

TURNER'S PUBLIC SPIRIT

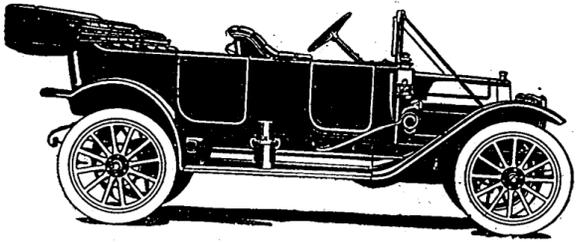
G. B. Tellinghast
State Librarian
Boston

Forty-Fourth Year

Ayer, Mass., Saturday, March 16, 1912.

No. 27. Price Four Cents

Studebaker Automobiles Are Built on Honor



E-M-F "30" TOURING CAR, \$1100 F. O. B. Detroit

Materials Which Give Long Life

In E-M-F "30" and Flanders "20" automobiles go the highest quality steels and other materials it is possible to buy. The big mills make steel for us in accordance with our secret formulas. We build practically every part of the cars in our own plants. For instance, there are 252 drop forgings in every E-M-F "30," 226 in every Flanders "20." You will appreciate what that means for strength. Incidentally, it means that we have our own forge plant—it's a wonder, too—or we couldn't afford to do it. Similarly, our foundry, our body plants, our steel stamping plant, our extensive laboratories all co-operate to give us heavy manufacturing advantages and economies.

Put Studebaker honor and square dealing into the best automobile factories in the world and what must the product be? Absolutely beyond question the best automobile values you can buy. That's what we sell you when you buy an E-M-F "30" or Flanders "20."

There are no freak features in either car. Every important part in their design and manufacture is used by a big majority of the best cars built. In them you buy the sum of engineering skill, standardized.

Records Prove It

During the past summer stock Flanders "20" cars won:

- 1—World's Speedway Record 1-20 miles;
- 2—Most important hill climbs in the country in record-breaking time. Dead Horse Hill, Worcester, Mass.
- 3—The severest reliability runs held in the United States. Further, a stock Flanders "20" did 1280 miles pioneering between Seattle, Wash., and Hazelton, B. C., over trails where in many places neither vehicle nor horse had been. It is a record. No other car last year approached it.

The E-M-F "30" won first, second and third places in the Savannah Tiedeman Trophy race, the only event in which we entered the car. If you are interested in further details, ask any man who has driven an E-M-F "30" or knows the car.

A story of honest and square dealing. This is the Studebaker story. It's all true.

Send for booklet "First to Hazelton," and other of our interesting literature.

Flanders "20"—F. O. B. Detroit	E-M-F "30"—F. O. B. Detroit
Touring Car \$800	Touring Car \$1100
Roadster \$750	Demi-Tonneau \$1100
Delivery Car \$800	Roadster \$1100

Ayer Automobile Station

Robert Murphy & Sons, Props.

Phone 86-3 AYER, MASS.

SHIRLEY.

Alliance.

It is always a noteworthy event when the Alliance meets at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Louis J. Farnsworth for the word hospitality is "written large" all over this fine old mansion. At the meeting on March 7, a large number of members and guests were present, eight ladies from the village going over in a large driven by Clayton Wells. The program consisted of an interesting paper by Miss Bessie V. Farnsworth, on "The development of pianoforte music" which was illustrated by selections on the piano from Mozart, Liszt and Schumann, which were played with the utmost delicacy of expression and which aptly illustrated the different styles of these authors.

The hostess and her assistants then served refreshments, and all enjoyed a social hour. Under Mrs. Farnsworth's gentle sway as president, the Alliance has gained several new members, and much good has been accomplished.

The next meeting will be the annual meeting and the date has been fixed upon as April 18. This meeting will be at the First Parish church and reports of all the officers and standing committee will be given, followed by election of officers. All unpaid dues for 1911 must be in the hands of the secretary or treasurer by that date if possible.

Obituary.

On last week Friday morning, at dawn, the spirit of Reuben Newell Colburn passed to its Maker. Mr. Colburn was born at New Boston, N. H., in 1826. In 1884, he was united in marriage to Miss Mary Jane Holt, Mr. and Mrs. Colburn moved to Gardiner, Me., where they made their home for many years. They afterward moved to Somerville, and then later to Shirley, about fourteen years ago. They lived at the farm now owned by William Wilkins, until seven years ago, when they built a house in Woodsville, where they have since made their home with their son, the late N. Otis Colburn.

Mr. Colburn was a kind and loving father and husband, and made many warm friends during his stay at Woodsville. Besides his wife, he leaves a daughter, Mrs. Viola Hodgman, of Woodsville, and a son, Walter Colburn, of Boston, to mourn his loss.

Newell Otis Colburn passed away at his home in Woodsville last week Friday morning, about four hours after his father's death, after a short illness of pneumonia.

Mr. Colburn was born in Gardiner, Me., fifty-seven years ago. When a boy he learned the carpenter's trade, with his father, and worked at that and house painting while here. Otis was well liked by all, and had many friends, especially in the grange, in which he was an active member. He seemed to take a great interest in the grange work and held the office of steward in a very creditable manner. Besides his mother, he is survived by a sister, Mrs. Viola Hodgman, of Woodsville, and a brother, Walter Colburn, of Boston.

This double death was one of the saddest events which Shirley Center has had the misfortune to experience. The double funeral services took place at the home of Mr. Colburn's daughter, Mrs. Viola Hodgman, on Sunday afternoon, Rev. Allen A. Bronson, of the Congregational church at the village, officiating. The choir sang "Nearer my God to thee," and Jesus, lover of my soul," these being Otis' favorite hymns. The bodies were taken to the Center cemetery for interment.

The floral tributes consisted of a pillow, "P. of H." from Shirley grange a pillow from the Middlesex Worcester Pomona grange No. 3, and a horse-shoe of flowers from his daughter Viola.

BOXBOROUGH.

News Items.
Mrs. Bertha Shattuck attended the meeting of the Fruit Growers' association held in Worcester this week.

The Goddard family from West Acton have moved into the unoccupied house on the Syndicate farm.

New Spring Hats and Shirts

The new blocks and correct styles in Spring Hats are ready. We have a complete line of Soft Hats and Derbys in all the latest shapes and colors.

Derbys, \$1.50, \$2.00, \$2.50, \$3.00 Soft Hats, 50c., \$1.00, \$1.50, \$2.00

We have just received our first shipment of Spring and Summer Shirts in all the latest shades and patterns. Stag Shirts, 50c., \$1.00. Cluett and Earl & Wilson Shirts, \$1.50.

Fletcher Bros. AYER - MASS.

Opposite Depot

We wish to state in correction of last week's statement, that Arthur Nelson is agent for the Oakland car, instead of the Overland.

The town reports were published this week.
On last week Thursday the young men gave a sociable in the church vestry, they showing good planning both in the tables and the entertainment.

The West Acton Women's club held its regular meeting on last Monday. Miss Lewis, a reader from Worcester, entertained by reading "Judith," and gave several shorter pieces for encore. Miss Evelyn Knowlton played piano solos. It was an open meeting and was very largely attended.

Mrs. Dodge has rented Bide-a-Wee cottage from Mrs. C. B. Robbins.

The last meeting of the grange was St. Patrick's evening, in charge of Misses Mary Nelson and Marion Viets, Ralph Whitcomb and Leo Cunningham. A very interesting program was enjoyed, especially the Irish music. Readings were given by Mrs. Viets and Mrs. Littlefield, and a short talk upon the condition of the British Isles by Rev. F. H. Viets. The next meeting is in charge of Mr. and Mrs. Libbie, Mr. and Mrs. A. H. Edgerly and Mr. and Mrs. F. L. Bailey, and an interesting program is anticipated.

The sick ones in the Richardson family are improving.

TOWNSEND.

West.

Miss M. Elinor Tower entertained the members of the L. B. S. at the regular monthly all-day session on Wednesday, at her new home on Elm street, and eighteen were present and partook of a bountiful dinner, which was served at noon, and in the afternoon the Ladies' Mission circle held their regular monthly meeting with a very interesting program. Papers were read upon work among the Chinese, chapel work and colportage, and a very interesting talk was given by Mrs. L. A. Lawrence on her visit to Utah and the Mormon church while on her way to California. The next meeting of the L. B. S. will be held with Mrs. Fred A. Patch of Joslyville.

Benjamin Hodgman is assisting for the present at the store of I. P. Sherwin & Co.

Mrs. Clara Craig of the Centre is spending a few days with Miss M. Elinor Tower.

During the recent heavy rain many of the cellars of the homes on Elm street were flooded with water and some places on the street were rendered almost impassable.

J. H. Ormsby of Winthrop has been spending a few days in town superintending work at the Belgrade rug factory.

Mrs. F. A. Hardy has returned to her home in this village after a three-months visit with relatives and friends in Vermont and New Hampshire.

Centre.

Wednesday morning while Joe Temple was shoeing a horse, he received a severe cut and bruise upon his leg, which necessitated the taking of several stitches. After being thrown across the shop floor from the force of the blow and being bandaged up by the neighbors, he finished shoeing the horse before getting the doctor. The cut will be painful for some days.

Last Friday evening the Lincoln club of Lunenburg was entertained by the Baraka club at the M. E. church, and an entertainment given. Refreshments were served and all had a delightful time. This was a return visit, the Baraka club having been at Lunenburg some time previous.

Last Friday evening, Tommie Rogers, of the West village, was given a surprise party at the Park hotel. The affair was planned by his high school friends and classmates. The occasion was his birthday and he was presented with a sum of money as a birthday gift. Refreshments were served and a social evening enjoyed.

Clarence Parker, an account of whose death was given last week, was nineteen years of age and the funeral was held from his late home last Saturday afternoon, Rev. A. L. Struthers officiating. An abundance of beautiful flowers was sent in by loving relatives, friends and mill companions, many of whom attended the services. His mother and sisters have the sympathy of all in their sorrow.

New Advertisements.

CARD OF THANKS.

We take this opportunity of thanking the King's Daughters and all the other kind friends who contributed to the purse made up for us since our loss of personal property, sustained at the recent fire.

MR. AND MRS. OSCAR SHAFER, Littleton, Mass., March 14, 1912.

FOR SALE—"Mayflower" White Plymouth Rocks, Eggs for hatching and hard chicks. Send for circular. BENNETT & CUNNINGHAM, Groton, 4127



Clean-Up Sale After Stock Taking

This Sale is the final Clearance Sale of the season of all our small lots and broken sizes and lines of goods in every department in our store.

We have just completed our Annual Stock Taking and we find many small lots and slow selling lines still on hand. We are determined to clean up as far as possible before our new Spring Goods arrive.

We do this as we have told you many times before in order to avoid carrying over to the next season any of this season's merchandise.

MEN'S SUITS

The sizes are broken, not many suits of a kind, but all sizes in something.

\$10.00 Suits, make way price	\$7.47
\$12.00 Suits, make way price	\$8.47
\$15.00 Suits, make way price	\$10.47
\$18.00 Suits, make way price	\$13.47
\$20.00 Suits, make way price	\$14.47
\$22.00 Suits, make way price	\$16.47
Also One Lot of Odd Suits for Boys, ages 15 to 19, now reduced to	\$2.47

MEN'S ODD TROUSERS' SALE

One Lot of Working Trousers in Fancy Worsteds and Cashmeres, the regular \$2.50 grades, now reduced to	\$1.98
One Lot of Fancy Worsteds Trousers, our regular \$4.50 and \$5.00 grades, now reduced to	\$2.98
One Lot of Fancy Worsteds Trousers, our regular \$5.50 and \$6.00 grades, now reduced to	\$3.98
One Lot of Heavy Olive Brown Corduroy Trousers, a regular \$3.00 quality, now priced at	\$2.39

MEN'S FANCY OVERCOATS

Every overcoat in stock now goes at a cost price. All new, up-to-date styles. Sizes 32 to 40.

\$10.00 Overcoats, make way price	\$7.47
\$12.00 Overcoats, make way price	\$8.47
\$15.00 Overcoats, make way price	\$10.47
\$18.00 Overcoats, make way price	\$13.47
Black Kersey Overcoats	
\$10.00 Overcoats, make way price	\$7.47
\$15.00 Overcoats, make way price	\$11.47
\$20.00 Overcoats, make way price	\$15.47

SHOE DEPARTMENT

We have many odd pairs and discontinued lines of Shoes for Men, Women and Boys, which we have put upon the Bargain Counter for this sale. Such well-known makes as Queen Quality Shoes for Women, W. L. Douglas and J. O'Donnell are included in this lot.

WINTER CAPS

50c. Caps for Men now	39¢
\$1.00 Caps for Men now	79¢
\$1.50 Caps for Men now	\$1.00
25c. Caps for Boys now	19¢
50c. Caps for Boys now	39¢
Misses' 50c. Angora Tams, now	19¢

A FEW SPECIALS

Men's White Handkerchiefs	3¢
Men's Police Brace	15¢
Men's Police Brace, the 50c. kind	35¢
One Lot of Men's Blue Ribbed Hose, Heavy Wool, a regular 25c. quality, now	17¢

NECKWEAR BARGAINS

One Lot of 25c. Four-in-hands now	17¢
One Lot of 50c. Four-in-hands now	35¢
One Lot of 25c. Button-on Ties, now	15¢
One Lot of 15c. Bows, now	5¢

FOR SALE House For Sale

HORSES

Whitney's Stable, Ayer

Nine rooms and bath, furnace, pantry with refrigerator built in, set tubs, electric bells, 14,736 square feet of land, in two lots, one of these being a corner lot, situated on East Avenue and Third Street.

Apply to ROBT. MURPHY & SONS, Phone 86-3 Ayer, Mass. 261f

FOR SALE—S. C. R. I. Red eggs. Superior laying strain, bred for 200 eggs, 50c. per setting, \$3.50 per hundred. JOHN BURKE, Townsend Harbor, Mass. 4127

HAY

Best English stock hay for both horses and cattle \$20 per ton in the mow.

R. G. HARWOOD

Littleton Mass.

WANTED—A Capable and Experienced Girl or Woman for general housework. Apply to MRS. WILLIAM U. SHERWIN, Ayer, Mass. 261f

NOTICE—I am prepared and fully equipped to remove from private parties all Brown-tail Moths from their trees. ALFRED C. SMITH, Tel. 46-5, Ayer.

ONE DOLLAR AND FIFTY CENTS
A YEAR IN ADVANCE

JOHN H. TURNER, Editor,
GEORGE H. B. TURNER, Publisher.

Subscribers are urged to keep their
subscriptions paid in advance.

Publication Office, Ayer, Mass.

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

Saturday, March 16, 1912.

WESTFORD.

Grange.

The open meeting of Westford
Grange last week, Thursday evening,
to listen to the exponent of the use
of dynamite in scientific agriculture,
brought out a fair attendance.

The speaker represented the well-
known Du Pont Powder Co., of Wil-
mington, Del., pioneer makers of ex-
plosives in this country. He explain-
ed the uses of dynamite in sub-soil-
ing and in orcharding, especially in
the reclaiming of old orchards.

This session being an open meet-
ing of the grange no routine business
was transacted.

Lecture.

The lecture "The great Panama can-
al," under the auspices of the acad-
emy teachers last Friday evening, at
the town hall, proved quite worth
while and the townspeople very much
appreciated so commendable an enter-
prise.

The subject was so timely and so
intelligently presented by Capt. Chas.
Mason Fuller, a retired officer of the
U. S. navy, that it fully merited the
appreciation it received.

Captain Fuller sketched the earlier
DeLesseps enterprise and then pro-
ceeded to give an adequate idea of
this later great engineering enter-
prise, illustrating his subject with
many views. The pictures were pro-
nounced excellent by a great many.
Some of the representations of rare
tropical beauty were so attractive one
hated to see them dissolve so quickly.

The climate, the different classes of
people, the country itself, the con-
struction of the canal and what had
been accomplished in sanitary condi-
tions were all well presented.

The lecture was sufficiently well
patronized so that expenses were
mostly met without recourse to the
sinking fund, recently appropriated
from the recent dramatic entertain-
ment.

The committee hope to present an-
other lecture next month on "Hia-
watha," by Rev. A. T. Kempton of
Cambridge.

Ladies' Missionary Society.

The regular monthly meeting of the
Ladies' Missionary society met with
Mrs. A. S. Wright Friday afternoon
of last week with the president, Miss
Sarah W. Loker, in charge. The sea-
son's study of "The awakening of In-
dia," was carried on and plans made
for the sending of a missionary box
to Dr. Ruth Hume in India. All pres-
ent, even the non-missionary enthu-
siasts, were interested in Mrs. Ida
Vose Woodbury, who occupied the
pulpit at the Congregational church
Sunday morning. Mrs. Woodbury is
field secretary of the American Mis-
sionary society and has travelled
much in all parts of the country and
proved herself well qualified to pre-
sent her subject, especially the moun-
tain whites and the negro problem. At
the session of the Sunday school she
also spoke to the children. In the
evening the C. E. society combined
with the regular evening meeting
with Mr. Wallace presiding. The ser-
vice was well sustained and Miss Al-
thea Symmes contributed a solo.

Tadmuck Club.

The regular meeting of the Tadmuck
club took place this week un-
der somewhat unusual and delightful
circumstances.

This meeting was in the parlors of
the Unitarian church in the evening
and the program was one of the most
unique and interesting travel talks
the club has ever had.

Mrs. Emma Abbot Kebley gave an
illustrated account of an automobile
trip taken through Algiers and Tunis
last year. The party consisted of her-
self, her sister, Mrs. Julian Cameron,
and a third lady, their very tall and
efficient chauffeur and their specially
constructed car which Mrs. Kebley
affectionately called the "Duchess."
The lecture was illustrated with Mrs.
Kebley's own set of pictures and the
use of a mirror-scope, the apparatus
having been especially lighted with
electricity, wired by the Lowell Elec-
tric Light Co. for the evening.

Along most unsteriyped routes of
travel Mrs. Kebley took her audience
and very intelligently present scenes,
peoples and customs full of novelty
and interest lightened with many
quick glints of humor. Mrs. Cameron
very cleverly manipulated the views
as her sister described them.

Whether Mrs. Kebley was describ-
ing Algiers, Tunis, the great desert,
the camels, people, climate, little ad-
ventures or what, the discerning
listener could not but be impressed
with what a little group of American
women with open eyes, initiative and
energy could accomplish in a very
original and enjoyable travel experi-
ence and every member of the Tadmuck
club and the many friends who
were present feel exceedingly grate-
ful to Mrs. Kebley for passing on the
experience to them so graciously and
capably.

Some very interesting curios were
arranged on a table and Misses Eli-
nor and Marjory Cameron appeared in
Algerian costume. After the lecture
a club luncheon was served and a so-
cial hour enjoyed with opportunity to
greet and thank the speaker for the
evening were in charge of Mrs. H. V.
Hildreth, Miss Clara A. Smith and
Mrs. David Wallace and a group of
willing assistants.

Special guests present were Miss
Beattie Hadley of Lowell, Mr. and
Mrs. J. M. Hartwell of Littleton, Mrs.
Josephine M. Barnard, who came up
from Malden to be present and also
Mr. James Kimball, from Boston.

Center.

A number of this village attended
the automobile show at Mechanics
building, Boston, last week.

Mrs. Arthur T. Blodgett, who un-
derwent a serious surgical operation
at the Lowell General hospital last
Saturday, is resting as comfortably
at this writing as can be expected.

Many of the young people and some
older ones as well are sorry to have
the good coasting go. The hard,
smooth crust on the recent snow has
been made the most of. As a com-
pensation some of our accurate bird
students have reported seeing rob-
bins and blue birds as welcome har-
bingers of the opening of spring.

Mrs. A. W. Hartford has been en-
joying a weeks' visit with her brother
Mr. Frank Hawkes, and family of Mei-
rose.

Master Gordon Seavey has been on
the sick list and under the doctor's
care.

Mrs. Nellie E. Carlin is among the
shut-ins and limited in activities, the
unfortunate victim of rheumatism,
which has recently necessitated the
use of crutches to get from room to
room.

Miss Mary Vaughn of Woodstock,
Vt., has been a guest this last week
of Mrs. Etta Tyler.

The town reports have been distrib-
uted to the citizens this week. Vital
statistics for the town for the year
are, births 64, marriages 29, deaths 45.

Mrs. Edward Fisher entertained the
Thimble club and a few invited guests
Wednesday of this week, and the
genial quality of her entertaining was
most enjoyable.

Social.

The monthly parish supper and
entertainment of the Congregational
church took place Wednesday evening
and notwithstanding bad travelling
and various other gatherings for the
week was well attended. This was
the annual teachers' social and was
in charge of Misses Bertha Norris,
Edith Lawrence, Winnifred Burnham,
Martha Grant and Mattie L. Crocker.

Supper was served from 6.30 to
eight and the long tables were full.
Mrs. S. L. Taylor, Mrs. David Wallace,
Mrs. L. H. Wheeler and Miss Grace
Lumbert assisted by a group of young
girls, had charge of the supper. The
following entertainment was given
later in the vestry:

Trío, Mr. Wallace, Mr. Kabele, Miss
Lumbert; reading, Robert Howes
Burnham; piano solo, Miss Hazel
Hartford; reading, Mr. Burnham; vocal
solo, Miss Adrith Carter; vocal
solo, E. G. Boynton; reading, Mr.
Burnham; vocal solo, John S. Greig;
trío, Mr. Wallace, Mr. Kabele, Miss
Lumbert.

Mr. Burnham of the Emerson school
of oratory made his third appearance
Wednesday evening, which shows
that he is a favorite and deservedly
so. The same versatile refined quality
characterized his varied selections
Wednesday evening.

His impersonations from "The man
of the hour" were especially clever.

About Town.

Thomas Clark, engineer at the West
Chelmsford rendering works, has re-
signed and accepted the same position
at the Brookside mills. Charles Mar-
tin has also severed his connection
with the same company and returns to
his old position at H. E. Fletcher's
stone quarry, Ernest Bridgeford tak-
ing his place at the rendering works.

Business is not only good at the
Brookside mills, but Superintendent
Ogley is expected soon to have oc-
cupied all the empty houses at Brook-
side and its suburbs.

The H. E. Fletcher Granite Com-
pany have made a satisfactory scale
of prices for labor for the season and
two gangs of men are already cutting
Deer Island stock, which comes from
Maine and cut at the yards on Oak
hill. Now that zero weather has ap-
parently retired as a factor to reckon
with in handling stone in the winter,
business will soon be up to its old-
time dimensions.

"Oak Farm" will be presented by
the West Chelmsford Dramatic club
at Marshall's hall next Monday eve-
ning, March 18, for the benefit of the
Village church. This is a comedy
drama in three acts and as the cast
of the play is heavily charged with na-
tive humor the evening promises to
be well provided to hold the audience
to the key of laughter.

A horse belonging to C. R. P. De-
catur, while being backed out of its
stall, broke a plank in the barn floor,
which resulted in letting its off hind
leg through into the cellar beneath.
The telephone alarm was rung in
which brought neighbors and passers-
by to the rescue. After much plan-
ning and tackling the horse again be-
came four legged, for which he had
begged.

An error occurred last week in re-
gard to James Rapsion having seen
the tracks of a beaver in the woods
around Beaver pond. Instead of
beaver it should have read bear. Yes,
James claims to know bear tracks
when he sees them and he is not will-
ing to let it pass for beaver, neither
does beaver and "Teddy Bear" have
a resemblance in tracks any more
than some one else whose tracks he
is on.

Mrs. Benson of Lowell underwent
a surgical operation last Monday at
the home of her parents, Mr. and Mrs.
James Rapsion, on the Lowell road.
The operation was performed by Drs.
Wells and Sherman.

The Gapard Dezelle place on the
Lowell road has been sold to Lowell
parties, but the place is still unoc-
cupied and it is reported that it will
remain so until it is sold again. The
recent sale was in exchange for Low-
ell property.

The board of trade held an open
meeting to discuss the town warrant
Wednesday evening. Edward Fisher
acted as presiding officer and Chas.
L. Hildreth, secretary. Extension of
street lighting, sidewalk improve-
ments in the villages, and a general
progressive attitude was taken
towards the business of the coming
town meeting next Monday. It was
voted to hold a smoke talk sociable
in early May.

Death.

Miss Josephine Keyes, who died in
Winchester last Saturday was a na-
tive of Westford, the daughter of True-
worth and Sophia (Blake) Keyes.
Her early home where she was born
was at Westford Center in the house
now occupied by Dr. C. A. Blaney.
The family soon removed to the farm
on Francis hill now owned by Alex-
ander Courtney. While living here
Josephine and her twin sister Cleo-
antine attended Westford academy
in 1850 when Charles H. Wheeler
was principal. Later they attended
Lawrence academy in Groton. Pre-
vious to this and while living on the
farm they attended the old Story
Brook school and where they taught
school several terms. The writer re-
calls the familiar and pleasant as-
sociations of those school days as
scholar while they were teachers.
They will long be remembered by the
Story Brook district and the town for
their kindly and cultured personal-
ities. The funeral of Miss Keyes took
place from her home in Winchester,
Tuesday, Rev. E. C. Bartell of Dra-
cut officiated. Burial was in the fam-
ily lot in the Riverside cemetery at
North Chelmsford.

Government ownership of transpor-
tation lines was seriously and perhaps
fatally defeated by the West Chelms-
ford Debating society at their last
debate. The question reading, "Re-
solved, That government ownership
of transportation lines would be of
more benefit to the people than private
ownership." The affirmative side
was shrewdly argued by Charles Nel-
son, Jr., and James Peck. The nega-
tive side was presented by that ever
ready and thoughtful speaker, Capt.
John J. Monahan, who always argues
from the standpoint of facts, rather
than from the exclusive viewpoint of
the gallery. After the debaters had
delivered their allotted rounds the
audience was given the allotted time
to chin chat over the subject. At the
close of the summing up of the argu-
ments a vote was taken on the merits
of the question and the merits of the
arguments. The negative side won
everything in sight.

William R. Taylor, who was to have
spoken on the question as one of the
appointed debaters, was necessarily
detained by the republican caucus act
which was enacted that night at West-
ford.

The next debate will be held on
Tuesday evening of next week, the
subject for discussion being "The
Chelmsford town warrant." Illegal
votes and voting illegally by legal
votes will be legalized at this prelimi-
nary town meeting. There has been
no spare time between arguments in
these meetings so far, and there cer-
tainly will be none on "town meet-
ing."

Forge Village.

The young ladies of St. Andrew's
mission held their regular meeting on
Monday night. Mrs. Warren Sturgis
and Mrs. Cross of Groton visited the
young ladies and a most delightful
evening was spent. Chocolate and
cake were served by Mrs. Cross and
the evening all too quickly passed.
Mrs. Sturgis is a very apt entertainer
and her interest in the club is very
much appreciated by all the members.

Lenten services will be held in St.
Andrew's chapel on next Wednesday
evening at 7.30.

Mrs. William Weaser is still con-
fined to her home.

Tony Martin, who broke his leg in
December, is now about on crutches.
Although he is improving still, it will
be a long time before he can put his
foot on the ground.

The members of the John Edwards
Hose company held their regular
meeting in their rooms on last Wed-
nesday evening. Joseph Bennett has
been chosen steward.

Little Alma Canton, who fell in the
yard of Cameron school last week, is
still under the care of Dr. Sherman.

Joseph Miller has accepted a posi-
tion with the Sargent MacGin Co. of
Granville.

Patrick May is now about again af-
ter suffering from a sprained wrist.

On Friday evening the members
of confirmation class were confirmed
by Rt. Rev. Theodore Payne Thurston,
bishop of eastern Oklahoma, at
St. Andrew's church, Ayer.

On next Monday evening at 7.30 at
St. Andrew's, Ayer, the Lenten service
will be conducted by Rev. Thomas L.
Fisher, the former pastor. Mr. Fisher
is now pastor of St. Mark's church,
Leominster, where he received a call
over a year ago.

Miss Sarah J. Precious and Miss
Emily Collins were guests over Sun-
day of Mr. and Mrs. Michael Keefe of
Townsend Harbor.

Cameron school closes for the an-
nual spring vacation of two weeks on
March 15. School will re-open on
April 1.

Percy Hargraves of Beverly has re-
cently visited friends here.

Miss Alice L. Prescott is spending
her vacation with her parents, Mr.
and Mrs. Nelson Prescott. Miss Pres-
cott has recently been appointed prin-
cipal of the grammar school at Row-
ley.

Mrs. John Sullivan and her son,
Daniel are in Boston, assisting in
settling the estate of the late Daniel
Sullivan.

The life and drum corps organized
some time ago by the young men of
the village is soon to make its initial
appearance in public. John Edwards
is organizer and musical director.

The Abbot Worsted Co. have grant-
ed an increase to its employees, com-
mencing Monday, March 18.

Granvilleville.

Mrs. Clarence McLenna, with her
little son Clinton, have been recent
visitors in this village.

Business is beginning to liven up
a little on the ledges here, the first
contractor to make a start being
Thomas Rafferty, who has a large
building contract in Lowell.

The new houses being erected by
Charles Brooks and Thomas Monahan
on the Westford road are now rapidly
nearing completion, the plasterers be-

ing expected to have their part of the
work finished in a few days. Both
houses are modern and up-to-date in
every particular. Mr. Brook's house
is of the eight-room cottage type with
bath, while that of Mr. Monahan's is
of the bungalow style of architecture.
P. Henry Harrington, of this village,
has the contract for both houses.

Sunday in St. Catherine's church,
both masses were celebrated by Rev.
M. E. Doherty, who preached a very
strong sermon on "Mortal sin."

F. Russell Furbush, who has been
at Palm Beach, Fla., for the past few
weeks, has recently returned to his
home here.

Mrs. Jane Agnew is now seriously
ill at the home of her daughter, Mrs.
Joseph Wall.

Many people from this village at-
tended the automobile show in Bos-
ton last week, and a result of the
trip two well-known business men
here will purchase cars in the near
future.

The recent change of the weather
has caused the snow and ice to rapidly
disappear, so the skating and coast-
ing is probably over for the season.
The small boys has commenced to play
marbles, which is a true sign that
spring is near at hand.

Mrs. H. Hoyt, with her daughter,
Mrs. Herbert Odell, of Methuen, have
been recent visitors here.

The regular meeting of Cameron
Circle, C. F. of A., was held in their
rooms on Tuesday evening and was
well attended. Considerable business
of importance was transacted, after
which a social hour was enjoyed.

LITTLETON.

C. E. Rally.

The Christian Endeavor rally held
at the Congregational church on last
week Friday evening brought togeth-
er a large company of Endeavorers
and their friends. Miss Olive Fløer
pleased the audience with a beauti-
ful piano solo, and Miss Katherine
Kimball with violin solo, accompanied
by Miss Evelyn Kimball at the piano.
Miss Emma Tenney played for the
congregational singing. Miss Mary
Preston, secretary of the junior work
in the Woman's Board of Missions,
Boston, carried her audience into the
Orient and Africa, giving a graphic
presentation of present conditions and
needs.

Rev. Joseph B. Kettle, of Leomin-
ster, vividly portrayed the life of the
mining communities in our western
states and narrated his interesting ex-
periences in establishing churches and
advancing the Kingdom of God among
the rough, but receptive miners. Both
speakers were listened to with close
attention. At the close of the
meeting there was a social with light
refreshments.

L. W. C.

The Woman's club enjoyed the
much anticipated "at home" Mon-
day afternoon. The large art squares,
sofa pillows, couch covers, center
table and cut flowers, with the quaint
spinning wheel gave a homelike ap-
pearance to the sunny auditorium.
Several welcome guests were among
the large number of ladies who came
with fancy work and needle to enter-
tain in the spirit of the afternoon.

On tables, wall and piano went
many interesting pieces of tapestries,
sampler, embroidery, hand-made lace,
hand-woven and hand embroidered
dress of fine texture and beautiful silk
needlework dating back to 1775, in-
cluding rare and choice specimens.

The meeting was called to order by
the president and the reports of re-
cent meetings were read. Mrs. Priest
read an invitation from the Gardner
Woman's club to a conservation con-
ference to be held soon in the town of
Gardner; also, an invitation to the
Pepperell Woman's club on reciprocity
day, March 19.

Current events were then given by
Mrs. Florence B. Wilcox, foreign; Mrs.
Fannie P. Woodbury, national, and
Miss Julia S. Conant, local. This was
followed by a report of the mid-winter
meeting of the State Federation,
given by Mrs. Grace E. Lawrence.
The chairman of the committee in
charge of the program, Mrs. Elizabeth
S. Flagg, was then presented, and af-
ter brief and appropriate introductory
remarks, announced the program,
which was as follows:

Piano duet, Schubert's Overture to
Rosamundi, Miss Tenney and Mrs.
Boughton; monologue, Mrs. Florence
B. Wilcox; History of Spinning, Mrs.
Florence J. Wilcox; sonnet, Mrs.
Charlotte Tenney; story of the pur-
suing of fax, Miss F. A. Sanderson;
fax spinning demonstrated, Miss Hilda
Helstrom; spinning song, Miss Ruth
Prescott, accompanied at piano by
Miss Sanderson; spinning poem, Mrs.
Helstrom; history of embroidery, Mrs.
Gertrude M. Kimball; piano solo, Mrs.
Tenney.

The history of Bayeux tapestry, to
have been given by Mrs. Hardy, and
Gobelin tapestry to have been de-
scribed by Mrs. Charlotte Blanchard,
of West Acton; also, a spinning song
to have been rendered by Mrs. Mattie
Priest, were omitted on account of the
late hour.

The program was complete, instructive
and highly entertaining. It show-
ed much thought, painstaking, and
solid work. A social half-hour and
tea concluded the afternoon. Mrs. Al-
bott and Mrs. Wakefield sustained
their well established reputation on
the hospitality committee, and were
ably supported by Mrs. Works, Miss
Sweet and the club ushers.

Death.

Mrs. Hartwell Whitecomb and other
members of her family attended the
funeral of her brother, Charles Hol-
ton, at West Acton Wednesday. Mr.
Holton's death occurred Sunday at
the age of 73 years. The deceased
was born in Boston and lived at dif-
ferent times in Fitchburg and Little-
ton. The last forty-three years of his
life were spent in West Acton, where
his sons, Charles and George, the only
surviving members of the family, re-
side.

Mr. Holton served his country in the
Civil war and won an enviable repu-
tation as soldier and citizen.

News Items.

Mrs. D. G. Houghton left on Thurs-
day for Gloucester City, N. J., where
she will be the guest of her daughter,
Mrs. Carl Dodge.

Miss Jessie Smith has been visiting
her grandparents in Lynn this week.

Gardner W. Prouty, who has been
at the McDonald private hospital for
treatment, left Boston last week, and
with Mrs. Prouty went to Atlantic
City for three weeks, hoping to regain
his normal strength and health.

The ladies' degree team of the
grange held a rehearsal on Wednes-
day evening.

Mrs. Paul G. Favor, of Somerville,
has gone to Ocean Park, Me., where
she will spend several weeks in much
needed rest. She is at present on the
verge of nervous exhaustion.

Elmar Flagg has lately purchased
a pair of noble gray work horses.
Misses Serena and Priscilla Hall,
of Taylor street, are studying piano
with Miss Ida Dow, of Boston.

Miss Elsie Barnes of Gill, is visit-
ing Mrs. A. W. Knowlton.

The Browning evening at the Back-
log club last week Thursday, was not
well attended, owing to bad traveling.
However, the full and well prepared
program was much appreciated by
the few people in attendance.

The Bartheaux patients are conva-
lescing from scarlet fever. Mr. Bartheaux
has done excellent service as nurse.

The primary department of the Dis-
tinct Sunday school cleared between
twelve and fourteen dollars at their
oyster supper and entertainment last
week.

Littleton depot was again broken
into Wednesday night. The gum ma-
chine was smashed, but little more
was accomplished as the thieves were
evidently frightened away.

New Advertisements.



Three-Button Straight
Front Sack, No. 785

When we tell you that
it's time to order Spring
and Summer clothes, we
aren't telling you anything
original, but when you let
us show you the new
woolens and fashions from

Ed. V. Price & Co.
MERCHANT TAILORS, CHICAGO

you'll see everything original that will be worn
by the best dressed men in the entire country.
It doesn't cost as much as you might expect,
to have us take your measure and deliver the
finest custom tailoring obtainable.

Geo. H. Brown

Reliable Clothier

Ayer, Mass.



Represents two of our many

NEW TRIMMED HATS

which we would be pleased to have
you call and examine

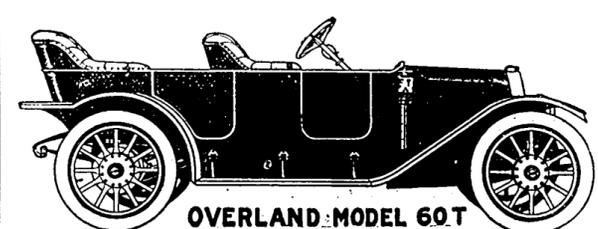
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26 Main Street

Ayer, Mass.

OVERLAND CARS

1912



OVERLAND MODEL 60 T

Model 58 R Two Passenger Roadster, 25 H. P. \$850
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Model 61 F Four Passenger Torpedo Roadster, 45 H. P. \$1500
Model 61 T Five Passenger Fore Door Touring Car, 45 H. P. \$1500

All Cars F. O. B. Toledo

Be sure and examine the OVERLAND line before placing your
orders for 1912.

Write or phone for catalogue and demonstration.

HUGH McDONALD

Littleton

Mass.

Agent for Ayer, Groton, Harvard, Westford, Acton and Littleton

SHIRLEY.

News Items.

Mr. and Mrs. Alfred Rivers, with their young son, spent the week-end with relatives in South Acton.

At the regular meeting of J. C. Ayer Lodge, A. O. U. W., held on Monday evening, a smoke talk was enjoyed at the close of the business session, when D. Chester Parsons, advisory counsel of the grand lodge, gave a practical talk on the aims and objects of the order. The evening was very enjoyably spent from all points of view.

A son was born to Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Gallien on Thursday, March 7. Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Landry left town on Monday for Grand Anse, N. B., where they will reside in the future.

Joseph Breen, in company with his daughter Lydia, of Salem, spent the first of the week with his daughter, Mrs. Arthur Bassett.

At the meeting of Court Delorme, of the Union St. Jean, held last Sunday afternoon, two new members were initiated.

A mission of eight commenced at seven o'clock last Sunday evening in St. Anthony's church by Rev. L. Bedard, of Lowell. Masses during this week are being celebrated daily at 5.30 and 7.30 a. m., with sermon at 7.30 p. m.

Rev. A. A. Bronson, Ralph Sargent, John Peneseau, Abbott Bronson and Leslie Wells attended the supper and meeting of Boys' Night at the C. C. church, Fitchburg, on Monday night.

John G. Conant left town on Tuesday for Mount Vernon, N. Y., to join his wife at the home of their daughter, Mrs. Walter Manning. Mr. and Mrs. Conant will return home next week.

Harding M. James, now employed in the boxing department of the C. A. Edgerton Mfg. Co., has accepted the position as clerk in the store of Conant Bros., taking the place of his brother-in-law, Victor O'Brien, who leaves Shirley the first of April for his new home in Kennebunkport, Me., where he has purchased a farm.

Arthur E. Felch, of Barre, spent the week-end with his family on Harvard road.

Miss Nan Love spent the week-end with friends in Boston and vicinity.

Miss Libertia Kolowrat, of Littleton, spent the week-end with Miss Emma Knowles.

Miss Inez McMurray spent the week-end in Boston with relatives and friends.

Edward M. Davis is making preparations to plant 2300 apple trees on his farm, Lancaster road, two hundred of this amount to be crab apple trees.

Elmer H. Allen is spending a few days in New York city this week on business.

Russell Miner has accepted a position in the office of the C. A. Edgerton Mfg. Co., succeeding Alfred Shearer.

Mrs. Joseph Trembley and son is spending a week with her mother, Mrs. Rose Walsh, of Boston.

Dr. and Mrs. Walter Desmond, of Medford, spent the first of the week with their cousin, Miss Mary Desmond.

The ladies of the Universalist church will hold their regular monthly supper and social on Wednesday evening of next week. Supper will be served at seven o'clock. The entertainment will be in charge of Mrs. C. H. Knox, and the program will include solos, songs, duets, readings and a farce "Cutterbacks thunder," by Ayer talent.

The Ladies' Aid society of the Baptist church held its annual business meeting last week Wednesday evening at the home of its president, Miss Clara Peneseau, when the following officers were elected for the ensuing year: Miss Clara M. Peneseau, pres.; Mrs. David Goozay, v. p.; Mrs. H. F. Burrage, treas.; Miss Louise Peneseau, sec. At the close of the business session a substantial supper was served by the genial president and a social hour was enjoyed.

A daughter was born to Mr. and Mrs. Michael Bolger on Monday, March 11.

Alliance.

The Alliance met at the home of Mrs. Louis Farnsworth. A large carried eight ladies from the village. After the transaction of much important business, a most delightful program was enjoyed. The rise and development of the piano-forte was given by Miss Bessie Farnsworth.

This proved to be a most delightful and ably written paper. The numerous illustrations of the subject given in Miss Farnsworth's finished style upon her handsome and finished Steinway grand piano, given as only "Our Bessie" can give them, added rare enjoyment to the occasion. A bounteous collation was served late in the afternoon.

Boys Present As Guests.

Boys' night was observed by the Brotherhood of the Congregational church on Tuesday evening in the vestry of the church. Supper was served at 6.30 under the direction of William J. Crommett, chairman, assisted by Chester Phelps, Forest Hooper, S. B. Horton, Ezekiel Wilson, Clayton Wells, E. T. Clark and Wilbur Nelson. The good things provided for supper consisted of griddle cakes, coffee, ice cream, cake, etc.

At the close of the supper hour the president, F. H. Fowler, introduced Dr. James Ross, D. D. S., of Fitchburg, who gave a very interesting account of his trip to the western coast by the way of the Canadian Pacific. The following boys were present as guests of the Brotherhood:

Edgar Eisner, Wesley Eisner, Raymond Harris, Willard Knowles, George Hooper, Ernest Bohanon, Leon Jones, James Chesbrough, Charles Wentworth, Henry Sampson, Harry Rohan, Earle Merriman, Abbott Bronson, Chester Hooper, Harry Annis, Reed Chesbrough, Edward Lilly, Lawrence Ward, Albert Deardon, Sylvester Chesbrough, John Peneseau, Wallace Maylin, Austin Fish, Ralph Sargent, John Logue and Leslie Wells.

The boys were delighted with the hospitality, and the address of Dr.

Ross added to their cup of pleasure to running over.

The ladies who assisted in the preparation of the supper were Mrs. Richard Pomfret, Mrs. Andrew Phelps and Mrs. Forest Hooper.

The next and last meeting this season will be held on Tuesday April 9, when a banner night is anticipated.

Were Heartily Entertained.

A sleighride, which assumed the form of a strawride or husking bee party, took place last week Thursday evening, when forty from the Congregational church, including those who recently joined the church, and the members of the choir, made a trip to the home of Mr. and Mrs. Herman L. Marshall, of Lancaster.

The invitation of Mr. and Mrs. Marshall was looked forward to with much pleasure, and as the party met near the home of Mr. and Mrs. Elmer H. Allen at seven o'clock, where they embarked in old-fashioned puns with nothing but straw for seats and everyone aglow with anticipation of a night of merriment.

About an hour's ride brought the party to the Marshall homestead, where the host and hostess were waiting a few yards from the house, being made aware of the approach of their guests by the joyful clatter and sound of voices in the distance.

The cordial greeting accorded them by all the inmates of this New England farming homestead was one that to many in that company brought to mind the loving memories of other years.

Coasting was then announced as the opening feature of the evening's entertainment, and all made a dash for the hill near the house where a few double runners and sleds were utilized for an hour or more, old and young participating, while the bright light from a large bonfire guided them and added cheer to this healthful sport, and after a game of old-fashioned tag all entered the homestead where refreshments were served.

Songs were sung and after brief remarks by the pastor, Rev. A. A. Bronson and E. H. Allen, of a complimentary character to the host and hostess, the singing of "Blest be the tie that binds our hearts in Christian love," brought the festivities of the evening to a close, and preparations were made for the homeward trip, but not before all present had met the host and hostess and voiced their sentiments of gratitude for the hearty and sincere hospitality, together with the evening's entertainment accorded them.

As the party left the yard, good-byes were uttered and cheer upon cheer echoed and re-echoed through the lowly hills and forests. It was truly an evening when love reigned supreme. Those present were:

Rev. and Mrs. Allen A. Bronson, Mr. and Mrs. Frank Park, Mr. and Mrs. Edwin H. Conant, Mr. and Mrs. Elmer H. Allen, Mr. and Mrs. J. Albert Deardon, Mr. and Mrs. Harry Colyer, Mr. and Mrs. Walter Knowles, John G. Conant, Mrs. Tuttle, Mrs. J. Walker Ward, Mrs. A. J. Wright, Mrs. Nellie W. Holbrook, Miss Mary A. Park, Mrs. A. E. Colwell, Mrs. H. W. McCoy, Miss Nina Love, Miss Blanche Wells, Miss Leonard Hooper, Mrs. Abbott Bronson, Chester Hooper, Clayton Wells, Stanley Wells, Leslie Wells, Kenneth Horton, Leontine Ward, Lawrence Ward, Lester James, Willard Knowles and Albert Deardon, Jr.

Mr. and Mrs. Herman L. Marshall came here two years ago last January from Northumberland, N. H., their son, Murray A. Marshall, sixteen years of age, is their only child. Mr. Marshall is a practical farmer and has made good on the place he purchased from Frank O. Ryan. They have been constant attendants at the Congregational church since locating in this vicinity, and by sterling qualities of character, they have exemplified the true type of a New England home, and with a kindly and unassuming disposition have endeavored themselves to everyone whom they have met in the church and social life of the community.

Birthday Party.

Master Earle Maxwell Weare, son of Mr. and Mrs. Charles H. Weare, Jr., attained his tenth birthday Monday, and in view of this fact a birthday party was given at the Weare home on Chapel street from four to six o'clock on Monday afternoon, when about twenty of Earle's young friends by invitation were present to participate in the festivities.

Promptly at five o'clock the happy gathering of young people proceeded to the dining-room, where a surprise awaited them in the beautifully laden and prettily decorated table. The decorations were green and white festoons extending from the chandelier to each of the four corners of the table, in the center of which was a large green ball, which was surrounded with the Stars and Stripes. At each place was a favor of a small green flag. The table was beautifully laden with sandwiches, ice cream, cake and a large variety of dainties, fruits and bonbons, and in the center was a massive birthday cake.

The refreshments were served by Mrs. E. J. Wilson and the Misses Mabel and Evelyn Miner, Miss May Wadsworth and Mrs. M. E. Hascom, who also assisted in the receiving and entertaining.

The time was interspersed with music and games. Master Earle was the recipient of many useful and beautiful presents from his young guests, and was kindly remembered by his parents and older friends with substantial tokens and reminders of the tenth anniversary of his birth. Those present were:

Glady's Peterson, Oma Wolf, Dorothy Jubb, Annie O'Brien, Earl Pomfret, Edith A. Wilson, Albert Deardon, Howard Knowles, Mildred Goodwin, Betty Goodwin, Kathie Miner, Virginia Wheeler, Harriet Wheeler, Thaddeus Beach, Edward Lilly, Harry Annis and Vaughn O'Brien.

In the evening at eight o'clock, in honor of this event, Mr. and Mrs. Charles H. Weare, Jr., entertained a few of their friends at which, three tables being occupied. At the close of the what hour a salad supper was served with frozen pudding and a large variety of appetizing viands.

The decorations were decidedly unique and pretty. The color was green and white. Dancing with vocal and instrumental music were the features enjoyed. The guests included:

Mr. and Mrs. Charles Peterson, Miss Gladys Peterson, Miss Mabel Miner, Miss Evelyn Miner, Miss May Wadsworth, Mrs. M. E. Hascom, Earle Merriman and William J. Crommett.

Entertainment.

The Ladies' Altrurian club are making preparations on a large scale for the production of "The colonel's maid," a comedy in three acts, brim full of extremely funny and snappy situations.

The cast will consist of a strong array of local talent and if all predictions do not fail, it will be one of the very best Shirleyites have ever been privileged to see and enjoy.

"The colonel's maid" will be staged at the "Edgewood" hall, Easter week. Rehearsals are now in progress under the direction of Mrs. Chas. R. White, who has been, as usual, favored in the selection of well known talent for the cast of characters and the cast is the finest that has ever graced the footlight of a Shirley stage, each one being peculiarly adapted for the parts assigned. The interest so far being shown by the people of Shirley demonstrate their hearty approval, which means an overwhelming and enthusiastic audience. The Altrurian club have always given to the people of Shirley gilt-edge entertainments, regardless of the financial outcome. The cast follows:

Col. Robert Rudd, W. J. Crommett; Col. Richard Byrd, Frank Harlow; Marjorie Byrd, Margretta S. Hastings; Bob Rudd, Earl Merriman; Mrs. J. John Carroll, Gertrude L. Conant; Julia Carroll, Margaret J. McMillan; Ned Graydon, S. G. Wells; James Bascom, J. A. Deardon; Ching-A-Ling, Ruby Felch.

Center.

The personal property of John W. Farrar was sold at public auction Saturday morning, by A. A. Fillebrown of Ayer. The sale of antiques was held in the town hall in the afternoon. This was one of the largest collections of antiques which has been sold at auction in this vicinity for some time, and for this reason a large number of out-of-town dealers and collectors were present. Mr. Nolan, a tutor at Harvard University, "was one of the heaviest buyers. The articles sold remarkably high; many pieces going for from thirty dollars upward. Mr. Farrar's house has been purchased by Charles Casteel.

Henry Hobbs, Charles Hobbs and John Chandler of East Princeton and Henry Howe of South Pomfret, Me., were guests of Mr. and Mrs. Elmer Hubbard Saturday.

Mr. and Mrs. Clinton Lovell of Henniker are spending a few days at the home of Mr. and Mrs. William E. Barnard.

The postponed meeting of the Girls' Sewing Guild of Trinity chapel, will be held on Saturday afternoon, March 16, at the home of Mrs. Henry F. Grout.

Mr. and Mrs. Welcome Longley were the guests of Mrs. Sara Longley and S. LeRoy Longley over the week-end.

Mr. and Mrs. Henry Ware of Brookline and a party of friends spent a few days last week at their summer home on Hazen road.

Mr. and Mrs. Charles K. Bolton of Brookline spent Saturday at their home on Center road.

Miss Helen M. Winslow of Cambridge spent Friday and Saturday with her sister, Miss Harriet Winslow.

Mrs. Johnson of Waltham was a guest at the home of her brother, Harry Stone, the latter part of last week.

Mr. and Mrs. John W. Farrar and Mr. and Mrs. Elmer Hubbard and family left Monday for their new home in Pomfret, Vt., going first to Princeton for a short visit with relatives there.

Mr. Hatch at the North has purchased the farm belonging to Howard D. Bowles, situated in Groton. It is reported that it will be occupied by his son, Roy Hatch.

The latest sufferer from the measles reported is Arthur Frary at Woodsville.

Harry Hodgman at the East is rapidly recovering from his severe attack of double pneumonia.

Mr. Chase of Maine is a visitor at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Arthur R. Cummings.

Mrs. Hattie P. Holden spent Thursday and Friday with her son, Harry P. Barnard, at the village.

Rev. Howard A. Bridgman made a trip to Chicago last week.

Ralph Emerson of Lunenburg is to drive the meat cart for George Westell, Ardio A. Adams having given up the situation. Mr. Emerson has already started upon his duties.

Charles Haskins has purchased the house at the North, in which he has been living for several weeks, from John W. Farrar.

Mrs. Charles Andrews at the North was a visitor last week at the home of her daughter, Mrs. Jennie Hargraves, at Townsend Center.

Ruby T. Crockett of Lunenburg spent the week-end with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. William A. L. Crockett, at the North.

Clifton Derby of North Leominster was a guest at the home of Mr. and Mrs. George Holden, over the week-end.

Lottie Bahanon of Boston University spent Saturday and Sunday with Mr. and Mrs. Charles Longley.

Mr. and Mrs. Henry C. Johnson at the North intend to move to California in the spring and re-locate there.

The board of registrars of voters meet in the town hall Saturday, March 16, from 12 M. to 10 P. M.

Dr. Fuller of Boston was a guest of Howard Fuller over Sunday.

The Matron's Aid held a pleasant meeting Tuesday afternoon at the home of Mrs. John W. Evans.

Mrs. E. J. Adams has returned to the home of Mr. and Mrs. Norman P. Graves, after a visit of several weeks in Townsend.

Charlie C. Longley of Millbury was a guest of Mr. and Mrs. Charles Longley over Sunday.

Trinity chapel has been presented with two fine altar vases by Stillman and Robinson Hyde of New York. The vases are of heavy brass and are engraved on one side with the names of the givers.

Surprise Party.

A party of young people tendered Emma and Clayton Hubbard a farewell party Saturday evening, before they left for Vermont. The party met at the Town hall, and then marched to the home of the Hubbards, where a cheer was given for Emma and Clayton. They then adjourned to the home of Mrs. J. Otis Evans for the remainder of the evening. The whole affair was a complete surprise. The evening was spent in playing games and singing. Dainty refreshments of cake, cocoa and candy were served.

Those who attended were: Howard Longley, Edith Longley, Bessie Ross, Edith Locke, Thomas H. Evans, Stanley F. White, Margaret Longley, Gilbert Evans, Margaret Evans, Ralph Graves, Earl Graves, Ralph Evans, Hazel Harris, Ruth M. Graves, Horace Harris, Ethel Holden, Ora Holden, Ernest Bohanon, Robert H. J. Holden, Harriet Bridgman, Elsie Holden, Lottie Bohanon, Mrs. J. Otis Evans, John Grout, Bernard Holden, Clifton Derby, Lester Holden, Etta M. Holden, Mildred Evans, Edna Holden.

Grange Notes.

Six members of Shirley grange attended the Leap Year party at the last meeting of Ayer grange. Those who went were: Mrs. John W. Evans, Margaret Evans, Earl Graves, Ruth Graves, Mrs. Mudgett and Walter Wood.

A party of ten from Shirley grange attended the working of the third and fourth degrees at the last meeting of the Leominster grange. At the next meeting of the grange on Tuesday evening, March 19, the first and second degrees will be worked by the regular officers and the men's degree team. There is a class of four candidates for the degrees. Carl Thompson of Lunenburg is master of the men's degree team, which will confer the second degree.

TO MOTHERS—AND OTHERS.

You can use Bucklen's Arnica Salve to cure the children of eczema, rashes, teething, chafes, scalds and crusted humors, as well as their accidental injuries—cuts, burns, bruises, etc., with perfect safety. Nothing else heals so quickly. For boils, ulcers, old, running or fever sores or piles it has no equal. 25 cents at William Brown's, Ayer.

New Advertisements

Hair Quickly Stops Falling

Itching Scalp Vanishes Overnight and Dandruff is Abolished.

There is one hair tonic that you can put your faith in and that is PARISIAN SAGE.

It stops falling hair, or money back. Drives out dandruff, or money back. Stops itching scalp, or money back. And William Brown, Ayer, the druggist you know so well is the man who sells it.

PARISIAN SAGE is a splendid hair dressing; it is so daintily perfumed and refreshing that it makes the scalp feel fine the minute you apply it. It is used daily by thousands of clever women who realize that PARISIAN SAGE keeps their hair lustrous and fascinating. If you have hair troubles get PARISIAN SAGE today at William Brown's, and druggists everywhere. Large bottle 50 cents.

Attention

For a limited time we will run a SPECIAL WEEKLY SALE of one or more articles which will be sold at

Flat Cost

These articles will only be sold at the Store for Cash.

WEEK OF MARCH 11

25 foot Waterproof Cotton Clothesline 12c., Value 20c.

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Every chicken will live and grow as you never saw chickens grow before if you use the Park & Pollard Gritless-Chick and Growing Feed. The vitalizing effect of the shredded codfish in this feed is just what is required. Learn all about this wonderful feed from their Year Book. Worth a dollar to you. We furnish it to you free.

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OUR

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previously advertised and still going on

Closes March 23

You will find many Bargains in

Enamelware, Crockery

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and a large line of

Miscellaneous Goods

Greatly Reduced Prices

SPECIAL FOR THIS SALE

7c. Toilet Paper 5¢ pkg.

29c. Box Chocolates 23¢ box

For Sale

A lot of Good Hay and Pullets which will be sold at a reasonable price for cash. Full particulars will be given by writing to R. F. D. 53, Harvard, Mass. 4124

TO RENT—A Cottage House, Modern Improvements. Inquire at Public Spirit Office, Ayer, Mass. 2411

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Is the place where you can get goods that will satisfy everybody. Fresh stock of Chocolates received every day.

The best line of Fancy Boxes OF Chocolates

In Town ALSO

CIGARS, CIGARETTES

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Visit us before you do any shopping and you'll see for yourself.

GEO. S. POULIUS & CO.

Telephone Connection Ayer, Mass.

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS, Worcester, ss. Probate Court.

To the heirs-at-law and all others interested in the estate of EPHRAIM M. BURGESS late of Harvard in said County, deceased:

Whereas, ADELINE M. BURGESS executrix of the will of said deceased, has presented to said Court her petition for license to sell at public auction or upon such terms as may be adjudged best, the real estate of said deceased, for the purpose of distribution.

You are hereby cited to appear at a Probate Court to be held at Worcester, in said County, on the nineteenth day of March A. D. 1912, 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 all persons interested, who can be found, by publishing the same once in each week, for three successive weeks, in the Harvard Hillside, a newspaper published in Ayer, the last publication to be one day at least before said Court.

Witness, William T. Forbes, Esquire, Judge of said Court, this twenty-third day of February in the year of our Lord one thousand nine hundred and twelve.

JOHN W. MAWBEX, Register.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the subscriber has been duly appointed administrator of the estate of MARY HAVEN SOUTHARD late of Groton in the County of Middlesex, deceased, intestate, and has taken upon himself said trust by giving bond, as the law directs.

All persons having demands upon the estate of said deceased are required to exhibit the same, and all persons indebted to said estate are called upon to make payment to

CHARLES S. SOUTHWARD, Adm. Main Street, Groton, Mass. February 29, 1912.

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FIRE

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E. D. STONE, Insurance Agent

Page's Block, Ayer.

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS, Middlesex, ss. Probate Court.

To the heirs-at-law and all others interested in the estate of JOHN R. SHATTUCK late of Pepperell in said County, deceased:

Whereas, SARAH M. SHATTUCK, administratrix of the estate of said deceased, has presented to said Court her 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 real estate of said deceased, for the purpose of distribution.

You are hereby cited to appear at a Probate Court, to be held at Cambridge, in said County of Middlesex, on the twenty-fifth day of March A. D. 1912, 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 all persons interested, who can be found, within the Commonwealth, fourteen days at least before said Court, and if any one cannot be so found, by publishing the same once in each week, for three successive weeks, in the Pepperell Clarion-Advertiser, a newspaper published in said County, the last publication to be published one day, at least, before said Court.

Witness, Charles J. McIntire, Esquire, First Judge of said Court, this twenty-eighth day of February, in the year one thousand nine hundred and twelve.

W. E. ROGERS, Register.

L. K. BARKER

Successor to S. P. Morzan

Manufacturer of and dealer in

Light Driving and

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Collars, Blankets, Whips

Repairing Promptly

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SPECIAL

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Subscription, \$1.50 Yearly in Advance
Saturday, March 16, 1912.

GROTON.

Lawrence Academy Notes.

The annual meeting of the Gamma Beta society took place last Saturday evening before a good-sized audience of friends of the school. The debate was on the question, Resolved: That the constitution of the state of Massachusetts should be so amended as to provide for the initiative and referendum. The speakers for the affirmative were Stuart D. Hallagan of Canastota, N. Y., and Charles R. Keenan of Lexington; for the negative, David B. Miller of Ludlow and Harry W. Wallace of Hopkinton.

The affirmative attempted to show that legislatures were ruled by rings, trusts and bosses; that the will of the people was not secured; that laws were complex and too intricate for the average man to understand and that the initiative and referendum would correct these faults and at the same time act as a healthy check upon legislators; they also claimed that this system had worked well in Switzerland and the states of our country that had adopted it.

The negative claimed that this question was to be held strictly to Massachusetts; that the legislature of this state was not corrupt; that the people were incapable of making laws because they would not have sufficient time to find out the wants and needs of the nation and would not be able to decide what bills would make good laws; that if there were abuses direct legislation would not correct them but would add greater ones; that the present method had worked well for this state through all her history; that the strongest man in the nation favored the representative system and that the rights of the minority would not be at all respected by the initiative and referendum.

The judges were Frank Lawrence Blood, Rev. Geo. M. Howe and Principal J. H. Manning of the high school. They paid a high compliment to all the debaters for preparation and comprehension of the question and stated that the affirmative presented their side more fluently and with better rhetorical effect, but the negative side had the strongest arguments.

The Lawrencean was edited by Harold S. Richards of Portland, Me. Miss Margaret Clough, a senior at the Emerson college of oratory recited several selections in a very skillful manner.

Rev. J. P. Trowbridge of West Groton spoke at vespers last Sunday basing his remarks on incidents in the life of Joshua, but bringing out many practical lessons and enforcing the same with apt illustrations.

One of the pupils has a mild case of scarlet fever and Principal Clough thought it best to close the school, taking the vacation that would come the last of the month at the present time.

The senior dance, which was scheduled for March 18, is indefinitely postponed.

The school will re-open on Monday, March 25.

Annual Parish Meeting.

The annual meeting of the First Parish held as usual in March, was well attended. The meeting, coming in March instead of in January as is the usual custom, has come down from the time when church and state were united—the voters of the town meeting the first Monday in March to attend to town affairs, among which was selection of a minister for life and decision in regard to salary. The second Monday the same body of voters met to decide the minor matters pertaining to the church.

All the officers were elected: Herbert B. Priest, Ellen M. Needham and Michael Smedley, parish choir; James Bennett, secy.; Everett B. Gerrish, treas., and Deacon Gilson, collector.

Routine business only, except committee appointed, consisting of F. L. Blood, F. F. Waters and Miss Elizabeth Low, to investigate the matter of installing a water motor for the organ.

Miss Boutwell, by request of the parish committee, prepared and offered the following resolutions, which were unanimously adopted: Resolved—That we, members of the First Parish, at the earliest meeting after the resignation of Charles H. Gerrish as organist of the church, desire to spread upon our records our appreciation of his services covering more than forty-five years. During all these years he gave us faithful, generous assistance, not only at the regular church services, but also at Sunday school and evening meetings from which he was rarely absent.

Resolved—That in his retirement from our service we wish for him long life, with health, happiness and prosperity.

Resolved—That a copy of these resolutions be sent to Mr. Gerrish.

D. R. Meeting.

The annual meeting of the D. R. for election of officers and other exercises was held with Mrs. Frank Lawrence Blood on Thursday afternoon, March 7. There was a very good attendance the program opening with two violin selections by Miss Mary Lawrence accompanied on the piano by Miss Elizabeth Lowe. The election of officers followed and was as follows: Miss G. A. Boutwell, regent; Mrs. C. H. Beckford, vice-regent; Miss Flora Smith, secy.; Mrs. W. H. Bruce, treas.; Mrs. Wm. A. Lawrence, historian; Mrs. James Wilson, Mrs. Frank Lawrence Blood and Mrs. Melville Mansur, ex. com.

After this business transaction Miss Gertrude Gerrish gave a vocal selection, accompanied on piano by Miss Lowe, Mrs. Henrietta Chase followed with an interesting paper on the land of Evangeline and Miss Ruth Gerrish gave two songs, accompanied by Miss Lawrence on the violin and Miss Low on the piano. The meeting closed with social hour and refreshments.

Back Again.

The latest word from J. R. Hawkes at Monument Beach is that now after being laid up through February he is

able to be back again with his patient. On Wednesday evening, March 6, Mr. and Mrs. Hawkes were given the opportunity to attend the grand opera in Boston. As Monument Beach is fifty miles from Boston they went up one night returning the next day. They listened to "The prodigal son" and found it "very swell." Mr. Hawkes attended the town meeting in the town of Bourne, where they voted to raise \$80,000. The Cape Cod canal runs right through the village of Bourne and three trains pass in and out daily and more trains in the summer. There are many summer residences, among them the beautiful one of Ex-gov. Douglas, Mr. and Mrs. Hawkes miss their Groton neighbors and friends and the social good times enjoyed here. They don't know now just when they will be in Groton again.

Married.

That Ernest C. Willard has become a Benedict is a fact of interest to his former schoolmates and many other friends in Groton. He was married at Seattle, Wash., Tuesday evening, February 27, to a new England girl, Miss Mabel K. Lane of Malden to whom he had been engaged for some time. Miss Lane left home a short time before and took her western way to meet her fiancé at Malden, Wash. They then proceeded to Seattle where the ceremony was performed by Rev. Dr. Leonard of that city. They will make their home for the present at the Kennedy hotel, Seattle.

Mr. Willard lived here during boyhood and youth, is a graduate of the Groton high school and after graduation and subsequent study held a position in Boston and by his employers was recommended as mechanical draughtsman for the Metropolitan sewerage commissioners of Louisville, Ky. Finishing his work there, he went west and has held a responsible position at Seattle for two or more years. He has not been east for several years, but his friends send best wishes to him in his western home.

Plan to Have School Gardens.

The Groton Improvement society met with Mrs. Fred W. Mansur last Monday afternoon in large attendance. It was decided that school gardens should be conducted this coming season, provided that sufficient interest is shown by the parents and children to warrant a fine success. They wish to have fifty enthusiastic children enrolled, who will enter into this work and keep it up with persistent energy, not as a favor or benefit to the society, but as a privilege to the children themselves.

If the work is entered into with the right spirit, there is no doubt about the benefit to the children. The parents should see that the children do not get wrong ideas, get careless and lazy, giving up their work for play. If there is sufficient interest, the Groton Improvement society will engage the services of Miss Fay of Lowthorpe school, who is a very competent teacher along these lines. Groton was one of the first towns to take up such work and earned a good reputation. Now it is for the Groton children to keep up the rank. Arrangements will be made with the school teachers to get the names of those children who wish to avail themselves of this opportunity. The influence of parents will go a long way toward making this proposed work a success.

Supper and Entertainment.

The gentlemen's night, with supper and entertainment at the Congregational church, will be on Thursday evening, March 21. Grant W. Shattuck is chairman for the committee on the supper and Mrs. W. A. Moore for the entertainment, both of which will be held at the usual hours. It goes without saying that both will be good. The entertainment will consist mainly of a comedy in three acts, "Miss Fearless & Co." Some vocal music may be also expected. The following is the cast of characters: Miss Margaret Henley, an heiress, Miss Gladys Mason, Miss Euphemia Addison, her chaperone, Mrs. J. Harrington, Miss Sarah Jane Lowrey, from the Lost Nation, Mrs. W. H. Whitehill, Miss Bettie Cameron, guest, Miss Barbara Livingstone, guest, Miss Marion Reynolds, guest, "Just Lizzie," the chef, Miss Florence Roache, Miss Edna Leonard, Miss Lillian Robinson.

News Items.

The sociable proved satisfactory in every particular at the Unitarian church last week Thursday evening. Every seat was taken at the supper table and the readings and music were entertaining as was the farce in which the parts were taken unusually well.

The infant daughter of Mr. and Mrs. George H. Cook, born on Wednesday, March 6, is named very prettily and in colonial style—Janice Bentley.

Born on Tuesday, March 12, a daughter to Mr. and Mrs. Herbert W. Taylor, all doing well.

Samuel H. Raddin was taken ill while out in the woods at work on Monday, and was carried home. The report spread that he had been hurt, but that was incorrect. It was a case of indigestion, with which Mr. Raddin has been attacked two or three other times before this.

Mrs. Mosely Gilson is ill and having the attention of her physician.

Rowan Allen, blacksmith for Thomas Bywater, is ill with a bad sore throat, kept from work and under the doctor's care.

Howard W. Raddin, of Greenfield, came on Sunday night for a short visit to the old home and left on Tuesday morning.

Miss Helen Bell Moore went on Saturday and made an over Sunday visit to a friend in Auburndale.

Mrs. Elira Ames who had been here packing up her household goods left last week Friday for her new home at Belfast, Me.

Mrs. H. M. Chase will read an interesting paper before the Young People's society of the Unitarian church on Sunday evening.

The Groton sewing school, after the vacation of a few weeks past, will re-

sume its meetings beginning with this Saturday afternoon.

The coal famine is on again and wood is in great demand.

A number of Groton people attended the auto show in Boston last week. Among them were Dr. W. B. Gobie, Harry L. Bruce, Mr. and Mrs. Wallace Brown and daughter, Miss Mildred Dodge, Frank Lawrence Blood and son, Mark H. Blood, Charles Keenan, Silas Northrup and J. F. Peabody.

Mrs. Abram Miller and Miss Kittie Denahy visited Miss Denahy's cousin, Mrs. John Lee, at Nashua, N. H., on Wednesday.

Harry L. Bruce is working for Mansfield, the druggist, at Pepperell, this week.

Miss Ellen Denahy is very sick with acute indigestion and having the doctor's attention at the home of Mrs. Jeremiah Denahy, sr.

Patrick Connelly, of North Groton, is a patient at the Groton hospital. He is there for observation, the cause of his illness not yet quite determined. Some specialist is to be or has been called on the case.

Dr. E. B. Branigan, dentist, who is a member of the First Corps Boston Cadets, and has been in service at Lawrence for the past two weeks, returned home on Thursday.

Mrs. Catherine Coughlin has sold her home place to David Toomey. The lease which Mr. Toomey has held of Mrs. Patrick Sullivan's place on Main street north, expires next month.

Huntley N. Spaulding, who spends his summers at Groton Inn with his family, was in attendance at the great auto show in Boston and bought an elegant machine—an eighty horsepower Simplex.

Rev. William J. Batt, of Concord Junction, will preach at the First Parish Unitarian church on Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. Willis Perry, of Pepperell, attended the Groton grange on Tuesday evening spending the night at P. J. Benedict's, and remaining for a visit on Wednesday.

Clarence Hemenway is getting along comfortably and expects the plaster cast will be taken off his leg before long, and then hopes to be able to get around on crutches. He is now able to sit up.

The Cummings children have had bad sore throats and have been kept from school, but not because of scarlet fever.

The Book and Thimble club meets with Mrs. W. Souther. Subject for consideration, "British Columbia."

In the item last week where mention was made of Stephen Brennan, father of Admiral Brennan of the Texan navy, it might have been said that the house he occupied on Main street was moved away somewhere about 1840. It now stands on Broad-meadow road, on the right hand side as you go down from Main street, and is the one nearest the railroad.

John Ready, formerly of Groton, is dangerously ill at a Worcester hospital.

Mr. Fisher and family of Station avenue are going back to England, starting next week.

Miss Lena L. Tuttle, teacher at Boscawren, N. H., comes home this week for the spring vacation.

Notwithstanding the dark, rainy night there were 133 in attendance at Groton grange on Tuesday evening. Visitors were present from nearby towns and some from outside the state. The third and fourth degrees were worked by the Ladies' degree team and the regular officers. The work was praised by Deputy Inspector Williams of Cochechuic, who also spoke very highly of Groton grange, calling it an ideal organization and showered praises also on Groton Inn, which he called one of the finest of hotels in his experience. There was no program of entertainment but a bountiful supper under P. J. Benedict was enjoyed.

The services at the Baptist church Sunday morning, March 17, will be conducted by W. E. Wilder of West Townsend and the evening service by Rev. Andrew Gibson.

Philip Mason, a high school pupil, is at home with the chicken-pox.

Rev. Alonzo Bunker, who had been a patient at Groton hospital, brought there from Newton some months ago, died at the hospital last week Friday. He was a man of advanced years and had been a prominent Baptist missionary in India and was also an author. He had endured a number of strokes and been an invalid for a long time. He was the father of Prof. John Bunker of Harvard university.

Woodbury K. Howe from Woonsocket, R. I., was at home over Sunday.

Mr. McKean and family from Nashua are coming this spring to occupy the Timothy Blood place in Chaconerow. Mr. McKean has bought the place and is soon going to make repairs on it.

The Groton school closes next week Tuesday for the spring vacation.

The following is the Groton school baseball schedule for this spring: Wednesday, April 10, English High club of Boston. Saturday, April 13, Noble and Greenough. Wednesday, April 17, Worcester Classical high school. Saturday, April 20, Powder Point school. Wednesday, April 24, Worcester South school. Saturday, April 27, Volkman. Wednesday, May 1, Middlesex (at Concord). Saturday, May 4, Bay State Pilierrms. Wednesday, May 8, Stone school. Saturday, May 11, Brown 1914. Wednesday, May 15, Middlesex (at Groton). Saturday, May 18, Cambridge Theological Seminary. Wednesday, May 22, Lawrence Academy. Saturday, May 25, Harvard 2nd. Wednesday, May 29, St. Mark's. All games at Groton except the one on May 1, with Middlesex.

West Groton.

Mrs. Williamson of Walpole is a guest at the home of her mother, Mrs. A. L. Harrington's.

C. R. Dudley has purchased the house on Bishop hill, occupied by Lawrence Blood and owned by W. V. Bixby. It is reported that Mr. Dud-

ley will occupy his new home in April and that Mr. Blood will move to Groton.

On next Sunday morning during the church service a collection will be taken for the benefit of the Seaman's Friend association. This collection is taken annually and a generous response is hoped for.

Joshua Bixby is in care of his physician, though still attending to the duties of his milk route.

The regular meeting of L. A. society was held on Thursday afternoon with Mrs. H. Spaulding, fourteen members being present. Guests of the society were Mrs. Williamson, of Walpole, and Miss Lillian Harrington. An interesting reading was given by Miss Bertha Bixby. The next meeting will be held at the expiration of two weeks with Mrs. Charles Bixby.

Mrs. J. L. Nutting was called professionally to Ayer on Thursday.

Letters from Jeffrey do not, as yet, give favorable reports of Miss K. A. Tarbell, who is ill at the home of her sister.

Arthur Jarvis has been in care of his physician but is out again.

Mrs. Lucella Geary visited friends in the village on Thursday.

Entertainments.

A Dickens evening was held in the lower hall on Monday and was enjoyed by an audience of more than forty people. Rev. J. P. Trowbridge gave a brief but very interesting sketch of the life of the famous English novelist. Readings were given as follows: "Peggotty at the key-hole," Mrs. J. P. Trowbridge; extracts from the "Death of little Nell," Mrs. Isabel Wiggins; "To Charles Dickens," by Thomas Hood; "On the occasion of Dickens' first visit to America," Miss Bertha Bixby; "A child's dream of a star," Mrs. H. Spaulding. The exercises closed with the singing of an old English ballad, "The mistletoe bough," by Mrs. A. W. Lamb. G. H. Bixby called for a rising vote to determine if a meeting similar in character should be held in April. The favorable response was unanimous.

The Sunshine club will give an entertainment in Squannacook hall, consisting of vocal and instrumental music, recitations, dialogues, and tableaux, on Friday evening, March 22. A "pink sale" will follow, and pink little maidens will preside at pink little tables, and will exchange for cash, aprons, fancy and useful articles, candy and food, also grabs, without which no sale would be complete. Ice cream will also be on sale. Everybody is cordially invited to come and enjoy the program, and assist this little bouquet of pinks to achieve a financial success. The proceeds will be given to the fund for installing electric lighting in the church.

HARVARD.

News Items.

Miss Nell T. Hartshorn will open a dancing class in the town hall on Tuesday afternoon, March 19, at 3.15 o'clock. She will be pleased to meet all interested.

Walter F. Dickson, who was nominated for selectman for three years at the citizens' caucus on last Saturday, declines to be a candidate.

Wallace E. King sold his farm property this week to a Mr. Babcock, the papers being transferred at Worcester on Tuesday. Mr. King will hold an auction sale of personal property at some near date, as Mr. Babcock takes possession at once. Mr. and Mrs. King have been residents at this farm for the past twenty-two years. They are not as yet fully decided as to their future location.

George Kavanagh is confined to the house with a severe case of inflammatory rheumatism.

The Unitarian Ladies' Sewing circle will hold an all-day sewing meeting on Thursday, March 21, with Mrs. S. M. Farnsworth.

At the Unitarian church next Sunday morning Mr. Herbert A. Thayer will sing a tenor solo in connection with the regular service.

The senior class of the Bromfield school will give a social dance in the town hall on Friday eve, March 22. Music by a ladies' orchestra. The proceeds of this dance to be used to defray the expenses of a chapter to the Washington party.

Notwithstanding the bad condition of the roads on Thursday night about 16 couples attended the Complimentary ball at Ayer, Mass., on that date and all report themselves amply repaid for their effort.

For sale by public auction, the new, heavy, farming tools and household furniture, belonging to Wallace E. King of Harvardside, will be held on Monday, March 26, at 12.30 o'clock sharp.

Annual Banquet.

The Ladies' Picnic club gave their annual banquet to their gentleman friends at the town hall on Tuesday evening. The feast was spread in the upper hall, the tables being especially well arranged and very tastefully decorated. During the supper hour, Mrs. Simmonds, of Lowell, gave selections on the piano. Rev. George Jones, Rev. H. B. Mason, Rev. C. H. Morse and Mrs. Emma Parker entertained each in their own entertaining way. The following program was then carried out: Song, Mrs. Simmonds; Irish dance, Miss Mildred Carman, music, Mrs. Simmonds; dance, Rachel Farnsworth and Philip Watson, to the strains of "The wearing of the green," Miss Dorothy E. West, pianist; farce, entitled, "Finnegan and Flanagan," Mr. and Mrs. Leonard.

Death.

Edward Warren Houghton, a lifelong resident of this town, died at his home on Wednesday, March 13, at the age of 82 yrs. 11 mos. 20 days. With his death passes one of Harvard's staunch and solid old residents. During his long and useful life he has had bestowed upon him by his fellow-townsmen nearly all of the town offices and in return he has filled these positions with honor and dignity. Perhaps in no other place will he be missed so much by the townspeople

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Ask to see the Wilhelmina Strap Reducing Corset Extra long skirt and hips. Six Supporters. Price, \$1.50

as at the annual town meeting at which he was a regular and constant attendant, and where his counsel in town matters was heard and heeded by both old and young. He was extremely deaf, a fact which handicapped him severely in public gatherings. He was a member of and a regular attendant at the Congregational church, Orthodox, although for years he had been unable to hear anything of the service.

A man perfectly frank to express his opinion on matters of public interest, yet all respected his judgment, and it is a well-known fact that a word from his lips had the power to turn the tide of the vote of the town. He has been in feeble health for several months, the direct cause of death being cancer of the bladder.

Gentlemen's Night.

On Thursday night occurred the annual gentlemen's night of the Ladies' Picnic club.

The setting of the tables in the upper hall was an innovation this year. The hall was elaborately decorated with Irish green paper, shamrocks and hemlock boughs.

The tables were lighted by green candles in silver candelabra and at each place was placed a green paper shamrock with an appropriate couplet inscribed upon it. Many daffodils and jonquils were also used.

Toasts were responded to by Mrs. Wm. Parker, Rev. Mason, Rev. Morse and Rev. Jones.

Irish songs by Mrs. Symonds of Lowell, dance and an irresistible funny Irish farce completed the entertainment, which was in charge of Mrs. A. H. Bigelow, Mrs. H. F. Whitney, Mrs. J. E. Maynard, Mrs. H. A. Thayer and Mrs. W. B. Willard.

The supper was in charge of Mrs. A. F. Ripley, Mrs. E. P. Watson, Mrs. S. Proston, Mrs. C. P. Atherton, Mrs. L. M. Morse and Mrs. W. F. Dickson.

Harvard Agricultural Day.

On last week Friday the Massachusetts Agricultural college gave the people of Harvard a good demonstration of what the college is doing to stimulate and promote scientific agriculture and domestic science. Prof. A. J. Norman, besides given a practical demonstration in pruning, gave two lectures, "Essentials of fruit growing" and "Spraying of orchards." Prof. Fred Yeaw lectured on "Home vegetable gardening." Miss Dianna Constable gave three lectures on domestic science: "Opportunities for girls in domestic science," "Economy for efficiency" and "Home management." C. H. White gave a pleasing address on "Community cooperation."

The speakers felt well repaid for their efforts, for the large and enthusiastic audience of about 150 men and women gave them keen attention and asked many practical questions. Madeline Parker, Harriet Thayer and Helen Whitney rendered a musical program which was enjoyed by all. The class of 1912, Bromfield school, made it possible to hold an all day session by furnishing a very satisfactory noon luncheon. Many citizens are expressing their

approval and thanks for the efforts of Principal Leonard and C. H. White, Worcester county field agent, in arranging this Harvard agricultural day which was given under the auspices of Bromfield school and M. A. C.

Trip to Washington.

The Bromfield high school class of 1912 has definitely arranged to take a trip to Washington, D. C., during the one week spring recess, which begins on March 29. The members of the class are Helen E. Whitney, Olive Houghton, Elsie F. Knight, Harriet B. Thayer, I. Oressa Webster, E. Catherine Hazard, Sarah L. Jones and Elroy E. Royal. Any Harvard people who wish to take this trip will please consult with Principal Leonard. The expense from Boston is twenty-six dollars each. The class of 1912 wish to thank the public in general for patronage of their socials and the few in particular who have so willingly contributed financially towards making the Washington trip possible.

Still River.

The Ladies' Benevolent society will give a supper and entertainment in the vestry on Tuesday evening of next week.

Miss Edna Flanders has a position in Worcester, as a visitor, and also office work for a society that looks after poor children, and gets them put in homes, etc. Miss Flanders commenced her work there on Monday of this week.

Mrs. Rose Howard has been pretty well used up with a severe cold and rheumatic trouble for the past week, but is now better.

Chester Willard has been quite sick for more than a week with acute bronchitis, and at last reports was not much improved.

On Monday evening, R. E. Portley, S. B. Haynes and A. A. Hutchinson visited Clinton Lodge I. O. O. F., where they witnessed the working of the first degree by Mt. Roulestone lodge, of Fitchburg, the latter lodge came 125 strong, with a special train, and brought an orchestra along with them. The work was done seemingly as near perfect as it could be done, and when the degree staff went out they were most vigorously applauded. After the work was done a supper was furnished, after which they assembled again in the lodgeroom for an entertainment of music and speech making.

Death.

On Wednesday evening at 7.30 o'clock, E. Warren Houghton passed away after nearly two weeks of intense suffering, at the age of 82 yrs. 11 mos. 20 days. The funeral will be held from his late home this Saturday afternoon, but will be private.

Mr. Houghton was a life-long resident of the Houghton homestead, and he leaves no children, his daughter Gertrude dying about a year ago, and it looks as if the old home would pass out of the Houghton family. For many years Mr. Houghton has been very deaf, and for several years his eyesight has been failing, yet he has kept about his farm work up to less than two weeks ago.

Subscription, \$1.50 Yearly in Advance

Saturday, March 16, 1912.

AYER.

Railroad Notes.

James A. Halliday, the New Haven master of transportation and economy expert that has had charge of the recent innovations in operation systems put into force on the Boston and Maine, has completed his duties and returned to his New Haven office, having exhausted every possible method by which it is considered possible for the Boston and Maine to save any more money through reorganizations of the traffic or the laying off of men.

No Caucus.

As there will be no caucus this spring to nominate candidates for town officers, it will be necessary for those who intend to follow Colonel Roosevelt's example and throw their hat into the ring, to take out nomination papers as in previous years. Such papers containing the names of the candidates must be filed with the town clerk on or before Thursday afternoon, March 21, at five o'clock.

District Court.

Michael McKenna and James Quirk, both of Montreal, P. Q., were found guilty of vagrancy and in court last Saturday their cases were placed on file.

The case of Henry Fisher, of Pepperell, who was charged with shooting a pheasant, which was continued from last week Monday to Monday of this week, was settled on the latter date by the payment of a ten-dollar fine, he being found guilty of the offense charged against him.

Harold Antonion, James Baltus and Peter Andrew, all of Ayer, were found guilty of assault and battery upon Frank Ludman and were each fined ten dollars in court on Tuesday morning. The fines were paid and the defendants discharged. The trial was the result of a mixup between the four men at the tannery where they are employed in which the three defendants assaulted Ludman on account of trouble over their work.

Charles A. Barrett pleaded guilty to illegal keeping and exposing for sale intoxicating liquors last Saturday. The case will be disposed of later.

The continued case of Henry Hudson of Pepperell, on a serious charge, was heard on Monday morning. He was found not guilty and discharged.

The case of Robert McClellan, of Pepperell, on a serious charge, which was heard here two weeks ago when he was held for the grand jury, came up in the superior court at Lowell on Monday of this week before Judge McLaughlin and a jury. McClellan was found guilty and he was sentenced to the state prison for two years.

John Smith, who has a record in the local court, and well-known to the police in Lowell and surrounding towns, pleaded guilty of larceny in the superior court at Lowell on Monday, and was sentenced by Judge McLaughlin to state prison for six years. Probation officer James Ramsay, of the superior court, told the court that Smith had a wife and several small children and that they were very poor. The court said that under the law and in view of the record of the defendant he was obliged to adjudge him a common notorious thief, and imposed the above sentence.

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number attended, many going from here. There was also an apron sale.

Former representative, Amos T. Saunders, of Clinton, spoke to the members of the Board of Trade in their rooms in Dickinson's block on Wednesday evening on "The workmen's compensation act," which was passed at the last session of the legislature. The address was interesting and was closely followed by the large gathering that was present. At the business meeting one new member was admitted to membership. The usual lunch was served.

James J. O'Brien, who has been financial secretary of the board since its formation, gave in his resignation, which was accepted with regret.

George A. Cole starts this morning to make alterations on Jerome W. Wright's house on East Main street. The changes will provide for a bathroom and enlargement of the interior of the house, which will make it more convenient for the occupants.

At the meeting of the board of registrars of voters last Saturday evening, twenty names were dropped on account of removal from town and six through death. Four additions were made to the list. The final meeting of the board will be held in the selectmen's room, town hall building, on Saturday, March 23, from twelve noon until ten o'clock at night. This will be a continuous session between the hours named and all persons who are otherwise qualified and desire to vote at the coming town meeting on Monday, April 1, will have to register at this meeting.

At the meeting Thursday evening these names were added: John King, Edward W. Hyde, S. Bassett Dicker, man and Fred W. Lamoreaux and the name of Francis Bird dropped.

Ralph O. Jenkins and Miss Lydia Oulson, both of this town, were married on Friday evening, March 1, in Lowell by Rev. Benjamin A. Willmott, pastor of the First Congregational church of that city. The couple was unattended. Mr. and Mrs. Jenkins left after the ceremony for a short wedding journey. They will make their home in Ayer.

Rev. George E. Littlefield, a former pastor of the Unitarian church of this town, has bought a rich eighty-acre farm comprising the Baldwin estate at Los Angeles, Cal., for the purpose of organizing a social colony of which he is treasurer. For several years he conducted the "Fellowship Farm" in Westwood, this state. He left Westwood a year ago, intending to go to Kansas at the time. Mr. Littlefield is now engaged in settling the new colony. He is a graduate of Harvard and well known as a speaker on socialistic subjects for years.

The next meeting of the Middlesex Union of Congregational ministers will be held in the parlors of the Congregational church on next Tuesday.

The junior basketball team of the Civic gymnasium, known as the Bears, won the championship in the junior classes in the number of games won and will receive ribbons as prizes. The names of the team and the substitutes are Frank Hurley, Joseph Pender, Dewey Downing, Ralph Brown, Llewellyn T. Savage, Raymond Miller and John Scully.

The third annual social dance given by Court Napoleon Bonaparte, F. of A., will be held Easter Monday evening, April 8, music, Rodericks' orchestra, of Pepperell.

A regular communication of St. Paul lodge of Masons will be held in Masonic hall on Monday afternoon, March 18, at one o'clock.

The postponed meeting of the Ladies' Social Gathering will be held at the Unitarian church parlors on Monday afternoon, March 18, at three o'clock.

The ladies of the Unitarian social gathering will hold a social dance in Page hall Thursday evening, March 21. A pleasant party may be assured.

The Congregational ladies served a good supper Wednesday evening in police in this committee: Mrs. A. M. Winslow, Mrs. W. M. Sargent and Mrs. Harry Stone, assisted in the serving by the Misses Mabel Sargent and Bertha Stone.

The meeting of the Y. P. R. U. next Sunday evening will be omitted on account of the union temperance gathering at the Baptist church.

The first degree was conferred on two candidates by Ayer Council Knights of Columbus on Tuesday evening.

Tuft Dental school has established a dental clinic at the Massachusetts General hospital for the benefit of the poor. Dr. C. A. Fox has been appointed to take charge of this clinic one day each week for 1912. Dr. Fox practiced dentistry in Ayer for eighteen years, but for the past five years has been practicing at Warren Chambers, Boston.

F. C. Johnson, superintendent of schools, and E. M. Gleason, principal of the high school, will speak before the Ayer Women's club Wednesday afternoon, March 20.

Mrs. William U. Sherwin returned Thursday from the hospital in Boston, where she underwent a surgical operation three or four weeks ago.

The Ayer division of the Massachusetts Sunday school union will hold its annual meeting at the Congregational church Thursday, March 28. Good speakers, lunch served by Ladies' Benevolent society. Look for full program next week.

In the evening of the same day and at the same place a mass meeting for men will be addressed by Victor J. Loring of Boston. This is in line with the great national Men's Forward movement.

A regular communication of Bancroft Royal Arch Chapter will be held on Tuesday evening, March 19. Work, past masters' and most excellent masters' degrees.

M. W. Graves of Bridgetown, N. S., has been visiting in town for the past few days at the home of Mr. and Mrs. W. N. Reynolds. He is the owner of the largest vinegar factory in the Province.

By invitation of "The Fortnightly club" of Winchester a conference in

the interests of the "Modern home-maker and her problems" will be held in the Unitarian church, Main street, Winchester on Monday, March 18, 1912, at two o'clock. Club presidents, members and especially home economics committees are cordially invited to attend.

A party of local grangers, composed of twenty-two members of Ayer grange, went to Groton on Tuesday evening to witness the conferring of the third and fourth degrees. The Groton grange was inspected by Chester R. Williams of Cochrute.

The Ayer district Sunday school convention will be held in the Congregational church on Thursday, March 28.

Miss Helen C. Griffin, who is teaching in Phillipston, is at the home of her parents, Mr. and Mrs. M. J. Griffin, for a three weeks' vacation.

Melville L. Savage will start the forepart of next week for Montreal where he will be for a couple of weeks, and he will leave there on his spring trip of 3500 miles through the provinces of Northwest Canada to Victoria, B. C.

The Lowell and Fitchburg Street Railway Company have purchased 2500 ties for construction work, of L. W. Phelps. The company will also take as many more as Mr. Phelps will furnish them for this season.

James E. McGuane, a brakeman in the railroad yard fell from a freight car last Sunday night and injured his back. He was taken to his home. Dr. Sullivan was the attending physician.

H. W. Trow, of Nashua, a freight brakeman on the Worcester, Nashua and Portland division, fell from a car at Hollis, N. H., last Monday morning, and sustained a dislocated shoulder. He was brought here on the freight train, where Dr. Sullivan attended him. Later, the injured man was taken to his home in Nashua.

F. W. Moses and son Carl spent the week-end at their summer cottage at Sandy Pond.

C. H. Beckford, who has been a conductor on the Lowell and Fitchburg street railway, has resigned. T. Henry Donahue has taken his place.

Mrs. Fred Simonds was taken to the Woman's Charitable hospital, Roxbury, on Thursday for a surgical operation for the removal of a tumor.

George W. Burgess is now able to be out after a severe attack of pneumonia.

A horse belonging to C. S. Thompson of Groton was ordered killed by Harvey R. Fuller of the Massachusetts S. P. C. A. on Thursday. In response to complaints regarding the animal which was unfit for use, chief Beatty notified the officials of the above organization, which resulted in an investigation being made. The horse came into possession of Mr. Thompson through a trade.

Mrs. Lester Whitcomb is getting along well from the effects of an operation at the Clinton hospital Wednesday.

Eugene S. Barry is to build a house and has bought of Miss Nellie Huntington on Washington street a lot of land adjoining her premises and the garage. Cole, the builder, has the batter boards up. It is to be a house with all the modern conveniences and Mr. Cole has taken the contract to do all the work in its completion, including plumbing and heating.

The item we published last week that the Park hotel was searched for liquors was not correct. Mr. Canning, the proprietor of this hotel, is conducting it strictly as a temperance hotel and a first class hostelry in every respect.

The members of Division 7, A. O. H., are to meet at A. O. H. hall on Sunday morning, March 17, at 8:30 and will march in a body to St. Mary's church to receive Holy Communion on Sunday afternoon. The chaplain, Rev. Fr. Brown of Maynard, will deliver a lecture in A. O. H. hall at three o'clock that afternoon.

The following are the feature pictures at the moving picture show for Saturday night at Page hall: "Caught with the goods; A noble enemy; Thirty days at hard labor; The baby and the stork; An Indian Romeo and Juliet. Jack O'Brien will be the singer. Funny slides and choruses by audience.

Rev. Dr. Fisk will resume his pupil next Sunday at 12:45. Sunday school at 12 M. The Y. P. R. U. will join in the union temperance service at 7 P. M. at the Baptist church.

At the Baptist church on Sunday evening at seven o'clock there will be a union temperance meeting with the auspices of the W. C. T. U. Miss E. J. Gowan of Boston will be the speaker. There will be special singing.

These recitations were given at the high school Friday afternoon. Selections: "The Butterfly," Lillian H. Meahan; "One hundred and one," Esther C. Holden; "The Cynic," John E. Pender; "But then," Hazel Moss; "In the open," George M. Crowley; "A perilous leap," Roger C. Lawrence; "The silver sunset," May A. Peterson; selection, high school orchestra.

Francis Bird, one of our oldest and best known citizens, died at his home last Sunday morning of apoplexy.

Mr. Bird was stricken with a shock three weeks ago and since that time has gradually failed.

He was a native of St. Denis, P. Q., where he was born June 22, 1841. He came to this country when young and enlisted in the 25th Massachusetts regiment for service in the Civil war. For many years Mr. Bird conducted a shoe repairing shop here and he was very popular with all who knew him.

He leaves his widow, one brother, Thomas Bird of Marlboro, two sons, Frank J. Bird of this town and Louis N. Bird of Worcester, and one daughter, Mrs. William Corneller of Ayer.

The funeral was held Tuesday morning. A requiem mass was said at 9:30 o'clock by Rev. M. F. Callahan. The interment was in St. Mary's cemetery.

The bearers were David L'Emyer and Noel DeCount of Fitchburg, John Boiscan, Joseph Wheeler, Alexis Mailloux and Paul Hamel of Ayer.

In Memoriam.

Whereas, in view of the loss we have sustained by the untimely death of our friend and brother member, William Moore, and of the still heavier loss sustained by those who were nearest and dearest to him; therefore, be it

Resolved,—that it is but a just tribute to the memory of the departed to say that in regretting his removal from our midst, we mourn for one who was in every way worthy of our respect and regard.

Resolved,—that we, the members of Ayer Junction Aerie, No. 1510, F. O. E., sincerely condole with the family of the deceased on the dispensation with which it has pleased divine Providence to afflict them, and commend them for consolation to him who orders all things for the best and whose chastisements are meant in mercy.

Resolved,—that this heartfelt testimonial of our sympathy and sorrow be forwarded to the bereaved family of our departed brother.

Resolved,—that these resolutions be spread upon the records of our Division, and a copy thereof transmitted to the Ayer Public Spirit.

Jan. J. Horan, Wm. J. Donlon, M. F. Fitzgerald, Committee.

Awarded Prizes.

Joseph Hurley and Frank Brown won the first and second prizes respectively, for the highest number of points in athletics during the season of the Civic gymnasium just closed, including the events at the exhibition in the town hall last week Thursday evening. The prizes were silver cups suitably inscribed for this purpose.

The number of points of the two winners, and the four next highest in the competition is given below:

Two standing broad jumps—J. Hurley 100, F. Brown 93.3, H. Hooley 79.5, F. Brown 82.9, McGuane 100.

Three standing broad jumps—J. Hurley 100, F. Brown 93.3, H. Hooley 79.5, McGuane 82.9, J. Hurley 92.3, Bowler 92.2.

50, McGuane 97.4, Hurley 100, F. Brown 99.5, Bowler 97.4.

Horse work—J. Hurley 91.6, F. Brown 83.6, McGuane 83.3, Hooley 86, Fillebrown 73.3, Bowler 33.3.

Parallel bars—J. Hurley 92.6, F. Brown 81.6, McGuane 70, J. Hooley 92, Fillebrown 80, Bowler 76.6.

Total points—J. Hurley 575.9, F. Brown 491.5, McGuane 424.9, J. Hooley 382, Fillebrown 342.7, Bowler 299.5.

Episcopal Notes.

Rev. Thomas L. Fisher, former Vicar of St. Andrew's church, Ayer, will preach in that church Monday night at 7:30.

St. Andrew's Guild are holding meetings every Tuesday during Lent at the parish room in preparation for an Easter sale and concert on March 18; the concert to be given by the Groton school orchestra.

On Fridays at 2:30 the Woman's Auxiliary of St. Andrew's church meets at the parish room with a service and address by the Vicar at four o'clock.

Sunday services at St. Andrew's church: 10:45 A. M., morning prayer and sermon; 12 M., Sunday school.

SHIRLEY.

The Altrurian club met at their club room Thursday afternoon. The president, Mrs. Mary M. Nickless, opened the meeting at three o'clock. The program for the afternoon was in charge of Mrs. Alice L. Wright, chairman, assisted by Mrs. Mary E. Lilly, Mrs. Nellie W. Holbrook, Miss Lura A. White. Mrs. Wright gave a general review of the book entitled "The Iron Woman," by Mrs. Margaret Deland. Mrs. Lilly read several interesting and exciting scenes included in the story, which was listened to with close attention for two hours.

A club song was sung and meeting adjourned.

George Kuhn Clark of Cambridge will address the club March 28, at the club room.

HARVARD.

Miss Edna Robinson has been the guest of her sister in Hudson this week.

A. A. Hutcherson attended the automobile show in Boston on Thursday.

Mrs. Adaliza Turner returned to her Still River home this week after spending the winter in Ayer.

Mrs. Susan M. Read is more comfortable than when reported last week.

LITTLETON.

News Items.

Miss Florence Whitcomb and her little brother Adams, visited their aunt, Mrs. Heywood Hartwell, of Somerville, from Friday of last week until this week Wednesday.

Mr. and Mrs. B. G. Fowler, of Woburn, spent Sunday with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. John McKinley.

Little Alice Hager, daughter of Leslie A. Hager, entertained twelve of her young friends at her home on King street last Saturday afternoon. The occasion was in celebration of the young hostess' eighth birthday. Games and delicacies formed the chief entertainment of the afternoon.

A lecture will be given by Rev. Herbert L. Caulkins at the town hall on Monday evening, March 18, at 7:45 o'clock. Donald F. Hanson, the baritone singer from Lowell, whose superior voice won such repeated applause from a Littleton audience a few weeks ago, will render solos and other music will be furnished on that occasion. This entertainment is to be given for the benefit of the High School Athletic association.

The name of Walter H. Titcomb was unintentionally omitted last week from the list of those nominated on the board of selectmen.

Mrs. Fred S. Kimball and Mrs. Austin T. Kimball are again able to be out after a long confinement, occasioned by stubborn grippe cold.

Mr. and Mrs. Nahum H. Whitcomb visited his sister, Mrs. Heywood Hartwell, in Somerville Tuesday, Mrs. Whitcomb remaining over night and Wednesday.

LeRoy Jewett and family arrived home from Largo, Florida, last Saturday, and are at present at his father's home on King street. Although there was relief from cold weather furnished by their winter home, they found that even sunny

Florida has its disadvantages, and the bracing air of the north is altogether preferable. Mrs. Jewett has suffered much from rheumatic troubles since leaving Littleton.

Carlton Priest, who has been taking the winter dairy course at Amherst Agricultural college, has recently returned home.

"The origin and use of athletics" is the subject of the lecture to be given Monday evening in town hall by Rev. H. L. Caulkins for the benefit of the High school athletic association.

Mrs. Sargent of Montague City is the guest of her daughter, Mrs. Harry W. Ireland.

The ladies of the Backlog club hold their leap year ball from eight to 1:30 this evening. It is not an invitation party, as has been understood by some. Everybody is welcome. The usual admission will be charged and this includes ices and frappe, which will be served in the upper hall throughout the evening.

Waldo E. Conant retires from the school board this year because of increased responsibilities in town office and the pressure of business that have taxed his strength this last season. He has served on the school board very many years and has given eminent satisfaction. It is sincerely regretted by those who have the interest of schools and town at heart that Mr. Conant feels the necessity of resigning.

Hon. Arthur Peck is giving three illustrated travel talks in Tremont Temple, Boston. His subjects are: "Holland, quaint and picturesque, the land of the windmill and the wooden shoes," "The grand canyon of Arizona, the southwest wonderland," and "Indian country and Yellowstone park." During Easter week he will repeat his lecture of last year on "Oberammergau and the passion play." Supplementary to this will be a rare musical treat; fifty voices, soloists and chorus, will present Maunder's "Olivet to Calvary."

Mr. and Mrs. C. F. Johnson, Mr. and Mrs. D. H. Woodbury, Mr. and Mrs. N. Murray, Mr. and Mrs. C. W. Drew, Mr. and Mrs. S. Stuart, Mr. and Mrs. A. E. Hopkins, Mr. and Mrs. B. F. Jacobs, Mr. and Mrs. J. M. Hartwell and Mrs. Priest enjoyed the Complimentary ball at Ayer Thursday evening.

New Advertisements.

We are the direct representatives of Lunt, Moss & Co. Before buying a

Gasoline Engine, Blower, Ensilage Cutter, Silo, Grinder or Water Supply

Get our prices. They are right.

C. A. & F. R. Blodgett, Graniteville, Mass.

CARD OF THANKS.

We wish to extend our heartfelt thanks to our many friends and neighbors who sympathized with us in the loss of our dear father.

Mr. and Mrs. Andrew Ryan, Mr. and Mrs. John W. Corish, Miss Mary A. Ryan, Mr. John H. Ryan, Miss Elizabeth H. Ryan.

Littleton, Mass., March 11, 1912.

CARD OF THANKS.

We wish to thank the members of Shirley grange, the kind neighbors and all who so kindly gave their aid and services in our recent bereavement.

Mrs. Mary Colburn, Mrs. Viola Hodgman, Mr. and Mrs. Walter Colburn, Shirley, Mass., March 12, 1912.

The Peerless Wall Paper Mfg. Co.

Will sell direct to you from factory. 1912 "High Grade" Wall Paper of over 500 patterns for 2c and 10c per roll. Other dealers charge from 15c to 50c per roll for same paper. See display at Carley's Store.

E. S. CHILDS, Selling Agent for Ayer, Harvard, Shirley, Groton, Pepperell, Littleton, Townsend, Foxe, Village and Graniteville. Drop postal.

WANTED—Country place for poultry, garden and cow, 10 to 20 acres, within one-half mile of cars. Apply at Public Spirit Office, Ayer, Mass. 2127.

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To Be Sold At PUBLIC AUCTION

Wednesday, March 20, 1912 At One o'clock P. M.

The land and building formerly occupied by Stuart P. Dodge, of "Boxboro. This Estate is situated on the road leading from Boxboro to Stow, about half mile above the State Road from West Acton to Harvard.

The house is one story and a half, and is never falling well of water. The barn has cellar and henery attached, a carpenter's shop on opposite side of Road. The land is divided in mowing, tillage, and pasture, with over fifty fruit trees on same. It also includes wood lot containing four acres which faces the State Road before mentioned.

There will also be sold at the same time: 1 Morris Chair, 1 large Rocker, 1 Sofa, 1 Stoves, 1 Chamber Set, 1 Cot Bed, 2 Couches, 3 very old pieces of antique furniture (including 1 Bookcase, Bureau of 12 drawers, 1 Kitchen Goods, 1 Horse-sled, 1 Top buggy, 1 Sleigh, 1 Harness and Robes, 1 Grinding stone, 1 Corn-sheller, 1 Bone Cutter, and all farming implements, and many articles not mentioned.

Terms—Cash on personal property; on real estate, 1/3 at time of sale, balance when papers are passed.

Charles M. Hosmer, Auctioneer

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS, Middlesex ss. Probate Court.

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 Insurance Agent and Broker
 Farm Property written; also, all kinds of Property placed in good, strong companies.
 42 East Main Street, Ayer.

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Dental Rooms
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 EAST PEPPERELL.

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 Successor to John L. Boynton
INSURANCE AGENT AND BROKER
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 East Pepperell, Mass.

N. A. SPENCER & SON
 Wish to call your attention to their stock of

CEMETERY MEMORIALS
 which they would be pleased to have intending purchasers inspect and obtain prices.

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BROOKLINE, N. H.

Current Events.
 Mr. and Mrs. Henry Shattuck, Mrs. Lucetta Martin, Edward Pierce, Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Goss and Mrs. S. E. French attended the Hillsboro Pomona meeting at Hudson on March 3. A class of thirty received the fifth degree.

Mrs. Mary Dodge and a child of Mr. and Mrs. Edward Laney, have been very ill with typhoid fever.

Mrs. Lizzie Maynard spent the afternoon of March 7 at Townsend, the guest of Mrs. Jennie Wallace and other friends.

Herbert and Walter Corey, Richard Wright, Frank Kilduff, Ralph Nye attended the auto show in Boston on last week Thursday.

Mrs. Florence Rockwood and son are at home after an absence of several weeks.

Mrs. Mary E. Smith is the guest of her sister, Mrs. Harriet Bohanon, at Petersham, Mass.

Mrs. Bishop, of Milford, N. H., is stopping with Mrs. Minnie Corey for a few weeks.

On Wednesday evening, March 27, is to be bird night at the grange. Subjects are to be assigned. A prize will be given to the member bringing in the largest number of names of birds.

Mrs. Mary E. Smith was a recent guest of Mrs. Arthur Barber on Townsend hill.

Several friends of Mrs. Lamprey have called upon her at St. Joseph's hospital, Nashua, and found her gaining and comfortable.

Judge and Mrs. Edward E. Parker, of Nashua, have been at Inncroft, their summer home for a few days.

James Gilson, George Rockwood, Ralph Greeley and Richard Wright conducted a social dance at Tarbell's hall on town meeting evening, Tuesday, Robbins' orchestra, of Pepperell, furnished the music.

Mrs. Lucretia Martin and Mrs. Susie French visited Mrs. Eleanor Lamprey at St. Joseph's hospital at Nashua last week, and found her condition to be improving.

The Ladies' Aid society held an all day session at the church on Tuesday, March 12. They also served a public dinner in the vestry at the noon hour.

The annual school meeting was held at the grammar schoolroom on Saturday afternoon, March 9, at two o'clock. About seventy-five were present, a large number of ladies being in the audience. Frank L. Wilby was elected as moderator and Alpha A. Hall as clerk. On the ninth ballot, Arthur A. Goss was elected as a member of the school board for three years. It was voted to pay the district officers \$85.00.

Mrs. Edwin A. Shattuck, of Nashua, was a guest at the Belle Lancy home last week.

Mrs. Sarah Shattuck, of Pepperell, has moved to the home of her sister, Mrs. M. Gilson, and will make her future home there.

Willis Hughes is visiting at New Ipswich with relatives.

Mr. and Mrs. Patsy O'Connell and daughter Mary have been recent guests at Cambridge, Mass.

James H. S. Tucker, George H. Nye, Herbert French and Frank Jenness were home to vote on Tuesday.

A special meeting of the U. O. G. C. is called for on Thursday evening, March 26.

Birthdays.
 Mrs. Lucilla Peabody enjoyed a birthday anniversary last week, receiving among other gifts a fine birthday cake from Mrs. Walter Corey. Many postcards from those who could not call to offer congratulations were received. Although Mrs. Peabody has been quite feeble for a year past, she is much better and spent the day pleasantly.

On Sunday, March 10, Mrs. Hattie Stiles celebrated her birthday anniversary. She thought that probably no one would think of it being her birthday, but when the cards and gifts came she realized that her many friends had not forgotten the day.

TOWNSEND.

Grange Anniversary.
 The Townsend grange observed its twentieth anniversary at Odd Fellows' hall on Monday evening. The following program was given during the evening, after which punch and fancy crackers were served by the ladies of the committee: Piano duet, A. G. Seaver and Iva L. Cowdrey; original poem, Clara M. Farrar; song, quartet, E. L. Haynes, Frank Woods, Margaret B. Higgins and Iva Cowdrey; reading, Dr. A. J. Atwood; song, quartet; "Past history of the grange," G. L. Whitcomb, p. m.; "The future of the grange," Abbie A. Barber, p. m.; poem by J. Whitcomb Riley, T. E. Flarity, p. m.; song, quartet.

Mr. Whitcomb in giving the history of the grange stated that it was organized in 1852 by James Hildreth, of Lunenburg, and had seventy-one charter members, the largest at that in the state. The committee in charge was comprised of G. L. Whitcomb, Clara C. Flarity, Laura I. Richards, Abbie A. Barber and Minnie L. Knight.

A Day of Happenings.
 Monday was a day of happenings in Townsend. An alarm of fire was given during the forenoon from Mrs. George Wyeth's house on Townsend hill. As it was so far distant and had traveling the engine was not taken, but numerous extinguishers instead, but before they could arrive the fire had gained such a headway that it was impossible to save the building, the barn burning also. A fierce chimney fire was the cause of it. Part of the furniture was saved and also the live stock. Mr. and Mrs. Wyeth are at Mr. Delano's until they decide what to do.

Early the same morning, Mrs. Sarah Ball, aged eighty-seven years, was found in an unconscious condition in her bed, caused by a shock which had happened sometime during the night. Miss Addie Bruce, who rooms at Mrs. Ball's, arose early to mail some letters and stepped into Mrs. Ball's apartments to speak to her. She immediately saw something was wrong as Mrs. Ball did not reply, and is always an early riser. Help was at once summoned and at last report Mrs. Ball is only conscious at times, her right side and speech also being somewhat affected. Mrs. Ball has always been active mentally and physically for one of her advanced years. Miss Kate Spaulding is caring for her. Mrs. Ball's oldest brother, Abner Proctor, of South Framingham, who is considerably over ninety years of age, is now very ill at his daughter's home.

Hardly had the neighbors and friends recovered from the shock of hearing of Mrs. Ball's sad affliction and the fire at the Wyeth place, when they were again startled to hear that Dr. L. C. Chandler had broken his leg while assisting his horse to rise after it had stumbled. The doctor had been making a morning call and was driving off of school street when the horse stumbled. In attempting to help the horse up, the doctor was wrenched around in some manner so that his right leg was broken, in a severe spiral break near the hip. He was taken home by J. L. Farrar and E. D. Bliss, and his son, Dr. Clarence Chandler, of Fitchburg, was immediately summoned and came over and set the limb. Later it was decided best to take him to the Burbank hospital so that he could be under the constant care of his son, and an ambulance arrived from Fitchburg later in the day and he was taken over and is getting along since as well as can be expected. Everyone expresses their sympathy, as a broken limb needs a long time to mend.

Center.
 Robert Copeland, who was operated on for appendicitis by Dr. Maurice Richards at the N. E. Baptist hospital, Roxbury, last week, is getting along nicely, according to the latest reports.

Miss Martha Harrington was in town last week bidding farewell to her many friends here. Miss Harrington, for many years, a successful teacher here, has been obliged to resign her position here on account of the advanced years and failing health of her parents. All are very sorry to lose her.

LITTLETON.
About Town.
 Austin Hartwell will speak before the guild on "The best way to get ahead," Sunday evening.

Last week, Friday, Mrs. E. G. Fairfield spoke in Whitman, before a neighborhood alliance meeting, a large one on the subject "Some ministers I have known in fiction, and our of it." She has been invited to speak in West Somerville.

Last week, Friday afternoon, the Whist club met at the home of Mrs. J. M. Hartwell.

Frank Haley left Friday for a European trip of several weeks.

REPELS ATTACK OF DEATH.
 "Five years ago two doctors told me I had only two years to live." This startling statement was made by William Green, Malachite, Col. "They told me I would die with consumption. It was up to me then to try the best lung medicine and I began to use Dr. King's New Discovery. It was well I did, for today I am working and believe I owe my life to this great throat and lung cure that has cheated the grave of another victim." It is folly to suffer with coughs, colds or other throat and lung troubles now. Take the cure that's safest. Price 50 cents and \$1.00. Trial bottle free at William Brown's, Ayer.

New Advertisements.
 NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the subscriber has been duly appointed administrator of the estate of MARY T. P. COOPER, late of Shirley, in the County of Middlesex, deceased, in testate, and has taken upon himself that trust by giving bond, as the law directs.

All persons having demands upon the estate of said deceased are hereby required to exhibit the same, and all persons indebted to the estate are called upon to make payment to

RICHARD N. WALLINGFORD,
 Administrator.
 2 Moody St., Waltham, Mass.
 March 4th, 1912.

FOR SALE—White Wyandotte and Rhode Island Red Eggs 75c setting, \$4 per 100. E. STANLEY, South Jerline, N. H.

Lamson & Hubbard



Hats
Best in America
 For Sale by
Geo. H. Brown
 AYER, MASS.

J. W. MURRAY
 Merchant Tailor
 AYER, MASS. Tel. 106-2

Jas. P. Fitch
 JEWELER
 CARLEY'S BLOCK, MAIN STREET
 NEAR P. O. AYER

COLLECTOR'S OFFICE
 Townsend, Mass., March 6, 1912.

The owner and occupant of the following described parcel of real estate situated in the Town of Townsend, in the County of Middlesex and Commonwealth of Massachusetts, and the public are hereby notified that the taxes thereon assessed for the year hereinafter specified, according to the list committed to me as collector of taxes for said Townsend by the assessors of taxes, remain unpaid, and that the smallest undivided part of said land sufficient to satisfy said taxes, with interest and all legal costs and charges, or the whole of said land if no person offers to take an undivided part thereof, will be offered for sale by public action at the Selectmen's room, Memorial Hall, in said Townsend on Monday, April 1, 1912, at two o'clock in the afternoon, for the payment of said taxes with interest, same shall be previously discharged.

The tax above referred to was assessed to S. R. Crimmins of Leominster, Mass., for the year 1908 and amounts to \$10.20 with interest thereon amounting to \$2.60, making a total of \$12.80.

The real estate on which said tax was assessed is described as follows: "A certain tract of land situated in the northerly part of said Townsend, in that part thereof known as West Hill, on the road leading from the Allen Place to the New Hampshire state line bounded: Northerly by land formerly of Joseph Baxter; westerly by last named land and land formerly of A. D. Fessenden; southerly by last named land and land of O. D. Fessenden; easterly by land of U. S. Adams containing sixty (60) acres more or less including the highway passing through said premises."

L. U. CLEMENT,
 Collector of Taxes for the Town of 326 Townsend for the year 1908.

Union Cash Market
 AYER

LOOK OVER THESE PRICES
 ROAST PORK, 13c. lb
 FRESH SHOULDER PORK, 11c. lb
 GOOD SIRLOIN STEAK, 20c. lb
 GOOD SIRLOIN ROAST, 16c. lb
 LARGE SELECTED OYSTERS, 45c. qt.
 4 lb OYSTER CRACKERS, 25c.
 SOUR KRAUT, 10c. qt.
 4 LBS. GINGER SNAPS, 25c. lb.
 4 lb BEST HEAD RICE, 25c.
 BEN HUR BREAD FLOUR, 85c. bag
 PASTRY FLOUR, 75c. bag
 3 CANS CORN 25c. or 90c. doz.
 OOLONG TEA, 30c. lb
 CEYLON TEA, 35c. lb
 1/2 lb CAN COCOA, 19c.
 GOOD COFFEE, 25c. lb
 1/2 LB. CHOCOLATE, 15c.

Remember the Place
UNION CASH MARKET, Main Street
 Ayer, Mass.

MONUMENTS
 Before buying see my new designs which I can furnish from best native or foreign granite or marble. Having been in the business all my life I guarantee satisfaction.
T. M. BLODGETT,
 Littleton, Mass.

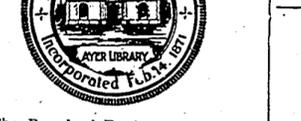
Vapor Treatment

FOR CATARRH, COLDS, COUGHS, SORE THROAT AND BRONCHITIS.
 Everybody knows that breathing HYOMEI a few times a day through the little hard rubber pocket inhaler will in a short time drive out catarrh. Many people regularly use the vapor treatment at night in conjunction with the inhaler, claiming that it hastens results.

This is the vapor treatment: Into a bowl three-quarters full of boiling water pour a scant teaspoonful of HYOMEI, cover head and bowl with towel and breathe for five minutes the soothing, healing, antiseptic HYOMEI vapor. Try it when using HYOMEI for any nose or throat ailment.

HYOMEI is guaranteed by William Brown, Ayer, to put an end to catarrh, or money back. A bottle of HYOMEI costs 50 cents; a complete outfit, which includes inhaler, \$1.00.

Registration of Voters



The Board of Registrars of Voters will be in session in the Selectmen's Room, Town Hall Building, for the purpose of registering voters and correcting the list of voters,
 Saturday, March 9, 7.30 to 9.30 p. m.
 Thursday, March 14, 7.30 to 9.30 p. m.
 Saturday, March 23, 12 m. to 10 p. m.

Registration will close at 10 p. m., Saturday, March 23, and no names will be added to the voting list after that date until after the next election, except the names of voters examined as to their qualifications between the preceding 30th day of April and the close of registration, or to correct a clerical error or mistake.

Persons wishing to register should bring a tax bill or a notice from the collector of taxes to show that they have been assessed for the year 1911.

Naturalized citizens wishing to register must show their certificate of naturalization.

JOHN L. KENNISON,
 PETER B. MURPHY,
 FRANK J. MALONEY,
 GUY B. REMICK,
 3t26 Registrars of Voters.

Auction

By virtue and in pursuance of the authority contained in an order and decree of the Supreme Judicial Court sitting in equity for the County of Worcester, upon the petition of Joseph Holden et al., which decree was filed March 17, 1906, will be sold at public auction on Saturday, the 16th day of March, 1912, at One o'clock P. M., at the District Court Room in Ayer, the following described tract of land situated in the southeasterly part of said Ayer and bounded and described as follows:

Beginning at the intersection of the road leading from Ayer to Littleton and the County Road leading to Sandy Pond; thence northerly by said County Road to land of L. W. Phelps; thence westerly by said Phelps' land to said Ayer and Littleton Road; thence southeasterly by last named road to the point of beginning.

Terms made known at time and place of sale.
 For further particulars inquire of the subscribers, or D. C. Parsons, Ayer, Mass.

JOSEPH HOLDEN,
 ANNIE L. WALKER,
 JOSEPHINE C. JOSLIN,
 Trustees of the United Societies of Believers of Harvard and Shirley.
 Ayer, Mass., March 1, 1912. 3t25

Mortgagee's Sale

In pursuance of a power of sale contained in a certain mortgage deed given by Virginia A. G. Russell to George S. Gates, dated June 19th, 1893, and recorded with Middlesex South District Deeds, libro 2205, folio 202, will be sold at public auction upon the premises hereinafter described, on Monday, April 8th, 1912, at two o'clock in the afternoon, all and singular the premises conveyed by said mortgage deed, namely:

"A certain parcel or lot of land with the buildings thereon, situated in said Groton Centre on the northerly side of the road leading from the Baptist Meeting House to Farmers Row, and bounded as follows:

Beginning at the Southeast corner of said premises at a stone bound at said road and at land of Henry W. Whiting. Thence Southwesterly by said road to a stone bound at land of said Gates. Thence Northwesterly by land of said Gates and land Grace Richardson to land of James Fitzgerald. Thence Easterly by said Fitzgerald's land to land of Lydia K. Davis. Thence Southeasterly by land of said Davis and by land of Henry W. Whiting to the first mentioned bound." Containing about two acres by the same more or less. Being the same premises formerly owned by Milo Russell late of Groton deceased."

Terms made known at time and place of sale.
 GEORGE J. BURNS,
 Executor of will of George S. Gates.
 Mortgagee.
 Ayer, Mass., March 6, 1912. 3t26

FOR SALE—Eggs for Hatching, R. I. Reds and Barred P. Rocks (full blooded) 5c. for 12. Chicks, 1 day old, 15c. when ordered. C. WRANGHAM, Harvard, Mass.

COMPLY WITH THE LAW
The Neverout

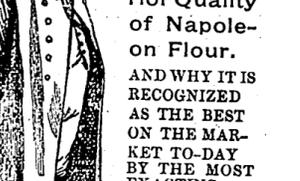
PATENT LAMP
 FOR CARRIAGES, WAGONS, Etc.
 THE NEVEROUT
 City No. 44



Shows light from front, rear and side.
 Complies with the laws in the various States and Municipalities.
 Guaranteed to positively stay lit. The Neverout has been, for ten years, the world's standard; therefore, you take no risk.
 Patented.
 All styles and finishes of the celebrated NEVEROUT for sale by
L. SHERWIN & CO.
 Ayer, Mass.

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.

Engraved Cards

Business and Social
 Wedding Stationery
 Card Showings
 STYLES AND PRICES
 Willingly Furnished

50 Engraved Cards in Script, including Plate, \$1.00
 Public Spirit Office, Ayer.

60 YEARS' EXPERIENCE
PATENTS

TRADE MARKS
 DESIGNS
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 Anyone sending a sketch and description may quickly ascertain our opinion free whether an invention is probably patentable. Our communications are strictly confidential. HANDBOOK on Patents sent free. Best Agency for securing patents. Patents taken through Munn & Co. receive special notice, without charge, in the Scientific American.

A handsomely illustrated weekly. Largest circulation of any scientific journal. Terms, \$3 a year in advance. Sold by all news dealers.
MUNN & Co., 361 Broadway, New York
 Branch Office, 65 F St., Washington, D. C.

FOR SALE
 Inside Door; One Outside Hall Door, lighted; One Double Store Door, lighted; a lot of Inside Blinds, upper and lower, for five windows; Several Outside Blinds, several sizes. All second-hand and in good condition. Will be sold cheap. Public Spirit Office, Ayer.

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS, Middlesex, ss. Probate Court.
 To the heirs-at-law, next of kin and all other persons interested in the estate of RUTH E. BURGESS late of Ayer in said County, deceased.

Whereas, a certain instrument purporting to be the last will and testament of said deceased has been presented to said Court, for Probate, by HATTIE A. LONGLEY who prays that letters testamentary may be issued to her, the executrix therein named.

You are hereby cited to appear at a Probate Court, to be held at Cambridge, in said County of Middlesex, on the eighteenth day of March A. D. 1912, 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 hereby directed to give public notice thereof, by publishing this citation 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 by mailing post-paid, or delivering a copy of this citation to all known persons interested in the estate, seven days at least before said Court.

Witness, Charles J. McIntire, Esquire, First Judge of said Court, this twentieth day of February, 1912, at Groton, one thousand nine hundred and twelve.
 3t25 W. E. ROGERS, Register.

Our nine papers have a very large circulation. Advertisers get good results. All advertisements appear in all nine papers.

Subscription, \$1.50 Yearly in Advance
Saturday, March 16, 1912.

PEPPERELL.

Current Events.

The Woman's Christian Temperance union held a Willard Memorial meeting at the home of Mrs. E. F. Harmon on Thursday, March 7. The regular order of exercises was followed by quotations from and anecdotes of the one in whose memory this meeting was held. The attendance was not as large as usual, owing to various reasons, but the collection was a generous one. These funds are collected for the benefit of the Willard Y settlement in Boston.

Mrs. E. E. Handley has been confined to her home on Main street, during the last few days with an attack of acute indigestion. The latest reports are that she is improving.

Mrs. Edward Sartelle of Groton street slipped and fell the early part of this week. Beside a badly sprained ankle she suffered other minor injuries, which will confine her to her home for some time.

John Frossard started for Buffalo, N. Y., Monday noon on a business trip. From Buffalo he expects to go to Hamilton, Ohio, and from there to Kalamazoo, Mich. The trip will occupy two weeks or more. During his absence Mrs. Frossard will visit her daughter, Mrs. Nodding, at the "Elms," Wilmington, where the Nodding family are now boarding.

A special meeting of the Ladies' Aid society will be held in their rooms on Wednesday, March 29, for the purpose of arranging for the Easter sale which will take place on Friday, March 29.

A Former Pepperell Boy.

The remains of George F. McCormack were brought here from Fitchburg on the noon train, Wednesday, accompanied by many of his nearest relatives.

His death occurred at his home in that city on the morning of March 11, after an illness of about two weeks, the immediate cause being gastric ulcers.

He was one of ten children, being the third son of Charles F. McCormack, formerly a resident of this town, but now of Fitchburg.

The deceased was employed as machinist tender at the Nashua River Paper Co., going from here to Fitchburg about six years ago.

Besides his parents and seven of his brothers and sisters, he is survived by a widow and two step-daughters. His age was twenty-nine years.

Obituary.

On Wednesday, March 6, at the home of Mr. and Mrs. C. C. Tucker, after an illness of more than eleven years, Mrs. Mary J. Shattuck passed from this life at the age of eighty-seven years and five months. During these years of her illness she was an almost constant sufferer from pain and in a large measure helpless. She bore these afflictions with remarkable fortitude and retained to the last her mental faculties little impaired, finally letting go her hold on life with calmness and the full assurance of hope.

Mrs. Shattuck was the ninth in a family of eleven children, the daughter of Elijah Chapman and Lois Green. In 1839, at the age of fifteen she united with the Orthodox church in which she was an active member in its various departments until prevented by illness from further attendance. Even then she kept her interest in its work at home and abroad.

She particularly appreciated and enjoyed during her illness the many visits from her large circle of friends. She is survived by two brothers—James Chapman of Minnesota and William of this town, her two daughters—Mrs. C. C. Tucker and Miss Clara M. Shattuck. She also leaves three granddaughters and three great grand children.

Mrs. Shattuck was one of those rare souls whose life was a benediction to all with whom she came in contact, the severe trials of illness or adversity only serving to refine and temper the gold of her character. Always glad to serve in any way possible in the years of her activity, her life was none the less a ministry where illness and suffering lead her aside from active duties.

The needy, the sick and the sorrowing found in her not only a sympathetic friend, but also one who was glad to be of material assistance often at no small sacrifice to herself. As long as she could, and when she could no longer do active work, she still kept her love for and interest in those whom she could reach. Always cheerful, never complaining, her home was a place of brightness and blessing.

Her was a marked life in the fact of her strong practical faith. She lived in the presence of God. What she did not understand of the mysteries of life in its pain or sorrow or deprivation, she yet accepted with unwavering courage, strong in the faith that "all things work together for good." The world is a thousand fold richer that such as she have lived and memory of her or of the just is "blessed."

Citizens' Caucus.

In accordance with a call of the selectmen, duly posted, about three hundred of the citizens of Pepperell assembled in the town hall on Monday evening, the 11th, and were called to order by the town clerk, Parker J. Kemp, at 7:35 o'clock. Clerk read the call for the caucus, and then called for choice of a chairman of the meeting. Edward F. Harmon was unanimously elected chairman. He at once took the chair, and after a few appropriate remarks, declared the meeting open for business.

It was voted that the nominations be by ballot, and that the check list

Chairman then appointed E. A. Williams and Thomas J. Drummy tellers for the check lists; and Addison Woodward and P. J. Hayes to count ballots. He then called for ballots for candidate for town clerk for the ensuing year. Parker J. Kemp was unanimously elected as candidate for town clerk for the ensuing year. Edward L. Tarbell was unanimously elected as a candidate for town treasurer for the ensuing year.

Chairman then called for ballots for selectmen for one year, in place of Francis G. Hayes, resigned. Whole number of ballots cast 230, of which Walter H. Drury had 183, Alta A. Shattuck 95, and Benjamin W. Parker 2.

Charles H. Miller was unanimously elected a candidate for selectman for three years.

Harry F. Lawrence was unanimously elected a candidate for assessor for three years.

Benjamin W. Parker was unanimously elected a candidate for overseer of the poor for three years.

Chairman then called for ballots for a candidate for school committee for three years. Whole number of votes cast 220, of which Horatio N. Tower had 117, and Harry F. Hobart 103.

Warren S. Wood was unanimously elected a candidate for cemetery commissioner for three years.

Arthur P. Wright and Dr. Charles G. Hoard were unanimously elected candidates for trustees of Lawrence public library for three years.

Charles S. Denham was unanimously elected a candidate for water commissioner for three years.

Marshall Meriam and Arthur E. Bannion were unanimously elected candidates for auditors for one year.

John P. Tune was unanimously elected a candidate for tree warden for one year.

Luther G. Robbins was unanimously elected a candidate for tax collector for one year.

Chairman called for ballots for a highway surveyor for one year. Whole number of ballots cast 238, of which Warren M. Blood had 136 and Silas M. Nokes 101, and Benjamin W. Parker 1.

Chairman then called for ballots for constables. Voted to elect two constables, Albert A. Lawrence and Geo. G. Tarbell were unanimously elected candidates for constables for one year.

Voted to dissolve.

Town Meeting.

The following are the twenty-nine articles contained in the town warrant, for the meeting to be held on Monday, March 25:

Art. 1. To choose a moderator.

Art. 2. To hear the reports of the selectmen, overseers of the poor, town treasurer, school committee, water commissioner, and other town officers or committees, and act thereon.

Art. 3. To determine what sums of money the town will raise and appropriate to defray town charges for the support of public schools, for support of town's poor, for repairs on highways and bridges, and for any necessary changes arising therein.

Art. 4. To hear and act on the report of the highway surveyor on guide boards.

Art. 5. To determine what sum of money the town will raise and appropriate for Memorial day.

Art. 6. To authorize the town treasurer, with the approval of the selectmen, to borrow during the municipal year, beginning March 1, 1912, in anticipation of the collection of taxes of said year, such sums of money as may be needed for current expenses of the town, but not exceeding the total tax levy for said year, giving the notes of the town therefor, payable within one year from the date thereof. All debts incurred under authority of said vote shall be paid from the present municipal year.

Art. 7. To see if the town will appropriate money and how much to defray the expenses of the High school graduation exercises or act thereon.

Art. 8. To determine what method the town will adopt for the collection of taxes.

Art. 9. To choose all necessary town officers for the ensuing year not required to be elected by ballot.

Art. 10. To see if the town will vote that official ballots shall hereafter be used for the election of all town officers required by law to be elected by ballot, and that the Australian system of voting be adopted in accordance with the requirements of chapter 569, acts of 1907, and amendments or additions thereto, or act anything relating to the same.

Art. 11. To see if the town will appropriate the sum of \$200 for the purpose of preparing the record of the births, marriages and deaths previous to the 15th, to be printed and verified as provided in chapter 470, section 1, of the acts of 1902.

Art. 12. To see what action will be taken in regard to extending the electric lights through Elm street to Shirley street.

Art. 13. To see if the town will vote to accept from Mrs. Lucy R. Page the sum of \$100, the income to be used for the perpetual care of her lot in Walton cemetery.

Art. 14. To see if the town will vote to accept from Alice M. Boynton the sum of \$100, the income to be used for the perpetual care of her lot in Walton cemetery.

Art. 15. To see if the town will vote to accept from Nelson Shattuck the sum of \$100, the income to be used for the perpetual care of the lot of Timothy Shattuck in Woodlawn cemetery.

Art. 16. To see what action will be taken in regard to selling the East schoolhouse on Nashua street.

Art. 17. To see if the town will accept the provisions of section 1 of chapter 104 of the Revised Laws relating to by-laws for the prevention of fire and the preservation of life.

Art. 18. To see if the town will adopt the following by-law under section 1 of chapter 104 of the Revised Laws.

"No wooden building shall hereafter be erected or placed at a less distance than 25 feet from the line of the lot upon which the building is to be located except upon the street side; or within 25 feet of another wooden building except where a

brick external wall is substituted for a wooden wall, unless permission in each case is given by the selectmen after a public hearing by said board, and after due notice thereof."

Art. 19. To see if the town will vote to light the streets until twelve o'clock at night, or act anything thereon.

Art. 20. To see what action will be taken in regard to paying the tax collector's office rent.

Art. 21. To see if the town will vote to buy an adding machine or act anything pertaining thereto.

Art. 22. To see if the town will vote to sell the property known as the "Varnum place," located on Hollis street, or take any action in regard to selling same.

Art. 23. To see what action will be taken in regard to repairing the bridge on Mill street, near H. A. Parker's paper mill, or in building a new one.

Art. 24. To see if the town will vote to rebuild the sidewalk on Groton street, from the covered bridge to Mill street, or act anything thereon.

Art. 25. To see if the town will appropriate money to make repairs at the almshouse, or act anything thereon, or in regard to putting in town water.

Art. 26. To see if the town will vote to repair or reconstruct the heating system at the Lawrence library, or act anything regarding the same.

Art. 27. To see if the town will vote to purchase the "Leighton shooshop lot," so-called, located on Main street, near the Foster street engine house, the same to be fitted up and used as a public park, or act anything relating to the same.

Art. 28. To see if the town will vote to accept the provisions of chap. 367, acts of 1911, entitled "An act relative to the use of school halls for other than school purposes," or act anything in relation to the same.

Art. 29. To see if the town will vote to install drinking fountains, or act anything regarding the same.

Items of News.

The Oak Hill Improvement club will give an entertainment on Thursday, March 21, at the Oak Hill hall. Two farces, entitled "Thirty minutes for refreshments," and "The love of a bonnet" will be given, followed by readings and music. Home-made candy will be on sale.

W. O. Farnsworth, of Milford, N. H., has been spending the week-end with his children on Main street.

Jonas Andrews is reported as being much better.

Mrs. Helen Christenson, of Groton, spent a few days in town with friends recently.

Friends of Louis Bean are pleased to learn he is gaining fast from his long illness.

The Ladies' Aid society of the M. E. church will hold their Easter sale on Friday, March 29, at the M. E. church vestry. A farce, entitled "A modern sewing society," will be given.

A meeting of Acoma lodge was held on Tuesday evening. After the business meeting the banquet hall was opened and a large number enjoyed the evening by dancing and playing whist. The evening was in charge of Mrs. F. J. Dunlap, Mrs. D. E. Weston, John Frossard and Susie Deware. Fruit punch and home-made candy was served and all passed a very pleasant evening.

The next meeting of the Pepperell Woman's club will be held in Central hall on March 19. It will be reciprocity day. Guests have been invited from Milford, Shirley, Littleton and Ayer clubs. Club tea will be served.

The L. B. S. of the Congregational church will hold their regular meeting on Thursday afternoon, March 21.

A mistake in last week's paper about the lecture to be given by Miss Ellen Paine Huling on Tuesday, April 2, is in the afternoon, instead of the evening as was given last week.

Miss Laura R. Herrig was one of the first violinists at an orchestral concert given in Jordan hall, Boston, last Monday evening. The orchestra was composed of twenty talented young lady musicians and fifty-five symphony men. Monsieur Edmond Clement, the great French tenor from the Opera Comique, Paris, was the soloist.

The Town Conference will hold its next meeting on Monday evening, March 18, at eight o'clock, in Odd Fellows' hall, Saunders' Corner. The meeting is open to all and its purpose is to become acquainted with the town warrant.

A surprise party was given to Roy Card on last Tuesday evening in honor of his eighteenth birthday, at his home on Brookline street. Thayer's orchestra furnished music and Miss Harriet Wright rendered several selections on the piano during the evening. As a token of their remembrance, his many friends presented him with a sum of money, a set of studs and stick pins in memory of the occasion his parents presented him with a gold watch. Refreshments of ice cream and cake were served. The party departed for their homes at a reasonable hour, all declaring they had spent a most enjoyable evening.

On Tuesday evening, the reunion and supper at the Crawford House, Boston, of the Barnical association. This is formed of the few members left of a company of which he was appointed captain just forty years ago, being the first permanent captain to go into service. He planned to stay for the auto truck show but a telephone at eight o'clock Wednesday morning from Mrs. Blood recalled him as the water was doing much damage.

The Needy Workers' circle will hold a whist and dance party at I. O. O. F. hall, Friday evening, March 22.

Prudence Wright Chapter, D. A. R., and friends will meet with Mrs. E. L. Tarbell Wednesday evening, March 20, it being the first guest night in the calendar of the chapter.

One of the many delightful events of our stay in beautiful Orlando, Fla. was a 500 party held at the home of Mr. and Mrs. C. W. Darling, 64 South street, Saturday evening, February 24. Those who enjoyed the privilege of being entertained by the hospita-

ble tourists were Mr. and Mrs. James Starr of Pepperell; Mr. and Mrs. E. R. Simonds, Waterbury, Conn.; Mr. and Mrs. W. E. Ainsworth, Glen Falls, N. Y.; Mr. and Mrs. Geo. F. Miller of Leominster. Dainty refreshments were served. Many regrets were expressed that Mr. and Mrs. Darling were so soon to start for their home in Pepperell.

To the Editor:

Kindly allow me space in your valuable paper to define my views on the school question, and give some very potent reasons why the voters should elect me a member of the school board. Nearly everyone in town knows that when the present board of education failed to re-appoint Miss Baker as teacher in the Oak Hill school that I felt as most all of the parents and others did, that we had met with a serious loss. We felt that all we had to do to have Miss Baker re-appointed would be to present a petition to the superintendent and school board, showing our high esteem and deep appreciation of Miss Baker and her work.

We circulated such a petition into every home in the district. All but two signed it. The signatures included eight retired school teachers, three of whom were normal school graduates. This petition was presented in person by Mr. and Mrs. Otis A. Murrell, Miss Louella V. Shattuck, Mrs. L. N. Maxwell, Miss Lucy Blood, Lyman G. Blood, Edward P. McCord and Mr. and Mrs. H. F. Hobart. We did the best we could, and more than was necessary to show the vital mistake they had made.

Up to this time I entertained nothing but the kindest of feelings toward the superintendent, any member of the school board, or any family in the district. But I came away feeling that Miss Baker had not been used honestly. Now I know it. I have strong reasons to believe that the same treatment will be given Miss Clara M. Shattuck, principal of the Main Street grammar school this year that was given Miss Baker last.

This brings me to my first reason why you should elect me a member of the school board. Just as long as Miss Shattuck continues with the high class work I believe she is doing, she should be kept in the school and if elected I will do all in my power to keep her there, for I believe to lose Miss Shattuck from this school would be a great loss to the entire town.

Second. The superintendent and school board do not want me for they know that they would have to convince me before I would agree to such radical changes as they contemplate.

Third. The town's money has been wasted. The cost of the change of teachers at Oak Hill district will show in your town report an additional expense of about ten dollars per week.

Fourth. I believe that every citizen asking for information about schools or any public institutions is entitled to a fair and honest answer instead of a misleading one.

Fifth. I believe you will all agree with me that if there is a man in town to whom the teachers, scholars and parents should look upon with respect, it should be the superintendent of our schools. This is not true of our present superintendent and in my opinion the sooner he is exchanged for one that is, the better it will be for the town and schools. If elected I shall try hard to make such a change.

Sixth. I believe in fair play for all, instead of tyrannical rule. Now fellow citizens, let me assure you that there is no personal feeling on my part against the present incumbent, and permit me to say that this office is nothing I want, but if elected I will gladly accept it out of a deep sense of duty, and will try hard to give you a clear administration of school affairs. H. F. Hobart.

Caucus.

The caucus held in the town hall, Monday evening, to nominate town officers for the ensuing year, was made lively by several contests.

Edward F. Harmon was chosen moderator of the meeting. After the reading of the caucus call by the town clerk, Mr. Harmon made a few appropriate remarks, thanking the citizens for the honor bestowed, and called the meeting to order, for the nomination of the various candidates named.

Edward L. Tarbell was chosen for re-election as town treasurer. W. H. Drury was chosen for selectman, for one year, in place of F. G. Hayes, resigned; and defeated A. A. Shattuck by a vote of 186 to 82.

The contest for road commissioner was between the old rivals for that strenuous job. W. M. Blood won out over S. M. Nokes, 128 to 126.

The nomination for school committee was of unusual interest; and the sensation of the evening was the nomination speech by Edward P. McCord, who addressed the meeting with the statement that before placing a candidate in nomination he wished to make a few remarks. He called the attention of the citizens to the fact that almost half of the money appropriated each year was expended on the schools. But when such a mistake was made as had been made with the Oak Hill school, the taxpayers were powerless to prevent it unless a determined school board were in office.

At this point Thomas Drummy made objection.

The chair placed it before the meeting, should Mr. McCord be heard or not? The meeting voted he should. Mr. McCord resumed his remarks, thanking the chairman and the citizens and with a few remarks put before the meeting the name of H. F. Hobart, as a candidate with plenty of backbone to carry out the wishes of the people and protect their interests on this important question.

H. N. Tower received 117 votes, H. F. Hobart 103. It is understood that Mr. Hobart will run independent, also that S. M. Nokes will run on a citizens' ticket for road commissioner. It is understood that Mr. Blood has told many that he did not wish for re-election and they have decided on Mr. Nokes, and no doubt he will be elected, as there is considerable criticism of the past administration, which

has over run its appropriation considerable.

G. L. Robbins was nominated for tax collector to succeed E. P. McCord, whose time expires.

A. A. Lawrence and G. G. Tarbell were nominated as constable. J. P. Tune for tree warden.

Suggestion.

At the suggestion of some citizens, and in view of the lack of knowledge of many with regard to the law, the school committee desire to call attention to the following laws which are part of the statute law of the state:

Chapter 42, Section 43 (as amended in 1911). The school committees of two or more towns the valuation of each of which is less than two million five hundred thousand dollars, and the aggregate number of schools in all of which is not more than fifty nor less than twenty-five, and the school committee of each of which several towns the valuation of each of which does not exceed two million five hundred thousand dollars, without reference to the minimum limit in the aggregate number of schools aforesaid, shall form a union for the purpose of employing a superintendent of schools. The school committees of such towns shall be a joint committee which, for the purposes of such union shall be the agents of each town therein. Such union shall not be dissolved except by a vote of the majority of the towns constituting the union, and the consent of the board of education to such dissolution, nor shall it be dissolved for the reason that the valuation of any one of the towns shall have so increased as to exceed two million five hundred thousand dollars.

Chap. 42, Sec. 44 (as amended in 1911). The joint committee shall employ a superintendent of schools, determine the relative amount of service to be performed by him in each town, fix his salary, apportion the amount thereof to be paid by the several towns and certify it to each town's treasurer. Such superintendent of schools shall be employed for a term of three years, and his salary shall not be reduced during such term. He may be removed from office by a two-thirds vote of the full membership of the joint committee, and with the consent of the board of education to such dismissal, whereupon his salary shall cease.

Chap. 299, Acts of 1903, provides as follows: The state board of education is hereby authorized to form or readjust unions of towns for the employment of superintendents of schools whenever in its judgment it becomes imperatively necessary to include a town which otherwise is unable to comply with the law.

Chap. 215, Acts of 1904, provides as follows: In all superintendency unions in which any part of the expense of the superintendent is borne by the commonwealth the state board of education shall determine, by examination or otherwise, the qualifications of candidates for the position of superintendent of public schools; and after the first day of January in the year 1905, no person shall be elected to such a position who does not hold a certificate of fitness and competency from said board.

Chap. 444, Acts of 1910, provides as follows: The superintendent of schools shall under the direction of the school committee have the care and supervision of the public schools, and shall be the executive officer of the school committee. He shall assist the school committee in keeping its records and accounts and in making such reports as are required by law.

Sec. 2. The superintendent of schools shall recommend teachers to the school committee, and shall also recommend text-books and courses of study to the school committee.

The state board of education in their report for 1910-1911, makes the following annotations to the last law quoted.

The board recommended the passage of this act for the following reasons:

1. Administrative excellence at the present time, whether in business, society, education, or political affairs, requires on the one hand the specialist, and on the other hand a small section of the public especially qualified to pass judgment on the work of the specialist.

2. It is now recognized and universally accepted that the superintendent must stand to the school committee in the relationship of an expert to a public lay body.

3. The superintendent should know more than any of the school committee regarding educational practice and the details of administration. The school committee must stand in the position of a legislative body, and must assume final responsibility for the acts of the expert.

4. The school committee cannot in the nature of things know much about the qualifications of teachers, the excellence of text-books, or the supervision of instruction. On the other hand, the superintendent cannot so far detach himself from the community that at least those members of it who are on the school committee do not understand and approve of the course of his administration.

5. In a democracy it would be fatal to allow the superintendent or other expert to arrogate to himself full authority, for administration. It is equally fatal, on the other hand, that laymen imperfectly qualified and with insufficient time should attempt to administer details requiring expert knowledge.

The act does not in any degree remove final authority from the school committee. The superintendent is obliged under the law to make recommendations, the school committee may or may not adopt his suggestions in any given question. Only in this way can the professional knowledge of the superintendent be made of largest benefit to the schools, and can be justly held responsible as chief executive officer for the success of their work.

Lester R. Qua,
Mary L. P. Shattuck,
Horatio N. Tower,
School Committee of the Town of Pepperell.

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