THE OXFORD DEMOCRAT.

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At Probate Office.

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MESSENGER'S NOTICE.

OFFICE OF THE SHERIFF OF OXFORD COUNTY, STATE OF MAINE.

OXFORD ss.—Feb. 4, A. D. 1890.

This is to give Notice, that on the 4th day of Feb., A. D. 1890, a Warrant in Insolvency was issued out of the Court of Insolvency for said County of Oxford, against the estate of William H. Adams, of Norway, adjudged to be an Insolvent Debtor, on petition of said Debtor, which petition was filed on the 4th day of Feb., A. D. 1890, to which last named date interest on claims is to be computed; That the payment of any debts and the delivery and transfer of any property belonging to said debtor, to him or for his use, and the delivery and transfer of any property by him are forbidden by law; That a meeting of the Creditors of said Debtor, to prove their debts and choose one or more Assignees of his estate, will be held at a Court of Insolvency, to be holden at Paris in said County, on the 19th day of Feb., A. D. 1890, at nine o'clock in the forenoon.

Given under my hand the date first above written.

JONATHAN BLAKE, Deputy Sheriff.
as Messenger of the Court of Insolvency for said County of Oxford.

AMONG THE FARMERS.

"SPEED THE PLOW."

Correspondence on practical agricultural topics is solicited. Address all communications intended for this department to AGRICULTURAL EDITOR, Oxford Democrat, Paris, Me.

Written for the Oxford Democrat.

JAKE'S TRIUMPH.

THE (B)RIGHT SIDE OF THE PICTURE.

There's a good time coming for farmers, and it ain't very far away.
They are going to throw off their shackles and be just a trifle gay.
Did you go to the farmers' meetin'? I thought you was there in the hall;
I'm sure it was welcome tidings, and seemed to refresh us all.

I hurried a bit in the morning, you see, so I needn't be late,
But my hair was so full of hayseed I hardly could comb it straight.
The chores are an awful bother, and sometimes the ice and snow,
But it ain't always best to falter, and so I was bound to go.

The women were there, Lord bless them! They sot right side of the men;
They spoke and they read some essays, I tell you they're good with the pen.
Well, it looked kind of odd and cur'us, they didn't when I was young;
And I didn't know first if they meant it—or—perhaps they were "cranky" or "sprung."

It set us old fogies to thinkin,' and waked up the forces anew,
And sent the bleas a scootin' some payin' improvements to view.
There's always a chance to do better, there's hope in the future yet,
And I don't b'lieve in bein' bound always by the queen of all demons—Regret.

We all have to plan beforehand to have things come round in time,
But we live in an age of progress where living is called "sublime".
When the arts and the sciences mingle with Nature in grand effect,
And fetch their welcome fruitage regardless of creed or sect.

I've got all my seeds and sweet corn, they're safe from the rats and mice,
And I'm going to plant some quite early, and my garden shall all be nice;
I've got all my boxes ready, and a goodly supply of loam,
And I'll have some potatoes sprouted for new ones to eat at home.

I've made me a bran new cart-tongue and got it all ready for spring;
It's a very good time for repairin' and thinkin' of everything.
As soon as the soil is ready you see I shall sow my grain,
And I'll try to retain my patience in spite of the wind and rain.

And then there's the orchard and currants, the strawberry vines in the bed,
Where the weeds and the grass last summer were thick as the hair on your head;
Do you s'pose I'll keep borers in my trees? well, I reckon they'll have to go,
And I'm going to keep prunin' and mulchin', let apples be high or low.

We all have to plan beforehand, 'tis true, as I told you before,
And an hour or two's work in the right time is worth to the farmer a score.
If delayed till it's out of season—and saves many dollars in cash,
And oft brings a harvest of good things in place of the rubbish and trash.

The spring work is apt to be hurried unless we're prepared for the task,
And why we're behind in its duties is generally needless to ask.
The fact that we have a late season is never a reason to frown,
And "right on the spur of the moment" is not a good place to sit down.

We must always be ready for knowledge, if walking by faith or sight,
And the grange is a school for the farmer if only conducted right.
We stand very well united, but somehow divided we don't,
And where there's a will that's persuasive there's often a terrible "want."

But you know that mistakes are common to pretty much all the race;
If 'twas only a few that made them you might call it some disgrace.
We must help bear each other's burdens, if sad we must laugh and grow fat,
For we're pretty much all of us human, and some of us weak at that.

"Bad luck" is a very small matter, and doesn't imply defeat.
We all have to eat sour apples before we can relish sweet.
In coming to great enjoyment it is well that we know distress,
And before we can reach our Canaan we must pass through the wilderness.

WM. WALLACE MAXIM.

Written for the Oxford Democrat.

THE FARMER AND TAXES.

Editor Agricultural Department:

With your permission I wish to place before your readers some things that are now interesting all who have the good of the farming interests of Maine at heart. For a long time it has been manifest to all that some action was necessary to relieve the farm of some of its burdens, or farming as a business must of necessity suffer such injury as to materially check the productiveness of the farms of Maine, and drive from within her borders some of her most active and enterprising agriculturists. It seems that the time for action has now come, and there is a chance for organized effort by our farmers to produce results that shall accomplish much for the farming interests of the State, and thereby directly add to our productions and increase the incentives for carrying on other kindred industries, that each and all add to the material wealth and prosperity of our State.

A valuation commission appointed by the Governor is now in session for the purpose of correcting evils and injustices that may exist upon our valuation books. It is the wish and purpose of these commissioners to do everything in their power to help out the farms. But in order for them to accomplish anything, they must be supplied with facts that will enable them to act intelligently. This information lies in the power of farmers to give, and if these facts are not forthcoming, it will be our own fault. Let us prepare ourselves with every fact obtainable by us in relation to over-taxation of farm property, and place them before the commission in such a manner as shall enable them to see the justice of our claim, and I assure you, they will act accordingly. Let us do this, or forever after hold our peace.

A commission has also been created to examine into various methods of valuation and taxation, and if thought proper to place before the next legislature a draft of such a bill as will in their judgment, place our farms and other industries upon a more equal basis.

The Board of Agriculture at its last annual session took this matter in hand, and appointed its secretary a committee to collect all available facts in relation to farm property and present them before both commissions in such a manner and at such times as may seem to him best. And as a member of the Board I ask every farmer in old Oxford to set himself at work to help on the work which the Board has taken up, and in which the State Grange and all agricultural organizations throughout the State, heartily co-operate.

Next in importance to this collecting of facts comes the necessity for striving to place in our next legislature from our agricultural districts, only such men as thoroughly understand the necessities of our agricultural interests and have the courage to stand by their convictions. Let each man go earnestly to work within his own party to bring to the front only such men as are active, intelligent, and directly interested in the products of the soil. In this way will the road for advancement be opened out, and that industry, which is the foundation of all others in our State, receive an impetus that will add materially to all other branches in which man labors.

If you should deem this article worthy a place in your columns, I may, a little later, speak of other branches and departments in which the Board of Agriculture is interested, and which we hope may tend to place our farmers on a more even plane with other industries.

B. WALKER MCKEEN.

West Fryeburg, February 9th, 1890.

Country slaughtered and cured pork ought to be at a premium. It ought to be the rule that farmers slaughter only wholesome hogs, fed on clean food and kept in clean pens. If this were the rule, farm slaughtered pork would rule away above that of the slaughter-house. The writer knows a man who never eats pork away from home, unless he knows how the hogs were kept and fed—and there is nothing unreasonable in this, either.—Mirror.

ORCHARD MANAGEMENT.

[Paper read at the meeting of the Maine Pomological Society, at Norway, Wednesday, by Hon. Rufus Prince.]

The question of orchard management embraces a wide field, and many columns might be profitably written upon the subject, but as my invitation was only to write a short article upon the subject, I will endeavor not to make you glad twice. Many things can be done which would be called good management in one case, that would be suicidal in another. Then if one goes into orcharding as a specialty as a leading business, he must necessarily do differently from the person with a few trees, or even an acre or two, where every twig can be watched and every extra spear of grass eradicated.

Our great trotting horses only accomplish their great feats by being carefully bred and reared. What would their breeding amount to if it ended there? All would say, nothing. Not a single thing known to man is left undone to produce the results hoped for. Even then, in a large majority of cases, the fond hopes of the owners are not realized. Still if the same care was bestowed upon the fruit trees set in our State for a few years, we should see results that even the most sanguine dare not even hope for. On the contrary, thousands of fruit trees will be set in this State the coming spring, in not only run out grass land, but even where the twitch grass will in a few days weave a network of roots around the doomed tree so closely that even the leaves of the tree turn yellow with fright. If the tree survives the first year, the bark louse and borer step in and render their assistance in taking it out of its misery. The owner stands by, sees his beautiful tree die without even the first thought that he was the instigator of its death. On the contrary he thinks that his land is not adapted to orcharding. During the coming season he sees the trees of his neighbor, who cares for them as though he loved them, growing vigorously in the same kind of land as his own. He then becomes satisfied that it was not the soil, but that he was cheated in the trees. He therefore tries the trees sold by some other agent with the same result, and repeats through life. In this way thousands of dollars of the hard earned money of the farmers of our State are annually thrown away, and probably will be for years to come.

While plowing an orchard always seemed rough treatment, still I never knew one to follow it carefully who was not satisfied with its results. But plowing among fruit trees should only be done by one who loves them, one whose heart will bleed when he sees a large branch or root stripped from the trunk, as this cannot be done without permanent injury to the tree. I use my orchards largely as sheep pastures, and do the plowing with swine. In this way much fruit that prematurely drops, is eaten by a class that are not over fastidious, consequently many worms are thus destroyed. There is also another advantage in this course, which should not be overlooked, and that is where an orchard is pastured in this way and the sheep taken out a short time before gathering, much of the ripened fruit falling on the soft pasture sward will not be injured for market, while the same fruit falling on plowed land or grass stubble, would be spoiled for the market. Immediately after gathering the fruit I put swine into the orchards and soon have the pleasure of seeing them well plowed with no injury to the trees, notwithstanding the team used was strong and contrary. After the plowing is done I spread on a good coat of manure, and harrow thoroughly, and good results follow.

While I believe that no part of our country is better adapted to fruit growing than our State, still it should ever be borne in mind that no crops can be profitably raised in Maine without care and dressing, and those who try to farm in any other way are doomed to disappointment. After the trees of an orchard have become of good size they may live and bear an occasional crop of fruit without much care, still if one make any calculation upon an orchard's being profitable, he must care for it as he would his garden or corn field. If the orchards had as good care as our corn or even potato fields have; the trees as well manured, as well hoed, as our hills of corn and potatoes, our State would not only have the reputation of being a great fruit growing State, but we should be richer by millions than today. Many say that they cannot afford to purchase dressing for an orchard, still if they have cows giving milk you will see them haul load after load of meal for the cows and think nothing of it. Why? Simply because they feed the meal to-day, and to-morrow receive the income. If the income came as soon with the fruit tree as with the cow, there would be great improvement in our orchards, but the trouble is we live in a fast age in a fast country; we are in every sense of the word, a fast people—we cannot wait. If we put out a dollar to-day, we feel that we must have the returns to-morrow. We cannot wait until next year, or even until another fall, even if in the meantime we see the rich foliage, the pink blossoms, the growing fruit, all betokening a rich harvest and well-filled pocket books. In closing, let me say, let the course pursued be what it may, do not set an orchard with the idea that it will care for itself, for if you do, you are doomed to disappointment. Occasionally a tree will struggle through alone, but this is the exception, not the rule. While orcharding is without doubt at least as profitable as any part of farming, and I believe the most so, still I would not advise any one to enter into it without they had a taste for it, for the reason that if one starts who has not a real love for it, long before his orchard begins to yield solid returns he gets discouraged and neglects it, and when once neglected, seldom receives good care again.

AVOID EXTREME CROSSES.

We are only just beginning to look into the principles of breeding dairy and other stock. These are as yet not fully understood even by the few who have engaged in improving stock and developing what are called new breeds. The mass of farmers are almost entirely ignorant of them. It is found that like must be bred to like, if we would produce like—and even then we have variations, caused by various conditions and circumstances. It is by noting these variations and coupling the favorable ones that we get improvement. By breeding in-and-in animals having the same characteristics, we fix the type and establish a breed. By continuing to breed pure, and making a proper selection of the best animals to breed from, we continue the breed. This is on the principle that if we continue to sow or plant the same kind of seed, under conditions free from outside interference, we continue to get the same kind of crop; and by selecting the best seeds for propagating purposes, and growing them under favorable conditions, we secure improvement. The same principles hold good in both the animal and vegetable kingdoms; and many of our scientific men are now engaged in producing new breeds of wheat, corn, potatoes and other kinds of product. They recognize the fact that a mixture of seeds produces a hybrid; and the same is true in the animal kingdom, where crossing animals widely different renders the hybrid not only inferior but even unproductive—nature revolting against such extreme crosses. All her teachings tell us to breed pure, and to cross—if we cross at all—only such animals as have a similarity of characteristics, or a sort of family resemblance.—Mirror and Farmer.

In what sort of condition is your pig pen? Would you like to eat your dinner out of it? If it is foul, see that it is cleaned and washed. Do not put the pig's dinner into snow or on to ice. Remember how a warm meal relishes on a cold day.

Written for the Oxford Democrat.

WANDERINGS AND WONDERINGS.

I walked, I wandered,
Through many devious ways,
And as I walked I wondered,
And placidly I pondered
On scenes that met my gaze.

I faintly faltered,
Sometimes when life was best,
Where scenes were strangely altered,
And love and hate were haltered,
I stood aghast from jest.

From quiet dreamings
To many a boisterous slumbering;
My heart had many seemings,
And necromantic gleamings
Made up my mental numbering.

No thought to please me
As life was shown to view;
All actions seemed to tease me,
With nothing to appease me,
Albeit much was new.

Was it my failing?
I wondered as I wandered;
It seemed I must be ailing,
Else life had some smooth sailing
And time had not been squandered.

My mind was haunted
With many bitter things.
My hope was nearly daunted,
For some reward I panted,
Or for the *joy* it brings.

The silver lining
That hangs upon the cloud
Was nowhere shining,
In vain was my repining,
My head was sadly bowed.

A sunlight gleam,
The smallest, tiniest ray,
Poured forth its tiny stream.
To me it seemed a dream,
That it should play

Upon my head
When all was dark around;
'Twas but a feeble thread,
But how it drove the dread
Forth from my heart aground.

Oh that forever
These gloomy thoughts would go!
And oh, that never, never,
A heart string they would sever,
Or ever cause a woe!

It cannot be;
But there's a silver lining.—
Even though we cannot see,
And fierce the tempest be,
A star is shining.

A tiny star,
More precious for its size,
More valued from afar
Than nearer blessings are,
Delights to meet the eyes.

A. P. REED.

A grave offence—Body snatching.

To strengthen the hair, thicken the growth, stop its bleaching and falling out, and where it is gray to restore the youthful color, use Hall's Hair Renewer.

Almost any grocer's clerk can sell at least four brands of chewing tobacco out of a pail hidden under the counter.

"I have used Ayer's Pills for the past 30 years, and I am satisfied I should not be alive to-day if it had not been for them. They cured me of dyspepsia when all other remedies failed."—T. P. Bonner, Chester, Pa. Ayer's Pills are sold by all druggists.

When you have a cold you do not know how to cure it. All your friends know how, and they tell you, but that does not affect the cold.

WET FEET

are one of the most prolific sources of disease. We cannot always prevent this and the next best thing to do is to guard against any evil results. Adamson's Botanic Balsam will break up the cold and save doctor's bills. Pleasant to take.

Visitor—Johnny, what are you going to be when you grow up? Johnny (aged 4)—I'm goin' to be a doctor—see me kill a toad now.

SOUGHT FOR the last hundred years. A remedy for catarrh, hay fever and cold in the head found at last in Ely's Cream Balm. Safe and pleasant to use and easily applied into the nostrils. It gives relief at once and a thorough treatment positively cures. Price 50 cents.

Parson (to candidate for Sunday school)—"Have you been christened my boy?" Boy—"Yesh, shir. Got marks in three plashes on my left arm."

CARD OF THANKS.

I hereby desire to extend to all my friends my thanks for the many kindnesses extended to me during my past illness of three months from rheumatism, and I especially desire to tell them that but for Sulphur Bitters I should have been suffering still. May you never suffer what I have, is the wish of your friend, B. H. TAYLEUR.

John Hancock has been nominated for school commissioner by the Ohio Republicans. John's penmanship made him famous long ago.

DRUNKENNESS—LIQUOR HABIT—In all the World there is but one cure, Dr. Haines' Golden Specific.

It can be given in a cup of tea or coffee without the knowledge of the person taking it, effecting a speedy and permanent cure, whether the patient is a moderate drinker or an alcoholic wreck. Thousands of drunkards have been cured who have taken the Golden Specific in their coffee without their knowledge, and today believe they quit drinking of their own free will. No harmful effect results from its administration. Cure guaranteed. Send for circular and full particulars. Address in confidence, Golden Specific Co., 185 Race Street, Cincinnati, O.

He (enthusiastic dancer) — Is not waltzing delightful? Really, I think when I die I should like to waltz up to heaven. She (smiling quietly)—Take care you do not reverse and go the other way.

To Nervous Men.

If you will send your address, we will mail you our illustrated pamphlet explaining all about Dr. Dye's Celebrated Electro-Voltaic Belt and appliances, and their charming effects upon the nervous debilitated system, and how they will quickly restore you to vigor, manhood and health. If you are thus afflicted, we will send you a Belt and Appliances on a trial.
VOLTAIC BELT CO., Marshall, Mich.

There are 275 women preachers in the United States—not including the preachers who preach exclusively to women.

AFTER DANGERS OF THE "GRIP."

Boston papers facetiously remark that "La Grippe is seldom fatal unless you use all the remedies recommended for it." They are correct. The writer fully believes that the end of the "grip" victim, if he tried all the patent medicines that have adorned (?) the pages of our leading newspapers as "sure cures for La Grippe," would be like Mark Twain, who for his famous cold tried every remedy advised by friends, until his stomach became so weak he began to vomit and continued until, as he avers, "he was like to throw up his immortal soul." We notice one of the leading advertisers of the day has been conspicuous at this opportune time by the absence of any claim to cure the "grip." They certainly deserve a "chromo" and we feel like giving them a free "ad" for their compassion upon our readers. The more so for the reason that probably more people have used their remedy, that good old family medicine, Johnson's Anodyne Liniment for this foreign influenza, than all others combined. And why not? Certainly no other will relieve catarrhal colds, coughs, bronchial troubles, or neuralgic pains, as promptly as that same old Anodyne Liniment, and the above are all symptoms or results of La Grippe. Herein lie the real after dangers from this epidemic of influenza; it leaves the mucous membrane linings of the nose, throat and bronchical tubes tender and very susceptible to the catarrh, bronchial troubles and pneumonia, which come with February and March in our northern climate. We shall still pin our faith to a remedy for this after danger which acts promptly to allay inflammation; for therein lie the chief dangers from throat and lung troubles. And surely a remedy that has the friends that Johnson's Anodyne Liniment has, after eighty years' trial by a critical public, and has been used for the "grip" more extensively than all the advertised remedies, deserves, as we said, a medal, and has before it we hope a prosperous year as an octogenarian. I. S. Johnson & Co., Boston, Mass., the manufacturers, will send a valuable pamphlet free.

COUNTRY LUCK.

By JOHN HABBERTON, Author of "Helen's Babies," Etc.

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READ THE OPENING CHAPTERS AND YOU WILL CONTINUE TO THE END.

CHAPTER I.

HOW IT CAME ABOUT.

"BE SURE to look us up when you come to the city."

This invitation was extended with that delightful affectation of heartiness that a man can assume when he believes that the person invited will never avail himself of the courtesy. Fortunately for the purpose of this story, Master Philip Hayn, whom Mr. Tramlay had asked to call, was too young and too unaccustomed to the usages of polite society to regard the remark in any but its actual sense.

It would have seemed odd to any one knowing the two men and their respective stations in life. Tramlay was a New York merchant, well known and of fair standing in the iron trade. Hayn was son of the farmer at whose house the Tramlay family had passed the summer. When the Tramlays determined to exchange the late summer dust of the country for the early autumn dust of the city, it was Philip who drove the old fashioned carryall that transported them from the farm to the railway station. The head of the merchant's family was attired like a well to do business man; Philip's coat, vest and trousers were remnants of three different suits, none of recent cut. The contrast was made sharper by the easy condescension of the older man and the rather awkward deference of Philip, and it moved Mrs. Tramlay to whisper, as her husband helped her aboard the train

"Suppose he were to take you at your word, Edgar?"

The merchant shrugged his shoulders slightly, and replied, "Worse men have called upon us, my dear, without being made to feel unwelcome."

"I think 'twould be loads of fun," remarked Miss Lucia Tramlay.

Then the three, followed by smaller members of the family, occupied as many seats near windows, and nodded smiling adieus as the train started.

Philip returned their salutations, except the smiles; somehow, the departure of all these people made him feel sober. He followed the train with his eyes until it was out of sight; then he stepped into the old carryall and drove briskly homeward, declining to rein up and converse with several sidewalk loungers who manifested a willingness to converse about the departed guests. When he reached the outer edge of the little village he allowed the horses to relapse into their normal gait, which was a slow walk; he let the reins hang loosely, he leaned forward until his elbows rested upon his knees and his hat brim seemed inclined to scrape acquaintance with the dash board, then he slowly repeated:

"'Be sure to look us up when you come to the city.' You may be sure that I will."

The advent of the Tramlays at Hayn Farm had been productive of new sensations to all concerned. The younger members of the Tramlay family had at first opposed the plan of a summer on a farm; they had spent one season at Mount Desert, and part of another at Saratoga, and, as Lucia had been "out" a year, and had a sister who expected early admission to a metropolitan collection of rosebuds, against a summer in the country—the rude, comoma, real country—the protests had been earnest. But the head of the family had said he could not afford anything better; trade was dull, a man had to live within his income, etc. Besides, their mother's health was not equal to a summer in society; they would find that statement a convenient excuse when explaining the family plans to their friends.

Arrived at Hayn Farm, the objections of the juvenile Tramlays quickly disappeared. Everything was new and strange, nothing was repellent, and much was interesting and amusing, what more could they have hoped for anywhere—even in Paris! The farm was good and well managed, the rooms neat and comfortable, though old fashioned, and the people intelligent, though Miss Lucia pronounced them "awfully funny." The head of the family was one of the many farmers who "took boarders" to give his own family an opportunity to see people somewhat unlike their own circle of acquaintances—an opportunity which they seemed unlikely ever to find in any other way, had he been able to choose. The senior Hayn would have put into his spare rooms a Union Theological seminary professor with his family, but, as no such person responded to his modest advertisement, he accepted an iron merchant and family instead.

Strawberries were just ripening when the Tramlays appeared at Hayn Farm, and the little Tramlays were allowed to forage at will on the capacious old strawberry bed; then came other berries, in the brambles of which they tore their clothes and colored their lips for hours at a time. Then cherries reddened on a dozen old trees which the children were never reminded had not been planted for their especial benefit. Then the excessive yield of an orchard was theirs, so far as they could absorb it. Besides, there was a boat on a pond, and another on a little stream that emptied into the ocean not far away, and, although the Hayn boys always seemed to have work to do, they frequently could be persuaded to accompany the children to keep them from drowning themselves.

For Mrs. Tramlay, who really was an invalid, there were long drives to be taken, over roads some of which were well shaded and others commanding fine views, and it was so restful to be able to drive without special preparation in the way of dress—without, too, the necessity of scrutinizing each approaching vehicle for fear it might contain some acquaintance who ought to be recognized.

As for the head of the family, who spent only Saturdays and Sundays with his family, he seemed to find congenial society in the head of the house—a fact which at first gave his wife great uneasiness and annoyance.

"Edgar," Mrs. Tramlay would say, "you know Mr. Hayn is only a common farmer."

"He's respectable, and thoroughly understands his own business," the husband replied—"two reasons, either of which is good enough to make me like a man, unless he happens to be disagreeable. 'Common farmer!' Why, I'm only a common iron merchant, my dear."

"You're different, protested Mrs. Tramlay.

"Is it? Well, don't try to explain how, little woman, 'twill be sure to give you a headache!"

Mr. Tramlay continued to devote hours to chat with his host, pressing high priced cigars on him, and sharing the farmer's pipes and tobacco in return. He found that Hayn, like any other farmer with brains, had done some hard thinking in the thousands of days when his hands were employed at common work, and that his views of affairs in general, outside of the iron trade, were at least as sound as Tramlay's own, or those of any one whom Tramlay knew in the city.

The one irreconcilable member of the family was the elder daughter, Lucia. She was the oldest child, so she had her own way; she was pretty, so she had always been petted; she was twenty, so she knew everything that she thought worth knowing. She had long before reconstructed the world (in her own mind) just as it should be, from the standpoint that it ought to exist solely for her benefit. Not bad tempered, on the contrary cheerful and full of high spirits, she was nevertheless in perpetual protest against everything that was not exactly as she would have it, and not all the manners that careful breeding could impart could restrain the unconscious insolence peculiar to young and self satisfied natures. She would laugh loudly at table at Mrs. Hayn's way of serving an omelet, tell Mrs. Hayn's husband that his Sunday coat looked "so funny," express her mind freely before the whole household at the horrid way in which the half grown Hayn boys wore their hair, and had no hesitation in telling Philip Hayn, two years her senior, that when he came in from the field in his brown flannel shirt and gray felt hat he looked like an utter guy. But the Hayns were human, and, between pity and admiration, humanity long ago resolved to endure anything from a girl—if she is pretty.

Slowly the Hayns came to like their boarders; more slowly, but just as surely, the Tramlays learned to like their hosts. Mutual respect began at the extremes of both families. Mrs. Tramlay, being a mother and a housekeeper, became so interested in the feminine half of the family's head that she ceased to criticise her husband's interest in the old farmer. The Tramlay children wondered at and then admired the wisdom and skill of their country companions in matters not understood by city children. Last of all, Lucia found herself heartily respecting the farmer's son, and forgetting his uncouth dress and his awkwardness of manner in her wonder at his general courtesy, and his superior knowledge in some directions where she supposed she had gone as far as possible.

She had gone through a finishing school of the most approved New York type, yet Philip knew more of languages and history and science than she, when they chanced—never through her fault—to converse on such dry subjects; he knew more flowers than she had ever seen in a florist's shop in the city; and once when she had attempted to decorate the rather bare walls of the farmhouse parlor he corrected her taste with a skill which she was obliged to adult. There was nothing strange about it, except to Lucia; for city seminaries and country high schools use the same text books, and magazines and newspapers that give attention to home decorations go everywhere, nevertheless, it seemed to Lucia that she had discovered a new order of being, and by the time she had been at Hayn Farm a month she found herself occasionally surprised into treating Philip almost as if he were a gentleman.

Philip's interest in Lucia was of much quicker development. He had had no prejudices to overcome; besides, the eye is more easily approached and satisfied than the intellect, and Lucia had acceptably filled many an eye more exacting than the young farmer's. There were pretty girls in homes near Hayn farm, and more in the village near by, but none of them were—well, none were exactly like Lucia. Philip studied her face; it was neither Roman nor Grecian, and he was obliged to confess that the proportions of her features were not so good as those of some girls in the neighborhood. Her figure suggested neither perfect grace nor perfect strength; and yet whatever she did was gracefully done, and her attire, whether plain or costly, seemed part of herself—a peculiarity that he had never observed among girls born in the vicinity.

He soon discovered that she did not know everything, but whatever she did know she talked of so glibly that he could not help enjoying the position of listener. She did not often show earnestness about anything that to him was more than trifling, but when she did go out of her customary mood for a moment or two she was saintly; he could think of no other word that would do it justice. He had not liked her manner to his own mother, for at first the girl treated that estimable woman as a servant, and did it in the manner which makes most servants detest most young ladies; but had she not afterward, with her own tiny fingers, made a new Sunday bonnet for Mrs. Hayn, and had not his mother, in genuine gratitude, kissed her? Should he bear malice for what his mother had forgiven?

The young man merely admired and respected Lucia; of that he was very sure. Regard more tender he would have blamed himself for, first, because love implied matrimony, which he did not intend to venture into until he had seen more of the world and perhaps gone to college; secondly, because he did not imagine that any such sentiment would be reciprocated. He came of a family that through generations of hard experience had learned to count the cost of everything, even the affections, like most of the better country people in the older states. He had also an aversion to marriage between persons of different classes. Lucia was to him an acquaintance—not even a friend—whom he highly esteemed, that was all.

His father thought differently, and one day when the two were in the woodland belonging to the farm, loading a wagon with wood to be stored near the house for winter use, the old man said, abruptly:

"I hope you're not growin' too fond of that young woman, Phil?"

"No danger," the youth answered, promptly, though as he raised his head his eyes did not meet his father's.

"You seem to know who I mean, anyhow," said the old man, after throwing another stick of wood upon the wagon.

"Not much trouble to do that," Phil replied. "There's only one young woman."

The father laughed softly; the son blushed violently. Then the father sighed.

"That's one of the signs."

"What's a sign?—sign of what?" said Phil, affecting wonder not quite skillfully.

"When 'there's only one young woman' it's a sign the young man who thinks so is likely to consider her the only one worth thinkin' about."

"Oh, pshaw!" exclaimed Phil, attacking the woodpile with great industry.

"Easy, old boy; 'twasn't the woodpile that said it. Brace up your head; you've done nothing to be ashamed of. Besides, your old father can see through the back of your head, anyhow; he's been practicin' at it ever since you were born."

Phil seated himself on the woodpile, looked in the direction where his father was not, and said:

"I like Lucia very much. She's a new face, she's different from the girls about here. She's somebody new to talk to, and she can talk about something besides crops, and cows, and who is sick, and last Sunday's sermon, and next month's sewing society. That's all."

"Yes," said the old man. "It doesn't seem much, does it? Enough to have made millions of bad matches, though, and spoiled millions of good ones."

Phil was silent for a moment; then he said, with a laugh:

"Father, I believe you're as bad as old Mrs. Tripsey, whom mother's always laughing at because she thinks a man's in love if he sees her daughter home from prayer meeting."

"P'r'aps so, my boy—p'r'aps—and maybe as bad as you, for every time there's a bad thunder storm you're afraid the lightning'll strike the barn. Do you know why? It's because your finest colt is there. Do you see?"

Phil did not reply, so the old man continued:

"I'll make it clearer to you. You're my finest colt; there's more lightnings in a girl's eyes than I ever saw in the sky; you don't know when it's going to strike, and when it hits you you're gone before you know it."

"Much obliged. I'll see to it that I keep myself well insulated," said Phil.

Nevertheless, Phil studied Lucia whenever he had opportunity—studied her face when she read, her fingers when they busied themselves with fancy work, her manner with different persons, as it changed according to her idea of the deservings of those with whom she talked. At church he regarded her intently from the beginning of the service to its end, analyzing such portions of prayer, hymn, or sermon as did not seem to meet her views. He even allowed his gaze to follow her when she looked more than an instant at other young women, in the ignorance of his masculine heart wondering which of the features of these damsels specially interested her; his mother could have told him that Lucia was merely looking at bonnets and other articles of attire, instead of at their wearers. He wondered what she thought; he told himself where her character was at fault and how it might be improved. In short, he had ample mental leisure, and she was the newest and consequently the least understood of his various subjects of contemplation.

It is impossible to devote a great deal of thought to any subject without becoming deeply interested, even if it be unsightly, tiresome and insignificant. Lucia was none of these, for she was a pretty girl. It is equally impossible to see a familiar subject of thought in the act of disappearance without a personal sense of impending loneliness, and a wild desire to snatch it back, or at least go in search of it. Therefore, Philip Hayn needed not to be in love, or even to think himself so, to be conscious of a great vacancy in his mind as the train bore the Tramlay family rapidly toward their city home, and to determine that he would avail himself of the invitation which the head of the family had extended.

CHAPTER II.

FAMILY COUNCILS.

"HUSBAND," said Mrs. Hayn to her husband one night, when the person addressed was about to fall asleep, "something's the matter with Phil."

"A touch of malaria, I suppose, said the farmer. "He's been gettin' out muck earlier than usual, and spreadin' it on the ridge of the pasture. The sun's been pretty hot, though it is October, and the hot sun on that sort of stuff always breeds malaria."

"I wasn't talkin' of sickness, said the wife. "The dear boy's health is as good as ever. It's his mind that's out o' sorts."

"A long, soft sigh was the farmer's only reply for a moment. It was followed by the remark:

"That city gal, I s'pose—confound her!"

"I don't see what you want her confounded for; she hasn't done anythin' They don't correspond."

"I should hope not," said Hayn, with considerable vigor. He now was wide awake. "What could they write about? You don't s'pose Phil could write anythin' about our goin's-on that would interest her, do you?"

"No, but young people sometimes do find somethin' to exchange letters about. You and I didn't when we were boy and girl, because we lived within a stone's throw of each other, an' you couldn't keep away from our house after dark; but Philip and"——

"For goodness sake, old lady," interrupted the husband, don't you go to settin' yourself down at your time of life by gettin' the match makin' fever. There isn't the slightest chance that"——

"I didn't say there was; but boys will be boys."

"It doesn't follow that they should be fools, does it—not when they're our boys?"

"Tisn't bein' a fool to be interested in a rich man's daughter. I've often thought how different your life might have been if I'd had anything besides myself to give you when you married me."

"I got all I expected, and a thousand times more than I deserved." This assertion was followed by a kiss, which, though delivered in the dark, was of absolutely accurate aim.

"Don't put it into Phil's head that he can get more than a wife when he marries; 'twill do him a great deal more harm than good."

"I'd like to see the dear boy so fixed that he won't have to work so hard as you've had to do."

"Then you'll see him less of a man than his father, when he ought to be better. Isn't that rather poor business for a mother in Israel to be in, old lady?"

"Well, anyhow, I believe Phil's heart is set on makin' a trip down to York."

"Oh, is that all? Well, he's been promised it, for some day, this long while. Something's always prevented it, but I s'pose now would be as good a time as any. He deserves it; he's as good a son as man ever had."

Mrs. Hayn probably agreed with her husband as to the goodness of their son, but that was not the view of him in which she was interested just then. Said she:

"If he goes, of course he'll see her

ESTABLISHED 1823.

The Oxford Democrat.

ISSUED TUESDAYS.

PARIS, MAINE, FEBRUARY 18, 1890.

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.

NEW ADVERTISEMENTS.

We Think It Best.
Go to Pierce's.
Statement Hartford Fire Insurance Co.

ANOTHER PLUM FOR HEBRON.

Judge Bonney, President of the Board of Trustees of Hebron Academy, received last week a copy of the will of the late Mrs. Wording, widow of the late Judge Wording, whose generous gifts to the Baptists of Maine are well known and appreciated. By the provisions of Mrs. Wording's will Hebron Academy is to receive five thousand dollars from the estate. This is in addition to the forty thousand dollars recently raised for Hebron. It is a question of but little time when Hebron Academy will offer facilities and inducements to students second to no school of its class in New England. The site for the new building has been selected, the principal's house is approaching completion and work will open in the spring upon the new Academy, which will be by far the finest and costliest building ever erected in Oxford County, and we say this after a personal inspection of the architect's plans.

DESERVING OF CREDIT.

Z. B. Rawson, Esq., of South Waterford, one of the younger members of the Oxford Bar, set a good example to the young attorneys last Saturday by trying his first case in the supreme court without calling in the aid of older lawyers. The tendency on the part of the younger members of the Oxford Bar to employ more experienced attorneys to try their cases is not one which forebodes a brilliant future for the reputation of this Bar. Mr. Rawson deserves great credit for undertaking the management of his case single-handed and it is to be hoped that other young lawyers will follow his excellent example. It is far better to gain this valuable experience at a time when you are not expected to possess the wisdom of age. The attorneys who are prominent at the Oxford Bar to-day took the same bold stand at a time when it is said that nine-tenths of our cases were tried by Portland lawyers.

THANK YOU.

In our last issue we asked for a copy of the Democrat of October 8, 1889, to complete our file, thinking that some one among our subscribers might have one which they would spare. We got one. In fact we got rather more than one. At the present time our thanks are due to the following persons for their kindness and trouble in responding to our request:

Mrs. F. E. Shorey, Gorham, N. H.
C. Wight, Jr., Gilead.
W. E. Cushman, South Paris.
Charles Flint, Sweden.
Clark B. Frost, Hanover.
J. B. Daniels, Auburn.
Mrs. O. Bridgham, Buckfield.
R. D. Cummings, Locke's Mills.
Mrs. Mary Whitman, Hebron.
Hollis Turner, Peru.
W. C. Mills, Norway Lake.
Charles M. Andrews, Oxford.
A. J. Blake, Gilead.
Geo. B. Little, Colebrook, N. H.
Hon. A. P. Bonney, Buckfield.

As we need but one copy we shall return the others to their respective owners and we thank each of you for your kindness. The simple calling for a copy of a back number has demonstrated one thing, that is, the subscribers read and preserve the paper. That it is considered worthy that attention is a source of gratification to those who make it.

A MISAPPREHENSION.

The following letter from Judge Woodbury, member of the Valuation Commission for Oxford County, is of particular interest to the assessors of the different towns and should be read by them carefully:

Editor Democrat:

There seems to be a misapprehension by assesors of towns, in relation to a circular sent out by the Valuation Commission, notifying them that they could be heard in relation to their valuation. The notice was not intended as a summons to appear before the Commission, but if they had any explanation to make in relation to their valuation, which was before the Commission and sworn to, they could be heard in person or by letter in explanation. For instance; one town in Oxford County in their valuation said their valuation was on a fifty per cent basis; their cows, on the valuation book stood at $25 and $30 each and other property in the same way. I asked the assessors to explain; they wrote me that their book as itemized showed a fair cash value, but they reduced it one half for the purpose of assessment. While I should be pleased to see any of the assessors of Oxford County at Agusta, yet it is needless for towns to incur the expense of coming, unless they have a special notice from me. Further they will have to send a tabulated inventory, taken the first of April 1890 in which they can make any corrections.

E. W. WOODBURY.

SOME OF OUR OXFORD COUNTY REPRESENTATIVES.

The Boston Transcript of last week says: "Miss Anna Barrows, who has just issued a quaint and novel volume on the 'History, Literature and Folk Lore of the Egg,' is a Boston girl of a practical and sympathetic turn—a teacher in one of the Boston cooking schools, and a worker among the poor. She is a bright and vivacious little lady, and delights in storing up curious information on common things."

The D. Lothrop Company have just announced the publication of this book.

Miss Barrows is a native of Fryeburg and is now principal of the Cooking School in the Industrial Building at 39 North Bennett Street, Boston. Her classes are made up of girls and boys as well as lady teachers connected with the city schools. Some years ago, the publisher, J. R. Osgood, requested that this book should be sent to him whenever it was ready, but a busy life has prevented its completion until now. Miss Barrows is well known to our readers as the originator of the "Homemakers'" column and as a former contributor to it.

Lothrop also advertises a book by another native of Oxford—"Christmas Eve and Easter Day"—edited with notes and introduction by Heloise E. Hersey. Miss Hersey is a native of the town of Oxford and the daughter of A. L. Hersey, M. D. She is well known as a teacher, having been connected with some of the ladies' colleges.

We notice in the catalogue of paintings now on exhibition at the Art Club, Boston, "A Western Rose" and an "Idle Hour" by Miss A. B. Shepley; and a "Bit of Indian Summer" by Miss Hattie A. Pike. The daughter of Dr. R. Barrows, of Fryeburg, who married a cousin of Gen. and Judge Shepley, was the mother of the former artist, while Miss Pike is still a resident of Fryeburg.

SOUTH PARIS.

DIRECTORY.

CHURCHES.

First Congregational Church, Rev. A. G. Fitz, Pastor. On Sunday, preaching service, 10:45 A. M.; Sabbath School, 12 M.; young people's meeting, 5:30 P. M.; prayer meeting, 6:30 P. M. Wednesday prayer meeting, 7:30.

Methodist Church, Rev. W. F. Holmes, Pastor. On Sunday, preaching service, 10:45 A. M.; Sabbath School 12 M.; morning prayer meeting, 9:30 A. M.; evening prayer meeting 6:30 P. M. Tuesday prayer meeting, 7:45 P. M. Class meeting, Friday, 7:45 P. M.

Baptist Church. On Sunday, preaching service 2:30 P. M.; Sabbath School 3:30 P. 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 Monday evening in the G. A. R. Hall.

G. A. R.—W. K. Kimball Post, No. 148, meets the first and third Tuesday evenings, in G. A. R. Hall, at 7:30 P. M.

MR. H. A. FULLER is the authorized local agent and correspondent of the Democrat at South Paris and favors shown him will be appreciated by the publishers.

Single copies of the Oxford Democrat are for sale at Gerry's Drug Store, Odd Fellows' Block, South Paris.

The assembly at the Andrews House will be holden Thursday night of this week.

Will C. Libby, who has been at work for Dr. Davis, goes to Waterville to-day.

We learn that the selectmen's report is now ready for the printer and that the town makes a good financial showing.

Dwight Wise is determined to rise as a cornetist. At a reception given at Pine Street Congregational church, Lewiston, Given's Orchestra being present Dwight played a solo and was heartily applauded by the audience.

T. S. Barnes, J. H. Davis, W. S. Kyle, C. O. Lord, B. F. Andrews, H. H. Hanscom of Portland, C. F. Bird, Auburn, Hon. Rufus Prince, South Turner, Hon. George D. Bisbee, Buckfield, Ben P. Sylvester, Boston, were among the arrivals at the Andrews House last week.

H. G. Fletcher has sold one-half of his Hebron colt to E. M. Thayer. Under Ed's management we look for good results.

Harry T. Jordan is spending a few days at home.

Several yokes of fine oxen have been bought by Mr. Merrow of Lewiston.

Swasey Burnell is improving rapidly.

The dramatic club are preparing the drama Nevada.

A. F. Barrows & Son's blacksmith shop has been closed for several days on account of sickness.

Rodney N. Hall has been granted a patent on a wall bracket for staging.

The toboggan chute is in splendid condition and our young people are enjoying the sliding.

True's yard was full of teams after grain Saturday.

Samuel S. Caldwell, a native of this place, died of softening of the brain, February 12th. Mr. Caldwell did good service in the rebellion. For several years he was superintendent of J. M. Cummings' stable near the depot and was very popular among the traveling public. He was a member of Mt. Mica Lodge and an active working member of Aurora Encampment. He has many friends here who regret his unfortunate sickness and death.

The Methodist circle will be holden Wednesday afternoon and evening at Mrs. S. E. Kimball's. Supper will be furnished. All are invited.

We learn that Masonic Block is shortly to be extensively repaired.

Business matters compelled F. A. Thayer to get excused as a juryman.

L. W. Jack of Portland was in town Saturday.

J. B. Robinson and wife of Oxford spent Sunday here.

E. A. Dudley is out again.

Chas. Merrill received a valuable black horse Wednesday from Massachusetts.

Herbert Swift, taxidermist, has set up some fine deer's heads for A. M. Gerry and F. W. Bonney.

Mr. I. T. Stetson of Sumner has recently visited his daughter, Mrs. F. C. Merrill.

Tuesday evening the 25th the Congregational circle will give an interesting entertainment, a fish and clam chowder supper. The programme and hour of supper will be announced next week.

Rev. Mr. Root of High Street Congregational church, Auburn, will lecture at the Congregational church here next Friday evening, February 21st. The subject, "Our Country, its Perils and Possibilities". The proceeds will go to the high school.

Since recovering from her sickness Miss Alice Merrill has had trouble with her eyes. She accompanied Dr. Rounds to Dr. Donovan's office Monday.

Saturday morning was the slipperiest one for the winter.

The large boarding house at Mechanic Falls owned by John Whitman, of this place, was burned Thursday morning.

School on Elm Hill closes this week Friday.

Many farmers have finished their winter's sledding.

Call early and get a sample bottle of cologne at F. A. Shurtleff's drug store.

Mr. F. C. Merrill has commenced shipping goods West. This promises to be a very busy season at his foundry.

The large number of dry goods boxes on the sidewalk front of Odd Fellows' Block signifies that the proprietor, C. W. Bowker, has been to market, and his stock of fancy and dress goods eclipses any of his former stocks.

Hon. G. A. Wilson, J. H. Stuart, J. A. Kenney and A. C. T. King attended the meeting of Dunlap Council at Lewiston last Tuesday evening.

A. E. Witham started for Chicago Thursday.

J. F. Howland visited the Mountain View Farm last week.

Our liquor agency has been closed.

THE WEEK IN MAINE.

THE MOST IMPORTANT STATE NEWS BRIEFLY TOLD.

Boston icemen have come to the Saco for their ice.

The Lidback Manufacturing Co., Portland, has gone into insolvency.

A railroad is being pushed from Rockland to Camden, connecting with the Knox & Lincoln.

Claus Spreckles has appointed a Portland selling-agent for his anti-combination refined sugar.

The Bath firebug still continues at work. A reward of $500 has been offered for his arrest and conviction.

Delano's plaining mill and lumber yard on Fore Street, Portland, were burned Monday night. Loss about $15,000.

The Penobscot grand jury failed to indict the Bangor rumsellers against whom an abundance of evidence was furnished.

The conductors of the Maine Chautauqua Union met last week to arrange a programme for next summer's meeting at Martha's Grove, Fryeburg.

Isaac Sawtelle, arrested in Portland last week, was wanted to answer to the charge of being concerned in his brother's murder at Rochester, N. H. a few weeks since.

From July 15, 1887, until Jan. 6, 1890, Maine had no fires where the loss was over $75,000. Since then we have had three fires, in each which the loss was $100,000 or more.

McWilliams, on trial in Lewiston for killing his wife, was found guilty of murder in the first degree. The defence was insanity, which was not supported by the testimony of experts.

Fire destroyed the building called Wingate Hall, formerly called White, at the Maine State College at Orono, Feb. 9th. The building cost $20,000 and was insured for $10,000. Some furniture was saved from the ground floor, but several students who lodged on the upper floor lost everything.

The Nelsons, man and horse, and the stallion Alcryon and his owner were last week suspended from the privileges of the National Trotting Association, in consequence of charges of fraud in connection with the Beacon Park race last fall. This means that Nelson can not start a horse in a race under the national association rules, during the present year.

NORWAY.

DIRECTORY.

CHURCHES.

Universalist Church, Rev. Caroline E. Angell, Pastor. Preaching service on Sunday, at 2 P. 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., Tuesday; regular weekly Prayer Meeting, 7:30 P. M., Friday.

Methodist Church, Rev. I. G. Ross, Pastor. Preaching Service, 10:30 A. M.; Sabbath School, 12:00 M.; Social Evening Meeting, 7:00 P. M.; Wednesday Prayer Meeting, 7:30 P. M.; Class Meeting, Friday, 7:30 P. M.

Baptist Church, Rev. C. E. Harlen, Pastor. Preaching service at 2:00, 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.

I. O. O. F.—Regular meeting in Odd Fellows' Hall, every Tuesday Evening. Wibley Encampment, No. 21, meets in Odd Fellows' Hall, second and fourth Friday Evenings of each month.

R. of P.—Regular meeting in Hathaway Block, every Thursday Evening.

I. O. G. T.—In Grange Hall, every Saturday Evening.

G. A. R.—Harry Rust Post, No. 54, meets in New Grange Hall on the third Friday Evening of each month.

U. O. G. C.—Meets the first and third Friday evenings of each month.

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

Norway Light Infantry.—Regular meetings 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.

The ladies of the Baptist church organized their circle this week with the following officers:

President, Mrs. George W. Hazelton.
Vice President, Mrs. Charles A. Hemminway.
Treasurer, Mrs. Fred W. Bonney.
Secretary, Mrs. F. Q. Elliott.

The entertainment given at the Opera House by the Elite Concert Company of Portland was a first class concert. The company is under the management of Mr. George B. Barstow.

The sociable given at Ryerson Hall by Rustfield Lodge, I. O. G. T., Wednesday evening was largely attended. Songs, speeches and plays after the supper took up the evening most pleasantly.

Samuel S. Caldwell died Wednesday of softening of the brain. Mr. Caldwell had been sick for a long time. He was a member of the First Pennsylvania Rifles and did good service in the late war. He was a member of Mount Mica Lodge, No. 17, I. O. O. F., of his native town, Paris.

Mrs. Fred E. Drake and sister, Miss Carrie Hayden, are visiting in Boston this week.

Albert M. Penley, Grand King of Lewiston, visited Union Royal Arch Chapter Friday evening. Work Royal Arch.

Smiley Brothers are determined to close their winter stock and have had another mark down.

P. W. Waldron, Esq., representing the Maine and New Brunswick Insurance Commpany of Portland and H. A. Bridgman of Bangor, Superintendent of Agencies of that company were in town Thursday.

C. B. Cummings & Sons have leased the saw mill at the outlet of the lake and are putting in considerable pine timber.

Ira Moulton and Charles S. Akers were the two extra jurors drawn this week. Owing to business relations Mr. Akers was excused by Judge Emery from service.

J. Orin Smith of Harrison and Z. B. Rawson of North Waterford were in town this week on legal business.

A special meeting of Oxford Council was held Thursday evening for the exemplification of the work.

The high school students are arranging for a public entertainment in the near future. If we can judge from the past it will be one of merit. Proceeds to be added to the gymnasium fund.

Mrs. Freeland Howe has been confined to the house with the prevailing distemper, la grippe.

Silver Grays will hold forth at the Opera House Wednesday evening, the 19th. A grand affair is anticipated.

A party of our young people attended the masquerade ball at Paris Hill Wednesday evening. They report an excellent time.

A masquerade ball will be given at Norway Opera House Friday evening, the 21st inst., by Hose Company, No. 1. Admission 25 cents.

Two of W. H. Warren's four horse teams hauled from this village to South Paris 7,125 feet of green hard wood timber in the log this week. Pretty big story but a true one nevertheless.

Mr. Seth Fife and wife of Fryeburg were in town Thursday. They were returning from a trip to Augusta by team.

The selectmen are making up their report for the year.

The Ladies' Congregational Circle will give a supper in the vestry of the church Tuesday evening, the 18th. After the supper a sociable will be in order.

The appointment of Lucius I. Bartlett as postmaster in this place gives unqualified satisfaction to the patrons of the office. Mr. Bartlett was the choice of the caucus called to nominate a candidate for the position. Al J. Rowe the outgoing postmaster has been a faithful and eminently successful officer for the past four years. Mr. Rowe retires with the honor of having kept the best office for years.

At the Friday evening meeting of the Society of Christian Endeavor at the Congregational church the following officers were elected for the ensuing six months:

President, Horace Sanborn.
Vice President, Isabel Hillier.
Secretary and Treasurer, Mrs. Thomas Smiley.
Chairmen of Committees,—Lookout, Prof. M. H. Small.
Prayer meeting, J. S. Smiley.
Social, Thomas Smiley.
Missionary, Rev. B. S. Rideout.

Quite a large company attended the drill and ball given by the Norway Light Infantry at Dunham's Hall, West Paris, Friday evening.

Judge William Wirt Virgin of Portland is visiting at George A. Cole's this week.

Edwin W. Howe who died at his residence on Bridge Street Monday was the oldest merchant in the place. He so far recovered from the paralytic shock as to be able to walk from his house to the store but a few days before his disease. At one time he was engaged with his brother Jeremiah in the manufacture of shoes. Mr. Howe's first wife was the daughter of the late Ezra Beal, and the family consisted of two sons, Charles W., who is now postmaster at Rochester, N. H., and Frank H., who is engaged in the drug business in Allston, Mass. His second, who survives him, was Mrs. Abba D. Hill of Wiscasset. In religion Mr. Howe was a Universalist and in politics a Republican. He was a member of Norway Lodge, I. O. O. F., No. 16, and carried the insurance connected therewith amounting to $1500. The funeral services were conducted by Rev. Miss Angell during which time the business places were closed. Norway Lodge attended in a body. The remains were placed in Pine Grove Cemetery.

Read Smiley Brothers' advertisement. It will pay.

FIRE AT MECHANIC FALLS.

Thursday morning fire was discovered in H. N. Nelson's boarding house at Mechanic Falls, a large two story building on a corner, close by several shops and stables. The people naturally felt alarm and sent to Portland, Lewiston and Auburn for help, but before trains from either place started the fire was under control. Miss Clara Nelson, sleeping on the upper floor, came near being suffocated. The owners of stores began to move their goods, but the streams from the big pumps in the Poland paper mills soon showed that they were enough for the flames and the excitement subsided. The fire was confined to the boarding house owned by John Whitman of Paris. Loss on building $3,000; insured for $2,000. Mr. Nelson lost a portion of his household goods; insured for $500.

No cracked or chapped hands with Brussels soap.

Being delicately perfumed, and as fine as satin, Brussels soap though not high priced is one of the best soaps for the bath or toilet.

NEVER FELT BETTER IN MY LIFE.

I. M. Cottrell, of the firm of Cottrell Bros., poultry raisers, Belfast, Me., says: "I was not feeling well this spring, had no appetite, afflicted at times with severe headache. Have taken but one bottle of Dana's Sarsaparilla and have not had the headache since. I never felt better in my life."

THE SUPREME COURT.

CONSIDERABLE BUSINESS DISPOSED OF THE FIRST WEEK.

COURT OFFICERS.

Hon. L. A. Emery,.....Presiding Justice.
Albert S. Austin,.....Clerk.
Oscar H. Hersey,.....County Attorney.
Cyrus M. Wormell,.....Sheriff.
Henry E. Hammond,.....Crier.
Samuel R. Carter,.....Librarian.
William A. Barrows,.....Messenger.

FIRST JURY.

Hiram D. Abbott, Andover, Foreman.
Asa Atwood, Buckfield.
Adelbert Delano, Canton.
Eben E. Chapman, Gilead.
Rufus Farrar, Jr., Grafton.
Chas. S. Cummings, Norway.
Timothy W. Cleasby, Paris.
Dana W. Goding, Peru.
John H. Barker, Rumford.
David Andrews, Sumner.
Cyrus S. Greene, Waterford.
S. C. Davis, Woodstock.

SECOND JURY.

James Smith, Norway, Foreman.
E. P. Grover, Bethel.
William O. Holt, Bethel.
Thomas C. Walker, Brownfield.
Ira C. Jordan, Greenwood.
Peter B. Young, Hiram.
Robert Reed, Mexico.
S. P. Stewart, Oxford.
Albion Moody, Stoneham.
Aaron Libby, Sweden.
Edmund S. Dean, Paris.
Ira Moulton, Norway.

The courts of law grind slowly,
But they grind both great and small;
Though a multitude stands waiting,
Yet they grind at last for all.

The February term of the Supreme Judicial Court for the county of Oxford convened at Paris on Tuesday, the 11th.

The presiding justice for this term is Hon. L. A. Emery of Ellsworth, formerly a law partner of Hon. Eugene Hale, one of our distinguished Senators.

The first day was consumed as usual in empaneling the juries and arranging the trial list.

The following jurymen were excused: Stephen Charles of Fryeburg, on account of inability to attend; Henry C. Ricker of Hartford, on account of sickness in his family; Sampson H. Harriman of Lovell, on account of very urgent business; Frank A. Thayer, Paris, on the same ground. C. S. Akers and I. Moulton of Norway, and Edmund S. Dean and Charles W. Chase of Paris, were summoned as jurymen on special venires.

Judge Emery expressed his intention at the opening of the session, that the law business of the county, transacted through its courts, should be managed upon business principles. He informed the bar that if any member had failed to have put upon the trial list at its completion any cause which he wished to have tried at this session, he could not thereafter claim trial as of right, but must secure it by consent, if at all. After the assignment of the cases, he paid them the high compliment that they had shown more promptitude, and willingness to arrange the cases for trial, than he had met with at any other term of court over which he had presided since he had been on the bench.

The first cause for trial was an action of assumpsit brought by George H. Pitcher of Bridgton against E. C. Wheeler et als, and Tibbetts Mfg. Co., trustees. Judge Frye of Bethel was original counsel for the plaintiff. After he stated the case to the jury, Mr. Swasey took charge. Judge G. C. Wing of Auburn was counsel for the defendants.

It was claimed by counsel for the plaintiff that the latter had been employed by the defendants as a traveling salesman at a salary of $1,200 per year, commencing Jan. 1st, 1888; and that the monthly payment of $100 had not been paid for the month of December; and to this was added a charge of $3.00, cost of fare from Boston to Portland.

It appeared from the plaintiff's testimony that during the latter part of 1887 he had traveled for the defendants, a Boston dry goods firm, on commission, and with the first of January was engaged for a year, at a salary of $1,200; that he continued to travel until the last of November, when the defendants told him he had better not travel during December, as trade was dull; that he accordingly returned to Maine, and the first of January sent in his expense books, expecting to receive his month's salary. Hearing nothing from the firm, he wrote them the same month, but getting no response, brought suit.

The defence claimed that while Mr. Pitcher was engaged for a year, the contract was conditional, and that the defendants reserved the right to dismiss him when his services were not satisfactory; that he was frequently told during the year that he was not doing as much as was expected; that finally, the last of November, they showed him that the profits from his sales for the eleven months did not amount to his salary and expenses, and they could not afford to employ him longer. They supposed this settled the matter, and denied hearing from Mr. Pitcher thereafter until they received notice of the suit.

Judge Emery told the jury that there was but one question upon which they were to decide. What were the terms of Mr. Pitcher's employment? If employed unconditionally for a year, the plaintiff is entitled to a verdict. If the defendants reserved the right they claimed, and informed Mr. Pitcher that they could not continue to employ him, then they are entitled to a verdict.

The jury were out part of the afternoon and all night, and part of the next forenoon, but could not agree.

The grand jury having found several indictments, were discharged Friday morning.

Gilbert Chick, bound over from a justice court, was discharged on the motion of Mr. Hersey, as the grand jury did not find a bill against him.

Wm. C. Johnson, alias Bailey, of Boston, Mass., was indicted for breaking and entering and larceny in the store of Alpheus S. Bean of Bethel. He plead guilty.

George L. Thurlow of Riley Plantation was indicted for breaking and entering and larceny in the store of George J. Hapgood of Bethel. Plead guilty.

Wm. F. Walker of Boston was also indicted for breaking and entering and larceny in this same store. Plead guilty. The prisoners were remanded until Saturday at 4 P. M.

Mr. Foster Jackson, of Norway, having been summoned before the grand jury, failed to appear. County Attorney Hersey promptly had him brought before the court. When asked to give an explanation of his conduct, he replied that he was willing to come but his father told him not to. The Judge said that without doubt he was guilty of contempt of court, but inasmuch as he was a young man the court would be more lenient and impose a small fine this time; yet enough to remind him and *others* that the *processes of this court are not to be trifled with.* He was fined $10 00 and costs, in all $15 06.

The second cause that came to trial was an action of assault and battery. Plaintiff, Mary E. J. Tobin, defendant, George G. Whitman. Counsel for plaintiff, Mr. Wright; for defendant Messrs. Bearce & Stearns. Mr. Stearns was necessarily absent. Mr. Swasey was associated with Mr. Bearce on the case, and made the argument.

Mrs. Tobin owns a farm in Paris. This and the appurtenances she leased to Mr. Whitman for one year it was claimed by the plaintiff, on the 21st of Nov. 1887. He was also to have the use of her horse for a year. The lease was never fully executed, for Mrs. Tobin refused to sign it until Mr. Whitman had stated in it the amount he was to pay for the use of the place. But plaintiff claimed that tenancy began on November 21st, the date mentioned in the lease.

On the morning of November 22nd, the day after the tenancy would have expired under the lease had it been duly executed, Mrs. Tobin went into the stable upon her premises, and with the assistance of Mr. James Twitchell, was harnessing the horse. Mr. Whitman came in and asked what she was going to do with it. She said she wished to use him. Mr. Whitman said he did also. He attempted to lead the horse into the stall. Mrs. Tobin resisted. A scuffle ensued; and it is alleged by the plaintiff that Mr. Whitman intentionally, unlawfully, and with force and violence, jammed, struck, punched with his elbows, and choked Mrs. Tobin, thereby causing her pain, bodily injury and mental suffering.

The plaintiff claimed that, though, as no lease had been executed, Mr. Whitman held the farm and appurtenances by tenancy at will, and could not be ousted except by 30 days' notice, yet he did not hold the horse, which was personal property, by any such tenancy, and Mrs. Tobin was entitled to possession on the morning of Nov. 22d, and so Mr. Whitman was a trespasser when he intefered with that possession. The defense claimed that Mr. Whitman did not take possession until Nov. 28th, and as no lease had been executed, the tenancy began then; that the horse was in his possession upon the same terms as the farm, and therefore he had a right to possession on Nov. 22d; that he used no more force than was necessary to defend his right to possession of the horse, and that no real damage was done to Mrs. Tobin. Defense claimed that it was a "put up job," on the part of Mrs. Tobin, to get Mr. Whitman into trouble and make him pay for it.

The judge charged the jury that they must determine whether or not any separate trade was made in regard to the horse. Who was entitled to the possession of it? If Mr. Whitman was, then he was not guilty of an assault unless he used more force than was neccessary to defend that possession; if he was not then he was guilty if he used any force. As to damages, the jury should take into consideration bodily injury, pain and mental suffering if they found the plaintiff entitled to damages. The jury returned a verdict for the plaintiff and damages of $1.00.

Daniel Clark vs. Daniel Morrill.
Bearce & Stearns. Herrick.
Verdict for defendant.

Freeman Stanley vs. Parris Page.
Rawson. Swasey.
Verdict for plaintiff, full amount sued for.

On trial: James McDonald vs. Hillier.
Herrick. Swasey.

NOTES.

Excellent portraits of Charles E. Holt, Esq., and Capt. Seward S. Stearns of Norway, have been placed in the Oxford Law Library.

Of the twelve men on the first panel only two are smokers.

CONDENSED NEWS.

Sunday, Feb. 9.

St. James hotel at Mansfield, O., was burned Saturday.

It is reported that Emin Pasha has decided to go to Europe.

Pilot boat Caprice was wrecked in New York bay on Saturday.

Hugh Farrar McDermott, the poet and editor, is dangerously ill.

Count Valonieff, formerly Russian minister of the interior, is dead.

St. Louis pool room proprietors claim to have been swindled out of $18,000 by a gang of conspirators.

Boston police raided Chinese gambling houses on Sunday and captured sixteen "fan-tan" players.

An explosion in the St. Paul gas works on Saturday, killed two men and seriously injured several others.

Joseph Carr, a private detective, was shot and killed in Kansas City, Saturday, by Ed Findlay, a politician.

The London Daily Chronicle's Berlin correspondent says that Maj. Wissmann's troops in East Africa will be doubled.

Miss Emily Herald of Ottawa, Ont., has petitioned for an annulment of her "mock" marriage with Percy Walker of Brooklyn.

Many gifts, including a piano, have been received for Sister Rose Gertrude, the nun who is on her way to the leper colony at Milokai.

The Russian government has perfected the scheme for a Siberian railway. It will be 4775 miles in length and is expected to cost $170,000,000.

Monday, Feb. 10.

There is a report that the government is soon to pardon all army deserters.

The Rothschilds have contracted for a Hungarian loan of 50,000,000 florins.

Planters' house, St. Louis' famous hotel, was on Saturday closed by the sheriff.

Charles Hollister, aged 55, fell down stairs Sunday at Hartford and broke his neck.

The losses by flood at Los Angeles, Cal., are much greater than was at first estimated.

There is talk of a suit for damages against Mary Anderson by Abbey, Schoffel and Gran.

Emperor William's proposal for an international labor congress is being coldly received.

"Emancipation day" was celebrated by Indian pupils of the Carlisle, Pa., training school.

The National Bank fur Deuscthland of Berlin has added 9,000,000 marks to its capital.

Fears are felt for the safety of the steamship Resolute, a number of days overdue at Belfast.

The steamer G. W. Jones, at Boston, from Cuba, had a rough voyage and lost much of her cargo.

The Boston Public library secured the Massachusetts Colony Records at the sale of the Barlow collection.

A Catholic priest of Milford, Pa., was arrested and fined, Saturday, for cruelty to his 12-year-old nephew.

A prisoner confined in the Schenectady, N.Y., jail, for complicity in the Bechtel murder, has made a confession.

A steamship seen to go down at sea, is believed to have been the Camerada, with a crew of twenty-two men.

The owners of the American vessels seized off the San Blas coast will demand damages of the Colombian government.

The attention of the English government has been called to the boycotting of English subjects by the Portuguese.

Sufficient strength is claimed in the North Dakota legislature to defeat a passage of the lottery bill over the governor's veto.

The funeral of Gen. Salamanca, the late captain general of Cuba, took place in Havana, Sunday, with impressive ceremonies. The route from the palace to the cemetery was lined with troops, and due military honors were paid to the deceased.

Tuesday, Feb. 11.

It is reported that the coffee harvest in Java will be bad.

Coal producers are beginning to cut prices on domestic sizes.

Cardinal Jacobini has had a relapse and is in a dangerous condition.

The two parties have not settled how long to debate the new house rules.

The proposal to have £1 notes issued by the Bank of England has been given up.

Ruth Woods died in Lancaster, Pa., Sunday, at the well-authenticated age of 107.

Chauncey M. Depew has proposed a compromise in the World's fair deadlock at Albany.

The Hartford Base Ball club is to formally apply for readmission to the Atlantic association.

The Abington, Mass., almshouse and a schoolhouse were burned at Medway, Mass., Monday.

The Shelby Iron company, of Shelby, Ala., has been sold by Hartford people to a New York syndicate.

"Bob" Cook, Yale's veteran coach, wants to see a race between the 'varsity crew and the Atlanta eight.

Republican leaders are planning to retain control of the Fifty-second congress by 7 means of a reappointment.

Late news from Brazil reports all quiet, but their is an evident uneasiness over the result of the election.

The Cologne Gazette has advices from Sofia that a counter-plot has been formed there to "remove" Panitza.

Gen. Clarkson ridicules the story that the Louisiana lottery contributed to the funds of the national Republican committee.

Naval officers at Mare Island showed astonishing disrespect by holding a ball while Secretary Tracy was in deep affliction.

The strike of the tin workers at Birmingham, Eng., has been settled. The masters have conceded the demands of the men.

John B. Winslow, for forty-four years actively connected with the Boston and Lowell railway, died in Boston, Monday.

Wednesday, Feb. 12.

A fire at Huntington, W. Va., Tuesday, did $75,000 damage.

The recent heavy rains caused enormous landslides in Benton county, Ore.

The Buffalo Base Ball club has lost its International association franchise.

A conference of leaders of the Labor party has been called to meet at Kansas City, Feb. 26.

A society of the Sons of the American Revolution was organized in New York Tuesday.

The scheme to utilize the vast power stored in the waters of Niagara river has been put in practical shape.

An appeal is made for aid for the Devil's Lake Indians, who are represented to be extremely destitute.

Mr. Blaine recommends the removal of the duty on raw sugar as a concession to the South Americans.

The protest of Chief Justice Corliss of North Dakota against the enactment of the lottery bill is emphatic, clear and convincing.

Thursday, Feb. 13.

Secretary Tracy's health is in a precarious condition.

Recorder Bruce is attacked by an army of office-seekers.

National greenback clubs is the latest political proposition.

Walt Whitman contemplates a trip to California in the spring.

Schooner Isaac A. Chapman and a crew of seven is given up for lost.

Six Democratic senators of Montana have fled to Oregon to avoid arrest.

The report that the Cleveland and Detroit Base Ball clubs are to combine is denied.

German societies have withdrawn their decision to order a general strike in May.

Senator Frye has about completed his bill for adjusting the Union Pacific railroad debt.

London papers take partisan views of Tuesday night's debate in the house of commons.

An English syndicate is negotiating for valuable mill property at Spokane Falls, Wash.

William Hennessy pleaded guilty, Wednesday, at Boston, to manslaughter in killing his wife.

Governor Bulkeley rejects the re-election of discharged captains of Hartford militia companies.

Charles Bennett, the well known catcher, has signed to play with the Boston National league club.

The report of the Parnell commission probably will be presented in the British parliament to-day.

Pitcher Gruber of the Cleveland Players' club is to stand by his agreement with that organization.

Representative Lester of Georgia left the Riggs house, Washington, because it entertains colored guests.

Republicans and Democrats are striving for political advantage in the next election of members of congress.

Cooper & Hewitt reopened their iron works in Warren county, N. J., Wednesday, after two years' suspension.

The semi-annual meeting and banquet of the Rhode Island Harvard club was held in Narragansett hotel, Providence, Wednesday evening, about thirty persons sitting at the table.

Friday, Feb. 14.

There was a $500,000 fire in Chicago, Thursday.

Two of Montana's fugitive Democratic senators are at St. Paul.

The British corvette Conquest is ashore on an island near Zanzibar.

A Hamburg paper advocates the recognition of Prince Alexander.

William Eyges, a peller, has been missing from Boston since Dec. 28.

Chinese telegraph lines will soon connect with Russian and French lines.

The Manitoba legislature has abolished the official use of the French language.

The English government indicates it is intention to abandon free education.

Emperor William's labor conference is expected to meet within two months.

Republicans of the New York senate are putting through the ballot reform bill.

A thief was caught in the act of robbing St. Paul's church, New York, Thursday.

The Riverside mills, Providence, have been leased to three trustees of the creditors.

Republican journals in Paris approve the sentence imposed on the Duke of Orleans.

The steamer Domira, supposed to have been lost, arrived at Baltimore Thursday.

Nashua, N. H., strikers are still firm and enthusiastic and determined to remain out.

Justice Harlan's plan for the relief of the United States supreme court is favorably considered.

Maj. Panitza has confessed that he tried to remove Prince Alexander, but denies Russian instigation.

Hon. Frederick L. Burden has had a third shock of paralysis, and is considered in a critical condition.

At Boston, Thursday, William Hennessey was sentenced to ten years in state prison for killing his wife.

One person was killed and four injured by the explosion of a locomotive boiler near Pittsburg, Thursday.

A sunken scallop boat has been discovered in Buzzard's bay. There are fears that the crew have been drowned.

Saturday, Feb. 16.

The reported riot and bloodshed at Harper, Kan., was a falsehood.

Catcher Morgan Murphy has signed with the Boston Players' League club.

Speaker Husted says the World's fair bill is dead beyond recovery at Albany.

The condition of Mrs. Harriet Beecher Stowe is said to be less serious than reported.

One person was killed and four injured by a railroad accident at Bellevue, O., Friday.

Democratic leaders in congress complain of the poor attendance of their party friends.

A proposal for an American exhibition at the West End, London, is favorably received.

German Liberal papers criticise the emperor's state council for considering the labor rescript.

Kennebec river ice men are afraid that the prevailing warm weather will injure their harvest.

Twelve persons were drowned at Pontivy, France, Thursday, a wedding party being thrown into the river.

No decision

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 12 M.

"Mark Tapley" attended court here last week.

Mr. A. W. Grover of West Bethel was at Paris Friday.

Mr. William Hammond of Andover, Mass., is in town.

H. L. Horne, Esq., of Norway, was at the Hill Tuesday.

W. E. Cushman of South Paris was at the Hill Saturday.

Miss Annie Thayer, of Limington, has been visiting relatives in town.

The County Commissioners were in session Tuesday and Wednesday.

William J. Wheeler, Esq., of South Paris, attended court Wednesday.

Mrs. Ephraim Childs of Canton Point was at Paris last week with her husband who is on the grand jury.

A. S. Shaw, one of Canton's popular merchants, and Charles A. Mendall, Esq., who is reading law in the office of Hon. John P. Swasey, were at the Hill last Tuesday.

Business men who contemplate any change in their office will be interested in the new catalogue which is published by Paine's Furniture Co., 48 Canal Street, Boston, containing forty-five new engravings of their latest styles of office and bank furniture. Their prices are the lowest on such work.

A meeting of the Paris Literary and Social Circle will be held at the vestry of the Baptist church this Monday afternoon and evening. A supper will be served at six o'clock, and in the evening the poet Whittier will be considered, consisting of a sketch of his life and poetry, with selections from his works. There will also be music. All are invited.

A newspaper in another part of the state chronicles the fact that it has received its first bunch of arbutus buds for the season, picked in January. The writer, or any one else, might have had quantities of arbutus buds last November, by taking the trouble to pick them. The buds form in the fall, and are not difficult to find, but to get them open before spring—there's the rub.

Paris Hill always takes hold of a masquerade well, and the one last week was no exception. Spectators as well as maskers were present in numbers, and all available seats were filled to overflowing. About forty in bright costumes and masks entered the hall at a little past eight for the grand march. The costumes were attractive and many of them quite elaborate, though they lacked something of the variety of those worn last winter. The maskers and the characters assumed were as follows:

Mrs. J. F. Stanley,	Tulip.
Miss Maggie Stanley,	Wild Rose.
Miss Daisy Austin,	Peasant Girl.
Miss Marion Austin,	Irish Girl.
Miss Eva Austin,	Little Red Riding Hood.
Miss Hattie Crocker,	Bo-peep.
Mrs. O. A. Tharer,	Mrs. Winslow.
Miss Cara Tharer,	Flower Girl.
Mrs. J. Pierce,	Little Miss Muffit.
Miss Clara Bates,	Oxford Democrat.
Miss Grace Harlow,	Crusader.
Miss Gertrude Harlow,	Crusader.
Miss Winnie Willis,	Quakeress.
Miss Millie Willis,	The Wild West.
Miss Mary Newell,	Nancy Nettleout.
Miss Hattie Andrews,	Wild Rose.
Miss H. H. Cummings,	Fortune Teller.
Miss Ella Taylor,	Crusader.
Mrs. G. W. Cole, Jr.,	School Girl.
Miss Ella Chandler,	School Girl.
Miss Stella Davis,	Flower Girl.
Miss Hattie Barker,	Folly.
Miss Mary I. Mellen,	Rebecca.
Mrs. C. H. Tharer,	Whist.
Miss Clara Thayer,	Rainbow.
Miss Jennie Cole,	Fancy Dress.
Miss Lizzie Whitmarsh,	Fancy Dress.
O. A. Tharer,	Irishman.
John Pierce,	English swell.
J. F. Stanley,	Pat Leroy.
A. S. Hall,	Darkey.
W. E. Cushman,	Dress suit.
F. E. Hammond,	Soldier.
L. S. Bartlett,	Fish Tush.
Harry Jones,	Old lady.
Freeland Howe, Jr.,	Lady's costume.
T. A. Crocker,	Susan B. Anthony.
A. E. Foster,	Winter.
W. H. Cummings,	Countryman.
Jarvis M. Thayer,	Darkey.

Refreshments, consisting of coffee, cake and ice cream, were served at intermission. The party broke up a little after eleven, and all seemed to have had an enjoyable time. $20.50 was cleared for the sidewalk fund. This fund now amounts to about fifty dollars.

BITS OF WASHINGTON NEWS.

Rodney N. Hall, Paris, has been granted a patent on his folding wall bracket for carpenters.

The pension of Arthur M. Bean, East Bethel, has been increased.

Lucius I. Bartlett has been appointed postmaster at Norway.

Arrivals at the Hubbard House for the week ending Feb. 15:

William Woodsum, Peru.
John E. Trask, Dixfield.
Henry M. Culley, Rumford.
A. F. Herrick, Bethel.
O. H. Hersey, Buckfield.
John S. Barlow, Dixfield.
John B. Young, Hiram.
John A. Twaddle, Bethel.
I. C. Jordan, Greenwood.
W. O. Holt, Bethel.
Henry C. Barker, Bethel.
C. J. Happgood, Bethel.
Rufus Farrar, Jr., Grafton.
Asa Atwood, Buckfield.
Hilon McAllister, Stoneham.
Elery C. Park, Bethel.
S. A. Barrows, Canton.
F. Cordbroan, Sugar Falls.
E. F. Stone, South Paris.
Geo. A. Wilson, South Paris.
C. E. Holt, Norway.
H. M. Brayce, Norway.
Geo. D. Risbee, Buckfield.
J. L. Parker, Stoneham.
S. R. Hutchins, Rumford.
Noel F. Smith, Bangor.
George C. Wing, Auburn.
F. O. Wheeler, Boston.
A. Pitts, Boston.
Albert Ames, Hartford.
Ira Moulton, Norway.
Charles Chase, North Paris.
A. F. Warren, Buckfield.
C. M. Wormell, Bethel.
Gilbert Tuell, Bethel.
C. L. Aldrich, West Poland.
S. W. Kilbourne, Waterford.

Arrivals at the Union House for the week ending Feb. 15th:

A. H. Walker, Bridgton.
Howard S. Stearns, Norway.
Wm. H. Pearson, Woodstock.
E. C. Walker, Lovell.
A. C. Stanley, Porter.
G. A. Norton, Porter.
S. I. Crockett, Sumner.
F. G. Hammond, Andover, Mass.
Wm. H. Farnum, Rumford.
H. D. Abbott, South Andover.
E. A. Farnum, Milton.
C. S. Cummings, Norway.
F. R. Andrews, Oxford.
F. B. Rawson, North Waterford.
M. N. Larkin, Rumford Centre.
A. S. Shaw, Canton.
C. A. Mendall, Canton.
A. E. Morrison, Norway.
Geo. Tibbetts, Portland.
Stephen R. Foster, Newry.
L. H. Roberts, Woodstock.
D. P. Lord, East Fryeburg.
William B. Libby, Denmark.
E. G. M. Adams, Boston.
A. S. Kimball, Norway.
M. L. Kimball, Norway.
S. P. Stuart, Oxford.
Geo. H. Pitcher, Portland.
G. M. Pugsley, Hiram.
John Clark, Hiram.
Robert Reed, Mexico.
C. C. Wood, Denmark.
Amy Richardson, Denmark.
C. H. Day, Denmark.
Westina McLucas, Denmark.
Elmer G. Day, Denmark.
Walter Dresser and wife, Denmark.
E. H. Pike.
H. C. Rollins, North Woodstock.
Sylvester B. Estes, North Woodstock.
F. P. Stanley, North Waterford.
E. H. Cole, Bryant's Pond.
C. H. Berry, Bryant's Pond.
B. F. Cummings, Hebron.

THE OXFORD BEARS.

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

DIXFIELD.

The young people in the village gave a crazy supper in Johnston's Hall Friday evening.

Dr. Bisbee, of West Sumner, was in town Thursday in consultation with Dr. Sturtevant.

Our lawyers here attended court at Paris this week.

Don Gates is at home for vacation.

W. W. Smith is rather on the gain.

William T. Eustis is in town.

BETHEL.

A company of amateurs from Berlin are advertised to appear in Ideal Hall next Friday evening, presenting Gilbert and Sullivan's opera, "Trial by Jury," with full chorus and small orchestra, under the direction of Dr. H. W. Johnson, with Mr. F. F. Talbert as manager. As Berlin gave the Bethel Dramatic Company a full house when they played in Berlin last season, it is presumed that Bethel people will return the favor and fill the hall, especially as the company only wish to pay expenses, not to make money. Tickets are put at 35 and 25 cents. Among the soloists is Mr. Cyrus L. Doe, well known here, who sings the part of the "Usher." We understand that this opera company is a part of the Berlin Choral and Orchestral Society, a club of over 50 members, now in their second season, and at present rehearsing Barnby's oratorio of "Rebekah," under Dr. Johnson's direction, and that it is possible that the operatic portion of the society will bring out the "Chimes of Normandy" next season — one of the most popular light operas of the day.

HIRAM.

On Sunday, Mr. Edwin Harriman of East Hiram, buried his only son, a young man about twenty-five years of age. He was a worthy young man and had recently returned from the west to die of consumption.

Mrs. Elias Gould is in very poor health.

Mrs. John Clark is improving.

Leland L. Kimball has gone to Cambridgeport, Mass., to work in a piano manufactory.

Eugene Wadsworth is in poor health.

La grippe is subsiding.

Mrs. Lucy Clemons is poorly from old age and infirmities.

Daniel W. Pierce is improving.

RUMFORD CENTRE.

Those persons who have known Dr. Lapham's ability for writing town histories expected that Rumford's history would be a good one. In this they will not be disappointed. Those who have had the pleasure of pesuing its pages pronounce it one of the best yet written. Mr. Lapham has given a full account of Rumford's minerals, metals, agricultural resources, its early history, full account of the Androscoggin Indians, their early burial grounds, personal sketches by prominent men, etc., etc. The book contains over 400 pages and will be ready for delivery the last of this month.

Mr. and Mrs. Fred Bartlett are visiting his parents here preparatory to moving to Oxford.

Mr. Channing Abbott, Mrs. F. A. Elliott and Mrs. Agnes Hall are the latest sick ones.

The sickness here is rather abating.

J. E. S.

ALBANY.

H. O. Wilbur and wife have just returned from visiting her brother, Dea. D. F. Cummings, of Hebron.

Daniel Clark is at Paris this week attending court where he has two cases pending. He has good backers.

T. J. Cummings, one of the grand jury, is sick with la grippe and not able to go to court.

There are several cases of the epidemic here and as yet only one death. Mrs. Louisa Cummings, aged about sixty years, died on the 12th inst. of pneumonia, result of la grippe.

Mr. J. L. Rand is more comfortable.

Archie S. Cole of Lynn, Mass., is expected here this week to meet his brother from Marbleton, P. Q., whom he has not seen for twenty-two years.

Mrs. Morrison is in town canvassing for "Stanley's Travels." She finds good success.

J. W. Cummings has had his pension increased from 12 to 16 dollars a month. It ought to be $20.

What local paper gives its readers so much general news as is found in the Democrat?

Mrs. James Flint is at Bethel taking care of a sick friend.

The grange expect a lecture next Monday on "New Work." They also will have a festival and supper at their new hall Tuesday evening. They have quite a good hall. Have received some new members of late.

SWEDEN.

Our people are very busy rushing their teaming along, expecting that the good sledding may be spoiled any time by big snows, but they don't seem to come, and the "oldest inhabitant" is a little surprised at our winter and fails to remember one just like it.

Frank E. Stone and Osgood P. Saunders are hauling ash timber to North Bridgton, also Johnny and Charley Evans, from a lot owned by Samuel Plummer, to the same place. It is sold to Freeman Brown & Co. who manufacture it into ash chamber sets for which they have a large contract.

Albert L. Nichols, of Lynn, Mass., has been visiting his friends in this section.

Mr. and Mrs. J. A. Young leave for Lynn in a few days. They take with them the best wishes of their numerous friends.

We have been visited by a tramp but he was invited to take a ride with our tramp official and we trust his call may not be repeated.

Eugene Nevers, Will Flint, Albion Nevers, C. B. Hamlin and S. L. Plummer are all hauling bark to Bridgton.

Mr. Leander Stevens is in very poor health.

Frank W. Evans and Mary and Alice Perry are at Bridgton Academy this spring.

Bertie K. King gave a party to his young friends on his sixteenth birthday. The evening passed very pleasantly in games, nice treat, etc., and the boys went home well pleased with their entertainment.

GREENWOOD.

John Bryant was at our boarding place a day or two ago on business and from him we obtained the following items:

There are no new cases of la grippe, and those who had it are out again.

Harry Cole who had been one of the sickest ones was sawing birch at the spool mill.

Kingsbury Bryant still remains in feeble health.

A. D. Bryant has fully made up his mind to leave the old homestead and is already disposing of his stock preparatory to moving. He intends to make his new home in Freeport among his wife's relatives. We very much regret Mr. Bryant's leaving us, being one of the best neighbors we ever lived by, and something dims our eye, even while writing this paragraph.

"Once learned, never forgotten," is a quaint old saying which we more than half believe to be true, since both experience and observation seem to teach it. A few weeks ago a pet kitten was taken sick and died after a few days of much apparent suffering. As its little lifeless form lay on the floor, the verse commencing:

"Poor Lily! Long shall memory trace"

which we learned from the Young Reader fifty years ago, came to mind with all the freshness of the present moment, although buried under the accumulated rubbish of half a century.

MILTON PLANTATION.

Did the oldest inhabitant ever see the time when a small amount of money would buy so large a quantity of provisions, at least of some kinds, as at the present day? Our boarding master recently bought a fore quarter of extra ox beef with the leg removed for three cents a pound: and Edwin Andrews has a St. Louis white wheat flour, called the Little Jewel, and every barrel warranted, which he sells for $4.85 per barrel. That is cheaper than we ever bought beef or flour yet. The Mann Brothers are selling corn, meal, flour, mixed feed, shorts, etc., at their mill, correspondingly low for cash. Mr. Andrews' trade in his new store is still growing, sometimes amounting to over $50 per day.

The clothespin factory ran three weeks with reduced crew on account of sickness, but is now full again, and doing a rushing business.

The first indication of spring occurred here a few days since; a crow lit down in the road and when rising on the wing again started towards Buckfield; but thinking, probably, that by going that way he might get into a pickle he changed his course and when last seen was headed in the direction of Mason. Nobody disputes the knowledge of the crow; the trouble is he knows too much.

WEST PARIS.

Mr. Swain, of New York, is in town contracting for chairs of the Pioneer Chair Co.

Nine members of Golden Rule Lodge attended the District Lodge held at East Sumner last Wednesday.

Quite a number from this place went to Woodstock last Thursday evening to hear Prof. Chamberlain's concert.

The Epworth League spent a pleasant evening at E. D. Andrews' Wednesday evening.

Rev. Mr. Bean intends to hold some extra meetings in this place, commencing next Wednesday evening.

L. B. Swan and E. K. Cummings are able to be out doors again after their quite long sickness with grippe and pneumonia.

Charles Ellingwood cut his arm to the bone, near the elbow, on a circular saw in the Pioneer mill last Monday.

Nearly all of our stores have sagwa and other Indian remedies for sale.

Three freight cars were thrown off the track on the grade last Monday night by an axle breaking.

There is a good demand for Hannibal Curtis' slide yokes this winter.

LOVELL.

Dr. Noyes has returned to town having been for a week at his father's home on account of sickness and death of a brother there.

Mr. Henry Russell is quite sick, also Josiah H. Stearns.

Mrs. Elwell Andrews entertained the Odd Fellows' Circle of Fryeburg at her home Tuesday.

S. H. Harriman was excused from serving on the jury and returned home Wednesday.

C. K. Chapman is at Paris serving on the grand jury.

EAST SUMNER.

The session of the District Lodge of Good Templars which was held in this place last Wednesday was largely attended and interesting. Nearly fifty visiting members from subordinate lodges were present and all seemed to enjoy the occasion. After the business matters were disposed of Brother Mabry of Turner made an address that was lively and full of zeal in the temperance cause. Rev. Brother Fitz of South Paris also made remarks of much interest. The secretary will probably send report.

The Johnstown Flood exhibit canceled their engagement here last week, owing to other entertainments.

A large amount of lumber is being cut out at the mills, a thousand dollar order to be shipped to Auburn. SLOCUM.

HARTFORD.

Widow Arvilla Lawrence died at the residence of H. C. Ricker, the 8th, aged 76 years. She had been suffering from nervous prostration for about two years.

Mr. John Philbrick moved to the farm he bought of Ronello Keen this week.

Bertie Hutchinson has sold his oxen to Axel Fogg.

C. M. Irish has sold his oxen to Horace Morrill.

At this season of the year farmers have to buy considerable feed for their stock. The question is where can they get it the cheapest? The answer is very simple. Call on C. C. Spaulding & Co., Buckfield village. They also keep a good line of rubber goods which they sell at wonderfully low prices.

Good judges say that Stanley Bisbee's folks have got the handsomest baby in Buckfield village. We have already smoked two good cigars in honor of the little sucker.

DENMARK.

A. F. Bradbury and wife have returned from Portland where they have been visiting friends for the past week. They went with their own team as we used to go before we had the Maine Central.

A large delegation of the members of the Rebekah Lodge have gone this Friday evening to visit the lodge at Bridgton. A merry party they make and a fine time is expected.

Rufus Bennett gathers the cream on this route for the Bridgton creamery. Goes with two horses.

A number of our people have been at Paris in attendance before the grand jury. Lord burglary case.

The schools in this village close to-day.

SOUTH BUCKFIELD.

J. W. Shaw has sold 300 barrels of apples for $1100.

A resident of South Hill celebrated the amicable termination of a vexatious law suit by giving a supper.

Gilbert Tilton, the gifted correspondent of the Telephone, appears upon the village streets with a gorgeous equipage. A fast stepping Goldbird and a sleigh of unrivaled splendor. We fear that Gilbert's example will induce more overtaxed farmers to abandon agricultural pursuits and seek Lethean pleasures in a metropolitan existence.

Two of Buckfield's successful farmers both fond of a trade met in a village store. The subject of cows was broached, each had a cow to sell. After some talk one asked: "How will you exchange cows without either seeing the other's cow?" "Even," says the other. The trade was made and the spot agreed upon where the exchange should be consummated. The farmers met at the designated place and the change effected but one of the parties says "*It is the last time I shall ever trade in that way, why I could have lifted her right up in my arms.*"

Neighbor Jason is proof against all persuasion that the earth is round even after Nellie Bly has made the circuit of it. Obdurate Jason.

Green Turner has sold his big oxen to go to New Hampshire and bought another pair of Ed Hammond.

The writer has swapped cows with Charles F. McKenney of East Hebron.

WEST BETHEL.

A. S. Bean has his board circular saw in running order at his mill and commenced working up his long lumber by night last Monday. His first work will be on the lumber for his contemplated nice barn next summer.

The influenza still revels among our people but no serious cases are reported.

Lumbering continues brisk, and the report is rife that we are going to lose our fine pine grove near the depot by the lumbermen's ax.

The selectmen are making up their annual report.

BRYANT'S POND.

The Kickapoo Medicine Company of New Haven are giving exhibitions here for the week ending February 17th.

H. C. Davis, Esq., of Paris Hill, was in town Monday on business connected with the new mill company.

H. E. Cole is moving into Mrs. Ellen Bowker's house.

C. I. Sessions of Brunswick is on a visit to his father's.

The selectmen are engaged this week in making their annual report.

An accident occurred at Cole's crossing early Tuesday morning caused by the breaking of an axle on an overloaded car.

NEWRY.

W. N. Powers and wife are both sick, the latter with an attack of bilious fever. Mrs. Dolly Frost, an aged lady in the same house, is also quite ill.

Will Williamson at work for C. A. Baker yarding birch slipped on the ice Monday and hurt one knee so badly as to disable him from work for the present.

Twin calves, the product of a cow in possession of A. W. Powers, are one of the novelties in this neighborhood.

Miss Sylvia Farwell, who has been an invalid for several months, is now very low. She has been for some time staying with her sister, Mrs. Eli F. Stearns, of this town, who is caring for her in her illness.

UPTON.

Enoch Sargent is home sick.

Perley Whitney is quite sick with la grippe.

About three inches of snow fell Friday night, but Saturday it turned to rain then turned to snow again.

Alva Coolidge is hauling hay to Magalloway.

Bennet Morse put in his supply of ice yesterday.

Mrs. E. P. Morse is home from Norway.

Mrs. Harvey Fuller is sick in bed with la grippe.

Willie Sargent has been sick abed but is better now. His little boy sat down on the stove hearth and his dress caught fire and burned his dress and hair badly but no further harm was done. Mrs. S. threw a pail of water on him and put out the fire.

A. M. Coolidge has a very sick steer.

FRYEBURG.

The school in district No. 2, taught by Miss Huldah Hobbs, closed last week with appropriate exercises.

Mr. Tucker, an Andover student, preached at the Congregational church Feb. 12th, instead of Mr. Williamson, who was expected.

Mr. W. G. Spring has a position in Washington and his household goods are to be sent on.

Mr. and Mrs. S. W. Fife reached home on Thursday from their trip to Augusta.

Dr. John Sweat has returned from the West and is now in town.

The fifth lecture of the C. L. S. C. course was given by Howard Owen, Esq., of Augusta, in the Swedenborgian church Thursday evening. The reputation of the lecturer as editor of the Maine Farmer brought out a full house. His subject was "Ups and Downs of a Newspaper Man."

There was a valentine sociable at the Congregational vestry on Friday night.

Miss Susan Charles is to leave on Saturday for Worcester and Wilbraham.

John Kelley has been in poor health for some time and is now much worse. His brother Charles has come home from the West.

An entertainment is to be given by the "King's Daughters" at the Academy Hall on Saturday evening, Feb. 15th.

NORWAY LAKE.

Simon Stevens, the oldest man in town, had a shock last Friday. His son, S. A. Stevens, is taking care of him.

Mrs. Matilda Watson has la grippe.

Edmond Green is quite sick.

J. O. Smith, Esq., of Harrison, is at home this week attending court on the Hill.

Grace M. Stevens is at home from Harrison where she has been at work all winter.

SUMNER.

D. A. Corliss and wife of Hartford visited relatives here last week.

Your humble correspondent has not yet been honored by a call from Mr. La Grippe. So far so good.

Mrs. E. C. Bowker is better, also Miss Mabel Bowker.

Sumner Knox of Peru passed through the place recently, satisfying the appetites of those who were hankering for fresh fish, oysters, clams, etc.

MEXICO.

Lincoln Kidder died Sunday night at the residence of his brother Adelbert in Hartford. Father and two sons, within a year, have died in this family, John C. Kidder's.

Mrs. Thomas Weeks is very sick.

D. G. Frost, J. R. Austin and S. S. Dorr are quite sick.

Mrs. D. G. Frost and Herbert O. Gleason, who have been dangerously sick, are now out of danger.

Francis S. Delano, of Rumford, near this place, is very badly off.

B. W. Elliott, a child at F. C. Richards', and many more are somewhat off, but not regarded as badly off.

Mrs. V. M. Abbott has failed to gain since taken with la grippe so fast as many, and is still confined to the house.

Lincoln Kidder's remains were brought from Hartford Tuesday and burial services were held at his mother's in Mexico Wednesday.

We have many sick ones in this vicinity.

Chas. K. Virgin is in a bad condition.

D. G. Frost is quite sick but is not regarded as dangerously so. His wife has had a very hard time and perhaps may be regarded as out of danger.

Daniel Oldham is threatened with pneumonia.

Mrs. Thomas Weeks is very sick with small hopes of her recovery.

Benjamin W. Elliott and S. S. Dorr are confined to the house.

At F. C. Richards', an adopted daughter of Lovina, Mrs. Richards' sister, who lives in Saco, is quite sick.

Herbert O. Gleason, whose recovery was in doubt, is now past danger unless something unexpected takes place. His little daughter is at her aunt's, Mrs. H. W. Park's. Delia Glover, a sister to Mrs. Thomas Weeks, arrived here from Lowell, Mass., Tuesday night. David O. Gleason of Avon, Franklin County, was wired but could not leave home being confined to the house with la grippe.

News reaches us of the death of Charles Richardson and of the dangerous illness of John Graham both of Rumford.

Many others have been sick but are now so much improved that we do not mention them.

SPARKES.

EAST WATERFORD.

Mrs. McAllister of Norway, is caring for her sister, Mrs. Otis Martin, who is ill with la grippe.

Mrs. Edward Hilton has gone to Lewiston.

Carl Mixer, of Norway, is spending a few weeks at his grandfather Pride's.

Mr. McAllister will soon move his family back to Stoneham.

Loren Pride is in Norway, taking care of the stock of his uncle, Charles Ryerson, who is teaming.

Mrs. Charles Hodgdon is in Freeport, caring for Mr. Hodgdon's aunt, Mrs. Samuel Wilson, who has pneumonia. Mr. Wilson died not long since.

La grippe continues to find victims.

MASON.

I hardly know how to fill my card this week as I cannot get out to catch any news.

The weather is all right if we but think so.

I might write about the great tax question, but I should only make it more muddy than it has already become by the airing of so many conflicting opinions.

Would congratulate Hon. J. S. Wright on his good fortune in securing the appointment as census supervisor. No better man could have been selected.

Presiding Elder Adams held a quarterly meeting at the chapel last Sunday and preached Monday evening.

Brackett Small and wife are visiting at her father's, N. H. Tyler's.

Lawyers Park of Bethel, Holt of Norway, and J. H. Bean, Esq., were at Thomas Morrill's taking depositions last week on the case of Clark vs. Morrill.

SOUTH ROXBURY.

Mrs. George Richardson, who has been sick with lung trouble, is some better.

Girls to do housework are in great demand. There are not well people enough in town to take care of the sick ones as they should be.

Bert Hussey is on the sick list again.

Miss Nancy Ladd has gone to Mexico to work in the family of Sewall Goff.

Mrs. Alice Boynton, who has been very sick with la grippe, is improving.

WILSON'S MILLS.

Blue jays have put in an appearance and so we think winter is nearly gone.

Dr. Twitchell of Andover has been up to see Fred Moreton who is dangerously ill, and a sister has come up to take care of him.

Mrs. R. S. Bean has been sick and her mother, Mrs. Clark, has been with her for a few days.

Van Dyke has again been up and F. A. Flint has taken his team from College Grant and put it up to his camp at Lincoln Brook.

E. P. Twitchell has been up for the first time since his sickness.

L. E. York has so far recovered his health as to be able to drive a team.

Gilbert Tyler's son has been up to Twitchell's camp.

N. K. Bennett has gone to Berlin.

The past week has been a remarkable one as regards fine weather for this season of the year.

PERU.

A. B. Walker and wife have gone to Massachusetts visiting friends and relatives.

Daniel Walker has been sick but is out again.

Every place boasts of its fast horses, and so if we have no fast horses to boast of we have to make believe, and some of our horse characters have been out on the river trying the speed of some of their colts to see if they boast of fastness.

EAST PERU.

Mrs. A. B. Griffeth has gone to Portland.

Seth Babb is very sick from the effects of la grippe.

Leroy Babb is hauling birch for Hartwell Oldham.

A. B. Griffith has sold his oxen and bought him another pair of Henry Poland.

Green Oldham is at work for D. W. Goding.

CANTON.

Dr. H. T. Tirrell is quite sick with la grippe.

Mrs. E. W. Allen is dangerously ill.

J. B. Look and Silas Barrell are improving slowly.

C. L. Smith of Norwood, Mass., was in town Saturday.

LeForrest Howe is visiting his daughter, Mrs. Elmer Cushman.

The Universalist fair next Wednesday and Thursday afternoon and evening will be held at the store under Odd Fellows' Hall.

ROXBURY.

Foster's men are well of la grippe and are doing good business on the logs. The snow last week was a help to the logging road, but there is not enough snow yet to draw on two sleds, therefore the teams cannot draw the big loads that they did last year.

John Reed is well of la grippe, and now S. M. Locke is sick with the disease.

There is a great contrast between this and the big snowy winters we used to have, when the main business was breaking roads. We have not yoked an ox to break roads this winter.

WEST PERU.

School closed in district No. 3 last week. It was taught by Miss Lillian Hall. This is her third term in this district.

School in district No. 4 closed the 7th. This is the largest school in town. It was taught by Nathaniel Woodsum. He is one of our best teachers. He is going to attend the male school at Kent's Hill this spring.

The Free Will Baptists have engaged Rev. Mr. Danville Gammon to preach one-half of the time for the present.

E. G. Austin & Son have an order for another carload of clothes pins.

Hall Bros. have an order for two car loads of hand hay rakes, which means business now and next summer.

The sick ones are all on the mend.

WATERFORD.

George Wheeler of Waterford, now a conductor on a Pullman car, was severely injured in the recent railroad accident at Oswego. He remained buried in the ruins for one half hour, expecting every moment that the car would take fire.

A party from North Bridgton visited the Lake House last Wednesday evening. An oyster supper was served by the popular landlord, C. M. Dudley.

There is to be an antiquarian supper and entertainment at Masonic Hall in the near future.

George Kimball has finished his school at Harrison village.

Owing to the large amount of lumber hauled lately W. W. Watson has been obliged to stop more being cut.

Whooping cough has been raging to some extent here.

There is much sickness in town.

We understand that George Wheeler is to return to Waterford as soon as he is able.

A. G. Morse is canvassing Waterford for nursery stock for A. S. Chadbourne.

We think that the Stoneham bear had better agitate a less gigantic scheme for a railroad. First construct a narrow gauge road to the top of Speckled Mountain to accommodate blueberry pickers and then possibly the Maine Central might be induced to build the proposed road.

BROWNFIELD.

To-day (Thursday) seems like an April day, so warm and balmy. Again the snow is leaving the hills and fields, probably only for a short time.

La grippe is still prevailing. Nearly all have had it. Those who have not are slowly coming down with it. Among the latest victims are Linna Frink, Alice Moore, and J. L. Frink.

Edwin McLucas lost a very valuable colt.

Mrs. Marshall McLucas is very sick with lung fever. Her daughter Georgie is very low with lung trouble.

WEST SUMNER.

We are having fine weather and fine sleighing. Everything to make one glad that they are alive to enjoy what God has given us.

William L. Chase went to Harrison the 10th to join his wife in the care of her mother, Mrs. Gray, who is said to be improving.

G. N. Bates went to Sumner Hill intending to bring his daughter Jennie home, but was obliged to return without her as she was unable to make the short trip, influenza leaving her as many others in bad condition.

Mr. and Mrs. Alton Ames have been at Mr. Eliaphlet Morrill's since the last sickness of Mrs. M. until the arrival of Mrs. Farrington, a cousin from Mechanic Falls, a few days since.

Benbridge and Frank Doble have visited their father, E. G. Doble, the present week.

Mr. George Porter, representative medicine man from G. F. Harvey & Co., Saratoga, N. Y., was at the hotel the 12th and 13th.

Mrs. F. M. Bisbee, who for several weeks has been nurse for Mrs. H. H. McAllister, is now at Jas. Chadbourne's, Mrs. Barnet Thorne taking her place.

Mr. and Mrs. Nathaniel Young, of West Paris, were in town for the day the first of the week.

We are glad to report Charlie Farrar as improving, and the sick ones gererally on the gain in this vicinity, the mother of K. P. Bowker among the number.

Flora Newell, working at South Paris, is at home for a few days.

George E. Pulsifer is gone on a business trip to Boston.

I. A. Fletcher and Artie Bonney are said to be quite sick, results of influenza.

West Sumner, Feb. 7th, to the wife of James Chadbourne, a daughter.

OXFORD.

Rev. George A. Tewksbury of Seattle, preached at the Congregational church Sunday. He left town with his wife Thursday.

Mrs. Spring of Chicago came last week to visit her mother, Mrs. Keith, who has been sick for some time.

The fourth lecture in the Epworth League course was given by Rev. C. E. Bisbee, of Winthrop, "A Journey in the Holy Land" illustrated by the sciopticon.

Harry Hayes has returned to Orono.

Bertha Jackson of Otisfield and A. R. Paine of East Oxford are attending the spring term at Hebron.

Lowell & Lowell of Lewiston are having a sale of cloaks, shawls, etc. at the store of Miss Mulholland.

W. R. Farris, F. B. Andrews and C. T. Wardwell went as delegates to the G. A. R. State Encampment at Augusta.

Mrs. Esther, wife of Enoch Pinkham, died at Welchville January 28th, aged 85 years.

Durell & Hawkes are putting in more goods.

George Hazen attended the funeral on Tuesday of his mother, Mrs. Jacob Hazen, who died in Bridgton, Saturday, February 8th.

Mr. Harry Alden and wife of Plymouth, Mass., were presented with a beautiful cake basket by their friends on February 3d, the fifteenth anniversary of their marriage. Mrs. Alden was formerly a resident of this place.

Many are sick with la grippe.

NORTH-WEST BETHEL.

G. G. Chapman's health is quite poor this winner.

M. Penley has recently purchased three very fine turkeys. They came from the West and ought to be extra ones as Milt says they cost him nearly thirteen dollars.

Fears are entertained here that the ice is not going to remain solid enough for crossing much longer.

ANDOVER.

The Andover Toboggan Club will hold their second annual ball at Union Hall Thursday evening, Feb 20th.

Miss Maude Merrill has returned from Boston.

O. J. Lovejoy, of Roxbury, is landing poplar on Horseshoe Brook, near Chas. Corkum's.

It is very late to make the correction, but, as it is never too late to mend, we would correct the item in our card of a few weeks since, reporting the death of R. B. McAllister. It should have been as I intended to write it, Mrs. R. B. McAllister. Mac is hale and smart as ever, and apparently good for years of toting to the lakes yet.

H. S. Philbrick, who was badly hurt by a fall from a load of birch last week, is much better.

The town fathers have closed their yearly accounts.

BUCKFIELD.

The selectmen and treasurer have been striking the annual balance sheet the past week, and find a satisfactory result, as will be shown in the forthcoming report.

Tuesday evening the Turner Band gave an entertainment at Tobin's Hall which was fairly attended. As your correspondent had no complimentary ticket cannot report on the merits of the performance.

Wednesday evening the Buckfield Dramatic Club gave an entertainment at Reform Hall for the benefit of the Good Templars Lodge, from which your correspondent was excluded for want of the necessary standing room—the hall being crowded. The performance, assisted by the Buckfield Orchestra, is reported a success and will be repeated again in the near future.

H. D. Waldron was summoned to Portland last week on account of an accident to his son Hartwell.

C. H. Prince, Josiah Hutchinson and A. F. Mason are on the juries in the U. S. Court in Portland.

Mrs. Horace A. Irish was summoned to Boston on account of the serious illness of her mother last week.

Tristam G. Bicknell died Saturday morning from relapse of influenza. Mr. Bicknell was born in Hebron, 1811, but has resided in Buckfield about twenty-six years. He was a popular blacksmith and one of the selectmen in 1866, a hard-working, genial man. Since the loss of his wife several years ago, he has resided with his son Fred, who has tenderly cared for him in his illness.

A well known Buckfield woman remarked in L. W. Shaw's store recently: "I have always used two bars of rosin soap for a week's wash, but one bar of Brussels soap does the same work and the clothes look whiter than ever before."

HEBRON.

On Monday (Feb. 10th) Rev. S. D. Richardson went to Hartford to attend the funeral of Mrs. Lawrence, widow of Rev. M. Lawrence, known years ago as Father Lawrence.

Wednesday Mrs. Thompson, mother of Mrs. A. W. Cushman of Boston, was buried in the family lot here. Mr. Cushman was unable to come down and Mr. H. L. Whitney came. Mr. Whitney will return this afternoon (Thursday).

Miss Pratt continues very low. Tuesday Mrs. Capt. Pratt and daughter, Mrs. Porter, of South Paris, were down to see her.

Mrs. Joseph Hibbs has been very sick, but is now comfortable although not able to sit up.

There are so many on the sick list mention cannot be made of all. We think all are improving now.

Miss Grace Bumpus has returned from Auburn, bringing a very pretty picture as the result of lessons taken there. Miss Packard has not yet returned.

Monday afternoon three wonderful sun dogs were to be seen. The oldest inhabitant remembers nothing like them in size and brilliancy.

EAST HEBRON.

The "inferior apples" referred to by South Buckfield in late Democrat of recent date were apples that were bought of the party for a superior lot of apples and an extra price was paid for the apples with the understanding they would be so.

Daniel Keene has returned from the woods again sick with la grippe.

Bennie and Emily Hayes are visiting their friends in Mexico.

Mr. and Mrs. W. H. Berry are visiting their relatives at Anson.

SOUTH WOODSTOCK.

A concert under the direction of Prof. George Chamberlain took place at the Methodist church last evening, the 13th. We consider it one of the best entertainments of the season. Although nearly every one who took part has had that enemy, la grippe to contend with, a good degree of perseverance made the concert a perfect success. It consisted of anthems, part songs, choruses, duets, and instrumental music. There seemed to be just enough of the mirthful to make it entertaining to all, but not enough to make it stale. The house was crowded and all seemed to enjoy a good time.

EAST BETHEL.

The library association have made their first purchase of books and the library will now be open every Saturday afternoon and evening, Mrs. Tavie Bean librarian.

Mr. Nathan Frost from Orono recently visited friends in this place.

Fred C. Bean is at work nights for Tebbets Manufacturing Co., Locke's Mills.

William O. Holt is at Paris on the traverse jury.

The sociable and fair held at Mrs. Z. C. Perry's Feb. 6th, was a success. All the articles were disposed of and a good amount of money was realized. E. S. Bartlett obtained the crazy puff by guessing the number of beans in a bottle. The grab-bag offered much amusement, the prize falling to D. B. Grant.

EAST BROWNFIELD.

Ice and crust everywhere but much more enjoyable than ten feet of snow.

Col. A. A. Gibson has been in Fryeburg the past week with his son, C. S. Gibson, who with his family are visiting at B. F. Newman's. Mr. Gibson's home is at Fort Benton, Montana, and he is combining business and pleasure in his trip east.

J. S.

DO YOU WANT A NEW PIANO

We unhesitatingly pronounce the

Ivers & Pond PIANO

the finest and most reliable in the world. Five newly patented inventions used in these pianos only.

Call at our store and examine the new **Soft Stop** which saves pianos from wear while practising and makes tone inaudible to all outside of room. A wonderful invention.

W. J. WHEELER.
South Paris, Maine.

Dr. J. MILLER'S VEGETABLE EXPECTORANT

IS INVALUABLE FOR

COUGHS AND COLDS.

25c, and $1, at all druggists.

E. MORGAN & SONS, - - Proprietors,
PROVIDENCE, R. I.

DANA'S Sarsaparilla

IS GUARANTEED TO

ABSOLUTELY CURE DISEASE.

Why suffer with that terrible Headache? Why lie and groan with the tortures of Rheumatism? Why go around suffering with Dyspepsia a picture of unutterable woe? Why keep your face disfigured with Boils and Pimples? Do you think it adds to your beauty? Why do you continue to suffer with your Kidneys and Liver? Why? Why? Can you answer? Take our advice this once. Go TO-DAY and get a bottle of DANA'S SARSAPARILLA. Remember it is guaranteed. If you don't get any benefit, it costs you nothing. If you will give it a fair trial, it will *cure you*. If you won't give it a *trial*, why, *suffer*. If you can stand it we can.

At all dealers.

Dana Sarsaparilla Co.,
BELFAST, - MAINE.

A 1-2 MILLION

people for the past year have had their attention called to our Syrup Fix Liquida Compound. Many thousands have taken advantage of the opportunity to obtain a reliable and elegant cough remedy, for their house, safe for the children, who are daily

SNEEZING

from the effects of our changeable climate, (and the next sainte is the

COUGHING

which is sure to follow from the *inflamed lungs and bronchial tubes*,) sure and safe remedy, for the unfortunate, who has neglected the warning nature always gives to all

PEOPLE

when the cold shock starts in to do its deadly work. Everybody is delighted with this elegant cough syrup. They take it, feeling that in doing so they are sure of being cured, if medicine is good for anything, for this wonderful syrup stands superior to all others, and proves its great worth wherever tested. It is a thing of beauty, and an example of the advancing strides of modern medical science.

Sold everywhere by the Drug trade, and manufactured only by the Auburn Drug & Chemical Company with their green and yellow seal on every package, which will protect you against fraud. Price 25 cents and $1.00.

Send for books and circulars to

Auburn Drug and Chemical Co.,
AUBURN, MAINE.

NOTICE.

All persons holding town orders against the town of Oxford, are requested to send at once to the subscribers at Oxford, the date, No. of order, the amount drawn, in whose favor drawn, and for what, as the order books were destroyed in the fire of Durrell & Hawkes store, Jan. 13, and we need the above information to make our annual report.

Oxford, Jan. 24, 1896.
C. F. DURELL, H. W. STEWART, F. W. LORD, } Selectmen of Oxford.

DENTISTRY!

The subscriber hereby gives notice that he will be at the residence of his father, **H. A. SMALL, Rumford Centre,** during the month of February, 1896, where he will be pleased to see all in want of dentistry.

C. P. SMALL.

NOTICE OF APPOINTMENT.

The undersigned, having been appointed by the Hon. Judge of Probate for the County of Oxford, on the third Tuesday of December, A. D. 1895, commissioners to receive and examine the claims of creditors against the estate of Timothy C. Carter, late of Bethel, in said County, deceased, 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 office of A. E. Herrick, Esq., in Bethel aforesaid, on Tuesday, June 17th, A. D. 1896, for the purpose of receiving the same.

Dated this fourth day of January, A. D. 1896.
A. B. GODWIN, G. A. HASTINGS, } Commissioners.

Dana's Sarsaparilla.

CONSUMPTION AND BRONCHITIS

ANGIER'S PETROLEUM EMULSION

This remarkable combination of Nature's Healing Oil with the HYPOPHOSPHITES OF Lime and Soda Stands to-day without a peer

in the treatment of Lung Diseases, Dyspepsia, Chronic Diarrhœa, Inflammation of the Kidneys or Bladder, and kindred diseases of the Mucous Membranes.

Bronchitis, acute or Chronic, immediately relieved, speedily cured.

In Consumption, ANGIER'S PETROLEUM EMULSION will do more than any other known remedy to relieve the cough, diarrhœa and other distressing symptoms, increase the appetite, strength and weight and to restore the general health. *It is far superior to cod-liver oil*, and is not unpalatable. It is indorsed by physicians. Price 50 cts. and $1 per bottle. Of druggists, or sent on receipt of price by the manufacturers, THE ANGIER CHEMICAL CO., Boston, Mass. Our pamphlet on "Petroleum as a Remedial Agent," mailed free.

SULPHUR BITTERS

The Greatest Blood Purifier KNOWN.

This Great German Medicine is the cheapest and best. 128 doses of SULPHUR BITTERS for $1.00, less than one cent a dose. It will cure the worst cases of skin disease, from a common pimple on the face to that awful disease Scrofula. SULPHUR BITTERS is the best medicine to use in all cases of such stubborn and deep seated diseases. Don't waste money on worthless trash. Use SULPHUR BITTERS. It is not a cathartic like Blue Pills or mercury, they are dead. Place your trust in SULPHUR BITTERS, the purest and best medicine ever made.

BLUE PILLS

Is your Tongue Coated? Are you sick, nervous, with a yellow sticky skin? Don't wait until you are unable to walk, or breath foul and your bowels get some at once, it will cure you. Sulphur Bitters is the Invalid's Friend.

Sulphur Bitters!

Don't Wait!

The Invalid's Friend.

Immediately The young, the aged and infirm, suffering from the excesses of youth? If so, SULPHUR BITTERS will cure you.

Is your Urine high colored and scanty? Are you suffering from any form of blood disease? Sulphur Bitters is the best medicine ever made. Sulphur Bitters will cure you.

Try a Bottle To-day!

Are you low-spirited and weak, nervous and sleepless? Are you troubled with dizziness? Do you sleep both by day and night? Always remember that Sulphur Bitters will cure you.

Send 3 2-cent stamps to A. P. Ordway & Co., Boston, Mass., for best medical work published.

DISSOLUTION OF PARTNERSHIP.

The firm of Bennett & Stephens is this day dissolved. All persons indebted to said firm will settle with J. E. Stephens who is authorized to receipt for the same, and who pays all the debts of the firm.

ELMER E. BENNETT.
J. E. STEPHENS.

Witness, WALLO PETTENGILL.
Rumford Centre, Me., Jan. 27, 1896.

DEAF NEW & NEAR QUICK CURE for Deafness, Noises in the Head, Catarrh, Throat Ailments, Lungs, etc. INVISIBLE TUBULAR EAR CUSHIONS. Whispers heard. Comfortable. Sent on trial. Cures all Ear Diseases. Sold by F. HISCOX, only, 853 Broadway, New York. Write for book of proofs FREE.

CHICHESTER'S ENGLISH
PENNYROYAL PILLS.
Red Cross Diamond Brand.
The only reliable pill for sale. Safe and sure. Ladies, ask Druggist for the Diamond Brand, in red and gold boxes, sealed with ribbon. Take no other. Send 4c. stamps for particulars and "Relief for Ladies," in letter, by mail. Name Paper.
Chichester Chemical Co., Madison Sq., Philada., Pa.

PARKER'S HAIR BALSAM
Removes all diseases and humors of the hair.
Prevents premature baldness.
Never Fails to Restore Gray Hair to its Youthful Color.
Promotes a luxuriant growth.
50 cts. and $1.00 at Druggists.

MITCHELL'S BELLADONNA PLASTERS

CURE WEAK LUNGS, PLEURISY, NEURALGIA, SCIATICA, LUMBAGO, all Coughs and Colds. Price 25c. at Druggists.

Pacific Coast
EXCURSIONS.
Washington Territory and Oregon.

Send to C. E. McPherson, 211 Washington St., Boston, for circulars giving all information.

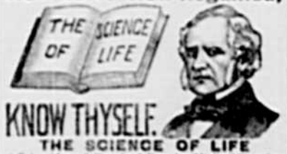
AN EXTRACT OF THE YUCCA PLANT.
Young men, are you becoming bald? Young ladies, are you troubled with dandruff? You can stop both by using YUCCA. Sold by Druggists. If you cannot get it of your Druggist, send $1.00 for trial bottle, one-half dozen bottles for $5.00, express paid. Always address YUCCA CO., Burlington, Vt.

MADE WITH BOILING WATER.

EPPS'S GRATEFUL-COMFORTING COCOA

MADE WITH BOILING MILK.

THE GLORY OF MAN STRENGTH & VITALITY!
How Lost! How Regained,



KNOW THYSELF.
THE SCIENCE OF LIFE
A Scientific and Standard Popular Medical Treatise on the Errors of Youth, Premature Decline, Nervous and Physical Debility, Impurities of the Blood.

EXHAUSTED VITALITY
UNTOLD MISERIES
resulting from Folly, Vice, Ignorance, Excesses or Overtaxation, Exercising or inflicting the victim for Work, Business, the Married or Social Relation. Avoid unskillful pretenders. Possess this great work. It contains 300 pages, royal 8vo. Beautiful binding, embossed, full gilt. Price only $1.00 by mail, sealed, concealed in plain wrapper. Illustrative Prospectus Free, if you apply now. The distinguished author, Wm. H. Parker, M. D., received the GOLD AND JEWELLED MEDAL from the National Medical Association for this PRIZE ESSAY on NERVOUS and PHYSICAL DEBILITY. Dr. Parker and a corps of assistant physicians may be consulted, confidentially, by mail or in person, at the office of THE PEABODY MEDICAL INSTITUTE, No. 4 Bulfinch Place, Boston, Mass., to whom all orders for books or letters for advice should be directed as above.

COOK WANTED.

At Andrews House, South Paris, a competent neat and pastry cook will be paid good wages and given permanent employment.

W. M. SHAW, Proprietor.

JOHNSON'S ANODYNE LINIMENT

Established 1810.

— UNLIKE ANY OTHER. —

Positively Cures Diphtheria, Croup, Asthma, Bronchitis, Colds, Hoarseness, Hacking Cough, Whooping-Cough, Catarrh, Influenza, Cholera Morbus, Diarrhœa, Rheumatism, Neuralgia, Toothache, Earache, Nervous Headache, Sciatica, Lame Back, and Soreness in Body or Limbs.

AS MUCH FOR INTERNAL AS FOR EXTERNAL USE.

It is marvelous how many different complaints it will cure. Its strong point lies in the fact that it acts quickly. Healing all Cuts, Burns and Bruises like Magic. Relieving all manner of Cramps, Chills, Lameness of Muscles or Stiff Joints and Strains.

ORIGINATED BY AN OLD FAMILY PHYSICIAN.

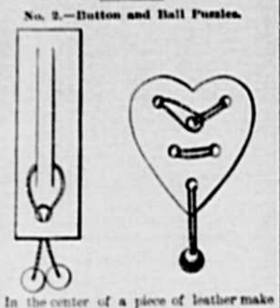
All who buy or order direct from us, and request it, shall receive a certificate that the money shall be refunded if not absolutely satisfied. Initial price 25 cts.; 6 bottles, $5.00. Express prepaid to any part of the United States, or Canada. Valuable pamphlet sent free. I. S. JOHNSON & CO., Boston, Mass.

GENERATION AFTER GENERATION HAVE USED AND BLESSED IT.

No. 1.—A Palindrome.

Long years ago, the Portuguese,
In me rode over stormy seas,
Held on my course 'mid pirates bold,
Who sought to seize my freight of gold,
Sailed on until I reached the shore
Of India, famed in ancient lore.
Then back I sailed and in the hold
Were richest spices—wealth untold—
Which netted to the captain brave
All riches that his heart could crave.
Now this I'll tell: Sean well my name,
Backward and forward I'm the same—
A palindrome, no more or less,
So use your wits my name to guess.

No. 2.—Button and Ball Puzzles.



In the center of a piece of leather make two parallel cuts with a penknife, and just below a small hole of the same width; then pass a piece of string under the slit and through the hole, as in the figure, and tie two buttons much larger than the hole to the ends of the string. The puzzle is, to get the string out again without taking off the buttons.

To make the ball puzzle, cut a thin piece of wood into the shape of a heart, make six holes in it, as represented in the cut, and provide a thin silken cord, which is to be doubled and the two ends fastened into a small wooden ball. To play the ball on, pass the loop through the hole numbered 6, from face to back, up to 2, through which bring it, and then through 3, 5, 4 and 1 in succession, then through 2 again and down the back to 6; bring it through 6 to the face and pass it over the ball; then draw the loop back again through 6 and 2, and the puzzle (which is to take the ball and string off after being thus fixed) is set. The length of the string should be proportioned to the size of the heart. If the heart is 2½ inches high, the string, when doubled, should be about 9 inches long.

No. 3.—A Word Square.

o o o o o
o o o o o
o o o o o
o o o o o
o o o o o

The first row of five represents a word meaning "empty," "void of intelligence." The second row, the post at the foot of the staircase. The third row, "to adjudge," "to determine." The fourth, "to give vigor," "a sinew." The fifth, an American shrub having broad umbels of white flowers and dark red berries. The blossoms and berries are used in medicine. It grows wild usually, but is sometimes seen in gardens.

No. 4.—Charade.

"Mother, dear, please say I may
Go down and skate upon the bay."

"My little son, you cannot go
Upon the ice in the bay below.
This very morn did your father say,
Ere to his whale he went away,
'John must keep first the second today.'"

No. 5.—Numerical Enigma.

My 4, 1, 9 is small in number.
My 3, 2, 7 is appropriate.
My 6, 5, 10 is a sheltered place.
My 11, 8, 9 is a riotous noise.
My whole is a renowned structure of recent date.

No. 6.—Word Dissections.

1. What insect would the author of "Thanatopsis" send you? [Thrice behead.]
2. What kind of corn would the author of the "Essay on Man" send? [Curtail.]
3. What would the author of "The Proud Miss MacBride" contribute? [Behead.]
4. Which member of his family would the author of "The May Queen" send to represent him? [Behead five times.]
5. What kind of a boat does the author of "Uncle Tom's Cabin" prefer? [Syncopate.]

The Magic Dancer.

An entertaining electrical experiment can be performed by the young folks on clear, cold winter evenings, as it succeeds best when the atmosphere is very dry. The apparatus is simple. Two large books and a pane of glass, say 10 by 12 inches in size, come first. The ends of the glass are put between the leaves of the books, so as to bring the glass about 1½ inches above the top of the table. Then take tissue paper and cut out any figure that fancy may prompt, not to be over 1 inch or 1½ inches in length.

These figures are to be laid upon the table under the glass, and the experiment is ready to be put into practical operation. The next step is to take a silk handkerchief and rub the top of the glass with a quick circular motion. The result is to bring the figures into active life, their antics being amusing beyond description. Be careful not to touch the glass with the hand or finger during the movement of the figures, for it will stop them at once.

Key to the Puzzler.

No. 736.—Letter Puzzles: 1, P; 2, Q; 3, O K; 4, D; 5, G; 6, J; 7, R-U; 8, N.B.; 9, M; 10, L; 11, E; 12, A; 13, T; 14, V; 15, W; 16, F; 17, X; 18, Z; 19, C; 20, Y; 21, HI; 22, S.X.

No. 737.—Charade: Round-head.
No. 738.—Enigma: Nine.
No. 739.—Illustrated Rebus: Education is the chief defense of nations.
No. 740.—Anagram: Ungracious.
No. 741.—Crossword Enigma: New York.
No. 742.—Word Squares:

TAPIR	EAGLE
ALONE	ALLEN
PORES	GLOAT
INERT	LEAVE
RESTS	ENTER

No. 743.—Conundrums: Because it "could a tail unfold." Because it is down in the mouth. When we get near to the milky way. A cross bow. When bound over. When it is a yard arm. By sleeping on "tick." When his pocket has a large hole in it.

That is a hopeful patriot who writes to Andrew's American Queen: "Let us not despair of Ireland. With the past before us we may well afford to put the future behind us."

The world-wide reputation of Ayer's Sarsaparilla is the natural result of its surpassing value as a blood medicine. Nothing in the whole pharmacopœia, effects more astonishing results, in scrofula, rheumatism, general debility, and all forms of blood disease, than this remedy.

If a man is only a "good fellow" he can be a pretty bad fellow in many respects and still get better treatment from the world than is accorded to many men who have more virtue.

DON'T GIVE UP, there is a cure for catarrh and cold in the head. Thousands testify that Ely's Cream Balm has entirely cured them. It is a safe and pleasant remedy. It is applied into the nostrils. It is not a liquid or snuff. It cures by cleansing and healing. Price 50 cents.

The exaggerated fashions have their advantages, after all. A family recently reduced from affluence to poverty had the good luck to find in the house a cane once carried by a dude son and the handle of a La Tosca parasol, formerly the property of a fashionable daughter. These two articles will keep the family in firewood all winter.

HOW NICE

Miss Bell is looking, Addie. Yes, Laura. Why, only a year ago her face was completely covered with pimples, blotches, and sores. She told mother that she owed her nice, clear complexion to her using Sulphur Bitters. Well, Laura, I shall try them too.

HOMEMAKERS' COLUMN.

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

HOW TO WORK.

Half done work, or, in every-day parlance, shiftlessness, is a very common fault with many women who, unfortunately, do not realize the truth of the old adage, "What is worth doing at all is worth doing well." "Oh, I never have time to do my work as it should be done," you will hear women say; yet if they only knew it, this careless mode of half doing their work is the real source of their never-ending labors; for, of course, badly done work must constantly be done over, and the half-way-performed tasks of yesterday, added to the necessary work of to-day, increase the demands upon one's time and bring about a condition of things that is indeed discouraging.

We have the highest authority for performing every duty in the best manner—that is, "with all your might." Carelessly done work is the secret of more than half the poverty and suffering in this world. Poor people, or even those who start in the world in moderate circumstances, can never hope to succeed in accumulating anything unless they faithfully endeavor to work out the very best that is in them, in the daily performance of their duties. Little things lead to greater ones, and oftentimes the neglect or half discharge of some seemingly unimportant work will prevent the attainment of something of great consequence.

The furniture of a well-kept, neat house will last six times as long as in one where cleaning and repairing are neglected; and every one knows by experience the utility of mending and renovating the clothing of a family. The mother who has her mending day in every week, saves the value of the clothing several times in the year, and so this doing of all household work conscientiously in every little particular is of countless worth in a lifetime.

Aside from the comforts arising from the performance of well-done work, this strict adherence to doing our best in all things has a moral bearing which is of great value to ourselves and others, for in the end it is nothing more nor less than truth and honesty, and teaches us to love both. All of us, then, who have these innumerable little cares and homely, little, every-day tasks to perform, will find ourselves better, wiser and happier by always discharging each and every one of them in the best possible manner.

Some pretty bed-spreads are made of No. 70 real Scotch linen thread, knitted in a lace pattern. These with pillow-shams to match, and lined with colored silks are very effective; and, as good housekeepers say, "last forever." A bed-spread of fine linen has a large, central medallion of drawn-work, and a band of the same above the lace-trimmed hem. Under the drawn-work a piece of silk of the same size is basted.

A dainty table-scarf is of pale-green velvet, embroidered in sprays of lily-of-the-valley and darker green foliage. It is lined with white China silk, and fringed at the ends with green silk tassel-fringe in shades. Another, of old-blue silk, has an all over design of golden dragons, winged, and is lined and fringed with old-gold silk.

A very handsome table-cover is of thick piled green velvet, with the owner's monogram worked in silver and gold threads, and a conventional border. It is finished with a dark-green chenille fringe, and a lining of yellow silk.

A NOVELTY IN BAGS.

A subscriber gives us the following directions for making bags of dress braid, for buttons, work-scraps or for anything for which the feminine mind may devise. Take different and harmonious colors of dress braid, 12 inches long, and join together on the wrong side in over and over stitches. Sew a strip of plush, velvet, silk, sateen or bright cashmere, 7 inches wide, to each end; line with strong cloth, fold bag fashion and seam up the sides, turn down at top 2 inches for hem, and run in a shirr for the ribbon by which to draw it up. Embroider all the strips of braid with feather stitch in various colored silks.

BAKED MACARONI. — Break half a pound of macaroni in pieces, put in a sauce-pan and cover with boiling water; add a teaspoonful of salt and let boil half an hour; drain and throw in cold water, then drain again. Put a layer of the macaroni in the bottom of a baking-dish, then a layer of cheese sprinkled with salt and pepper, another layer of macaroni, then one of cheese, until the dish is full. Cover the top with bits of butter, pour over half a cupful of cream and bake until brown. Serve hot in the dish in which it was baked.

CHOCOLATE PUDDING.—Boil one pint of milk, add half a teacup of butter, a teacup of sugar and three ounces of grated chocolate. Put on to boil, let cool, and add the beaten yolks of three eggs. Pour in a pudding-dish lined with slices of stale cake. Bake; cover with meringue made of the whites of the eggs stiffly beaten with a teacup of sugar and a teaspoonful of vanilla. Set in the stove until slightly brown.

TEA RUSKS.—One pint of milk, one teacup of sugar, half a cup of butter and one large coffee-cup of yeast; mix together and add flour to make stiff batter. Let rise over night and work down two or three times. When ready to bake, roll out and cut in small, round cakes, put in greased pans and let rise, bake and sprinkle with sugar.

JUMBLES.—One and a half cups of white sugar, a cup of butter, three eggs, three tablespoonfuls of milk, one spoonful of baking-powder. Mix with sufficient flour to roll thin. Cut in rings and bake.

LEMON COOKIES.—Two cups of sugar, one cup of butter, one of milk, three eggs, one teaspoonful of baking-powder, the juice of two lemons, flour sufficient to roll thin. Sift over with sugar, and bake quickly in a moderate oven.

QUEEN'S PUDDING.—For this a pint of stale bread crumbs soaked for half an hour or more in a quart of sweet milk is necessary. Stir in a saltspoonful of salt, a heaping tablespoonful of sugar (more if liked very sweet), a little nutmeg, cinnamon or vanilla, a tablespoonful of melted butter and two beaten eggs, omitting the white of one. Bake nearly an hour in a slow oven until the eggs are set, then remove at once. In the meantime whip the omitted white of egg, season it lightly with sugar and lemon juice, and spread over the top of the pudding just before it leaves the oven. A cup of raisins soaked in very hot water on the back of the range for an hour or more and then seeded may be added to this pudding, and will prove very improving.

BREAD AND BUTTER PUDDING.—Cut stale bread in thin slices or use pieces that are already cut. Butter and lay them in a buttered pudding dish, with washed and dried currants of Sultana raisins sprinkled between them. If preferred, jelly or marmalade may be spread on the bread, as well as the butter. Nearly fill the dish, and pour over it a pint and a half of hot milk in which has been melted half a cupful of sugar and a few gratings of nutmeg; cover with a plate and bake slowly nearly an hour; then uncover and bake a light brown. The pudding is to be eaten either cold or hot and with a hard or sugar liquid sauce.

QUEEN'S TOAST. — This is made by soaking thick slices of stale bread until soft in enough milk to wet them thoroughly. To each pint of milk add an egg that has been well beaten. Lift each slice carefully with a cake turner, and brown on both sides in a hot, well buttered pan. Spread the slices thinly with butter, pile them neatly upon a hot dish and serve as a dessert with granulated sugar and powdered cinnamon in the proportion of a teaspoonful of cinnamon to two tablespoonfuls of sugar. When the bread is cut in uniform shape and evenly fried, it makes a most inviting and palatable dessert.

Stoning the raisins adds much to their presence in cake or pudding. The disagreeable part is much lessened by pouring boiling water over them and allowing them to stand twenty minutes; the stones slip out easily, and the raisins are less sticky.

BURDETTE DISGUSTED.

A week or two since, says Bob Burdette in the Brooklyn Eagle, I was thundering along through the miles of exquisite landscape gardening that mark the suburbs of Philadelphia. A young gentleman sitting just in front of me left the train at a local station, and just as we started again half a dozen female voices shrilled out upon the started air:

"Oh, Oh, that-young-man-has-left-his umbrella! Oh! He'll-never-see-it-again! Call-him-back-quick! Oh! Throw-it-out-to-him-do-do-do-throw-that-young man-his-umbrella!"

And as they pointed at the young man and shrieked at me, I hastily raised the window, the powers of darkness assisting me, yelled at the young man, hurled the umbrella at him, like a javelin, and we were gone.

In about two minutes a young man two stories and a mansard taller than any member of my whole family came down the ais of that car with a darkened brow, and looked long and earnestly into the vacant seat whence I had just fired a silk umbrella with a hammered silver head. He looked under the seat and then he looked into the rack. Then he looked at me. I didn't look up, but I felt his eyes go clear through me, as I gazed fixedly out of the window and tried hard to think of the form of prayer to be used for a man who expects to spend the rest of the winter in the hospital. Before I could remember it the athletic looking stranger said kindly but very firmly:

"I left an umbrella in this seat a few moments ago."

For one moment the ghastliest silence you ever heard settled down on that car, and then those shrieking woman giggled as though it was a light thing to die when you had a return ticket in your pocket that would be wasted. I tried to tell the stranger that the young man who was sitting in the seat took it with him, but I thought I had done enough wickedness and folly for one trip. I owned up and told him the truth. He was a magnanimous man and he spared me. But it was a moment of agony, and to-day there are white hairs on the back of my head that I never saw before, and I never pass through Merion station without a shudder. And I never again will offer to extend the slightest helpful courtesy to a stranger. No, if a train should jump off a bridge 4000 feet high into a cataract fiercer than 10,000 Niagaras I wouldn't offer to hold a lone woman's babe and get her handbag out of the rack for her, while she put on her gossamer and hunted for her lost check in case she should want her baggage when we got to the bottom.

A FLOGGING THE ROAD TO FORTUNE.

John James Mago, a quiet, middle-aged man, is in San Francisco, waiting for the Mexican steamer to sail. He looks prosaic, but his career is as romantic as that of Monte Cristo. Mago is now a Guatemalan millionaire, who lives nine months of the year in Paris. Fifteen years ago he was a poor English collector of insects in Guatemala, and also acted as British vice consul at San Jose. One day Commandant Gonzales ordered Mago to appear before him. Mago sent word he would come in a short time. This incensed the commandant, who was ugly with drink, and he sent a file of soldiers after Mago, and when the bug collector appeared ordered seventy-five lashes on his bare back. This was done thoroughly, and when finished, Gonzales shouted, "Give him twenty-five more for luck."

When Mago recovered, which was only after careful nursing, as his back was badly cut up, he made formal complaint to the British Government. The result was Guatemala was ordered to punish Gonzales and to pay Mago $500 for every lash he received. In default of this, English cruisers would shell San Jose and other coast cities. Guatemala rapidly punished Gonzales, but tried hard to evade paying $50,000 to Mago. The British government however, was inexorable, and the poor bug collector was made a comparatively rich man in one day. As he had more coin than any one in the country then, President Barrios entered into partnership with him. Mago became one of the largest coffee planters, and also secured the exclusive franchise for building docks in the ports. No one can land on or leave one of these docks without paying $2 toll to Mago, while he also levies a tax on all freight. He also owns valuable mines and tracts of timber. His fortune is estimated at $5,000,000, all due to one hundred lashes on the back.

A TYPICAL HORSE TRADE.

There is a colored man in Austin, Texas, by the name of Sam Johnsing, says Texas Siftings. He has some money, which he has made trading horses, at which business he is an expert. One day Judge Peterby saw Johnsing trading with an itinerant horse dealer. Having some curiosity to know how Sam came out in the trade, he asked him:

"Did you sell that fellow your horse?"

"I did, boss, fer a fac'."

"How much did you get?"

"Twenty dollars."

"Only $20. Why, you are a fool: that's a valuable horse."

"Lemme tell you somethin', boss. Dat hoss is lame."

Judge Peterby happened to meet the horse trader afterward and said to him:

"So you paid $20 for that horse?"

"Yes, I paid $20 to the darkey. It's a pretty cheap horse."

"You have been swindled. The horse is lame."

"I know the horse is lame, but it doesn't amount to anything. He limps because he has not been properly shod. As soon as I take the shoes off him he will not limp a particle. I wouldn't take $100 for that horse."

Half an hour afterward Judge Peterby met Sam.

"Look here, Sam, you were swindled after all in that horse trade. The lameness of the horse is caused by his not being properly shod."

I know he ain't properly shod. I had him shod dat way on purpose, so as to make dat hoss trader believe dat he was lame from dat cause; but de troof am dat he is lame, sure enough, and he am gwineter stay lame. He nebber will be wuff nuffin'. Heah! heah! now I fooled dat hoss trader."

The same evening Judge Peterby saw the horse trader at the railroad station. He was just about to leave on the train for Dallas.

"That horse is really lame. Sam has got away with you, after all," Said Petby.

"That all depends on circumstances. I think I can cure that horse, but if I don't I'm not out anything," replied the horse dealer, grinning. "Ask Sam, after he has tried to change that twenty dollar bill I gave him for the horse," said the horse dealer, as he climbed into the car.

A BET DECLARED OFF.

A large yellow-and-white cat started to cross Broadway nearly opposite Park row yesterday afternoon when traffic was at its greatest. Where she came from was known only to herself, but that she was making for the friendly shelter afforded by the rails of St. Paul's church yard was apparent to all. Her chances of getting across the street safely did not seem to be good, as she shrank back terrified from a passenger car, dodged under the wheels of an express wagon, and escaped being run over by one of Uncle Sam's mail vans by less than half the length of her tail.

Two well-dressed men from Philadelphia stopped in the middle of the thoroughfare to watch her.

"Bet you she is crushed," said one.

"Take you," replied the other.

Just then the pole of a double truck struck the fifth rib of the man who had offered the bet, knocked his hat off and nearly threw him down.

"Hi!" roared the driver, "hain't you got no eyes?"

At the same moment the man who had taken the bet received a blow on the back of the neck from the off horse's head that nearly dislocated something spinal.

"Ho!" roared the driver. "Are you asleep?"

The men escaped to the sidewalk.

"Where's the cat?" asked one.

"How the devil do I know?" replied the other.

And as the venturesome creature was not visible, dead or alive, the bet was ordered off.

He—"You've got the paper, haven't you? Look at the account of the football match and see if there was anything remarkable about the game." She, (after an interval)—"Well, yes. Nobody was killed."—Boston Times.

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Yours truly, WM. HARPER.

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