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Poetry.

WILLOW WHISTLES.

The world is quite awake to-day,
The latest stories are bustling,
The brook sings by the wind is gay,
And every leaf is rustling;
This shanty bank, 'neath beech and oak,
With lance-like grasses bristles,
And you and I, two idle folk,
Sit making willow whistles.

Oh, heavenly sunshine of the May,
Succeeding winter's hoariness,
What gladness comes about the way,
What gladness comes about the way,
What gladness comes about the way,
What gladness comes about the way,
What gladness comes about the way,
What gladness comes about the way.

The faithful beamed upon each other
With glowing and expressive countenances;
The Cornet Quartette played
"Don't you go, Tommy," the smallest
young lady sang "Father, dear father,
come home with me now!" and then
Squire Breet, the Chairman, announced
that the meeting was open for remarks.

A delirious laugh from some of the
half grown boys, and a titter from some
of the misses, attracted the attention
of the audience, and looking round they
saw Joe Digg standing up in a pew near
the door.

"Put him out!" "It's a shame!" "Dis-
graceful!" were some of the cries which
were heard in the room.
"Mr. Digg is a citizen of Backley,"
said the Chairman, rapping vigorously
to call the audience to order, "and though
not a member of the Association, he is
entitled to a hearing."

"Thank you, Mr. Chairman," said Joe
Digg, when quiet was restored; "your
words are the first respectful ones I've
ever heard in Backley, and I do assure
you I appreciate 'em. But I want the
audience to understand I ain't drunk—I
haven't had a cent for two days, and no
body's treated me."

By this time the audience was very
quiet, but in a delicious fever of excite-
ment. A drunkard speaking right out
in temperance meeting!—they had never
heard of such a thing in their lives.
Verily, Backley was going to add one to
the roll of modest villages made famous
by unusual occurrences.

"I suppose, Mr. Chairman," continued
Joe Digg, "that the pint of temperance
meeting's to stop drunkenness, and as
I'm about the only fully developed
drunkard in town, I'm most likely to
know what this meeting's mounted to."

Squire Breet inclined his head slightly,
as if to admit the correctness of Joe
Digg's position.
"I believe every word the gentleman
has said," continued the drunkard, "and"
—here he paused long enough to let an
excitable member exclaim "Bless the
Lord!" and burst into tears—"and he could
have put it all a good deal stronger with
out stretchin' the truth. And the govern-
ment 'til the Dictionary runs dry, and
then ye don't know nothin' 'bout it. But
hain't none of ye ever laughed 'bout
backin' the stable door after the horse
is stolen? That's just what this temperance
meeting 'an' all the others comes to."

A general and rather indignant mur-
mur of dissent ran through the audience.
"You don't believe it," continued Joe
Digg, "but I've been a drunkard, and I'm
now yet, and ye all got sense enough to
understand that I orter know best about it."

"Will the gentleman have the kindness
to explain," asked the lecturer.
"I'm comin' to it, sir, if my head 'll see
me through," replied the drunkard.
"You folks all believe that it's liquor
that makes men drink it; now, I
hain't no such thing. I never had a
chance to taste fancy drinks, but I know
that every kind of liquor I ever got hold
of was more like medicine than anything
else."

and almshouse authorities, to prove his
statement that alcohol made most of our
criminals. He unrolled a formidable
array of statistics, and showed how
many loaves of bread could be bought
with the money expended in the United
States for intoxicating liquors; how
many comfortable houses the same
money would build; how many schools
it would support; and how soon it would
pay the National Debt.

Then he drew a moving picture of the
sorrow of the drunkard's family and the
awfulness of the drunkard's death, and
sat down amid a perfect thunder of ap-
plause.

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with glowing and expressive countenances;
the Cornet Quartette played
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young lady sang "Father, dear father,
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chance to taste fancy drinks, but I know
that every kind of liquor I ever got hold
of was more like medicine than anything
else."

"The whole audience indulged in pro-
fane laugh, and the good deacon was
suddenly hauled down by his wife. The
drunkard continued:

"There's lots of jest sech folks, here in
Backley, an' ev'ry where else—people
that don't get half fed, an' do get worked
half to death. Nobody means to 'buse
'em, but they do hev a hard time of it,
an' whiskey's the best friend they've got."

"I work my men from sunrise to sun-
set in summer, myself," said Deacon
Tower, jumping up again, an' I'm the
first man in the field, an' the last one to
quit. But I don't drink no liquor, an'
my boys don't neither."

"But ye don't start in the mornin' with
hungry little faces a hammin' ye—ye
don't take the dry crusts to the field for
yer dinner, an' leave the most an' butter
at home for the wife an' young uns. An'
ye go home without bein' 'lared to see
a half fed wife draggin' herself aroun'
among a lot of puny young uns that
don't know what's the matter with 'em.
Jesus Christ himself broke down when it
came to the cross, deacin' an' poor hu-
man bein's sometimes reaches a pint
where they can't stan' no more, an' when
it's a child that brings it on, it
gits a man awful."

"The gentleman is right, I have no
doubt," said the Chairman, "so far as a
limited class is concerned, but of course
no such line of argument applies to the
majority of cases. There are plenty of
well fed, healthy, and happy young men
hanging about the tavern in this very
village."

"I know it," said Joe Digg, "an' I
want to talk about them too. I don't
want to take up all the time of this meet-
in', but you'll all 'low I know more 'bout
that tavern than anybody else does. There's
lots of young men a hangin' aroun' it,
an' why—coz it's made pleasant for 'em,
an' it's the only place in town that is.
I've been a faithful attendant at that
tavern for nigh on to twenty year, an'
I never knowed a hanger on there
that had a comfortable home of his own.
Some of them that don't hev to go to bed
hungry hev scoldin' or squabblin' parents,
an' they can't go a visitin', an' hear fine
music, an' see nice things of every sort
to take their minds off, as some young
men in this meetin' house can. But the
tavern is alius comfortable, an' they
generally somebody to sing a song and
tell a joke, an' they commence goin' their
more for a pleasant time than for a drink,
at last. There's lots of likely boys goin'
there that I wish to God I stay away, an'
I've often felt like tellin' 'em so, but
what's the use? Where are they goin' to?

"They ort to flee from even the ap-
pearance of evil," said Deacon Tower.
"But where are they to flee to, Deacin'?"
persisted Joe Digg; "would you like 'em
to come a visitin' to your house?"
"They can't come to the church meet-
in'," replied the Deacon; "there's two
in the week, besides Sundays, an' some
of 'em's precious seasons—all of 'em's
an' improvement on the wicked tavern."

"Ligion don't taste no better'n whis-
key, till you get used to it," said the
drunkard, horrifying all the orthodox
people at Backley, an' 'tain't half so in-
jurious. 'Taint long ago I heard ye tellin'
another deacon that the church members
ort to be ashamed of themselves, 'cos
somebody of 'em come to the week-
evenin' meetin', so ye can't blame the
boys at the tavern."

"Does the gentleman mean to convey
the idea that all drunkards become so
from justifying causes?" asked the lec-
turer.
"No, sir," replied Joe Digg, "but I do
mean to say that after you leave out the
fact that takes liquor to help 'em do a full
day's work, an' them that commence
drinkin' 'cos they're at the tavern, an'
ain't got no where's else to go, you've
made a mighty big hole in the crowd of
drinkin' men—bigger'n temperance meet-
in's ever begin to make 'em."

"But how are they to be 'let out'?"
asked the lecturer.
"By temperance folks doin' somethin'
beside talkin'," replied the drunkard.
"For twenty year I've been lectured and
scolded, an' some good men's come to
me with tears in their eyes, and put their
arms aroun' my neck, an' begged me to
stop drinkin'. And I've wanted to, and
tried to, but when all the encouragement
a man gits is in words, and no matter
how he commenced drinkin' now every
bone and muscle in him is a beggin' for
drink ez soon ez he leaves off, and his
minds dull, and he ain't fit for much,
an' needs takin' care of as perticular ez
a mighty sick man, it's just as good ez
wasted. There's been times when I'd
been ahead on floor and meat and sich,
I could a stopped drinkin', but when a man
is hungry, and ragged, and weak, and
half crazy, knowin' his family is fixed an'
he can't do nothin' for 'em, and then don't
get nothin' but words to reform on, he'll
go back to the tavern every time, and he'll
drink till he is comfortable, and till he
forgits. I want the people here, one an'
ally, to understand that though I'm past
helpin' now, there has ben fifty times in
the last twenty year when I might hev ben
stopped short, ef anybody'd ben sensible
enough and good hearted enough to give
me a lift."

Joe Digg sat down, and there was a
long pause. The Chairman whispered
to the leader of the Glee Club, and the
club sang a song, but somehow it failed
to awaken the usual enthusiasm. After
the singing had ended, the Chairman
himself took the floor and moved the ap-
pointment of a permanent committee to
look after the Intemperate, and to collect
fines when the use of money seemed
necessary, and the village doctor created

a sensation by moving that Mr. Joe Digg
should be a member of the committee.
Deacon Tower, who was the richest man
in the village, and who dreaded subscrip-
tion papers, started an insidious opposi-
tion by eloquently vaunting the value of
earnest prayer and of determined will,
in such cases, but the new member of the
committee (though manifestly out of
order) outmaneuvered the Deacon by ac-
cepting both amendments, and remark-
ing that in a hard fight folks would take
all the help they could get.

Somehow, as soon as the new com-
mittee—determining to open a place of
entertainment in opposition to the tavern,
and furnish it pleasantly, and make it an
attractive gathering-place for young men
—asked for contributions to enable them
to do it, the temperance excitement at
Backley abated marvelously. But Squire
Breet, and the doctor, and several other
enterprising men took the entire burden
on their own shoulders—or pockets—and
Joe Digg was as useful as a reformed
drunkard to a police department. For the
doctor, whose professional education had
left him a large portion of his natural
common sense in working order, took a
practical interest in the old drunkard's
case, and others of the committee looked
to the necessities of his family, and it
came to pass that Joe was one of the
earliest of the reformers. Men still go
to the tavern in Backley, but even as
when the twelve spake with inspired
tongues some people remained impeni-
tent, the temperance men at Backley feel
that they have great cause for encour-
agement, and that they have, at least,
accomplished more within a few months
than did all the temperance meetings
ever held in their village.

[From Arthur's Illustrated Home Magazine.]
THE REASON WHY.
BY BERTHA DRANE.

"Mattie," said Mr. Graham to his wife,
as the door closed upon their visitor, "I
do wish you would be more cheerful. You
hardly spoke while Cousin Frank
was here, and looked for all the world as
though some dreadful calamity was about
to befall you. If you have any reason
to be sorry for, do try to be more like
folks."

Mrs. Graham's head bent lower over
the little half finished dress upon which
she was working; but she made no reply.
She was evidently accustomed to such
remarks. Presently, bursting into tears,
she rose and left the room.

"Shaw!" said her husband, as with a
contemptuous smile he looked after her;
"that's always the way. You must speak
to a woman just so, or she'll begin to
sneez. I say, Kate," addressing his sister,
a bright eyed, wide awake-looking
woman of some thirty years, "I used to
think that women were almost angels;
but I've come to the conclusion that they
are about as full of faults as we poor
devils are."

An amused expression on Mrs. Ly-
man's face was her only answer.
Mr. Graham sat for some minutes in
moody silence, and then said, reaching
for his hat as he spoke: "Come, sis, let's
go over to Uncle John's. We'll be sure
to find smiling faces there, and can man-
age, perhaps, to pass an evening very
pleasantly. It's a pity a fellow can't
take some comfort at home."

It was after considerable hesitation
that Mrs. Lyman replied.
"Well, Charley, just wait until Bertie's
jacket is done, for he is very anxious to
wear it to school to-morrow; and then,
if Nellie is asleep—glancing at the
cradle where lay the six-months-old ba-
by—"I'll go with you."

As the clock struck seven the little
garment was pronounced finished, and was
placed by the kind aunt where Bertie
could not fail to see it when he first
awoke in the morning. Baby was now
soundly sleeping, and Mrs. Lyman, after
putting on her hat and shawl, stepped to
the door of her sister's room, and said,
"Mattie, we are going to Uncle John's.
We shall not be absent long; but do not
sit up for us unless you choose to."

"Very well," was the reply, but the
tone in which the words were uttered,
told plainly that the speaker took but
little interest in what was going on about
her.
"Now, Charley," said Mrs. Lyman, as
soon as they were fairly in the street, "I
shouldn't have consented to come with
you to-night, were it not that I wanted,
as Aunt Hannah used to say, to give you
a 'good big piece of my mind.'"

"The crime of destroying your own
happiness, and the happiness of those
dearest to you."
"What do you mean? What can you
mean?"
"I think, Charley, you spoke very harsh-
ly to poor Mattie to-night. I could al-
most have cried with her."
"Perhaps I was rather cross; but Kate,
that woman tries my patience dreadfully.
She goes moping around, looking as for-
lorn and disconsolate as though she had
not a friend in the world."

"There must be a cause for it."
"Yes, I suppose; but I think it would
puzzle a lawyer to find out the cause."
"Don't you remember when she was
otherwise?"
"Don't I remember? I think I do.
There wasn't as pretty a girl for miles
around as Mattie Standish was. I was
proud of her in my courting-days."
"Yes, I well remember what a devoted
lover you were. Our garden was rob-

bed of its choicest flowers to be made in-
to bouquets for Mattie. If fruit or con-
fectionery was sent from the city, the
very nicest was selected for that same
Mattie. The latest magazines and pa-
pers were found on her table, placed
there by my brother Charley. In short,
nothing was too good for her."

"That's so, Kate; and those were jolly
times. I wonder if Mattie has forgotten
them?"
Without heeding his last remark, Mrs.
Lyman continued: "I had a beautiful
rose-tree at home, Charley, that was
given me by a dear friend. As long as I
watered it and tended it carefully it re-
paid me with many fragrant, beautiful
blossoms; but after it had been in my
possession a few months, I am sorry to
say, I shamefully neglected it. Some-
times, for days together, I did not go
near it. It faded and drooped. I re-
newed my care of it—but it was too late.
My rose tree died, and I learned a lesson.
Take care, Charley, that your Mattie
does not share the fate of my rose. She
has a peculiarly sensitive nature, and will
not bear neglect any more than a tender
plant will."

"But Kate, Mattie knows that I love
her as well as I ever did."
"What reason has she to think so? I
was reading, not long since, of a gen-
tleman who had visited in a great many
families; and, among them all, he had
found but very few really happy ones.
The cause of the unhappiness, he said,
was not so much the want of love as the
want of care to manifest it. That is
just where the trouble lies. If a man
should tell you that you did not love
your wife and children, you would be
tempted to knock him down—you would,
at least, call him a liar. But Charley,
what is love worth that is never express-
ed in words or actions. Play the lover
again, my dear brother, and, take my
word for it, you will have no cause to
complain of Mattie."

By this time the door of Uncle John's
house was reached, and there was no
time for further conversation. They were
met, as had been predicted, by smiling
faces; and the evening night, indeed,
had passed very pleasantly, if Mr. Gra-
ham had been in a mood to enjoy it. His
sister's words had made a deep impres-
sion on his mind; and, though vexed at
her plain talk, he could not but acknowledge
that she was right.

At an early hour they were on the way
home, but more than half the distance
was passed over before a word was spok-
en by either. Mrs. Lyman was begin-
ning to fear that she had seriously offend-
ed her brother, when he said, "Kate, I
was almost angry with you, but I've
come to the conclusion that you are more
than half right. I've acted like a fool—
blaming Mattie for what I alone was to
blame for. I'll turn over a new leaf, and
see if I can win the roses back to Mattie's
cheeks."

"Spoken like yourself, my dear brother.
Only live your courting-days over
again, and you will again have reason to
be proud of Mattie. Now, Charley,"
continued his sister, "just stop at Warr-
ner's, on the way home, and buy a basket
of those nice oranges; then call at Os-
good's, and get the latest magazine. Take
them as a present to Mattie, and see
how she will receive them."

Mrs. Lyman went directly home, and
finding Mrs. Graham still busily sewing,
gave her a good-night kiss, and went im-
mediately to her room. Mr. Graham
came in soon afterward, and placing the
oranges, with the book, in his wife's lap,
said, "Here, Mattie, is a present I got on
purpose for you—lay aside your sewing,
and enjoy these good things."

Mrs. Graham gave her husband one
quick, surprised look, and, as she had
once before that evening, burst into tears.
"Why, Mattie," said Mr. Graham, "have
I been so neglectful of you, that a little
act of kindness like this affects you thus?"
"Oh, Charley," said she, as soon as
she could command her voice sufficiently
to reply, "I thought you had ceased to
love me, and was just grieving my-
self to death over it."

"No, Mattie, I had grown careless of
my vow to love, honor and cherish;" but
God helping me, I promise anew to love
and cherish you tenderly 'till death do us
part."

It was all that was needed to make
Mattie the cheerful, loving Mattie of old.
Mrs. Lyman was awakened that next
morning by Charley's clear, ringing
voice, as he sang the words of that most
beautiful of Scotch songs—
"Her voice is low and sweet,
She's all the world to me—
And for her sake I'll be true,
Till I lay me down to die."

"Ah," said she, with a smile, "it didn't
take a lawyer to find the reason why
Mattie went moping about the house."
"Husbands, love your wives, and be
not bitter against them."

YOUNG PEOPLE'S CORNER.
I am composed of 16 letters.
My 4, 6, 6, is very powerful.
My 5, 6, 6, is a useful metal.
My 9, 5, 14, 4, is a part of husbandry.
My 12, 10, 14, 12, 7, is to card wool.
My 1, 14, 12, 15, 2, is a nice sense.
My 1, 9, 16, 14, 13, is an entertainment.
My 2, 14, 8, 11, is right when applied to wrong.
My whole claims to lead.
A has a pig that weighs 350 pounds. B has a
pig that weighs 250 pounds. They sell them for
\$35.00. By inspection A's pig is judged to be
worth one-half cent a pound more than B's. How
much does each receive for his pig, and at what
price per pound.
ANSWERS.
99. Montpellier. 102. 11,022 x feet.
Nellie B. Gray, of Denmark, sends answers to
numbers 89 and 91. Geneva, of West Paris, an-
swers number 91.

The Insanity of Cain.

The following are the closing para-
graphs of a remarkable article in Scrib-
ner's for May, on "The Insanity of Cain."
In judging of Cain, look at the situa-
tion. On the one hand, a terrible family
mystery, no schools, no amusements, no lec-
tures, no society, no amusements, no am-
ples! On the other hand, the whole
burden of humanity borne for the first
time; paternal discipline; undue phren-
ological developments; monotonous em-
ployment; antediluvian monsters; ante-
diluvian parents, and an antediluvian
good brother in whose month butter
would have remained intact for ages.

Undoubtedly that brother had an ex-
asperating smile. He was happy be-
cause he was virtuous. He had a way
of forgiving and forgetting that for a
time would deprive the offender of rea-
son itself; above all, he had a cool, col-
lected manner of his own, added to a
chronic desire to be an angel. His offer-
ings always fulfilled the conditions. His
fires needed only to be lighted, and the
smoke was sure to ascend with a satisfied,
confident curl into the sky.

Cain's, on the contrary, refused to
burn. We can see it all. The smoke
struggled and flopped. It crept along
the ground, and, clinging to its feet,
wound about him like a serpent. It grew
black and angry, shot sideways into his
eyes, blinding and strangling him—
And there stood Abel beside his pile,
radiant, satisfied, wanting to be an an-
gel!

It was but the work of a moment.
The pent-up, disorganizing influences of
a life-time found vent in one wild mo-
ment of emotional insanity. Abel was
no more!

Why dwell upon the tragedy? The
world is familiar with its sickening de-
tails. We shall not repeat them here,
nor shall we question the justice of the
punishment that came to Cain—the re-
morse, the desolation, the sense of being
a fugitive and a vagabond on the face
of the earth. He had killed his brother,
and the penalty must be paid. Sane or
insane, a terrible retribution must have
overtaken him. But how about his
guilt? Would it have been the same in
either case? Are hereditary organism,
temperamental excitability, emotional
phrenzy not to be considered? No, a
thousand times no! What "competent
juror" would acquiesce in such a propo-
sition!

Friends, the time has come when this
case must be taken up. Its

Editorial Correspondence.

Augusta, April 24, 1873.

GRAND LODGE, I. O. O. F. T.

The session of the Grand Lodge of Good Templars this week at the Capital, together with quite an assemblage of politicians interested in the appointments of Judge of the S. J. Court and Insurance Commissioner, created no little stir at a time otherwise quiet here. Mr. Nye, who leases one of the best halls in the city, the Meonian, and gives its use to the Cold Water Templars and Reform Club, threw it open to the Grand Lodge, warming and lighting it without charge. The attendance on the Lodge was quite large, between two and three hundred new members being initiated. Our County had about ten delegates, Bethel Lodge being fully represented. Rev. Mr. Stevens, of Hartford, W. C. T. of the County Lodge, footed it over, all the way. The Reports show that the order is being pushed vigorously into new fields, while it was in some sections. There have been 3,539 initiated the past year, 303 admitted by card, and 200 estimated in new lodges, while 5,288 have gone out by withdrawal and death. The whole number now in good standing in our State, is 21,407, against 26,645. The amount paid out the past year, was \$2,994.46. The hope of the order is in the youthful organizations, the Cold Water Templars, and the Reform Clubs, many accessions coming from there. A new lodge has been formed out of the latter entirely, in Rockland, and much good has been accomplished. Gov. Perham came in during the session, and made some stirring remarks.

The officers elected and installed the second day were, G. W. C. T. F. E. Shaw; G. W. C. S. W. Luques of Biddeford; G. W. T. S. Mrs. Caroline Cutler, Bangor; G. W. S. W. F. Morrill, Portland; G. W. T. Dr. G. M. Twitchell, Bethel; G. W. M. H. M. Bryant, Lewiston; G. W. D. M. Florence E. Hathorn, Pittsfield; Rev. Thomas Kinney, Milo, Chaplain; G. W. I. G. Frank A. Sparks, Bangor; G. W. O. G. Frank A. Heath, Hallowell.

The salary of Grand W. Secretary was reduced to \$300.

Rev. D. B. Randall offered a resolution disapproving the action of the Legislature last winter, in repealing the elder clause of the prohibitory law, which was adopted.

The resolution offered by Mr. Luques of Biddeford, that candidates for office should be open, avowed friends of temperance, was adopted after some debate—many members claiming that it was unnecessary to make any affirmation of such a principle.

Rev. O. M. Cousins, C. A. Farwell and F. E. Shaw were appointed delegates to the National Temperance Convention.

The following were chosen delegates to the R. W. G. Lodge: Rev. O. M. Cousins, Mrs. L. C. Partington, Mrs. M. C. Crossman.

The session was a very interesting, harmonious and profitable one. The next will be at Rockland, in October.—The R. W. Grand Lodge meets in London, in May. Our Grand Lodge will be represented there.

It was hoped that Gov. Perham would represent the Grand Lodge at London in May but his engagements prevented.

REPUBLICAN STATE COMMITTEE. The Republican State Committee had its first session for the year, at Speaker Blaine's house, on Thursday evening.—Mr. B. was re-elected chairman, being his fifteenth year. There are three Congressmen on the board, Messrs. Blaine, Frye and Hale, but they are offset by three editors, Mr. Blaine presides over the Committee with apparently as much ease as over the House of Reps. Bangor was selected for the place of meeting, and Thursday the 19th day of June as the time.

It is somewhat singular that every contested year the Convention falls to the lot of Bangor—for here Washburn was nominated, and Cony, and Chamberlain. The reason has been suggested, that this city has a good surplus of men, to fill vacancies in delegations!

THE GOVERNOR QUESTION. The gubernatorial campaign is commencing. The contest is being narrowed down to Hon. Nelson Dingley, of Lewiston, and N. A. Farwell, Esq., of Rockland. Neither Mr. Spring nor Lynch are candidates, and Col. Stone, of York, will have but a local support. Mr. Dingley will be strong in Androscoggin, Kennebec, Sagadahoc, Franklin, Oxford, Lincoln, and have considerable support in all the other Counties. He is undoubtedly "the coming man," though Mr. Farwell has considerable official influence in his favor. A more worthy, competent and suitable man to fill the place, could not be brought forward than Mr. D., and he only consents to be a candidate at the request of leading men throughout the State.

THE PRINCIPAL INTEREST in the Campaign will probably be in the nomination. Though the Convention is held at a somewhat distant place, the trip will be a pleasant one, by cars to Portland, boat on Wednesday night to Bangor, with a beautiful sail up the Penobscot in season for the Convention, which will not meet till 11 A. M. The boat leaves Friday morning to return, in season to connect with the last train home. The fares being reduced one half, will not make an expensive trip, and we hope our County will be fully represented.

APPOINTMENT OF JUDGE. The appointment of another Judge of the S. J. Court and Insurance Commissioner has caused the Governor much trouble. Hon. John A. Peters, of Bangor, had the most strength, by far, and received the appointment. This competitor, of the same politics, was Hon. Washington Gilbert, of Bath, and Artemas Libby, Esq., of Augusta, was presented by a portion of the members of

the bar of the opposite political party. Mr. Libby is an able lawyer, well fitted for the place, and had the democrats united upon him, might have secured the place, possibly, but A. P. Gould, Esq. of Thomaston, was also a candidate and Mr. L. was defeated for lack of unanimity among his political friends, very probably. Mr. Peters is one of the ablest lawyers at the bar, and his opponents overdid the matter, by traducing his character. In a professional acquaintance in the same city of nearly ten years, we know Mr. P. sustained a high professional reputation and occupied a good social position. He was recommended by several of the clergy of Bangor, and such temperance stagers as Mr. Hiteborn and John S. Kimball.

The recommendations by members of the bar stood 225 for Peters, 110 for Libby, of Augusta, and 60 for Gilbert.

INSURANCE COMMISSIONER.

For Insurance Commissioner, there were two candidates from Bangor, A. W. Paine, Esq., the present incumbent, an able man, and John S. Kimball, Esq., also well qualified. The other end of the State had three candidates, the strongest of which, by far, was Andrew J. Chase, Esq., one of the most clear headed and best posted Insurance men to be found, and M. L. Stevens, Esq., a very worthy and intelligent insurance man, and John W. Munger, Esq., long known in that business. In the Kennebec valley was only Mr. Nye, too well known as a highly intelligent, whole hearted, earnest philanthropist and true nobleman, to need letters or petitions in his favor. With the East and West at loggerheads, it was too apparent that Mr. Nye had the advantage, and he was appointed. The opinion of many that Gov. Perham was not putting his patronage "where it would do the most good" had no weight with him. In all his appointments, which are conceded to be most judicious, he has been able to lay aside personal considerations entirely. Whether this will commend him to popular favor, and ensure still further political preterment, as it undoubtedly should, remains to be seen. Republics are sometimes ungrateful.

The Governor made other appointments, to wit: Warren H. Vinton, of Gray, Wm. E. Paine of Bath, Geo. C. Higgins, of Lubec, Trustees of the Reform School; J. H. Hanson, of Waterville, Trustee of the Normal School.

These appointments will probably all be confirmed next Friday.

Mr. J. S. Hobbs, State Librarian, is overhauling the Library and making extensive alterations and repairs. He has bought a house-lot, back of the State House, and is erecting a house upon it.

How Others View Us.

A writer in the Morning Star thus speaks of the recent step establishing free high schools in Maine:—

"The State of Maine now then does something that a native need be ashamed of. The action of the last Legislature in aid of free high schools is one of those things. It is refreshing to reflect that sufficient time was redeemed from the importunate demands of railroad lobbyists to frame so creditable a law.

There is something in the idea of these high schools that we like. It suggests a broader equality. We know very well the feeling of seclusion that has in many places got itself connected with these institutions. If one from a neighborhood was able, either mentally or pecuniarily, to get a term at the high school, he was invested in the eyes of his less fortunate or persistent companions with a certain importance and the place itself became associated in their thought with what was exclusive, and meant, only for a favored few. This is here done away. The poor man's boy can sit in high school beside the wealthy one's, and ordinary talent, brought into competition with that of a higher order, be spurred to greater effort."

The recent passage of the Grand Trunk bill in the House of Commons of the New Dominion, announced last week, virtually assures the passage of the measure which will give the Grand Trunk the ten millions designed for its improvement as stated two or three weeks since. Though some leaguers to jeer at the idea that such a measure would be carried, it was only because of ignorance. It was only for the government to do what the stockholders of the company had volunteered to do, viz, to postpone its claims in order to give a basis of credit for the new loan required to put the road in efficient condition and thus make it better for the claims of all creditors. Without the loan, there was no hope for them; with it they can certainly be no worse off, while this great agent of business will be put in a condition to benefit the country and its trade if it does not pay its debts.—Argus.

Inspectors of Burning Oils.

We quote from chap. 39 R. S. 1871, the title of said chapter being "Inspection and sale of Manufactured Articles."

Sec. 29. In towns containing two thousand inhabitants or more, the Municipal officers shall, on or before the first of May annually, appoint one or more persons, and fix their compensation, to be inspectors of petroleum, coal oil, and burning fluid, who shall be duly sworn and shall, when requested, inspect such oils and burning fluids by applying the fire test with G. Tagliabue's pyrometer or some other accurate instrument, to ascertain the igniting or explosive point thereof in degrees of Fahrenheit's thermometer; and they shall cause every cask thereof by them so inspected to be plainly marked by the name of such inspectors, the date of inspection, and the igniting or explosive point of the contents thereof.

The snow has disappeared from our fields and roads very rapidly, the past week. The traveling is very bad on most of our roads. North of us, a few miles, there is sleighing yet. We saw a sleigh in use on our village, the 26th of April, which gives us nearly six months of sleighing.

Western Correspondence.

MIDLAND CITY, MICH., April 12, 1873.

Mr. Editor:—Thinking perhaps a few notes from the West might prove of interest to some of the many readers of the Democrat, I give you herewith a few of the more interesting items of the day.

Some of your readers would doubtless like to know what sort of a place Midland City is, and if they will have lots of patience will endeavor to explain. Midland is a small pioneer town in northern Michigan, situated on the banks of the Tittabawassee river, and near the mouth of the Pine and Chippawa rivers. The population of the town is variously estimated at from two thousand to twenty-five hundred inhabitants. Probably the latter figures are nearer correct. Midland was incorporated under a village charter early in the spring of 1869, and that has worked so well that many of the most influential men in town are strongly in favor of a city charter. Whether they will be successful or not in securing such a charter remains to be seen—the prospect, to say the least, looks very favorable.

An unusual number of business men have been and are now seeking locations. They represent nearly every branch of trade, and have had their attention attracted to this town by our unmistakable prosperity and bright prospects for the future. As soon as the spring opens builders will have their hands full in getting up new blocks of stores, for which there is even now a brisk demand.

Election passed off very quietly on Monday last. On account of the dampness overhead and the mud underfoot, a very light vote was polled. The republican State ticket received a majority of two hundred and ten, out of two hundred and sixty-seven votes cast. So you see we do not take a very large amount of stock in that "Tidal wave" company.

High water seems to be the only subject that receives any attention nowadays. The river yesterday rose six inches and is yet rising, although the water at present is 6-8 inches lower than the highest point of 1871, (when it reached the highest point ever known) there seems to be little doubt that before the river subsides we shall have much higher water than two years ago. The only inconvenience experienced here as yet, has been in the stopping of those mills that had already started, and in the delaying of repairs yet to be made on others before they could start up for the season's work.

A large number of mills in the Saginaw valley had intended to commence operations on Monday next. But the rise in the river has been so great that the water has come into the mills—or at least a portion of them—and until the water subsides, the buzz of the saw and the shriek of the mill whistle will not be heard along the Saginaw.

Some lumbermen are of the opinion that contracts for sawing during the coming season, will average \$1.00 per thousand, though at this writing it is impossible to give exact figures.

P. C. H.

DOVER, N. H., April 18, 1873.

Mr. Editor:—I thought some of your readers might be pleased with a few bits of news from this place. The snow has disappeared after three months of excellent sleighing, commencing Dec. 22d and ending about the same time in March. The streets are nicely settled, and business is beginning to be quite brisk.

The shoe business is active; the carpenter's hammer echoes from every direction; the factories are running to their utmost capacity; the print works are doing a large business, and are paying out \$15,000 per month for labor.

Potatoes are plenty but of a poor quality. Apples are plenty, and are excellent. The soil is of a clayey loam, and fruit trees and grass flourish nicely.

The grading of the Portsmouth & Dover Railroad is progressing finely; they intend to have it in running order by early fall.

I was much pleased to see my friend A. S. Twitchell, Esq., one of the Commissioners of Railroads of New Hampshire. His smiling, genial face and business turn won to him many friends in Dover. I was glad to learn that he was filling the office with honor to himself and to the State.

The present summer is the 25th anniversary of Dover.

J. T. K.

Death of a Prominent Citizen.

America Thayer, Esq., died in Paris, at the residence of his son-in-law, Mr. Ranom Ripley, on Monday, April 21st, aged 73 years 9 months and 16 days, from the effects of malarial poison taken into his system during a visit to Kansas last year.

Mr. Thayer was one of our most highly esteemed citizens, of great strength of character and an integrity that was never questioned; he commanded the respect of all. Politically a democrat, his party delighted to honor him so long as it held the power in his town or county. He was selectman of Paris for nine years, and represented the town in the Legislature for the years 1835 and '37, and was a member of the Board of County Commissioners from 1848 to '51.

He was a kind husband, affectionate father, and a genial neighbor. We shall miss his tall erect form and greeting. His loss will long be mourned by all who knew him.—Register.

We have received a copy of the new work on "The Christian Doctrine of the Soul," by Rev. Dr. Estes, of this village. The volume contains 160 pages, is neatly printed and bound, and will be read with deep interest by the many friends of Dr. Estes, as well as by others. The subject is treated in the light of Christian Theology as well as of Nature and Reason, giving liberal and extended views upon the vital doctrine of the spirituality and immortality of the soul. The work is published by Noyes, Holmes & Co., Boston.

It seems that the Modocs have escaped, for the present.

Norway Items.

The Press says that Gen. Beal, Chief of Staff, held a meeting for the election of officers for the Norway-Light Infantry, Saturday night, which resulted as follows: W. W. Whitmarsh, Captain; H. R. Millett, 1st Lieutenant; A. E. Denison, 2d Lieutenant.

It is "all quiet along the Potomac" with the anti-shoe factory people. A large number of citizens have signed a bond in the sum of six thousand dollars, conditioned "to save the Town Treasurer harmless" if he pays out of the Treasury the \$2300 in money and other sums voted by the town to complete the shoe factory.

Your correspondent witnessed a novel scene here the other day. A mule team was hauling sand for a certain citizen of this village, when the load stuck fast in the mud and snow. Half a dozen boys and an umbrella were called into requisition. The boys shouted and the umbrella was opened and closed several times with considerable rapidity near the rear of the mule. The effect was remarkable, the load being extricated very quickly. This is a new source of power which may be of advantage to consider.

Two buildings are being erected and it is expected that more will be "raised" shortly.—Register.

Mr. Grosvonor Crockett has got up and boarded the frame to his new house on Cottage St.

It is proposed now to have the opening of the Shoe Factory some time the latter part of May, after the machinery is all in and ready to start up.

A new drug and apothecary store is soon to be opened here. The stock is already ordered and if correctly informed, the new sign will read Noyes Bros. A little son of C. F. Whitman Esq., fell and fractured his collar bone on Saturday of last week. He is doing well under the charge of C. E. Evans, M. D.

A. M. Trull is building a carriage manufactory, which he expects to complete by the middle of May. It is to be used as a carriage and paint shop. The building will be two stories and 42 by 26 feet.

We regret to learn that C. E. Evans, M. D., is about to remove to Worcester, Mass. He is said to be one of the best surgeons in the State, and during some eight years' residence in this place, has been fortunate in securing a large practice and gained a host of friends. We understand that he is to take the place of an eminent surgeon at Worcester, who is going to Europe in the summer. We wish him success in his new field of professional labor.

Dr. Jewett, who graduated at the Maine Medical School, having studied three years with Dr. Evans, and been in practice with him this past eleven months, will take his place here.—Norway Advertiser.

North Waterford Items.

Miss Selinda A. Greene, a young lady of this place who has been an invalid for nearly eleven years, and confined to her bed a greater part of the time, started for Wilmington, Delaware, Saturday, in hopes of medical assistance. Friday she was presented with a handsome purse, to the contributors of which she wishes to render her heart-felt thanks.

Last Thursday Mr. Samuel L. Knight was saving birch in Jewett's mill, a piece that had nearly passed by the saw, tipped in such a way that it was caught by the saw and thrown back again. As it went over the saw it was split diagonally into two pieces, both striking Mr. Knight. One piece struck him in the chin laying it open to the bone, the other struck him just below the shoulder-blade inflicting a fearful wound, jamming and lacerating the flesh in a terrible manner. The wounds were dressed by Dr. Faunce, and we learn that Mr. Knight is doing as well as could be expected. The saw is 30 inches in diameter, and at the time the accident occurred, was making about 2500 revolutions per minute. The piece that struck Mr. Knight, before it was split, was 4-1/2 feet long, 7 inches thick, and weighed fifteen pounds.

Mr. Thomas H. Savin lost a valuable cow Friday night.

More about mice! Mr. Geo. Melville Knight caught in one trap in a fortnight 95 mice, and one large rat! If any one can beat this, we think they must live in a good locality for mice, to say the least.

Eloise Greene a little girl 9 years old, while out hunting hens eggs, the other day, fell through a loose scaffold, a distance of eight feet, with 5 eggs in her apron, without breaking an egg or hurting herself beyond a few scratches.

Tuesday Mr. Bradbury a workman in one of the "Lynchville" mills accidentally fell down a flight of stairs with a broad ax in his hand, striking one corner of it into his left wrist severing an artery. The wound was dressed by Dr. Faunce.—Norway Advertiser.

Denmark Items.

And still another smart Denmark matron! Mrs. Ellen Hilton recently in fifteen hours spooled, warped, drew into a loom and wove ten yards of rag carpet.

Myron A. Deering, son of Erastus Deering of Denmark, has a sheep which lately gave birth to a lamb that weighed 13 lbs.

We understand that the Committee of Investigation appointed to investigate charges against Rev. A. H. Witham, reported unanimously the charges not sustained. Also, at the Quarterly Conference held at Denmark, April 10th, where the matter came up for trial, his moral character was unimpeached. Mr. Witham is preacher in Fryeburg and Stowe charge, not Denmark, as reported, where he continues his ministerial labors as heretofore.—Bridgton News.

Hartford.

In the Whiting district, Hartford, where a large number of both sexes were wont to attend the school, not a female was present this winter—where are the children?—Lewiston Journal.

South Paris Items.

Rev. Wm. H. Bolster gave a very interesting lecture Sunday evening, April 13th, at the Congregational church, from Gal. 6th, 3rd and 4th. He said that men were born "nobodies" and made themselves "somebodies" if they chose so to do. It was ably given and was well received by a full house.

Mr. Moody, Principal of Hebron Academy, lectured on Friday evening last, before the O. N. I. Arthur E. Denison, Esq., of Norway, will lecture next Friday evening. It is expected that Gen. Chamberlain will lecture during this or the next week.

Commencement week at Oxford Normal Institute will occur next week, commencing Tuesday. There will be a grand concert on Wednesday evening. See advertisement.

Order of exercises next week.

H. N. Bolster is repairing the inside of his store, where he will be ready, in a few days, to receive all of his friends and old customers, to look over his new stock of Spring Goods which he will put in.

The Cheese Factory Building is progressing towards completion—Samuel M. King, of Paris, is the contractor and builder.

South Paris Savings Bank's Deposits amounted to nearly six thousand dollars the first three weeks of doing business.

Our streets are all dry again, after six months of snow and ice, and we think we fully appreciate bare ground again.

The story and a half dwelling house of the late Albert Barbour, sold at auction recently for \$761.00 to W. B. Royal and S. Richardson.

W. W. Brown, at the Depot, still keeps open his popular Dining Saloon. There is much grumbling on the cars that time is not allowed to dine here, as formerly. Brown always had a square meal ready set on the table, on the arrival of the cars, thus saving the time of ordering dinners on the European style.

C. B. Pettigill, the ingenious inventor, has secured a patent for a barrel header, which must take among the apple growers, it is so simple and useful. He has also got up a sort of a Yankee combination stove cover lifter, which can be put to a large variety of uses around the stove. F. C. Merrill does the manufacturing of many of Pettigill's inventions. Merrill seems to set him agoing when he wants anything new, and Pettigill is sure to produce it.

West Paris Items.

Robert J. Heath of Gorham, N. H., engineer on the Grand Trunk Railroad, was severely burned in the face and hands on Saturday, by the breaking of the glass gauge upon his engine, near West Paris. It is feared it may cause the loss of one eye. The injury was by the steam from the broken gauge.

The correspondent of the Register writes: Our steam mill at last seems to assume the form of a certainty. The amount asked for by the parties coming here has been raised by subscription among the people, and officers elected. President, P. C. Fickett; Secretary, Mark Chandler; Treasurer, John Bicknell, Jr. The following named gentlemen, P. C. Fickett, E. Whitman, Jr., and S. B. Locke, have been selected as a committee, and fully authorized to collect all monies, erect the building, and lease the same to the parties coming to occupy it, one of whom we are all much pleased to learn is our former townman and neighbor, H. G. Brown, Esq., which is a sufficient guaranty that the business will prove a success. It is the intention to invest ten thousand dollars in the enterprise, in which case it will receive the benefit of the vote of the town exempting from taxation all manufacturing put in operation after the date of that vote, in which not less than that sum is invested. This vote of the town is regarded as wise and judicious; by it the town invites foreign capital, encourages manufacturing among our own people, and thereby increases its valuation.

The town loses nothing by this giving encouragement to manufactures. When a man or a company of men invest ten thousand dollars or more in business they expect to make a good profit from that investment, and the result is that a large amount of taxable property radiates from that business, which the town receives the benefit of, which it otherwise would not have, it is already demonstrated here.

Mr. Elmer Stevens proposes to build this season, a two story house, Peter C. Fickett is to put up a large two story building. Mr. H. G. Brown will erect a house, and several other parties are already taking of building here this summer. It is estimated that the business here will furnish employment for twenty men or more; they must have houses to live in which will be built and more or less taxable property created, so in the end the town is the gainer by this rate of exemption.

Our enterprising merchant, Mr. S. B. Locke, has put upon the Railroad two thousand cords of wood this past winter.

Our correspondent writes that Mr. S. W. Dunham has purchased Calvin Bisbee's stock in trade at North Paris, and is selling goods rapidly, making business quite lively.

Messrs. Andrews & Packard are turning out twenty-five carriages of good quality at low prices.—Register.

The last Legislature gave judges of probate power to change the names of persons petitioning therefor. The first change under this act in the State is said to have been made by the Judge of Probate in York County. A divorced lady in Saco has taken the name of Maria M. Tasker.

Judge Walton has given the opinion that ordinarily, one jury is sufficient at a court term, and consequently, at the approaching session of the S. J. Court at Auburn there will be only twenty jurors summoned.

Fryeburg Items.

The citizens of Fryeburg Village met Saturday evening to consider what steps had best be taken to raise funds for the Hospital Fair. There seemed to be a determination to go forward in assisting this noble undertaking. Maj. D. R. Hastings nominated the following committee, who will meet again next Saturday evening to perfect their organization and commence active work: Mrs. T. C. Shirley, Mrs. John Ward, Mrs. D. L. Lamson, Mrs. William Gordon, Mrs. John Locke, Mrs. Wm. Chase, Mrs. E. C. Farrington, Miss Jennie Sewall, Miss George Sawyer, Miss Mary Howe, Miss Susie Souther, Miss Abbie Page, Miss Mary Bradley. Sunday afternoon after the usual discourse, Rev. Mr. Sewall preached a "short sermon" in the interest of the Hospital, heartily commending to his church, the community and town this most Christian and beneficent enterprise. A deep interest has already shown itself among our citizens for the success of the Fair. As soon as the traveling is so we can move about, our committee will take hold of the work in earnest, and we shall be greatly disappointed if we do not raise our full proportion to wards the Thirty Thousand.—Press.

Porter Items.

Mr. Editor:—The farmers in this vicinity are commencing their farm work for the spring by replenishing their old fences with new timber, and drawing manure to their fields, but we hear that some of them make "spishy" work of it.

George W. Towle, Esq., of this town, has now on hand an amount of sawed oak staves sufficient to make ten thousand sugar shooks, which he intends to manufacture the coming season.

Isaac L. French and his father, James French, have on their farm in this town eight splendid broods of honey-bees all of which have wintered in fine order. Doubtless they anticipate much sweet to be stored for them in future.

The remains of Mr. Asahel Brooks, the young man who was accidentally killed in Pennsylvania last fall, were brought to this town to-day, April 24th, to be buried on the home farm, where he was born.

We are just in the midst of our Spring "break up." We do not think it necessary for us to say that we are glad to come to the end of a severe winter, for it may be easily presumed every body is glad.—The roads in this vicinity are almost impassable for man or beast, but we hope to see better travelling soon for business people are getting quite uneasy. The Selectmen have been trying their skill as pedestrians; they performed quite well during the week but came around Saturday night foot sore and leg weary.

The Winter schools in this town have all closed, and as far as we have learned all passed off pleasantly. Mr. M. F. Norton taught in the Cousins' district, but had to close his school somewhat abruptly on account of ill health. He is one of our best teachers, and both parents and scholars regretted that he was unable to finish the term.

Mr. A. H. Mason's school in the Lord district commenced the 18th day of November and closed the last day of March. It was the first to begin in the town and the last to close, and was in session ninety days, he being necessarily absent three weeks during the term. Mr. M. speaks in the highest terms of his scholars and says: "they were kind and obedient, at all times ready to obey his commands, and made good improvement in their studies."

James W. Libbey of Porter had the fingers of his right hand caught under the rolls of a planer a few days ago, and fearfully crushed and mangled.

Lindley W. Pendexter of Porter has a cow that dropped a calf last Saturday, which weighed 106 lbs. Breed, Durham and Hereford.—Register.

Stoncham Items.

Mr. A. Heselline of Stoncham, on the 30th inst., came near being drowned in Crooked River, while attempting to cross on a raft. The rapid current broke the raft, and he not knowing how to swim, the chances of gaining the shore were precarious. After being carried down several feet, he succeeded in catching a limb of the bank. It was with the greatest effort that he reached the shore.—Lewiston Journal.

Albany Items.

Alex. Sloane has a half Brahma pullet that recently laid an egg that measured 8 inches; 6-1/2 inches in circumference, and weighed 4-1/2 ounces. He has a sheep less than a year old, that dropped a lamb that weighed 10 pounds and 13 ounces.

When the snowy season is over and the books posted, we will give a report of the depth of snow fallen, as measured by J. W. Cummings, our clerk of the weather.

As Mr. A. H. Barker and Frank Upton, of Albany, were tramping in the woods a few days ago, they came upon the tracks of a bear that had just left his winter quarters. It appeared that bruin, after sleeping so long, wanted to stretch himself before taking up his line of march. His first move was to rise up and strike his claws and teeth into a tree; the scratches made by his claws were as high as a man could reach, and the prints of his teeth as high as a man's face; his foot print was nine inches long, and six inches wide, showing that he had got to a pretty good growth. They followed him about two days, but as they had no dogs to worry him, old bruin was a little more than a match for them on a long march, and they concluded to let him run.

East Rumford.

Our correspondent writes: Mr. Wilson Thomas is a gentleman who delights in jollifications, therefore he entertains the public to another grand ball May 1st. Those who believe that mirth and true wisdom go together, should, if possible, attend Mr. Thomas' "May Ball."

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Buckfield Items.

Not much demand for sap buckets, owing to the great depth of snow and absence of frost. This wholesome, delicious sweet is a rarity, where a surplus used to be as sure as spring's return.

Newspaper Decisions.

1. Any person who takes a paper regularly from the office—whether directed by his name or another's, or who takes a paper without being directed by the publisher—is responsible for the payment.

2. If a person orders a paper discontinued, he must pay all arrears due to the publisher, and he is responsible for the payment of the paper, and he is responsible for the payment of the paper, and he is responsible for the payment of the paper.

3. The courts have decided that refusing to take newspapers and periodicals from the post office is not a violation of the law, and is not a violation of the law, and is not a violation of the law.

Mail Arrangements.

MAILS CLOSE.
For Portland and Boston at 11:45 A. M. and 2:30 P. M., the latter mail arriving in Portland at 8:15 the next morning.
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Rawson's Coaches.

Leave the hill for up trains at 9:00 A. M. and 3:00 P. M.
For down trains at 11:45 A. M.

DIRECTORY.

Masonic Lodges—Time of Meeting.

OXFORD CHAPTER, Bethel, 3d Thursday of each month.

Androscoggin Chapter, No. 34, Canton, Me. 4th day of each month.

Blazing Star, No. 10, Bangor, Me. 1st, 3d, 5th, 7th, 9th, 11th, 13th, 15th, 17th, 19th, 21st, 23rd, 25th, 27th, 29th, 31st.

Paris Lodge, No. 94, Paris, Tuesday, 1st of each month.

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Editorial and Selected Items.

—May day next Thursday.

—May flowers have appeared.

—The Universalist Society will have a circle at the Academy Hall on Thursday evening.

—Jacob Thompson of Hiram, has been appointed by Sheriff Warren as his deputy in Cumberland County.

—Two inmates of the work-house in Portland fell into a quarrel last Friday, and one killed the other.

—When you get ready to paint, hunt up the advt. of Burgess, Forbes & Co., in our columns, and read it.

—Mr. J. S. Wright will lecture before the students of Paris Hill Academy next Wednesday evening, April 30th.

—Peace Commissioner Dyer, who escaped from the Modoc massacre, has been appointed by Col. J. Dyer of Farmington.

—The 54th anniversary of Odd Fellowship in Portland, was observed in that city last Saturday, by a procession, &c.

—Buckfield has abolished the highway road tax, and raised instead a money tax to be put under control of a Road Commissioner.

—Rev. W. Howe, Fryeburg, has been commissioned by the Gov. to solemnize marriages; Wm. H. Talbot, Andover, Justice of the Peace and Quorum.

—Mr. E. A. Perry, of the Bangor Whig, formerly of the Lewiston Journal, son of Hon. John J. Perry, of Oxford, is to take a trip to Europe in June, so the papers say.

—The County Commissioners have awarded the contract of building the new court-house in Skowhegan to Messrs. Foster & Dutton of Bethel. The whole cost will be \$40,000, which ex-Governor Colburn donates to the County.

—An indictment having been found against Elsie T. Cotton, of Brownfield, for counterfeiting, his bondsmen rendered him to the Court, and he was committed to jail. He will be tried at once.

—The Somerset Reporter says that the Congregational Society of Skowhegan, have engaged Rev. W. Woodbury to continue his labors for another year, and he is to be released from the afternoon service for six months, for rest and recuperation. During the past year seven have united with the church, six by profession and one by letter; others are expected to unite at the next communion. There has been quite a religious interest in the Sabbath School, with some conversions.

Bethel Items.

Joseph Knapp fell from a ladder while painting Dr. C. W. Gordon's house, Tuesday, and seriously injured his spine, and it is feared, received fatal internal injuries. C. C. Chapman, Esq., of the firm of Norton & Chapman of Portland, was taken seriously ill at his father's house Sunday, with congestion of the lungs, and it is feared he will have a run of lung fever.

Col. Clarke S. Edwards has put two hundred and fifty cords of wood on the railroad the past winter, and twenty-five hundred railroad sleepers, two hundred and fifty ship knees, beside a quantity of ship timber; all with his own teams. He is one of our most enterprising farmers and stock-growers.

Hon. R. A. Chapman, County Attorney Foster, and Moses T. Cross, Esq., are improving the appearance of our village by a coat of paint on their building.

The Bethel Steam Mill Co. are sawing fifty thousand of long lumber, a day.

West Bethel Items.

Deacon Leonard Glover's wife met with quite a serious accident the other day. She stepped up into a chair to hang up some pictures in her room and on stepping down her foot caught in her clothing and she fell, breaking one arm above the elbow badly. She had not fully recovered from a broken arm at the time and this second fracture of the same arm is peculiarly distressing.

Mr. Charles L. Abbott of this place has a boy only nine years old who weighs one hundred and twenty-eight pounds. He is a perfect specimen, so far as form is concerned, of a portly gentleman of fifty years.

The Ordway brothers are soon to leave our village, —Albion B. going to Denmark in this state, and N. P. expects to go to Massachusetts. They are both young men of good character, of prudent and industrious habits, just the men which no place can well afford to lose. While regretting their loss, we can but wish them the success which they merit, and which they will undoubtedly achieve.

Mr. Jarvis Maines, of Fryeburg Acad. my Grant (out of this place) has sold one half of his farm to his brother Albert. Mr. Maines is also the lucky owner of a pair of twin calves from a heifer that had never had a calf before.

Mr. Ashley O. Paige, of Mason, has had the misfortune to lose two very valuable cows this spring, one from sickness, the other by accident. —Norway Advertiser.

Mason Items.

You may have wondered at the long silence of your Mason correspondent, but the fact is we have been "snow bound."

"The snows, lost for half a year, shaw through my past morning rays," and I am happy to announce to my friends that "I still live," and that the snow is slowly melting away. Long has been the winter, and our roads have many times been obstructed by huge snow drifts so that we were cut off from all communication with the outside world.

I have no news of importance to communicate at this time. Charles Cooledge has sold his farm to Addison S. Bean. —Nathaniel Trask is doing a brisk business in his mill, sawing from six to ten cords of white birch per day into lumber for spools, which is sent to Lewiston and Locke's Mills. A. A. Grover's mill is also in operation. —Register.

Glenn Items.

Spring has come after a long and cold winter, and the birds have made their appearance to welcome it back with us; but it will be some time before the farmers can get about their spring work. Snow drifts are plenty yet, so it is neither sleighing nor wagoning, and the people will have to drive shank's mare a while longer.

It does not seem to be a very good year for sugar making, as we have not had but a few pleasant days; we must have warm days and cold nights in order to have a good flow of sap.

Messrs. Jewett & Bennett are re

