, those who would disapprove ought to go way back and sit down in the lonesome corner.

Mr. and Mrs. Eben Prescott announce the engagement of their daughter, Bertha Amelia, to William Henry Benjamin of Watertown.

J. Albro Fletcher, having tired of zero and the frosty gingle of sleigh bells, has hied himself to the sunny and more equatorial clime of the south. When three persons froze to death in sunny Alabama during the last snow blizzard, it is a query whether the change will warm the situation or not.

Preparations are being made at Councillor Fletcher's stone quarry to install in the spring one of the large sized stone crushers capable of taking in the ordinary derrick scoopful. The one to be discarded, which has been long in use, is a pepper box in comparison to the new one.

Alvin Polley, who has been shortened up in usefulness with rheumatism and other adversities of old age, has temporarily at least got a walking start of them, and is out and around the farmyard barn.

Patrick McNulty, who perished in a snow blizzard November 17, at Joliet, Minn., while in the service of the U. S. R. F. D. route, was a cousin of our James H. O'Brien on the Stony Brook road.

The Molly Varnum chapter of the D. A. R. gave a new year's reception, Tuesday afternoon, to the Lydia Darrah and Bay State chapters at the Spalding house, Lowell. Among those present who assisted in serving were Mrs. Herbert E. Fletcher and Mrs. Esther Perry Taylor Snow, both of whom are members of the Molly Varnum chapter.

The W. C. T. U. met with Mrs. S. L. Taylor, Wednesday afternoon, the president, Mrs. Frank C. Hildreth, presiding, read a letter from Catherine Lente Stevenson, who at present is traveling in Australia, giving an account of temperance work in that country. The minutes of the last meeting were read by Mrs. Emma Day. The company sang the State song with Mrs. Janet Wright as accompanist. Voted to have a food sale January 21 at the home of Mrs. Emery J. Whitney.

The annual fox hunt is to be held at Bedford, January 10-15. Harry N. Fletcher of Graniteville is one of the directors, and Henry A. Fletcher of Oak Hill, is a member of the club.

The "At home" sentiment met life-size illustration January 1, when the family of Nelse Nelson moved from West Chelmsford into their cosy bungalow cottage at Brookside. New bright lights and new bright faces add much to the life at the eastern boundary of Stony Brook valley and close to the shadows of Brookside mills.

John Wilson is seriously ill of heart trouble at Coshocton, Ohio, whither he had gone to attend the funeral of his nephew, Edson Wilson. His nephew was prominent in town and held many important town offices.

Middlesex North will light up with a farmers' institute at Westford town hall, Wednesday, January 12. The address in the morning will be given by George Albert Drew, whom all Westford once knew. His subject will be "Orcharding." The afternoon will be given to variety with a humorous reader as a basis.

Entertainment.

The Christmas concert at the Unitarian church postponed on account of the storm, was held in the vestry, Sunday evening, Christmas and new year's songs were sung by the Sunday school. Recitations by Master John Fletcher, Bertram Sutherland, Miss Marjorie Seavey, Miss Lillian Sutherland and Miss Pauline Dale. Miss Evelyn Hamlin delighted with a solo on the violin. The Sunday school was liberally remembered with gifts, gifts to read, gifts to eat and some tender to look at. The sick and those limp with age, or shut in from the sunny helpfulness of weekly meetings were tenderly remembered. These outward tokens of good will received a stimulant in a few wise words from Rev. Benjamin Bailey, who emphasized the vital utility in Christmas and new year's.

Forge Village.

Christmas services were held in St. Andrew's mission, Sunday evening, January 2, and were attended by a large number. Many were present from St. Andrew's church, Ayer. The mission house was beautiful in its decorations of laurel, Christmas bells and many flowers, and the singing of the festival to deem by the vested choir was of the usual high order. Rev. Thomas L. Fisher conducted the services and held the close attention of the congregation during the sermon.

The teachers of Cameron school are planning to give the pupils a sleigh ride in the near future.

Mr. and Mrs. John Daly welcomed a little daughter at their home, Thursday, December 30.

Mrs. Courtney, mother of Mrs. G. E. Mountain, is at this writing critically ill at the home of her daughter. Mrs. Courtney fell on the railroad crossing

a short time ago and broke her wrist, and owing to her advanced age recovery is doubtful. Dr. W. H. Sherman is attending her.

Miss Cecilia May of Long Island City is visiting relatives here.

Victor Pigeon, the butcher, who was burned out in Graniteville a short time ago, has purchased a piece of land from George O. Jackson on Pleasant street and intends to build an up-to-date meat market. The land adjoins that of Cameron school.

The Daniel Gage Ice Company commenced harvesting their ice crop at North Littleton, Thursday. They expect to get through in time to commence on Forge pond, Monday morning. The ice at North Littleton is seventeen inches thick and of excellent quality.

The members of the John Edwards' hose company of the W. F. D. held the first meeting of the year at the club rooms, Wednesday evening, and elected the following officers for the ensuing year: Richard D. Prescott, capt.; Edmund Hunt, 1st lieutenant; Edward T. Hanley, 2d lieutenant; George H. Weaver, sec.; Walter Precious, treas.; William Hunt, stew. After the business meeting was over the following committee was chosen to make arrangements to hold their annual dance: Edward T. Hanley, gen. man.; James Whigham, J. W. Catchpole, Walter Precious, assts.

A Fierce Combat.

A well-known resident here was startled out of his slumbers at 12:45 Sunday night, when he heard terrible moaning as if some one was in mortal agony on the piazza of his home, and the shuffling of many feet as if more than one person was trying to gain admittance. Bang, bang! went the door several times in succession. Jumping out of bed he hastily donned his clothes, while his better half threw open the window and called out who was there. Receiving no answer, but groans, which grew fainter, he thought some one must be dying and decided to go out and investigate. Upon reaching the door, however, imagine his disgust when instead of the prostrate form of a man, he found a fierce cat-fight in full progress. Grabbing a dipper of cold water to throw at them, he returned to the door to find the disturbers of the peace had already departed. He is now vowing vengeance on all cats that come within easy reaching distance. That the fight was a fierce one was seen the next morning when the door mat was found to be thickly covered with pussy's fur.

Settled in California.

The many friends of Mr. and Mrs. W. E. Parsons will be glad to hear news of them. They have left Rainier, Oregon, where they went the last of November, and are now at Riverside, California, where they intend to spend the winter. The distance from Rainier, Ore., to Riverside, Cal., is one thousand miles.

Mr. and Mrs. Parsons reached there Sunday afternoon, December 18, and are now staying with relatives, but intend to commence housekeeping until they return here. Mrs. Parsons writes that she can sit at her window and reach out and pick all the oranges she can eat. The roses are all in bud, but were nipped by the severe frost which the residents there say was the worst in many years. The roads, she states, are of crushed stone and oiled, which makes traveling a pleasure. She sends greetings to her many friends.

Graniteville.

Ferdinand Pervin, an older brother of Mrs. Hyacinth Le Duc of this village, who has been in poor health for several months, fell down stairs on last week Thursday, breaking his right arm in two places and injuring his collarbone, illustration receiving a severe shaking up. Mr. Pervin has made his home with the La Duc family for several years, and considering his age, that is seventy-two years, his recent mishap, coupled with his previous illness, leaves him in a serious condition at present.

On last Saturday, being a holy day of obligation, mass was celebrated in St. Catherine's church at 7:30 a. m. Rev. J. J. McNamara being the celebrant. The mass was largely attended. At the regular 9:45 mass, celebrated in St. Catherine's church on Sunday morning, the pastor, Rev. Edmund T. Schofield, delivered an eloquent sermon, appropriate for the new year, which made a deep impression on the large congregation present.

Many watch meetings were held here on last week Friday night, and those who watched the old year depart and the new year come in, passed the time pleasantly with many vocal selections that were not entirely of a religious character. The custom is somewhat new to the people here, and if everything is all right at the next new year, it is thought that the chorus will be augmented by several new voices.

The regular meeting of Court Graniteville, F. of A., was held in their rooms on Thursday night. Considerable business of importance was transacted, and all the newly-elected officers duly installed for the ensuing term by R. J. McCarthy, D. G. C. R.

All the schools opened up here at the usual time on Monday morning, and the children returned much refreshed after their brief vacation.

A Few Present.

Many people from the village went up to Forge Village pond on last Sunday in the hopes of witnessing a trial of speed between several of the fast horses in this vicinity. A few of the "speeders" were present with their drivers, but the surface of the pond was in such a slushy condition that it was thought advisable to call it off for the time being. Foreman William Leahy, who has charge of the icehouses at the pond, said although that the ice was in poor condition for speeding horses, it was in excellent condition for cutting, for they had twelve inches of good solid ice there, and all that was needed was just one night of freezing after the thaw of Sunday and everything would be in readiness for harvesting the annual crop. It is thought that the work of cutting will commence this week, either at Spectacle or Forge Village ponds, both of which are very near together.

The new terminal station of the Pennsylvania Railroad in New York was sixteen miles of tracks.

Beginning Monday, Jan'y 10th

we offer for sale, for two weeks, the following goods at

Greatly Reduced Prices

	Regular	Now		Regular	Now
Fancy Decorated Vase Lamps, with globe, all complete.....	\$3.50	\$1.50	Galvanized Pails.....	.35	.25
Rayo Lamps, nickel bowl, white shade	1.50	1.00	Galvanized Ash Barrels.....	2.25	1.50
Hand Lamps, large size.....	.65	.40	Galvanized Ash Sifters.....	3.75	2.50
Hand Lamps, small size.....	.35	.25	Galvanized Oil Cans, 5 gals.....	1.00	.75
"Glow" Night Lamps.....	.25	.15	Galvanized Oil Cans, 1 gal.....	.30	.20
Brass Lanterns.....	.90	.40	Galvanized Foot Tubs.....	.55	.30
Lamp Shades, decorated.....	1.75	.75	Up-to-Date Washing Machines.....	8.95	7.00
Lamp Shades, plain.....	1.00	.50	Majestic Washing Machines.....	6.50	5.00
			Boilers, copper bottom.....	1.90	1.00
			Dinner Pails.....	.25	.15
			Dinner Boxes.....	.25	.15
			Dinner Baskets.....	.48	.40
			Dinner Baskets.....	.42	.30
			FOLDING CLOTHES DRYERS.		
			14 Arms.....	.98	.65
			7 Arms.....	.10	.05
			ADJUSTABLE IRONING BOARDS.		
			14 Inch.....	\$1.25	.85
			Sleeve Boards.....	.35	.15
			BRUSHES.		
			Hoof Brushes.....	.25	.15
			Cattle Cards.....	.10	.05
			Curry Combs.....	.20	.10
			Tie Ropes.....	.25	.15
			Dust Brushes.....	.33	.25
			Shoe Brushes.....	.25	.15
			Clothes Brushes.....	.15	.10
			Shaving Brushes.....	.25	.15
			Shaving Brushes.....	.10	.05
			Hair Brushes.....	.10	.05
			Combs, rubber.....	.10	.05
			Combs, Fine.....	.10	.05
			Combs, Baby's.....	.25	.15
			Shoe Makers' Kits, consisting of jack, lasts, knives, hammer, awl, etc.....	.60	.25
			Shoe Shining Boxes.....	.50	.15
			Handled Axes.....	.95	.65
			Axes.....	1.00	.50
			Axes.....	.55	.35
			Hatchets.....	.35	.25
			Hammers.....	.35	.25
			MISCELLANEOUS.		
			Flat Irons, three in a set.....	\$1.50	\$1.00
			Flat Iron Handles.....	.10	.05
			Carpenters' Aprons.....	.35	.20
			Bread Steamers.....	.55	.25
			Water Kettles.....	.38	.15
			Toasters.....	.10	.05
			Cake Turners.....	.10	.05
			Iron Mixing Spoons.....	.12	.05
			Wash Basins.....	.14	.10
			Spiders.....	.25	.15
			2 Qt. Milk Cans.....	.30	.15
			Shaker Husk Mats.....	.50	.40
			Chair Seats.....	.10	.05
			Savory Roasters.....	1.35	.90
			Kitchen Saws.....	.35	.25
			Knife Sharpeners.....	.15	.10
			Japanned Dust Pans.....	.10	.05
			Carpet Beaters.....	.35	.20
			Dry Mops.....	.35	.25
			Rotary Flour Sieves.....	.25	.10
			Blue and White Cuspidors.....	.20	.10
			Japanese Umbrella Stands.....	2.50	1.00
			Jardieniers, large.....	2.25	1.00
			Fancy Cups and Saucers.....	.25	.10
			Shaving Mugs.....	.25	.10
			Cake Plates.....	.25	.10

All of the above-mentioned goods on hand, and Must Be Sold.

P. DONLON & CO., Ayer, Mass.

BOXBOROUGH.

News Items.

Friday evening, January 14, the officers of Boxborough grange are to be installed by Mrs. Mabel Thompson of Hopkinton, assisted by Mrs. Maria Gilmore of Westborough.

New year's night quite a large number of friends accepted the invitation given by the sons and daughter of Lewis Richardson to call and give Mr. and Mrs. Richardson a sort of surprise on the tenth anniversary of their marriage. The evening was spent in a social way, refreshments of ice cream, cake and fruit being served. Many souvenirs of tin were left by the guests who all united in wishing the couple many happy returns of the day.

Mrs. Shattuck and children spent last week in Worcester.

Miss Florence Moore was the guest of Miss Mary Nelson during a part of the holidays.

Nelson Cobleigh is quite sick. Dr. Tasker is in attendance.

Wilton B. Hager and friend were at his father's over Sunday.

Miss Waterman is visiting in Providence.

Cards have been received announcing the marriage of Miss Helen V. Mason to Henry B. Russell of Suffield, Conn., Jan. 1. Many will remember Miss Mason, who was a popular teacher at No. 3 about ten years ago. From here she went to the Littleton primary school, then to Newton, where she has been ever since. Mr. and Mrs. Russell are to live in Suffield.

At the annual parish meeting, Wednesday afternoon, A. W. Wetherbee, who has served as treasurer for a great many years, resigned and S. B. Hager was elected in his place. Mr. Wetherbee still retains his place as clerk.

R. Y. Nelson was chosen on the church committee in place of S. B. Hager.

Edward Douglas is to occupy the tenement vacated by Mr. Smith.

Miss May Hastings spent part of her Christmas vacation with Mrs. Page.

Silver Wedding.

With the mercury registering several degrees below zero in the morning and flirting with it all day, the ground covered with snow, the wind blowing a gale and heaping it in drifts, December 30, 1909, was in marked contrast to December 30, 1884, when

Albert Littlefield of Boxborough and Jennie A. Hemenway of Framingham were united in marriage at the home of the bride. Then doors and windows were thrown wide and open, and the south wind felt like June.

That the weather does not keep country people at home was shown by the large number who gathered at the Littlefield homestead, last Thursday afternoon and evening, to celebrate the twenty-fifth anniversary of the host and hostess.

Mr. and Mrs. Charles A. Hemenway, father and mother of Mrs. Littlefield, assisted in receiving.

Guests were present from Concord, Medford, Framingham, Acton and Littleton, as well as Boxborough.

Many tokens of regard in the shape of silver, china, cut glass, books, pictures, gold and silver coins, were received.

New Advertisements.

Wood and Lumber.

Am in the market to buy standing wood of Lumber Lots. Will pay highest Cash Price.
G. M. BALLOU, Shirley, Mass.
 FOR SALE.—A Good One-Horse Paw; also Extra Good Horse. J. R. HAWKES, Groton, Mass. 1117

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.
Chalfoux 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 Brock & Sons, Real Estate agents 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. 224 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, 18 head stock, 2 fine horses, etc., etc., for \$4000, one-half cash?

EDWARD H. BLISS, "The Hillside."
Phone 30-3. Ayer, Mass.

WILLIAM E. WHEELER



General Blacksmithing.
Horseshoeing a Specialty.
ALSO, ALL KINDS OF CARRIAGE REPAIRING, RUBBER TIRES, PAINTING AND JOBBING PROMPTLY DONE AT NEW SHOP ON CENTRAL AVENUE
Phone, 74-3, res. 78-4. AYER, Mass.

PRINTING

Of All Kinds
DONE BY
Huntley S. Turner
Opposite Railroad Station
Ayer, Mass.
Phone, 105-2.

I have the largest Job Printing plant in Northern Middlesex, fully equipped with all the latest and best Type and Machinery.

No job too large or too small for me to handle.
A specialty of color and half-tone work.

My equipment for handling Posters of every variety is one of the best in New England, having a large stock of Wood Type, Borders, etc.

My facility for Book and Pamphlet work is unsurpassed, as with a Linotype Machine I am able to get out this kind of work quickly, and new type for every publication.

I am able with a large force of workmen to handle rush orders better than anyone in this vicinity.

BEST OF WORK.
REASONABLE PRICES.

You Get Your Work When Promised

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS, Middlesex ss. Probate Court. To the next of kin and all persons interested in the estate of FRED DOBSON of Ayer, in said County of Middlesex, an insane person.

Whereas, JOHN M. MALONEY, guardian of said insane person, has presented his petition for authority to lease for a term of years certain real estate therein specified of his ward at a rental therein specified or upon such terms as may be adjudged best.

You are hereby cited to appear at a Probate Court to be held at Cambridge, in said County of Middlesex, on the tenth 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 said petitioner is ordered to serve this citation by publishing the same once in 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.

Witness, Charles J. McIntire, Esquire, First Judge of said Court, this twenty-second day of December, in the year one thousand nine hundred and nine.
1115 W. E. ROGERS, Register.

BROOKLINE, N. H.

News Items.

Nathaniel Wentworth, Charles Clark and Frank Brown, fish and game commissioners, held a hearing at the selectmen's room, Tuesday, December 28, and decided to close Lake Potanipo for ice fishing for an indefinite period, in order to protect the ice crop.

Rollo Austin and family have moved to Milford.

Leroy Putnam has purchased the Levi Putnam homestead at Milford and will move there.

Ernest W. Nye and daughters, Doris and Ruth, of Sandown, were new year's guests of Mr. and Mrs. George H. Nye.

The Christmas concert, which was postponed at the Methodist church, will be presented Sunday evening, January 9.

Parker Webber and family have moved to the I. M. Williams' homestead.

Edward P. Gerrish was remembered by his many friends on his birthday with a large shower of postal cards.

F. B. Rockwood and wife, Miss Mabel Rockwood, Stanley Rockwood, Stephen Marshall, Norman Spencer, Elizabeth Wilkins, Vincella Wright, Nina Braley and Alton Jensen, united with the Congregational church last Sunday.

Miss Helen Pratt, George Freeman, George Stanley and George Fagan united with the Methodist church last Sunday.

Miss Kathleen O'Herne of Leominster and Miss Myrtle Eddy of Nashua have been guests of Mrs. L. P. Peabody at the Elmwood.

Alpha Hall and family are at the home of Mrs. J. A. Hall for the winter.

Selectmen Harry Marshall and Geo. L. Dodge were at Manchester, Monday, on town business.

Mr. and Mrs. Harry C. Gilson of Townsend were holiday guests of Mrs. Clinton D. Gilson and son.

Walter E. Corey and sons, Lawrence and Walter E. Jr., have been ill with a severe attack of grippe.

Mrs. Hattie Stiles, Miss Josephine Seaver and Mrs. William Ladd Dodge are detained at home with the prevailing colds.

Mrs. H. Arthur Brown presided at the organ at the Methodist church last Sunday.

Mrs. Josephine Stiles will spend part of the winter at Nashua with her daughter, Miss Marion Stiles.

Mr. and Mrs. Arthur A. Goss attended the Pomona grange meeting at Merrimac, Wednesday.

Edward J. Farnsworth has been successful in recovering the horse which was recently stolen from his barn. It was found at Waltham and the guilty party arrested.

Mr. and Mrs. Will Shattuck and little daughter, Thelma, of Reed's Ferry, have been recent guests of Mr. and Mrs. Henry Shattuck.

Rev. Warren L. Noyes will commence a series of six sermons on the four gospels, Sunday, January 9, at the Congregational church.

Henry Shattuck, Will Shattuck, Arthur A. Goss, Herbert Corey and son Harry, enjoyed a fishing trip to Lake Potanipo. Master Harry captured the first fish, a handsome three-pound pickerel. Will Shattuck also caught a pickerel from the same hole that tipped the scales at three pounds.

A party of young people watched the old year out at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Horace Randall.

Mrs. P. J. Randall slipped on the ice and fell Saturday, severely injuring her back.

Edward C. Tucker has been reappointed agent to issue hunters' licenses for the ensuing year.

Born, December 18, a daughter to Mr. and Mrs. Clarence G. Frost.

Rollcall.

The annual church meeting and roll-call of the Congregational church took place, Thursday, December 30. An excellent dinner was served under the supervision of Mrs. Helen M. Hall, about sixty partaking. The Congregational brotherhood served a ten-cent supper, and in the evening Rev. C. F. Robinson of Milford gave an intensely interesting address relative to the brotherhood. The following officers were elected:

Miss Marion A. Stiles, clerk and treas.; Miss Helen M. Hall, asst. clerk and treas.; Dr. C. H. Holcombe, deacon for two years; Miss Myrtle L. Shattuck, Perley L. Pierce, prudential com.; Mrs. Nancy J. Daniels, Sunday school supt.; Harry M. Hall, sec.; William S. Brown, weas.; Edward R. Pierce, lib.; Mr. and Mrs. Perley L. Pierce, Mr. and Mrs. Luther Lawrence, Mr. and Mrs. William Hall, Fred A. Hall, social com.; Mrs. Emma Valdege, chorister.

A larger amount was pledged for missions for the ensuing year.

Voted, to make changes in the church creed and committee appointed.

Monday, January 3, the annual meeting of the Congregational society was held. The officers for the ensuing year are:

Arthur A. Goss, mod.; Dr. C. H. Holcombe, clerk; Perley L. Pierce, Arthur A. Goss, Chester B. Valdege, stand. com.; William H. Hall, treas.; Edward P. Gerrish, asst. treas.; William S. Brown, Perley L. Pierce, auditors; Frank E. Gilman, Edward R. Pierce, ushers.

The annual meeting of the Ladies' Aid society was held, Monday, and the following officers elected:

Mrs. Helen M. Hall, pres.; Mrs. Emma Valdege, vice-pres.; Mrs. Nancy J. Daniels, sec.; Mrs. M. Brown, treas.; Mrs. Perley L. Pierce, 1st man.; Mrs. Helen M. Lawrence, 2d man.; Mrs. Mary Noyes, 3d man.; Mrs. Mary Gerrish, 4th man.

LITTLETON.

News Items.

Under the Backlog auspices the annual whist party will be held, Thursday evening, January 13, at the home of Mr. and Mrs. F. C. Hartwell.

Mrs. Mattie Guffrey, pres.; Mrs. Alice Kimball, 1st vice-pres.; Mrs. Edna Davis, 2d vice-pres.; Mrs. Elizabeth Thatcher, sec.; Mrs. Adaline Knowlton, treas.

Buttermilk is good, especially in fever, as an article of diet. A cup of fresh buttermilk every day, it is said, is a sure cure for liver complaint.

Cabbage is made digestible by first slicing and then heating in boiling water, with a pinch of soda and some salt, and boiling just fifteen minutes.

Semi-Annual Sale of

Trimmed Hats



All Trimmed and Untrimmed Velvet and Felt Hats at ONE-HALF PRICE.

GEO. L. DAVIS, Ayer, Mass.

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

Globe Special Mountings
Toric Lenses

G. H. Bullock
Optometrist and 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.

HOLLIS, N. H.

News Items.

The Hollis Evangelical society met in the vestry, Tuesday afternoon, for its annual business. M. J. Powers was elected moderator for the season. W. P. Farley was re-elected clerk; Miss L. M. Stratton, treasurer; Hon. Franklin Worcester, Miss Emma Van Dyke and Willis C. Hardy, committee for the ensuing year. It was voted this committee be the one to serve with the committee elected by the church for the improvement of the church edifice. This committee was authorized to consult with the town regarding co-operating in the repairing, as the town also own part of the building. Also voted the building be insured.

The Ladies' Reading and Charitable society met with Mrs. N. L. Hardy, Thursday afternoon, and tea was served.

Mrs. P. Riley, who was so seriously ill last week with pneumonia that fears were entertained for her recovery, is improving and is likely to get well.

At last Sunday's church service Mrs. Jennie W. Parker and her three daughters, Genevieve, Hazel and Marjorie, were received into the church on confession of faith.

The Y. P. S. C. E. has raised money enough to purchase chairs for the vestry, instead of the settees which have been in use so long. The Evangelical society have donated the settees to the Endeavor society, who will sell them.

The Hollis grange installed its officers for ensuing year, Tuesday evening.

LITTLETON.

About Town.

At the annual parish meetings of the Unitarian society the old officers were nearly all re-elected. Parish committee, F. B. Priest, J. M. Hartwell, W. H. Titcomb; clerk, N. H. Whitcomb; J. W. Ireland having served several years as collector and treasurer, declined a re-election; and D. G. Houghton was unanimously chosen.

Edward Stone, who has faithfully served as treasurer of the Unitarian Sunday school, resigned the position, and Roland Houghton was chosen in his place.

Last Sunday Rev. P. G. Favor read his resignation as pastor of the Orthodox church here, to take effect February 1.

There will be a reunion temperance rally meeting, Sunday evening, in the Unitarian church. A speaker from the Boston no-license league has been promised to address the meeting.

At the annual meeting of the King's Daughters' circle the following officers were elected:

New Advertisements.

ARE YOU SATISFIED WITH YOUR STOMACH?
Do you want a better one—one that won't belch gas, or turn sour, or feel heavy or make you feel miserable?

MIO-NA
Cures Indigestion

It relieves stomach distress in five minutes. It turns old, unsatisfactory, rebellious stomachs into new ones, ever ready to digest the best meal.

We guarantee Mio-na tablets to cure stomach disease. Money back if they fail.

50 Cents a Large Box

WM. BROWN, Ayer, Mass.

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS, Middlesex ss. Probate Court. To the devisees under the will and all other persons interested in the estate of FLORENCE M. HARTWELL, late of Ayer, in said County, deceased, and to the Treasurer and Receiver General of said Commonwealth.

Whereas, FREDERICK W. DALLINGER, administrator with the will annexed, of the estate of said deceased, has presented to said Court his petition for license to sell at private sale, in accordance with the offer named in said petition, or upon such terms as may be adjudged best, the whole of a certain parcel of the real estate of said deceased for the payment of debts, and charges of administration, and for other reasons set forth in said petition.

You are hereby cited to appear at a Probate Court, to be held at Cambridge, in said County, on the twenty-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 said petitioner is ordered to serve this citation by delivering a copy thereof to each person interested in the estate fourteen days, at least, before said Court, or by publishing the same once in 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 is further directed to deliver to the Treasurer and Receiver General of said Commonwealth a copy of said citation fourteen days at least before said Court.

Witness, Charles J. McIntire, Esquire, First Judge of said Court, this third day of January, in the year one thousand nine hundred and ten.
3117 W. E. ROGERS, Register.

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.

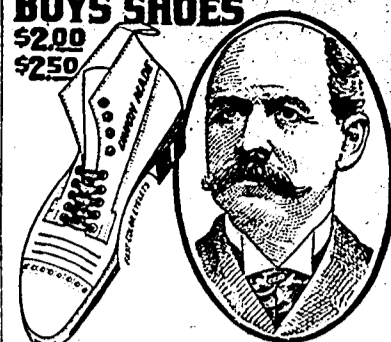
Ayer, Dec. 20, 1909.

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,
3118 Clerk of Selectmen.

W. L. DOUGLAS \$3.35 to \$4. SHOES BOYS SHOES \$2.00 to \$2.50



THE LARGEST MAKER AND RETAILER OF MEN'S FINE SHOES IN THE WORLD.

"SUPERIOR TO OTHER MAKES." "I have worn W. L. Douglas shoes for the past six years, and always find they are far superior to all other high grade shoes in style, comfort and durability." W. O. DINES, 110 Howard Ave., Utica, N. Y.
If I could take you into my large factories at Brockton, Mass., and show you how carefully W. L. Douglas shoes are made, you would realize why they hold their shape, fit better, wear longer, and are of greater value than any other make.

SEE THAT W. L. DOUGLAS NAME AND PRICE IS STAMPED ON THE BOTTOM OF EACH SHOE. If your dealer cannot get you with W. L. Douglas shoes, write for Mail Order Catalogue, W. L. Douglas, Brockton, Mass.

FOR SALE BY GEO. H. BROWN, Ayer, Mass.



PROTECT YOUR THROAT

It is one of the most delicate parts of your body and should be carefully guarded in the severe winter months. Many dangerous diseases attack the throat directly, and an inflamed throat lays you open to all kinds of illness. You ought to stop a sore throat as soon as you get it, and the best way to do this is with

Rexall

Throat Gargle

It reduces inflammation, takes down swelling, and you can depend upon it to stop your sore throat. No disease germs can possibly lurk in your throat after you have used it. Every family should have a bottle of this great safeguard and cure always on hand.

Price 25 Cents.

BROWN'S
The Prescription Drug Store, Ayer, Mass.

Engraved Cards
Business and Social
Wedding Stationery.
Card Showing
STYLES and PRICES
Willingly Furnished

Call on or Address
GEORGE H. B. TURNER, AYER.

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 Des 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 3397, Page 466, 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 Wednesday, the Fifth day of February, 1910, at two o'clock in the afternoon, all 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 83 1/2° East 70 feet along said Fredonian Street to a post at a corner of a street; thence on said street North 13 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.

FOR SALE—Two Cutters, 7' Double Bunked, 2' 1/2' Engines, 1' 1/2' Water, BARTHOLOMEW McGRATH, Ayer, 111

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 8, 1910.

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

GROTON.

Lawrence Academy Notes.

The Chinese students at the Academy have, with the consent of the principal, formed a club to be known as "The Chinese students' club of Lawrence academy." It holds its meetings every week, and the object of the club is training in English composition and speaking. The officers of the club are Ye-fah Chen, pres.; Yui Chi Mel, vice-pres.; Fu Liang Chang, sec.

The first meeting was held Christmas day, and after the excellent and praiseworthy addresses, this question was debated: Resolved, that the railroads in the United States should be owned and operated by the government. It was decided in favor of the negative.

A second meeting was held January 1 and the following question was debated: Resolved, that Croesus was a greater general than Napoleon. This was also decided in the negative.

Principal Clough was the umpire of the first debate, and Rev. George M. Howe of the second. These meetings are conducted with order and decorum, and the earnestness and vigor of all the boys is shown in the preparation and delivery of their several pieces.

It is worthy of attention that two of the meetings have been held during the vacation period, the boys being willing to give the time which other boys have used for pleasure and personal enjoyment in the preparation of the work assigned them.

The winter term opened January 5. Nearly all the boys were on hand ready for work. Work in the gymnasium will be carried on in earnest this term. The boys regret that the room is not large enough for basketball. As the school increases in numbers, among the pressing needs of the institution are a gymnasium built and equipped for the uses of a school, larger chemical and physical laboratories, and more apparatus. The room now used for a "gym" is needed for recitation rooms. Cannot some friend of the academy start the ball rolling to raise funds for a gymnasium?

The boys are already looking forward to the baseball season, and the outlook is bright for a very fast team at Lawrence.

The latest school to grant the certificate privilege to Lawrence is the Colorado School of Mines, and in so doing President Alderson wrote a personal letter to Principal Clough stating, "I am pleased to say that I know of the good work you are doing at Groton, and should any of your graduates wish to continue their education with us, I shall be pleased to extend to them every courtesy in my power."

Wedding. "Seven Gables," the pleasant home of Dr. and Mrs. George F. Balcom, Swansey, N. H., was the scene of a very pretty wedding, Wednesday afternoon, December 29, when their only daughter, Florence Houghton, was united in marriage to Frederick C. Richardson of West Swansey, by Rev. George A. Furness, pastor of the Congregational church.

The bride was attended by Miss Eveline Richardson, the young daughter of the groom, and Frank B. Richardson, a cousin of the bride, acted as best man. Only a few near relatives were present.

The bride was very becomingly attired in blue silk and wore a beautiful necklace of Roman pearls, a gift from a very dear friend.

After the wedding ceremony dainty refreshments were served, and the couple left for a short wedding trip through Massachusetts, followed by the best wishes of their many friends. On their return they will make their home at the "Seven Gables."

Many beautiful and useful presents were received from friends far and near.

The bride came here five years ago from Worcester and has made many warm friends during her residence in this place.

The groom is a well-known and much respected man of this town, and is in the employ of Brindell & Adams, box manufacturers.

Dr. Balcom, the father of the bride, is a native of Groton. He was a successful practitioner of medicine in Worcester from 1870 to 1905, when he retired and removed to Swansey, N. H., where he purchased a village farm of thirty acres and is sheep raising.

Installations.

The joint installations of E. S. Clark post and W. R. C. was held in Orange hall, Tuesday, January 4, commencing at two p. m. Com. Francis Cragin of Lowell was the installing officer for the post and Mrs. Marcella Parkhurst of Groton for the corps. The E. S. Clark officers were as follows:

D. R. Steere, com.; C. H. Berry, a. v. c.; B. Harrington, j. v.; James Moore, chap.; Dr. S. Green, surg.; C. Torrey, jr., m.; W. Southwick, o. g. m.; P. Palmer, gr. m.; Thomas Gilson, g. m. a. c.; H. Shattuck, o. o. d.

The W. R. C. officers installed were: Janet Ward, p.; Eme Harrington, s. v.; Blanche Brain, j. v.; Lizzie Parker, g.; Mary Fletcher, a. g.; Edith Benedict, c.; Hannah Whitehill, o. g. m.; Alice Rockwood, sec.; M. Gertrude Balcom, treas.; Emily Blood, p. l.; Emma Collier, p. c.; William Williams, Clara Corry, Mary D. Boynton, Sadie Patterson, color bearers.

After installation services, remarks were made by members of both post and corps, which were interesting and instructive. Capt. Palmer related the capture of a large bell by his regiment during the civil war, which

was stored thirty years, finally brought to this state and hangs over the G. A. R. hall in Marlborough.

Thomas Gilson, the only survivor of the "Old Sixth" in Groton, told of the medals to be awarded the last survivors of that historic regiment, one hundred in number, for being the first to take up arms in defence of their country. Interesting remarks were made by Mr. Carnell, pastor of the Baptist church.

The corps received many compliments for the efficiency of their work, especially the installing officer, Mrs. Parkhurst. At the close of the exercises all retired to the banquet hall and partook of a bountiful supper, prepared by the W. R. C. The day's entertainment closed with all joining in singing patriotic songs.

Groton Historical Society.

The annual meeting of the Groton Historical society was held on Tuesday evening, January 4. The members first assembled in lower town hall, but accepting the hospitable invitation of Miss Boutwell, adjourned to her pleasant residence, where a home-like business meeting was enjoyed with a pleasant social intercourse.

Among those taking part actively were Capt. M. P. Palmer, Rev. G. M. Howe, F. M. Boutwell and Miss Boutwell, the latter reading a most interesting paper relating largely to the history of the Groton High school, which reached its fiftieth birthday anniversary this last December. The paper speaks of painstaking and careful research and is reliable as are all the writer's productions. The list of teachers from the first to the present, with brief comments or sketches, are given. Lowthrop school, the third and latest incorporated school in Groton, and the only one in the country to teach landscape gardening and floriculture to women, is given mention with its faculty. The paper closes with a tender tribute to the memory and services of the late Col. T. L. Motley as associated particularly with the Groton Historical society. The paper is instructive and of historical value and so interesting that once begun it will be read through to the close. We hope it will be printed entire in the Landmark.

The following officers were elected: Hon. S. A. Green, pres.; F. M. Boutwell, Capt. M. P. Palmer, Rev. G. M. Howe, vice-pres.; Lawrence Parkhurst, Miss L. W. Kane, treas.; Miss G. A. Boutwell, Miss Emma Blood, Mrs. Addie Woods, chairman of com. on relief; the presiding officers and Mrs. E. M. Needham, ex. com.; J. H. Robbins, aud.

The next meeting of the society will be the first Tuesday in February. Rev. G. M. Howe will speak on Abraham Lincoln.

Influx of Dentists.

The delay in the arrival of Dr. Eames' furniture and consequent occupancy of the Dr. Bristol house has been because of the weather and bad traveling. He is expected soon. Dr. Eames stands high in the dental profession and has years of experience. If we are correctly informed he will have days for practice in Groton and elsewhere. His family consists of himself, wife and son, a young man having the same profession as his father and who practices in Boston.

With Dr. W. A. Goble successfully established here, with Dr. Branigan, who has come with his father's and his own reputation to recommend him and who has bought the dental instruments, etc., and occupies the office of the late Dr. Wetherbe, Groton teeth ought to be well attended to.

Deaths.

There are some in town who will learn for the first time on reading this of the death of Miss Harriet Friend, which occurred at San Mateo, Cal., the latter part of December. Miss Friend's home was in the vicinity of Boston. She was a graduate of the Salem Normal school and had taught in Groton during the past eight or ten years either in the Groton School families or as principal of the select private school on Farmers' row.

On the closing of her work here a year or two ago, Miss Friend established herself in a similar but larger school in California. It was a great responsibility and required arduous work. Besides the regular duties of the school year, she tutored during vacation, and it is thought by her friends that the work was too severe for her endurance. The cause of death was cerebral hemorrhage.

Miss Friend had many friends in the village outside of the families with whom she had interests as a teacher of their children, and the news of her sudden death was received by all with sincere regret.

Once more, and again with true heartfelt sympathy, Groton sorrows with Rev. Sherrard Billings, passing through the deep overwhelming waters of affliction, the choicest earthly possession remaining to him, his precious little daughter.

Mary Stockton Billings passed on from his sight and care Tuesday, January 4, after a brief illness from cerebral spinal meningitis. Her age was 2 yrs. 5 mos. The little child, happy and apparently in the best of health, had gone to spend Christmas at her grandfather Stockton's, 31 Commonwealth avenue, Boston, and it was while there that the fatal seizure came.

The funeral services were arranged for Thursday forenoon in Boston with interment in Groton cemetery in the afternoon of the same day. Some who loved the little one almost as tenderly as if she were their own went down from Groton to the last service. Besides the father, a grandfather and two aunts are stricken by this sad event.

To a sacred sorrow only their own friends may approach to soothe, yet faith speaks to all of a safer fold and a tender shepherd than earth affords and tells that hope and love are undying.

Mrs. B. Ward Dix passed away in Boston, where she was spending the winter, Wednesday night. Funeral services will be held in the Unitarian church parlor, Monday, January 10, at eleven a. m. Interment, private.

News Items.

The Middlesex-Worcester Pomona grange will hold the first meeting of 1910 at Fitchburg G. A. R. hall, Wednesday, January 12. Report of officers and installation by T. E. Flarity of

Townsend in the forenoon; paper, "The house fly," Mrs. Grace Bradshaw, Ayer; paper, "The Roosevelt dam," Mrs. Alice Sterling, Lunenburg; speaker, C. O. Bailey, secretary of state board of forestry. Subject, "The parasites that will save our fruit and shade trees." Recitations and music. Open to the public at 1.30 p. m.

Groton Engine and Hose Co. No. 1 will hold their twelfth annual concert and ball in town hall, Friday evening, January 14. Music by Nevers' Second Regiment orchestra of Concord, N. H. The Village Improvement society met with Miss G. A. Boutwell, Tuesday afternoon, January 4. The following officers were chosen for the ensuing year:

Mrs. Eugene F. Nutting, pres.; Mrs. F. A. Sherwin, G. H. Woods, vice-pres.; Miss L. W. Kane, treas.; Miss Nellie M. Richards, sec.; Miss G. A. Boutwell, aud.; Mrs. Fred W. Mansur, Miss Charlotte Robbins, Mrs. H. Bowles, Mrs. W. H. Whitehill, Mrs. J. Hawkes, Mrs. C. H. Hickford, ex. com.; Mrs. E. M. Needham, Mrs. C. E. Bigelow, Mrs. George D. Blood, com. com.

A fishing party among whom were A. L. Ames, Jr., Joe Bateman and Geo. Tuttle, caught thirty-seven good-sized pickerel through the ice at Cow pond, last Monday.

The readers of the Watchman are finding there, now and then, contributions in verse by Rev. Henry A. Cornell, pastor of the Baptist church in this town.

Work with the large portable sawmill on the A. W. Shattuck woodlot was finished Wednesday. The mill is to be moved to the so-called Henry Wright place, owned by J. B. Raddin, where some more lumber is to be sawed.

Lawrence academy reopened Thursday.

The Baptist church held its annual rollcall and dinner, with business meeting, on Wednesday, but on account of the rainy weather Thursday, we were not able to get a satisfactory report, which can be given next week.

Mrs. Tweed and daughter, Miss Mary Tweed of New York, were guests at Groton Inn this week, from Wednesday night until Friday.

Groton School reopens next week Tuesday.

Charles M. Raddin commenced work cutting ice on Baddock, Wednesday.

Mrs. Fanny Blood, who is caring for Mrs. Livingston at Ayer, was in town for a few days this week, returning Wednesday night to her position.

Born, Friday, December 31, a son to Mr. and Mrs. Willard Tolles. The baby is named Willard Franklin Tolles.

Boynston's bread and cake bakery, in rear of Tainter's store, is electrically lighted, the wires passing through the store, which will probably have later the same lighting service.

Judge Arthur Stone of Boston was in town, Wednesday.

Mrs. Charles Lawrence went Tuesday, to board at George E. Hodgman's.

Nesbit L. Woods has been ill this week requiring the attendance of a physician.

John T. Gay has written to his parents of his safe arrival at Economy, Pa., on Friday, December 31. He found more snow there than he left in Groton.

The Ladies' Benevolent society of the Congregational church will give a supper and entertainment on Thursday evening, January 13. The supper to be served at 6.30, followed by entertainment at eight o'clock. They have secured Miss Marion Wilson of New York, who will, in costume, give a remarkable series of character studies and clever personifications. A fine supper and a fine entertainment at a reasonable price ought to attract a large attendance.

The new year barn dance held in the town hall is reported successful. Seth Dewberry knows how to get up a good time for the young folks. We have not the facts about the overalls and calker dresses, but have no doubt they were in the latest style and stunning. Those who staid long enough had the pleasure of wishing each other a happy new year.

H. R. Sampson of Omaha, Neb., writes of recently going to Minneapolis to hear the Harvard College Glee club.

The annual dinner and roll call of the Congregational church was held on Wednesday, January 5, with a very good attendance considering the severity of the weather and the prevalence of illness from colds. The social hour was very enjoyable, as was also the bountiful dinner with plates well taken. There were forty-six responses in person to the roll call and fifty-five by letter or proxy. At the beginning of last year there were 116 members. Three have died during the year, and there have been seven additions. The business meeting followed the roll call, the statistics from which have not yet been obtained.

On Monday afternoon of this week, the members of the First Parish Unitarian church and the pastor, Rev. P. H. Cressey, met in the church parlor, the particular matter under consideration being the church covenant of faith, which had remained unchanged since 1826. It was decided to adopt a revised and modified covenant.

The last cold snap of Tuesday and Wednesday morning was the coldest of the season thus far and the coldest on record since 1907. The mercury went down in several places to 10°, 15°, 18° and 20° below zero, and at North Groton when Mr. Smith, the milkman, went out to his work at about four o'clock in the morning, he found it 24° below. This difference, we suppose, in the registered temperature, is to be accounted for by difference in location, exposure and thermometers.

TOWNSEND.

West. The Young People's Dramatic club met, last week Tuesday evening, with Miss Blanche Sprague at G. A. Seaver's, and this week Wednesday evening with Charles Hodgman at J. C. Hodgman's.

George McElligott, who has been spending the holidays with his mother, Mrs. Louise McElligott, returned to his duties at the Boston Art school last Sunday.

Mrs. C. B. Shaw and son Chester have returned from California, where they have spent several months with relatives.

Mrs. Clarence E. Streeter is caring for Mrs. H. L. Stickney, who is still quite seriously ill at her home and Miss Marion Kellogg is assisting in the home. Her daughter, Miss Gladys Rawson, who has been confined to her home for several weeks by illness, is improving.

Walter Wilder left Monday morning for Boston and Cambridge, where he is serving on the jury.

Miss Helen Troupe of Quincy has been a recent visitor at the home of Dr. and Mrs. Ely.

Mrs. Ford Reed spent Sunday at her home here, returning to Boston the first of the week.

Miss Agnes Thompson has finished her work as clerk at I. P. Sherwin's store, and is visiting friends and relatives in Boston and vicinity.

Miss Grace L. Seaver of Montclair, N. J., who has been spending the holidays with her father and sister in Boston, visited the home of Mr. and Mrs. G. A. Seaver a few days last week.

Geo Russell has been quite ill at his home in Joslynville for the past week, and his place as clerk at I. P. Sherwin's store has been taken by Perry W. Sawtelle.

Mrs. J. H. Cox returned last Friday from a week's visit to her daughter in Dorchester, where Mr. Cox is stopping under the care of a specialist, and his many friends are pleased to hear that his condition is slightly improving.

Miss Grace Thompson, who has been spending her vacation with her mother, Mrs. Charles E. Patch, has returned to Brown university, Providence, R. I.

Mrs. Martha Howard, a former resident here, celebrated her seventy-fifth birthday at her house in South Lancaster, December 31, entertaining a party of sixteen relatives and friends, and enjoying the occasion most heartily. One of the enjoyable features of the occasion was a shower of birthday post cards, receiving over two hundred, for which she was very grateful. Her sister, Miss Clara Hosley, was present from this village.

Two of the men employed at Clarence Stickney's mill have been drawn on the grand jury this term, Fred Whittaker of Mason, N. H., as well as Walter Wilder from this place.

Mrs. Winfield Upton of Joslynville is on the sick list, but improving. Her daughter, Miss Laura Upton of Milton, who has been visiting her, has returned to her home.

The Men's club held their regular business meeting last Tuesday and selected the following officers: L. C. Barker, pres.; Alexander Reed, vice-pres.; Carl B. Willard, sec.; Fred A. Patch, treas. A lunch of doughnuts and coffee, sandwiches and cheese was enjoyed and the topics of the day discussed, but the address by Mr. Barker was postponed until another meeting.

Miss Marion Kellogg is visiting at her former home in West Swansey, N. H., and the Misses Inez McElligott and Agnes Thompson are spending a few weeks with friends in Boston.

Center.

Mrs. Emma Josselyn is very ill with bronchitis at her Harbor home. It is hoped she will soon be on the road to recovery.

The chimney of the Henry Spear's house at old city got afire last week, but was put out by the timely use of a fire extinguisher. The chimney at R. T. Eldridge's got afire the same afternoon, but with the aid of near neighbors was soon put out.

Rev. W. J. Murray of Boston occupied the Congregational pulpit last Sunday to the pleasure of all who heard him. He will also supply this coming Sunday.

The officers of the grange will be installed this coming Monday, January 10th.

A Joint Installation.

The Anson D. Fessenden Camp 82, S. of V., and the Phoebe Weston Farmer Tent 38, D. of V., held a joint installation at Odd Fellows' hall, Monday evening. The officers installed were as follows:

Camp—John J. Harvey, com.; Melvin Davis, s. v. c.; C. B. Shaw, j. v. c.; Percy E. Floyd, J. W. French, R. J. Fessenden, camp council; R. G. Fessenden, p. l.; Wilbur L. Bruce, chap.; T. J. Harvey, sec.; Carl B. Willard, treas.; Frank Brown, e. b.; Roy Brown, g.; Harry Knight, l. k.; Harold Parker, o. g. Tent—Hattie Smith, pres.; Inez Richardson, v. p.; Ellie M. Brown, j. v. D. Ellen G. Howard, chap.; L. Elvora Smith, treas.; Hattie E. Cook, Flora I. Atwood, Mary E. Taylor, trustees; Helen D. Norman, p. l.; Florence Crowell, sec.; Grace Wright, g.; Hattie O'Brien, g.; Hattie E. Minter, g.; Florence Gwin, mus.; Alice Lowley, Evelyn Sanders, Flora Burkess, Catherine Arlin, color bearers.

A. M. Levy of the Fitchburg Camp was the installing officer for the camp, assisted by Div. Aid Leon Watkins and Dept. Pres. Mrs. Mabel H. Gooding, Tent 12, Boston, for the Tent, assisted by Sen. V. P. Mrs. Gertrude Holbrook, Waltham Tent 26, installing guide.

Speeches were in order from the visiting officers and a general good time enjoyed.

Death.

Abel King died at the Burbank hospital early Sunday morning, where he was taken in haste Friday night suffering from stoppage. The funeral was at the Congregational church, Tuesday afternoon, at two p. m., Rev. B. A. Willmott of Lowell, a former pastor, officiating.

Mr. King has been employed by the B. & A. D. Fessenden Co. for a number of years and was a faithful worker and well liked among his fellow-workmen, who will miss him in his quiet performance of his duties. This is the second time within a few months that death has entered this family, and much sympathy is expressed for Mrs. King and the sons and daughters left to mourn his loss. The burial was in the family lot.

New Advertisements.

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

WASHINGS WANTED to take home and will deliver. OLIVE BOLAN, Pepperell, Mass. Telephone 14-5. R. F. D. No. 1, Groton. 117

The Boston Store GEO. B. TURNER & SON AYER, MASS.

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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.

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

Picture Frames

Made to order. 113 styles from which to select at the

Ayer Variety Store

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 8, 1910.

AYER

New Trains.

Two new passenger trains, the 4.29 p. m. for Boston and the 9.14 p. m. from Boston, arriving here at 10.19, seem to indicate a policy of more service rather than curtailment on the part of the Boston and Maine railroad.

This is interesting in view of many pessimistic anti-merger predictions. If the roads are, practically merged, as popularly supposed, and the result is more and better service, inasmuch as course merger is a good thing and isn't it really a question of policy in management rather than stock ownership?

Amory A. Lawrence of Groton and Boston, who is a director, was interested in and assisted in getting this extra service and it is hoped that the patronage given these trains will warrant making them permanent.

Found Dead.

John L. Farnsworth of Woods Village, son of the late Calvin Farnsworth, a well-known figure in Ayer, was found dead, Wednesday afternoon, in his house at that place. He lived alone, and was last seen alive Monday afternoon, January 3.

Dr. Cowles, medical examiner, was called Wednesday afternoon, January 5, and the body was found on the floor beside a chair in a position consistent with a fall from the chair, while the body was limp with no movement afterwards. The body was frozen. There was no disorder about the premises and nothing was discovered suggesting any other than a natural cause of death.

He had a heater in the house, but when the body was discovered the house was cold and no fire in the heater.

He was a native of Shirley and was aged 48 years, 3 months, 8 days. The body was brought to the undertaking rooms of W. Wright & Son, Wednesday night, and the funeral was Friday afternoon, January 7, at the Unitarian church, Shirley Center, Rev. Dr. Fiske of Ayer officiating.

It was a sad ending of what might have been a useful life. He leaves real and personal property estimated in value of about \$20,000 and may be less. The only relatives he has are cousins, and they are George L. Louis and Melzar Farnsworth of Shirley, Samuel F. Farnsworth of Ayer, Mrs. L. W. Bowles and Mrs. Stocking of Lunenburg, and Mrs. Aldrich of Leominster.

Death.

Clarence C. Tebbets, formerly of this town, who carried on the jewelry business, corner of Main and Pleasant streets, died at Pasadena, Cal., Sunday, Dec. 26, aged sixty-one years.

Although Mr. Tebbets suffered a paralytic shock six years ago and had been an invalid since, the immediate cause of his death was Bright's disease. He was stricken ill with the fatal malady about a month ago and failed rapidly until he died. His wife was at his bedside when he died.

Mr. Tebbets went to California in the fall of 1905, after he had suffered a paralytic stroke. He remained there until the spring of 1907. He went to California in November, 1908, where he has since remained.

Mr. Tebbets was born in Waldoboro, Me., July 23, 1848, and during his early childhood removed with his parents to Bangor. He was educated in the public schools of that place, and son of John W. and Mary Tebbets.

In 1865 Mr. Tebbets went to Waltham and learned the jeweler's trade in the store conducted by Warren & Starbuck in that city, serving an apprenticeship of four years, and afterwards came to Ayer. While here he married Mary A. Evans, daughter of the late Mrs. Mary J. Evans, who resided on Church street, the next house to the Baptist parsonage, and two children, Fred C. Tebbets of Waltham and Mrs. Mary Stowell of New York city, who survive him.

Mr. Tebbets after successfully conducting the jewelry business here for four or five years, he sold out in 1877 and removed to Waltham, purchasing the business in that city of Warren & Starbuck, which he successfully carried on until 1897. In that year he sold his jewelry business and became identified with the Waltham Emery Wheel Co., so successfully carried on by Henry Richardson, and for many years was treasurer of the corporation. Owing to ill health he sold out his interest in the company. In 1899 he married Abbie Carpenter, who survives him.

Mr. Tebbets was a thirty-second degree Mason, receiving his degrees while a member of Caleb Butler lodge of this town. He joined Monitor lodge of Waltham, September 21, 1885, and was master of the lodge in 1896-97. He received degrees in Waltham Royal Arch chapter in June, 1889, and was a past three illustrious master of Adoniram council. Mr. Tebbets was also a past eminent commander of Gethsemane commandery, Knights Templar. He was a member of Prospect lodge of Odd Fellows and Waltham lodge, A. O. U. W.

Beside the immediate members of his family, Mr. Tebbets leaves a brother, John Tebbets of Bangor, Me., and a sister, Mrs. Hattie Parker of the same city.

The body was brought to Waltham for burial.

News Items.

John E. Hosmer, last Monday, went to his daughter's, Mrs. Loretta Graves in Groton, where he will be for the remainder of the winter.

Division 7, A. O. H., held their installation of officers on Sunday afternoon, January 2, and the following officers were installed by Thomas F. Walsh, who was installing officer: C. A. McCarthy, pres.; William Walsh, v. p.; Francis B. Sullivan, rec. sec.; Joseph H. McGuane, fin. sec.; James J. Moran, berg-at-arms; Michael J. Barry, treas. Visitors were present from Leominster and Pepperell, and a num-

ber of the ladies auxiliary and, Rev. F. J. Sheedy. An excellent time was enjoyed by everyone.

On Saturday evening, January 8, there will be two games of basket ball in the town hall by two teams representing the Lowell Y. M. C. A. The regular Ayer Civic club gymnasium team will play the Indians and the A. C. Intermediates will play the Centurions.

Wm. C. Small, Jr., who was a former draughtsman at the Chandler Planer Co. for a couple of years, is now with the H. H. Franklin Automobile Co. of Syracuse, N. Y. His family is with him.

Mr. and Mrs. M. L. Savage and daughter Helen, left last Sunday night for Montreal for a stay of three weeks during the carnival festivities.

Rev. George Mecklenburg of Boston will deliver a stereopticon lecture in the M. E. church, Saturday evening, January 8, at eight o'clock, on "A trip through Europe."

George W. Scott, who worked for Samuel Andrew for some time, is now driving team for the fruit store.

The Ladies' Benevolent society of the Congregational church will hold their regular supper in the vestry of the church, Wednesday afternoon, January 12, at 6.30 o'clock.

C. H. Hardy, has just completed a very desirable barn on the Woods farm, Groton road, for Mrs. A. B. Fleet.

The Ayer Woman's club are invited to attend the lecture by Mrs. Clara Hancock Beatley before the "Altruists" in the Congregational vestry, Shirley, at three p. m., January 13.

The W. C. T. U. will meet at Mrs. Charles Scruton's, Friday, January 14, at three o'clock.

P. Donlon & Co., grocers, offer a great sweeping reduction in prices on many of their lines of goods. Never before was there such a slaughter in price as they are offering. The sale is on Monday, January 10, and their advertisement will be found on the third page of this paper. Make your purchases early in the sale before they are snapped up.

Mr. Green, president of the Lowell and Fitchburg electric railway, returned Wednesday from Gloversville, N. Y., his home and where he spent the holidays.

Miss Hinckley of Fitchburg Normal school, is filling the position as teacher of the seventh grade, taking the place of Miss Stubbs, and Miss Farwell, also of the Fitchburg Normal school, is teaching the eighth grade. The former teacher was Miss Eagles.

The North Middlesex Savings bank of Ayer from their statement issued January 5, have assets of \$1,318,301.34, and the individual deposits amount to \$1,258,214.11, with a surplus of \$59,787.14. Herman S. Hazen of Shirley was elected as one of the trustees to fill the position made vacant by the death of E. O. Harlow. The other officials are the same as last year.

Edward Sherman, who is employed as brakeman in the yard here, received a shaking up last Saturday night while shifting in the southern division yard. It seems that he was hanging off a car and struck a switch, knocking out his front teeth and he also received an injury in the back of the head. Although his injuries are not serious, he will be compelled to lay off for a little while.

About Town.

At the meeting of the Woman's club, Wednesday afternoon, the program was in charge of the Household Economics committee, Mrs. A. M. Sargent, chairman. The meeting was addressed by Mrs. Elizabeth B. Denison of South Framingham, who gave an account of the work that is being done along that line by the state federation and the various clubs. The music was a piano solo by Miss Flora Cole and selection by the High School Mandolin club.

At the annual meeting of the Unitarian parish, Wednesday evening, Stanley L. Cotton was chosen moderator, and the officers elected were:

Arthur Fenner, clerk; George H. Hill, treas.; Charles Sherwin, S. L. Cotton and Mrs. Susan M. Cotton, parish committee; Miss Millie M. Beverly, collector; Mr. Barker, ways and means com. Mrs. George J. Burns, Mrs. J. W. Kirtledge, Mrs. E. H. Bigelow and Mrs. A. C. Perkins, music com.; Mr. and Mrs. A. C. Perkins, delegates to the A. U. A.

The Hill Whist club met, Tuesday afternoon, with Mrs. Nellie Fox.

Mrs. Susan M. Barker attended in Boston at the Vendome on Friday afternoon a meeting of the nominating committee of the State Federation of Women's clubs, of which she is a member.

Miss Elsie A. Craig, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Charles Craig, and Henry L. Waterman, both of this town, were married new year's day in Nashua, N. H. They will reside in Ayer. The bride was installed Tuesday night a color bearer in the W. R. C.

The Unitarian Woman's Alliance met Wednesday afternoon with Mrs. Barker. The program was a discussion of some Unitarian problems. Refreshments were served during a social hour.

A quiet wedding took place, Wednesday noon, at the home of Mrs. Horace Damon in Fitchburg, when her daughter, Mrs. Cora L. Mills, was married to William P. Hills. Both were residents of Lunenburg, where they will reside. Mrs. Mills was for many years a resident of Ayer, where she is very pleasantly remembered, and who carried on for years the dry goods business in Page block, now conducted by Miss Nellie Beverly.

The Peace and Unity club celebrated its forty-sixth annual concert and ball, Monday night, in the town hall. There was a large gathering. The concert was by the Dunbar orchestra of Boston, and was greatly enjoyed. An address of a patriotic nature was made by the president. In the grand march there were over a hundred couples. A turkey supper with all the "fixins" was served in the lower hall at one o'clock and dancing continued till morning. A very large number of spectators were present, which is a great help financially.

Masonic Installation.

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R. H. Irwin, m.; George O. Fillebrown, s. w.; Warren L. Probie, j. w.; Geo. H. Bixby, treas.; E. H. Bigelow, sec.; S. N. Lougee, chap.; I. G. Dwinell, marshal; W. H. Fairbank, s. d.; B. H. Hopkins, j. d.; Augustus Leavitt, sur.; P. William Drew, j. s.; Stanley L. Cotton, i. s.; Ellis B. Harlow, organist; H. E. Sanderson, tyler.

Installed.

In G. A. R. hall on Tuesday evening, took place a triple installation, George S. Boutwell post, W. R. C., and S. of V. All three organizations enjoyed a supper together in the Unitarian vestry, in charge of the executive board of the W. R. C., assisted in serving by members of the S. of V. At its close adjournment was made to the town hall, where the officers of the G. A. R. were installed by Walter E. Mellich, a past commander of the post, assisted by J. O'Brien as officer of the day:

O. W. Balcom, com.; J. E. Wood, s. v. c.; O. W. Lewis, j. v. c.; S. H. Sherwin, q. m.; Augustus Leavitt, sur.; P. William Crombie, sjt.; M. H. Sherman, m. m. E. D. Martell, c. m.; C. E. Craig, c. d.; Herbert Richardson, o. g.; W. E. Mellich, chap.; W. E. Cram, p. l.

Then followed the installation of the officers of W. R. C., efficiently performed by Mrs. Annie C. Shattuck of Fitchburg, a past department president, assisted by Mrs. Emma Wood as conductor:

Mrs. C. C. Wentworth, pres.; Mrs. Ellen Sawyer, s. v. p.; Mrs. A. J. Wells, j. v. p.; Miss M. M. Beverly, sec.; Mrs. J. H. Harlow, treas.; Mrs. A. D. Scruton, chap.; Mrs. A. M. Crawford, c. m.; Mrs. M. Crawford, a. c.; Mrs. E. F. Tarrant, k. c.; Mrs. Annie Clark, a. g.; Mrs. S. E. Herbert, s. d.; Mrs. M. E. Glazier, s. d.; Miss Ethel Andrew, mus.; Mrs. Elizabeth Waterman and Miss Blanche Farrar, color bearers.

The installation of the S. of V. was conducted by N. C. Upham of Fitchburg, a past division commander, assisted by C. L. May as guide. The officers installed were:

E. E. Sawyer, c. j. v. c.; J. W. Wentworth, s. v. c.; J. W. Ward, j. v. c.; H. E. Evans, sec.; George S. Cobb, treas.; Arthur West, p. l. e.; E. O. Harlow, chap.; J. M. Dolton, c. b.; H. C. Harlow, c. m.; J. Lougee, mus.; H. S. Nutting, i. g.; G. H. Beverly, o. g.; J. C. Davenport, H. M. Beverly and E. E. Wood, c. c.

Miss Ethel Andrew was organist for the work of the G. A. R. and S. of V., and Miss Edith Longley for the W. R. C. An entertainment followed, which included violin, cello and piano, which Paul P. and W. S. Lougee and Miss Edith Longley reading, "The dandy fifth," Mr. Mellich; speeches by Mrs. Shattuck, Mr. Upham and others.

Church Services.

Unitarian church service at 10.45. The subject of Rev. Dr. Fisk's sermon will be "The evolution of man's social relations." Sunday school at twelve.

Moving Pictures.

A treat is promised those who attend the Biograph moving pictures Saturday night. The management has been fortunate to secure the great Kalem film, "The pay car." This picture is given a superior setting, and is one of the most realistic examples of motion photography ever produced. Locomotive life on the tracks always attracts and holds the attention of an audience. Plays without number have been written around the steam engine. In childhood we are fascinated by these monsters, and as we progress through life, there is still a feeling of wonderment with most of us as to the power which your engineer controls. There is always a certain touch of romance about railroad life; so that the Kalem company show considerable acumen in selecting these themes for one of their feature films. The picture is noteworthy from the fact that it shows the actual life on a railroad. The adventures that cling around the track are natural and by no means extraordinary. Very early in the picture we see the engineer about to take his position on the locomotive, and unfortunately his man appears intoxicated, and, of course, is prevented from taking his position on the engine. He vows vengeance, and in later scenes we find that the pay car on its way through the country is in danger of being derailed by an obstacle placed across the tracks. But a good genius in the shape of a girl waves her red petticoat as a signal of danger, which is seen in time by the engineer. The girl is forcibly carried off by a gang of ruffians, who however, the engineer and his associates soon run to earth and kill. The film ends with the deliverance of the girl and a happy reception in the embraces of the brave engineer. This is eminently a picture which will please the young folks, for the locomotive is as large as life, and the pay car, on its progress through the country, meets with many adventures. It is a picture that will cause thrills and excitement, because the action is natural and spontaneous. It has been pronounced by a high railroad official as a perfect picture of real railroad life.

This film is of recent issue and is in great demand. The management has had a bid in for it ever since it was issued and its appearance here will be the first outside of the large cities. The feature attraction will be accompanied by the usual fine regular program of carefully selected films, including some rare comedy ones, which will cause a roar of laughter. A complete list is as follows: "The pay car," "The Yellow Jacket mine," a great western Selig, "The anti-fat sanitarium," "The dog pick-pocket," two fine comedies, "Versailles," a scenic picture, "They robbed the chief of police," a Fathe comedy, "The seventh day," "Oh, uncle!" a comedy. The usual illustrated songs by Marion Valentine of Lowell complete the program and promise a bill of unusual length and excellence.

THE HILL WHIST CLUB met, Tuesday afternoon, with Mrs. Nellie Fox.

Mrs. Susan M. Barker attended in Boston at the Vendome on Friday afternoon a meeting of the nominating committee of the State Federation of Women's clubs, of which she is a member.

Miss Elsie A. Craig, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Charles Craig, and Henry L. Waterman, both of this town, were married new year's day in Nashua, N. H. They will reside in Ayer. The bride was installed Tuesday night a color bearer in the W. R. C.

The Unitarian Woman's Alliance met Wednesday afternoon with Mrs. Barker. The program was a discussion of some Unitarian problems. Refreshments were served during a social hour.

A quiet wedding took place, Wednesday noon, at the home of Mrs. Horace Damon in Fitchburg, when her daughter, Mrs. Cora L. Mills, was married to William P. Hills. Both were residents of Lunenburg, where they will reside. Mrs. Mills was for many years a resident of Ayer, where she is very pleasantly remembered, and who carried on for years the dry goods business in Page block, now conducted by Miss Nellie Beverly.

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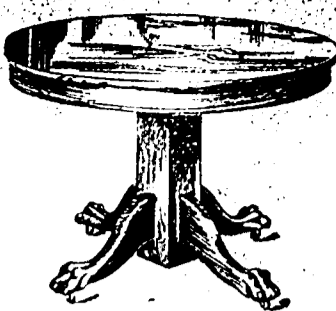
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WE SHOW HERE

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.

is improving at the time of writing. Dr. Hopkins has had charge of the case.

Miss Zilpha Wright has returned to her home in Pingryville at the conclusion of her millinery season at Fitchburg.

A special meeting of the grange will be held at the town hall next Wednesday evening, when a class at seventeen will be initiated into the first and second degrees. Officers of the grange will confer the first degree, and the ladies' degree staff will confer the second. A full attendance is much desired.

Guest evening will be observed by the Woman's club at the Unitarian vestry next Monday night. Miss Morgan, who read at the midsummer fête, will recite "The dawn of a tomorrow," by F. H. Burnett. The Cynthian orchestra will discourse music. There will also be several selections by a quartet from the Woman's club and by a famous out-of-town soloist. Tickets can be purchased by all members of the club of Mrs. Chester M. Hartwell and Mrs. D. H. Woodbury. Mrs. F. B. Priest and Mrs. J. H. D. Whitcomb have charge of the refreshments.

Sunday morning each of the pulpits will be supplied by representatives of the anti-slavery league. Rev. Mr. Coolidge of Clark university, Worcester, will speak at the Baptist church; Fred S. Retan of Boston will address the Congregational worshippers; and A. L. Saunders of Boston, the Unitarian. These men come highly recommended. In the evening there will be a temperance rally of all the churches in the auditorium of the Unitarian church at seven o'clock. Mr. Retan will give the address. It is hoped that the attendance will be large.

The committee on dramatics in the Backlog club has decided upon "Esmeralda" for a drama.

Rev. P. G. Favor read his resignation at the Congregational church last Sunday morning. He spoke with affectionate interest of his ministry of two years in Littleton, the development of the church and society in that time, of pleasant relations with all the people, the harmonious co-operation of pastor and parishioners, of courtesies received and the heartfelt regrets that he and Mrs. Favor experience in severing their connections with this church. He accepts his new pastorate of the Prospect Hill church in Somerville as a duty and a privilege to permit a greater service for God and humanity. Mr. Favor attended the annual church meeting and supper of the Prospect Hill church in Somerville last Tuesday evening.

Tuesday evening, January 11, the Congregational parish meeting will be held in the vestry to hear reports, choose officers and act upon the pastor's resignation. The annual church meeting and roll call with dinner will take place at the Congregational vestry at twelve o'clock noon today.

The lecture, January 4, by Dr. Gordon Lyons, Ph. D., brought out a good number considering the condition of the weather. Mr. Lyons is an easy speaker, of very pleasing personality, who possesses a wealth of valuable information on the subject of the Holy Land. His illustrations, some fifty in number, are very good. The speaker is one of the directors in charge of the extensive excavations now in progress in Samaria. Harvard college has already spent \$35,000 for this purpose, and has made important discoveries, among them the unearthing of the palace of Ahab that dates back to 700 B. C., and over which a Roman temple had been erected during the reign of Herod.

The thermometers in Littleton registered from 10° below zero to 22° below; the latter record was made in Newton.

Mrs. R. C. White's dancing class meets this afternoon at two o'clock in town hall.

On the evening of January 12 Mary B. Ireland and Frank Hibbard will be united in marriage at the bride's home on Harwood avenue.

Mrs. A. W. Knowlton, assistant postmaster, will take Miss Ireland's place in the postoffice during the next two weeks.

The next meeting of Loyal Nashobah lodge, I. O. O. F., M. U., will be held Monday night, January 10. The newly-elected officers will be installed. After the business is concluded the members will partake of an oyster supper.

Born, December 29, to Rev. and Mrs. Ashley D. Leavitt of Concord, N. H., a son. Mr. Leavitt resided during several years of his childhood with his parents and three sisters in Mrs. P. S. Whitcomb's house at Littleton Center. We are glad to note the flourishing condition of his church. If it continues to grow as it has done under his ministry, doubtless the new assistant pastor will prove a much needed acquisition.

The officers elected at the annual business meeting of the King's Daughters, Tuesday afternoon, were: Mrs. J. W. Godfrey, pres.; Mrs. Everett Kimball, 1st vice-pres.; Mrs. William H. Davis, 2d vice-pres.; Miss Elizabeth Thacher, sec.; Mrs. A. W. Knowlton, treas.

It is reported that Bernard, son of William L. Kimball, formerly of Littleton, was married Christmas day, and will live in Cleveland, Ohio, where he holds a very good position.

It is rumored that the Chemical Company will dispense with much of the help for an indefinite period of time.

John Allen of London, England, has gone to Warsaw, Russia, in the interest of the company he represents. He will remain there through the greater part of the winter. With him is one of the directors of the company.

E. W. Stone moved his family and goods to New Bedford this week. He is at present living at Mrs. A. W. Knowlton's, but expects to join his family in a few weeks, when he severs his connection with the Avery Chemical Company.

P. S. Whitcomb attended the funeral of Samuel Holden, oldest conductor on the Fitchburg division of the Boston and Maine railroad, at Orange, last week Friday.

The young people of Littleton have not forgotten E. J. Wilcox's liberality in giving straw rides, and he hasn't forgotten that they enjoy nothing better than a jolly sleighing party. Several times since the snow storm of two weeks ago he has demonstrated the facts.

Miss Nellie Whittier, who was engaged to substitute in the West primary school during Miss Cushman's absence, was taken sick Monday and obliged to give up her position. The school was then closed for the rest of the week.

Elmer Stiles and Miss Lena Donkin of Truro, Nova Scotia, were married at the home of the bridegroom's brother, Rev. H. B. Drew performed the ceremony in the presence of the immediate family. Mr. and Mrs. Stiles will have apartments at Mrs. Mary Foley's on Goldsmith street.

Mrs. Katherine Lane and daughter, Mrs. Kerwin, have engaged apartments in an artist colony in southern France, where they expect to remain till June.

The new officers of the grange were installed last Wednesday evening by Willey Wright and Mrs. Gregg of Westford. Next week Wednesday there will be a special meeting of the grange to work the first and second degrees.

James F. Moore attended the joint installation of officers of the E. S. Clark post and the W. R. C. at Groton, Tuesday.

Several cases of mumps in town are reported. Miss Helen Cushman, teacher at the West primary, is one of the victims, and others are members of the Everett Kimball, Michael Bradley and George Little families. Miss Nellie Whittier is substituting for Miss Cushman. John Hutchinson and Austin Hartwell have been shut in with measles.

Boston papers have made considerable of the recent loss of several thousand dollars by the Henry S. Brown Co. of Boston through the embezzlement of their bookkeeper. The latter is safe behind the prison gates awaiting further developments. Meantime Archie Shafter has been engaged as bookkeeper for the firm.

Hartwell & Hosmer have made their annual distribution of calendars, which, as usual, are very artistic and attractive.

Deaths.

Seldom if ever has it happened before that on three consecutive days bodies have arrived in town over the Fitchburg division of the Boston and Maine railroad, yet such was recently the case. On Friday, Saturday and Sunday, respectively, the remains of Mrs. Battles from West Acton, of George Parker from Atlanta, Ga., and of Mrs. James McNiff from Boston, were taken from a train at the Fitchburg station.

Funeral services for the late George Parker were held at the home of his sons, Mrs. A. M. Parker and Miss Julia Conant, shortly after the arrival of his remains on the afternoon train Saturday. Rev. Paul G. Favor was the officiating clergyman. At the close of the services the body was placed in the receiving tomb.

Mrs. James McNiff passed away Saturday at the St. Elizabeth hospital, where she had been taken some twelve days previous for treatment. Although the physicians spoke rather discouragingly from the first, they gave the relatives reason to believe that recovery was not impossible. Her physical strength diminished rapidly, however, and with it her mental nature kept pace. The body was removed to her home on Newtown road, Sunday, and the funeral services were held in St. Mary's church, Ayer, Tuesday morning, Rev. P. J. Sheedy officiating. The burial was in St. Mary's cemetery.

Constable Fred C. Reed received a telegram Monday from the chief of police in Washington, D. C., asking him to locate the relatives of Reuben Drew, who died in that city, last week Wednesday. At the time of writing Mr. Reed has been able to find no one in town who is related to or even acquainted with the man.

Things Worth Knowing.

It is said two parts tallow and one of rosin, melted together and applied to the soles of new boots or shoes, as much as the leather will absorb, will double their wear.

Bunions may be cured by applying iodine freely, twice a day, with a feather. For cure of corns or chilblains the same is recommended.

To make cake without eggs, take two-thirds of a cup of sugar, one-third cup of butter, two-thirds cup of sweet milk, two cups of flour, one tablespoonful of cream of tartar, and one-half teaspoonful of soda. Flavor to taste.

Clinkers may be loosened from firebricks by throwing in the firebox, when very hot, one or two quarts of oyster or clam shells, or a less quantity of salt, allowing the fire to go out, and then cleave off the clinkers.

A flannel dipped in boiling water and sprinkled with turpentine laid on the chest as quickly as possible, will relieve the worst severe cold or hoarseness.

For the cure of coughs, colds, asthma, whooping cough, and all diseases of the lungs, one spoonful of common tar, three spoonfuls of common honey, the yolk of three hens' eggs, and a half pint of wine. Beat the tar, eggs and honey well together with a knife, and bottle for use. A teaspoonful every morning, noon and night, before eating.

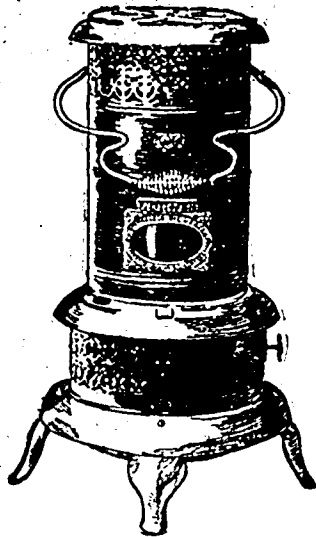
A very strengthening drink is made of beating the yolk of a fresh egg with a little sugar, add a very little brandy, beat the white to a strong froth, stir it into the yolk, and grate in a little nutmeg.

Items of Interest.

For the first time in twenty-two years the seven benevolent organizations supported by the Congregational churches of America are out of debt, and they are planning now to start in on raising a \$2,000,000 fund for missions. It is proposed also to collect an endowment fund of \$2,000,000 for Congregational theological schools and colleges, from men and women of wealth. The plan of division will be apportioned among the American Board of Foreign Missions, the Congregational Home Missionary society, the American Missionary association, the Church Building society, the Education society, the Sunday School and Publishing society and the Society of Ministerial Aid.

Rev. Dr. Lyman W. Powell, rector of St. John's church, Northampton, believes that ministers, from this center, must share the "commanding center

Little Things Annoy or Please Us



Little things annoy us—the little curl of smoke that, if left alone, would soon smudge the furnishings and make work for the house-wife. There are no annoying little things in the

PERFECTION Oil Heater

(Equipped with Smokeless Device)

They've been banished by hard thought and tireless work. In their stead there are little things that please—that make for comfort and satisfaction. The little self-locking

Automatic Smokeless Device

that actually prevents smoke—the little lock on the inside of the tube that holds the wick in check—keeps it below the smoke zone, so accurately adjusted that it cannot go wrong—these are some of the little things that please—that have contributed to the name and fame of the Perfection Oil Heater.

The most satisfying heater you can buy—always ready—easy to manage—always dependable—quickly cleaned.

Brass font holds 4 quarts—burns 9 hours. Attractively finished in Nickel or Japan in various styles and finishes.

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.

Young Folks

MAKING HISTORIES.

An Interesting Game For a Party or a Stormy Afternoon.

Histories or biographies, which latter is really a better name, are most interesting to make and have been tried most successfully at grownup "affairs."

The articles needed are a dozen or two of old magazines (illustrated ones), half a dozen pairs of shears, a couple of paste pots and the "histories." These latter should be prepared ahead of time, but are easy to make. Get plain sheets of white paper, about note paper size, allow about ten or a dozen to each book and fasten the sheets together with clips. On the front sheets of each write, "An Illustrated Life of Margie Blank, by Tommie Jones." The names, of course, are left blank, the hostess simply writing the name of one guest or child on each book. The hostess distributes the little books. Those of the girls are given to the boys, and vice versa. The person who prepares the history writes his name on the blank left for it.

On each page of the blank history there is a caption or heading—"At the Age of Three," "How He Looked When He Was Six," "His First Love," "Future Occupation," "Greatest Ambition," "Final Career" and any others along the same line that may suggest themselves.

The idea is to cut out illustrations from the magazines and paste them on the pages signified to carry out the idea suggested. The pictures may be wise, funny or semiserious, just as the historian desires.

Simply dump the pile of magazines in the center of the table, give each child a blank history and let them go to work.

The advertisements of the magazines are rich in suggestion. Some of the famous "varieties"—Blank's Soap, Somebody's Paint—will furnish abundant illustrations for the child with a sense of humor and an eye for the ludicrous. When the histories have been completed and each page is properly filled—for more than one illustration may be put upon a page—the little books should be exchanged and returned to their owners.

And what fun they will have "seeing themselves as others see them!"

Ruth and Jacob.

One player is blindfolded. The rest dance in a circle round him till he points at one of them. This person then enters the ring and when the blind man calls out, "Ruth," answers, "Jacob," and moves about within the circle so as to avoid being caught by the blind man and continues to answer, "Jacob," as often as the blind man calls out, "Ruth." This continues until "Ruth" is caught. "Jacob" must then guess who it is he has caught. If he guesses correctly "Ruth" takes his place, and the game goes on. If he guesses wrongly he continues to "Jacob."

A Shrimp as a Siphon. An amusing trick is to make a siphon out of a shrimp. Fill a wine-glass with water and place a shrimp, which has been soaked in water, on the edge of the glass, as shown in the



illustration. The body of the shrimp will then act as a siphon, and the contents of the vessel will continue to drip from the feelers of the crustacean until the level of the liquid is lowered to the end of the tail.

The Water Trick. Procure two pieces of glass about six inches square, join any two of their sides and separate the opposite sides with a piece of wax, so that their surfaces may form an angle of about two or three degrees. Immerse this apparatus in water, and the water will rise between the plates and form a beautiful geometrical figure.

Feathers of Snow. Old Mother Goose is now shaking her feathers. She's nurse to the fairies who dwell in the skies. On her it depends when the nicest of weathers Comes down to delight all the little folks' eyes.

She turns from their cradles, each wee sleepy fairy So snugly tucked under their covers of blue. Then throws off each counterpane, lacy and airy, Just as we've watched often our own mothers do.

I wish from my heart that she were not so lazy, But shook out each mattress of dainty white cloud Every day, so the breezes, all sparkling and mazy, Would clothe all the earth in a mantle so proud.

—Philadelphia Record.

The Babbitt Co. Opticians

81 Merrimack St. Lowell, Mass.

277 Main Street Nashua, N. H.

BOSTON and NORTHEAST 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 a. m. and every 30 mins. until 9:55 a. m. (10:25 p. m. to Woburn only.) Sundays—5:55 a. m. and every 30 mins. until 9:55 p. m. (10:25 p. m. to Woburn only.) Return—Leave Sullivan Square—6:32 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 9:40 p. m. Sundays—7:15 a. m. and every 30 mins. until 9:40 p. m. then same as week days. Return—Leave Lawrence—5:20, 6:10, 6:50 a. m. and every 30 mins. until 9:50 p. m. Sunday—7:20 a. m. then same as week days. North Chelmsford via Middlesex Terminal, Charlestown—5:25, 6:25 a. m. and every 15 mins. until 11:33 p. m. Sundays—7:33, 8:03 a. m. and every 15 mins. until 10:30 p. m. Return—Leave North Chelmsford—6:30, 6:55, 6:57, 7:18 a. m. and every 15 mins. until 11:03 p. m. then 11:48 p. m. Sundays—11:03 p. m. and every 15 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—6:35 a. m. and every 30 mins. until 10:35 p. m. Sundays—7:35 a. m. then same as week days. Tyngsboro via Middlesex Street—5:15, 6:00, 6:55, 7:18 a. m. and every 30 mins. until 9:48 p. m. Sundays—8:18 a. m. and every 30 mins. until 10:18 p. m. Return—Leave Tyngsboro—5:40, 6:20, 6:57, 7:33 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, 1909.

First car leaves Ayer for North Chelmsford and Lowell at 6:05 a. m., then five 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 5:15 a. m., then every 30 minutes past every hour up to and including 9:33 p. m. The 10:33 p. m. and 10:48 p. m. cars from Lowell for Ayer only. 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 7:33 a. m.; last car from Lowell 9:33 p. m. or later. Westford, Fitchburg and Leominster; last car from Lowell 10:33 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.

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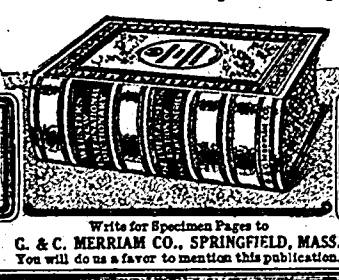
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Discussed in Governor Draper's Address to the Legislature

ECONOMY IN EXPENDITURES

Necessary Because of Present Condition of Commonwealth's Finances—State Troops' Pay—Industrial School Problem—Meat Inspection System Should Be Reorganized—Milk Producing Industry Declining—Patients in Insane and Other Institutions Greatly Increased in Number—Effective Automobile Law—Railroad Bonds as Bank Investments

Gentlemen of the General Court of Massachusetts:

In presenting my second message for your consideration, I desire first to thank the people of Massachusetts for their renewed expression of confidence in me.

Finances
The net direct debt of the commonwealth of Massachusetts on Dec. 1, 1909, was \$18,980,755.42. This debt on Dec. 1, 1908, was \$17,669,372.69. During the past year, therefore, the net direct state debt increased \$1,311,382.73. The net metropolitan debt, or contingent debt, as it is called in the auditor's report, was, on Dec. 1, 1909, \$60,676,311.03. On Dec. 1, 1908, this debt was \$60,428,223.14—so that this debt has increased during the past year \$248,087.89. There have been issued during the year, charged to the net state debt for permanent improvements, new bonds amounting to \$2,326,300, while bonds have been paid amounting to \$2,552,500. The metropolitan debt was increased by bonds issued for permanent improvements amounting to \$1,643,000, and was decreased by payment of bonds to the amount of \$8000 and a contribution to the sinking fund of \$1,368,912.11.

The receipts from miscellaneous sources of revenue during the year ending Dec. 1, 1909, were \$7,694,776.10. The state tax was \$4,600,000, so that the total revenues for the year, exclusive of cash on hand, amounted to \$12,194,776.10. There was paid out for expenses during the year \$12,822,559.24, so that the cash on hand was quite substantially reduced from Dec. 1, 1908, to Dec. 1, 1909.

We have in the last year, in both classes of debt, issued bonds for permanent improvements, but we have not increased either class of debt as much as the amount of such bonds. The net debt was, however, in each case greater on the first day of December, 1909, than it was on the first day of December, 1908.

The annual charge for interest on the net direct debt in 1909, reckoned at 3 1/2 percent, would be something more than \$650,000 a year; while on the metropolitan debt the annual interest charge, which has to be paid by the metropolitan district, at the same rate of 3 1/2 percent, would be more than \$2,100,000 a year.

I call these matters to your attention, and ask you to seriously consider whether it is not time, in making your appropriations, to provide for a substantial payment each year on the principal of the net direct debt. It also seems to me that it is time that the principal of the metropolitan debt should begin to be decreased, as the annual interest charges are constantly growing larger and becoming a heavier burden.

The expenses of the commonwealth were materially enlarged during the past year because of the greatly increased number of unfortunate people who had to be cared for in our various institutions, and we must expect this to be larger in the future. This fact should be taken into consideration in making your appropriations for the current year. It is obviously necessary, with the finances of the commonwealth in their present condition, to practice economy in every expenditure, and certainly no large new undertakings should be started which are not absolutely necessary, except those which are for the proper care of our sick and unfortunate.

Municipal Accounting and Registration of Municipal Loans

The bureau of statistics is doing a large amount of work in connection with municipal accounting reform. It is a legitimate function of the commonwealth to assist its municipalities, and especially the towns, in devising methods by which their affairs can be better administered to their own advantage, and it is highly desirable that it should do so in the interest of all our citizens and of investors in municipal securities.

The very unfortunate occurrences which came to light during the past year in connection with the finances of the town of Framingham have brought forcibly to the attention of the people the necessity for some reform in the method of issuing municipal loans.

I suggest that some plan be adopted requiring the registration and certification in the office of the bureau of statistics, of all town and city loans. There are many people interested in this subject who have suggested various methods by which this can be

done, and I submit the general subject to your attention, with an earnest request for prompt and wise action.

Interest on War Loans
It has been called to my attention that there are certain equitable claims for reimbursement of gold premium and interest charges paid by the commonwealth on its war loans, which the federal government may properly be asked to pay, after enabling legislation has been enacted at Washington. The sum at issue is a large one, amounting to more than a million dollars.

At the present time there is no authority in law which would allow the governor and council to make proper contracts and arrangements for the presentation of these claims. Under section 79 of chapter 6 of the revised laws, the governor, with the advice and consent of the council, is given authority to make contracts to collect moneys due the commonwealth of Massachusetts, "except any claim for reimbursement of interest paid by the commonwealth on its war loans." These claims to which I have referred are in part for "interest paid by the commonwealth on its war loans," and it is necessary for the legislature to take action, in order to give the governor and council authority to make proper arrangements to prosecute these claims. I therefore recommend that such action be taken.

Education
The reorganized board of education was appointed on the thirtieth day of June, 1909, to take office on the first day of July. The members have necessarily had little chance to do anything up to the present time except to familiarize themselves with present conditions and engage a commissioner of education. As the old commission on industrial education and its officials went out of office when the new board came in, the members of the new board were themselves obliged to devote a great deal of time and attention to the ordinary routine work which was required until they could decide on a commissioner of education and get the new board thoroughly organized. They have now engaged their commissioner, and are carefully studying the questions which come within their province, especially the matter of industrial education, and how best to adapt it to our present school system.

They find that the statutes under which industrial schools may be and have been established are not clear; and, because of this lack of clearness, many questions have arisen in the past, under the commission on industrial education, in regard to so-called independent industrial schools, which need to be settled and which can be cleared up only by new legislation. The board of education will ask for such action as it deems necessary, and will explain in detail the reasons therefor and what it desires to accomplish.

This question of industrial education and how it shall be worked in harmony with, and very likely become a part of, our public school system, is a great one. The board has not had time as yet to properly study out and formulate a definite policy. It is not desirable that the commonwealth should rush into this matter haphazard, and without careful consideration and a definite plan.

We have an able board of education, which is earnestly devoted to its duties, and during the present year it will have time to, and will, formulate definite plans as to what should be done for the real advancement of this important work. In the meantime, it would be an unwise policy and bad judgment to create separate and individual schools for industrial education which would not be integral parts of our whole school system.

Much can be done this year by the board, and legislation will be requested which will permit such work as is deemed proper; but it will, after the passage of new legislation, require some time to study out a system before the board will be able to go ahead with a completed plan of education which shall include industrial education as one of its principal and component parts.

State Library
More room has been given to the state library, and the trustees and the librarian are planning to use this space for legislative reference work. This will necessitate the employment of an assistant in this department, and I recommend an appropriation sufficient to meet this extra expense, and also a reasonable increase in the salary of the state librarian.

Free Public Library Commission
This commission has done excellent work for many years, and the people of every town in the commonwealth now have the opportunity to obtain books from a free public library. It is not desirable that the towns should have too much state assistance in this direction, but it is essential that the commission should be given more assistance. The appropriation of the commission should be somewhat increased, so that it may have additional help for performing its clerical work and visiting the various libraries throughout the commonwealth.

Meat Inspection
During the last year much interest was taken in and attention given to the improving of conditions under which meat, to be sold for food to the people, should be slaughtered and prepared for sale. There was a feeling that meat infected with the germs of disease might be sold as food; and the fear that such conditions existed caused the legislature to pass laws intended to prevent the sale of infected meat, and also to order an inquiry by

the state board of health into the methods of slaughtering, in Massachusetts, of animals to be used for food.

Of all the animal food products consumed in this commonwealth, a very large percentage is brought in from other states. In these cases, if being interstate business, the food products must be inspected by officers of the United States stationed in the slaughter-houses where the animals are killed, and these animals and carcasses are examined thoroughly, by trained men, before and after being slaughtered. If there is anything which renders meat unfit for food, it is seen by these inspectors and the carcass is destroyed; and only meat which is fit for food is permitted to be shipped from one state to another or to other countries. I have personally looked into this examination in various slaughter-houses, and I am satisfied that the government inspection is scientific and adequate. This applies to the great bulk of the animal food products, consumed by the people of this commonwealth.

The local conditions which are permitted to exist in this state are not, in my opinion, good. The slaughter-houses are not properly kept, and many inspectors in the different sections of the commonwealth do not properly understand their duties; the inspection is not sufficiently careful, and it is inadequate.

A reorganization of this system should be effected, so that the commonwealth may be divided into districts, having expert inspectors who shall superintend all the conditions under which animals for food are slaughtered, and who shall also examine the carcasses to see that they are in proper healthful condition to be sold for food.

The appointment by the commonwealth of a given number of such inspectors to look after these conditions would cost considerable; but when the fact is considered that the people would be better protected from disease than they now are in the meat which they use for food, the extra expense, although quite an item, should not be controlling. While the expense would be quite large to the state, much of it would be saved directly to the towns and cities, as they would be relieved of that which they now have to incur for inspection.

I recommend that careful consideration of this subject be given, and that action be taken so that all these conditions may be improved and a new system of local slaughtering established; and I suggest that the standard of inspection be made the same as that now required by the United States government. I do not think our conditions in this respect are worse than in many of the other states, but we cannot afford to be below the United States standard, which is the best; and I urge prompt and wise action in dealing with this most important question.

Milk Conditions
The production of milk and the way it shall be sold is a problem which seems very difficult to solve satisfactorily to both the producers and consumers. There has been much discussion as to whether the standard now required by law, of 12.15 percent of milk solids and 3.35 percent of fat, is right. I do not pretend to express an opinion based on knowledge in this respect, but I have not been able to see any way in which the consumer and the honest producer of milk can be properly protected, unless a standard of quality shall be established and maintained by law.

While I thoroughly believe in a proper standard, established and maintained by law, some conditions existing today seem to cause a hardship to the Massachusetts milk producers, because milk from other states can be sold in Massachusetts under many less restrictions than is the case with the product of Massachusetts farmers.

It is further a fact that for some reason the number of neat cattle in the commonwealth of Massachusetts is decreasing. In the year 1908 there were 3300 head less of neat cattle than in 1907, and on Nov. 30, 1907, the record showed a decrease of nearly 10,000 from the previous year, so that there were 13,000 head of neat cattle less in Massachusetts at the beginning of 1909 than there were at the end of 1906. This proves conclusively that the keeping of cattle for milk in Massachusetts is not an industry that is growing, but one that is declining. This is unquestionably bad for the commonwealth. As the consumption of milk seems to be constantly increasing, it must be brought in from other states. Our farming industry in this respect is not flourishing. It is not profitable for the farmer to raise and sell milk under existing conditions.

I believe that the legislature should pass laws, if necessary, so that the farmers of this commonwealth can ship their milk through the direct agency of the railroads, rather than be obliged to deal through contractors who practically handle the shipping of milk for the railroads. Whether or not this would result in cheaper milk to the consumer, I do not know; but I do not believe it wise for the great carrying agencies operating in the commonwealth of Massachusetts to sublet these privileges to any one.

Every man who desires to ship milk to the cities of this commonwealth over the railroads of the state should have the right to deal with them directly, under proper regulations and conditions. The railroad should receive proper pay for the service rendered, and should not be obliged to

take milk at every station; but proper provisions should be made so that milk delivered in reasonable quantities at particular points should be carried by the railroads at reasonable rates to the large centers of population, where it is to be consumed. I believe if this were done many of the complaints which now exist concerning the milk question would disappear.

Military Matters
The militia is in excellent condition. The maneuvers which were held during the past summer were most beneficial and advantageous. All the conditions of actual service in war time were present except the terrible carnage which results from actual conflict. Our troops were ordered to mobilize on a given day at given points, ready for service. This proved a severe test of the commissary and quartermaster departments, which were admirably met. The troops of all arms, infantry, artillery and cavalry, arrived at the designated points on time and in good condition. They were well fed and cared for during a week of most active service, during which time there was some very severe and disagreeable weather. Arrangements were made to prevent fires, and the damage done to the property of our citizens by the officers and men was almost negligible.

Under the Dick bill, which was passed by the national congress and approved on Jan. 21, 1903, it was provided that troops serving from a state in connection with national troops under special conditions should receive certain pay. This did not contemplate that the state troops so serving should be paid both by the national and state governments; but some confusion in regard to the matter has arisen, and certain of our organizations which have done special military work in the past have received pay from both state and nation, while the great bulk of the militia has been paid only the amount specified by the commonwealth.

It does not seem to me that this is wise or just, and I believe provision should be made so that the pay of all the state troops should be the same, and that any money which would under certain circumstances be paid by the national government to such troops, either for service or subsistence, should be turned into the treasury of the commonwealth to assist in the general payment of military expenses. I would suggest to you that a proper law be passed to bring about this result.

Institutions
The various state institutions are in good condition and doing their usual good work. The Lyman school for boys and the state industrial school for girls have both been somewhat crowded, but new buildings which were authorized by the last legislature will be completed early in 1910, which will relieve the situation. This also applies to the Massachusetts hospital school at Canton, which is a new school, doing well a very important work.

The nurses' home at Rutland is nearly ready for acceptance, and the sanatorium is full. The new accommodations which were provided for at the state hospital at Tewksbury have not been completed as yet, but they are badly needed. The industrial school for boys at Shirley has been opened during the year. There are now ninety inmates.

The North Reading sanatorium for consumptives was opened on Sept. 22, 1909, and is substantially full at present; the Lakeville sanatorium will be opened in January, 1910, accommodating 150 more people; and the Westfield sanatorium is expected to be opened either in February or March, 1910, to accommodate the same number.

At the Massachusetts hospital for epileptics at Monson a building was provided for last year which will accommodate enough patients to relieve the crowding which exists there at present, and this building will be ready in July, 1910. The new Wrentham state school which has been established for the feeble-minded has about fifty patients at present, and new buildings to accommodate about 200 patients will be ready in about three months. At the Massachusetts school for the feeble-minded at Waverley there are at present 1261 patients.

The prison commission reports that there is no immediate need for increased accommodations in our prisons.

The insane in our state institutions numbered, Oct. 1, 1909, 11,490—an increase of 499 this year, against 789 last year, 402 being the average annual increase for the last five years. It is safe to assume that the number of insane will increase in the immediate future at the average rate of 500 per year. The hospitals are now crowded, and there are more than 1300 beds set up in the day rooms and corridors, half of which have to be removed and stored every day.

Under these conditions, it will be necessary for you to make appropriations which will provide for something like 800 patients for the coming year.

While economy should be constantly in our minds this year, we ought to provide well for the care of our unfortunate insane, and erect whatever additions to our institutions as are necessary for this purpose.

The trustees of the Foxborough state hospital for inebriates have arrived at the point where they desire to make a beginning for a new institution. They feel that they should eventually have a location much larger than their present one, where they can have a

large amount of land on which many of their inmates could work, and where arrangements could be made for a greater sub-division of their patients.

I understand that if this should be done, the board of insanity would utilize entirely the Foxborough institution, and that they could use it to most excellent advantage in caring for the insane, the number of which unfortunately increases from year to year. I think that the trustees of the Foxborough hospital are obtaining good results, and that your honorable bodies should take such action as will enable them to make a start in the direction indicated.

In this connection it has been called to my attention that where land is bought by various boards of trustees, it often happens that they procure land which is mortgaged. The mortgagee will not discharge his mortgage until he is paid. On the other hand, the state officers will not pay over the money to the owner until he can show a clear title and the deed is received for record. Under these circumstances, some member of the purchasing board has acted as an attorney for the owner of the land, while at the same time he is acting officially as one of the purchasers of the land for the commonwealth. This ought to be changed, and it might be wise to provide that the attorney general should be given further power to act in such transactions, and any member of the purchasing board be relieved from acting in a double capacity. This suggestion is made as a general proposition which might be carried out in the purchase of any lands which the commonwealth might wish to obtain.

State Highways
The automobile law which was passed by the last legislature is working well. It is expected that it will produce a net revenue of \$175,000 during the next year, for use on the state highways; and, with the authority given the highway commission to check the reckless driving of these vehicles, it is, in the opinion of the commissioners, the most effective automobile law of any state.

The highway commissioners should be allowed to have sufficient money on hand to enable them to make advances to laborers and others for repair work. Where this work is done at present—there not being money on hand to deal directly with such men—the repairs are unnecessarily expensive.

They should be given authority to buy small sections of land in different parts of the commonwealth, to be used for the storage of their machinery; and, when opportunity offers, should have the right to purchase land in various sections which furnishes good material for road building.

All these purchases of land, either for the storage of machinery or for the deposits of material for repairs on roads, should not be completed without the approval of the governor and council.

I recommend that authority be given the highway commission in both these directions, because I feel certain that it will save money for the commonwealth and permit the commission to render better service.

Boston Railroad Holding Company
The Boston Railroad Holding Company, which was established by an act of the last legislature, chapter 519, has issued certain bonds based on its holdings of Boston and Maine railroad stock. These bonds are guaranteed by the New York, New Haven and Hartford Railroad company, and are, in my opinion, a safe investment.

As the holding company needs more money to expend for improvements on the Boston and Maine railroad, it will be necessary for it to issue more bonds, and as the money for these bonds is advanced it is necessary that the New York, New Haven and Hartford Railroad company should be able to dispose of these bonds rather than hold them in its treasury and so tie up a very large amount of money.

These bonds bear 4 percent interest, and, being based on the stock of the Boston and Maine railroad and guaranteed by the New York, New Haven and Hartford railroad, would be, I believe, a most excellent investment for our savings banks.

The Boston Railroad Holding company, in my opinion, will be a great benefit to the railroad situation in Massachusetts and New England. I believe the individuals who control the stock of this company intend to very greatly improve the physical condition of the Boston and Maine railroad. If this is done it will be a great benefit to Massachusetts and New England, and these owners should be encouraged by proper legislation.

Massachusetts cannot expect great improvements in railroad properties unless she is willing to help in proper ways those who are willing to put money into such developments. I understand and believe that important and extensive improvements are very soon to be undertaken on these properties, and I think it is in the interest of all our citizens that those making these large expenditures for such improvements should be encouraged to do so. I therefore recommend that these bonds be made a legal investment for Massachusetts savings banks.

Savings Banks and Trust Companies
Prior to the passage of the business law of corporations, savings banks and trust companies were organized by special law and their charters made subject to the laws regulating the business of such corporations. There was no authority to organize such cor-

porations under general laws. The general law of business corporations enacted in 1903 contains provisions excluding from its operation certain classes of corporations, among others savings banks, trust companies and co-operative banks, but also enacts that "such provisions should not be construed to prohibit the organization of a corporation under the provisions of this act for the purpose of carrying on any lawful business, outside of this commonwealth."

It is thus possible for savings banks, trust companies and co-operative banks to be organized under our general laws, subject to no supervision or control, to carry on business outside the state.

The result is that there are two classes of trust companies, savings banks and co-operative banks which may be organized in this commonwealth—one to do business within the commonwealth under restriction and supervision, the other to do business outside the commonwealth with no such supervision and subject to no restriction.

This condition seems anomalous, and I recommend the subject to your consideration for correction.

Civil Service
The work of the civil service commission has become much greater in the last few years because of the very large increase in the number of people who are employed in the classified service. By the action of the last legislature very important work has been added to this department, in connection with the certification of fitness of important appointees of the mayor of Boston. The commissioners need a deputy examiner, and they themselves should be paid larger salaries, and be required to give more of their time to the work. I trust that action will be taken by you to bring about these results.

Forestry
Careful attention is being given to our standing forests, and our non-productive or waste lands should not remain idle, as large possibilities for the future are to be found here and great results will come from a well-directed forest policy. Our moth work would be more effective in the saving of our trees if the local moth superintendents in towns and cities should receive their appointments subject to the approval of the state forester.

I believe much better results in all our towns and cities could also be obtained were the state forester given authority to advise and assist the local tree wardens.

Publicity
I recommend the enactment of a law which shall require the issuance annually of a public document containing correct information in regard to the salaries or pay of the employees and members of each department, board or commission, so that such salary or pay, and also the date of election or appointment and residence of each officer or employe of the commonwealth, may be easily ascertained.

Senators and Representatives
I am glad to say that the material conditions in the commonwealth and the nation have been very much better during the past year than they were in 1908. The great crops of the west have been bountiful, and the prices of which they have sold have been high. The cotton crop of the south is probably less than usual, but the farmers who raised it have received such good prices for their product that they are prosperous. The manufacturing industries in all lines are busy, and the people are employed at good wages. The whole nation is prosperous.

As a people, however, we are not economical; we are unnecessarily wasting our natural resources, and extravagance has become a habit. The price of everything is high, and this ought to put a premium on economy. This is not a proper time or place to discuss the reasons for these high prices, but it is well known that the enormous increase in the production of gold and the higher wages paid in every vocation of life must be two of the great contributory causes.

In spite of these high prices, Massachusetts has been extremely prosperous and our savings banks have shown the largest increase in deposits of any year in our history, the total increase being \$33,581,751, making the total amount of deposits now on hand in our savings banks \$743,101,481. The dividends declared to the depositors in our savings banks during the past year have amounted to \$27,110,047. The deposits put in these banks in 1909 were about \$16,000,000 more than in 1908, while the withdrawals of deposits in 1909 were \$15,000,000 less than in 1908.

The above shows in a most graphic manner the tremendous change in conditions which has taken place in the last year. Notwithstanding the prevailing high prices, our people have saved money, and this means prosperity.

You, as the representatives of the people, have a sacred trust imposed upon you: It is your duty to see that the resources of the commonwealth shall not be wasted, and that the money of its citizens shall be wisely and properly expended. The legislatures of the past in Massachusetts have established a great record for the enactment of laws, which have been in the true interest of the people. Your immediate predecessors maintained the high standard which had been set for them; I have no doubt that you will do equally well, and I promise to use my best endeavor to co-operate with you in accomplishing good results.

