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AMONG THE FARMERS.

"SPEED THE PLOW."

Correspondence on practical agricultural topics is solicited. Address all communications intended for this department to HENRY D. HAMMOND, Agricultural Editor Oxford Democrat, Paris Me.

OUTLOOK FOR GRANGE WORK.

TESTIMONIES WHICH CONFIRM THE WORTH OF THE ORDER.

With the opening of a new year, and a desire to aid in the effort to increase the membership and also the scope of Grange work, the following questions were submitted by the Farmer to one hundred representative patrons in different parts of the state:

1. What is the outlook for the Grange in your vicinity?
2. What line of work would insure the best results, and how can this be secured?

It is with much satisfaction that we submit the replies received to date, because the universal testimony is in support of the worth of the order, the good influence it has exerted, the educational work already manifest, the sociability and harmony promoted in every locality, and the promise these give of an advance in these things in the future.

These replies furnish a complete refutation of the charge made that the order is inimical to the best interests of the individual farmer, and out of the years of experience prove how blessings and comfort, honor and prosperity have followed its growth and evidence its saving influence. Long live the Grange!

AUBURN, Jan. 12.

The outlook for the Grange in this vicinity is good, with one or two exceptions. The interest is constantly increasing. Libraries are being started and education seems to me to be the foundation stone on which to rear the Grange structure. This is the "line of work" that will insure the best results and can be secured by co-operation in thinking, talking, and studying the principles which underlie our broad profession.

E. H. LIBBY.

BETHEL, Jan. 12.

1st. A large increase in membership is not to be expected, as there are a number of Granges within a small radius in this vicinity. I see no reason why they should not prosper, individually and collectively, and help the members in both financial and educational directions, if the patrons will but try and help themselves. 2. Lectures and missionary work are each good in their place, especially in organizing a Grange, but individual work will be of much more value in increasing its prosperity. If those belonging to the order would disabuse their minds of the too prevalent idea that all responsibility rests with the leading officers, and attend their own meetings regularly, putting their shoulders to the wheel when the question of entertainment arises, we should hear far less about dormant Granges and thinly attended meetings. Our works and co-operative results will speak much more eloquently to those outside than smooth speeches.

C. E. VALENTINE.

BUCKFIELD, Jan. 11.

The outlook for the Grange never looked better than it the present time. The interest as well as membership is on the increase. I believe good papers or essays upon farm topics followed by discussion cannot fail to keep up an interest. A good library is a great help.

Fraternally, V. P. DECOSTER.

BUCKSPORT, Jan. 13.

Will try to answer those questions as best I can. No. 1. Think the outlook very good, much better than for some time past. No. 2. This is a hard question, one we often ask ourselves; could we successfully impress upon the minds of the patrons the fact that there is more real benefit derived from the educational and social interest of the Grange rather than the dollars and cents gained in trade, think it would be a great point for the order. Fraternally,

H. J. HARRIMAN.

BANGOR, Jan. 13.

1st. The outlook for the Grange in my vicinity is very good; having some new members come in. 2d. Many of our best farmers are not Grangers, nor will they be induced to join by members. A larger circulation of Grange papers, more lectures from State Grange officers in our Pomona Grange, would revive the interest of many who have become indifferent to the work of the order.

Yours fraternally,
E. H. GREGORY.

BINGHAM, Jan. 12.

1st. The outlook for the Grange in our vicinity is good. 2d. The line of work that will influence farmers to co-operate together in the various ways they may to better their condition, will insure the best results. Public lectures would do much to forward the work.

Fraternally, T. F. HOUGHTON.

BIDDEFORD, Jan. 10.

Ans. 1st. Outlook in York County very favorable and prosperous. Ans. 2. Education for individuality; for the improvement of home and farm; developing a higher type of manhood and womanhood; a love of home and agricultural pursuits; love of common schools and American institutions; for the protection of home and home industries; for temperance and prohibition enforced; to be secured by Grange literature, papers, and discussion of these questions in the Grange.

B. F. HAMILTON.

CHESTERVILLE, Jan. 10.

People from this town belong to Starling No. 155, North Fayette. While the press of our state and nation are teeming with so much for the good and general interest of all patrons, Grange meetings and farmers' institutes can not do as good work as in the past. But I trust this may not cause any paper to curtail any of its departments. Push the good work. Yours truly,

CHARLES E. WHEELER.

CORNISH, Jan. 11.

I will give the following answers to your questions: The outlook is good in our vicinity. I think the community seems to hold it in high esteem, and the members themselves have very great confidence in its efficiency. More co-operation, I believe, is needed all along the line, and something to equalize burdens already a long time carried. Some instruction is needed to inform many of this fact, however.

Respectfully, S. P. SMITH.

CHERRYFIELD, Jan. 11.

I think the outlook for the Grange is very good. The line of work I think should be to form a programme for the year's work on the farm and in the household. The question box has called out some lively discussions in our Grange on raising grass, orcharding, dairying, poultry raising, etc.

B. F. WILLEY.

CHARLOTTE, Jan. 15.

There is an abiding interest in the Grange in this vicinity, although it is not growing fast. What is needed is that every member should feel a personal responsibility for its success, which would give a more diversified program, not confined to monotonous discussions on farming, uninteresting, especially to the younger members. D. J. FISHER.

ETNA, Jan. 10.

In reply to your questions, will say the outlook for our Grange is not large, especially in an increase of numbers, owing to the present hard times. Many outsiders are interested but financially unable to join. 2d. In my opinion, is to try and improve on our programmes, making them instructive, as well as interesting, but how to secure this I hardly know. Lectures for the cause always do more or less good. Some means to awaken the interest from all social pleasure to real honest labor for the cause is necessary. Yours fraternally,

E. L. BUSWELL.

EAST DOVER, Jan. 12.

In regard to the first question, I would say that this Grange is highly prosperous, so far as members and interest goes. To the second question, would say dairying is interesting the Grangers most of all, as no kind of stock raising is paying business. Raising corn for canning purposes will be tried more than last year. Yours truly,

EZRA TOWNE.

FOXCROFT, Jan. 11.

1st. The outlook is flattering. Our Grange has added to its numbers many young people during the past year, and more are seeking admittance. 2d. A line of work that is educational, not only in the business of farming but in general culture. 'Twere better

"If more and more we found the troth
Of fact and fancy plighted,
And culture's charm and labor's strength
In rural homes united.

MRS. F. S. GETCHELL.

FREEDOM, Jan. 11.

The Granges in our county are in a good healthy condition, and increasing their numbers. The line of work I should recommend would be readings, topics pertaining to the farm, home and Grange.

D. B. JOHNSON.

GOODWIN'S MILLS, Jan. 11.

I think the outlook, on the whole, is better than one year ago. I think the line of work to insure the best results would be to issue circulars containing the Declaration of Purposes, and showing the social and educational benefits of the order, and that there is a benefit financially in co-operation in buying and selling. I think that personal work is one of the best ways to increase the number and influence of the Grange.

Yours fraternally,

CHAS. HEMMENWAY.

HOWE'S CORNER, Jan. 11.

There never was more interest in Grange work in my vicinity than at present. The outlook is very favorable. That line of work that will instruct subordinate Granges in better methods of conducting their meetings, and a more comprehensive idea of the aims and purposes of our order, is best secured by Deputy and Lecturer work.

B. D. LEAVITT.

LIBERTY, Jan. 10.

The Granges are in good condition. The interchange of intercourse would do the Granges more good than anything else. Work among the Granges with local talent would help the workers and the listeners, and result in good. Lectures of any kind would be acceptable however, and do good. Yours,

WM. H. MOODY.

LOCKE'S MILLS, Jan. 10.

Your circular received to-day. I hasten to reply. The Granges in my vicinity are Bethel and Bryant's Pond. Bryant's Pond Grange is booming; meetings are enthusiastic and largely attended. I installed the officers of Bethel Grange last Saturday. Brother Valentine is Master. They are strong, but, I think, need waking up. Some good suggestions on keeping up the interest, and creating more enthusiasm, would do them or any Grange, good. I expect to install officers at Norway, Saturday.

Fraternally, W. H. TRACY.

NORWAY, Jan. 12.

Grange work in this section is in good shape. In answer to the second question, my idea is that what the Grange wants is work; intelligent, sympathetic, whole-souled work; not in one line, alone, but in many lines. We need greater activity all around. Special effort should be made to strengthen the weak Granges, to organize Granges in those towns where there are none, to bring in the young and set them to work. As soon as a boy or girl is fourteen get them into the order. The future of the Grange depends much on them. A special course of reading should be demanded on farm and household topics, as well as on social and economic questions, and arrangements made to furnish books at cheap rates. The press of the state should be used more freely to disseminate Grange teachings. Grange deputies should get to work *now*, not wait till next fall; and should not limit their work to examining the secretary's books and exemplifying the unwritten work. The State Grange, through its many and various officials, under the leadership of its master, should get right down into close touch with the subordinate Granges, find out their troubles and their hinderances, and help them. Let every officer in the Grange, State, Pomona, and subordinate, place before him high ideals for Grange work, and then enthusiastically lend his best efforts to their attainment, and there will be little doubt that the order of Patrons of Husbandry will become a shining light, seen and admired by all the people of the good old state of Maine. Fraternally,

J. A. ROBERTS.

NEW PORTLAND, Jan. 12.

The outlook for our Grange is good, that is, we do not look for a big increase of members, but a steady growth, with officers and members all interested to such an extent that it will give us a healthy look. The line of work for best results: The first work of importance is to officer the Grange with genuine, live farmers, their wives and daughters. I would not have an officer in the Grange who did not like the farm and the home of a farmer. I would have the State Grange send out a good, sound, common-sense man for itinerant work, one that would be posted in Grange work, also adapted to the wants of the many. Let him visit each Grange, especially the homes of the Master and Lecturer; find out their failings and correct them; fill them with new ideas and lots of enthusiasm; look over the Secretary's book, see that they are collecting dues and keeping their book square. A Grange of twenty members, who are prompt in dues and attendance, is stronger than one with fifty members who are slack in dues, and if slack in dues will be slack in all that goes to make up a good Grange. Let this man lecture to each Grange on some topic adapted to the wants of each Grange.

L. H. MOULTON.

NORTH NEWPORT, Jan 12.

1st. On the whole, Granges in this vicinity are doing fairly well. They are spreading among voters and tax payers, a better knowledge of their duties and rights as citizens, and think the leaven is working slowly but surely. 2d. More care in doing ritualistic work is needed by faithful personal work of ablest members and we especially need more and better work of county deputies. Yours Fraternally,

JOEL RICHARDSON.

NEWFIELD, Jan. 14.

The outlook for the Grange in our locality is quite promising—exceptionally so. Question No. 2 is not easily answered. I would be glad to say if I thought I could hit the mark.

Fraternally,
L. O. STRAW.

OTISFIELD GORE, Jan. 11.

Very good in this vicinity. By literary and educational exercises; by having the Lecturer appoint at each meeting certain members to deliver essays, recitations, or read something at the next meeting, and see that none are overlooked, so as to get all interested; also by discussing some question at each meeting; also by visiting other Granges in the vicinity and taking part in their exercises. D. L. BRETT.

SACO, Jan. 12.

The outlook for the Grange in some parts of York County is good, while in other parts there are weak Granges, and the interest low. I know of no line of work which I think would be more efficient than good, earnest deputy work in those weak Granges, as there are several good localities where I think good, strong Granges could be organized.

SETH SINNOTT.

Written for the Oxford Democrat.

AN ODE TO DEATH.

Oh, cruel Death, what hast thou wrought!
Look in thy caverns cold
And see the treasures thou hast caught,
Thou thief so old and bold!

Thief-like destroyer, What art thou,
Thou oldest of the bold,
That thou shouldst snatch the fairer jaunts
That shelter in the fold?

Ah, tell me not that all is well!
It may be well with you,
But in life's brief and brittle day
There are some hours I rue.

If well with you, 'tis not with me,
When friends my presence leave,
No more to come within the pale
Of the valley where I grieve.

Console me not that all is well,
Thou robber of the heart!
'Tis desolation where I dwell;
Quick, Death, oh, quick depart!

A. P. REED.

"THE DEVIL"

[REPLY TO AUSTRALIAN EXCHANGE.]

"Men don't believe in a Devil now
As their fathers used to do,"
That he is a cross 'twixt man and beast
And partly reptile, too!
They don't believe that the earth is flat
And 'neath it Satan dwells,
A fiendish king o'er a "lake of fire,"—
A material sulphurous hell.

Would you know "who mixes the fatal draught
That palsies heart and brain"?
Go visit saloons and behind the bar
You'll find the devil—man!
His greed for gold has palsied his heart,
And dead are his eyes and ears
To the "blight of bloom," and the early tomb,
Or his victim's burning tears.

'Tis greed for gold that is doing the wrong
Throughout the earth to-day,
The "root of all evil" is enough of a devil
To leave in its track dismay;
But Devil is evil and God is good,
And both dwell in human hearts
For good or ill, as one may will—
One sorrow, one gladness imparts.

So don't lay the blame on the olden time name
Of a thing neither heart nor man,
Look within for the devil and root out the evil,
Then no cause for such query again.

—L. L. B., East Dixfield, in Farmington Chronicle.

Written for the Oxford Democrat.

HOW TO SPOT A BACHELOR.

Did you ever note the peculiar traits of the confirmed bachelor? Traits which are characteristic, made thus by his surroundings and associations? I have often observed them, and as there are in all things exceptions to general rules, so they may be found here.

The bachelor, like other men, is of a social turn—craves society like other men—and being in a measure deprived of female society, he naturally clings more closely to those of his own sex. Meet him on the train, you will find him looking for some one to converse with, sooner than you will find the family man. Stopping at a station, awaiting the train, you will observe a man smiling as if inviting you to speak, if not himself first speaking. We will set him down as a bachelor. We become engaged in conversation, when it is but a short time before we are made acquainted with his business, where he belongs, his future prospects, etc.

The married man is more uneasy. He is impatient for the arrival of the train, he wants to move, to get home for the love of home, or the fear of a lecture for being too long gone or otherwise. He will carry in his countenance that visionary, far-away appearance peculiar to his kind. At home, or about his home business, the married man will appear more absorbed in home affairs and home pursuits.

I do not wish to be understood that the bachelor is devoid of the desire to accumulate like other men, but he seems to be possessed of an indescribable something which impresses one with the idea of his bachelorhood.

Sometimes an old bachelor concludes to board the matrimonial train. When such is the case, having a desire to live a whole life, while having a briefer period of time than those who start earlier, he presents to older people a sort of childishness—more so than those who marry in their youth.

If in his venture he meets with one of those maidens of uncertain age—one whose aspirations have caused her to be left for plainer folk, until she has come to the conclusion that it is now or never—then comes the trying ideal of breaking him into the ways and manners of the *elite*, according to the ideas of the bride as entertained in her youth.

There is another class of the fraternity, more retiring in their demeanor, whose habits sometimes verge on those of the recluse. These oftimes express their thoughts with the pen, and when they touch upon the theme of womankind, it is then they "give themselves away" to those who make a study of human nature.

OLD BACH.

MONEY MAKING IN AMERICA.

Very few men nowadays make large sums of money, unless they have money to begin with, and after the representative man, or even the superior man, has answered the bread-and-butter question he is commonly at the bottom of his purse. Money-making is not a high talent, but it is a very rare one, even in this thriving democracy, supposed in Europe to be chiefly populated by money makers, instead of by mere workers for bread-and-butter, which we on the spot know to be the case. Americans of pure strain are indubitably more capable of making money than the people of any other nation, because they are more intelligent, more developed, more practical, are better educated, and require more conveniences and redundancies. But all their capacity as a rule, is needed to insure them what they consider a comfortable livelihood, though Europeans would think it luxurious, as indeed it is. If these could turn their labor to any such profit they would put by a considerable part of it regularly, and so furnish the ground-work of a competency. Americans, however, are not often so thrifty, or so provident of the future, because, perhaps, they are too confident of inner resources and of ample opportunities.

A common saying in the republic is "Anybody can get a living," but it is disproved by the patent fact that a great many of us do not get a living, and are not able to, try as we may. What a very large proportion of us are always requiring assistance of some sort! how very few can stand alone permanently! And to get a living in America, of an American kind, is far more of a task than is popularly supposed.—From "The Bread-and-Butter Question,—by Junius Henri Browne, in Harper's Magazine for January.

SUNDAY IN WESTERN CITIES.

They have an American Sunday in St. Louis. It is the same as what we in the East call a European Sunday. But it becomes apparent to whoever travels far in the United States that the only Sunday which deserves a distinct title is that of England, New England, and the Atlantic coast. The Sunday of Chicago, San Francisco, Cincinnati, New Orleans, St. Louis, and most of the larger cities of the major part of our land is European, if you please; but it is also American. In St. Louis the theatres, groggeries, dives, "melodeons," cigar stores, candy stores, and refreshment places of every kind are all kept wide open. The street cars carry on their heaviest trade, and the streets are crowded then as on no other day of the week. On the other days the city keeps up, in great part, the measure of its old river-side hospitality, a survival of the merry era of the steamboats. The numerous night resorts—the variety and music halls, the dance-houses and the beer-gardens, blaze out with a prominence nothing gets by day.—Harper's Magazine.

LACKING IN THE FIRST PRINCIPLES.

Percival.—Father, I don't want to go to that college. It's a poor concern.

His Father—Poor, my boy? It is an old, wealthy and famous institution, that numbers among its graduates some of the most noted men in the land. What possible objection can you have against it?

Percival—I don't like its yell.

A Transferred Identity.

By EDITH SESSIONS TUPPER.

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CHAPTER XVIII.

A DISAPPEARANCE.

The sudden death of old Jezebel broke up the voodoo performances in the swamp. All the planters in the neighborhood bestirred themselves and gave strict orders to their slaves to keep away from the accursed place. If these practices were continued, it was secretly and in some other locality. No longer were our ears disturbed by unearthly cries; no longer were strange lights seen at dead of night. A pall of silence settled down upon the swamp, and the wind that muttered among the pines told another story—a tale of cruel wrong and terrible justice, of a sullen prisoner doomed to perpetual solitude within the gloomy environments of this uncanny swamp.

This was the punishment meted out to Sidonie, to suffer as she had caused her gentle, amiable mistress to suffer; to see no face save that of her dusky jailer; to hear no voice save his thick accents as he bade her eat and drink.

Not a dissenting word was raised against this retribution. Colonel Marchmont, humane and kindly master, had endeared himself to his slaves, but their love for Portia amounted to a reverence. Had Sidonie fallen into their hands she would have fared far less gently. During her short reign her arrogance and natural cruelty had engendered a feeling of intense hatred among the slaves, and when they learned the true state of affairs they had no mercy for her.

"Deed she oughter be tohn limb from limb," declared one.

"Ef I wuz mars, I'd flay her alive," was the general opinion delivered on the matter.

As the days went by, and Portia hovered between life and death, many were the angry looks cast toward the swamp and many the maledictions called down on Sidonie's head by her fellow slaves.

The gate to the swamp stood open now, but no one save the big negro appointed to watch Sidonie went in and out. I sometimes strolled in that direction and looked down into the melancholy vista of somber shade and desolate bog, wondering how the criminal—that beautiful, intense, tropical creature, stripped of her stolen finery, clad in the coarsest raiment, fettered like an animal—was existing. What anguish, what despair must be hers! No hope, no ray of light!

At such times I pitied her. I remembered her beauty, her gayety, her grace. I recalled her words of tragic prophecy, "Remember, Prudence, whatever comes, that I loved him as few women love." Poor, wretched, misguided Sidonie! Her sin had been that she loved too well.

Then, when I returned to the sickroom and looked at my friend, when I heard the moans of pain and witnessed the struggle for life, all my pity for Sidonie vanished, and every outraged instinct of my nature cried out for revenge upon the heartless, soulless, brazen creature who had wrought this havoc and disaster.

I now come to an event so awful, so frightful that even the remembrance, dimmed as it is by the mists of years, causes a wave of terror to roll again over my being. I sometimes live it over in my dreams and wake screaming and sobbing, and if I should live to be a hundred years old I can never efface that terrible scene.

Let me tell it as calmly as possible. It was one dull November afternoon, when a ghostly mist was settling down over the landscape and fine spatters of rain were beating irregularly against the window panes, that George, Sidonie's jailer, rushed into the library, where the colonel, Maurice and I were sitting, and with trembling voice and shaking hands implored his master's forgiveness, for Sidonie had escaped.

"Escaped!" cried Colonel Marchmont in a terrible voice. "You black rascal, what does this mean?"

"'Deed, mars," cried the man, rolling his eyes in terror, "it mus' be de debbil hisself holp her. W'en I lef' her to come up fer her suppah, she was chained all right. Allus look de las' t'ing ter see ef she's fastened. W'en I goes back jus' now, she's gone, de chain broken in two."

"Send for Jake," interrupted Colonel Marchmont imperatively. "Come, Maurice, we must not lose a moment. Think of that creature free to do further mischief!"

Presently the plantation was astir. Negroes ran hither and thither, the bay of the bloodhounds was heard, and Jake, Maurice and the colonel, with a crowd of negroes, were hurrying toward the swamp, intent upon recapturing the fugitive.

I went to Portia's room to see if the unusual tumult had annoyed or alarmed her. She had roused from her sleep and raised herself with difficulty on one slender arm. Her great eyes questioned me, and she feebly asked:

"What is it, Prudence?"

"Nothing, dear; do not distress yourself. Lie down; lie down."

"I heard the dogs baying—I heard angry voices. What is it? Tell me. I will know."

I hesitated.

"Tell me," she repeated, and a faint red spot appeared on either cheek. "I must know. There is trouble, is there not? A slave has run away—who is it?"

I could not speak.

"Ah, I know!" she cried. "I know—I feel—it is Sidonie!"

I bowed my head.

"Where are they? In the swamp? Ah, yes, beating the place with dogs and guns. She will be taken, shot, perhaps torn to pieces. Oh, my poor Sidonie! I have forgiven her. Let her go. Prudence," wildly, "go quickly. I can trust you. Follow them to the swamp. Find Jermyn and tell him that I, Portia, beg him to let Sidonie go—tell him it distresses me. I cannot bear it. I forgive her with all my heart," and she fell back exhausted on the pillows.

I summoned the nurse as quickly as possible, and as Portia still urged and insisted I should carry her sublime message to her husband I set out through the mist and the rain to Dead Man's swamp.

CHAPTER XIX.

OBLITERATION.

I ran down the path, through the gate, nor even stopped till I was under the widespreading shade of the moss laden trees. The mist wrapped me about; the rain beat against my face. Afar in the distance I heard the sullen bay of the bloodhounds and the shouts of the pursuers. I did not realize my danger, never thinking that one false step might plunge me into the morass, from which it would be almost impossible to extricate myself, but stumbled on, hoping to come up with the others. But their voices receded farther and farther. I called, but received no answer. Blindly I struggled on, groping and feeling my way, until at last the appalling truth burst upon me that I was lost in that awful place!

I stopped and reflected upon the gravity of the situation. It was nearly night, and there was a dense fog shutting me in. Portia and the servants at the house would believe me to be with Colonel Marchmont, and of course the latter and Maurice, if they gave me a thought, supposed I was with Portia. If the fog did not lift, or if I could not summon relief by calling, I should be forced perhaps to spend the night in the swamp.

I dared not move. I put out my hand and caught at the branch of a tree. Faintly through the fog I could discern bits of the ugly morass stretching everywhere about me. The only thing for me to do was to stand still and cry aloud for help.

This I did again and again, but there was no response. At length, frightened and unnerved, I leaned against the tree near which I stood and burst into tears.

"What shall I do?" I moaned aloud. "What shall I do? Must I spend the night in this fearful place?"

Did my senses deceive me? Had I gone mad, or did there come from out the thick fog close by me a burst of laughter, shrill, harsh and mocking.

My heart stood still as I listened. Yes, there was no deception. Again that taunting, wicked laughter.

"Who—what is it?" I stammered, and my tongue was thick and my lips parched as I faintly articulated the words.

"It is I," answered a voice through the drifting fog, "it is I—your old friend Portia—or rather Sidonie."

"Sidonie!" I cried, "where are you?"

"Not far away," came the taunting voice, "but I shall soon be much farther."

"Oh, Sidonie," I implored, "come to me. Let me take your hand. I have good news for you. Portia has forgiven you everything and sent me here to plead

I saw a white upturned face.

with her husband on your behalf. Come. You know the swamp. Lead me out, I beg, and I will hasten with her message to Colonel Marchmont."

Again that burst of fiendish laughter.

"Come to you—take your hand—lead you out!" came the voice; "impossible, you poor little gray mouse. I cannot bother with you. I am going on another errand."

"Oh, do not leave me, Sidonie," I implored. "Do not leave me here in this desolate place alone."

"I must"— How strange her voice! Was it dying away?

"Come back; come back!" I cried in terror.

"I cannot—I cannot—goodby—goodby"——

Scream after scream broke from my lips as I realized that she was leaving me. I was well nigh insane with fright.

Just then the fog parted like a curtain before me, and there in the black morass at my feet I saw a white upturned face, which seemed to fling a defiant smile at me as it slowly sank from sight in the ooze and horrible slime.

Then, as if clutched from beneath, the long black hair outstretched upon the filthy water was dragged down.

One slim, white hand remained an instant, fluttering like a broken winged bird.

Then it was gone!

CHAPTER XX.

LOVE.

When they found me lying against the tree staring like a dead woman at the fatal spot where a life had been obliterated, they lifted me tenderly and carried me like a child back to the house and my room.

I did not weep. I did not faint nor grow hysterical, but I was like stone. I seemed to have no sensation or volition.

Over and over I saw that fearful sight. Over and over I heard that burst of mocking laughter.

The climax to the nervous strain under which I had been for weeks nearly dethroned my reason.

What saved me?

Love.

I was lying on the broad couch before the open fire in the library staring in the glowing coals, seeing there again that hideous picture, when the door gently opened and Maurice entered.

He bent over me and said gently:

"Poor little brave fighter! You had to succumb at last, didn't you? Courageous little Bunker Hill! When I consider the fortitude you have displayed for weeks, I am filled with admiration. To think of all the horrors you have endured to be capped by that fearful experience in the swamp—well, well," he paused as if unable to proceed.

"But," he continued after a moment's silence, "we can't have our crack warrior laid low. No, indeed. Just tell me how this plantation will be run, who

"Will you be my wife?"

will take care of Daphne, nurse Portia well, look out for Jermyn's comfort and—occasionally give a kind little smile to a fussy old fellow like me!"

I smiled faintly.

"That's right. I like to see you smile, Prudence. It lights up your plain, severe little face and makes you beautiful in my sight."

"Beautiful!" I said contemptuously.

"Yes, beautiful!" he retorted. "Not with the classic beauty of Portia's face nor the diabolical witchery of that poor creature whose beauty was her ruin, but the beauty of goodness, kindness, loyalty and bravery—the beauty of holiness, little woman. Prudence," gently lifting me in his arms and kissing me tenderly on the eyes, "do you know those clear, truthful eyes have looked down deep in my heart? I love you. Will you be my wife?"

It is said joy never kills.

The words I had longed to hear were a balm to my sick and tired heart. I wept, and the tears did me good.

I had never known love nor congenial companionship. I had never dreamed they could come into my colorless existence. And yet my heart was as young and fresh as a girl's and responded to affection as a thirsty flower extends its cup for a drop of dew.

Love and happiness were mine at last. Heaven was in my hands.

When Colonel Marchmont unexpectedly entered the room a few minutes later, he paused confusedly, murmured an apology and turned to go, when Maurice drew me to my feet, and leading me up to our host said in tones of mock solemnity:

"Jermyn, a most astounding geographical phenomenon will be witnessed some time within the next six months. Bunker Hill is to be transported to the shores of Lake Ponchartrain. Congratulate me!"

[TO BE CONTINUED.]

MYSTERIOUS ELECTRICITY.

The Human Mind May Never Solve the Problem of What It Is.

To the metaphysical mind on the one hand and to the confident ignoramus on the other the mysterious nature of electricity offers a fruitful subject of speculation. To the latter especially it seems a reproach that the true nature of electricity has not long before been made manifest, and he is always prepared to lash off an explanation with much more confidence than Newton proposed his theory of gravitation. It seems inexplicable to the public at large that the mystery surrounding electricity is not dispelled. It does not seem to occur to those who are impatient to have the great question, "What is electricity?" answered that we are in just as dense ignorance as to the mechanism of other phenomena. Gravitation, light, heat and chemical action are in the same category of scientific mysteries and have had centuries more of thought bestowed on them than has been devoted to the new agent. While it now seems that we may be on the threshold of one of the greatest discoveries of the human mind, yet it is possible, and even probable, that the knowledge of man may never be permitted to extend to the entire solution of the problem, for it is the very problem of the universe itself.

Assuming what seems to be unquestioned, that electricity, electrical action or whatever we may call it, has its seat in the atoms or molecules of matter or of the hypothetical matter, ether, we are brought face to face with the same conditions that confront the cosmical philosopher. As the latter can never hope to have his material vision extend to the bounds of the universe, neither can the molecular physicist hope to materially appreciate the ultimate elements of matter. Lord Kelvin has shown that if a drop of water were magnified to the size of the earth one of its constituent molecules would only be magnified to approximately the size of a cricket ball. Bearing this in mind, the immensity of the problem which is so often flippantly referred to is evident. True, we may demonstrate the exact relation between electricity and magnetism and may satisfactorily connect these with other phenomena and even obtain a working hypothesis that will answer all scientific needs, but the ultimate solution may forever evade the human mind.

Whatever we do learn, however, will not be through the speculations of metaphysicians or the guesses of tyros, but through the physical investigations of Hertzes and Teslas. While as a mental training metaphysical speculation may have its use, the absolute lack of additions to our real knowledge during the many centuries from Plato to Bacon, when metaphysics held full sway, is conclusive that nothing can be expected from this direction, and merely speculative theories in regard to the nature of electricity deserve as little consideration as is now given to the metaphysical vagaries of the schoolmen of the middle ages.—Electrical World.

ANIMALS AND MUSIC.

A Composer Thinks All Living Things Sensitive to Musical Tones.

"The Influence of Music on Man, Animals and Plants" was discussed by Director Asger Hamerik in a lecture at the Peabody conservatory. Of the second part of his subject he said:

"There is no doubt of music's power in animals. All singing birds are subject to the influence. The spider, the mouse and the snake can be charmed with tunes. I saw on St. Paul street one day a runaway horse stop suddenly where a street organ was being played and tremble all over. I had once a Gordon setter that would play with his paw on the keyboard of my piano and, with a kind of murmur, try to imitate the human voice, making an effect that, if not musical, showed at least that the dog's mind attempted something in that direction.

"I have had personal experience with the musical qualities of mice, for I once used to play the piano in a room where there were many mice. When I played for a little while, out would come trooping a critical audience of mice, which seemed perfectly tame so long as the music lasted. I experimented with them again and again and arrived at the conclusion that they undoubtedly were in some way influenced by and very susceptible to music. I grew tired of my faithful auditors after awhile and closed the doors of the concert hall to them by having a tinner cover the holes and cracks in the floor.

"The song of the bird and the crowing of the rooster are not their conversation. They have a kind of chirping for that. What, then, do the song and the crowing mean? Joy, contentment, exultation—as with man. When a rooster has had a good dinner, or when the sun shines brightly and warmly, or when any other cause makes it think that life is worth living, the rooster crows joyously. Music is with man also an expression of emotion, but with him it has been reduced to a science and is not, therefore, used naturally for every expression of happiness, as with the uneducated and unscientific rooster or songbird.

"I believe that everything created, like ourselves, with ears, is susceptible to musical tones, and it is probable that, if we could only find it out, there is musical material in all such animals that could be developed and cultivated in some way."—Baltimore Sun.

Nitrous Oxide Gas.

Nitrous oxide gas is a combination of nitrogen and oxygen, formerly called the dephlogisticated nitrous gas. Under ordinary conditions of temperature and pressure this substance is gaseous; it has a sweet taste and a faint, agreeable odor. When inhaled, it produces unconsciousness and insensibility to pain, hence it is used as an anæsthetic during short surgical operations. When it is breathed diluted with air, an exhilarating or intoxicating effect is produced, under the influence of which the inhaler is irresistibly impelled to do all kinds of silly and extravagant acts; hence the old name of laughing gas. The circumstances under which nitrous oxide should be applied as an anæsthetic must always be determined, just as with any other anæsthetic, by medical authority.—Brooklyn Eagle.

LIVELY AND POPULAR

WASHINGTON CROWDS VISIT THE HOUSE AND NOT THE SENATE.

The Newspaper Men as Rulers—The Speech Takers and the Specials—Men of Influence—Bourke Cockran as an Oratorical Gladiator—His Star of Destiny.

[Special Correspondence.]

WASHINGTON, Jan. 25.—There are always interesting scenes about the hall of the house. For some reason or other it is to the house, and not to the senate, that the crowds go. There is for the average capitol visitor much more fascination in the house, with its great floor filled with men, its noise, clatter and confusion, than in the smaller, more sedate and orderly senate. One suspects that this is so largely because of that well nigh universal love of a fight, con-

HIS CONSTITUENT.

pled with the fact that in the popular branch of congress the debate is nearly always livelier than it is in the American house of lords, is much more frequently embellished with epithets or seasoned with the spice of bad tempers.

When the Surface Is Ruffled.

When the house is calm, visitors are not numerous. But let the surface become ruffled, let the storms of debate brew, and the big audience comes with amazing quickness—where from it is as difficult to guess as who they are. But in some unknown manner the word is passed round, and from some unknown spots the listeners hasten and the galleries are soon filled. So it was last week, when a fierce battle was waged over the tariff. It had not been expected. No one had foreseen the rattling fire of batteries and small arms that filled the hall of the house with smoke and also left a number of wounded lying on the field.

When the row began, there were only a few people in the galleries. In less than an hour they were filled to overflowing, and men and women, both white and black, stood in long lines awaiting a chance to enter. To tell the whole truth, far more than half of these curious persons were black. The appetite of the negroes of the Capital City for tariff debates is wholly

ESTABLISHED 1833.

The Oxford Democrat,

ISSUED TUESDAYS.

PARIS, MAINE, JANUARY 30, 1894.

ATWOOD & FORBES,

Editors and Proprietors.

GEORGE M. ATWOOD. A. E. FORBES.

TERMS—$1.50 a year if paid strictly in advance. Otherwise $2.00 a year. Single copies 4 cents.

ADVERTISEMENTS—All legal advertisements are given three consecutive insertions for $1.50 per inch in length of column. Special contracts made with local, transient and yearly advertisers.

JOB PRINTING—New type, fast presses, steam power, experienced workmen and low prices combine to make this department of our business complete and popular.

SINGLE COPIES.

Single Copies of the Democrat are four cents each. They will be mailed on receipt of price by the publishers or for the convenience of patrons single copies of of each issue have been placed on sale at the following places in the County:

South Paris,	Gerry's Drug Store.
	Shurtleff's Drug Store.
Norway,	Noyes' Drug Store.
Buckfield,	Alfred Cole, Postmaster.
Fryeburg,	A. F. Lewis, Insurance Office.

NEW ADVERTISEMENTS.

Notice on Executor's Account.
Notice on Guardian's Account.
Notice on Administrator's Account.
Notice on Petition for License to Sell Real Estate.
Notice.
Administrator's Sale.
Commissioners' Notice.
Parker's Hair Balsam.
Are You Consumptive?
Hindercorns.
Going to Florida this Winter?
Statement of the Guardian Fire and Life Assurance Co.
$800 Per Year and Expenses.
Picture Free.
Are You Going to Wear Rubber Boots?

HERE AND THERE.

Ex-Mayor Jones of Waterville, Kennebec County member of the Democratic State Committee (commonly known as the Plum Trust) has resigned his position on that committee. He declares, as everybody previously knew, or shrewdly suspected, that the members of the committee were using the organization for the furtherance of private interests, without regard to the welfare of the party. The New Age, Democratic, of Augusta, takes up the matter, makes broad charges against the committee of abuse of their position, and scores them roundly. The history of the proceedings of the committee since the election of 1892 is another demonstration of the fact that the Democratic party can't stand success.

The Wilson bill is acknowledged to leave a deficiency in the revenues of the government of seventy millions more or less. This deficiency it is proposed to make up by a tax on playing cards, an increase of the tax on whiskey, and a tax on incomes exceeding $4000. The income tax idea, however, meets with a great deal of opposition, and considerable effort will be made to defeat it. According to the latest news from Washington, the internal revenue and income tax features are to be attached to the Wilson bill this week; and so many of the Democrats are unalterably opposed to an income tax, that this action will really seriously endanger the passage of the bill by the house.

The Wilson bill is expected to receive its final passage in the house and go to the senate some time this week. In the senate, which is a deliberative, and, as experience has shown, a very deliberate body, its rate of progress is problematical.

The skating season was very short in all parts of Maine, and the list of drowning accidents was correspondingly short, for which every one was duly thankful; but the list of coasting fatalities seems to be making an average.

The York County court, in a session lasting so far about four weeks, has had but one verdict returned for the plaintiff—and that was a verdict for one cent damages, carrying 1-4 cent costs. Such a term of court as that would seem to be rather discouraging to those who have a desire to "take the law on" their neighbors.

With the first day of March the time-honored "school deestrict" goes out of existence. The district system had probably outlived its usefulness, and the new system will furnish better and more equal privileges at the same cost; yet there are many who will breathe a sigh at the thought that the relentless hand of progress has swept out of existence that breeder of strifes, that relic of pure democracy, the "school deestrict."

The foreign affairs committee decide that it is their opinion that Hawaii should be let alone, not only by European nations but by the United States as well. Pity the president hadn't seen that resolution almost a year ago.

The Portland Express nominates Judge Putnam for the vacancy on the supreme bench, for which Hornblower was rejected. President Cleveland isn't accepting Republican nominations just now, but there is little doubt of the nominee's qualifications.

AN INN THAT TRAMPS DO SHUN.

When the jails of most of the counties of the State are over-run with professional tramps, and the taxpayers are groaning under the heavy burden imposed for their support, it is refreshing to note a cheerful exception to the rule down in Knox county. Here is a comfortable, steam-heated jail almost without boarders. Indeed at last accounts we believe it had only two inmates. Tramps shun it as they would a plague. In view of existing conditions and the unwelcome burden imposed upon the industrious people of Maine by the army of professional bums now wintering in our State, it would be interesting to know what has brought about this state of things in Knox. The answer is simple. The commissioners there dealt with the problem in a practical way. They bought some heavy sledge hammers, established a stone yard, provided some striped prison suits, and instituted a genuine "reform." At an early hour in the morning the professional vagrants, who had sought out this retreat for a comfortable winter's loaf, were hurried to the stone shed, chained together and literally made to "pound out" a livelihood. Those who refused to labor in the vineyard amid the cool breezes of Tillson wharf, were put in solitary and afforded a diet so beautifully Spartan in its frugal simplicity that they were not long in coming to terms. The result was highly satisfactory. As fast as the terms of tramps confined in that jail expired they hastened to "fresh fields and pastures new." To-day Knox can smile at those in other counties who are sweating for the support of a large army of able bodied vagrants who go upon the theory that society owes them a livelihood.—Kennebec Journal.

The Maine Coast Cottager declares that the lack of a spacious public hall lost Bar Harbor over $14,000 in cold cash in a single week. It figures it in this way: "The American Institute of Instruction, which met here in 1886, holding its meetings at the Casino skating rink now torn down, desired to hold its next annual session at Bar Harbor, July 9 to 13, 1894. This would bring between fourteen and fifteen hundred people here in the dull time of early July. The average expenditure of ten dollars each for board, lodging, rides, steamboat excursions and incidentals would be a low estimate, and that in spot cash." Owing to lack of proper hall facilities in Eden, it was decided to hold the institute in Bethlehem, N. H.

PENSIONS.

Pensions have been granted to Alvin Pike, Lovell, and Isah T. Sanborn, widow, Norway.

SOUTH PARIS.

DIRECTORY.

CHURCHES.

First Congregational Church, R. J. Haughton, Pastor. On Sunday, preaching services, 10:45 A. M. and 7:00 P. M.; Sabbath School 12 M.; Wednesday prayer meeting, 7:30 P. M. Christian Endeavor meeting on Friday, 7:30 P. M.

Methodist Church, Rev. H. L. Nichols, Pastor. On Sunday, morning prayer meeting, 9:30 A. M. preaching service, 10:45 A. M.; Sabbath School 12 M.; Epworth League Meeting, 6 P. M.; evening prayer meeting 7 P. M.; Tuesday prayer meeting, 7:30 P. M. Class meeting, Friday, 7:45 P. M.

Baptist Church. Rev. T. J. Ramsdell, Pastor. On Sunday, preaching service 10:45 A. M.; Sabbath School 12 M.; prayer meeting 7:00 P. M. Tuesday evening prayer meeting 7:30 P. M.

STATED MEETINGS.

F. & A. M.—Regular meeting Tuesday evening on or before full moon.

I. O. O. F.—Mount Mica Lodge, regular meetings, Thursday evening of each week.—Aurora Encampment, first and third Monday evenings of each month.

P. of H.—Paris Grange, second Saturday of each month. The Grange store is open for trade Wednesday and Saturday afternoons.

U. O. G. C.—First and third Thursdays.

I. O. G. T.—South Paris Lodge, No. 311, meets every other Monday evening in the G. A. R. Hall.

G. A. R.—W. K. Kimball Post, No. 148, meets Saturday on or before full moon, in G. A. R. Hall, at 7:30 P. M.

Wm. K. Kimball Relief Corps meets first and third Thursday evenings of each month, in G. A. R. Hall, at 7:30.

S. of V.—John C. McArlie Camp meets second and fourth Friday evenings of each month at Odd Fellows' Hall, at G. A. R. Hall.

N. E. O. P.—Stony Brook Lodge, No. 181, meets at G. A. R. Hall first and third Friday evenings of each month.

Ethan Willis' house is progressing finely.

A number of Odd Fellows went to Norway Tuesday evening to witness the Norway team work second degree.

Dr. J. W. Davis will take a trip to the lakes the coming week.

Mrs. Olive Andrews is improving. She had her clothes on Sunday for the first time in eight weeks.

Union meetings this coming week; at the M. E. church to-night.

Rev. Mr. Hinckley will be here part of the week to assist in the meetings.

The following officers of Sons of Veterans were installed Friday night by Past Captain C. L. Buck:

Wilson A. Ripley, Capt.
J. F. McArlie, 1st Lieut
E. J. Swan, 2d Lieut.
Frank Barrows, F. L. Millett and C. L. Buck, Camp Council.

The union meetings will be continued through this week. Rev. Mr. Hinckley of Good Will Farm is expected Wednesday evening and will attend the meetings.

A little son of Laforest York was run over Friday evening by a party coasting on a large pair of bobs, and was quite seriously injured. No bones were broken but he received some very bad cuts and bruises. The boys and girls can well afford to stop sliding now, before any more accidents occur, as they have had a number of weeks of the sport.

Oxford County Pomona Grange will meet at Bryant's Pond Feb. 6th. Half fare on G. T. R.

Died, in Bridgton, Jan. 27th, M. V. M. Farrar, aged 64 years.

It was a jolly party that started from here Thursday evening for West Paris on a sleigh ride; but eight or ten of them did not feel so jolly when they arrived at the Maple House, on account of sea sickness they said. We guess it was all right for they were members of the Epworth League. There were 31 in the party. After spending a pleasant evening and eating an excellent oyster stew they returned home pronouncing Landlord Tucker and wife capital hands at entertaining.

Great improvements are under way at F. A. Shurtleff's drug store which will make it one of the finest places of business in the county. A. C. T. King and Rodney Hall are enlarging and repairing the interior to meet the demands of Mr. Shurtleff's growing business. Among the other changes we understand that the soda fountain is to give way to a large wall fountain and the counter upon which it sits will be devoted exclusively to soda and ice cream the coming summer. Ice cream in large or small quantities will be constantly on sale. After the enlargement is complete the ceiling will be finished in natural woods, and other changes made to beautify the store. Mr. Shurtleff is one of our most enterprising young merchants and has by strict attention to business and a very manifest disposition to "keep up with the times" and furnish the best the market affords, built up a very large and growing patronage.

Have you seen the hanging lamps and banquet lamps that Hamlin & Bicknell are making a special price on? Ask for specials there and see how far a little money goes for good goods.

WARRANTED TO CURE THE GRIPPE.

THIS IS NOT A PATENT MEDICINE "AD," BUT OUR BYRON CORRESPONDENT'S TREATMENT, WHICH NEVER FAILS.

BYRON, Jan. 17, 1894.

As directed by those who know, my diet for weeks, has been strongly tinctured with onions, as a sure preventative of grippe, but it was no go. I was made a victim, in "the twinkling of an eye" with hardly time to plunge into bed, without time to undress. I was at the mercy of Old Grippe and immediately subjected to petticoat government, luckily reinforced by a son-in-law and wife's timely arrival. As my treatment was eminently successful, I give it for the benefit of other sufferers.

First I was reminded "I told you you would catch your death of cold standing on wet snow, telling yarns when sweaty," which tends to quiet the nervous impatience of the victim. Then each one of the members of the family prescribes a different remedy. After discussing blistering back and belly with mustard, a rum sweat, rhubarb tea, flaxseed and soap and rye poultice and 100 other simple remedies, the patient meanwhile shivering under six heavy blankets, interjecting unparliamentary language between shivers, a dose of hot rum was decided as proper, inwardly, and the balance of the quart as near boiling as possible poured over him outwardly; what few spots were scalded clear of skin, being in proper condition for the soap and rye meal poultice, sprinkled with pepper to take prompt hold. By spreading the poultice liberally it serves when dry, to hold the shirt in place, in the subsequent writhing of the patient.

The entire family should put on boots with French heels and take pains to strike the floor with vim at every step and send a twinge of excruciating pain through the myriads of sensitive nerves, and when the patient remonstrates, remind him about "tumbling over a chair with an armful of wood when I had sick headache."

About the third day when the critical stage of the disease is reached and a loving spouse suggests, "I am so sorry you bought that last pair of pants three sizes too large for anybody," don't be foolish and suggest, "your successor can furnish his own breeches." When nausea sets in and you feel you couldn't swallow a mouthful of food to save your life, oranges, oysters, choice beef, pork, chicken, and 100 different goodies, should be presented in rapid succession, creating disgust for all edibles, being sure to devour them all before the patient regains his appetite, as salt pork and beans ought to relish after sufficient fasting.

You will naturally feel conscience-stricken for quite a few sarcastic, unamiable remarks, contrary to the tenor of promise made to the parson when he united you to the partner of your joys and sorrows, and notice the air of sorrowful disdain, for your antics intimating that there is a startling revelation for friends who suppose you are all you appear, "when dressed in your Sunday clothes." But when, gored by a guilty conscience, I suggest we sell the pair of speckled roosters and some eggs, and enjoy the money at Montreal's ice festival, the old time mutual admiration assumed sway. No. 4.

TEACHERS' ASSOCIATION.

The meeting of the South Oxford Teachers' Association, which was to have been held last Saturday, was postponed one week. It is to be held on Saturday, Feb. 3, at 2 P. M., at the Norway high school room. Subject: Schools in relation to the people.

PROGRAM.

What we expect of school officers, Miss Mattie D. Tracy.
What we expect of teachers, Dr. A. N. French.
The relation of parents to school, Hon. C. F. Whitman.
Schools and business, A. L. F. Pike, Esq.
General discussion and question box.

NORWAY.

DIRECTORY.

CHURCHES.

Universalist Church, Rev. Caroline E. Angell, Pastor. Preaching service on Sunday, at 10:45 A. M.; Sabbath-school, 12:45 P. M.

Second Congregational Church, Rev. B. S. Rideout, Pastor. Preaching service, Sunday, 10:30 A. M.; Sabbath School, 11:45 A. M.; Social Meeting, 7:00 P. M.; regular weekly Prayer Meeting, 7:30 P. M., Wednesday; Young People's meeting Friday at 7:30 P. M.

Methodist Church, Rev. J. H. Roberts, Pastor. Preaching Service, 10:30 A. M.; Sabbath School, 12:00 M.; Social Evening Meeting, 7:00 P. M.; Tuesday Prayer Meeting, 7:30 P. M.; Class Meeting, Friday, 7:30 P. M.

STATED MEETINGS.

F. & A. M.—Union R. A. C., No. 36, assembles Wednesday Evening, on or before full moon, at Masonic Hall. Regular meeting of Oxford Lodge, No. 18, in Masonic Hall, Monday Evening on or before full moon. Oxford Council, R. & S. M., Friday evening, on or after full moon.

Norway Division, Sons of Temperance, in Ryerson Hall every Saturday evening.

I. O. O. F.—Regular meeting in Odd Fellows' Hall, every Tuesday Evening. Wildey Encampment, No. 31, meets in Odd Fellows' Hall, second and fourth Friday Evenings of each month.

K. of P.—Regular meeting in Hathaway Block, every Thursday Evening. U. R., A. O. Noyes Division, No. 12, meets third Friday of each month.

G. A. R.—Harry Rust Post, No. 34, meets in Ryerson Hall on the third Friday Evening of each month.

S. of V.—Wellington Hobbs Camp meets the second and fourth Friday evenings of each month.

W. R. C.—Meets in Grange Hall third Friday evening in each month.

U. O. G. C.—Meets the 2d and 4th Thursday evenings of each month in Ryerson Hall.

P. of H.—Norway Grange meets every other Saturday at Grange Hall.

Norway Light Infantry.—Regular meetings the first and third Friday evenings of each month.

N. E. O. P.—Lakeside Lodge, No. 177, meets in Ryerson Hall, on the first and third Wednesday evenings of each month.

E. F. SMITH, Esq., New Grange Block, is the authorized local agent and correspondent of the Democrat for Norway and favors shown him will be appreciated by the publishers.

Promenade at Concert Hall Tuesday was well attended.

M. C. Kimball has had his pension increased.

Noyes & Andrews are selling ready made clothing at very low prices for cash.

Mrs. Izah T. Sanborn has been granted a pension of $8 per month.

Charles H. Gilbert and George Ridlon were in town this week.

Rev. J. H. Roberts and family are visiting in Boston. They left Norway Tuesday morning and will return after an absence of about ten days.

The ladies of the Methodist church held another very pleasant supper and entertainment Wednesday evening.

C. B. Bailey of Lewiston was in town this week a few days. Mr. Bailey is doing a first class business in the insurance line.

Wright Bisbee returned from Bennington, Vt., Tuesday. Mrs. Bisbee was not able to take the trip but is fast improving.

The Colby Male Quartette, banjo and guitar players, a professional whistler, and Miss Maud Mayo, reader, of Lewiston, will give the closing entertainment in the high school course. The concert is spoken of in highest terms.

Vivian Howard is working for the electric light company we understand. The company have now a crew of nine men at work on the plant.

Supper and literary entertainment at the Congregational vestry Tuesday evening.

Hon. Edward Wiggin, master of the State Grange, was in town this week.

Tax collector Lord and party visited North Pond and tested the fishing yarns. Mr. Lord captured one pickerel that weighed two pounds.

Mrs. George L. Beal and daughter Lizzie have gone to Augusta for the remainder of the winter.

Rev. B. S. Rideout gave a very interesting lecture in the Congregationalist vestry Sunday evening on "Literature and Reading." The vestry was crowded.

The Norway Club enjoyed one of A. H. Bodkin's excellent suppers in their rooms Wednesday evening.

At the annual meeting of the stockholders of the Norway Water Company, held at the Norway National Bank this week, the following officers were elected:

President, W. H. Whitcomb.
Vice-President, S. D. Andrews.
Treasurer, W. W. Whitmarsh.
Secretary, H. D. Smith.
Directors, H. M. Bearce, C. S. Tucker, A. F. Andrews, C. N. Tubbs and C. L. Hathaway.

The Lucier Minstrel Company will give an entertainment at Norway Opera House Thursday evening, February 1st.

A. F. Marston of Lynn, Mass., one of the firm of B. F. Spinney & Co., was in town during the week.

On complaint of Winfield S. Bucknam, Nathaniel G. Keene, W. R. Keene, A. T. Eastman, O. P. Brown, W. E. Bradbury and J. L. Thorne, all of Buckfield and Hebron were arraigned in the Norway Municipal Court Friday, charged with disturbing a public meeting held in Hebron December 8th last. After hearing many witnesses on both sides the court discharged all the respondents except N. G. Keene and A. T. Eastman who were held for further proceedings. Kimball & Son for state, A. R. Savage of Auburn for respondents.

County Attorney E. F. Smith was at Gilead Saturday to attend the inquest over the body of Joseph Baldogue who was killed by the Wild River Railroad Friday.

Have you seen the hanging lamps and banquet lamps that Hamlin & Bicknell are making a special price on? Ask for specials there and see how far a little money goes for good goods.

TALK OF THE STATE.

Mrs. Joanna Forey of North Berwick was thrown from a sleigh in that town Friday and was critically injured.

Ralph Sawyer was killed in a Rockland lime quarry by a rock falling upon him from the face of the wall. He leaves a family.

The city government and board of trade of Portland have extended an invitation to the National Educational Association to hold its meeting there the present season.

A freight train on the Maine Central ran off the track one morning near Vassalboro, and some heater cars took fire and were burned. Sixteen hundred bushels of potatoes were partially destroyed.

The trial of Augustus M. Prawda for the murder of his mother-in-law, Mrs. Mever, at Yarmouthville, was begun in the Cumberland Superior Court at Portland Wednesday. It is likely to be a long trial.

Charles Paine, the defaulting treasurer of Odd Fellows organizations of Portland, has been arrested on a criminal charge and bound over. He will probably be unable to procure bail, and will remain in jail until court sits.

The annual meeting of the Maine Press Association was held in Portland Wednesday and Thursday. George S. Rowell of the Portland Advertiser was chosen president. The literary exercises comprised an essay by Frank H. Dexter of Springvale, on "The Maine Press Association; Its Strength and Its Opportunity," and a poem by Judge Webster of Gardiner. Thursday evening the members were entertained by Col. Adams and family, at their home in Deering. The excursion of next summer will be made to Penobscot Bay.

It is surprising the amount of mail matter that is sent out with insufficient postage. Of course the recipient of a letter or package has to pay the amount due. Not long ago a Saco young lady mailed at the Biddeford office a bunch of party invitations addressed to Biddeford young men. Forgetting that the postage on a drop letter in a free delivery city is not the same as in cities without a delivery she put only one-cent stamps on them. Consequently every young man who was fortunate enough to get an invitation had to pay a cent for it.

An autograph collector in Portland has brought Rufus Choate's fame into question. For years people have thought with awe of that great man as one who was able to write a letter that no one could read. But this autograph collector was so proud of the possession of one of Rufus Choate's letters that he hung it in his window so that all might amuse themselves in deciphering it. Among those who stopped to read it was a compositor on one of the newspapers and he turned up his nose in scorn. Read that? Why, a compositor who couldn't would be a disgrace to his trade.

A REVERIE AT "THE OXFORD", FRYEBURG.

It was my privilege the other morning, says J. Stuart Barrows in the Eastern Argus, to sit before a roaring, blowing, heat-giving fire in the open fireplace of the spacious main hall of "The Oxford", that monument of Pequawket grit and greenbacks that has risen, like Phœnix of the fable, from the ashes of the old but dearly loved "Oxford House", which through so many years had welcomed the coming and sped the parting guest.

I say it was "my privilege", for it is indeed, an event of a life-time, to be marked by a red letter, to have spent any time in that house on the site hallowed by so many memories and associations, and in a town that has stood for decades as the brightest and most enterprising of all the towns and hamlets that cluster around the protecting barriers of the White Hills; and to me it was an especial privilege, for the sealed book of the past has been opened to me surreptitiously from time to time, and the little glimpses I have been able to get had so filled my head with notions of by-gone days that I fell to linking them together as I sat waiting for the invitation to attend one of Landlord Kneeland's savory breakfasts.

It was a romantic time of day to be ruminating on the past, for it was in the gray of the morning, and the hush as of the winter forests brooded over the virtuous slumbers of the other guests of the hotel; for I was a self-elected martyr to an unearthly early-poured train, and was waiting for the aforesaid breakfast call.

The first fingers of the morning were reaching out over the frost-bound valley, and the outlines of the houses across the street were sharply silhouetted against the growing light, and it was still dark,—a darkness made more emphatic in the room by the glow of the firelight; it was a witching hour, anyway, and, as I sat, I could read, in the coals and fire-glow, history, tradition and legend of other days. The thoughts began to fly like the sparks that were capering up the chimney; and they were equally short-lived.

Among the rapidly shifting pictures that I saw was one of the disturbed bed of the Pequawket brave who was found in the ground which was destined to receive the foundations of the noble building wherein I was sitting. It was the old story of driving out the Aborigines to make way for civilization, and the poor relic of a tribe of brave warriors was hustled out of his seat, to be "jowled" upon the frozen earth, and then to furnish curios for the relic hunter.

Poor old Pequawket! Into your woods and haunts came the foot of the ranger, and one hundred and sixty-eight years later the foot of another white man crowded his shovel into your cold resting-place.

But you were not more disturbed than were those above ground in the "little town of Frye" at that time; and you cannot grudge the six feet of ground which no one ever wants to own, to help on the cause that resulted in so noble an effect as "The Oxford."

Closely followed the thoughts of a humble yet proudly aristocratic hostelry that once stood on the same spot as the present palatial building; a house that kept good cheer for all the valley, and wherein the divinity of pots and pans was famous "Aunt Nabby Osgood."

What visions of roaring fires fed by that weird character "Limbo", who, by the way, is the only man that has lived in Fryeburg who was thought by those left behind entitled to the inscription of "An Honest Man" upon his modest gravestone.

How easy it was to imagine a homely, home-like room, with all the associations of Pequawket hospitality; where the board was spread with the milk and honey of fruitful fields and farms.

And "Aunt Nabby"; who can gainsay the statement that much of the renown of the Fryeburg of the later years came as the result of her toothsome cookery and monumental beds of goose feathers and homespun blankets? Yes, even the fate of the nation was influenced by her; for did she not keep in sound body, and so, sound mind, against just such zero weather as was outside the Oxford's walls, that young man who in later years swayed the thoughts and deeds of the youthful nation? O Aunt Nabby Osgood, your figure should stand among the Penates of all those whose veins contain a corpuscle of "Osgood" blood!

Another spark—no, 'twas not the thoughts of the hours just passed—brought to mind the picture of a beaming party, which in the third story hall of the "old Oxford House" was wont to gother to tread the measures of "Fisher's Hornpipe" and "Maid in the Pump Room." What scenes of gaiety and happy, careless youth, when the beams of the galaxy of Pequawket beauties were shed on men who were to be leaders in the councils of state and nation.

Another spark recalled the form of him who, seated on the shady veranda, spending the days of his sunset years, always seemed to be living in the past—"Uncle Johnnie," uncle to all the village, and to the hosts who during many years have been partakers of your hospitality, no dream of the "Oxford House" could be complete without you.

The frost clouds were drifting along that matchless range of stately mountains and among the naked trees that marked the course of the ice-fettered Saco, and helped to bring the vision of frosty horses with the red "lumber boxes" at their heels, combinations that filled to overflowing the yards of all the taverns of the village in the winter meanings when there was no thought of a P. & O. and still less of a "Mountain Division."

What a sight it must have been to see the long procession of those unique vehicles, that, like the caravans of Ispahan, wended their way to the barter-markets of another metropolis.

What a paean of plenty the bells voiced, as those groaning loads of pork and potatoes, butter and bee's wax, were whisked along by the sturdy Vermont nags to the markets on Fore Street so far away.

It was growing lighter out of doors, the lamp on the desk looking uncanny in its own sickly light, as the thoughts of the dignified "Oxford House", with its pillared facade, came crowding along. The Oxford House,—the paradise of runners and the best liars of the Pequawket valley; the purgatory of justice, whose blinded form was dragged hither and thither by the Oxford Bar; the house of shadowy verandas, where many a whisper resulted in new systems in the firmament of families,—tried as by fire were you at last—and so I thought was I, for the growing blaze had increased mightily during my reverie. I moved back, and went to breakfast.

Do people really love trashy literature, or do they read it chiefly because it is cheap and easily accessible? Much light is thrown on this inquiry by the experience of The Forum, which is the very furthest remove from sensationalism. This leading monthly reduced its price from $5 to $3 a year, and discovered almost instantly that the number of readers of serious literature in the United States was as great—or well-nigh as great—as number of the readers of the "popular" magazines. The publishers report a continuous increase, and an increase at a faster rate since the January number appeared than before. The edition for February will, it is believed, be larger than any edition of any review ever hitherto published anywhere.

REAL ESTATE TRANSFERS.

JOHN F. STANLEY, REGISTER.

ANDOVER.	
J. F. Caldwell et al to D. H. Newhall,	$ 1300
BETHEL.	
R. J. Virgin to E. G. Young,	250
FRANKLIN PLANTATION.	
J. S. Harlow to N. D. Marsh,	1
HARTFORD.	
C. M. Irish to A. B. Skillins,	2500
MEXICO.	
A. R. Lewis to R. Little,	1
R. Little to A. R. Lewis,	1
PARIS.	
E. R. Richardson et al to W. C. Richmond,	200
E. D. Beeman to M. E. Beeman,	1
PERU.	
J. P. Swasey to J. S. Harlow,	800
SUMNER.	
J. R. Pulsifer to H. H. Maxim,	900
E. M. Robinson to S. C. Heald,	200
WOODSTOCK.	
F. Cushman to A. Dudley,	1100

THEY LIKE IT.

MORE OF OUR EXCURSIONISTS HEARD FROM.

JANUARY 19, 1894.

Editor Democrat:

I received Art Series No. 1 and am very much pleased with same. Please find two coupons and 20 cents for Nos. 2 and 3. Respectfully,

H. A. SESSIONS.

EBENSBURG, PA., Jan. 19, 1894.

Editor Democrat:

I have received Portfolio No. 1 of "The World and Its People by Sunlight" and am much pleased with the beautiful photos. I am acquainted with a great many of the men whose pictures appear in the portfolio and I think them excellent likenesses. Every subscriber should avail themselves of the rare opportunity offered them by the proprietors of the Democrat. I enclose you coupons Nos. 2 and 3, hoping that the examination of them will give me as much pleasure as Portfolio No. 1. Yours very truly,

A. A. BARKER.

The idea of eating dinner one day in New York and the next day in London, does seem a little startling, and though we may never do such things, it is quite probable that our children or grandchildren will. Aerial navigation will be a practical science, before the 20th century ends and one may then travel the world over in days instead of months. Steam and electricity have done much to accelerate travel but the air is likely to succeed both.

Even at the present time though with only steam and the electric current, it is possible to make excursions that neither propulsive power can cope with. What do you say to traveling over the world and seeing everything that is worth seeing, in one single night? Remarkable isn't it? But it is possible to have photographs of all the places that you would see in an actual photograph brought before you, and that is as good as seeing the places themselves, isn't it? The Democrat has arranged for just such a trip for you and your family and as you come to each place, a description of it will be given. One minute you will be in England, the next in the Holy Land, entering Jerusalem on the new railroad, recently completed to its gates. A few minutes later you will be in Alaska and then in a jiffy to Italy or in the Alps and so on.

But this rapidity which beats aerial navigation, may be a little too fast for you and the sudden changes of altitude and climate may not agree with you; so we would suggest that you travel more leisurely—in the way the Democrat has mapped out for its readers, taking in certain places each week.

As most of our readers know, we started these excursions in December, 1893. We began by introducing our friends to the most distinguished and renowned people of the world and then we began our travels.

We give superb photographs of famous men and women and scenes in every land.

Everybody should have them.

Every man or woman, rich or poor, old or young, business man or laborer, lawyer or clergyman and all other classes want them and can have them for almost nothing, for we are practically giving them away.

Many of our subscribers are already securing these portfolios regularly each week and expect to possess themselves of each new number as it appears.

We want to place you upon the list of happy mortals receiving full benefit of our offer, for it excels every opportunity of travel, brings by photograph, the entire pictorial world to view, introduces you to all the prominent men and women of the century and affords you such a wonderful collection of photographs of all you have seen that it will ever prove a happy reminder and constant source of pleasure to you in recalling the famous trip you are taking around the world with the Democrat.

PORTFOLIO NO. 5 WILL APPEAR THIS WEEK AND WILL CONTAIN THE FOLLOWING PHOTOGRAPHS:

The Bourse, Brussels, Belgium.
Burges, House of the Franks.
La Haye, Sainte, Waterloo, Belgium.
Dinant upon the Meuse, Belgium.
The Plaza on Market Day, La Paz, Bolivia.
Alabaster Crosses, Bolivia.
Antiquities made by the Incas of Bolivia.
Sacred Virgin of Capacabana, Bolivia.
Grass boats on Lake Titicaca, Bolivia.
Ottawa looking up the Ottawa River.
Victoria Square, Montreal.
Ice Palace at Montreal.
Ice Carnival, Montreal.
Parliament Buildings, Quebec, Canada, Victoria, Vancouver's Island, Dominion of Canada.
The Citadel at Quebec, Canada.
Ice Shove at Montreal, Canada.

After tarrying a while in Halifax, Nova Scotia, next week we will travel through Chili and China.

If you did not get Portfolios Nos. 1, 2, 3 and 4, you can secure them by bringing or sending us 15 cents each without coupons, or 10 cents each with the coupons.

HOW TO DO IT.

Each week cut out the art coupon in the Democrat and send to us with ten cents and you will receive the art portfolio of the same number as the coupon you send us, of "The World and Its People by Sunlight," the famous work introduced by that noted traveler, scholar and writer, John Clark Ridpath, LL. D.

Each portfolio will contain 16 pages and there will be 26 portfolios. The whole series will make a most valuable art collection. For your own pleasure and for the information of your children, you should have the complete series, and you should seize the opportunity now. If you are already getting the Democrat all you have to do is to save your coupons and pennies. If you are not getting the Democrat send us your name and address and the paper will be sent you for $1.50 per year or 75 cents for six months. Single copies four cents.

The coupons will appear regularly each week. Look out for them:

ATWOOD & FORBES, Publishers.

Oxford Democrat.

Voyage Around the World

ART SERIES NO. 5.

Coupon No. 5.

NUMBERS CHANGE EACH WEEK

Send or bring this Coupon, together with ten cents, and you will receive Portfolio No. 5 of "THE WORLD AND ITS PEOPLE BY SUNLIGHT."

See particulars above.

The Long and Short of It.

Get us a NEW subscriber for one year.

Put fifty cents in your own pocket to pay for your trouble.

Send us the dollar remaining with the coupon below and the Democrat will be sent to the new subscriber whose name you send.

This is given for NEW subscribers only, not for renewals nor transfers. The transfer of a subscription from one person to another is not a NEW subscription, it makes our list no longer.

The purpose of the coupon is to pay you for putting a new name on our list.

Fifty Cents

WILL BE GIVEN FOR ONE COUPON

when accompanied by an order for a NEW subscription to THE OXFORD DEMOCRAT and the Coupon below, signed by the person who earned the order for a NEW SUBSCRIBER.

Will be received by the publishers of the OXFORD DEMOCRAT in payment for one year's subscription to the OXFORD DEMOCRAT, when presented by the person whose name is signed to the coupon below.

Send to

Address

BORN.

In Norway, Jan. 21, to the wife of Thomas Thibodeau, a daughter.
In Norway, Jan 19, to the wife of Henry R. Jordan, a son.
In Norway, Jan. 12, to the wife of Roswell Frost, a son.
In Peru, Jan. 8, to the wife of Philip Richards, a daughter.
In Peru, Jan. 9, to the wife of M. M. Morse, a son.
In Waterford, Jan. 22, to the wife of Virgil H. Johnson, a son.

DIED.

In Norway, Jan. 17, Arvilla P. French, wife of John A. French, aged 79 years, 5 months and 2 days.
In Norway, Jan. 21, Lilla N. Marr, aged 32 years.
In Lovell, Jan. 12, John Lewis, aged 77 years.
In Waterford, Jan. 16, Mrs. Mary (Warriwell) Bisbee, aged about 86 years.
In Hebron, Jan. 17, Mrs. Elizabeth White of Boston, aged 82 years.
In Rumford, Jan. 21, Mrs. David Elliott, aged 44 years.
In Rumford, Jan. 21, John Martin, aged 88 years.
In Gilead, Jan. 19, Rhoda C. Styles, aged 59 years and 8 months.
In Stoneham, Jan. 16, Esmond McAllister, aged 4 years.
In South Paris, Jan. 24, Mary Ann Porter, aged 76 years.
In Peru, Jan. 21, infant child of Wallace E. and Hannah Haines, aged 4 months.
In Hiram, Jan. 22, Ebenezer Merrill, aged 88 years, 2 months and 26 days.
In Paris, Jan. 20, Josephine Benson.

$800 PER YEAR AND EXPENSES.

Agents wanted to handle our new novelties in PHOTOGRAPHS.

Picture Frames!

—AT—

WHOLESALE & RETAIL.

Agents get our terms.

We make every style of a picture frame and we will return you by mail, 12 beautiful menette photos.

Young's Copying, Enlarging & Framing Rooms.

South Paris, - Maine.

PICTURE FREE

A superb mammoth tintograph in 12 colors by the distinguished artist, Raul Del Sarte, it is 2 feet long and 14 inches wide and will be sent free if you tell your friends. It is called "Joy Untold," and shows a beautiful, dimpled, darling child in a warm, rich, fur-lined cloak, basket and umbrella in hand; she pulls the snow covered latch, while her happy heart shines more in the sunshine, her cheeks blush with health and vigor and her roguish eyes peep out from under her furs in delight. A copy will be sent free, postpaid, if you promise to tell your friends and send 14 cents in stamps or silver for a three months' trial subscription to

THE WHOLE FAMILY,

an illustrated monthly magazine with stories, anecdotes, fashions and all articles of interest by best authors and each question contests monthly. SCHOLL PUB. CO., 176 Summer St., Boston, Mass.

COMMISSIONERS' NOTICE.

The undersigned, having been appointed by the Honorable Geo. A. Wilson, Judge of Probate for the County of Oxford, on the third Tuesday of January, A. D. 1894, commissioners to receive and examine the claims of creditors against the estate of Elmer H. Marble, late of Paris in said County, deceased, which estate is represented insolvent, hereby give notice that six months from the date of said appointment are allowed to said creditors in which to present and prove their claims, and that they will be in session at the following places and times for the purpose of receiving and examining the same, viz.: at the Office of the Clerk of Courts in Paris in said County, on Tuesday the twentieth day of March, and on Tuesday the nineteenth day of June, A. D. 1894.

Dated this 23rd day of January, A. D. 1894.

ALBERT S. AUSTIN,
JOHN F. STANLEY, } Commissioners.

STATEMENT OF THE UNITED STATES BRANCH OF THE

GUARDIAN FIRE & LIFE ASSURANCE CO., (LIMITED.) OF LONDON ENGLAND.

Incorporated in 1821.
Commenced Business in U. S. Sept. 25, 1872.
HENRY E. BOWERS, Manager.
Assets December 31, 1893.

Loans on bonds and mortgage (first lien),	$ 342,500 00
Stocks and bonds owned by the company, market value,	1,266,797 50
Cash in the company's principal office and in bank,	61,275 08
Interest and rents due and accrued,	3,296 21
Premiums in due course of collection,	130,712 75
Aggregate of all the admitted assets of the company at their actual value,	$1,804,572 14
Liabilities, December 31, 1893.	
Net amount of unpaid losses and claims,	185,097 00
Amount required to safely re-insure all outstanding risks,	965,610 35
All other demands against the company, viz.: commissions, etc.,	15,740 49
Total amount of liabilities, except capital stock and net surplus,	$1,166,446 84
Surplus beyond capital,	638,125 30
Aggregate amount of liabilities including net surplus,	$1,804,572 14

W. J. W

The Oxford Democrat.

"ON THE HILL."

DIRECTORY.

First Baptist Church: Rev. A. P. Wedge, Pastor. Preaching every Sunday at 11 A. M. Sunday School at 12 M. Sabbath Evening Service at 7 P. M. Prayer Meetings Thursday Evenings at 7:00 P. M.

Universalist Church: Sunday School every Sunday at 11 A. M.

Snow comes just fast enough to keep the going well greased.

A social dance, with a good crowd in attendance, was held at the hall Friday evening.

The Baptist choir would gratefully acknowledge the gift of some new anthem books from Mrs. E. L. Parris.

Miss Edith Clay of Belfast is manipulating the key in the telegraph office, and teaching Miss Mildred Willis the mysteries of the dots and dashes.

Miss Mayo, the elocutionist, spent Sunday at O. A. Thayer's. She will conduct a class in elocution in connection with the academy, coming here once a week. Terms reasonable. For particulars enquire of Principal Edgecomb.

David B. Woodbury, the Paris seedsman, shows us a ripe tomato picked from his vines on January 23d. It is needless to remark that it was not grown out of doors.

There will be an exhibition at the close of the school in the Whittemore District on Friday evening to which all are invited. The entertainment will consist of dialogues, declamations, recitations, singing, etc.

The withdrawal by Rev. Mr. Wedge of his resignation as pastor of the Baptist church has given general satisfaction. He has identified his interests with those of the village in every way, is deservedly popular, and both in and out of the church the people are glad to have him remain.

The program of the Demorest silver medal contest Tuesday evening was carried out as published last week. The medal was awarded to Miss Grace Harlow. Miss Mayo delighted the audience with two recitations after the rest of the program, and was enthusiastically recalled after each. She is an accomplished elocutionist, of versatile talents, pleasing in her manner and judicious in her choice of selections.

The hens stolen at Lester Robinson's at East Sumner, as related by our East Sumner correspondent, were discovered at Oxford and recovered the last of the week. Charles Woodsum and George Poland were arrested and brought before Trial Justice Davis at Paris Saturday afternoon. A hearing in the matter was appointed for Tuesday at 10 A. M., and the prisoners were allowed to go on their own recognizance.

THE READING ROOM.

Do the people of Paris Hill realize that they have in their midst, one of the best equipped reading rooms in the state? Not only are the rooms pleasantly situated, and comfortably furnished, but the tables are supplied with games and the best reading matter to be procured. Nearly all of the better class of magazines and illustrated papers are on file. Besides these, there are weekly and daily papers, giving the local news, and the doings of the entire world. The room has demonstrated its right to be. It has proved the fallacy of the claim, that reading rooms are for the cities and large villages only. The Paris Hill reading room is meeting a want that could be met in no other way.

The first year of its life has passed; a year of trial, perplexity, and often of fear for those who loved and cared for it. The time has come when it is no longer necessary for it to be under the entire charge of one person. An association has been formed, with L. B. Merrill as president, and the writer as general secretary and treasurer. The reasons for the formation of the association are:

First: If the people at large feel that the movement is theirs, there will be a general interest in the work.

Second: The running expenses have been met by the proceeds of the "Medal" contests. With the two gold contests, the series will close. The cost of the rooms is about ten dollars per month. The expenses could be lessened; but in that case the work would be cheapened. We cannot afford to do that. The generous gifts of Mr. C. H. Moulton and Hon. G. F. Emery were used in furnishing the rooms. The gifts received through the year have been used in the same way. The second reason then for the formation of the association, is that by membership fees the running expenses may be met.

The cost of membership for one year is thirty-five cents. The privileges peculiar to members are: First, the right to vote in all business meetings of the association. Second, free admission to association entertainments. The rooms as heretofore, are free to all. They are not only for the use of the girls and boys, but for the adults as well.

Young and old, male and female, may become members of the association, indeed, we urged to join. The rooms are opened Monday and Saturday evenings for the men and boys; Wednesday evenings, for the women and girls. Once each month there will be a general reception, to which all are invited. The next reception will be held this Monday evening. The secretary will issue membership cards this evening to all who may desire them. Hereafter he will be at the rooms, Wednesday and Saturday evenings from 7 to 7:30 for the same purpose.

Does the movement amount to anything? We have already answered the question. If yet in doubt, visit the rooms some boys' night; question the boys, watch their faces brighten, and then doubt if you can, that it is a good, a necessary work.

A. P. WEDGE.

RESOLUTIONS.

Resolutions adpoted by Fryeburg Grange on the death of Sister Maria E. Sturdivant.

Whereas, The All-wise Father has permitted the removal by death, of our beloved sister Maria E. Sturdivant from the scene of her temporal labors, and the grange of which she was an honorable and useful member; therefore be it

Resolved, That while we bow with humble submission to the will of The Most High, we do not the less mourn for our sister who has been taken from us.

Resolved, That in the death of our sister this grange laments the loss of one who was ever ready to lend a hand; a friend and companion who was dear to us all; one whose Christian character, noble and upright life was a standard of emulation to those with whom she associated.

Resolved, That the heartfelt sympathy of this grange be extended to her family in their affliction.

Resolved, That these resolutions be spread upon the records of the grange and a copy thereof be sent to the family of our deceased sister and to the Oxford Democrat and Maine Farmer.

GEORGIA A. BRADLEY,
SUSIE K. DAY, } Committee.
SAMUEL O. WILEY,

BLAINE'S HANDY MANUAL OF USEFUL INFORMATION.

There has just been published in Chicago a most valuable book with the above title, compiled by Prof. Wm. H. Blaine, of Lancaster University. Its 500 pages are full of just what its name implies—useful information and we fully advise all our readers to send for a copy of it. It is a compendium of things worth knowing, things difficult to remember, and tables of reference of great value to everybody, that it has never before been our good fortune to possess in such compact shape. Our wonder is how it can be published at so low a price as is asked for it. It is handsomely bound in flexible cloth covers, and will be sent to any address, postpaid, on receipt of 25 cents in postage stamps, by the publishers.

G. W. OGILVIE & CO.,
276 & 278 Franklin Street,
Chicago, Ill.

The Queen of Fashion.

Best Fashion Journal published. Issued monthly, only 50 cents a year, post-paid—worth $4.00. Mail five 2-cent stamps for a copy and be convinced, to J. H. RINGOT & CO., Publishers, Union Square, N. Y.

. THE OXFORD BEARS.

THE DOINGS OF THE WEEK IN ALL SECTIONS OF THE COUNTY.

DIXFIELD.

Rev. T. B. Payne of Lewiston preached in the church Sunday, Jan. 21st, to a large and attentive audience. He was here some five years ago during a part of the summer and preached.

A. H. Dunham, our carriage painter, has secured the store in the Grange Building, and is fitting it up for a paint shop. We trust his patrons will give him a call at his new place of business.

Our streets are so slippery at present that it is dangerous for one to travel on foot without creepers on their shoes.

The amateurs of Dixfield presented the drama entitled "Neighbor Jackwood" in Music Hall, Tuesday evening last. The attendance was very large and all were well pleased with the performance.

Business at the Merrill spool factory has taken a fresh start. We hope it will continue to be good the remainder of the year.

Quite a lot of the whist players of the village went to Rumford Falls Thursday evening in response to an invitation from the people at the Falls to come up and try their hand at whist.

Some nice spool timber is being hauled into the yards of the Merrill spool factory.

W. G. Harlow has a window filled with house plants. It looks fine. Mr. Harlow is one of our most prosperous merchants.

C. C. Freeman has put an electric light plant into the toothpick factory for use in lighting the factory and the premises near by.

WEST FRYEBURG.

The sick are all improving.

The Stirling Literary Club have been presented with four volumes of Lucy Larcom's books, by Miss Annie Page. The next meeting will be held with Mrs. T. J. Haley, February 6th.

Had quite a wet day yesterday, raining very hard in the evening, but very dry as for news.

Every person and all kinds of business seem to be moving on quietly, making no stir or giving news collectors any chance.

NORTH ALBANY.

School closed last Friday in this district and all call it a profitable term. Quite a number visited it the last day.

Thomas Kimball and sons commenced hauling pine to Eben Kilborn's mill at Bethel Monday.

Quite large loads of birch go by here every day for Bethel hauled by George Beckler and son Charles. They have just finished hauling rock maple to the same place.

Nearly all of the neighborhood are sick with severe colds or as some call it, the grippe.

Quite a rain storm in this place Wednesday which turned to a hard wind blow in the night.

WILSON'S MILLS.

C. Aldridge, of Colebrook, was in town with a machine of his own invention for sale, for barking logs. Also Furbush of Berlin with an assortment of goods in his line.

Demaurez is in town again and thinks it a hard country to be caught in without a team, but some get along very well on snowshoes.

E. E. Bennett started the 16th with his brother Clifton, who has been failing for a long time, for the Maine General Hospital. Rev. S. S. York, who has very recently returned from the hospital, will go to Portland with him.

Messrs. Bearce & Wilson of Lewiston are up looking over timber land.

OXFORD.

Rev. Mr. Murphy preached at the Congregationalist church Sunday.

Mrs. J. H. Chapman and her daughter, Mrs. Hamilton, have gone to Massachusetts to spend the winter.

Mrs. Newton Littlewood has gone to Norway to her son's, whose wife is very low if living at this time.

A lyceum was held Monday evening. Subject for discussion, "capital punishment."

Wm. Farris has bought a machine for cutting bones for poultry and runs it by water power at Richmond Brothers' mill.

WEST PERU.

Some thirty members of Rumford Centre Lodge, I. O. G. T., met with West Peru Lodge on the 17th, by invitation, and all seemed to have a very pleasant time, and a fine evening for the ride. It was the fourth invitation extended to that lodge within the year. The first was withdrawn owing to the measles breaking out in the place, and the next two were canceled by stormy weather, but the last was good weather and good sleighing, and we hope they enjoyed it.

Rockemeka Grange held an all day session on the 20th. The forenoon was public in which we had an address from D. W. Walker on testing the milk of dairy cows for butter and cheese. He stated that the cow that gave the most milk was not always the best, after which he proceeded to test the milk of various cows that were brought in, in the Babcock tester, which was very interesting to the farmers present. In the evening was a sociable which was public and enjoyed by quite a lot of young folks.

Drawing wood and lumber is the order of exercises nowadays.

Born, Jan. 8, to the wife of Philip Richards, a daughter.

Born, Jan. 9, to the wife of M. M. Morse, a son.

Mr. Peter Smith is quite sick and is having quite a hard time, and a bad cough. His daughter and her husband are with him, Mr. and Mrs. Frank Myric of Lewiston.

S. F. Robinson who has been to Rumford Point making photographs, has moved to the Centre now for a few days.

Died, Jan. 21, infant child of Hannah and Wallace E. Haines, aged four months. Pronounced water on the brain.

EAST RUMFORD.

Wilson Thomas has within two months lost by hog cholera ten hogs and shoats.

Mellen Virgin has a new sleigh.

Charley Putnam is getting out lumber to build a sap house.

A. J. & F. A. Knight are milking twenty-three cows this winter.

BYRON.

Victor, the 6-year-old son of Stephen and Emily Taylor, died the 14th after weeks of suffering, and was buried Tuesday. Very interesting services were held at his funeral, Elder Austin W. Taylor, his uncle, officiating, assisted by Mr. and Mrs. S. W. Locke as singers.

Hon. James Irish of Hartford and Wallace Mason of Bethel spent two days in town this week.

The auction picnic ball at Knapp's Hall, got up by Miss Linnie Taylor, was enjoyed into the wee morning hours by a good company, the only regret being, that the sales couldn't have been for a longer time.

Some of our young people enjoyed the drama at Dixfield the same evening.

"Rag fever" has struck town two months earlier than usual. On enquiring of a young lady for the cause she replied: "Indications are that many are liable to be snatched off suddenly and it is well to be prepared." I find the only sure way to prevent fancy colored underclothes from mingling in fancy rugs is to wear and sleep in them.

Most invalids in town are improving.

Easter & Jenn have changed to one horse French "Slu-gees" as most profitable for hauling poplar.

GRAFTON.

There is quite a dearth of news here at present.

But the weather—an unfailing source to draw from—is delightful.

Mrs. Martha Brooks, who for several weeks has been ill with grippe and was recovering, took a sudden cold and for a few days there were fears that she could not recover, but she rallied and is improving now.

Carrie Brooks is a little better. She has been suffering for some time with neuralgia.

A good time for lumbering. Just snow enough and the weather all that could be desired.

EAST SUMNER.

Several parties in the vicinity have been putting in their annual supply of ice. It is not so clear and good as usual.

A few teams are hauling in wood.

But few logs are yet being drawn in. Business and trade are unusually dull.

The sledding is fine.

Taylor is selling a good, nice flour for only a trifle over $4 per barrel when four or five barrels are desired.

It is fortunate that articles of subsistence can be purchased so low when work is so scarce.

Visitors to the city are consoling themselves that ere long they can go through without change of cars. Then they can say to the Grand Trunk Railway "Fare-ye-well, Brother Watkins."

Some contemptible sneak thieves took seventeen large Brahma chickens from the hennery of Lester Robinson on Tuesday night. Also, a sleigh robe from Samuel Knight. Suspicion is placed upon certain parties who have an unenviable reputation in a town several miles away.

WEST BETHEL.

Beautiful winter weather.

Sickness is yet prevailing to a large extent.

E. R. Briggs' family have been quite sick with German measles.

Mabel Shaw has been very sick with measles and pink eye at the same time, and was unable to see at all for a number of days, but was rather gaining at last accounts.

E. J. Mains is considered better by his physician, though he is yet quite feeble.

E. B. Shaw and Leon Tyler have put in their season's supply of ice this week.

W. A. Farwell and M. M. Mason have also been cutting ice, although Mr. Mason's health is such that he is able to do but little work.

An entertainment was held at Bean's Hall on Thursday evening. The proceeds to go to Rev. Mr. Richmond. Owing to the weather the attendance was less than it otherwise would have been. The entertainment was said to be fine, and quite a good sum was realized.

A. W. Grover was in the place this week and took dinner with your correspondent.

People are beginning to talk March meeting.

SUMNER.

Endeavor meeting at the Morrill school house Friday evening, Feb. 2d, at 7 o'clock.

Melrose Ford, who is stopping at Urias Bonney's, is on the sick list.

U. M. Beckler went to Minot last Monday.

Nellie Foster is working for Mrs. E. C. Bowker.

We learn that Mr. Eliphalet Morrill is failing.

Several from this place attended the sociable at West Sumner last Friday evening.

HIRAM.

Mr. Ebenezer Morrill died at East Hiram Jan. 22, of heart disease and old age, aged 83 years, 2 months, 26 days. He was a native of Falmouth. He was a blacksmith and was a man of unremitting diligence; usefulness being the motto of his life. He was a man of deep powers of mind and not easily vanquished in argument. In politics he was a Republican, and in religious sentiments a Universalist. A man of sturdy manhood and sterling integrity, he leaves a good name as a legacy to his friends. His funeral was attended by Rev. I. J. Mead of Augusta.

Miss Olive Eaton of Fryeburg visited Miss Mary O. Spring this week.

Mr. Charles B. Davis is in poor health.

Some of the former members of the Maine & New Brunswick Insurance Co. are raking the scatterings to see how they stand.

James D. Wilder, Jr., is still under medical treatment.

Mrs. Elizabeth Hollis is quite low from paralysis and old age.

The hard times do not seem to affect the liquor traffic in this region.

GREENWOOD.

On the last half of the winter, as we the people reckon time, and what a winter thus far it has been! Just snow enough to a barley corn—that's one-third of an inch, you know—and the temperature on exactly the right spot for out door business. A few years ago we tapped trees only three weeks later than this and had maple honey, and it acts some as if we might this year. But then there are those who were born grumbling, and should they go to heaven they would find fault with its location; the streets would be too wide or too narrow; and too much gold or not enough used in paving them. Something must necessarily be wrong.

Charles Judkins gave his horse so strong a solution of cedar for worm medicine, the other day, that it proved fatal in a short time.

Ransom Cole is sawing birch with a full crew, and sending the stock to Locke's Mills. They are hauling board logs to his mill, which is a strong indication that he intends to put in a board saw in the spring.

During that coldest night last week there were several reports like the discharge of a musket, one of which was so heavy as to jar the house from sill to ridgepole.

Since your printer got that Prince Edward Island man wrong last week, we will bring him to the front again right here. His name is Thomas C. Kiely; and as he stopped with us again last Saturday night he probably thinks by this time that it is a Yankee prerogative to ask questions. He says the potato bugs are as troublesome there as here except in the north part of the island where it is too cold for them to exist. They keep them subdued there with a mixture of Paris green and quick lime. Orchards will not flourish there and eating apples are generally worth one cent each. The island is generally level containing no hills worthy of the name, and the land sandy. It is watered by several small rivers, and a railroad runs nearly the whole length of it.

A letter from a gentleman in New York informs us that he has a very superior article of counterfeit money which he offers to sell cheap; and wishes us to become an agent for the goods, as he calls it. Not being made that way we respectfully decline.

HEBRON.

E. S. Dunham's family went to Boston this week and will remain a while.

Mrs. S. D. Richardson is quite sick this week.

Mr. Hibbs and A. G. Bowman harvested some very fine ice this week, quite thick with very little snow ice.

Miss Rebecca Hibbs has been taking painting lessons and shows some pictures that do her much credit.

A cold wave seems to be here about this time.

Sleighing continues excellent.

News is scarce.

Our Hebron girls who went to Franklin to work in the straw shop are much pleased with their work and the new friends found among strangers.

HARTFORD.

My greatest ambition since my leg got well and my wife got her new dress done, has been to go to Paris Hill, visit my friend Park and see the inside and outside of the Oxford Democrat and the devil knows what all. Well about 7:30 A. M., on the 23d, we harnessed Pomp and started. I told Pomp we were going among the great men of Oxford County. He seemed to enter into the spirit of the business and behaved well. We wound around among the snowdrifts, part of the time out in the field on one side of the road, then out the other side through the pastures, but we got there without a scratch about 10 A. M. We found friend Park and lady well located in a new house and the best part was they were dreadful glad to see us. Uncle Hod Cummings says Park is a first rate fellow and good company. We found a few early office seekers. Some wanted to be senators, some county commissioners, but they had sort of a hungry dog look about them. We were much pleased with the attention shown by every man, woman and boy that we met.

RUMFORD.

Mrs. David Elliott died Jan. 21st; also John Martin the same date. He was one of the oldest people in town.

Jessine Martin has gone to live with his cousin, Wm. Martin.

Mrs. Morgan has been engaged to take charge of the post office.

Miss Georgie Webber is home.

DENMARK.

Mr. Fernando Witham is home on a short vacation.

Mrs. Hattie Jones, who for the past thirteen week has been nursing Mrs. F. M. Frye of Fryeburg Centre, is home for a short rest.

Mr. Chas. McKenney is in town on business for a day or two.

Mr. Almon Pingree is hauling box timber to Augustine Ingalls.

A new arrival at Mr. and Mrs. Walter Luck's. It is a girl this time.

Mr. Augustine Ingalls is sawing stave timber.

NORTH PARIS.

Abner Benson and wife are sick.

Eugene Curtis and wife have visited at Norway a few days.

Cora Hatt is sick with the grippe.

Alpheus Fuller is visiting his sister, Mrs. Martha Andrews.

H. W. Dunham has sold his oxen.

B. K. Dow has bought a pair of steers of Lennie Merrill.

James S. Wright, Esq., was in this place Friday on business.

E. H. Andrews is stopping at home for a fortnight.

Ida Littlehale remains about the same. She is quite sick.

Mr. and Mrs. Whitney and Marcellus Littlehale are sick with colds or the grippe.

Josephine Benson died Jan. 20 after a long illness, and was buried Jan. 22.

One of the sensations at this place is an attempt at suicide and then leaving home by one of our citizens.

It is still very sickly in this vicinity, with hardly well ones enough to take care of the sick.

Miss Josephine Benson died Saturday, the 20th. Miss Benson has been sick for many years, and a very great sufferer. She has borne her sufferings with Christian patience, and we trust she has entered into that rest that the Lord has prepared for those who love him.

J. F. Childs and Fred Dunham are at home now having a vacation from packing apples.

H. W. Dunham has sold his oxen to Richardson Bros. of Greenwood. Mr. Dunham has bargained his farm to Chas. and Dwight Stevens.

W. F. Dunham is getting out timber to build a leanto on his barn, to give room for more stock.

Remember the circle at A. J. Abbott's this week.

PERU.

H. R. Robinson and George Chase have gone to Winthrop to buy some cows.

George and Daniel Conant are visiting friends in Livermore.

H. E. Stillman has bought a cow of A. B. Griffith.

Hortense Torrey and her brother Eugene were at East Peru and called and looked at A. B. Griffith's herd of Jersey cows.

The farmers are still cutting ice in Turner's Pond. There is quite a craze in that direction.

There was a surprise party at Gertie Hodsdon's on the 23d and there was quite a crowd there.

ROXBURY.

The sleighing is too fine for people to stay in doors.

A good deal can be done in one week now the roads are so good.

Chas. Rundlett's little boy is sick with lung fever.

Fred Morrill is drawing the poplar on the L. A. Thomas farm.

James Irish is drawing birch for Chapman's mill.

The article in the Democrat on the tax question is sound sense. We do not want the listing system. The crime of perjury is terribly on the increase. With the listing bill a law, we should find that justice had gone away backward. We have plenty of tax law now if the assessors will do their duty. The Grangers have not made over society and they never will.

STOW.

Elmer Harvey is visiting his uncle and aunt, Mr. and Mrs. O. R. Barrows, and on his way home he and his brother will stop at Great Falls to visit their aunt.

Miss Helen Abbott is very sick with the grippe. Dr. Hubbard attends her.

Mr. Ambrose Leavitt and wife are to move to Kezar Falls next week. We hope it will be a pleasant move for them.

Will Keniston is at work for Elden Emerson and boards with O. R. Barrows.

Mrs. O. P. Charles is at work for Anson Bennett a few days while his family are all sick with the grippe.

Mr. Moses Eastman is very slim. He has a bad cough.

Frank Charles had to stop logging on account of the rheumatism. He was taken in the woods a few days ago. It is raining quite hard.

UPTON.

Mrs. J. E. Brooks is very sick with lung fever.

Mrs. Nellie Burke has a new sewing machine, the New Companion.

W. F. Ellingwood is cooking for A. M. Coolidge.

J. F. Myers of Gorham, N. H., is cooking at the Lake House.

F. B. Brooks, William Sweatt and Thomas Thurston are each possessors of new sleighs, purchased of Mr. Curtis, West Paris.

Mrs. Fred Lane is spending the winter with her mother, Mrs. Bartlett.

H. T. Chase has sprained his wrist quite badly.

NEWRY.

Mrs. J. S. Allen is still sick in bed with the grippe.

Albert Eames is at home from Bethel, where he is attending school, sick with measles.

Your correspondent is wrestling this week with an attack something of the nature of erysipelas, as the doctor says. Whatever it may be, one infliction is more than enough.

The remains of Mrs. Cora Bennett, formerly of this town, were brought from Berlin, N. H., one day this week and interred in the graveyard near the Elijah Powers place.

C. F. Foster's family on Sunday River are afflicted with the grippe, as I hear.

January has been a fine month for winter so far, only one cold snap. Wonder if it will go out like a lion.

BROWNFIELD.

Mr. and Mrs. S. B. Bean are very sick. Quite a number of others in the village are on the sick list.

Mr. Thomas Harmon lost quite a valuable horse.

Mrs. Fred Spring of Westbrook is at S. B. Bean's.

Mrs. Howard Porter of Freeport is stopping at Frank Libby's.

EAST BROWNFIELD.

School closes in District No. 1 Friday, January 26th.

Mrs. A. F. Johnson is visited by Mrs. Coburn of Waltham and Miss Jones of Boston.

L. R. Giles expects to close his clothing shop this week for some time.

Colds and lung difficulties prevail but no serious cases as yet.

Quite a heavy rain storm Wednesday afternoon and evening clearing off cold and windy this Thursday. Ice and crust cover the earth everywhere about us.

EAST WATERFORD.

Born, Jan. 22d, to the wife of Virgil H. Johnson, a son.

P. N. Haskell is doing a thriving business this winter sawing hard wood bolts into spool strips and staves. His son, A. J. Haskell, and several others are working for him.

Zebulon Abbott is threatened with pneumonia.

Arthur Buck is recovering from it.

Chauncey Ames was very sick Saturday and Sunday.

NORWAY LAKE.

Darius Pike of Minot, who used to live here, called on a few of his friends this week.

Elbridge Gammon and wife were at David Flood's and spent the evening Tuesday.

F. E. Pottle was at W. S. Partridge's Saturday night and Sunday.

Mrs. C. W. Partridge is quite sick with a bad cold.

J. L. Partridge is gaining slowly.

Mr. Simon Stevens and L. D. Hobbs are out doors again.

Mr. Benjamin Marston still continues quite sick but is considered a little better to-day.

BUCKFIELD.

Mr. Everett R. Josselyn, Hebron Academy, class of '94, was in town the 20th.

Mr. DeLafayette Flint of Augusta is in town, the guest of J. Elmer Warren.

Miss Sadie K. Spaulding of senior class of Hebron, is at home after an absence of four weeks.

At the poverty ball Wednesday evening at Nezinscott Hall Edwin F. Atwood and wife took the prize for elegance(?) of costume.

The friends of Rev. Henry Crockett gave him a reception and donation at the Methodist church Wednesday evening, the 24th inst.

The ice crop is being gathered in from the upper dam. Reuben Foss bosses the cutting and loading.

Isaac Shaw has been confined to the house for several weeks from a touch of the grippe.

Mr. and Mrs. Dastine Spaulding of Cape Elizabeth are visiting their Buckfield friends.

The mill and wood yards are being filled up as the result of extra sledding.

A narrow escape from a serious accident last week, was experienced by the servant girl of Hon. O. H. Hersey, while driving his pair of black ponies near the railroad crossing as the train approached the station. The girl got dazed and one of the horses got so badly cut that Dr. Caldwell was called to sew up the wound.

ANDOVER.

Fred Smith's mother died the 23d. Funeral services at the house Thursday, Rev. Mr. Norcross assisted by Rev. Mr. Mabry officiating. The remains were taken to Skowhegan for burial.

The steam mill has taken a new lease of life and will be run by a stock company.

Mrs. M. F. Meares has returned to her home in Chicago.

Constable Jordan attended the drawing of juryman to-day and Mr. Ingalls Bragg was drawn to serve on the traverse jury.

The school in No. 4 closed Friday, Miss Jennie Mitchell teacher.

The following were chosen officers of Lone Mt. Lodge for the next quarter:

C. T., C. W. Burlette.
V. T., Mrs. Bessie Hastings.
F. S., Mrs. Mabel Dresser.
T., W. M. Barnes.
C., Rev. Mr. Norcross.
M., Miss Nellie Ripley.
G., Miss Alice Bedell.
S., Chas. Stevens.

NORTH BUCKFIELD.

Mrs. Jane Spaulding, aged 81 years, died Jan. 16th, after a short illness. Supposed to be the grippe. Mrs. Mary Clapp of Salem, Mass., was home to the funeral.

The creamery men are gathering rather a poor quality of ice this season.

James F. Bicknell and Mrs. A. G. Pearson made a flying trip to Lewiston Wednesday, Jan. 23d.

Lauren Keen and wife were at her father's, Elijah Turner's, the 21st.

Fannie Hersey has gone back to Auburn.

J. C. Marble and Miss Eliza Longley of Paris were in our place the 23d.

Mrs. John Lane and two daughters and Mrs. Clint Bates and daughter, all of Sumner, were at Mrs. R. Monk's, the 23d.

D. L. Farrar was at Mechanic Falls the 23d on business.

Lots of folks in our vicinity ailing at this time.

SOUTH RUMFORD.

Miss Flora A. Wyman of Dickvale is visiting at her uncle's, M. L. Wyman's.

Willis, Maydell and Georgia Hemingway, Harvey Neil, Fred and Leslie Putnam went to Dixfield Tuesday night to the drama, "Neighbor Jackwood."

W. Clark arrived home Saturday, Jan. 20.

M. L. Wyman has been hauling lumber this week to J. C. Wyman's mill at Dickvale.

Mrs. Chandler Abbott is very sick with the grippe.

Mrs. Cotton Elliott, who has been quite sick the past week, is a little better. A. B. C.

FRYEBURG CENTRE.

Walter Hutchins has returned to Shaw's business college at Portland.

Mrs. Geo. Charles entertained the Odd Fellows' circle at the hall last Wednesday night and all unite in saying that they had a good time.

Throat distemper is prevalent among the horses in this vicinity.

M. M. Smart lost a valuable horse last week.

The path of duty of every good citizen is plainly marked out. Take care of the unemployed this winter, and prepare to knock out the Democratic party next fall.

T. A. Holt met with an accident last week that will prevent him from working for some time to come. He cut his foot and it required ten stitches to close the wound.

Julian Rebekah Lodge installed their officers last Thursday, Mrs. Abbie Waterhouse officiating. A large number of members were in attendance.

A church social was held at the Harbor church last Wednesday night. There was vocal and instrumental music and a number of literary exercises.

The White Mountain Reporter says that business was never better at Bartlett than now, and if a man wants work he will find it every time. This will be good news for Tired Willie and Weary Walker.

A number of members of the Swift River Lodge, I. O. O. F., of Conway visited the Fryeburg Lodge last Thursday.

Not only is farming the safest business in the country, but when followed as a legitimate occupation, it lends prosperity to every surrounding business. Go to-day, with all the cry of hard times, to a neighborhood where the people live on farms, and conduct them in a legitimate way, and hard times are not there. A farmer can produce almost everything he must of necessity consume, and when he does this he can live and keep out of debt even if money is called scarce. He always has something to sell, and, having something to sell, he always has some money, and, always having some money, he pays cash, and, paying cash he gets goods cheap; as he raises most of his living he has but little to buy; but as there are a great many like him, the merchant is also prosperous.

LOVELL.

The Congregational circle at the Centre was entertained on Wednesday evening by Mrs. J. F. Stearns, and the village circle met the same evening at Fox's Hall.

The singing school at the village progresses finely.

Mr. George Marston has been confined to the house for three weeks with rheumatism and grippe, but is slowly improving.

Mrs. Esther Garcelon is visiting in town.

Many of the farmers are putting in ice for creamery use.

BRYANT'S POND.

Geo. F. Bicknell, who has been one of the proprietors of the hotel for the last four months, is about to return to Buckfield with his family. His partner, John Tobin, will continue to run the house.

The Lucier Minstrels appear at Grange Hall Wednesday evening, Jan. 31, in one of their refined entertainments.

The Bryant's Pond Cornet Band will give a concert at Union Hall, Hanover, Friday evening, Feb. 2, assisted by Bacon's Orchestra and Arion Banjo Club. They are arranging to give the Hanover people a first-class entertainment, and they will do it. There will be a ball at close of concert.

EAST BETHEL.

N. W. Ethridge has moved his family on to the farm formerly owned by Mr. Pitcher.

N. F. Swan and D. Cole visited Lewiston last week.

Miss Katie Elliott of Rumford spent a few days with her sister, Miss Pearl Elliott at Z. W. Bartlett's.

Mr. and Mrs. Joshua Howard of Hanover recently visited friends in this place. Mrs. Howard, although totally blind and in poor health, does her own housework, making butter, sewing, knitting, mending, etc. She is a very smart, interesting talker, well-informed, lively and jolly company; knowing with a quick instinct all passing around her, and believes in looking on the bright side of life if she is blind.

German measles, chicken pox, the grippe, bad colds and coughs are with us.

BETHEL.

The ladies of the Universalist society gave a chicken pie supper at the Universalist chapel last Friday evening. A good number were present. The tables were well supplied with good things.

The chair factory yard is well filled with long lumber. The birch has not all arrived yet.

Large quantities of ice have been taken this winter from the Androscoggin River and other places. The increased work of the butter factory requires the furnishers of cream to store away an extra amount.

Judge Woodbury left Thursday morning for a visit to his son, Wesley, living in Pottsville, Penn. He will remain from home till spring.

J. G. Gehring believes in raising poultry on a large scale. He has two incubators, holding together 700 eggs. Twenty-one days ago last Saturday these were filled with choice eggs. Now 350 chickens are alive and well. The remaining are not yet hatched.

A chicken pie supper was served in the Universalist chapel Friday evening. Sixty-two tickets were sold at twenty-five cents each, netting a nice little sum for the society.

Miss Alice Purington and Miss Lydia Smith entertained the scholars of Gould Academy, Thursday evening, at the home of J. U. Purington. Lively games were played,—no one was allowed to shirk. Refreshments followed the fun. All who were present had a good word the next day for the two entertainers.

Resolved: That the benefits of party government are greater than its evils, is the question to be discussed next Thursday evening at the lyceum. All are invited to attend.

About thirty-five guests were present at a reception given by Dr. and Mrs. Gehring, at their home Saturday evening. Chocolate was first served, after which the following program was rendered:

Piano Duet, Alice Chamberlain and Edwin Gehring.
Vocal Solo, Angie Chapman.
Piano Solo, Alice Chamberlain.
Recitation, Emma Jones.
Piano Solo, Edwin Gehring.
Piano Solo, Lillian F. True.

After the entertainment ice cream and cake was served. The guests left about eleven o'clock, feeling thankful to the host and hostess for the enjoyable evening.

Mrs. Estes lectured in the Methodist Church, Sunday afternoon, on the Effects of Alcohol. A good number of people were present.

SWEDEN.

Died, in Norway, Jan. 20th, Lilla Nevers Marr, wife of Will Marr and daughter of Albion Nevers, aged about 30 years. Mr. and Mrs. Marr had left their Sweden home in the care of their mother and were at work in the shoe shop at Norway; only a short time ago Mrs. M. was taken down with the grippe which proved fatal. A husband, father and mother and four sisters are left on which the affliction falls very heavily.

R. O. Moulton was called to Chicopee, Mass., a few weeks ago by the death of his mother, which occurred at the home of her daughter, Mrs. Leonard Hill of that place.

As yet there have been only a few cases of grippe in this vicinity.

The singing class taught by Prof. Wight is progressing finely.

KEZAR FALLS.

Mrs. George S. Stanley is quite sick.

Miss Addie Weeks is at home on a short visit.

A drama was given at Meonian Hall by eight of our young people of this place, entitled, "The Flowing Bowl," Thursday, Jan. 12.

Mr. A. H. Mason has returned home from Paris where he has been visiting for a short time.

The ladies' circle was held this week by two young men—Mr. Percy Gould and Clarence Emery. An entertainment was given after the supper was over, which, we trust, was appreciated by all.

Mrs. Tobias Stanley is on the sick list.

Mr. O. L. Mason and Mr. H. H. Ridlon have commenced work in the carriage shop again.

Mrs. Abram Chapman is very sick.

MEXICO.

Bert I. Howard cut his hand badly a few days since, with a saw, while engaged in sawing birch for Mr. Robinson. Dr. Ryan of Rumford Falls dressed the wound which is now doing well, but will disable him for labor some time.

Quite a number from this place attended the drama Neighbor Jackwood at Dixfield last week.

The Rumford Falls Light and Power Company have recently extended their line across the new toll bridge and through Ridlonville where three arc lights shine resplendently each night. The bridge is fairly well lighted.

The new winter road is completed from Mexico to Berry's Mills via Jenne Pond.

Goodwin Brothers of Carthage have about 200 thousand of lumber to be hauled over this route to Rumford Falls.

The lodge of U. O. G. C. was instituted at town hall, Mexico, Jan. 26th, by P. G. C. Mitchell of Kittery Point, Maine. The following officers were elected and installed:

J. C. Swasey, N. C.
Lillian M. Small, V. N. C.
H. J. Binford, M. D., P. W. C.
Frank Lord, W. P.
L. H. Harlow, K. R.
Wallace C. Stevens, F. K. R.
J. D. McLean, W. T.
E. E. Moore, W. H.
J. M. Doyen, W. O. G.
Sadie Moore, W. I. G.

The lodge received the name of Mt. Zircon.

CONFLAGRATION AT BATH.

Fire at Bath Sunday morning destroyed several large blocks and smaller buildings, including the Sagadahoc House and a number of stores. The total loss will amount to nearly half a million. Help was called for and furnished from Portland, Lewiston and Brunswick.

A MAINE ROMANCE.

Materials for a romance that would delight an old school novelist, but that morden writers of the realistic school would scorn as too far removed from the commonplace, are furnished by the Aroostook Pioneer. Soon after the war Wm. H. Doughty, of Bridgewater, a returned soldier, went to Minneapolis, hoping to raise money to lift the mortgage on his house, and leaving a wife and several small children behind. For a year his letters and money came regularly and then ceased with a letter saying he was about to start for the pine woods in northern Minnesota, and advised his wife not to write to him until she heard from him again, as he was unable to give his future address. About that time a disastrous forest fire took place in that region, and as no word came from him he was supposed to be dead. The mother struggled on and brought up her children. Three years ago, believing herself a widow, she applied for a pension, but could not get one on account of lack of proof of her husband's death. But the attorney who made the application for her sent out letters of inquiry and finally found Mr. Doughty himself in St. Paul.

It now appears that soon after his last letter home he fell in with a man named Rush from Aroostook County, who informed him that his wife had applied for and obtained a divorce from him and had married again. Instead of investigating this story for himself he believed it and was prostrated by a long illness on account of the false news. When he recovered he was but a wreck of his former self, but he resolved he would never return again, or let his family know of his whereabouts. The news that his family were yet waiting for him he thought almost too good to be true, but he at once started for Maine.

Thursday evening as a party of boys on a big double runner were coasting down Patton hill, at Greene, Dr. Lombard's horse, that was standing in a private way, became frightened and ran away up the hill directly in the track of the sled. There was a collision of terrific force. Five of the boys were badly hurt, three of them very seriously. Blair Mower had his skull badly fractured. William Davis had a collar-bone broken and was otherwise hurt. Both these boys were unconscious when doctors were called to dress their wounds. Ernest Patton had his scalp badly torn. The Mower boy died Friday morning, and young Davis is not expected to live.

THE JOCKEY.

Alix while at full speed strides 21 feet.

Budd Doble thinks Arion can beat 2:04 next year.

Ben Kenney will handle Marcus Daly's trotters next season.

Blairwood, 2:15¼, is the subject of a legal squabble in Tennessee.

The pacing stallion Creole, 2:15, has been sold to parties in Honolulu.

Eighteen out of 23 trotters in the 2:10 list made their records to bike sulkies.

California claims to have added 23 to the list of great brood mares during 1893.

W. J. WHEELER,

South Paris.

Pianos and Organs,
Piano Stools,
Covers
—AND—
Instruction Books.
—AT—
Reasonable Prices.

A B C D E F G H I J K
L M N O P Q R S T U V W X Y Z

You Know

Your A B C's and should know as well that to restore health and purify the blood one must have good digestion.

THE TRUE LIFE MEDICINE

cures Dyspepsia, relieves Constipation and makes life's cares seem lighter.

35 CENTS A BOTTLE EVERYWHERE.

I J K L M N O P Q R S T U V W X Y Z

DOWNS' ELIXIR

N. H. DOWNS'
VEGETABLE BALSAMIC
ELIXIR

Has stood the test for *fifty-eight years* and has proved itself the best remedy known for the cure of

Consumption, Coughs, Colds, Whooping Cough, and all Lung Diseases

in young or old.

SOLD EVERYWHERE.

Price, 25c., 50c., $1.00 per bottle.

HENRY, HENRY & LUCE, Props., Burlington, Vt.

DOWNS' ELIXIR

For sale by A. M. GERRY, South Paris, Me., Mrs. A. R. BUCKMAN, West Paris, Me.

FREE TRIALS

convince the skeptic and point the way which if followed leads to

VIGOROUS HEALTH to MEN

Prof. HARRIS' SOLUBLE MEDICATED Pastille

Has been put up in a proprietary form since 1876, and has been used for years prior to that time in private practice. It is no nostrum, of doubtful reputation, but a genuine specific for a very prevalent disease. Thousands of men, of all ages, have at some time in life brought on nervous debility and exhaustion, with organic weakness, by over brain work, excesses, too frequent indulgence or indiscretion and vicious habits, and it is to these that we offer a remedy that will, by its direct action upon the seat of the disease, stop the drain and restore the patient to vigorous health and strength.

For method of introducing Prof. HARRIS' SOLUBLE MEDICATED PASTILLE treatment is one which commends itself to all sensible persons—for the reason that we supply it upon their judgment of its value. Nothing in the way of expense beyond a postal card and a two cent postage stamp is asked. The postal card for use in sending us their full address and the postage stamp for the letter returning the statement of their case for which we supply them with question blank, to be filled out, and a self-addressed envelope for use in returning it when filled.

Free TRIAL When we receive the statement on blank we prepare the eight days' treatment and forward it by mail and prepay postage thereon—and along with the eight days' treatment we send full directions for using. The treatment causes no pain or inconvenience and does not prevent attention to business.

We leave the matter of sending orders entirely with those using the free trial treatment. Having acquitted those sending for trial package of our ability to benefit them we feel that they are more largely interested than ourselves in continuing the use of the Pastilles. We make the prices as low as possible, and the same to all. They are as follows: $3.00 for one month; $5.00 for two months; $7.00 for three months.

Trade Mark

These prices secure the delivery of the Pastilles by mail. If desired by express we leave the patient to pay the charges. For over ten years we have operated our business upon this plan with satisfactory results.

We ask all persons needing treatment to send us their address on postal card or by letter.

All correspondence confidential and should be addressed to

The HARRIS REMEDY CO., Mfg. Chemists
99 Bleekman St., NEW YORK CITY, N. Y.

ESTABLISHED 1876—CAPITAL $250,000

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Largest circulation of any scientific paper in the world. Splendidly illustrated. No intelligent man should be without it. Weekly, $3.00 a year; $1.50 six months. Address, MUNN & CO., PUBLISHERS, 361 Broadway, New York City.

Passengers for Boston, New York, and points South and West, will find the Warren Route, via the elegant, new, and popular steamers

Portland and Tremont
(Self-trimming)

BETWEEN PORTLAND AND BOSTON, leaving Franklin Wharf, Portland, for Boston, daily (excepting Sunday, at 7 P.M., a most enjoyable and comfortable link in their journey.

Elegant staterooms, electric lights and bells, and every modern appliance of comfort and luxury. Through tickets at low rates at and to all principal railway stations.

On and after Monday, Oct 2nd, 1893, steamers of this company will leave Boston at six o'clock (instead of seven,) every evening, Sundays excepted.

J. F. LISCOMB, Gen. Agent, Portland, Maine.

Dr. ACNEW'S
Rheumatic Pills
WILL CURE ALL
RHEUMATIC TROUBLES.
ALL DRUGGISTS.

For sale by A. M. GERRY, South Paris Me., MRS. A. R. BUCKNAM, West Paris, Me.

SEND your job printing to the Oxford Democrat office.

The Kind of medicine you need is the old reliable tonic and blood-purifier,

AYER'S SARSAPARILLA

It can have no substitute. Cures others,

will cure you

H. B. Foster.

Ready made clothing for all ages and sizes. A large and complete stock of

Gents' Furnishings.

We have the celebrated non-buckle suspender, which has no buckles to tear or soil the clothing. We have everything in the shape of Hats and Caps.

Yours truly,

H. B. Foster,

Norway, - - Maine.

THE PUZZLER

No. 396.—Numerical Enigma.

My 5, 6, 8, 2, 3 is a criminal.
My 10, 6, 8, 1, a place from which we get water.
My 7, 9, 3, 6, forlorn.
My 4, 2, 3, 6, departed.
My 10, 9, 3, gained.
My 10, 2, 9, 7, an article of commerce.

No. 397.—Pictorial Puzzle.

The above represents the names of four well known writers. What are they?

No. 398.—Crossword.

My first is in man, but not in boy,
My second is in animal, but not in toy,
My third is in naughty, but not in good,
My fourth is in eating, but not in food,
My fifth is in toe, but not in head,
My sixth is in move, but not in bed,
My seventh is in up, but not in down,
My whole names a Canadian town.

No. 399.—Transposition and Acrostic.

When the following words are transposed, their initials, read downward, will form the name of a well known bird:

NUGSKPIC—Flowers.
EIXB—A horned animal.
GGNNAILTIEH—A sweet singing bird.
SSMARGEO—A filmy substance.
NRUFODEL—A sea fish.
NEIALDC—A European island.
AANESUCP—A kitchen article.
RRGHIEN—A sea fish.
TEELH—A girl's name.
IOORREHSCN—A large wild animal.

No. 400.—A Star Puzzle.

1. A letter. 2. An article. 3. Exhibited in a showy or ostentatious manner. 4. The universe. 5. Low hills of drifting sand. 6. Places in an upright position. 7. To pail or tear down. 8. In this manner. 9. A letter.

No. 401.—Missing Letter Puzzle.

When the missing letters have been supplied, the whole will form a verse from a poem by Tennyson:

W * o * o * l * b *
A * e * m * i * f * i *,
S * n * i * g * l * n *,
C * a * i * g * e * b * i *
U * d * r * h * e * a,
* n * g * i * e * r * r *
W * i * a * o * b * f * e * r *
O * a * b * o * e!

No. 402.—Word Puzzle.

——— doth boast its ancient lore,
———, its gems and pearls,
———, its great conqueror,
———, its dukes and earls,
———, of richest fabrics wove,
———, of its Vatican,
——— chants with its crested wave,
——— sings of Thaddeus brave,
———, of Ah Che Lan.

Satisfy each blank with the name of a country, city, etc. Each line contains two hidden words: The first, an article of dress; a combination of earth and metal. The second, "very fine quartz," part of the head. The third, "the race," "to study." The fourth, part of the earth's crust; "beloved." The fifth, "ourselves;" "a large box." The sixth, one of the prominent characters of Shakespeare; "a tank." The seventh, insects; "repose." The eighth, "very pliable;" "ourselves" again. The ninth, "relatives;" "a monarch."

No. 403.—Anagrams.

Characters from Shakespeare:

1. Dude's master.
2. Lions cut loose; run Fool
3. Given us harsh.
4. Scour in a dust tin.
5. Bid us hope.
6. Doi, I try me arm.
7. Tired muse.
8. Ripe corn for a nag.
9. First baron.
10. Alik, a slim raw sheep.
11. Close ruin.
12. A charm'd one.
13. I knew a harsh hatter.

Lacking In Points.

Punctuation, or the want of it, is responsible for many of the strange advertisements. Take these, for instance:

Wanted—A woman able and willing to wash, iron and milk three cows.

Wanted—A comfortable room for a young man 4 feet by 10.

Wanted—Boy to milk and mow lawns.

Key to the Puzzler.

No. 387.—Scottish Diagonal: Hogmanay. Crosswords: 1. Hebrides. 2. Holyrood. 3. Bagpipes. 4. Balmoral. 5. Margaret. 6. John Knox. 7. Galloway. 8. Waverley.

No. 388.—Metagram: Nail, jail, pail, sail, rail, tail, wail, hail.

No. 389.—Arithmetical Puzzles: 1. 3 coins. 2. 9 nuts. 3. 18 days, 18 men. 4. A, 27 dollars. B, 18 dollars.

No. 390.—Numerical Enigma: Hippopotamus.

No. 391.—A New Year's Motto: Always be on time.

No. 392.—Quotation Puzzle: "Who lives without folly is not so wise as he thinks."

No. 393.—Double Acrostic: 1. New. 2. Africa. 3. Point. 4. Ochre. 5. Lobster. 6. Earl. 7. Outdo. 8. Negro.

No. 394.—Disguised Proverbs: 1. "The early bird catches the worm." 2. "Promise little, but do much." 3. "Too many cooks spoil the broth." 4. "Look before you leap." 5. "Many hands make light work." 6. "Where there's a will there's a way."

No. 395.—Hidden Birds: 1. Thrush. 2. Owl. 3. Hawk. 4. Linnet. 5. Hen. 6. Swan. 7. Pelican. 8. Heron. 9. Dove.

All those who have used Baxter's Mandrake Bitters speak very strongly in their praise. Twenty-five cents per bottle.

New Girl. "What does your papa like for breakfast?" Little Mabel. "He always likes most anything that we have not got."

With a bottle of Ayer's Cherry Pectoral in the house, you have an effective remedy for all sudden attacks of throat and lung troubles. An hour's delay may lead to serious consequences. No household should be without this wonderful medicine.

At Naples. Tourist—That's Vesuvius, isn't it? Policeman—Yes. Tourist—Will you tell me when the next eruption will occur?

In case of hard cold nothing will relieve the breathing so quickly as to rub Arnica & Oil Liniment on the chest.

Rich uncle—So, my dear boy, you haven't forgotten your uncle's birthday, have you? You have brought me this nice smoking cap. Thanks, little nephew! Here is half a dollar for you." Little Nephew—"Boo-ooh-ooh. It cost seventy-five cents."

FOR OVER THREE MONTHS my son suffered night and day with rheumatism; so much so that he was unable to feed himself. Your bitters cured him, and I am truly thankful to say they are an honest medicine.—Mrs. W. H. Carleton, wife of Deacon Carleton, First Baptist Church, Winchester, Mass.

For Preserving and Beautifying the Teeth, use

Dr. Shempp's Rose Cream

None genuine unless bearing my signature,

M. Shempp.

The Groder Dyspepsia Cure Co., Sole Agents, Waterville, Me., U.S.A.

For sale by all druggists, price, 25c.

For Sale by F. A. SHURTLEFF, South Paris, Me.

E. W. CHANDLER,
Builders' Finish !

I will furnish DOORS and WINDOWS of any Size or Style at reasonable prices.

Also Window & Door Frames.

If in want of any kind of Finish for Inside or Outside work, send in your orders. Pine Lumber and Shingles on hand Cheap for Cash.

Plaining, Sawing and Job Work.

E. W. CHANDLER,
West Sumner, - - - Maine.

Engine and Boiler for sale, good as new

Paskola

TRADE MARK

A STEP FORWARD.

A Flesh Forming Food

Artificially Digested.

Stimulating, exhilarating and strengthening, without alcohol. Relieves weariness and exhaustion. It adds new tissue to emaciated forms, makes them plump, rosy and healthy. Thin, pale people will become fleshy and rosy cheeked after using it. Pascola supersedes Cod Liver Oil (without its repulsive taste) and arrests the wasting in consumptive cases. Send for phamphlet. Agents wanted everywhere. Address

The Pre-Digested Food Co.,
168 Duane Street, New York.

F. A. SHURTLEFF, So. Paris, Me.

$50.00

for every case of

CONSTIPATION

Groder's SYRUP cannot cure we will forfeit $50.00

If taken according to our special directions.

J. J. LAMB, Treasurer, The Groder Dyspepsia Cure Co., Waterville, Me.

FOR SALE.

Pullets for sale. From 25 cents up.
W. W. MAXIM, Paris, Me.

WANTED.

In the original pamphlets, the public laws of Maine for 1824 and 1827, private laws of 1827 and the resolves of 1821. Will buy or exchange any of which I have duplicates with parties filling a set. Address, P. O. Box 1626, Portland, Maine.

HOMEMAKERS' COLUMN.

Correspondence on topics of interest to the ladies is solicited. Address: Editor HOUSEKEEPERS' COLUMN, Oxford Democrat, Paris, Maine.

SCARLET FEVER PATIENTS.

Scarlet fever almost always begins with a sudden attack of vomiting, writes Elizabeth Robinson Scovil in an article that cannot fail to be helpful to all mothers in the February Ladies' Home Journal. The child becomes flushed and feverish, is very thirsty and restless, and may complain of headache and sore throat.

The next day there is a bright red rash on the lower part of the neck spreading over the chest. When the skin is pressed with the finger the redness disappears for a moment and immediately returns. By the fourth day it extends over the whole body, but soon commences to fade. After its departure the skin peels off, sometimes in small particles and sometimes in larger scales. This process is called desquamation, and lasts from a few days to a week or two. The throat should be carefully examined; it will probably be found very red and more or less swollen. The presence of white spots, or a gray membrane covering it, should be at once reported to the doctor.

As soon as the vomiting is over a warm bath should be given, and the child put to bed in an airy room from which all superfluous furniture has been removed.

The irritation from the rash is at times very great. This is relieved by anointing the surface with carbolized vaseline, or any soothing unguent, as lard without salt. The body may be sponged with warm water under cover of a blanket, doing a small portion at a time and drying it carefully before proceeding farther.

Flannels wrung out of hot water may be applied to the throat if it is painful. They should be covered with a strip of India-rubber cloth or oiled muslin, and frequently renewed. A poultice of flaxseed meal can be used instead, or the throat can be rubbed with warm oil and a piece of flannel wound around it.

Cold is the enemy especially to be dreaded, as many serious complications may be caused by a chill. The child should be kept in bed, even in comparatively light cases, with a flannel jacket over the night-dress.

The excretions must be received in vessels containing carbolic acid, or some equally powerful disinfectant, and any decrease in their amount from the usual quantity should be immediately mentioned to the doctor.

Cold water may be freely given to drink; it is better not to have it iced, though small pieces of ice may be allowed to dissolve in the mouth. Lemonade helps to relieve the thirst.

CARE IN DIPHTHERIA.

As diphtheria is so very serious a disease, whenever a child seems languid and miserable, fretful and depressed, without apparent cause, examine the throat carefully, writes Elizabeth Robinson Scovil in a valuable article on "Care in Infectious Diseases" in the February Ladies' Home Journal. If it is swollen and covered with patches of gray membrane looking like slate-pencil dust, send for the doctor. It is always safest to have medical advice when the throat is affected.

Until the doctor comes keep the child in bed. If the throat is painful procure a lump of lime, pour cold water upon it; when the effervescence subsides strain off the clear water and apply it to the throat with a brush or swab. If the child is old enough the throat can be gargled with the lime-water. Inhaling the steam from a pitcher of boiling water sometimes gives relief. The neck may be rubbed with warm oil and bound with flannel.

Milk, either hot or cold, should be given every two hours. The cold milk may have the white of an egg shaken with each cupful. Strong beef-tea can be given and the doctor may order stimulant. The strength must be supported by nourishing liquid food.

POINTS FOR TRAINED NURSES.

At the training schools for nurses no applicants are accepted who are under twenty-one years of age or over thirty-five; twenty-five is the preferred age. When application is made by letter it must be addressed to the superintendent of the school. In reply she will receive a circular stating that a personal interview is desirable. If that is impossible the applicant should write again saying so and asking for an application blank. This blank must be filled out in the applicant's own handwriting and returned to the superintendent, together with a physician's certificate of health, a letter from a clergyman and the addresses of three women, not relatives, who have known the applicant for several years. These applications are filed, and when a vacancy occurs the most desirable applicant is selected by the president, and is taken a month on trial. During this month of probation, she will, at almost all the training schools, receive her board and lodging. At the end of the month she may be accepted or rejected as a pupil nurse, and the decision is final.—February Ladies' Home Journal.

ARRANGING HOME TABLEAUX.

To get to the actual working details the first thing to do is to select your room, writes Edith Townsend Everett in an article on "Helps in Arranging Tableaux" in the February number of the Ladies' Home Journal. One that connects by folding doors with the one to serve as auditorium is best to choose. Let the entire space occupied by the doors be filled in with black gauze stretched across the opening, and the foot and top lights placed behind it. This arrangement produces the effect of a thin mist, light enough to be easily seen through, and yet softening the rugged outlines and bringing out the points of the picture at the back with a clearness that is wonderful. This gauze is one of the most important features in tableaux, and should no sooner be disregarded than the arrangement of the stage. Of course my readers understand that I am dealing only with such an entertainment as can be given in either a city drawing-room or the spacious rooms of a country mansion. Very few people, no matter how much they enjoy theatricals and tableaux, can afford to set apart a room or hall for such purposes, consequently preparations must be made whenever any such festivities are contemplated.

LEMONS VERSUS CHOLERA.

An excellent illustration of nature's beneficial and protective arrangements is to be found in the fact that the acid found in the lemon and the orange is capable of destroying the poisonous germs which give rise to cholera, and perhaps also other diseases. Cholera is distinctly a disease of tropical countries which are the native home of the lemon and other members of the citron family. Recent investigations made by the imperial health officers of Berlin show that cholera germs are destroyed in a short time after being brought into contact with the cut surface of a lemon, and do not survive more than twenty-four hours when in contact with the surface of the fruit. In consequence of the results of this investigation, no restriction will be placed upon the importation of these fruits into countries where cholera may be prevailing.

RECIPES.

SPICED ROLLS.

Take a piece from your bread dough and roll it out half an inch thick, brush the top with melted butter, and cover thickly with cinnamon and fine white sugar; commence at one side and roll up as jelly cake; then cut it an inch thick and lay in a pan as buscuit, close together, and let them rise and bake twenty minutes.

COFFEE CREAM.

Among the most acceptable as well as generally available flavorings, coffee may be put first. Make by the drip method a small cup of very strong, clear coffee; soak half a box of gelatine in half a cupful of milk for an hour or two, then set in double boiler over the fire and stir till dissolved; add a cup of sugar, the cup of coffee and the well-beaten yolks of four eggs. Strain and set away to cool. When almost cold stir for a few moments until stiff, then stir in quickly a pint of whipped cream. Mold and set on ice.

CLOSE TO SUBTERRANEAN FIRE.

Mr. Frederick Momson's lecture on Death Valley, which was delivered at Metropolitan Temple on Friday, added something to our knowledge of one of the most curious spots in the state. It was a year or two after the discovery of gold that its existence was made known by the frightful destruction of an emigrant party by thirst within its limits.

The immigrants were coming in through Nye County, Nev., they crossed a pass in the Paramint Mountains and struck into the valley, where their skeletons lie to this day. Some ten years afterward the United States Boundary Commission surveyed the valley and pronounced it to be the bed of a former lake, which had been drained in one of the last volcanic convulsions on this side of the mountains. Since then it has been visited by occasional explorers and gatherers of borax; but as it contains no water, as the air is impregnated with mephitic gases, and as the thermometer sometimes registers as much as 140 degrees in the shade in the summer, visitors have been few and far between.

Yet it is an interesting spot. It is a part of the belated world, to which the Great Salt Lake, the subterranean river of Mojave and the Colorado Desert belong, and of which the geysers of Sonoma are an offshoot. As Greenland is a relic of the last glacial age, so this distressed region is a surviving relic of the latest igneous age; an era when nothing was finally settled, and fire and water were contending for supremacy over the soil. Similar regions exist in southern Calabria and in the vicinity of the Dead Sea in Palestine; the volcanic force has so far lost its primitive energy that earthquakes are light, and there are no eruptions; but the volcanic gases continue to escape in such quantity that travel is attended with danger to life, and the water springs are polluted with salt, sulphur, and poisonous ingredients. In the California Sofatara excessive heat is added to the other horrors of the place. The centre of the valley is hotter than Sennaar, and the only animal life is a few specimens of tropical reptiles.

Mr. Momson is reported to have said that the bottom of the valley is the lowest depression on the earth's surface. This is not strictly correct. The lowest levels in Death Valley are about 430 feet below the sea, whereas the surface of the Dead Sea in Palestine is 1,300 feet below. But the hole which goes by the name of Death Valley is pretty deep. The crust of the earth throughout the valleys of San Bernardino and Inyo Counties must be very thin. The traveler's feet are separated from the internal body of everlasting fire by a slim sheet of earth and rock, which would offer but a slight resistance to seismic force. A few miles distant from Death Valley there is a region which may be surveyed by the eye, and which contains a thousand active volcanoes—small of their kind to be sure, baby volcanoes, so to speak, but still actively engaged in throwing up mud and water. And not many miles away is the range of granite mountains, among which Mount Whitney rears its head through the clouds; solid masses of primeval rock which must have worn the shape in which we see them now when the plain at their feet was a seething, raging caldron in which fire and water contended for the mastery.

To see such marvels of nature people cross oceans, spend fortunes and carry their lives in their hands. Neither Mauna Loa nor Hecla offers such wonders to the beholder as Death Valley and the Colorado Desert. In January and February the heat in the valley is bearable—not over 90 degrees in the shade. Excursion parties might be fitted out with supplies of food and water, and, in a few days, the visitors might see enough to realize what the world was in the Plutonic age. The contrast between the pleasant valleys of the rivers with their fruit trees bursting into blossom, and these dreadful deserts with their awful chasms and their hideous inhabitants, would be a thing not easily forgotten.

A LIVE COMMISSIONER.

Uncle Silas Brown is very much gratified over his election to the office of school commissioner in the town of S—. He asserted that when he assumed the duties of his position he intended to go into it for all it was worth, and make his influence felt. So no one was surprised at the first meeting of the new board to find him in a pugnacious mood.

"I've heern lots o' complaints about the lack of eddication about these parts," he said, rising to his feet. "Now there ain't no excuse for this here state of affairs. There's plenty of eddication in the world. More'n enough to go round, and our kids have got to have it. So I move, Mr. Chairman, that this committee find out jest how many boys and girls there are in town, 'n then get enough eddication to supply 'em all, whatever it costs. I'd like to know where we'd be ef we hadn't got our full share of it. Give the kids a chance."

It is a pleasure to announce that Uncle Silas' remarks were received with applause, and that the "kids" got quite as much "eddication" as most of them could stand.—Harper's Magazine.

Younglove—"What under the heavens makes that baby howl so?" Mrs. Younglove—"Little tootsy wootsy is tellin' its muzzer 'at its sit; zat's all!" Younglove—"Oh, that's it, is it? Well, why can't it tell its muzzer without informing the whole block?"

Do not wear impermeable and tight-fitting hats that constrict the blood-vessels of the scalp. Use Hall's Hair Renewer occasionally and you will not be bald.

"Jones seems to have thrown his whole soul into his business." "How do you know?" "Well, he don't seem have any when he deals with his customers."

If, when crossing a railroad track, you see a train approaching at thirty miles an hour—get out of the way as soon as possible. When threatened with chronic rheumatism or catarrh, take Ayer's Sarsaparilla persistently and patiently, and the danger will soon pass away.

Mike. "He said in one of their cities there was neyther a saloon nor a policeman." Pat. "Did he say phat the Orishmen did for a livin' in that same?"

The name of N. H. Downs still lives, although he has been dead many years. His Elixir for the cure of coughs and colds has already outlived him a quarter of a century, and is still growing in favor with the public.

"Mrs. Nextblock says I'm the most spoiled boy in town." "She does, does she? I'd just have her know you are trained. Let me know next time she passes the house." "Yes'm." "Now don't forget. I want her to hear me spanking you."

THE POSTMASTER,

Winchester, Mass says: I am personally acquainted with Mr. and Mrs. Carleton, and was astonished at the remarkable effects of your Sulphur Bitters in curing their son, and its large sale is undoubtedly due to the fact that it is an honest medicine. I know of many others who have been cured by its use and I do not think too much can be said in its praise. —Yours truly, Geo. P. Brown, P. M.

"Uncle Zeb," said the magistrate, "this is the third time you have been arrested this month." "Yessir." "How do you explain it?" "Well, sah, dat's a new p'leceeman on our beat." "Has that anything to do with the case?" "I dunno, sah; on'y it sut'ny hez seemed ter me dat may be he was kinder usin' me ter practice on."

WHAT WILL DO IT?

Medical writers claim that the successful remedy for nasal catarrh must be non-irritating, easy of application, and one that will reach the remote sores and ulcerated surfaces. The history of the efforts to treat catarrh is proof positive that only one remedy has completely met these conditions, and that is Ely's Cream Balm. This safe and pleasant remedy has mastered catarrh as nothing else has ever done, and both physicians and patients freely concede this fact. Our druggists keep it.

SHOOTING HONKERS.

GREAT SPORT WHICH IS FOUND IN THE NORTHWEST.

Countless Swarms Which Congregate between the Red River Valley and the Mississippi—Shooting Does Not Appear to Diminish Their Number.

Wild goose hunting on the plains of the northwest is a sport which always has great charm even for the experienced Nimrod. It is a sport replete with incident and a recreation which must once be indulged in to be thoroughly appreciated. The wild goose is known in all parts of North America, but in no section of the country does this bird appear in such numbers as in that territory lying between the Red river valley and the Missouri river. There the geese swarm in countless numbers and become corpulent on the grains of No. 1 hard which have been shaken from the stalk by the reaper and are lying in the stubble everywhere. Large numbers of the birds are killed by resident hunters and for eastern markets, but no apparent diminution is noticeable in the size and number of the flocks to be seen when the shooting season begins each year.

An hour's lively sport with the honkers on the wheatfields of North Dakota means but one thing to the inexperienced hunter, and that is something for his pains, especially if he happens to get in a well concealed stand directly in the line of flight. Then it is nothing uncommon for him to "tumble over" a wagon load of geese in very short order. Wild geese are a staple commodity in North Dakota and readily bring from $2.50 to $3 per dozen during the shooting season. In the little towns and stations along the Northern Pacific railway, during the fall and spring flights, almost everybody turns out for a few hours in the morning and toward the close of the day to shoot at the geese, and a right warm reception are the birds treated to. Many will ride to the outskirts of the town and shoot from a buggy or wagon at the passing myriads overhead and occasionally bring down a bird at long range.

The hunter who is out for business and is shooting for market and the money there is in it drives out 10 or 15 miles over the prairie several hours before daylight, and after selecting a spot where the geese have been seen in great numbers the day before digs a pit in the ground large enough to conceal himself and arranges the stubble or grass about the mouth of it so as to present a natural appearance. Close by he plants his decoys and settles back in the pit and anxiously awaits the coming of the morning. It is still dark, but from every quarter of the prairie come sounds of animal life which foretell the coming of a new day. The mournful cry of the curlew is heard overhead, and a flock of plover demonstrate their close proximity by the hurtling noise of their wings.

For some time he sits in a cramped position, listening to the booming notes of a prairie chicken, which bird is pouring forth a volume of drumlike sounds. The sharp yelp of a coyote not far away is unmistakable evidence that that thriving, skulking animal has jumped up a cotton tail and is hustling for an early breakfast. At the first peeping of the gray dawn the hunter suddenly hears a welcome sound—the faint and faraway honk-honk of the goose. He examines his gun and notes the direction of the sound. Nearer and nearer the sound comes, and finally he ventures to take a peep out of the pit and discovers the distant outlines of a large flock spread out V shaped in the morning sky, bearing off to one side. Apparently they have not seen the decoys, and the hunter thinks it is yet too dark.

Suddenly the leader is seen to waver, and with loud cries the flock turns and circles around the decoys as if suspicious of their genuineness, but drawing nearer at each turn. They have approached within easy shooting distance, and just as soon as the flock pitches down among the decoys the loud bang! bang! of a heavily loaded shotgun is heard, and two puffs of smoke are seen coming apparently from the surface of the earth a short distance away. Several geese are lying on the ground, and one is skimming away over the prairie with a tipped wing.

Some other flocks appear, and the shooting becomes lively until the sun is fully two hours high, when the flocks diminish, both in size and number, and with the exception of a few stragglers the morning flight is over.

Crystal Springs is the name of a small station on the Northern Pacific, 30 miles west of Jamestown, N. D. There are several small alkali lakes in close proximity to the station and a number of springs in the hill near by, from which the place gained its name. The town proper consists of a depot, boarding house and water tank and a population not exceeding 10 souls. One April morning a few years or so since the writer, in company with the telegraph operator at the place, sallied forth in quest of geese, large flocks of which were seen circling around and alighting on a small lake, fringed with bushes and tall grass, not over a mile from the station. After a full hour spent in crawling over the ground and keeping out of sight as much as possible the hunters crept through the grass to the bushes and looked cautiously out.

Upward of 1,000 geese were sporting on the water, diving, squawking and carrying on at a great rate. When the edge of the flock had come within 30 yards the hunters raised their guns and gave them a barrel, following it up with the remaining barrel as they rose heavily from the water. Twenty-eight geese were gathered up as the result of the shot, 24 of them the white or brant geese. The remaining four were fine specimens of that wariest of all birds of its species—the blackhead or Canadian goose. The morning's work was highly satisfactory.—Cleveland Leader.

Photographs Report Better Than Eyes.

At a meeting of the Academie des Sciences, Paris, M. Zenger exhibited two photographs which he had taken at midnight from his window, looking on the lake of Geneva and Mont Blanc. The lake and the mountain are feebly imaged on the plates, although they were both quite invisible to the eye in the darkness. It is well known that many stars, invisible to the eye, are revealed on the photographic plate, and some years ago an advertisement on the hull of the Great Eastern, at Birkenhead, which had been tarred over so as to be invisible, was quite legible in a photograph which had been taken of the vessel.—London Globe.

Modest Abbe Delile.

It is said that the French Abbe Delile once had in his household a very quick tempered relative, with whom he sometimes had animated disputes and who sometimes went so far as to throw books at the abbe. The abbe must have been a person of great amiability and self control. Once, when a particularly large and heavy volume was thrown at him, he caught it gracefully and said:

"My dear friend, I must beg of you to remember that I prefer smaller gifts."—New York Mail and Express.

The French have long been famous for their riddles, but it was an English family who lived in such an atmosphere of puzzledom that on the husband inquiring in excited accents of his wife, "Why is that door always left open?" she took on a reflective air, and after a moment's musing answered, "I give it up."

STATE OF MAINE.

OXFORD ss.
COUNTY COMMISSIONERS' COURT AND ROAD BILLS.
December Term, 1893.

COUNTY OF OXFORD
To WM. WOODSUM, County Commissioner, Dr.

1893.		
Sept. 11, to 1 day at Buckfield & Hartford on petition of J. V. Thurlow,	$ 2 50	
To travel from West Peru to Buckfield and Hartford and return, 32 miles, 8,	4 16	
Sept. 14, 15 and 16, at Fryeburg, 2 1-2 days,	6 25	
To travel from West Peru to Fryeburg and return, 130 miles, 8,	10 40	
Sept. 18, 19, 20 and 21, on inspection of township roads, 4 days, 2.50,	10 00	
To travel to and over the lakes from West Peru and return, 110 miles, 8,	8 80	
Sept. 25, 26, 27 and 28, at Norway on petition of Selectmen, 4 days, 2.50,	10 00	
To travel from West Peru to Norway and over roads and return, 110 miles, 8,	8 80	
Oct. 3, at Rumford on petition of F. B. Martin, one day,	2 50	
To travel from West Peru to Rumford and return, 20 miles, 8,	1 60	
Oct. 9 and 10, at Albany on petition of Selectmen, 2 days, 2.50,	5 00	
To travel from West Peru to Albany and return to Bryant's Pond, 48 miles, 8,	3 84	
Oct. 11 and 12, at Paris, adjourned session, 2 days, 2.50,	5 00	
To travel from Bryant's Pond to Paris and return to West Peru, 37 miles, 8,	2 96	
Oct. 16, 17, 18 and 19, at Paris and Hebron on petition of A. O. Corbett, 4 1-2 days, 2.50,	11 25	
To travel from West Peru to Paris and Hebron and return, 72 miles, 8,	5 76	
Oct. 24 and 25, at Rumford Falls on petition of Waldo Pettengill, 2 days,	5 00	
To travel from West Peru to Rumford Falls and return, 10 miles, 8,	80	
Nov. 1, at Hartford on petition of Selectmen, 1 day,	2 50	
To travel from West Peru to Hartford and return, 35 miles, 8,	2 80	
Nov. 21, at Paris, adjourned session, 1 day,	2 50	
To travel from West Peru to Paris and return, 60 miles, 8,	4 80	
Nov. 22, at Rumford Falls on petition of Waldo Pettengill, 1 day,	2 50	
To travel from West Peru to Rumford Falls and over roads, and return, 14 miles, 8,	1 12	
Nov. 28, at Rumford on petition of G. T. Thurston, 1 day,	2 50	
To travel from West Peru to Rumford and return, 14 miles, 8,	1 12	
Dec. 25, 26, 27, 28, 29 and 30, at Paris, adjourned session, 5 1-2 days, 2.50,	13 75	
To travel from West Peru to Paris and return, via rail, 100 miles, 8,	8 00	
	$146 21	

WM. WOODSUM.

COUNTY OF OXFORD
1893. To W. W. WHITMARSH, Dr.

For services as County Commissioner,		
Sept. 8, 1 day at Auburn on road case of Chase's Mills,	$ 2 50	
To 25 miles travel on same,	2 00	
Sept. 11, 1 day at Hartford on petition of J. V. Thurlow,	2 50	
To 40 miles travel from Norway to Hartford and return,	3 20	
Sept. 15 and 16, 2 days at Fryeburg inspection of Registry Office,	5 00	
To 80 miles travel from Norway to Fryeburg and return,	6 40	
Sept. 18, 19, 20 and 21, 4 days, inspection of roads in unincorporated townships,	10 00	
To 150 miles travel on same,	12 00	
Sept. 26 and 27, 2 days at Norway on petition of Selectmen,	5 00	
To 15 mile travel on same,	1 20	
Oct. 2 and 3, 2 days at Rumford on petition of Martin et als,	5 00	
To 80 miles travel from Norway to Rumford and return,	4 80	
Oct. 9 and 10, 2 days at Albany on petition of Selectmen,	5 00	
To 60 miles travel from Norway to Albany and return,	4 80	
Oct. 11, 1 day at Paris, adjourned term,	2 50	
To 10 miles travel from Norway to Paris and return,	80	
Oct. 17, 18 and 19, 3 days at Paris and Hebron on petition of A. O. Corbett,	7 50	
To 20 miles travel from Norway to Hebron and return,	1 60	
Oct. 24, 25 and 26, 3 days at Rumford Falls on petition of Waldo Pettengill,	7 50	
To 100 miles travel from Norway to Rumford Falls, via Mc. Falls,	8 00	
Oct. 31, 1 day at Hartford on petition of Selectmen,	2 50	
To 75 miles travel from Norway to Hartford and return, via Mc. Falls,	6 00	
Nov. 21, 1 day at Paris, adjourned term,	2 50	
To 10 miles travel from Norway to Paris and return,	80	
Nov. 23 and 24, 2 days at Rumford on petition of Waldo Pettengill,	5 00	
To 100 miles travel from Norway to Rumford and return, via Mc. Falls,	8 00	
Nov. 28 and 29, 2 days at Rumford on petition of G. T. Thurston et als,	5 00	
To 100 miles travel from Norway to Rumford and return, via Mc. Falls,	8 00	
Dec. 26, 27, 28, 29 and 30, 5 days at Paris, regular term,	12 50	
To 10 miles travel from Norway to Paris and return,	80	
	$148 40	

Paris, Dec. 30, 1893.

W. W. WHITMARSH.

COUNTY OF OXFORD
1893. To J. F. STEARNS, Dr.

Sept. 8 and 9, to 2 days at Auburn adjourned hearing on joint view,	$ 5 00	
Sept. 11 and 12, to 2 days at Hartford on petition of J. V. Thurlow,	5 00	
To 90 miles travel on same,	7 20	
Sept. 15, to 1 day at Fryeburg inspecting Register of Deeds Office,	2 50	
To 30 miles travel on same,	2 40	
Sept. 18, 19, 20 and 21, to 4 days inspecting unincorporated township roads,	10 00	
To 125 miles travel on same,	10 00	
Sept. 25, 26