





# Oxford Democrat.

PARIS, MAINE, JAN. 28, 1870.

## Virginia Admitted.

Bingham's Bill for the admission of Virginia did not pass the Senate. A sharp division was had in that branch, in which Senators Sumner and Trumbull indulged in personalities quite severe and unparliamentary. A new bill, imposing conditions, was substituted, which made considerable ranging in the House, between Butler, Farquhar and Bingham; but it was finally passed in concurrence, by a strict party vote. This result does not cause so much rejoicing at Richmond as the passage of Bingham's bill in the House, but the admission of the State under any terms, is much desired.

## Sabbath School Convention for Oxford County.

On Tuesday, 25th, the day for the convening of the Convention, a severe easterly snow storm prevailed, which turned into sleet and made a hard crust which rendered travelling almost an impossibility. Still, a goodly number of delegates were in attendance, and the Convention was organized. The afternoon and evening sessions were interesting and very well attended.

Wednesday was a beautiful day, and though the going was very bad, the Convention was more fully attended, and the sessions animated and lively. We must defer a detailed report till another week.

## Lyceum.

The exercises on Friday evening, 21st, consisted of declamation by E. W. Jackson, select reading by Miss Mary Hubbard, and a discussion of the Usury question by S. D. Hutchinson and S. R. Hutchins in favor of a repeal of the law, and F. E. Shaw and J. S. Hobbs against. The Lyceum adjourned to Thursday evening next. Declamation, Chandler Garland; select reading, Hattie Vose. Question for discussion, Capital Punishment. Rev. Z. Thompson for its repeal; A. Black opposed. The choice of officers also occurs this evening.

## Farmer's Club.

The Farmer's Club had another interesting session in this village, on Saturday evening last. We are unable to give a report of the doings this week. The question as to the best kind of manures was taken up again, and an interesting and profitable discussion had. The question in relation to the most profitable breed of cows for our farmers to keep, was postponed to the next meeting in this place—a fortnight hence. The meeting was adjourned to South Paris, on Saturday evening next.

Last week we were shown through the Clothing rooms just fitted up at Norway, by L. & I. A. Denison. They have every convenience for doing a large business, and already give out four hundred garments a week to parties within a circuit of five or six miles. Satisfactory wages are made, and it is an industry which must be very valuable to this section. They expect soon to give out a thousand garments a week. The business is under the superintendence of Mr. Emery, a man of practical experience. The work they have turned off gives excellent satisfaction. They have also established a department of custom work, under the charge of Mr. Joseph Churchill, well known as a skillful cutter, and they are prepared to get up nice suits to the satisfaction of all.

**THE FAT MEN IN COUNCIL.** The Lewiston Journal of Saturday contains a full report of this convention, which met in Auburn Hall at 10 o'clock.

The Committee reported that the heaviest man in the convention was Mr. A. G. Haven of Chelsea, 19 years old, few days since, 354 lbs. without overcoat or hat.

The next heaviest man was Mr. Geo. Brackett of North Hermon, 57 years old, 5 feet 9 1/2 inches high, and weighing 347 1/4 lbs. without hat or overcoat. Both gentlemen were received with applause. Mr. Ham, of Lewiston, after a few words of welcome, nominated M. T. Luden of Lewiston, for temporary chairman. A committee was appointed who shortly reported the name of Enoch Littlefield, of Auburn—representing 287 1/2 lbs. of that borough—as permanent chairman, supported by a ton and a half of Vice Presidents and six hundred pounds of Secretaries.

**BREVET MAJOR GENERAL CHARLES H. SMITH**, who has been appointed to succeed the late General Mower as military commandant in Louisiana, is well known in this State. He is a graduate of Colby University and formerly resided in Eastport. During the war he became Colonel of the famous First Maine Cavalry, and afterwards received his higher brevet rank. After the war and before he became an officer of the regular army he served in the Legislature as a Senator from Washington County.

—Mr. Ransom Ripley hailed by our office on Thursday morning, a handsome stick of white ash, cut from the land of widow A. H. Thayer. It is 36 feet in length, and straight as an arrow—45 feet. It measures 2 1/2 feet at the butt. It will scale 864 feet, and is intended for the shovel handle factory at Steep Falls. The tree was estimated to be 144 years old. There are some other handsome sticks on the lot where this was got.

—Rev. Samuel Paine, of Oxford, will deliver his entertaining lecture on the Siege of Sebastopol, at the Methodist Meeting House at South Paris, on Thursday evening, Feb. 3d. All in the neighborhood, who have not heard the lecture should improve the opportunity. The aid to the Sewing Circle is also worthy of consideration.

—An Old Folk's Ball comes off at Academy Hall, on Friday evening of this week.

## Andover Items.

### GOLDEN WEDDING.

We have had a most interesting golden wedding in our place during the past week. Tuesday the 18th of January was the 50th anniversary of Mr. Sylvanus Larnard's wedding day. He and his wife, Mrs. Nancy Larnard, have lived most of the time during the last forty years in this town. They have dwelt in our midst in peace and love with each other and with our entire community; and now that the infirmities of old age are creeping upon them, our good people bethought themselves to visit them and bear with them some token of their esteem. They accordingly assembled on the afternoon of the 18th, to the number of some one hundred, each bearing with them some rich token of their esteem. The good old couple were entirely overcome with gratitude for so much kindness. They were taken by surprise, and could scarce find words to express their thankfulness, "and we all felt that it was indeed more blessed to give than to receive." We think that was the cause of our having such a season of enjoyment, as we left with them a sufficient supply of the good things of this life to make them comfortable during the remainder of the winter, and left them in tears of thankfulness, calling down many blessings upon our heads. God bless the good old couple. Mr. Larnard is seventy-four years of age. His limbs have become so stiffened by hard labor that he is nearly helpless. Mrs. Larnard is sixty-six. She is still active and smart, and during the past year she has woven five hundred yards of cloth (mostly carpeting), and spun over three hundred skeins of yarn, done all her house work, knitting, sewing, &c., &c. She is a very kind efficient woman in sickness and ever ready to give her services wherever she is needed.

We noticed several venerable old settlers present. Mrs. Webster, formerly Mrs. Akers, sister of uncle Larnard, aged seventy-six. She looked as cheerful and happy as any one present; also uncle Varnum Abbott, aged ninety-one, was looking hale and hearty. Uncle William Adams was also there, and although his head shows the frost of many winters, no one seemed to enjoy the season better than he. After treating ourselves to a splendid supper we left the premises just as about thirty young people were driving up, bearing with them each some testimonial of esteem for the good old couple, and intent on a jolly time. We left uncle Larnard's, each bearing with us his blessing, and drove six miles in the bright moonlight over a splendid smooth road with the crust shining like diamonds, and drove up to the door of the neat and commodious cottage of Hiram D. Abbott, Esq., where a warm welcome awaited us, and about one hundred enjoyed a social chat till nine o'clock when Mrs. Abbott sent round a rich cup of coffee with everything nice in the way of cakes and tarts and all those nice ecceteras which the dear ladies know so well how to get up.

Friday evening, Jan. 31st, we held a Levee at Union Hall where a good time generally was had, and after various entertainments all felt well pleased with the events of the evening.

The Rev. Ira Sprague supplies the pulpit of the first Parish, during the remainder of the winter.

We have had an unusually pleasant winter thus far, and the sleighing, with the exception of a few days, has been perfect. A most splendid night for business and pleasure.

Our lumbermen are doing an active business, and the greatest complaint is for more help.

Andover, Jan. 24th.

We had also an account of the golden wedding by another writer.

**LEVÉE.** There was a notice given that the young folks of Andover would give a levee at the town house, Jan. 21st, at 1-2 past 6 in the evening. At 7 the hall was well filled; over two hundred present, all eager to witness the performances.

I will give the programme. Part first, Music, which was grand; "Christmas tree, Happy New Year, Simple Simon. Sold and sold again; solo, song. The lords of creation, Three o'clock in the morning. Many present thought this worthy of imitation.

Part 2d—Peddler, A Ben Adhem; each sustained their parts admirably. Charade. This was a splendid scene. Pantomime, Guardian Angel; two angels appearing, one looking downward guarding the sleeping innocence, while the other kneeling pointed upward to the regions of bliss. It was a lovely sight. Drama, Honor among thieves. This piece was performed to the entire satisfaction of all.

A delightful evening's entertainment. They all aced off their part so well, I do not wish to discriminate among the performers. We were frequently cheered with music by Mrs. French. Last, but not least, an oyster supper was served up, in the lower hall. The receipts were appropriated for furnishing the hall.

## Dixfield.

### ANOTHER GOLDEN WEDDING.

The citizens of Dixfield enjoyed a very pleasant and interesting time Wednesday evening, Jan. 19, 1870.—That day was the fiftieth anniversary of the wedding day of the Hon. Silas Barnard and his most excellent wife, Lucy Barnard. Their neighbors and friends gave them timely notice that they should be at their house on that evening in large numbers, to greet them on that memorable occasion. Accordingly, preparations were extensively made, for a general good time. At an early hour, the house was filled with a happy company of relatives and friends, whose joyful countenances indicated that they had gathered for a pleasant meeting. A band of music was in attendance, led by W. S. Chase, which discoursed most excellent music. The company was called to order by Gen. John B. Marrow, and the bridegroom and bride were introduced, and Dr. Zenas W. Bartlett was called upon to perform the marriage ceremony. The doctor, in his usually happy and

felicitous manner, re-united this happy couple in the bonds of wedlock, wishing them a long and happy life.

The crowd were then called from labor to refreshments, and sat down to a bountiful repast. The tables were loaded down with everything desirable to gratify the taste and to satisfy the appetite. Joy, mirth and dainties, were well interspersed, to make the entertainment interesting. After supper was over, and the cloths removed, the band played some select and excellent pieces of music, and the choir of singers united their voices in performing some beautiful pieces, also; after which the whole crowd joined in singing some old tunes, such as "Old Hundred, Balerma and Auld Lang Syne." The evening was passed in social chat and merriment, interchanging kind and friendly words and feelings, and with hearty good wishes for the future happiness of the much beloved and venerable pair, the fiftieth anniversary of whose wedding day they had met to celebrate.

Near the close of the evening, the company were called to listen to some remarks from Maj. Barnard, who addressed them in a very interesting manner. He thanked them for their kindness and their presence on that occasion, and especially for their more substantial and unexpected tokens of friendship, in the kind offerings presented. There was a small vase standing upon the parlor table, in which the company had already deposited thirty-six dollars in gold, many of them in single gold dollars; also a fine masonic gold pin, and some silver dollars, and greenbacks. Several other gold dollars have been added, by those who could not be present on the occasion.

Mrs. Lucy Barnard then expressed her gratification, in meeting so many of her friends and neighbors on that occasion, and thanking them for their kindness and good will, and she wished she could have had the whole town there that evening, saying that her heart was large enough, but her house was not. Then followed some very interesting remarks by Gen. Marrow, Dr. Bartlett, Isaac N. Stanley, E. G. Harlow and others.

The season was a truly interesting one and it will be remembered by those who were present. We have never witnessed a more joyful and happy meeting. Maj. Barnard and wife have lived in happy we look, in Dixfield village, for fifty full years. Few families (if any) have more friends and fewer enemies. The evening was spent in the full "foam of reason and the flow of soul." Thus passed the first golden wedding in Dixfield. May we have many more.

## Mason Items.

### GLEANINGS BY THE WAY.

The weather is beautiful, the travelling most excellent, and business generally good in this section. Just snow enough in the woods for getting out wood, sleepers and small timber, but hardly enough for heavy logging. The principle lumbering business with us here, is getting out R. R. ties. At the present price, and such good weather, that pays fair; but it is a most ruinous business in the long run for the owners of timber, it is so destructive of young growth; at the present rate of destruction, our forest will be denuded of spruce and hemlock, so that good timber will be like gold and silver now, very scarce.

There seems to be a plenty of hay now, but it is high for this season of the year. Farmers are asking for good hay, from fifteen to twenty dollars a ton, at the barn. The consumption of hay has not been so great thus far, as last year, on account of the mildness of the weather. Stock of all kinds is wintering finely. Sheep look as well as when they came to the barn.

Mrs. Rouben Paine, of North Albany, one day last week, fell down stairs and broke her arm. It was set by Dr. R. G. Wiley, and she is doing well.

Daniel Hodgman, of Gilead, who has been out of health for a long time, attempted suicide, by cutting his throat with a common pocket knife. He succeeded in cutting nine wounds in his throat, but did not sever the jugular vein. His wounds were skillfully dressed by Dr. Wiley, and he is yet living, but his recovery is doubtful.

Elijah R. Morrill had a nice work horse killed one day last week, in Gilead, by a tree falling across its back—a loss that Mr. Morrill will severely feel.

Messrs. Bean & Mason, at West Bethel, occupying the store lately owned by Lyman W. Alger, have a fine stock of goods, and are doing a good business. They are both smart, gentlemanly young men, and are bound to succeed.

G. H. B.

## Sweden Items.

The Silver Lake Lodge of Good Templars, of Sweden, gave an entertainment in the Congregational Church, on the 14th, and repeated it on the 21st inst., consisting of declamations, tableaux, dialogues and music. It is not saying too much that the whole entertainment of both evenings was a perfect success. Where all did so well, perhaps we may be thought partial if we name any one in particular; but we feel constrained to name the young lady that so acceptably entertained the audience with sweet music and fine playing on the melodeon—Mrs. Preston Hamlin. Mrs. Hamlin has taught the town school in Center District, this winter, to the satisfaction of the district. She and her husband are about starting for Kansas, to make their future home, and they will take with them the kind remembrance and best wishes of this entire community.

We have two Singing Schools in this town—one taught by John Bray, of Bridgton, and the other by Seymour Farrington of Fryeburg.

Perhaps Sweden can say what few other towns can, that there is no known place within the limits of the town, where people are generally sober, industrious, and mind their own business, so that no inducement is held out for a Lawyer or Sheriff to locate themselves among us.

## Bethel Items.

Maj. Arthur Deering, State Lecturer for the Grand Lodge of Good Templars in Maine, delivered an eloquent temperance lecture in the first Congregational church, on Thursday evening of last week. The meeting was called to order by J. A. Morton, M. D. He spoke for two hours and was listened to with the greatest enthusiasm. His lecture was a masterly one, and presented an array of figures to show the enormous evils which spring up from intemperance. The speaker seems to think that many of our rum sellers are getting to be so mean that they will "steal dead mice from a blind kitten."

Horse trotting is getting to be up to fever heat in this vicinity. We understand parties will meet next week on Mr. Caleb Rowe's meadow to trot.

We hear in one of our school districts not far from here, that some half civilized boys undertook the feat of driving the school mistress out of the school room. We believe if the teacher had the strength to give the lubbers a good thrashing, it would be as good as a dose of epsom salts. We hear three or four have been expelled from the school.

Hiram Hodson, Esq., proprietor of the saw mill at Walker's Mills, is doing a brisk business this pleasant winter. The mill has paid better since Mr. H. took charge, than any year since its erection.

A gentleman who just came down from the saw mill at Walker's Mills, is doing a brisk business this pleasant winter. The mill has paid better since Mr. H. took charge, than any year since its erection.

We hear much complaining from our farmers of a disease among the potatoes. Many that appeared to be healthy when put into the cellar have become unfit for use in consequence of disease and decay. We notice several specimens which are affected with a dry rot spreading over the entire surface and extending into the potato in some instances a fourth of an inch.

The Rising Sun Lodge have now a paper and question for discussion every week. The question last Friday evening was discussed by Enoch Foster, Jr., Esq., and Moses Lattie, in the aff. and L. D. Bean and A. Chandler, Jr., negative. The meetings are well attended and much interest is manifested by members of the society for its advancement.

Hard wood sells in our village this winter at \$1.50 per cord.

There are now thirty widows living within a circuit of one mile of our village. Rev. Mr. Titus and lady who have been away on a visit to their friends in Mass. for three weeks past, are expected to return this week.

Bethel, Jan. 24, 1870.

**MR. EDITOR.**—The Lecture delivered at this place, by the Rev. Samuel Paine of Oxford, upon "The Crimean War, and the Siege of Sebastopol," was pronounced by every one highly interesting, and reflected great credit upon the speaker. Mr. Paine was an artilleryman in the British service during the Crimean war, and afterwards came to this country, and at the breaking out of the Rebellion, entered the army as 2d Lieut. of the 2d Maine Battery. The lecture was replete with historical information and thrilling events, clothed in the finest language; and although the speaker had participated in the scenes by him described, there was an entire absence of that egotism which sometimes figures so strongly in the lectures of some of the heroes of our own war.

**TO TEACHERS AND SUPERINTENDING SCHOOL COMMITTEES OF OXFORD COUNTY.** As the time of year has arrived when it is almost impossible to visit the different towns in the County, and as a large number of the schools are now closing, I propose to postpone further labors till the opening of the Spring terms of High Schools and Academies, and then hold Institutes a single day or more wherever these schools are located, and where a large number of teachers of our Summer Schools will be assembled to fit themselves for their position.

I also wish that Superintending School Committees in every town, where possible, would arrange to have a Town Institute one day during the Spring, to which all scholars in town who can read in a Fourth or Fifth Reader, all teachers, committees and citizens shall be invited to be present.

I know of no way where so much good can be accomplished towards elevating the condition of schools as in a single day's Institute of this character. Shall I not, then, have your influence in this direction, and by our united efforts prevent the terrible waste of time and misdirected efforts in our Schools?

Unless I can have the co-operation of Superintending School Committees, my labors in visiting their schools will be of comparatively little value; with it a mighty change can be brought about in elevating their condition.

Committees and Teachers can address me at Bethel.

N. T. TRUE, Supervisor.

Bethel, Jan. 26th, 1870.

**An Offer to Teachers.**

I will present a box of mineralogical and geological specimens to the teacher in Oxford County who shall write the best essay on the best and greatest variety of methods of teaching geography in our Common Schools. Said essays must be presented to the County Supervisor previous to the 1st of April. Will not every teacher in the County compete for the prize? It will do any teacher good to engage in the exercise, independent of a reward. The successful essay will be published for the benefit of all the teachers in the County. A Committee will be appointed to decide upon the merits of the essays presented.

N. T. TRUE, Supervisor.

## Bryant's Pond.

Geo. Cushman, whose sickness was mentioned in a former number of the Democrat, died Friday, January 14th, aged a little more than thirty six years. His sickness was long and painful, which he bore with great fortitude. His disease, that of the brain, was regarded by several of the medical profession who visited him, as necessarily fatal from the beginning. Receiving no encouragement from the regular practice, his family was induced, by those who believe in that delusion, to resort to "Spiritual doctors." One Hopkings of Portland, who professes to be inspired by the spirit of some defunct Indian, was the "doctor" appealed to, and in consideration of heavy installments of currency, he promised everything desired. Though Cushman continued to fail, he became partly paralyzed and fearfully emaciated, still the "doctor" gave them every assurance of ultimate recovery. The crowning act of his rascality, and that which revealed how much his pretended knowledge is worth, was a letter written to Mrs. Cushman on the day of George's death, and probably penned after his spirit had departed, in which he repeated his assurances of final success and recovery, and at the same time spoke of his business as being in a highly prosperous condition, and of important changes in the public men in favor of spiritualism, consequent upon his great success. The death of George revealed to his family the extent of the imposition which had been practiced upon them, and if anything else was needed to open their eyes, the letter above referred to, which was received after his death, afforded it.

The deceased was one of our most cultivated townsmen. In his younger days he taught school with great success, and in point of natural ability as well as of education, was well qualified to take high rank in any of the learned professions. But his taste leading him to the honorable employment of cultivating the soil, he purchased the homestead on which he was born and reared, and since that time has given his whole attention to developing its resources. In his business operations he has been very successful and has last by a handsome competency for one of his years. His fellow townsmen have ever had the fullest confidence in his integrity and have kept him in town office all they could, and much more than was in accordance with his desires. As a citizen he was always a zealous advocate of the right, never sacrificing principle to policy, and fearless in the expressions of his convictions. As a neighbor he was kind and accommodating, especially to the industrious poor. As a husband and father, he was everything desired, and to his family the loss is irreparable.

Though stricken down in the prime of his manhood he has accomplished as much and more than many do in a long lifetime, and his life has by no means been a failure. The poet says that

"That life is long that answers life's great end," and in accordance with this sentiment, our friend, as compared with many of us, lived out the full measure of his years.

Rev. A. Gunnison of Bath, and Rev. Costello Webster of Rockland, are engaged in a missionary tour through Oxford County, explaining the work of the Centenary year, and distributing missionary boxes. They will be at Bryant's Pond Tuesday afternoon, Feb. 1st, at 2 o'clock; at Locke's Mills, Tuesday evening, Feb. 1st, at half past six; at Ramford Point Wednesday afternoon, Feb. 2d, at 2 o'clock.

## Mexico.

Jan. 16th, R. W. D. D. I. G. Curtis, this day installed the following officers of Blazing Star Lodge of Masons:

Carlton T. Gleason, W. M.; John Larabee, Secretary; B. W. Stockwell, Treasurer; John H. Ellis, S. W.; Henry W. Park, Marshall; D. G. Frost, Geo. Hayes, Stewards; Benj. Edmunds, Tyler; Waldo Pettengill and W. S. Mitchell, Wardens elect; and Geo. S. Walker, J. Wardle elect were not present.

Friday evening, Daniel Gammon and family, living in Roxbury, left a fire burning in their house, and went to his father's, Robinson Gammon's, for a short stay. Dr. V. M. Abbott returning from above them, on a professional trip, discovered a fire, and took the family in his sleigh, carried them to where their house was. During their absence the dwelling had taken fire and burned, completely destroying the building and all its contents. This leaves Mr. Gammon in exceedingly destitute circumstances.

A Mr. Mains, from Raymond, in this State, died at the residence of F. M. Thomas, in Byron, Thursday the 20th inst. Mr. Mains was cook at the camp of the Lewiston Steam Mill Co.

## Rumford Point.

More than one hundred of our friends assembled at our dwelling on Wednesday of last week, with smiling faces, and loving hearts, affording substantial testimonials of that good charity that never faileth. The day was fine, none could be more so, and the sleighing was in keeping with the day. Since my labors are equally divided between this place and Dixfield, the gifts bestowed include both. From friends in Dixfield, I received a fine overcoat, worth twenty-five dollars. A small balance in money was given to Miss Elliot. Money amounting to over forty dollars, was contributed by the people of Rumford and vicinity. Meats, and several bushels of produce, &c., were presented, which, taken with the greenbacks, would foot up to seventy five dollars! A more genial social season we have never enjoyed, or a more satisfactory donation from those whose benefactions we have so often shared. May these donors receive rewards a hundred fold from Him whose favour is life, whose loving kindness is better than life.

J. ELLIOT.

The County Lodge of Good Templars will meet with Nesbitts Lodge, at Buckfield, on Tuesday, Feb. 1st, 1870, at 9 o'clock A. M. A cordial invitation to all the Lodges in the county is extended.

J. W. WHITTEN, W. C. T.

## Bridgton Items.

**MR. EDITOR.**—Will a few jottings from Bridgton be allowed a place in the Democrat, or are your columns open only to Oxford County correspondents? Being just over the border thereof, I presume to send you the following:

Business, population and wealth have rapidly increased in this village, for the past four years. The water power here, has justly challenged the attention of our own, and neighboring capitalists. The privileges are being rapidly bought up, and at no far distant day, all will be occupied. One great natural advantage of power was seen in the late freshet, so disastrous to New England water powers generally. The fall of rain was as great here as in other localities, yet our reservoirs, Moose, Crooked, Woods and Beaver ponds were capable of containing the flood, and little damage was sustained. The larger number of powers is upon the stream running through the village from Crooked to Long ponds, known as Stevens brook; which, in the short distance of one mile, has a fall of about one hundred and fifty feet, with a volume of water sufficient to run the largest mills.

Within the past two years, from fifty to sixty new buildings have been erected, including churches, dwellings, factories, machine-shops, stores, dye and bake houses. New streets have been opened, and others projected.

The classical locality known as "Frogville" has been the scene of the greatest activity, and from its situation,—must eventually become the center of the village. Where, four years ago stood an old saw-mill, tottering under its age, and infirmities, a small grist mill, and a few houses,—stands to-day the fine factory of the Pondcherry Mills Co., the beautiful Masonic Hall and store, Bennett's block, and Templar's Hall, L. Carman & Sons machine-shop, Cook's store and hardware store, with a dozen or more dwelling houses. In addition to these the Pondcherry mills Company have recently bought and moved from the "Hill" two stores, which they are fitting up for waiting tenants.

Further down the streams, at the Forest Mills nearly as great a change has been effected in the same time. Enterprise is plainly stamped upon the village generally, and the right men are in the right places.

The Methodist society have in process of erection a fine church, which is at once an honor to them, and an ornament to the village.

In the early Spring, the Orthodox society propose to erect a church, and from the well known ability of those having the matter in hand, we may safely predict the erection of a noble building.

Thanks to the influence of the Teacher's Institute, a movement is being made to consolidate the village districts, and build a new house suitable for graded schools, a change that is imperatively demanded, and will eventually be made.

At the Canning establishment of John W. Jones in this place, about one million cans of green corn were put up the past season, giving employment to from seven to eight hundred hands, male and female. They danced the can-can, with a vengeance.

[For the Democrat.]

We are glad to find in our Oxford boy, Edward P. Grover, a live singing school teacher, possessing talents to train youthful voices in notes of harmony. Let parents encourage their children to sing, and by so doing discourage vice. Mr. Grover's school at Middle Intervale meets on Tuesday and Friday evenings. On the north side of the river Monday, Wednesday and Saturday evenings.

## OBITUARY.

In Porter, Me., on the 13th day of July last, Eld. Joseph Stanley departed this life, in the full triumphs of faith, aged 62 years, 6 months and 22 days.

The deceased experienced religion at the early age of 12 years, but like some young persons who give their hearts to God at that tender age, he neglected duty, and wandered from the fold of Christ, and lived in a backslidden state until 51 years of age, when he renewed his covenant with the Saviour, and ever after maintained an exemplary christian character.

He was baptized on the 2d day of Dec. 1828, by Elder James Sawyer, the first settled minister of Porter, and joined the Free-Will Baptist church of which he remained a member until some time afterwards when a division took place in the F. W. B. church, one portion favoring, and the other opposing the moral and benevolent enterprise of the day. He united with the latter portion, who were led by Elder Jeremiah Bullock, and organized into a church, called the 1st F. W. B. church, and the deceased was chosen one of its Deacons, and took an active part in the support of its meetings.

In Feb. 1854, he was ordained to the work of the Gospel Ministry. His labors were not confined to the church to which he belonged, but he traveled and preached in Parsonfield, Limerick, Linington, Hollis, Standish, Sebago, Naples, Raymond, Gray, Bridgton, Hiram, Brownfield, and other towns in Maine, and Freedom, Eaton, Madison, Conway, Albany, Yarmouth, Ossipee, Wakefield, and other towns in N. H.

He was successful in the ministry. His solemn prayers, and earnest exhortation will long be remembered by thousands who have listened to them. Notwithstanding he belonged to a church that posed the moral reforms, and christian enterprises of the day, yet he was liberal in his ideas, and friendly to Sabbath Schools and Missions, and the Temperance and Anti-Slavery causes. He was a strong friend of the Government during the late rebellion, while many of his church brethren gave their sympathies to traitors, and sought many ways, and made many attempts, by falsehood and misrepresentation, to destroy the influence and character of the deceased, but without avail, for their reports were proven false, and his character vindicated,

while his persecutors are left to smart beneath their own shame. He uttered no slanders; spoke evil of no man; and "when reviled, he reviled not again." He leaves a wife and four sons, and many relatives and friends to mourn their loss. The widow is one of the "nursing mothers in Israel," and is still engaged, as she has been for over forty years past, in the service of Christ.

Sermon on the occasion by Rev. Wescott Bullock, of Biddeford, assisted in the services by Rev. Albert Cole, of Cornish.

**Editorial and Selected Items.**

To CORRESPONDENTS. Communications on "Usury," Maine Insane Hospital, The National Deaf Mute College, on Superphosphate, East Stoneham, Mutual vs. Stock Fire Insurance Companies, and other interesting correspondence is unavoidably deferred. Local items take precedence, as they must be served fresh, like garden sars, it makes them palatable.

—Absence from our post, attending the S. S. Convention this week, is our apology for not giving our usual summary of Congressional, and legislative news.

—Messrs. L. & I. A. Denison have the celebrated *Starling Spool Cotton*, which A. T. Stewart, of New York, has brought into such favorable notice.

—The Union Church at North Paris, having been thoroughly repaired, will be re-dedicated the 9th of February, (Wednesday). Services to commence at 11 A. M. A cordial invitation is extended to those who are interested to be present.

—The Democratic State Committee held their annual session at Augusta this week for the purpose of organizing for the coming campaign and selecting the place of holding their next State Convention. They have decided upon Portland.

—Last Friday evening, there was a masquerade ball at Elm House Hall, Norway, where the evening was enjoyed immensely. The costumes consisted of the comical, grotesque and absurd.

—An infant child of Thomas Beal, Norway, was choked to death last Friday night, by phlegm, caused, by a severe cold, which it had not sufficient strength to raise, says the Lewiston Journal.

—Benj. Hueland, of Mexico, killed a hog 18 months old weighing 617 lbs.

—A dispatch from Rome, received Jan. 17th says: "The Empress of Austria took leave of the Pope yesterday. She received a commission from him."

Over 300 of the fathers have refused to sign the petition in favor of infallibility and many others have returned evasive answers. The opposers of the project intend getting up a counter petition and assert they are sure of adherents enough to defeat infallibility.

—The nice sleighing of last week was nearly destroyed on the hills in this section, by a warm rain on Sunday last. An Easterly snow storm occurred again on Tuesday, which turned to rain before clearing up, but affords plenty of snow again for a season. Rain is more prevalent this winter than snow.

—A mother at South Boylston wrapped her babe so closely while walking in the open air, the other day, that she smothered it.

—A contemporary suggests a solution to the female suffrage question, which is, to grant the ballot to all women over forty years old.

—Grandma says, "what makes my two little girls got along so nicely to day?" Little three year old Bertha answered, face all sunshine, "It cause we call things us."

**PLUCKY.** Rev. D. Garland, of Bethel, started from his home in the severe snow storm of last Tuesday, at 6 o'clock A. M., for the Sabbath School Convention at South Paris. He was on hand at the opening, to the shame of some of us who lived only a







