

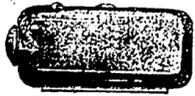
TURNER'S PUBLIC SPIRIT.

Forty-Ninth Year

Ayer, Mass., Saturday, December 16, 1916

No. 15. Price Four Cents

Everything Electrical



Value \$1.00
SALES PRICE 89c.



Value \$1.50
SALES PRICE \$1.33

Headquarters for
Mazda Lamps

Ever-Ready
Flashlights & Batteries
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Electric Supplies

Wiring and Repairing

Robert Murphy's Sons Co.

ELECTRICAL CONTRACTORS

SALESROOM
PARK STREET

Telephone 86-4
AYER, MASS.

First National Bank of Ayer Savings and Thrift Club

Thrift Club starts Tuesday, Dec.
26, 1916, at 8 a. m., when First
Payment will be Due

SAVE 25 CENTS PER WEEK FOR
SAVE 50 CENTS PER WEEK FOR
SAVE \$1.00 PER WEEK FOR
SAVE \$2.00 PER WEEK FOR

50 Weeks

CALL AND LET US EXPLAIN

Banking Hours—8 to 3 Saturdays, 8 to 1
FIRST NATIONAL BANK OF AYER



HOLIDAY HINTS

Early Shopping

GIVES YOU A BETTER SELECTION OF GOODS

Our Store is Now Prepared for Those Who Want Smart, Sensible,
Up-to-the-Minute Gifts.

A Few Practical Suggestions:

FANCY CHINA
CUT GLASS
SILVERKRAFT WARE
TEA WAGONS
SMOKER STANDS
SEWING TABLES

BOUDOIR LAMPS
CHAFING DISHES
CLOCKS
VICTROLAS
MUSIC CABINETS
PIANOS

CHILDREN'S FURNITURE

We invite you to do your Christmas Shopping at our store and
get the benefit of our anniversary 10 Percent Discount on all pur-
chases during the month of December.

J. J. Barry & Co.

Barry Building Main Street AYER, MASS.

30 PERCENT OF THE VALUE OF THE HOUSE

You want to buy is generally all you need, for the

FITCHBURG CO-OPERATIVE BANK

Can often lend you the balance

At the Store of J. J. Barry, Main Street, Ayer

FRIDAY EVENING, DECEMBER 22—5 to 8 o'clock

TOWNSEND

West.
C. S. Homer's Christmas tree for the children attending the public schools will be held in the reading-room on Friday afternoon, December 22. The primary school will be entertained from 2.45 to 3.15 and the intermediate pupils from 3.30 to four o'clock. Beside the presentation of the gifts each child will receive ice cream and cake, which is the gift of Mrs. Homer.

Rev. Joseph MacKean will preach Sunday morning upon the topic, "Honey as a diet, or too much of a good thing," and in the evening his subject will be "How can a man bring good things to all men." The Y. P. S. C. E. meeting will be in charge of Estella Tucker and the topic is "Big jobs awaiting us."

Mrs. Henry B. Hathaway was taken to the Emerson hospital, Forest Hill street, Jamaica Plain, on Sunday and underwent a serious operation on Monday morning. At last reports she was as comfortable as could be expected. Miss Esther Lane of the Fitchburg Normal school has been substituting until a permanent teacher for the grammar school can be supplied to take her place for the winter.

Mr. and Mrs. Herbert Wise went to Boston Saturday to attend the wedding of their daughter Lois to Frederick William Swindells of Enfield, Conn. The ceremony took place at the Copley-Plaza and the happy couple left that evening for a wedding trip to New York, after which they will be at home to their friends after February first at their home in Enfield, Conn.

The Ladies' Auxiliary of the Brotherhood met at the parsonage on Monday afternoon for their regular monthly business meeting. The president, Mrs. Harriet Stuckey, presided and a nominating committee, composed of Rev. Joseph MacKean, Mrs. E. J. Lees and Mrs. H. L. Stuckey, was appointed to nominate for the coming year. At the close of the meeting a social hour was enjoyed.

The Brotherhood have appointed a committee to make some changes in the arrangements of their meetings, which will be acted upon next Sunday. The committee consists of H. B. Hathaway, H. L. Stuckey, Duncan Husk, H. B. Boynton and G. A. Seaver.

Miss Alice Seaver has returned from a visit to relatives in Belmont and vicinity.

The Ladies' Liberal Aid society held a very successful sale at the reading-room Tuesday afternoon and evening which was largely attended in spite of the inclement weather. The fancy work table was in charge of Mrs. Mae Stetson, Mrs. Emily J. Lees and Mrs. Herbert Wise. The apron table, Mrs. George Adams and Mrs. George Upton, and the needle work table, Mrs. Alexander Reed and Miss Emma Adams. The social in the evening was well attended and much enjoyed and the affair a complete success both financially and socially.

Fred G. Smith has been on the sick list for a few days this week.

Mr. and Mrs. Andrew J. Manchester have returned from a few weeks' visit to relatives in Franklin, N. H.

Mr. Wythe has been on the sick list this week, but he is the better of his daughter, Mrs. Addie Evans.

The Ladies' Study club will hold its regular fortnightly meeting on Monday evening at the reading-room; the topic of the meeting will be "The Fruit of the Tree," by Mrs. Edith Wharton, given by Miss Alice Seaver.

Mrs. Ivers P. Sherwin and son Roger spent the week-end with relatives in Nashua, N. H.

Harbor.
Stillman Anderson left Hickory farm last Monday to be gone the greater part of the winter.

Miss Ruth Doran and Miss Mildred Comant spent the week-end with friends in Fitchburg.

Mrs. Annie Stacy, mother of Mrs. Ernest Reavy, is confined to the bed from an abscess on her ankle.

Little Kenneth Kilbourn Cummings, aged two months, is recovering from a well developed case of measles.

The fourth card social of the C. C. Whist club was held at Pinehurst, Mrs. George Jones, the official score keeper, announced Mrs. Florence Comant with 42 counters and Major Jones with 48, the winners of the evening. Miss Myra Morris and George Jones showed a score of 5 and 7. The guests of the club were Mr. and Mrs. Irving Scott, Mr. and Mrs. B. C. Cummings, Mrs. Albert Morris, Miss Myra Morris, Mrs. Adams and Major Jones.

The As You Like It club held its regular weekly meeting at Sachem Villa, Mrs. Charles Noyes, hostess. A delightful program was presented, the banner number of which was a piano solo played without notes by Mrs. Harriet P. Pos, eighty-three years of age, mother of the hostess.

HARVARD

Still River.
Miss Alice Marshall is entertaining Mrs. Johnson of Melrose.

Edna Flanders spent Sunday with Miss Esther Stone at Ayer.

Mr. and Mrs. A. H. McNeil spent Sunday with relatives in Gardner.

Mrs. Jennie Willard attended the entertainment by the union fair in Ayer last week Friday evening.

Mrs. Wade, mother of Mrs. Viles, is ill and Miss Flora Murchie is caring for her.

Mrs. Jennie Willard entertained a cousin from Ayer over Sunday.

Chester Willard has had three large cars of coal come in this week, so that for the present has a good supply.

Mr. and Mrs. Ricker and two children spent a couple of days in Gardner this week.

The Ladies' Mission circle of the Baptist church met with Mrs. Abbie Darius Thursday afternoon.

The snow and freezing of this week has made the roads slippery for horses and as a result business has been rushing at Harrod's shop. Twenty-five horses were shot Thursday.

Capt. Cheney was up from Arlington Monday to take a look at his property here.

The Harvard Woman's club is soliciting funds to contribute to the Woman's Supply League of which Mrs. John Hayes Hammond is president, for the purchase of a motorbus to be used in carrying victims of infantile paralysis to the clinic, where they will receive electrical treatment.



Useful Christmas Gifts

SUGGESTIONS FOR

Gifts that are Practical and Have Lasting Value

Our store is a Christmas Store—it is full of gifts suitable for a Man's or Boy's Christmas. If you are looking for a Christmas Gift for "Him" you will find any number of choice and suitable things here that will be appropriate and sure to be appreciated by the receiver. You will also find many things, such as Slippers, Umbrellas, Toques and Scarfs which are suitable for "Her."

Outside our regular Holiday stock there is not an article or garment in this store that would not make a handsome and acceptable Christmas Gift—exactly the sort of gift that men like best.

HANDKERCHIEFS FOR CHRISTMAS GIFTS

Men's Linen Hemstitched, plain	15¢, 25¢ and 50¢
Men's Embroidered, Initial	10¢ and 15¢ each
Men's Initial, Linen	25¢ and 50¢ each
Men's Initial, Silk	25¢ and 50¢ each
Men's Linen Handkerchiefs, plain	
6 in Handsome Christmas Box	\$1.50 to \$3.00
4 in Handsome Christmas Box	\$1.00 to \$2.00
Men's Fine, Cambrie Handkerchiefs, 6 in Handsome Christmas Box	75¢ and \$1.00
Boys' Handkerchiefs, plain white, or fancy bordered, 3 in pretty Christmas Box	10¢ and 20¢ per box

GLOVES FOR CHRISTMAS GIFTS

Men's Kid Gloves, unlined, for dress wear	\$1.00 to \$2.00
Men's Kid Gloves, lined, for dress wear	\$1.15 to \$2.50
Men's Mocha Gloves, fleece-lined	50¢ to \$1.25
Men's Mocha Gloves, silk or knit-lined	\$1.50 to \$2.50
Men's Mocha Gloves, Hare or Squirrel lined	\$4.00 to \$6.00
Men's Working Gloves and Mittens	50¢ and \$1.00
Men's Woolen Gloves and Mittens	25¢ to 75¢
Boys' Woolen Gloves and Mittens	25¢ and 50¢
Boys' Mocha Gloves and Mittens	50¢ and \$1.00
Children's Mocha Gloves and Mittens	50¢ and \$1.00
Children's Woolen Gloves and Mittens	25¢ and 50¢

SWEATERS FOR CHRISTMAS

Nothing could be more acceptable for a gift than a good Sweater. We have Sweaters for every member of the family. They come in Gray, Navy, Crimson and Brown colors. Some are plain Coat style, and some have a collar and some have pockets.

Men's Coat Sweaters, all colors	\$1.25 to \$7.00
Boys' Coat Sweaters, all colors	98¢ to \$3.00
Women's Coat Sweaters	\$3.00 to \$6.00
Girls' Coat Sweaters	\$1.50 to \$2.50
Children's Sweaters	50¢ to \$1.50

A FEW SUGGESTIONS FROM OUR

NECKWEAR—Men's plain colored and fancy Neckwear, latest styles and colors. Owing to an early purchase we are giving values equal to that of last year	25¢ and 50¢
ARM BANDS—Fancy Arm Bands, each pair in handsome Christmas Box	25¢ and 50¢
COMBINATION SETS—In a Handsome Christmas Box	
Pair Suspenders, a pair of Arm Bands and a pair of Garters	50¢ and 75¢
Pair of Suspenders, pair of Garters and a pair of Arm Bands, three pieces	75¢ and \$1.00
Pair of Garters and a pair of Arm Bands in Christmas Box	25¢ and 50¢
MUFFLERS—In Mercerized Cotton, Wool or Silk, in great variety of colorings and fabrics	75¢ to \$4.50
BELTS—Buy a Leather Belt in a pretty Christmas Box	50¢

FURNISHING GOODS DEPARTMENT

BATH ROBES—Make a most appropriate Christmas Gift, and one that is always appreciated. A good assortment of colorings	\$3.50 to \$6.50
NIGHT ROBES—For Men, made of a good quality of Domet Flannel	50¢ to \$1.25
For Boys, made of Domet Flannel	50¢ to 90¢
PAJAMAS—Men's and Boys', made of Domet Flannel—good quality; fancy trimmed	\$1.00 to \$1.50
SUSPENDERS—A great variety of styles, each pair in a Handsome Christmas Box	25¢ and 50¢
JEWELRY—Cuff Buttons and Scarf Pin, each in a Handsome Christmas Box	
Cuff Buttons	25¢ to \$1.50
Scarf Pins	25¢ to \$1.25
A Watch for the Boy, in Nickel or Gold, guaranteed for one year	\$1.25
GARTERS—In Boston, Paris and Brighton makes, in single or double grip, all in a Christmas Box	25¢

CAPS AND TOQUES

Men's Cloth Caps	50¢ to \$1.25
Men's Fur Caps	\$2.50 to \$5.50
Boys' Cloth Caps	25¢ and 50¢
Boys' Toques	50¢
Misses' and Children's Toques	25¢ and 50¢
Scarf and Toque Sets—	
For Girls	50¢ and \$1.00
For Women	\$1.00 and \$2.00

UMBRELLAS FOR CHRISTMAS GIFTS

Always an acceptable gift. We have them for Men, Women and Children. Many new and beautiful designs in Mission and Sterling Silver Trimmed Handles. The better grades are Silk covered.

Men's Umbrellas	\$1.00 to \$3.00
Women's Umbrellas	\$1.00 to \$4.50
Children's Umbrellas	75¢

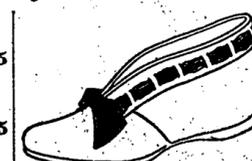
LEATHER BAGS AND SUIT CASES

Suit Cases, made of Fibre Board	\$1.25 to \$3.5
Suit Cases, made of Leather	\$6.00 to \$8.0
Suit Cases, made of Japanese Matting	\$1.25 to \$3.0
Hand Bags, Leather	\$3.00 to \$8.0
School Lunch Boxes for Children	25¢

Holiday Footwear for Every Member of the Family

CHRISTMAS SLIPPERS FOR MEN. In a great variety of styles, in Black and Tan Leathers, or in warm Felt Goods	75¢ to \$1.75
CHRISTMAS SLIPPERS FOR GIRLS AND CHILDREN. In Patent Leathers and also in warm Felt Goods in fancy colors	50¢ to \$1.25
High Buckle Arctics for Men and Boys	
High Buckle Arctics for Women and Children	
Rubber Boots for Boys and Children	

CHRISTMAS SLIPPERS FOR WOMEN. In a great variety of warm Felt Goods, in fancy colors, some with Fur Trimming; also, Kid and Patent Leathers	\$1.00 to \$2.0
Indian Moccasins for Men and Boys	
Indian Moccasins for Women and Children	
High Cut Skating Shoes for the Boy	



George H. Brown

Reliable Clothier

Store Open Every Evening
Except Tuesday

Ayer, Mass.

Studebaker The New Series 18 Cars

With Seven New and Exclusive Features

STUDEBAKER NEW SERIES 18 CARS, with seven new, we believe these cars represent the greatest automobile conceded that these Studebakers equal any such cars in fine cars has passed.

SEVEN NEW IMPROVEMENTS AND ADDITIONS

GUN-METAL FINISH. Original, rich and exclusive finish of deep luster and permanency, applied in TWENTY-FIVE OPERATIONS. No finer finish is possible than that of the Series 18 Cars. A permanent body finish depends largely on the slow and careful building up of the different coats of color and varnish—the Studebaker way. Fenders and aprons are rich, black enamel.

NEW AUXILIARY CHAIRS. Arm-chairs, original and exclusive with Studebaker (patent applied for). These large, roomy and comfortable chairs fold up and slide under rear seat when not in use. They dispense with the unsightly recesses in the tonneau floor and with slit carpets, commonly used in other cars. When these chairs are underneath the back seat, the Studebaker is a roomy, beautiful FIVE-PASSENGER CAR—instead of the regular seven-passenger car.

REVERSIBLE FRONT SEAT. Original and exclusive with Studebaker, the front passenger seat is reversible so that passenger can sit facing tonneau or facing forward. Both front seats are covered with leather, have large and handsome robe strap, and are adjustable to all leg lengths. No more comfortable seats are found in any car, regardless of price.

NEW STORM CURTAINS. Of the recent Blackmore design and patent, opening with the doors and thereby preventing crouching and crushed hats. Studebaker, we believe, is the first maker to offer this improvement as standard equipment.

FOUR-CYLINDER MODELS

FOUR Chassis	\$850.00
FOUR Roadster	\$930.00
FOUR Touring Car	\$940.00
FOUR Every-Weather Car	\$1,140.00
FOUR Landau Roadster	\$1,150.00

All Prices F. O. B. Detroit

ONE MINUTE FROM RAILROAD STATION

Saturday, December 16, 1916.

WESTFORD

Center. Electric lights are being installed in the downstairs rooms of the Unitarian church. The work is expected to be finished and in readiness for the Christmas festivities.

Rev. Oscar Wells, of Rochester, Vt., has been visiting his brother, Dr. O. V. Wells, this week.

Mr. and Mrs. Walter J. Merritt are preparing to move to Bedford, having sold the farm where they have lived for eight years, earlier in the season.

Catherine A. Sullivan, aged twenty-three years, died Monday at her home on Boston road. She had been in failing health for a long time from tuberculosis, her illness covering a period of two years. She is survived by a sister, several brothers and her parents, who mourn her untimely death. The deceased was a graduate of Westford academy and of the Lowell Commercial college. The funeral was held from St. Catherine's church, Graniteville, Wednesday morning, with interment in the Catholic cemetery.

The regular meeting of the Tad-muck club will take place on Tuesday evening at the Unitarian church. It will be in charge of the committee on industrial and social conditions and a good address will be given. Mrs. Louis H. Buckshorn is the hostess of the afternoon and a Christmas tea will be served.

All interested in the Christmas carols will meet for rehearsal on Monday evening at the congregational vestry. The carols will be sung on the common Christmas eve and will be a pleasant feature of the Christmas celebration. Books containing the music can be obtained of Mrs. W. R. Taylor for a nominal sum.

The first snow of the season, coming after the especially fine weather, was not especially welcome. However, it was not severe enough to affect the schedule of the branch line electric. The development of the dreaded infantile paralysis in our midst causes much apprehension, especially to parents, particularly as the wide-spread trouble with it during the summer and autumn had abated.

The committee in charge are busy with their preparations for the junior class drama of the academy to take place at the town hall, Friday evening, December 15. Hubbard's orchestra will furnish music for dancing. Everett Miller of this town and Miss Edna Smith of Ayer were married at Ayer December 2. The ceremony was performed by Rev. J. S. Strong, pastor of the Federal church, at his residence. Mr. Miller was accompanied by his brother, Charles Miller, and the bride by an intimate girl friend. The young couple will reside in Ayer, where Mr. Miller is employed by a local express company.

A good delegation of Westford Grangers were in attendance at the meeting of Littleton Grange December 6, when the third and fourth degrees were conferred upon a good-sized class, followed by the harvest supper.

Rev. J. H. Buckshorn gave a valuable talk on good reading at the Frost school December 6. This was given to the pupils in the upper grades and Mr. Buckshorn was well qualified to address young people as this subject was appropriate to library week being observed at this time. Mr. Buckshorn also gave a delightful rendering of one of Joel Chandler Harris' "Uncle Remus" stories.

Reception. A reception to welcome Rev. and Mrs. Howard A. Lincoln into the church and community was held at the congregational church on Tuesday evening. The first snowstorm of the season coming on Tuesday necessarily affected the attendance, but aside from that the affair was very much of a success and reflected much credit upon the committee in charge

and their assistants. This committee was the one in charge for December and consisted of Mrs. Joseph E. Knight, Mrs. Frank C. Bannister, Mrs. Samuel L. Taylor and Mrs. Phoinie Isles. Those who assisted Mr. and Mrs. Lincoln in receiving were Deacon and Mrs. Arthur E. Day, Deacon Houghton G. Osgood and Miss Sarah W. Loker. The ushers were Harwood L. Wright, William R. Taylor, Seth W. Bannister and Fred C. Meyer.

A program of readings and music were given during the evening, readings by Mrs. Perley E. Wright; violin solo by Miss Nettie L. Dunn; vocal solos, Mrs. Charles D. Colburn, accompanied by her daughter, Miss Elinor Colburn. Refreshments were served later in the evening. Mrs. Frank C. Bannister and Mrs. Elinor Colburn presided at the tea and coffee urns. There were decorations of carnations, ferns and other greenery.

Mr. Lincoln starts his new pastorate next auspiciously, bringing to the work a good equipment of ability, experience and personality, and a sympathetic co-operation between pastor and people seems assured.

Death. The community was inexpressibly shocked and saddened this week to hear of the death of John Fletcher Abbot, which came Wednesday evening after a short and severe struggle with the dreaded infantile paralysis. Fletcher, as he has always been called, died from infantile paralysis, his seizure assumed very serious aspects from the first and all the skill of his local physician, trained nurses and the specialists summoned was called into requisition to alleviate his sufferings and save his life. But this proved beyond human power and death came late Wednesday evening.

John Fletcher Abbot was the oldest son of Mr. and Mrs. John Cameron Abbot. He was born on November 23, 1848, which made him but recently pass his eighteenth birthday, just at the beginning of the first of the year. He survived besides his parents by his younger brother, Robert Abbot, and represented the fifth generation to bear the name of John Abbot, descending from one of Westford's oldest and respected families. His mother was before her marriage, Miss Anna Munroe Fletcher, daughter of J. Henry Fletcher, of Boston, and grand-daughter of J. Varnum Fletcher, donor of our public library.

Fletcher had recently entered the Abbot Worsted Company at Graniteville, and planned to go in that direction to learn the mill business and had been greatly interested in his work. His tragic and untimely death was a great loss to the community and the sincere and most heartfelt sympathy goes out to the bereaved father, mother, brother and to the grandparents, uncles, aunts and cousins.

About Town. Westford Grange was at its best on last week Thursday evening. It was a sort of postponed neighbors' night and some besides. The good traveling and pleasant evening brought a large number out, West Chelmsford Grange coming in auto barge and presenting "Precious pickles" which has been in pickle ever since the rain blockade of several weeks ago, and was much enjoyed. Miss Lila Cole delighted those present with songs to the extent of reciting "Precious pickles" which has been in pickle ever since the rain blockade of several weeks ago, and was much enjoyed. Miss Lila Cole delighted those present with songs to the extent of reciting "Precious pickles" which has been in pickle ever since the rain blockade of several weeks ago, and was much enjoyed.

the Eric railroad, a position he has held for twenty-five years.

Christmas exercises for the children of the Unitarian Sunday school will be held at the vestry of the church on Saturday afternoon, December 23, at four o'clock. Plays, games, social chats and supper, all leading up to the Christmas tree at six o'clock. Everybody is welcome, young and old. Amos Polley, of the Prairie farm, has developed a new type of dove, which he has named "Night Eyes," on account of its proneness to travel nights and return for rest at daylight.

The next meeting of the Grange will be held at the town hall on next week Thursday evening. The meeting will be in charge of Joseph E. Knight, deputy game warden. An address on game laws and fish laws, and game and fish protection will be given by Deputy Wall or some other state authority.

Mrs. Campbell, of Hudson, N. H., is visiting her father, Joseph E. Knight, and was present at the reception on Tuesday evening to Rev. and Mrs. Howard A. Lincoln.

Farm Bureau Formed. Amidst the rain-snowstorm about 200 interested people gathered at the town hall in old historic Concord on Tuesday afternoon in the interest of forming a farm bureau for Middlesex county. S. R. Parker, of Amherst Agricultural college, gave a detailed outline of its objects and expectations.

The Ladies' Aid society of the M. E. church met with Mrs. C. E. Eaton on Thursday afternoon. Mrs. Chester Budgett, of the Hedges, has been a recent visitor here. A daughter was born on Monday to Mr. and Mrs. William Kelley. W. H. Fernald, of Knopp's farm, received a telegram on last Sunday announcing the death of his oldest son, Anthony, in California. The Stineben family, Orchard street, have moved to Lowell.

Graniteville. The Ladies' Aid society of the M. E. church met with Mrs. C. E. Eaton on Thursday afternoon. Mrs. Chester Budgett, of the Hedges, has been a recent visitor here. A daughter was born on Monday to Mr. and Mrs. William Kelley. W. H. Fernald, of Knopp's farm, received a telegram on last Sunday announcing the death of his oldest son, Anthony, in California. The Stineben family, Orchard street, have moved to Lowell.

The Epworth league of the Methodist church held a business meeting last Sunday evening and elected the following officers for the ensuing six months: Percy Barnes, pres.; Albert Day, Misses Lotie York, Lena Wilson and Mrs. M. G. Gilman, vice pres.; Fred Smith, sec. and treas.

The Junior league held its prize attendance on last Sunday afternoon. Miss York is mobilizing the younger folks to remain until after the holidays. Thirty-eight were present. The Christmas tree entertainment will be held this year on Saturday evening, December 23, at the M. E. church.

Mrs. Maria Wall and Miss Rachel Wall have recently returned from a brief visit spent with friends in Fitchburg. Mrs. James B. Healy, with her two children, Mary and Robert, are visiting with Mrs. Healy's parents in Groton, to remain until after the holidays.

Both masses in St. Catherine's church last Sunday morning were celebrated by Rev. Henry L. Scott, who gave interesting sermons appropriate to the season. The first mass, the members of the Holy Name society received holy communion in a body. In the afternoon, at three o'clock, about 150 women met in the church for the purpose of organizing a ladies' sodality. The meeting was addressed by the pastor, Rev. Charles P. Heaney, who gave an instructive sermon dwelling on the advantages of joining an organization of this kind, particularly the young people. All present signified their willingness to become members. The meeting was followed by the benediction of the blessed sacrament, the services being conducted by Rev. C. P. Heaney.

On page seven other Westford news will be found. The Croton River, which furnishes all New York the greater part of the water consumed in its limits, was named for an Indian chief.

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Ayer Auto Station

Distributors for
Ayer, Groton, Shirley, Littleton, Harvard, Pepperell, Westford and Dunstable
Salesroom, Park Street Phone 86-4, Ayer, Mass.

SIX-CYLINDER MODELS

SIX Chassis	\$1,090.00
SIX Roadster	\$1,170.00
SIX Touring Car	\$1,180.00
SIX Landau Roadster	\$1,350.00
SIX Every-Weather Car	\$1,380.00
SIX Touring Sedan	\$1,700.00
SIX Coupe	\$1,750.00
SIX Limousine	\$2,600.00

All Prices F. O. B. Detroit



Are You Ready For It?

Our preparations for Christmas have been both thorough and complete, and we now ask the privilege of showing you a BEAUTIFUL COLLECTIONS OF GIFTS sparkling with the Brightest and Most Original Productions for the Holiday Season of 1916.

You Will Get New Ideas

as you look through our Holiday Stock. It is a practical demonstration of POSSIBILITIES in gathering under one roof nearly everything to make people HAPPY at CHRISTMAS time.

The Finest Sight in Town

is our BEAUTIFUL stock of GIFTS containing all that is BRIGHT, FRESH, NEW and NOVEL in Holiday Goods of genuine worth and unquestioned value for really desirable presents.

We Can Meet Your Wants

Whatever your needs, come and let us show you a VARIETY of beautiful presents that will AT ONCE appeal to you as "JUST THE THING." We have genuine New Attractions for Christmas and we want you to know it.

Presents to Please Everybody

"A SQUARE DEAL" AND A MERRY CHRISTMAS TO ALL

Ayer Variety Store

Store Open Evenings, December 20-23, inclusive
Telephone Connection

All Winter Millinery

At Reduced Prices

L. D. WOODS

Conant Block East Pepperell, Mass.

NOTICE.

The Annual Meeting of the Shareholders of the First National Bank of Ayer, will be held at the Banking Rooms, in Ayer, Mass., on Monday, January 8, 1917, at one o'clock P. M., for the purpose of acting upon the following business:

To choose a Board of Directors to serve for the ensuing year, and to transact any other business that may come before the meeting.

CHARLES A. NORMAND, Cashier.
4114 Ayer, Mass., December 8, 1916.

Plano Tuning

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COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS, Middlesex, ss. Probate Court.

To the heirs-at-law and all other persons interested in the estate of THOMAS J. HAZEN, late of Shirley in said County, deceased.

Whereas, THOMAS J. HAZEN, administrator of the estate of said deceased has presented to said Court his petition for license to sell at private sale, in accordance with the provisions 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-sixth day of December A. D. 1916, at nine o'clock in the forenoon, to show cause why the same should not be granted.

And said petitioner is ordered to serve this citation by depositing 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 can not be so found, by publishing the same once in each week, for three successive weeks, in Turner's Public Spirit, a newspaper published in Ayer, the last publication to be one day, at least, before said Court.

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

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS, Middlesex, ss. Probate Court. To the heirs-at-law, next of kin, creditors, and all other persons interested in the estate of RAY A. WILLOUGHBY, late of Pepperell, in said County, deceased, intestate.

Whereas, a petition has been presented to said Court by a letter of administration on the estate of said deceased to RAY A. WILLOUGHBY, of Pepperell in said County of Middlesex, without giving a surety on his bond.

You are hereby cited to appear at a Probate Court to be held at Cambridge, in said County of Middlesex, on the second day of January A. D. 1917, at nine o'clock in the forenoon, to show cause if any you have, why the same should not be granted.

And the Court 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.

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

TOWNSEND

Center. At the meeting of the Phoebe Weston Farmer tent, D. of V., last week Tuesday evening, the annual election of officers resulted as follows: Mrs. Flora Watkins, pres.; Mrs. Hattie Cook, s. v. p.; Evelyn Sanders, J. v. p.; Mrs. Ellen Richards, chap.; Mrs. Elvora Smith, treas.; Mrs. Mary Taylor, secy.; Mr. Earl H. Taylor, m. r.; Albee Day, Mrs. W. T. McMaster, camp council.

Miss Sadie Stewart has gone to Belmont, where she is employed in the home of Ralph Willard.

Mr. and Mrs. Warman and son Walter, from Portland, Me., and Robert Brown and family, from Leominster, were recent guests of Mr. and Mrs. Rufus T. Brown.

Members of the Birthday club were entertained on Friday afternoon, December 8, at the home of Mrs. George Gates, with Mrs. Gates, Mrs. P. E. Flarity and Mrs. George Hayward as hostesses. On account of important business the hour's time was taken to the Christmas program was omitted.

At the E. A. Spaulding Rebekah lodge meeting on last week Friday evening the first degree was conferred upon a class of candidates. After the initiation refreshments were served and a musical farce enjoyed which was presented by eight lodge members, entitled "The Sweet Family."

At the Congregational church last Sunday morning the pastor preached the second in the series of children's sermons, which preceded the regular sermon, his subject being "God's plans, explaining to the children the gradual processes going on during the glacial period necessary to the preparation of Mother Earth for the cultivation by man. An announcement was made during the service asking the children to come next Sunday with gifts to put in the little stockings that are being supplied to send at Christmas to the children of the sea.

At 2.30 in the afternoon Rev. Andrew Groop, of Fitchburg, held a service for the Finnish people in the Congregational church with a goodly number of our Finnish people in town being present; also, a large delegation of sixty accompanied the pastor of the Fitchburg Finnish church. Excellent vocal and instrumental music was rendered by them.

F. L. Willoby will be pleased to show his many Townsend friends a fine line of watches, rings, chains, pins, jewelry, etc., sterling and plated silverware, at his home, 701 Broadway, every Tuesday afternoon until after the holidays. Telephone 35-22.

Mrs. Agnes Woods attended the Rebekah school of instruction held in Fitchburg on Monday evening, December 11. Carleton P. Mudgett, Franklin R. Jeffs, W. C. Swinington, Gilbert Estes, and Leslie Hurley went in Mr. Swinington's auto on Tuesday evening to attend the third Odd Fellows neighborhood meeting held with the Greenodion lodge in Shirley. They report a very pleasing evening's program and brotherly gathering. It was announced at this gathering that the final meeting of the series will be held at the hall of the Beacon lodge in Pepperell on Tuesday evening, January 30.

North Star lodge, O. O. F., will hold its fifth birthday anniversary on Tuesday evening, December 19, at Odd Fellows hall. Invitations have been extended to the grand officers and also to Alfred W. Barnes, D. L. G. M., of Mt. Roulston lodge, Fitchburg, with his suite, the noble and vice grand of Framingham and Harvard lodges, Charles Emerson, D. L. G. M., of North Star lodge, and the members of the E. A. Spaulding Rebekah lodge of Townsend. The members of North Star lodge and their wives or lady friends are invited; also, the Odd Fellows and their wives or lady friends. The program will consist of music by Albert G. Seaver, soprano solos by Miss Estelle Farrar, and history of North Star lodge by Mrs. A. Wilder; also, addresses and speeches by grand officers and guests.

The little daughter recently born to Mr. and Mrs. Robert Copeland, of Townsend hill, has been named Ruth Copeland.

Miss Lillian Hardison, of Malden, who is spending the winter with Mrs. George Upton at Elm Lane farm, was tendered a surprise by twelve of her young friends in the morning on Monday evening, her nineteenth birthday anniversary. A social evening was spent with music, games and the serving of refreshments. Both the birthday and the guests presented their honored friend with a purse of money.

At the Methodist church on Sunday morning the pastor's sermon subject is "I believe in the holy spirit"; evening topic, "Thou shalt have no other gods before me."

At the Congregational church the pastor's morning sermon topic is "Our heritage."

Frank Barber, who was chosen delegate by the Townsend Hill Improvement and Garden Fraternity, were conveyed by Miss Alberta Barber in her auto on Tuesday to attend the meeting in Concord called for the purpose of establishing a Farm Bureau in Middlesex county.

The community Christmas tree committee met in the high school room on Monday evening to further discuss plans for the community Christmas celebration and hear the reports of the various committees. The committee voted to hold the exercises in Memorial hall on Saturday evening, December 23, from 8 to 8.30 o'clock.

The public greatly appreciate the interest of the donors in presenting to the public library the following books of merit and excellence: The magazine, "Bird love," and the books, "Our vanishing wild life," and "Concealing coloration in the animal kingdom" has been given by the Country club; "Sylvia of the hilltop" and "The princess and the clan" are the gift of John J. Piper, and from Mrs. F. W. Wood, Baltimore, Md., the library is indebted for "Gleanings from old Shaker journals," "My home in the field of honor," "School credit for homework," "Backward children," "Rising tide," "Enoch Crane," "The

PEPPERELL

New Items. A noteworthy Thanksgiving celebration account of which was received too late for last week's paper was the dinner party of eighteen relatives who gathered at the Pierce homestead off the Nashua road. The hostess, Mrs. Sarah (Pierce) Dow, who is eighty-two years of age, received many compliments on the bountiful Thanksgiving menu as well as the fact that she was able to prepare the supper. The host was her brother, Calvin Pierce, who is eighty-eight years of age, but well able to enjoy the occasion. The guests were: Mrs. Lucy Dow,ushing and Miss Ruth Cushing, from Westfield; Miss Harriet Dow, from Palmerston, Pa.; Mr. and Mrs. Isaac Pierce and son of Nashua, N. H.; Mr. and Mrs. John Pierce, Mrs. Catherine Pierce, Mr. and Mrs. Matthew Lane and Mr. and Mrs. William Chapman and family, all of this town.

Rev. Mr. Pollard, pastor of the Baptist church in North Ferrisburgh, held a family attend, has been visiting at his home in this town.

The Pennequin Camp-fire circle met with their guardian, Mrs. W. H. Beers, on Thursday evening of last week and held a ceremonial meeting, or council fire, preceded by a Christmas luncheon. The hostesses were the Misses Alice Lawson and Ruth Clarke, assisted by Mrs. Pierce, who took the place of other members who were out of town. The principal table decoration was a tiny evergreen tree ornamented with Christmas trimmings and tinsel. Appropriate quotations were also adorned with a miniature Christmas tree. Besides these decorations the supper was a "white supper," white food predominating, and white sauce for the table. The menu included mashed potato, creamed tuna fish in patte shells, sandwiches, snow pudding and pistachio custard, and was pronounced very satisfactory both to the eyes and taste. A short council fire followed the supper, no special business being transacted.

Mr. and Mrs. G. W. Maynard and Charles B. Spent Monday in Lowell. Mrs. F. S. Bancroft has been quite ill with a hard cold, being threatened with congestion of one lung.

Christmas is in the air. The shops are filled with all sorts of attractive articles for gifts and presents. Christmas time is the universal topic of conversation. Yet over all broods the spirit of charity as exemplified in the giving and thought given by men and women in the purchase of the Red Cross Christmas seals.

Mrs. John H. Lawrence, who resides alone at the old Walton Inn, near the willows, on the South road, had an eighty-ninth birthday in Boston, December 11, which her friends did not allow her to forget. She received calls from a niece, Miss Lillian Lovejoy, a friend, Miss Ruth Walsh, Mrs. S. H. Hollis, N. H. Her niece, Mrs. S. H. Gilson, from town, was also with her a part of the day, and a neighbor, Mrs. George Durgin, Mrs. Edwin Durgin, Mrs. Sweeney, from Worcester, and the Maynard family.

Mrs. Clarence Cook entertained her mother, Mrs. Harriet Warner, and her sister, Mrs. Brown, both of Lancaster, on Monday.

It is a happy thought which completes the Christmas letter with a Red Cross seal.

The J. B. Hendersons have closed their residence at their summer place at their winter home in Pepperell. The characters were portrayed in a very realistic manner by all the passengers, from the fussy old lady who feared she was on the wrong train and said accidents always happened to rear cars, and she didn't see why they didn't take them off; the women with numerous bundles and chattering children, the colored man who was taking his first ride on the train, school girls, the proverbial sleeper and the fresh young man all along the car aisle to the front seat, made interesting and funny impersonations true to life on a passenger train. The new stations that had sprung up on this Greenville branch, called off by the worthy brakeman, the trials of the conductor with the ticket takers, and the lively little newsboy added fun and merriment for the audience. The closing number on the program was a vocal solo very sweetly rendered by Miss Esther Bailey, with piano accompaniment by Albert Seaver. A social hour followed.

West. The Ladies' Literary and Social circle met on last week Thursday afternoon at the home of Mrs. Josephine Boynton, nine being present. The very interesting session was enjoyed. The roll call was answered by quotations and current events. A social hour and refreshments closed the program. The next meeting will be with Mrs. Harriet Stekney and the topic is "Christmas stories."

Mrs. Clarence Elliott, who is very sick with pneumonia, is reported as improving.

Mrs. George Upton entertained the Ladies' Whist club at her home on lower Main street last week Thursday afternoon.

Mrs. Nellie Newell has been caring for a patient in Ashby.

GRANGE NOTES

At the regular meeting of the Grange on Friday evening, December 8, the first and second degrees were worked on a class of candidates. The first degree was worked by the regular officers of the Grange and the second degree by the men's degree class. E. A. Spaulding, the new members are Mr. and Mrs. F. H. Quimby, Mr. and Mrs. Frank G. Kennedy, Mr. R. H. Lawson and Lillian Stewart.

The third and fourth degrees will be worked at the next regular meeting, Friday evening, December 22. At the recent meeting Miss Ellen Miller was appointed a delegate from Prescott Grange to the meeting of the State Grange held in Tremont Temple, Boston, December 12, 13 and 14.

O. M. Nash attended the lecturers' convention on Wednesday.

Several from this Grange attended the State Grange on Wednesday and took the sixth degree.

Marriage. Announcement is made of the marriage of Miss Olive Balfour, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Charles B. Balfour, of Wollaston, to Ralph Keith, of Wollaston, on Thursday afternoon, December 7. The ceremony was performed at the parsonage of the First Baptist church of that place by the pastor of the church, Rev. Joseph Walther.

The bride was gowned in a white embroidered silk tulle and carried a bouquet of white sweet peas. She was attended by Miss Rheta Keith, a sister of the groom, who was also attended in white, and carried yellow chrysanthemums. The groom was attended by Wesley Ganzel, of Wollaston, as best man.

Following the ceremony a reception was held at the home of the bride's parents, to the Wollaston Park Social club, of which the bride is a member.

Mr. and Mrs. Keith left on the afternoon train for Providence, R. I., and will take a trip by boat to New York. They will reside in Wollaston on their return. Mr. Keith is employed by his father, who is a contractor in the city.

The bride is a former Pepperell girl, although she left town with her parents about fourteen years ago, and but a child, Mr. Balfour's business with paper concerns led to their residence first in Lawrence, from there to Connecticut, West Virginia and again to Lawrence. About five years ago the family moved to Boston, where Mr. Balfour was employed by the Commonwealth Mfg. Company. During the past year and a half the family have resided at their present home in Wollaston.

Unitarian Supper. The chicken-pie supper served by the U. U. of the Central Mass. ch. on Thursday evening of last week had an unusually large patronage considering the advance in the price which was necessary at this time, when the prices of materials are so high. Plates were laid for 120, and more were taken by a satisfied crowd who did justice to the ample menu of the supper, which was served with relishes, and many varieties of dessert in the form of pies and jellies.

The decorations of festoons of crepe paper with "white" and "orange" of a tint holiday air to the vestry, a forerunner of Christmas festivities.

The table of Christmas novelties and articles for gifts and presents, and brought in satisfactory returns. The fine moonlight evening and fine program offered brought out a large gathering to the entertainment held at the home of Mrs. M. S. Bennett, Mrs. John O. Bennett rendered a piano solo, and a violin solo was given by Howard Shattuck, accompanied by Miss Barbara Bancroft. The sketch "The backward scholar," which was also enjoyed by all the audience. The evening as a whole reflects much credit on the committee.

Death of Former Resident. On Friday of last week Walter W. Lunt was called to Augusta, Me., by a message announcing the serious illness of his mother, Mrs. Susan Lunt, who has suffered from diabetes for three years past and had become nearly blind from the effects of the disease. Later news announced the death of Mrs. Lunt on Saturday services being held on Tuesday. The deceased was seventy-six years of age and is survived by W. W. Lunt, of Augusta, Me., and Miss Maude Lunt, also of that city, who cared for her aged mother. She also leaves five grandchildren. An only daughter, Mrs. Annie Lunt Jones, died a few years ago, and the husband of the deceased, William Lunt, died about six years ago in Gardiner, Me.

Mrs. and Mrs. William Lunt were residents here in town for several years, moving here from Gardiner, Me., about 1870. He was employed in the paper mill under H. C. Winslow, for Churchill Company, and later worked in Leighton Bros. shoe factory. They built the double tenement house on Pleasant street now owned by W. H. Annis, this being the first house built on the street. The younger members of their family were born here. About twenty-eight years ago the family moved back to Gardiner, Me., and since the death of her husband Mrs. Lunt went to Augusta to be with her children. Her death was not unexpected, following, as it did, a long illness.

A Good Cause. A most commendable and philanthropic movement is being made by Rev. Endicot Peabody, master of the Groton School, to start a Sunday school service in the unused brick schoolhouse on the South road. For several weeks past he has had an assistant, Miss Andrews, of Ayer, making a canvass of the families where there are children; and of the needs of a Sunday service in that vicinity. The proposed school will include all children and adults, and will not be denominational. A service was held there on last Sunday, conducted by Mr. Peabody, assisted by Mr. Vanier, a teacher of the school, and three students, Frothingham, Trum-

bull and Molloy. Mr. Vanier acted as superintendent of the organization of the Sunday school and led the music, assisted by the young gentlemen and those assembled. There were about twenty-five present, who were divided and graded into five classes. The people in that vicinity speak in praise of the undertaking from which much good is expected.

Boxborough. Mrs. Louisa Priest, who remains about the same, was much pleased with the flowers, fruit, postcards and money sent her on Friday, December 8, in remembrance of her ninety-third birthday.

Forty-two members of Boxborough Grange and eleven visitors were present at the last meeting, prepared to enjoy the play, "The first day the holidays," given by the young men, and to partake of the coffee, doughnuts and pies served by the young ladies.

Mr. and Mrs. S. D. Salmon have gone to Somerville for the winter months.

The success of the annual sale of the Handcraft club at Library hall last Saturday afternoon and evening was very gratifying to its many friends, many auto parties from surrounding towns being in attendance and buying freely.

Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Poland enjoyed the first entertainment of the season at the Concord Dramatic club in Monument hall, Friday evening, December 8. The play was "Arms and the man," a satirical comedy by Bernard Shaw. During the intermission music was furnished by the Philharmonic orchestra of Boston.

Mrs. George H. Warren, of Manchester, N. H., gave a most interesting description of the trip she took to the West Indies, Panama and Venezuela before the West Acton Woman's club on Monday afternoon. She also exhibited many curios gathered at that time. Vocal solos were rendered by Miss Ellen Weeks.

Charles Hayward has had a telephone installed—41-13.

Charles H. Walt has ordered a Saxophone for May delivery.

Mrs. Roswell Davis, of Harvard, passed away at the home of her brother, Mr. Murchie, on Monday.

Zena Lovelace has returned from Detroit, Mich., where she has recently been employed.

A lot of new books will be ready for distribution at the library on Saturday.

Mr. Costello's sister, Mrs. Fitzgerald, is planning to build a new house on what is best known as the Emery Whitcomb farm.

H. Prescott Burroughs, master-elect of the Grange, attended the sessions, as delegate, of the State Grange held at Tremont Temple, Boston, this week, and evening of December 12 in Boston and Somerville, attending a part of the State Grange session on Tuesday afternoon, and in the evening at Paul Revere lodge of Old Fells, where a reception was given to the grand officers.

The town-by-law committee met and organized with Frank W. Dodge as chairman and Burpee C. Steele as secretary. On Wednesday evening the



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committee met for consideration of matter to be presented at the annual meeting in February, and the committee would be very glad to receive and consider suggestions from any citizen of the town.

Advertisement for Constipation Causes Bad Blood, featuring a bottle of medicine and text describing its benefits for various ailments.

GROTON

The Groton Cornet Band announces that a concert and dance will be held in the town hall on Monday evening, January 1. Program to be announced next week.

The public schools close with this week Friday for the Christmas vacation. They reopen on Tuesday, January 2, January 1, being for the first time a holiday in this town since the last week incident that happened last week attracted the attention of quite a crowd. A gentleman who drove into the Groton Inn grounds left his large limousine standing out putting on the emergency brake. The machine moved leisurely down the incline and across Main street and within a few inches of running into that of a car which was being driven by Mrs. Southard's land close to the sidewalk, formerly land of J. H. Robbins. There were possibilities about this that might have been serious.

Mrs. Ella P. Woolley considerably handicapped as a result from a minor operation a few days ago on her left hand. She had a small but troublesome wart taken out which was between two of her fingers with the next meeting of the Woman's club is not until Friday, December 29. Mrs. Charles H. Lucy was called last week to the funeral of her second oldest brother, Frederick E. Peters, of East Boston. His death was the result of an accident which he met on Monday while working at the wharf of the Atlantic works of East Boston. He fell from a ladder and suffered a fracture of his neck at eleven o'clock that evening. He was fifty-two years old and a widower. Other relatives in Groton are two other sisters, Mrs. Whitney and Mrs. Evert. The interment was in Woodlawn cemetery, Everett.

The final legal papers have been passed, transferring the late S. W. Rowe place, corner of School and Main streets, to the Adams, who has taken possession and as soon as some improvements are completed that may take a week or so will move in to occupy with his family. The business will also be transferred to this new stand. He is to rent or sell his house on Elm street, which the family is preparing to vacate.

Harold Miller returned to his work in the large grocery store at Needham where he has been employed since October, after spending Thanksgiving day with his family. He is now in the Nutting in Lowell and then coming to Groton to spend the night.

The play, "Clover farm," was successfully staged in the town hall Monday evening by members of the Groton Grange for the benefit of Groton. All took their parts well. The public, who gave a good attendance, appreciated the entertainment. The proceeds were not good, but the program, when reckoned up, will add something to the payment fund.

The third number in the Luther Blood free lecture course will be given by the Royal mail, given on Tuesday evening, December 21, at eight o'clock in the town hall.

The Neighborhood club held its meeting last week with Mrs. Cora Tuttle, having the usual pleasant social afternoon. The Christmas and other opening exercises were followed by the comfort slipper work, Shakespeare's "Twelfth night" was taken up, each member being assigned a part for her reading at the club meetings. The closing proceedings of refreshments and song were very enjoyable as usual.

The Alliance fair of last week Thursday was in every way a desirable success. Fair weather, a large attendance, tables showing attractive quantities of articles on sale, a good patronage on all supper, a fine program, and a most interesting program, what more could be asked to make a success? The chairman having the different tables in charge were Mrs. Lawrence Park, fancy Mrs. G. H. Weinstock, and Miss Helen Dodge, candy; Mrs. Everett Gerrish, aprons; Mrs. Fred G. May, cake; Mrs. W. P. Wharton, children's; Mrs. A. Hodgman, hats; Mrs. G. H. Weinstock, supper; Miss Alma Gray, entertainment. The proceeds are not all in, but somewhere around \$300 was realized.

The open meeting of the Woman's club on last week Friday called out a good number to hear Prof. F. A. C. Smith of Massachusetts Agricultural college. His talk on the improvements of the various plants and animals of the town was illustrated by pictures of such pieces of land in other towns. He made some very practical suggestions and pointed out several of the various farms in the town which the club had already begun work on. He complimented the town on their handsome and substantial town hall. The selectmen have already engaged him to make a survey of the grounds, which in the near future will be made to take on a sightly and noticeably tasteful appearance. He praised the artistic Boutwell school building, and recommended the procuring of playground helps for the pupils' recreation moments.

The morning subject at the Baptist church on Sunday will be "The transfiguration of Christ." Evening praise service at seven o'clock; subject, "Watch your step." Wednesday evening, at 7.30, regular prayer meeting. The names of thirteen have been received of those who wish to attend the Billy Sunday services at the tabernacle in Boston. All who wish to go with the party are kindly asked to give their names to Mrs. Wallace Brown, Mrs. Alice Penbody or Rev. B. E. Tucker, as arrangements will soon be made to attend the services.

Mrs. and Mrs. James Frazer are enjoying themselves in Wolfville, N. S., where they went ten days ago. Mr. Frazer has not been at his home before for twenty years.

The following are the official arrangements for the community Christmas tree given out by the committee on Thursday: There will be a community Christmas tree on the square by the bandstand on Sunday, December 24, at 5.30. The tree will be lighted and carols sung by a large chorus. The band will play patriotic airs and all will join in singing "America." Everyone is asked to come and help enjoy the Christmas spirit. If stormy Sunday afternoon the tree will be lighted at the same time on Christmas day.

Mrs. C. Z. Southard has had built recently a wall on the north side of Broad Meadow road and is preparing for a conventional old-fashioned garden with a water garden, this to be located at the rear and side of her buildings. The garden will have the summer house and arbor on its west

side. Then she has had the old barn taken down and on the space formerly occupied by the barn will have a conventional old-fashioned sunken garden, all of which will add to the "Dix House" home.

There will be the usual Sunday school Christmas festival at the Congregational church vestry on Saturday evening, December 23. Mrs. Charles Meade, of West Acton, who underwent an operation at the Deaconess hospital in Concord, a few days ago, is coming out all right. Mrs. Meade is a sister of W. H. Bruce, of this town, and the operation was performed by the noted surgeon, Dr. Smith, of Nashua, a brother-in-law of Mr. Bruce.

Groton School students leave next Friday morning for the holiday vacation. On next week Wednesday the school gives their annual Christmas party to the employees and their families. This pleasant affair is always held in the gymnasium. Miss Mundell, of Gardner, was the week-end guest of her aunt, Mrs. Jane Clark.

The Bird club will meet on Monday evening at 7.30 in the lower town hall. Miss Gertrude Gerrish is to read a paper on "Winter birds." Bird seed will be on sale.

The members of the Unitarian Sunday school have forwarded Christmas gifts for distribution in European places.

The contribution at the Unitarian services on Sunday will be for their own Sunday school Christmas gathering.

Red Cross meals are for sale at Shattuck's, Miss Miner's and Bruce's stores.

Joseph A. Dunphy, according to a recent announcement in Boston paper, has sued Dr. Joseph C. Geneaux, of Webster, for \$15,000 because, as he says, following the doctor's attempt to remove a chicken pox from Dunphy's throat, several hospital operations were necessary.

Savings and Thrift club of First National Bank of Ayer starts December 26. See first page.

Present Dickens Play. Dickens' "Christmas carol," given by the high school pupils in the town hall on last week Friday evening called out many deserved compliments. The audience was very good and \$17.50 was realized which is to be used in some way for a high school benefit. Miss Willis, teacher in English, put much work into it, helping the pupils and seeing that it was given with intelligence and expression. They had their parts learned perfectly. Miss Willis, who was the promoter of this, had the audience very good and \$17.50 was realized which is to be used in some way for a high school benefit. Miss Willis, teacher in English, put much work into it, helping the pupils and seeing that it was given with intelligence and expression. They had their parts learned perfectly. Miss Willis, who was the promoter of this, had the audience very good and \$17.50 was realized which is to be used in some way for a high school benefit.

Death of Former Resident. Groton relatives received word by telegram of the death of his home in Alameda, Cal., on Sunday, December 10, of Anthony H. Fernald, son of Mr. and Mrs. W. H. Fernald. He was thirty-one years old and died of Bright's disease of long standing, although his last illness covered a period of only six weeks. He was born in East Boston and was eight years old when the family came to make their home in Groton. He attended the schools here, including the high school, but later attended a private school in Washington, D. C., where he graduated. After going to California Mr. Fernald's health improved and he became very successful. He has been for some years telling of his fine paying position, which he filled with acceptability. He leaves his wife, who was Miss Laura Penny, of Natick, and their son, which he graduated from the Episcopal and Mrs. Clifford Bixby of the West Groton church. The idea as at present entertained is to have a service which shall be lighted by electricity, and be placed near the bandstand. Here the townspeople will gather and Christmas carols will be sung. There are to be no presents and no refreshments are to be served. It is to be nothing sectarian—it is to be a meeting of kindly fellowship in honor of our Saviour's natal day. Some further plans may develop, but these are what have been talked of so far.

Groton Military Training School. Two new men, Everett B. Gerrish and Howard Gilson, enlisted in the Provisional Company on Wednesday evening. A recent squad of twelve men, under Lieut. Branigan, Sergt. Shaw and Corp. Parker, received instruction in the lower town hall while the Provisional Company was drilling overhead.

The drill took up marching to the rear in squad formation, forming front into line from column, forming inverted line to the flank from column and diminishing the front of a column into a squad. The drill went off excellently well. After the drill there was the usual fifteen minutes of setting-up exercises, followed by a talk by the captain on "Company government and administration." It is expected that Capt. Porter E. Chase, the senior company commander of the First Corps Cadets, will address the company on December 27 on "Team work and leadership." The talk next week will be on "Extended order rules and principles."

Troop I, B. S. A., held their regular meeting on last Saturday evening. Following the exercises the boys received their ranks for the month and were assigned their places in the patrols: Senior patrol, Roy Bennett,

leader, 110, Wendell Cook 105, assistant patrol leader, Gerald Brockbridge 102, Harold Burton 101, Robert J. Folkins 84, Archie McGregor 82, Fred Gale 83, Lester Carkins 82, Walter J. Theodora Ware 74, Lloyd Randall 73, Alderson Bailey 63, Charlie Murphy 51, Raymond Sawyer 50, Burton Robinson 40, Associate scouts, Oscar Forbes and Sydney Carkins, honorary member, G. Prescott Leonard.

The evening was devoted to a review of the tenderfoot tests and the study of first-class first aid. The following have earned 100 percent duty pins for the month: Harold Burton and Robert Jacob. This makes six boys who have gained 100 percent in rank. The rank for the month includes the boys of the home school, Sunday school, attendance at Luther Blood lectures, reading some helpful book, attendance at scout meetings and interest in scout work, passing scout tests and the doing of good turns during the month.

Death. Mrs. Bessie S. Tolles, wife of Nathaniel Anderson, Jr., died at the Groton hospital Tuesday afternoon after a long illness. She was born in Dunstable on October 31, 1856, and was eight years old when the family came to make their home in Groton. She attended the schools here, including the high school, but later attended a private school in Washington, D. C., where she graduated. After going to California Mr. Fernald's health improved and he became very successful. He has been for some years telling of his fine paying position, which he filled with acceptability. He leaves his wife, who was Miss Laura Penny, of Natick, and their son, which he graduated from the Episcopal and Mrs. Clifford Bixby of the West Groton church. The idea as at present entertained is to have a service which shall be lighted by electricity, and be placed near the bandstand. Here the townspeople will gather and Christmas carols will be sung. There are to be no presents and no refreshments are to be served. It is to be nothing sectarian—it is to be a meeting of kindly fellowship in honor of our Saviour's natal day. Some further plans may develop, but these are what have been talked of so far.

Military Training at Groton School. Military training at Groton School will be in charge of Capt. Schuyler. He is again in command and the work remains voluntary, but there will be three companies formed according to size, instead of lower and upper school company as last year. These companies will be commanded by first sergeants until Capt. Schuyler thinks it fit that captain and sergeants should be appointed. Mr. Sedgwick, Frothingham and H. Scherer have been elected first sergeants, while Whitney, Robb, Havemeyer, Geary, Wadsworth, and Borden are lieutenant sergeants. Later, three captains, six lieutenants, and the permanent sergeant will be appointed from the sixth form, and a front company will be formed. These officers will have full control, and Capt. Schuyler will merely superintend and give advice.

The uniforms will be similar to those worn last year, except that blouses and caps will sometimes be worn instead of shirts and hats. Krag and Springfield rifles will be used. This term will be devoted to the work of organization and from lower and winter term will be devoted to close order work with practice in ceremonies, such as guard mount and evening parade. There will also be shooting in the cage and perhaps shooting on an outdoor range.

In the spring, as soon as the weather permits, open order work will be begun. This will include problems, and, very likely, several sham battles.

Clipping. The following is a more complete sketch of the artist, N. T. Hartshorn than that given in this column a few weeks ago. The Groton friends of his daughter-in-law, Mrs. Gladys Mason Hartshorn, will doubtless be interested in this sketch, which is taken from the Cheyenne (Wyoming) State Leader.

One of the most noted of modern American portrait painters, Newton T. Hartshorn, of Springfield, is now in Cheyenne and may make this city his residence for a large part of the year. He came here a few days ago with his wife and two daughters, one of whom, Miss Rachel, Hartshorn, has entered the high school and will remain until the close of the term. Mr. Hartshorn

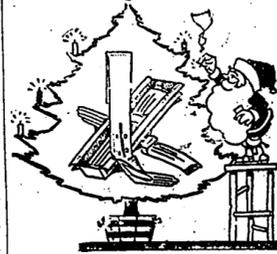
Practical Gifts and Suggestions from

Give an Umbrella

Gloves for Giving

THE KIND YOU WOULD LIKE TO RECEIVE YOURSELF BECAUSE YOU KNOW THEY ARE GOOD

There is an inexpressible satisfaction in giving something that you know is good. Good Gloves, as you know, are very scarce and it is only because we bought early that we can afford to sell you these gloves at very little advance over old prices. Dress Kid Gloves, Heavy Walking Gloves and Fabric Gloves in all colors, black and white. Make your selection while stock is complete and while these low prices prevail.



- Dress Kid Gloves..... \$1.65
- Heavy Walking Gloves..... \$1.29 and \$1.69
- White Doe Skin Gloves \$1.29
- Fabric Gloves, black, white, tan and Gray..... 50¢ to 75¢



FOR "HER" \$1.00 to \$4.50

FOR "HIM" \$1.00 to \$2.50

ALWAYS WELCOME

The gift that pleases most is something useful as well as ornamental—something that shows thought in its selection. Prepare your friends for a rainy-day, give them an umbrella—it's a welcome gift, indeed. You can find in this splendid collection a suitable kind for "Him" or for "Her" and at the price you want to pay.

The Boston Store

GEO. B. TURNER & SON AYER, MASS.



Seven out of every Ten Stylishly Dressed Women You Meet Carry a

New Handbag

The reason the other three do not carry them is because they really do not know how pretty the new style handbags are. It would not seem possible that any woman could resist buying one of the new envelope, pouch or yoke models in leather, velvet and beaded effects. There was never a season when handbags were in greater demand.

- Envelope Purses 50¢ to \$2.50
- Handbags 50¢ to \$3.98
- Pocketbooks 25¢ to \$1.00

THE WEEK BEFORE CHRISTMAS OUR STORE WILL BE OPEN EVERY EVENING WITH THE EXCEPTION OF TUESDAY

Christmas Booklets and Postcards

The Largest Assortment We Have Ever Shown
Postcards 1¢, 2¢ and 3¢
Booklets 3¢ to 20¢

CHRISTMAS Seals and Tags

Narrow Ribbons and Tinsel Cord for Package Decorations
Holiday Stationery 15¢ to \$2.50

Colgate's Toilet Articles and Perfumes

They Say

Your Pullets must be Roosters if they do not lay when fed on

Town Talk Mash

Red Comb Scratching

Small supply, all sizes, COAL on hand. First come, first served. At the

Old Red Store

A. E. Lawrence, Manager Park St., Ayer

Page's Hall Theatre

THE ONLY MOTION PICTURE THEATRE IN AYER
A Motion Picture Theatre that shows the BEST in the Motion Picture World—Ask Those who Attend This Theatre Regularly

SATURDAY EVENING, DECEMBER 16—at 8.15
MOTHER AGAINST DAUGHTER—The Great IRENE FENWICK in a Metro Wonderplay which frankly portrays a story that all mothers and daughters should go to see—5 Tremendous Acts

The Child of Destiny

Miss Fenwick, who is one of the most popular stars on Broadway, New York, is seen part of the time in the role of a boy. She had a similar role in "The Song of Songs," the notable play that enjoyed such a long run in New York and on tour

Beatrice Fairfax Serial

This series is based upon the thousands of letters received by MISS BEATRICE FAIRFAX, and one of the leading Characters in the Series is GEORGE CONNORS, of Clinton, who formerly sang in this Theatre

A COMPLETE STORY IN TWO REELS WILL BE SHOWN IN THIS SERIES ON SATURDAY EVENINGS
The Second Story will be "THE FORBIDDEN ROOM"

WEDNESDAY EVENING, DECEMBER 20, AT EIGHT O'CLOCK
SKELETONS IN CLOSETS WON'T STAY THERE IN

Life's Shadows

The Great Metro Wonderplay, 5 acts of Supreme Drama, with the Great WILLIAM NIGH and IRENE HOWLEY
"LIFE'S SHADOWS" is compelling in its interest, showing life not as it should be, but as it is

The Shielding Shadow

Another Lively Episode will be Shown in the Great Serial,
2—SPECIAL SHOWS ON CHRISTMAS DAY—2

will return to Massachusetts in a few weeks to complete several paintings and will then probably return to Cheyenne. He is seventy years of age and is a veteran of the civil war. He was in command of the forces that guarded the presidential mansion during the second inauguration of President Lincoln.

The list of those whose portraits he has painted includes many notables of the nineteenth century, but the portrait of which he is most proud is that of Ulysses S. Grant. Mr. Hartshorn made the sketch for this painting when General Grant was president of the United States. It ranks as one of the best portraits of the soldier-statesman ever made. He has also painted the portraits of many governors of various states in the union.

"During Mr. Hartshorn's career, nine of the famous family of Rothschilds, the European financiers, have sat for him and among others he has painted were the Duke of Norfolk, the Marquis of Bute, Lords Howard and Louisa, William Cullen Bryant and Senator Simon Cameron.

"Since the war Capt. Hartshorn has made his home in Springfield, spending much of his time in his studio in the Berkshires, where he has over 400 acres of valuable land. He has several commissions and other pieces of work to complete, but as soon as these are finished he may return to Cheyenne to take up his permanent abode. Until his family is well settled he will remain here."

West Groton. A garage recently built for the station agent, H. C. Porter, is the latest addition to the buildings of the village.

Mrs. L. G. Strand has been in care of her physician and is still unable to leave her home.

A number of West Groton students had roles in the high school play recently given and were highly commended for their work.

Those dealing with Boy Scout activities have been necessarily omitted, the telephone line not being in working order.

Mrs. Slocum, of New York, recently visited her daughter, Mrs. E. P. Slocum.

Little Persis Blood, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Wilder Blood, is ill with scarlet fever.

Mrs. E. L. Blood and Mrs. Edward Mollish had an unpleasant experience one day last week, though fortunately neither was injured. While driving to Ayer the horse slipped and fell, breaking a shaft. This is the fifth accident of the same or similar nature that has occurred in the state road leading to Ayer to people of this village and vicinity.

Miss K. A. Tarbell, accompanied by a friend, spent Friday of last week in Boston.

The Groton Woman's club kindly extended an invitation to the West Groton Improvement society for the lecture given by Prof. Smith on Friday afternoon of last week. Notification cards were sent to all members, and all who found it possible availed themselves of the opportunity, feeling well repaid for doing so.

At formal meetings held on Friday evening of last week, the resignation of the pastor of the Christian Union church, Rev. J. P. Trowbridge, was accepted by both church and parish societies, and the necessary council was chosen. Resolutions expressing appreciation of the pastor's high character and faithful, conscientious and successful service were read and accepted.

At the missionary service given at the church on Friday evening of last week, under the auspices of the L. A. week, the services of the Rev. L. A. Fitchburg, gave an extremely interesting talk on her previous work in Smyrna, which, owing to the war, she was compelled to abandon three years ago. She is now endeavoring by her talks in various places to arouse interest in her pupils and their needs. As soon as conditions permit, she expects to return to Smyrna.

The Gun club met on last week Friday evening and elected the following officers: Fred Reid, pres. and treas.; Phineas Parker, v. p.; F. J. Malley, sec.; William Kezar, field capt. Toilet supper was served, after which cards were enjoyed. The evening was pronounced the most enjoyable in the history of the club.

On the evening of December 1, Mr. and Mrs. Charles Lawrence entertained several near neighbors, giving them an opportunity to meet Mr. and Mrs. Jewett, recent purchasers of the "Mehler farm." The evening was passed very pleasantly in social enjoyment. Vocal solos were rendered by Miss Susie Hill, Miss Sylvia Lawrence and James Hill, with solos, Mr. Robinson, Mrs. Ernest Williams accompanist. A substantial but dainty lunch was served by the hostess and her daughters. Others present were Mrs. Matthew Roberts and Mr. and Mrs. Barreux. The above item was received from one of the guests too late for publication last week.

Mrs. G. S. Webber received a telegram on Sunday, giving the sad intelligence of the death of her brother, Anthony Fernald, of San Francisco. Mr. Fernald has been for many years suffering from heart trouble and several previous attacks. He went west about seven years ago.

The next meeting of the Improvement society will be held on Tuesday evening, December 19, at eight o'clock. The program is in charge of the executive committee, A. F. Cottrell, chairman. There will be reading by Mrs. C. E. Bixby and singing by Mrs. A. W. Lamb. The remainder of the evening will be given to social enjoyment, tables being provided for "five hundred." All who enjoy the game are invited to participate and to bring partners if possible.

The Ladies Aid Christmas fair opened on Thursday afternoon. The various booths and tables wore a gay and festive appearance befitting the season. At eight o'clock an entertainment was presented in charge of Mrs. C. E. Bixby, in which forty-five children participated, many of them little ones of the first grade. It was a pleasing program, well carried out, and received very generous with its applause. Much credit for the evening's success is due Mrs. Charles Bixby and Miss Edith Wright, who gave able assistance in the chairman. The violin duet, accompanied by Mrs. F. L. Blood, which was greatly enjoyed. The supper will be held on Friday evening.

A letter from Albuquerque, N. M., brought welcome tidings to anxious friends and relatives of Miss Bertha Bixby on Thursday, assuring them that the writer was well. It was the first received in four weeks, owing to a quarantine imposed on account of small pox appearing in one of the school departments.

Mrs. Ida Phelps of Boston is a guest this week of her sister, Mrs. Charles Andrews, at the North.

The Matrons Aid society met on Tuesday afternoon with Mrs. David Marsh on Center road.

Mrs. Jennette Hewes is seriously ill with pneumonia at her home on Clark road.

The all-day auction Monday at the home of the late Charles Andrews at the North attracted a large crowd, there being an unusually large array of teams and autos. About two hundred were served at noon with lunch.

Rev. Grover Harrison of Groton School will conduct the service at Trinity chapel Sunday afternoon at 3.15. Mr. Harrison will conduct the services throughout December, regardless of the vacation at Groton School.

Savings and Thrift club of First National Bank of Ayer starts December 26. See first page.

New Advertisements.

LOST—A large Black and White Hound. Please notify GEORGE E. LAWRENCE, Groton, Tel. 39-2. It

PICTURE LANTERN FOR SALE—Throws postcards and others pictures on a screen and is run by connection with the electric light system. The lantern is easily managed and affords the most interesting entertainment. Can be had at a reasonable price. For further information apply to MISS M. P. ABBOT, Groton, Tel. 39-2.

PAIR GRAY HORSES FOR SALE—Also 4 good business Horses, young and sound. ADAMS STABLE, Groton, Mass.

WANTED AT ONCE—Men to work in paper mill; steady work and good pay. Company's boarding house will furnish comfortable quarters for men to live. HOLLINGSWORTH & COSE, West Groton, Mass.

Saturday, December 16, 1916.

AYER

News Items.

Ayer Grange gave the play, "Clove... in Groton on Monday night for the benefit of Groton Grange.

John Leo Galvin, son of John J. Galvin and the late Catherine (Farrell) Galvin, of Cambridge, died in the Cambridge hospital on Wednesday.

The funeral will take place this Sunday morning at nine o'clock from the church of the Blessed Sacrament in that city.

Mr. and Mrs. Herbert H. Proctor have taken possession of the store formerly conducted by Miss Mary L. Brown in Page block, and will continue to do business there.

The Special Aid for American Preparedness society was represented at the Allied bazaar in Boston on Tuesday by Mrs. Rachel Osgood Barry.

The Unitarian church school will have a Christmas party for the children on Friday, December 22, from five to eight o'clock.

On last week Friday evening the union church fair closed with a fine entertainment in Page hall. The hall was filled to its limit at an early hour with an attendant audience, and people were not disappointed.

The concert company were wide awake and kept their listeners amused, interested and entertained. Miss Marguerite Pearson Moses, the violinist, played a fine air and charmed everyone with her fine playing.

A delightful meeting of the Ayer Branch Alliance was held at the home of the president, Mrs. Harry E. Fisher, and her mother, Mrs. Geo. J. Burns, on Thursday afternoon.

The art section of the Woman's club meets on Tuesday evening, December 19, with Miss Esther Stone.

Roger, the young son of Mr. and Mrs. John M. Wallace, who had a bad case of the measles, better, Dr. Sullivan is in attendance.

The police have found the persons responsible for throwing acid into the locomotive cab of an eastbound express train on a striking injury to Engineer Tabor and his fireman.

John M. Wallace is contemplating moving his family to Pepperell within a short time.

"The child of destiny," a tale of the swamp country, in five acts of exquisite photoplay, presenting the brilliant stage star, Irene Fenwick, is the feature this evening at the motion picture show.

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With only a short time to do the Christmas shopping our thoughts naturally turn to Christmas Gifts. What is more practical and more appreciated by the men and boys than some article of wearing apparel?

- Men's and Boys' Suits and Overcoats... \$10.00 to \$22.00
Mackinaw Coats... \$5.00 to \$8.50
Bath Robes... \$3.50 to \$6.00
Men's and Ladies' Sweaters... \$1.00 to \$7.00
Men's and Ladies' Umbrellas... \$1.00 to \$5.00
Men's and Ladies' Slippers and Moccasins... 50¢ to \$2.00
Bags and Suit Cases... \$1.25 to \$6.00
Neckties of all kinds in Christmas Boxes... 25¢ to \$1.00
Arm Bands in Christmas Boxes... 25¢ and 50¢
Gloves in Christmas Boxes... 25¢ to \$3.50
Braces in Christmas Boxes... 25¢ and 50¢
Men's Linen Handkerchiefs, with initial... 15¢, 25¢ and 50¢
Men's and Japanette Handkerchiefs, initial... 10¢ and 15¢
Men's Silk Handkerchiefs, with initial... 25¢ and 50¢
Combination Necktie and Handkerchief... 75¢ and \$1.00
Sets in Christmas Boxes... 75¢ and \$1.00

All Kinds of Footwear for Every Member of the Family—Rubber Boots, Overshoes, Rubbers, Etc.

Fletcher Bros. AYER - MASS. STORE OPEN EVERY EVENING NEXT WEEK EXCEPT TUESDAY

loss of his right hand at the wrist. After the accident, he walked back to the engine of his train and his fellow workmen took him to the office of Dr. Sullivan, where treatment was given him.

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A reception was held at the home of the bride after the ceremony, during which refreshments were served. The bride is a well-known young lady of this town, a graduate of the high school in the class of 1914.

The church has been undergoing a thorough house-cleaning this week. The choir has been rehearsing the sacred cantata to be sung at the evening service.

The people of the church will be favored on Sunday by a visit from the members of the Episcopalian church, Littleton. The minister visiting the people here the visitor with a large attendance.

PASTORAL LETTER To My People: Dear Friends—We are now approaching Christmas, the festival of giving, when we celebrate with gifts to the serious and earnest, to the kind, the babe who grew to be the great prophet, martyr, and hero of the Christian religion.

Regular attendance is a valuable gift that most of you can bring. It is indeed gratifying that there are so many of you who are regular attendants at our services during the Christmas season.

Most people overlook a certain important point. It is not solely a question of whether or not you attend the service. Each attendant at divine worship adds something to the value of the service for every other worshipper.

You are all asked to bring as your gift to your church at Christmas time your pledge to attend divine worship regularly unless prevented by sickness or other real obstacle.

During the summer of 1892 the usual concerts were given, and in the fall a large number of torchlight parades and rallies were held both in Groton and West Groton at which the band played.

In 1893, two new names appear, that of Wesley Kidder and Lester C. Adams. Mr. Kidder played cornet for one year. He lived later in Ayer and was about twelve years old at the time and was picked up by the new instrument quickly.

Lester Adams began his musical career as cornetist in the West Groton Cornet band in his early boyhood. He distinctly remembers the little old books which they used to play out of, containing old tunes like "Nearer my God to thee," "Yankee Doodle," "My Bonnie lies over the ocean," etc.

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The New England Trust Company BOSTON, MASS. Capital \$1,000,000 Surplus and Profits over \$3,000,000 ACTS AS EXECUTOR, ADMINISTRATOR, TRUSTEE, GUARDIAN, ATTORNEY OR AGENT

BUNGALOW FOR SALE—Sited on Whiteoak Street, Fletcher Street, Louis F. LAPOINTE, Ayer, Mass. 14 START YOUR PULLETS RIGHT This fall by using our AFCEE DRY MASH and AFCEE SCRATCH FEED

J. W. MURRY DYEING, CLEANING and REPAIRING NEATLY DONE Garments Remodeled, Suits Made-to-Order. Turner's Block, Ayer, Mass. Telephone Connection

H. J. Webb REGISTERED OPTOMETRIST Opposite Depot Ayer, Mass. 3m10

P. Donlon & Co DEALERS IN FIRST-CLASS Meats Groceries AND Provisions BARRINGTON HALL COFFEE REGENT FLOUR PAINTS, OILS and VARNISHES All Goods Guaranteed

P. Donlon & Co Meats' Block AYER, MASS. Telephone 33

A Few of the Many Useful CHRISTMAS GIFTS to be found at DWINELL'S Store Skates 65¢ to \$2.00 Snows 50¢ to \$4.50 Snow Skis \$1.25 to \$2.50 Hockey Sticks 5¢ to 50¢ Thermos Bottles \$1.50 to \$4.50 Thermos Lunch Sets \$2.50 to \$2.75 Coffee Percolators \$1.50 to \$2.75 Casseroles \$1.25 Ever-Ready Flash Lights 75¢ to \$1.75 Pocket Knives 25¢ to \$1.25 Nickel Hot Water Bottles \$1.50 to \$2.50 3-Coin Banks \$1.00 to \$1.75

I. G. Dwinell Fine Groceries and Hardware AYER, MASS. Telephone 76-2

SHIRLEY

News Items. Rev. Coningsby Gordon, A. B., of Harvard divinity school, will occupy the pulpit of the Congregational church on Sunday morning at 10.45. Mr. Gordon substitutes this Sunday for Rev. Douglas H. Corley, the minister of the church. Mr. Gordon is a professor of a seminary in Melbourne, Australia, and is here on a leave of absence to do further study. His subject will be "The work of faith."

The churches of the town will observe Christmas with the usual Christmas trees and entertainment on Saturday evening, December 23. The feature of the evening at the motion picture show on Monday evening will be "Tora," a five-reel drama featuring the famous screen star, Emily Stevens. There will also be two reels of the feature "Tora" and a complete story—full of interest and superb acting.

Thomas H. Evans, lecturer-elect of Shirley Grange, attended the lecturers' convention of the State Grange this week in Boston. The services at the First Parish church have been discontinued for the winter. Mrs. and Mrs. G. L. Snow entertained their son and his wife, from Brookline, over Sunday. The next meeting of Shirley Grange is scheduled for the first of the month. Christmas tree in charge of the lecturer, but no definite plans have yet been announced. This meeting occurs on Tuesday, December 19.

Benjamin Conant took an auto load to Boston recently to hear Billy Sunday preach. In the party were A. F. Conant, Goldsmith H. Conant, Wallace Robinson and Robert Woods. Mrs. A. F. Conant visited her son, William F. Conant, and family in Brookline and attended one of the Billy Sunday meetings. Mrs. Justin Merrill is recovering rapidly from the effects of her recent operation. Mrs. Shepard is fast returning to her normal health. Charles F. Watts has accepted the janitorship of the Congregational church and it is expected that the church will be comfortably warm next Sunday, as he is filling the position to the eminent satisfaction of the worshippers.

Improve Your Complexion. Get your blood pure, keep the liver active and the bowels regular, and disfiguring pimples and unsightly blotches will disappear from the face. For improving the complexion and putting the blood in good order. BEECHAM'S PILLS are safer, better and surer than cosmetics. They eliminate poisonous matters from the system, strengthen the organs and purify the blood—bring the health-glow to the cheeks, brighten the eyes, improve and Beautify the Skin. Directions of Special Value to Women are with Every Box. Sold by druggists throughout the world. In boxes, 10c., 25c.

A Merry Christmas. Another year has nearly passed and we have made a very good showing in the business which we have conducted; but this isn't enough, we want to do more, and with the help and co-operation of every farmer and poultry raiser in this vicinity we will be able to do a great deal more for our mutual advantage. WE CARRY IN STOCK A FULL LINE OF Paint and Roofing Materials prices of which will be gladly quoted upon request. The EXCHANGE is in communication with Fertilizer, Nursery Stock, and Spraying Material Houses and would ask you to get in touch with us before placing your orders elsewhere. We hope to receive a part of the trade of every farmer and will appreciate any effort shown to make this EXCHANGE a success.

Paint and Roofing Materials. The EXCHANGE is in communication with Fertilizer, Nursery Stock, and Spraying Material Houses and would ask you to get in touch with us before placing your orders elsewhere. We hope to receive a part of the trade of every farmer and will appreciate any effort shown to make this EXCHANGE a success.

Ayer Farmers' Co-Operative Exchange. Flanagan's Crossing, Ayer. G. B. SCHULTZ, Manager.

Electric Christmas Gifts. MAKE A MERRY CHRISTMAS LAST THE WHOLE YEAR THROUGH. When Electric Ware enters the home at Christmas, distasteful features of cooking vanish and new features surround the meal time. The Toaster Stove cooks bacon, eggs, griddle cakes and many other things. The Turnover Toaster turns the toast at a touch and each piece crisp and evenly browned, is ready just when it is wanted. There are also many other gift articles such as ELECTRIC IRONS SEWING MOTORS VACUUM CLEANERS HEATING PADS BOUDOIR SETS CURLING IRONS PERCOLATORS GRILLS, ETC.

Don't Fail. to See Our New and Up-to-date Christmas Stock of Diamonds Pendants Brooches Rings Bracelets Scarf Pins Cuff Links Gentlemen's Sets of All Kinds. JAS. P. FITCH, Jeweler. Next to Postoffice Tel. Con. AYER, MASS.

Teamster Wanted for our factory. Must be strictly temperate; family man preferred. CONANT, HOUGHTON & CO., Inc. 2115 Littleton, Mass. Langdon Prouty Insurance Agent and Broker. Fire, Automobile, Liability, Farm Property and Accident Policies. Placed in the Most Reliable Companies at Lowest Rates. Littleton, Mass. Telephone 30 3m14. NOTICE. The Annual Meeting of the Stockholders of the Townsend National Bank will be held at their Bank Rooms on Monday, January 1, 1917, at ten o'clock A. M., to choose a Board of Directors for the year ensuing, and act upon any other business that may legally come before said meeting. 414 C. B. WILLARD, Cashier. Townsend, Mass., Dec. 5, 1916.

Millinery Christmas Gifts. R. M. GRAHAM. Phelps' Block AYER, MASS. Now is Your Chance to Get a Nice, Well-made MONUMENT. Very Reasonable. Large stock to select from; first-class work. Letters cut by Pneumatic Tools. Electric Cars from North Chelmsford and Ayer right to shop. A. G. LUNDBERG Brookside, Mass.

Premium Oleomargine. Manufactured Under Government Inspection which insures PURITY CLEANLINESS. Cut your Butter Bill in Half. Harlow & Parsons. Tel 130 AYER, MASS. Established 1875. Not One-half but practically all the good things for the holidays are in our store, such as Nuts, Dates, Candy, etc. It will be a pleasure to show you our stock of good things for you and your guests by partake of at the festive board. We are agents for the celebrated Corona and Gold Medal Flours—the flour that stands second to none—with which to make your bread, cookies, puddings, etc. A trial will convince you that we are up-to-date in every line that we carry in stock.

Our Specialty is the Handling of the Very Best Vermont Butter and Cheese. EAST MAIN STREET GROCERY. JAMES E. GRIFFIN, Proprietor. East Main Street Ayer, Mass.

L. SHERWIN & CO. AYER, MASS. DEALERS IN Groceries Hardware Paints, Etc. AMMUNITION FRUIT NUTS FIGS DATES CANDY. Always a Good Supply of Staple Goods on Hand.

ELIZABETH PATTERSON. MARINELLO TOILET PARLOR. Shampooing, Facial and Scalp Massage. Try the Marinello Toilet Water, Perfumes, Permanent Sachets, Creams of all kinds. 6 Pleasant St., Ayer. 1331.

Piano Tuning. WILMOT B. CLEAVES. Phone 20 HARVARD, MASS. Graduate N. E. C. of Music, Boston Ten years with Aeolian Co., New York Agent for Holton Band Instruments. PIANOS FOR SALE 1916.

SHIRLEY CASH MARKET. Cart in Ayer Every Tuesday and Saturday. with a full line of Beef, Pork, Lamb, Ham, Sausages and Canned Goods of all varieties. Fresh Vegetables in their Season. Cart in Shirley Every Day. CHARLES A. MCCARTHY, Prop.

N. A. SPENCER & SON. Wish to call your attention to their stock of GEMETERY MEMORIALS which they would be pleased to have intending purchasers inspect and obtain prices. PARK STREET Ayer, Mass. The newspaper which makes a record of its circulation has a good reason for it—but the reason is never the one that is given in the advertisement.

HARVARD

News Items. The funeral services of Mrs. Catherine H. Davis, wife of Roswell C. Davis, whose death occurred on Monday, was held from the home of her brother, James A. Murchie, on Wednesday afternoon. Rev. B. M. Merrill officiated at the service. Herbert A. Thayer sang two selections. A. W. Bryant, William Hanna, Edwin F. Houghton and H. B. Vesile acted as bearers. Mrs. Davis' death came after several months of general breaking down resulting from illness incidental to old age. She has lived as a resident of this town for upwards of twenty years. She was a woman of sympathetic nature, whose neighborly kindness was a cherished memory to her friends. Her death removes one who will be greatly missed in her home and town. She leaves a husband and daughter, Miss Mary Davis; also a brother, James Murchie, to whom the loss comes with severity. Mrs. Davis was aged 66 years and 1 month. Burial was in Beverly cemetery.

There will be the regular morning service at the Unitarian church Sunday at 10.45 a. m., Rev. H. C. Merrill conducting the service. At seven p. m. the pastor will evening service, the subject being "The brotherhood of man." All are welcome. The service at the Orthodox church will be in charge of Rev. H. B. Mason. Music by the chorus choir. Sunday school at twelve. C. E. service at seven o'clock. William H. Dean, the new owner of the George Gale farm, is now established in his new home, Mr. and Mrs. Leslie are at present in Mr. and Mrs. Henry Gale at the Center.

LITTLETON

News Items. The North schoolhouse tenement, owned by George F. Stone, and located on Great road, was totally destroyed by fire on Monday night. About one o'clock the alarm was given by a telephone call from the fire station and the building was in sheets of flame with little hope of saving even a door or a window. Few people ventured out in the storm and those few could accomplish nothing. Fortunately the house was unoccupied, the latest tenants having moved out recently. The origin of the fire is unknown. The three churches will unite Sunday evening in a meeting at the Congregational church over which H. C. Kimball will preside. The subject for discussion will be "Our national ideas" and Mr. Kimball has assigned topics for Revs. Calkins, Fairchild and Alvord, pertaining to the general subject. Special music has been planned by Mrs. Kimball. In the absence of the pastor, Mrs. J. C. Alvord, president of the North branch of the Y. W. C. A., presented an appeal for missions to the people of the Congregational society. A. P. Gardner sang a solo, which was heartily appreciated. Mr. and Mrs. Gardner are arranging a very elaborate program for the Christmas service. Misses Carolyn Conant, Margaret Conant, Anna Snow, Elizabeth Hill and Mrs. C. A. Kibball, constitute a committee for Christmas tree and entertainment. The intermediate department of the Y. W. C. A. society will decorate the church and vestry for Christmas. A mission play will be given under the direction of Robert Woods and Margaret Conant. There was a good representative attendance of citizens at the Board of Trade meeting on Monday to hear the exposition of the new income tax law by Mr. Andrews, of the state tax commission. He gave a short introduction, showing the reason for the passing of the law and the hoped-for benefits to the community as a result of the law. Many questions were asked and to all Mr. Andrews gave ready and clear answers, explaining difficult passages and materially assisting those present to a clear understanding of the law. It was an interesting and profitable evening. The Misses Faulkner, employed at the webbing factory, making their home with their sister, Mrs. Gordon Lohnes, have gone now to Boston. Commander Solon Arnold, U. S. N., retired, and Mrs. Arnold, of Berkeley, Cal., have announced the engagement of their daughter, Bernice, to Lieut. George N. Barker, U. S. N., of the Battleship Michigan. Rev. Frank B. Crandall, of Ayer, will be the preacher at the Unitarian church on Sunday morning in exchange with Rev. O. J. F. Fitch, taking as the subject for his sermon one in line with the series of subjects announced for this pulpit for the month of December—"Our duty of confessing our faith." Mr. Crandall, who is a graduate of Cornell university and of the Harvard divinity school, and had his first ministerial practice in the splendid Second Church of Boston.

SHIRLEY

News Items. The annual fair held last week Friday evening by the ladies of the Baptist church was most successful. The ladies netted about eighty dollars. A number of people sat down to supper and enjoyed the many good things provided. Supper was served from 5.30 to 8 o'clock. This was followed by an entertainment, the following program being given: Piano solo, Mae Bradford; song, two little Bolton girls; farce, "Three of a kind," Helen and Mae Bradford; Milden and Olive Bryant; recitation, Horace Harris, Eleanor Longley. The following are the committees: Mrs. George Balch, Mrs. Henry F. Burrage, Miss Carrie Bradford, fancy table, Mrs. Harry Bradford, Mrs. Henry Maylin, vegetable; Mrs. Ralph Wheeler, Miss Helen Bradford, candy; Mrs. David Gooch, fishing pond; Mrs. Clara M. Penseau, chairman, Mrs. Fred Penseau, Mrs. John Batch, Mrs. George Sibley, supper; Miss Louise Penseau, Mrs. Fred Rich, Mrs. Arthur Dunn, waitresses; Miss Mildred Evans, Miss Helen Bradford, entertainment committee. Accepts Call. Rev. Douglas Hilary Corley, A. M., S. T. B., of Cambridge, has received a call to become the pastor of the Congregational church. Mr. Corley is now attending the theological school at Harvard college, and will come to Shirley week-ends to remain over Sunday, and will spend his school holidays and summer vacation with his Shirley parishioners. The parish committee, acting under advice from the members of the parish, engaged Mr. Corley until May 1, and it is expected that at the parish meeting to be held next April the action of the parish committee will be ratified and that Mr. Corley will then be permanently engaged as the pastor of the church. Rev. Douglas Hilary Corley, who is about twenty-two years of age, was born in London, Eng., and received his early education in the schools there. He comes of a family of lawyers and received the name Hilary as he was born on January 11, the first day of the Hilary law sittings. After being in business for a few years Mr. Corley decided that he was called to the ministry, thus fulfilling his determination of childhood years, when he always said if asked what he was going to be when he grew up, "A minister." When twenty-three years old, by advice of his physician, owing to ill health, he went to the Maritime Provinces. He then went to college with the idea of entering the ministry, and at the end of this school year, 1910, made a hurried trip to England on account of his mother's illness. On September 21, 1910, he was married to Miss Dorothy Stancliffe, returning to America in the same year to accept a mission parish in Maine. Completing his college education, while doing pastoral work, he graduated from Bates college, Lewiston, Me., graduating with the A. B. degree in 1913, and was then ordained. Mr. Corley then went to Cambridge and entered Anderson divinity school, where he was conferred with the degree Bachelor of Divinity in June, 1915, and after a special examination by the faculty of the Harvard divinity school was granted the degree of Bachelor of Theology. Continuing Mr. Corley specialized in the study of the New Testament and has completed his work for the A. M. degree, which he is to receive in February, 1917, and hopes to continue his studies for the Doctor's degree in June, 1918. While studying in Cambridge, Mr. Corley supplied the churches in North Fairmount and West Gloucester. Mrs. Corley, his wife, who is also a Londoner, received her education in the schools of London and after graduating received special training as a photographer and artist, and is employed in a West End studio in London until her marriage. A daughter, Marion, was born to Mr. and Mrs. Corley on April 16 of this year. Mr. and Mrs. Corley are members of the North Congregational church in Cambridge. Mr. Corley is also a member of the Suffolk North Association of Ministers. Birthday Party. The home of Mr. and Mrs. Charles McDevitt, Main street, was the scene of merriment on Tuesday when a party was given in honor of their daughter, Miss Alice McDevitt, who had reached her twelfth birthday anniversary. About two score of Alice's young friends assembled at the home in response to invitations, and from 4.30 to 8.30 not one dull moment was in evidence. It was one continuous round of fun from start to finish. A very long and unique program of entertainment was prepared and it was carried out in full. Alice's birthday presents were made to feel quite at home and they readily entered into the spirit of the occasion. She was the recipient of a number of beautiful presents from the guests, a special one being a large birthday cake given her by Mrs. Frances Herson. Games, plays and refreshments served. The entire party disbanded shortly before nine o'clock with memories of a day long to be remembered. Those present were Edith and Ruth Andler, Oma Wolff, Ernest White, May Stebbins, Anna and Barry Flesette, Richard Lilly, Albert Dearden, Nina and Warren Birchstead, Kenneth Park, Thomas and William Daly, Ruth Whitaker, Irene Doherty and Doris Knowles, Annie and Mabel Palmer, Alice and Myrtle Cole, Virginia and Harriet Wheeler, Elizabeth Polke, Moody and Milly Parker, Clara and Frances Herson, Kathleen Miner, Ruth Malanson, John, Fred and Edward Will, Vera, Frank and Gertrude Day and Howard Knowles. Center. Mrs. Charles Longley has gone to Townsend to spend the winter with her sister. Mr. and Mrs. A. A. Adams are spending the week in Boston with Mr. and Mrs. J. Edward Adams, and attended the sessions of the State Grange. Miss Mildred Evans, of Bolton, spent the week-end with her mother, Mrs. Ida Evans. Miss Vera Bradford, who is teaching in Bath, Me., arrives home this week for a two-weeks' vacation. Mr. and Mrs. Charles K. Bolton, of Brookline, spent the week-end at their summer home on Center road. The Girls' Sewing Guild held a pleasant meeting on last Saturday afternoon with Miss Ethel M. Holden, presiding. Mrs. E. J. Adams is confined to her home with a sprained wrist.

LITTLETON

News Items. The North schoolhouse tenement, owned by George F. Stone, and located on Great road, was totally destroyed by fire on Monday night. About one o'clock the alarm was given by a telephone call from the fire station and the building was in sheets of flame with little hope of saving even a door or a window. Few people ventured out in the storm and those few could accomplish nothing. Fortunately the house was unoccupied, the latest tenants having moved out recently. The origin of the fire is unknown. The three churches will unite Sunday evening in a meeting at the Congregational church over which H. C. Kimball will preside. The subject for discussion will be "Our national ideas" and Mr. Kimball has assigned topics for Revs. Calkins, Fairchild and Alvord, pertaining to the general subject. Special music has been planned by Mrs. Kimball. In the absence of the pastor, Mrs. J. C. Alvord, president of the North branch of the Y. W. C. A., presented an appeal for missions to the people of the Congregational society. A. P. Gardner sang a solo, which was heartily appreciated. Mr. and Mrs. Gardner are arranging a very elaborate program for the Christmas service. Misses Carolyn Conant, Margaret Conant, Anna Snow, Elizabeth Hill and Mrs. C. A. Kibball, constitute a committee for Christmas tree and entertainment. The intermediate department of the Y. W. C. A. society will decorate the church and vestry for Christmas. A mission play will be given under the direction of Robert Woods and Margaret Conant. There was a good representative attendance of citizens at the Board of Trade meeting on Monday to hear the exposition of the new income tax law by Mr. Andrews, of the state tax commission. He gave a short introduction, showing the reason for the passing of the law and the hoped-for benefits to the community as a result of the law. Many questions were asked and to all Mr. Andrews gave ready and clear answers, explaining difficult passages and materially assisting those present to a clear understanding of the law. It was an interesting and profitable evening. The Misses Faulkner, employed at the webbing factory, making their home with their sister, Mrs. Gordon Lohnes, have gone now to Boston. Commander Solon Arnold, U. S. N., retired, and Mrs. Arnold, of Berkeley, Cal., have announced the engagement of their daughter, Bernice, to Lieut. George N. Barker, U. S. N., of the Battleship Michigan. Rev. Frank B. Crandall, of Ayer, will be the preacher at the Unitarian church on Sunday morning in exchange with Rev. O. J. F. Fitch, taking as the subject for his sermon one in line with the series of subjects announced for this pulpit for the month of December—"Our duty of confessing our faith." Mr. Crandall, who is a graduate of Cornell university and of the Harvard divinity school, and had his first ministerial practice in the splendid Second Church of Boston.

WHY NOT SEE Thomas F. Mullin THE REAL ESTATE AGENT In Regard to Investment? Room 3 Bank Bldg. Ayer

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Speedwell Farm Pasteurized CREAM BUTTER FANCY CHEESES We carry in stock the following first-class cheeses: Camembert Pineapple Swiss Roquefort Parmesan (Italian) Roquefort and American Full Cream (American) No. 1 Young America Chley Cheese Club Gifford Cream Cheese

Mullin Bros 9 Page's Block AYER CUTFLOWERS, PLANTS, FLORAL DESIGNS, ETC. HARDY ORNAMENTAL TREES, SHRUBS AND VINES

H. Huebner Florist Groton, Mass. Greenhouses near Groton School A Nice Assortment of

Democrat Wagons CONCORD BUGGIES

Carriages, Butcher Carts Harnesses A good assortment and at all prices—call and see them

CARRIAGE REPAIRING IN ALL ITS BRANCHES PROMPTLY DONE ALSO, HORSESHOEING AND GENERAL BLACKSMITHING

FREDERICK WHITNEY AYER, MASS. Union Cash Market Ayer, Mass.

FORES OF LAMB 13c. lb. ROAST PORK 17c. lb. BEST TOP OF ROUND 28c. lb. BEST SIRLOIN STEAK 30c. lb. GOOD SIRLOIN STEAK 25c. lb. RUMP STEAK 35c. lb. SMALL HAMS 22c. lb. POT ROAST 15c. lb. FIRST RIB ROAST BEEF 20c. lb. SALT SPARE RIBS 13c. lb. FAT SALT PORK 16c. lb. CRANBERRIES 8c. quart HIGH-GRADE COCOA 23c. lb., 5 lbs. \$1.00 KELLOGG'S CORN FLAKES, 8c. pk. SHREDDED WHEAT, 10c. pk. VAN CAMP'S MILK 10c. can VAN CAMP'S SOUPS 2 for 15c. RUMFORD'S BAKING POWDER Large can 23c.

Union Cash Market Main Street, Ayer, Mass.

FOR SALE—A Young Holstein Cow, E. J. LEWIS, Green Hill Farm, Harvard, Mass. 2114

MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE SALE REAL ESTATE

By virtue of the power of sale contained in a mortgage given by the Peppercell Shoe Company, a corporation duly established under the laws of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts and having a usual place of business in Peppercell, Middlesex County, Massachusetts, to the Tremont Trust Company, a corporation established under the laws of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, dated July 31, 1916, and recorded in the Middlesex Registry of Deeds, South District, Book 1072, Page 295, and duly assigned to the subscriber, and for breach of the conditions of said mortgage, will be sold on Saturday, December 30, 1916, at three o'clock P. M., at public auction held on the premises, viz:

The land in that part of Peppercell called East Peppercell with the buildings thereon, excepting the bicycle house, so-called, which is to be treated as personal property and to be removed by the grantors, situated in the Easterly part of said Peppercell and bounded and described as follows: Beginning at a point on the Easterly and Southerly side of Hollis and Nashua Streets, respectively; thence Easterly on said Nashua Street about three hundred and fifty (350) feet to an iron pipe set in the ground to land of H. A. Parker; thence Southerly in a straight line about one hundred and thirty (130) feet by land of said Parker to the Nissittissitt River; thence Westerly by said Nissittissitt River to said Hollis Street; thence Northerly by said Hollis Street about one hundred and twenty (120) feet to the point of beginning, together with the water-power from the dam on the premises, the said grantors, excepting ten (10) horse-power, from said dam which is reserved for the use of the grantors, their heirs and assigns forever. Terms: Cash. Other terms announced at time and place of sale. EVERETT L. TURNER, 314 Assignee of Mortgage, Boston, Mass., Dec. 5, 1916.

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS, Middlesex ss. Probate Court. To the heirs-at-law, next of kin and all other persons interested in the estate of JOHN H. WHITCOMB late of Ayer in said County, deceased, I, ALFRED A. WHITCOMB, who prays that letters testamentary may be issued to him the executor therein named, without giving a surety on his official bond. You are hereby cited to appear at a Probate Court to be held at Cambridge in said County of Middlesex, on the twenty-seventh day of December, A. D. 1916, 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 of 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, postpaid, 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 fifth day of December in the year one thousand nine hundred and sixteen. F. M. ESTY, Register.

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS, Middlesex ss. Probate Court. To the heirs-at-law, next of kin, creditors, and all other persons interested in the estate of JOHN A. BIXBY late of Groton in said County, deceased, I, ALFRED A. WHITCOMB, who prays that letters testamentary may be issued to him the executor therein named, without giving a surety on his official bond. You are hereby cited to appear at a Probate Court to be held at Cambridge in said County of Middlesex, on the twenty-seventh day of December, A. D. 1916, 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 of three successive weeks, in Turner's Public Spirit, a newspaper published in Ayer, the last publication to be one day at least, before said Court. Witness, Charles J. McIntire, Esquire, First Judge of said Court, this sixth day of December in the year one thousand nine hundred and sixteen. F. M. ESTY, Register.

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS, Middlesex ss. Probate Court. To the heirs-at-law, next of kin, and all other persons interested in the estate of MARY LILLIAN BROWN late of Ayer in said County, deceased, I, FRANKLIN FREEMAN, who prays that letters testamentary may be issued to him or to some other suitable person, the executor named in said will having died. You are hereby cited to appear at a Probate Court to be held at Cambridge in said County of Middlesex, on the twenty-seventh day of December, A. D. 1916, 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 of three successive weeks, in Turner's Public Spirit, a newspaper published in Ayer, the last publication to be one day at least, before said Court. Witness, Charles J. McIntire, Esquire, First Judge of said Court, this sixth day of December in the year one thousand nine hundred and sixteen. F. M. ESTY, Register.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the subscriber has been duly appointed executor of the will of FREDERICK A. SMITH late of Peppercell in the County of Middlesex, deceased, testate, and has taken upon himself that trust by filing and recording ANNE F. SMITH of said Peppercell his agent 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 said estate are called upon to make payment to WALTER T. SMITH, Executor. Montclair, N. J. Address of Agent ANNE F. SMITH, Peppercell, Mass. November 25, 1916. 3114

IT IS A FACT that the West Groton Blacksmith saves you money on Farm Wagons and Tip Carts. We build Wheels and make Stone Drags. 1y27

HOLLIS, N. H. News Items. Mrs. Jesse T. Munsell returned to her home in Arlington this week after spending several weeks with her mother.

Three deer have been shot this season, one by the Polander on the Ed. Mace place, one by Carl Brown, and the other by George Merrill.

The W. S. C. met on last week Friday afternoon with Mrs. Raymond Merrill. The next meeting will be the first Friday in January with Mrs. Charles Hill.

On next Tuesday evening the Grange will hold its usual meeting. The third and fourth degrees will be worked.

On last week Wednesday night Mrs. Frank Hayden, who boards with Mrs. Andrew Spaulding, disappeared. When Mrs. Spaulding went to her room on Thursday morning she was gone. A search was made for her everywhere nearby and at ten o'clock the church bell was rung to call out the men to help. At about four in the afternoon she was found in the Charles Spaulding house and stayed some time, lying on a mattress. Mr. Hayden has returned with her to Andrew Spaulding's to take care of her.

Andrew Jewett is ill with pneumonia. The last report was that he was some better.

BROOKLINE, N. H. News Items. On last Sunday Rev. Charles Dockrill gave an interesting discourse on the Billy Sunday meetings which he attended in Boston last week.

Mrs. Perley Pierce and Mrs. John Andrews were visitors in Milford on last week Tuesday.

Mrs. William Perkins, of Nashua, spent last week Friday in town, visiting William French at the home of George Nye.

Mrs. Arthur Brown, who has been quite seriously ill, is gradually improving.

The school committee held a meeting in the school house on Saturday evening, during which plans for the children's Christmas tree were discussed. The children of the three schools in town are to have a joint Christmas tree this year on December 22, at the town hall. There is to be an entertainment at the same time by the children, for which they are now being prepared by their teachers.

As far as we have been able to learn up to date, the only hunters who have succeeded in getting a deer are Warren Barnaby and Harry Cory, although they were reported as being unsuccessful in their hunt. The woods seem to be just alive with partridge, five having been seen in one day on Bond street. Recently one such with such force against Albert Pierce's bangshot that it was instantly killed.

Mrs. Clara Russell attended the meeting of Hillsboro County Pomona Grange which was held in Milford on December 3rd last.

The Ladies' Aid held a business meeting on the afternoon of December 5 at the home of Mrs. Albert Pierce. Patrick O'Connell, who has been very sick, has improved enough to be out of bed and is about a little each day.

Mrs. Ellen Swett, who is spending the winter in Milford, made a short visit in town last week Thursday.

On the afternoon of December 6 the Local Workers assembled at the home of Miss Ellen Swett for what proved to be one of the most enjoyable meetings they have had this season. Miss Swett, who is always a charming hostess, kept the workers busily entertained with her ready witticisms, recitations and readings, and although the masculine sex was conspicuous by its absence it proved to be a spooony time for the afternoon was very all because the fudge wouldn't fudge—that's all.

The reading-room connected with the town library does not seem to be patronized by the townspeople as a place of resort, and it is thought that perhaps they don't realize what an advantage the place is, not only for the grown folks, but for the children as well. The place is attractively furnished with bookshelves, a large wall map, revolving bookcase, plants, comfortable chairs and a large reading table on which can be found a fine and varied collection of journals and magazines of one could wish for to spend a comfortable hour or two reading where it is quiet and restful any Saturday afternoon or evening.

Rev. Thomas E. Chamber of Manchester, district superintendent of the congregational church, will occupy the pulpit on Sunday. On Saturday evening at the Methodist church, will be held the quarterly conference.

LUNENBURG L. W. C. The Women's club observed gentlemen's night by a "commercial" Christmas party on Tuesday evening. The hall was very prettily decorated with Christmas green and two beautiful Christmas trees, one in either corner added much brightness to the scene. A table laden with good things tempt the appetite and lighted with Christmas candles, made another corner very attractive. A violin solo was the first number on the program, after which a march was formed around the hall, each person receiving a present as they passed one tree, and at the other a little bag of beans, which constituted their stock in trade; also, an imitation ten-dollar bill. Then the stock market opened. Each one was expected to buy, sell or trade their gift, using the largest for money. The one having the most valuable things at a given time was to receive a present. Of course it made lots of fun, especially when one man drew and put on a lady's hoop skirt; another gray-haired and nearly bald man drew a pair of blue jeans; and a third drew a long braided jet black hair.

Another march was formed, during which streamers of red and green, with boxes of confetti, were thrown, and each one was very liberally sprinkled.

After this "Prof. Fakingham and his wonderful human exhibit" entertained the company for half an hour or more, during which were shown "two fairies, Gwendolyn and Hazel," represented by two physicians, and gotten up to look as though they weighed two or three tons. These exhibits were shown, including the strongest man, the snake charmer, the smallest boy in the world, the Siamese twins who had a strong attachment for each other, etc. These exhibits, with the very witty remarks of the "professor," caused a great deal of fun. Dainty refreshments were then served, including cake in variety, pineapple sherbet, delicious coffee with cream, and confectionery.

The gentleman who was fortunate enough to have made the most money in trading was given a toy bank in which to store his wealth. The one who had the most valuable things at a given time was to receive a present. Of course it made lots of fun, especially when one man drew and put on a lady's hoop skirt; another gray-haired and nearly bald man drew a pair of blue jeans; and a third drew a long braided jet black hair.

WESTFORD Clipping. The following is taken from the Manchester (N. H.) Union of recent date and may interest the readers of this column:

The home of Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Exley Taylor on Pine street presented this afternoon and evening (November 28) a splendid demonstration of good old New England hospitality, cheer and good fellowship, the occasion being the fiftieth wedding anniversary of Mr. and Mrs. Taylor.

As Mr. Taylor's health during the past year has not been the best it did not seem expedient to set any special party for the gathering, and so instead they kept "open house." All the afternoon and evening a steady stream of guests paid their respects to the Jolly couple, extending their congratulations and best wishes for the future. Light refreshments were served and each one registered in the guest book before departing. Mr. and Mrs. Fred A. Carr, son-in-law and daughter, and or more, from Woodsville, their home. They have had two children, James William, who met death by drowning at the age of fourteen years,

and Mrs. Carrie M. Carr, with whom they make their home. They also have one granddaughter, Hazel Carr, now in training for a nurse in the Woman's hospital at Concord.

Thomas Exley Taylor, or "Uncle Tommy," as he is generally known, was born in Lowell, Mass., November 23, 1843, the fifth of a family of six children of William and Mary Exley Taylor, and is the only one living of the six. Of the three children by a second wife, but one survives, Samuel Law Taylor, of Westford, Mass., who was present at his brother's celebration today. The father was a native of Scotland and the mother of England. Mr. Taylor is a carpenter by trade, having been employed in the bridge department of the Boston and Maine railroad from 1884 to within about a year ago. He served nearly two years in the civil war, enlisting with the United States Signal Corps, Department of the Gulf, from Massachusetts.

He is a past post commander of the G. A. R., having served three years as post commander. He is a member of the Moosehock, I. O. O. F. lodge, being a past noble grand, and has served as chaplain for the last ten years. He is a true christian gentleman, and is an active member in the Woodsville Methodist church and Sabbath school.

Mrs. Taylor was born in Haverhill, in 1850, she being formerly Miss Mary Alice Glazier, her parents were James G. and Almira F. (Chilton) Glazier. Of the four children, two beside Mrs. Taylor are still living, Rev. B. J. Glazier of Northwood, N. H., and Mrs. Fred Aldrich of Center Haverhill, N. H. This was one of the guests today. Mrs. Taylor is an active and energetic worker in the Methodist Episcopal church, is a past president of the Ladies' Aid society, and is present a member of the committee in charge of the parsonage. Primarily she is a home-maker, yet her beautiful and artistic work with embroidery, needle and paint brush has won her a reputation of somewhat more than local extent.

Although "no presents" was stipulated in the general invitation issued by Mr. and Mrs. Taylor, yet they were the recipients of a number of gifts which will be pleasant reminders of the day.

About Town. Hen thieves are still around and about in the Walker homestead on East Main street, as another donation of proboscis.

Samuel H. Balch has been appointed janitor of the Unitarian church. Mr. and Mrs. Elmer Trull, of Westford Corner, residing at present in Lowell, are to build a home on the vacant lot next to the village church in West Chelmsford.

Albert E. Prescott, of Westford and Boston, has aroused the townspeople to sympathetic service in behalf of the French wounded soldiers. In the list of aids knitted together in town are 260 surgical dressings, 41 trench caps, 10 pairs of stockings, 7 mufflers to be sent to the New England Branch. The work is still being industriously carried on. In money contributions \$46 was contributed. Of this sum Miss Keyes, of Concord, gave her lecture before the Tadmuck club, \$5, and out of the treasury of the club \$5 additional was given. Through the usual generosity of the Abbot Worsted Company, by Julian A. Cameron, manager, they contributed thirty pounds of yarn and various shirtings were contributed by individuals. Aside from this Mrs. John C. Abbot is working for the Canadian soldiers, and has many assistants in Westford and Forge Village.

SLOAN'S LINIMENT EASES PAIN Sloan's Liniment is first thought of in the general instance of sprains that are continually happening to children. It quickly penetrates and soothes without rubbing. Cleaner and more effective than musky plasters or ointments. For rheumatic aches, neuralgia, pain and that grippy soreness after colds, Sloan's Liniment gives prompt relief. Have a bottle handy for bruises, strains, sprains and all external pain. For the thousands whose work calls them outdoors, the pains and aches following exposure are relieved by Sloan's Liniment at all drug stores, etc.

New Advertisements Colonial Rugs I will take orders now for Holiday Gifts of Hand Weavings—Rugs, Portieres, Pillow and Couch Covers in Fancy and Plain Weaves. Bed-room Sets—Couch and Pillow Cover with two large Rugs, special at \$15, and will be glad to quote prices on working up your own material. Small amount of Shaker Linen Warp on hand for Silk Table Covers. Call or address MRS. JDA SMITH DREYER, Shaker Village, Ayer, Mass. 3m11

Alice Worcester Weeks Teacher of the ART OF SINGING Windsor Ave. West Acton, Mass. 3m9 Telephone Connection

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the subscriber has been duly appointed executor of the will of CHARLES H. ANDREWS late of Shirley in the County of Middlesex, deceased, testate, and has taken upon herself 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 said estate are called upon to make payment to JENNIE F. HARGREAVES, Executrix. R. F. D. 2, Groton, Mass. November 17, 1916.

FRANK S. BENNETT Successor to ARTHUR FENNER Insurance Agent and Broker Male Street Turner's Bldg. AYER, MASS.

Ralph H. Wylie DENTIST Barry Bldg. AYER MASS. Telephone Connection 3m46

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Practical Economy

Baking powders made from alum or phosphate may be bought for a trifle less than Royal Baking Powder, which is made from cream of tartar, derived from grapes.

Alum powders are not only cheap, but they differ greatly in leavening power.

If a cheap baking powder is used for a fine cake and the cake turns out a failure there is a waste of costly materials worth more than a whole can of the cheap baking powder.

Royal Baking Powder produces the finest food, and its use therefore, results in an actual saving.

ROYAL BAKING POWDER CO.
New York

Saturday, December 16, 1916.

PEPPERELL

News Items.

Miss Helen M. Robbins took a short vacation of one day from her duties as cashier at Hayes' store last week which she spent with relatives in Fitchburg.

Miss Abbie Carter has sold most of her household effects and with the remainder will go to board with Mrs. Lyman Blood for the winter this week.

The public schools close next week on Friday for a holiday vacation of two weeks.

A meeting of the Girl Scouts of America, which was recently organized by Mrs. D. R. Child, was held under the direction of some of her assistants at the Main street grammar school building on Wednesday afternoon, December 6. Officers were elected as follows: Amy Geiger, patrol leader; Elizabeth McNayr, corp.; Katherine Hobart, scribe; Nettie Kimball, nurse; Dorothy Jacobs, reporter. Officers of the school are: Marian Buss, patrol leader; Betty Hutchinson, corp.; Glenis Green, scribe. A meeting will be held at the same place on Wednesday, December 20.

The regular meeting of the East Village Social club, which would occur on Wednesday, December 20, will be postponed on account of the approaching holidays.

At the regular meeting of Beacon Lodge, L. O. Child, was Thursday evening of last week, there was an initiation of a class of candidates.

Mrs. L. A. Johnson and Miss Ada Whitney were Lowell shoppers on Wednesday.

The Hollis A. A. basketball team have organized with Russell Wright, of this town, as manager, the team being T. O'Neil, capt., and Spaulding, W. O'Neil, Gaddard, Denault, Goodwin and Sullivan of Hollis making up the number. They play at the Opera House on Friday evening, December 22. Dancing will follow, with good music by an orchestra. Their schedule is for the Fitchburg Y. M. C. U. December 29; the Ashburnham team, January 5; the Fitchburg Park Hill Five, January 12.

The residence of Bert Brainerd on Pleasant street, has been wired for electric lights by Otto Shattuck.

Mr. and Mrs. William Hanna have moved back to town from Greenville, N. H., and will occupy one of the cottages near the Hampton card shop. Mr. Hanna has obtained work on the railroad, on the south section.

Henry Wilson, who has been assisting at the greenhouse of his uncle in Dover, has been at his home on Brookline street since Thanksgiving, expects to go to a new position in Needham on January 1.

Electric lighting arrangements have been installed at the residences of M. H. Johnson, Oak Hill, and J. H. Henderson, just off Townsend street, by Mr. McAllister, the representative of the DeLoe Electric Company, who is their agent for Middlesex county. The lighting is effected by a combination storage batteries, and is peculiarly well adapted for isolated places. It has been found very satisfactory by Mr. Henderson, who has given it a trial, and has had all his buildings, including the cottage, wired for it.

The meeting of the Farmers' and Mechanics' club, called for Monday evening of this week, was not sufficiently attended to warrant any transaction of business.

O. M. Nash went to Concord on Tuesday as delegate from the Grange to attend a convention for the formation of a Farmers' Bureau. He went from there to attend a meeting of the section of the State Grange on Wednesday. Mrs. Nash also went into Boston on Wednesday to join him.

Members of Beacon lodge, with invited guests to the number of thirty-five, went to Shirley on Tuesday evening to attend the third social meeting by invitation of Fredonia lodge of that place. Only a few attended from Townsend, but the total company was about as large as usual, notwithstanding the snowy evening and bad traveling. A fine entertainment, including a mock initiation, was given, followed by the usual collation and smoke talk, which lasted up to midnight. By invitation of Beacon lodge the next meeting will be held here on Tuesday, January 23.

Mrs. E. J. Davis went to Boston on Friday of last week, where she will visit during part of this week and incidentally attend the session of the State Grange.

Mrs. Louis Bemis was called to Groton on Wednesday by news of the death of her sister, Mrs. Beside (Tolles) Anderson, at the Groton hospital.

All the children under thirteen years of age at the Main, Groton and Townsend street school buildings were the guests of E. A. Johnson at the Althea theatre by special invitation on Tuesday afternoon. More than 200 responded to his generous offer of a "Christmas gift" and with the regular attendance filled the hall to almost its full seating capacity of 318. The opening chapters of the "Red Circle" were the films displayed.

For other Pepperell news see page three.

In a letter received this week by the relatives of Miss Edith Lawrence, from Chicago, she states that she was just leaving that city for Southern California for the winter.

The E. H. Baker house on Keyes' hill is closed for the season, as the family have returned to their Boston home, Commonwealth avenue, for the winter.

Albert F. Parker was confined to his home a part of last week and this with a hard cold with symptoms of pneumonia and later an inflamed throat. His father, B. W. Parker, assisted at his store during his enforced vacation.

E. H. Bliss is planning to build an extension to his barn in order to go into cattle raising more extensively. He already has some extra fine Holsteins.

John Frossard started for Philadelphia Saturday afternoon on a short time business trip. He returned on Tuesday evening.

Edward Iren, with a crew of men, is completing the new drop roof garage at the Nashua River Paper Company, this week, and the foundation is in for him to build another of the same material, clay tiling, at the residence of Charles Keyes on the hill.

The trestle at the Nashua River Paper Company, which was condemned as unsafe by the railroad inspector some time ago, is being rebuilt by C. H. Miller, contractor. As coal and other kinds of stock for manufacture was formerly brought to the rear of the mill convenient for their use over this spur track, it has been a much longer process to team the same into the mill yard.

Miss Marion Merrill, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. S. R. Merrill, is taking a vacation at her home from her duties as cashier at a garage in Burlington, Vt.

Miss Elizabeth Wright has returned to Waverly to her duties as teacher of arts and crafts in the public schools after a Thanksgiving vacation at the home of her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Frank Wright, Park street.

Our enterprising fruit dealer, Primo Borzatti, who has established quite a reputation for good homemade confectionery, is adding to his stock a large quantity of apples, N. H., and on his return is about a week more, plans to start candy making on a larger scale.

Have you purchased your Red Cross Christmas seals yet, thus shouldered your part of the responsibility?

The Woman's Missionary society met at the Congregational parsonage Wednesday afternoon with the president, Mrs. J. B. Lewis. There was a good attendance and considerable interest manifested in the study of world's missions and world peace.

Miss Susie Wood has closed her rooms in the Ebert Williams house and gone to Geneva, N. Y., with relatives for the winter.

Good audiences have greeted the Swafford players at the Opera House during the evenings of the week, the matinees not being as well attended. The leading lady in the company, Miss Carpenter, was well supported by the other members of the cast. There were also several artists in the vaudeville, which was presented, with changes, each evening. H. A. Swafford, manager, and sayings brought forth much applause and the specialties by Mr. Hammond were good.

Mr. and Mrs. Ebert Williams have closed their house on Park street and will spend the winter with Mr. and Mrs. Dorley Blake.

By invitation of Mrs. Jerry Annis, president of the society, the members of the I. A. S. are invited to a business and social meeting at her home on High street on Wednesday afternoon, December 20.

The snow fall this week was enough to bring out a few sleighs and sleds for logging purposes.

A. C. Stewart is improving slowly from his recent illness and is now able to get out and about his place a little each day.

John Fiske has a new assistant at his shop who is from Portland, Me.

The Shirley Electric Company have a fine display of electrical household utensils in the show window of their headquarters, corner Main and Mill streets.

The Oak Hill Sunday school are to have a Christmas tree with a Santa Claus, an entertainment and a social time at the Oak Hill hall on Saturday evening, December 23.

Miss Mary Gilbooley, a graduate of the Fitchburg Normal school, has been engaged to teach the Pine Hill school in Hollis, N. H., filling the vacancy caused by the resignation of the former teacher, Miss Spread. She began her new duties last Monday.

Church Notes.

The every member canvass was tried for a second time by the Congregational church last Sunday afternoon and was considered a success. Twenty canvassers started out after dinner, making 175 calls, and received 160 pledges for church support. Almost invariably they were cordially received and they had some pleasant experiences to relate at the evening service. Some of those visited failed to comprehend the scope of the new plan, but where understood it commends itself as business-like and provides adequate

church support in a systematic way. Churches everywhere are adopting it, and it is solving many a financial problem.

The pastor will preach at the morning service on Sunday. Sunday school at noon and Junior meeting at 3.30. At seven in the evening the pastor will give a stereopticon lecture, "The ministry of healing," by Secretary Barton of the American Board. The lecture will be illustrated by seventy-two colored slides.

At the Unitarian church on Sunday morning, Rev. D. R. Child will preach on the subject, "The meaning of life." The third in the series of vesper services will be held at seven o'clock. Sermons by Rev. Child will be given at Clinton. All persons are welcome.

On Sunday, December 24, Mr. Child will present several colored stereopticon views of the "Birth and boyhood of Jesus," during the Sunday school hours.

At the vesper service of last Sunday evening the music was exceptionally fine, rendered by the chorus choir. The address by Rev. Lyman V. Tuttle was practical yet inspiring. His subject was "Understanding is a well-spring of life." He gave many illustrations taken from his experience in the west. He asserted that all occupations should lead to a common understanding, and that this understanding should find expression in the worship and activities of the church. The attendance was larger than on the preceding Sunday, and a good degree of interest was manifested.

At the meeting of the First Parish Men's club to be held on Tuesday evening, December 19, at eight o'clock, the address will be given by J. Walter Smith, formerly residing in London. The subject will be "England and the characteristics of the English people." Members may invite ladies.

At the Methodist church on Sunday morning the pastor will preach on the subject, "The whole duty of man." In the evening the pastor will give a lecture, "The purchase of opportunity."

At the Epworth league service at 6.45 the subject will be "The condition to be answered prayers." Leader will be announced.

On Saturday evening, December 23, at seven o'clock, at the Methodist vestry, the children of the Sunday school will enjoy a Christmas tree and the Christmas play, "Coming of Santa Claus," which lead up to the real appearance of Santa, who distributes gifts.

On Sunday morning, December 24, special music is being rehearsed by the chorists, Mrs. Alice Bartlett, and a concert will be given in the evening. All are cordially invited to one or both of these services.

Auto Accident.

A party of eight "joy-riders," came to grief Sunday night while passing through town on their way from Leominster to Manchester, N. H. Through some fault of the steering apparatus the car, which was under the control of the chauffeur and encountered the stone wall near the railroad bridge on Hollis street. No one in the party, which consisted of two young men and a woman, besides the driver, was injured beyond minor bruises, as the car was only coasting down grade at the time. The driver of the car, who gave his name as H. J. Campbell, of Manchester, N. H., claimed the car, which was a Maxwell, was one he was not accustomed to, having exchanged his Ford car for it at North Ferris last week. He had previously noticed that the car sometimes failed to respond to the steering wheel, but laid the trouble partly to the deep frozen ruts in the highway. The message sent by him from the nearest telephone to a Nashua garage, soon brought relief in the form of a new set of wheels. The driver was taken in tow and the party given accommodations for transportation into Nashua.

About Town.

The Woman's club will meet on Tuesday afternoon, December 19, at the Congregational vestry. This is the tenth anniversary and the meeting is in charge of the executive committee, for members only.

Tendered a Reception.

Pepperell people should have been present at the banquet held at Concord, on last Saturday evening. The occasion was in honor of Supr. Elmer E. Shattuck, now leaving Concord to assume charge of the development of the resort at Rutland. It was a very fine send-off that was given him. A good crowd was present, including officers and members of the company, select men of Concord, with whom Mr. Shattuck has long been associated as a member of the board, Director of Prisons Col. Adams, now of Boston, and many other personal friends and neighbors.

The toastmaster also was once a Pepperell boy, S. Thompson Blood. How much Pepperell people of a reputation ago would have related Mr. Blood's realistic description of scenes in Pepperell of a former day; for instance, in the schoolhouse, years ago, when he and Shattuck and both boys together there. Mr. Blood and Mr. Shattuck are within a few months of the same age. But the former was born in Maryland. His father, however, returned to Pepperell a few years afterward, and then the intimacy of the boys began which has ever since continued. In his inimitable way Mr. Blood gave a description of that great experience in a New England school, declamation day.

"Tom" had never heard eloquence before, and he insists that a certain poem has never since made so deep an impression upon him as it did that day. His schoolmate, Elmer, "spoke," giving "The charge of the light brigade," and it was well done.

The Tennyson spirit immediately took full possession of the speaker. "Cannon to right of them, cannon to left of them," the boy went on. More and more he got what the Methodists call "red-hot." The wind filled all his sails—it was fine! And when he reached the climax, "When can their glory fade! O, the wild charge they made!" not only the six hundred had won their renown, but Elmer had taken a first place.

Mr. Blood said he never can hear the poem so much as referred to since then, but the old school-room of boyhood days and its platform comes before him with tenderest memories.

The occasion well showed how thoroughly Mr. Shattuck has identified himself with the town affairs. During the nearly thirty years of his residence there, on the different boards in which he has served he has considered it his duty to attend strictly to the business of the town. Never obstinate, he has yet kept a mind of his own and found amiable ways of making it known.

He has never out-grown the memo-

William Brown Druggist, Ayer

The Christmas Season is approaching and we wish to call your attention to the fact that in our store you will find an extremely large variety of useful and serviceable articles very appropriate as Christmas Gifts.



HIGHLAND LINEN

- CANDY
- STATIONERY
- PERFUMES
- VIOLET WATERS
- MANICURE SETS
- TRAVELING SETS
- POCKET BOOKS
- BILL FOLDS
- HAIR BRUSHES
- CARD CASES
- CIGARETTE CASES
- CIGAR CASES
- FACE POWDERS
- HAT BRUSHES
- TOILET SOAPS
- SHAVING BRUSHES



HARVARD

A sensational society drama, featuring a Harvard student, "The five facets of life," will be the feature picture of the motion picture show this Saturday evening. It is a play you will long remember—don't miss it. On December 25, all children fifteen years and under will be admitted free, January 9, for the benefit of the Clinton hospital. Come and see our week-ends.

The lecture given last week by William Sterling Battis, "Life portraits of Dickens and his characters," was one of the best of its kind ever given here. Mr. Battis, with his costuming and make-up of the different characters of the works of Dickens, gave the touch of realism that lovers of this famous author will long remember.

George T. Gale has presented to the Harvard Historical society a powder horn used in the old militia days.

Mrs. Henry Hynes, of Beebe Plains, Quebec, located just over the Vermont state line, is in town this week, visiting with Mr. and Mrs. Frank Hynes, and with her aunt, Mrs. James Marchie.

Miss Elsie Knight announces her engagement to Clifford Keyes, of Stow, and is receiving congratulations from her many friends.

Work on the state road has been suspended for the winter. The road is open to travel.

John Casey is one of several from here who have been in to hear Billy Sunday. Mr. Casey is loud in his praises for Mr. Sunday and his work.

We have spared no pains in selecting this Christmas stock—it is the largest we have ever offered. Because of our early and heavy buying we are able to offer

Stationery, Ivory Pyralin Leather Goods, Hair Brushes, Etc.

at prices which will mean a great saving to you

Our immense line of Christmas Stationery

has been stored for months and we are now offering it to you at prices which are a great deal lower than the present market warrants. Be sure and inspect this fine assortment of advertised brands of stationery, such as Highland Linen, Symphony Lawn and Crane's Lawn. Price of boxes, 25c. and higher.

- Our Candy Stock Includes
- LIGGETT'S HUYLER'S LOWNEY'S FENWAY
 - QUALITY BELLE MEADE SWEETS
 - LOOSE-WILES NOBILITY
- Orders taken for
- HOME-MADE BON-BONS, CARAMELS, FUDGES

These boxes are priced at 60c., 80c. and \$1.00 the pound. All are of the very highest grade, are a strictly fresh stock in attractive packages.

Our assortment of IVORY PYRALIN TOILET ARTICLES

is the largest in this vicinity. Whether you are interested in single pieces or complete sets it will be well worth your time to look at our stock.

We advise all persons desiring to purchase COLUMBIA GRAFONOLAS to see us at once. The demand for these machines is heavy. We have an assortment now, but cannot tell what we will have for those who delay. Our terms are reasonable.

As usual we have a complete line of staple Cigars and Cigarettes in all sized packages. Tobacco in pound and half-pound jars and tins.

We are agents for Eastman Kodaks and Photographic Supplies

At Christmas, as at any other time, we will have Chocolate, Vanilla, Coffee and Strawberry Ice Cream. We pack these in bricks or cans, one flavor or more, as you desire. Bricks, 50c. the quart. Place your orders early.

LITTLETON

Mrs. Wilder, of New Estate road, will leave town shortly before Christmas and spend the winter in Boston.

Mrs. Rosalind Smith, from Hillsboro, N. H., visited Mrs. F. C. Hartwell last week.

Mrs. Hollis Robbins left on Friday for New York to spend Christmas with her husband.

Mr. and Mrs. William Hendry, of Mattapan, were in town Sunday and visited the home people.

Mr. and Mrs. Elmer A. Flagg were Sunday guests of Mr. and Mrs. Brown in Danvers.

Mrs. E. A. Flagg has bought the Sherman H. Jewett house and land at the Center which she will rent for the present. It is expected that LeRoy Jewett and family will go to Florida soon after he has closed out his property here. Mrs. Jewett is keeping house for A. W. Drew of Warren street during the coming week and Mr. Drew's housekeeper will take a vacation.

W. E. Conant has taken a party of high school girls and also a party of men in his limousine to Boston to attend the meetings in the Billy Sunday temple recently.

There was a fire on the hearth and a good number of visitors present from three of the churches on Wednesday afternoon in the Baptist vestry to hear an address by Miss Margaret Suman describing her work for the native children in Capia, Philippine Islands. A social hour with refreshments followed.

The young people's meeting at the Baptist church will be held at six o'clock next Sunday evening in order that there may be time to attend the union service at the Congregational church at seven. Topic, "Big jobs awaiting us."

Invitations are out for the marriage of Miss Grace F. Caulkins of Medford to Edward Graustein of Cambridge.

LITTLETON

Miss Caulkins is known in Littleton as a pleasing contrast to soldiers of much promise. Mr. Graustein is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Adolph Graustein of Cambridge and is a recent graduate of Harvard university. The ceremony will take place December 21 at 7.30 p. m. in the Winthrop Street Baptist church, Medford, followed by a reception at the home of the bride's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Fred J. Caulkins.

Eugene Esten went to New York Tuesday with his uncle, returning on Thursday.

Littleton farmers to the number of sixteen went to Concord Tuesday and attended the meeting called for the purpose of organizing a farmers' bureau in Middlesex county.

Herbert M. Whitcomb of Waterbury, Conn., made a short visit at his former home on Whitcomb avenue Wednesday.

J. J. McEnnis is nursing a bruised elbow and some stiff joints in consequence of a fall on the cellar stairs at his home. A doctor was called, but found no broken bones. It is expected that Mr. McEnnis will be about his usual work very soon.

Mr. and Mrs. L. W. Chase of Grand Road have taken their Christmas wreaths to Waltham according to their annual custom.

W. J. Honore, rural mail carrier of West Acton, has purchased a Ford touring car of J. M. Hartwell.

The Junior C. E. societies of Littleton, Boxboro, South Acton, Maynard, Concord Junction and Stow expect to go in a company chartered by several ladies to hear Billy Sunday this week Saturday.

Savings and Thrift club of First National Bank of Ayer starts December 26. See first page.

Pity the Poor Railroads.

In the investigation now going on before the joint congressional committee in Washington, D. C., Thom, head counsel for the railroads, makes a touching plea for legislation to help out the roads. He claims that they are in a very serious predicament. He predicts a serious decline in war prosperity when the European war ends and cries lustily for congressional mercy in order to enable the railroad capitalists to get in out of the cold before the slump comes. Thom claims that the railroads cannot borrow from other capitalists the \$1,250,000,000 yearly which he says is necessary for them to keep up their equipment and build extensions necessary to do the business offered and do it efficiently. He says that government ownership is inevitable unless congress acts and acts promptly in the matter. Senator Cummins inquired if, in his opinion, a government guarantee that railroad securities pay at least six per-



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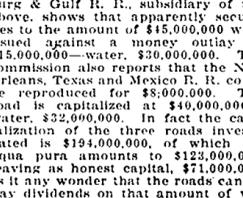
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CARD OF THANKS

We wish to express our sincere thanks to all who assisted us during the illness of our dear wife, Mrs. Hattie F. White, and at the time of her death also, those who made her last hours happy by singing and flowers. Mr. and Mrs. Edw. F. T. Blood, Mrs. Cora M. Blood, Bertha E. Blood, Willis E. Blood, East Pepperell, Mass., Dec. 14, 1916.