

Road Race Record

Grand Prize Course, Savannah, Ga.
November 27, 1911

E-M-F Cars Won the Tiedeman Trophy

Finishing 1st, 2d, 3d
171.40 Miles in 176 Minutes and 17 Seconds
Averaging 58.34 Miles per Hour

\$1100 F. O. B. Detroit. The best all-around car value in the market

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All grades and sizes ranging in price from..... 50¢ to \$3.25

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A Large Variety at 65¢, \$1.00, \$1.15, \$1.50

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GROCERIES AND HARDWARE AYER, MASS.
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HARVARD.

News Items.

Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Hynes, of Worcester, visited over Sunday with Frank M. Hynes and family. Mrs. Hynes has been with Mrs. Sawyer for a few days, assisting in the care of the home. Mrs. Frank Hynes, who is in the hospital at Clinton, is improving and will be able to be home sometime the first of next week.

Over last Saturday night and Sunday, Miss Nina Perkins, our popular second primary teacher, entertained her brother, Eugene Perkins, of Franklin, N. H., at her home here with Miss Hartshorn.

Miss Emily Hersey enjoyed a few days' visit this week from her cousin, Miss Mary Hersey, from Chelsea.

Visiting this week with Mrs. Annie Craggs, are Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Donovan, the latter formerly Miss Eva Craggs, of this town, now of Waltham.

Mrs. Etta Ripley spent Wednesday and Thursday of this week in Worcester, where she was in attendance at the meeting of the state grange. She was one of a large class to take the sixth degree of the order. It is expected she will give a report of the meeting at our next local grange meeting, on Tuesday, December 19.

Frank Ford, who has bought the McNiff farm on the Littleton road, has moved his goods and is now keeping house there.

Miss Vera Willard, of Still River, was the week-end guest with Miss Dorothy West at Harvard center.

Alex Duff, of Plainfield, Vt., who has been with his brother's folks, R. C. Davis and family here, left on Wednesday for his home in Vermont.

Charles F. Atherton has been on the sick list for a day or two this week with a severe cold.

Roscoe M. Lindley, who settled here two years ago in the undertaking business, has decided to move to Newton next month, as he has better inducements offered him there. His place on the Still River road overlooking the pond, is for sale. Both Mr. and Mrs. Lindley are very agreeable young people and they have many friends who will be sorry to see them leaving town. Mr. Lindley is a first class undertaker and has at his command a full line of equipment to meet any demands in funeral settings, and in a business way he will be missed.

Gentlemen's Night.

Gentlemen's night at the town hall last week Friday night, was a success, the male members of the Unitarian society doing the supper and entertainment work to a nicety. One hundred and fifty plates were served at the two suppers given at six and seven o'clock. Cold meats, baked beans with rolls, coffee, cake and pastry was the bill of fare.

At eight o'clock the entertainment was staged, and consisted of a farce in one act, entitled "A regular fix." The parts, all well taken, were assigned as follows:

De Brass.....Prof. A. F. Leonard
Lawyer Surplus.....A. H. Turner
Sheriff.....Adm. Marchie
Porter.....Herbert Dickson
Mrs. Surplus.....Walter Dickson
Emily.....Philip Dickson
Mrs. Carter.....R. A. Reed
Matilda Jane.....Henry Dickson

Mrs. E. P. Watson assisted in the makeup of the feminine parts, and her results were certainly a credit to her. The men were very much pleased with

the success of their night. After the entertainment, dancing was engaged in until 10.30, Miss Cleaves at the piano.

"Cousin Timmy" a Success.

On last Tuesday evening, the senior class of the Bromfield school gave the two-act comedy entitled "My cousin Timmy," followed by a social dance until twelve o'clock. The music was by Thayer's orchestra. A little more than fifty dollars was cleared. The junior class put out a good assortment of candies during the evening. All the parts in the play were well taken. Perhaps it would not be unfair to any one to mention the exceptionally good work of Ellery Royal as old Jonas, the gardener, or of Olive Houghton, as the dignified mistress of the school. The male part assumed by Harriet Thayer, who with her chum Ernie Willett, conceived the school girls' prank, and so successfully carried it out, also deserves mention for good stage work. Miss Thayer being at her best as the assumed Cousin Timmy.

The school girl parts taken by Helen Whitney, Catherine Hazard, Oressa Webster and Sarah L. Jones, and the maid's part by Elsie Knight, were also well played. Cedric Webster, as Prof. Addles, the real Cousin Timmy, came in for final honors. If, as is now proposed by Prof. Leonard, the school put on a drama later in the winter, they will certainly have a full house.

Still River.

Next Saturday evening there will be a tree and Christmas exercises in the vestry. This is a village tree, and everyone is invited to be present.

On Wednesday evening Mr. and Mrs. Howard D. Stone and Mr. and Mrs. Augustus A. Hutcherson attended a ladies' meeting of the Knight Templars at the Masonic hall in Hudson, and report a very pleasant evening.

Miss Nellie Blood, of Lancaster, was the guest of Mr. and Mrs. Alfred McClintock on Wednesday.

Willis Walker, who has spent the summer in Canada, returned to his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Andrew Walker, this week. Miss Blanche Willard has been visiting friends in Arlington.

Rogers Morse is at home for the Christmas vacation from his studies at Colby academy, New London, Vt.

Mrs. Herbert Atherton, of Holyoke, was the guest of her sister, Mrs. Adella Turner on Tuesday and Wednesday.

Mrs. Clifford L. Russell started on Thursday for a visit with her daughter, Mrs. C. R. Sheafe, at New Comers-town, Ohio.

Hubert Robinson returned to his work on Monday, after a two-weeks' layoff on account of having one of his toes amputated.

Dennis Noyland of Hyde Park was at the home of his parents, Mr. and Mrs. John Noyland, on Thursday.

Michael Coffey concluded his duties as crossing tender at the railroad crossing on Wednesday night, and Richard E. Pertley is back again at his old job.

Miss Emily Cole attended the Baptist fair at Ayer on Wednesday evening.

LITTLETON.

News Items.

Mr. and Mrs. R. T. Barrows have attended the meetings of the state grange at Worcester this week.

Miss Florence M. Rose, of Concord, daughter of Dr. and Mrs. Alvord H. Rose, formerly of Littleton, was united in marriage to Alfred L. Hodgman, of Washington, D. C., this week Monday.

The pastor of the Congregational church will preach tomorrow forenoon on "Preparing the way for the Lord." In the evening he will give an address on "The beginning of Congregationalism." The service will be in observance of forefathers' day.

The C. E. societies will continue their missionary journey around the world, considering missions in the West Indies tomorrow evening.

The Backlog club will give a holiday dance in town hall on December 28. Thayer's orchestra has been engaged for the evening.

Interesting Talk.

A very pleasant treat was given to the Women's club, and through invitation of that organization to the public in general on Monday evening when Dr. David Snedden, of Boston, a Rev. W. figure on the State Board of Education, gave an able and vigorous address on "Vocational education."

After defining and illustrating the terms, the speaker contrasted vocational with liberal education and set forth its object to fill the office of apprenticeship, now little heard of, and supplement it by practical, scientific work along special lines and under supervision and training of thoroughly equipped instructors, who have achieved success in those lines, thus making possible greater productiveness through increased adaptability, flexibility and development of the resources within one's reach.

Dr. Snedden pointed out the social, economic and humanitarian benefits to be gained through the methods pursued, and gave in illustration the work already begun with the youth in certain localities of the state, who to the maximum number of twenty-five are placed under tutorage of agricultural college graduates who have attained success in the subjects they teach.

The speaker was magnetic, convincing, and thoroughly informed and alive to the interests of his mission. He was accorded a rising vote of thanks from his enthusiastic audience.

Rev. W. figure on the State Board of Education, gave an able and vigorous address on "Vocational education." The speaker was thanked by the Women's club for their generosity in shar-

ing with the public this rare treat from so prominent and able a speaker. The enjoyment of the evening was much enhanced by two finely rendered piano solos by Mrs. Charles K. Houghton, and two beautiful vocal solos by Miss Ruth Prescott.

Annual Sale.

The United Workers of the Congregational society were very fortunate in the selection of Wednesday, December 13, for their annual sale. They were also favored by the presence of many visitors who patronized them generously. The various booths contained a good assortment of attractive wares and the returns were very satisfactory, about \$150 being realized, from the fancy table. A very appetizing lunch was served at five o'clock.

In the evening a large and appreciative audience listened to a brief, but excellent entertainment. Miss Marion Sweett, of Westford, piano accompanist, and Lounge brothers, of Ayer, who played the violin and the violoncello, contributed many beautiful selections which were highly appreciated and loudly applauded.

Rev. H. L. Packard gave three of his inimitable readings which were enthusiastically received and Miss Ruth Prescott sang three choice solos with sweetness and grace of expression, responding to encores, Miss Sanderson playing her accompaniments.

Pleasantly Surprised.

Miss Alice Wright, superintendent of the primary department in the Congregational Sunday school, was delightedly surprised last Sunday morning by receiving from her Sunday school pupils a beautiful picture of "A little child shall lead them." The children also brought other gifts to manifest their affection and regard for their efficient and much beloved leader, whose birthday they wished to observe. It was difficult to decide which was happier, the children, whose faces were a sunburst of joy, or the teacher, whose cup of gratitude was full to overflowing. One thing is certain, Miss Wright will not soon forget December 10, 1911, and the dear little people who helped make that day stand out in her calendar of birthdays.



Useful and Attractive Gifts for Every Member of the Family

Our Store is now in Holiday attire. What to give Him for Christmas is a problem we solve many times a day. Our store being Headquarters for Men's Goods, the question is very easy to answer. For Men, both Old and Young, we have ideal gifts,—just the sort that will be appreciated after Christmas is over. Look over this list and make your selections early. Hundreds of other articles suitable for Christmas Gifts can be found in this store.

HANDKERCHIEFS FOR CHRISTMAS

Men's Linen Hemstitched.....	15¢, 25¢ and 50¢
Men's Japonette, soft finish.....	5¢, 10¢ and 15¢
Men's Japonette, Initial.....	10¢ and 12¢ each
Men's Embroidered Initial.....	10¢ and 15¢ each
Men's Linen Initial.....	25¢ and 50¢ each
Men's Silk Initial.....	25¢ and 50¢ each
Men's Linen, 1/2 dozen in a handsome Christmas Box.....	\$1.50 to \$2.50 per box
Men's Linen, 1/3 doz. in a handsome Christmas box.....	\$1.00 per box
Men's Plain Hemstitched, six in a handsome Christmas box.....	50¢ and 75¢ per box
Boys' and Men's Handkerchiefs with colored borders.....	5¢ and 10¢
Men's Fancy Colored Silk Handkerchiefs.....	25¢ and 50¢ each

GLOVES FOR CHRISTMAS GIFTS

Men's Cape Gloves, unlined, for dress wear.....	\$1.00 to \$2.00
Men's Cape Gloves, lined, for dress wear.....	\$1.00 to \$2.00
Men's Mocha Gloves, fleece lined.....	50¢ and \$1.00
Men's Mocha Gloves, Silk or Knit lined.....	\$1.50 to \$2.50
Men's Mocha Gloves, Squirrel lined.....	\$3.50 to \$5.00
Men's Mocha Gloves, Lamb's Wool lined.....	\$2.50 and \$3.00
Men's Working Gloves and Mittens.....	25¢ and 50¢
Men's Woolen Gloves and Mittens.....	25¢ and 50¢
Men's Fur Gauntlets Driving Gloves.....	\$3.50 to \$5.00
Boys' Wool Gloves and Mittens.....	25¢ and 50¢
Boys' Leather Gauntlets, lined and unlined.....	50¢
Children's Woolen Gloves and Mittens.....	15¢ and 25¢
Children's Plush Mittens, each pair in a pretty Christmas box.....	50¢

SWEATERS FOR CHRISTMAS

Nothing more acceptable for a gift than a good Sweater. We have Sweaters for every member of your family.

Men's Coat Sweaters, all colors.....	48¢ to \$6.00
Boys' Coat Sweaters all colors.....	48¢ to \$1.50
Women's Coat Sweaters.....	\$2.00 to \$6.00
Girls' Coat Sweaters.....	\$1.50 and \$2.00
Children's Coat Sweaters.....	50¢ to \$1.50



MEN'S HOBIERY

Fine Cotton Hose in Black or Colors, four pairs in Christmas Box.....	50¢
Interwoven Hose, Silk Lisle, in Black or Colors, four pairs in handsome Christmas Box.....	\$1.00
Everwear Hose, guaranteed six months, six pair in Christmas Box.....	\$1.50
Silk Hose, in Black or Colors, two pairs in Box.....	\$1.00

A FEW SUGGESTIONS FROM OUR FURNISHING DEPARTMENT

NECKWEAR. The very newest styles and colors, very attractive patterns in Four-in-Hands.....	25¢ and 50¢
Bows in fancy Christmas Boxes.....	15¢ and 25¢
SUSPENDERS. A great variety of styles, each pair in a handsome Christmas Box.....	25¢ and 50¢
Boys' Suspenders.....	15¢ and 25¢
ARM BANDS. Fancy Arm Bands, each pair in a very handsome Christmas Box.....	25¢ and 50¢
MUFFLERS. Every kind of Mufflers. The square Muffler in the cashmere or silk.....	25¢ to \$2.00
The Way Scarf Muffler.....	25¢ and 50¢
COMBINATION SETS. Pair of Suspenders, pair of Garters and a pair of Arm Bands, all in a handsome Christmas Box.....	50¢ to \$1.00

BATH ROBES. Makes a most desirable Christmas Gift. He will appreciate one.....	\$3.75 to \$7.47
NIGHT ROBES. For Men, are made of fine cotton or domet flannel.....	50¢ to \$1.00
For Boys, made of domet flannel.....	50¢
PAJAMAS. For Men or Boys, made of cheviot and domet Flannel.....	\$1.00 and \$1.50
DRESS SHIRT PROTECTORS. Made in Black Silk, lined with White.....	\$1.00, \$1.50 and \$2.00
JEWELRY. An excellent assortment of Cuff Buttons and Scarf Pins, each in a handsome Christmas Box.	
Cuff Buttons.....	25¢ to \$1.50
Scarf Pins.....	25¢ to \$1.50
Watch Fobs.....	50¢ to \$2.00

CAPS AND TOQUES

Men's Cloth Caps.....	50¢ to \$1.00
Men's Fur Trimmed Caps.....	\$1.00 to \$2.50
Men's Fur Caps.....	\$2.00 to \$5.50
Boys' Cloth Caps.....	25¢ and 50¢
Boys' Toques.....	25¢ and 50¢
Misses' and Children's Toques.....	25¢ and 50¢

UMBRELLAS FOR CHRISTMAS GIFTS

Always an acceptable gift. We have them for Men, Women and Children. The better grades come with Sterling Silver or Gold-plated trimmings on handle.

Men's Umbrellas.....	\$1.00 to \$3.50
Women's Umbrellas.....	\$1.00 to \$4.50
Children's Umbrellas.....	50¢ and 75¢

BAGS AND SUIT CASES

Suit Cases made of Imitation Leather.....	\$1.25 to \$2.50
Suit Cases made of Leather.....	\$5.00 to \$7.47
Suit Cases made of Japanese Matting.....	\$1.25 to \$3.00
Hand Bags made of Leather.....	\$1.50 to \$6.00

HOLIDAY FOOTWEAR FOR EVERY MEMBER OF THE FAMILY

CHRISTMAS SLIPPERS FOR MEN. In a great variety of styles, in Black and Tan Leathers, or in warm Felts.....	50¢ to \$1.50
CHRISTMAS SLIPPERS FOR GIRLS AND CHILDREN. In Patent Leathers and also in warm Felt goods in fancy colors.....	50¢ to \$1.25
High Buckle Arctics for Men and Boys	
High Buckle Arctics for Women and Children	
Rubber Boots for Boys and Children	

CHRISTMAS SLIPPERS FOR WOMEN. In a great variety of warm Felt goods, in fancy colors, some with Fur Trimming; also, in Kid and Patent Leathers.....	50¢ to \$2.00
CHRISTMAS SLIPPERS FOR BOYS. In Black and Tan colored Leathers.....	50¢ to \$1.00
Indian Moccasins for Men and Boys	
Indian Moccasins for Women and Children	
High Cut Skating Shoes for the Boys and Girls	

This Store will be Open Every Evening of Next Week





Can be Found at the

Ayer Variety Store

DOLLS

Dressed and Undressed, China, Kid, Rubber, Celluloid, Esquimaux, Rag, Wool and Character. 1¢ to \$3.40
Doll Shoes, Socks and Heads. 5¢ to 25¢

TOY FURNISHINGS

Tea, Kitchen, Pastry and Wash Sets. 10¢ to \$1.50
Ranges, Sad-Irons, Beds and Hammocks. 10¢ to \$1.00
Carriages, Chairs, Carts, Trunks. 25¢ to \$1.00

IRON TOYS

Road Carts, Buckboards, Sulkies, Automobiles. 5¢ to \$1.00
Hook and Ladders, Fire Engines. 10¢ to \$2.50
Trains. 10¢ to \$1.00
Penny, Nickel and Combination Banks. 10¢ to \$1.00

MECHANICAL TOYS

Automobiles, Aeroplanes, Tops. 10¢ to 50¢
Upright Engines and Trains with Track. 25¢ to \$2.50

MUSICAL TOYS

Roller Chimes, Trumpets, Humming Tops. 5¢ to 25¢
Accordions, Violins, Harmonicas. 5¢ to 50¢
Pianos, Metalephones. 10¢ to \$1.39

ANIMALS

Horses and Horses with Carts. 10¢ to \$1.00
Teddy Bears, Elephants, Lions, Dogs, Cats, Spiders, Etc. 5¢ to 75¢

SPORTING GOODS AND GAMES

Skates and Sleds. 25¢ to \$3.25
Hockey Sticks and Pucks. 5¢ to 25¢
Football. \$1.00 to \$2.00
Puzzles, Card and Board Games, Blocks, Printing Sets, Etc. 5¢ to \$1.25

BOOKS AND ALBUMS

Children's Picture Books, Beautifully Illustrated, in Linen. 5¢ to 89¢
Paper and Half Binds. 5¢ to 89¢
Stories for Girls and Boys, Very Attractive. 25¢ to 69¢
Gift and Birthday Books, Diaries and Postcard Albums. 10¢ to 89¢

CALENDARS AND CHRISTMAS DECORATIONS

Local View and Fancy Calendars. 10¢ to 25¢
Passepoutart Frames and Pictures. 10¢
Christmas Cards and Booklets. 1¢ to 10¢
Christmas Wreaths, Snow, Garlands, Tree Ornaments, Bells, Candles and Holders. 1¢ to 25¢
Fancy Waste Paper Baskets. 10¢
Dennison's Crepe and Fancy Papers and Stickers. 5¢ to 15¢

STATIONERY

Linen Paper and Envelopes in Fancy Boxes. 10¢ to \$1.00
Children's Box Paper. 10¢ to 15¢

CHINA AND GLASSWARE

Decorated Cups and Saucers. 10¢ to 75¢
Shaving and Children's Mugs. 5¢ to 25¢
Decorated Salad Bowls and Cake Plates. 25¢ to \$2.25
Fancy Pitchers. 10¢ to 75¢
Sugar and Creamer, (2-piece sets). 50¢ to \$1.50
Marmalade Jars, Etc. 25¢ to \$1.50
Decorated Glass Punch, Water and Wine Sets, Tumblers, Pitchers, Bon-Bon Dishes, Etc. 10¢ to \$3.49
Decorated Brush and Comb Trays, Hair Receivers, Tea Strainers, Marmalade Jars, Etc. 25¢ to \$1.50

JARDINIERS AND PARLOR LAMPS

Fancy Decorated Jardiniers. 29¢ to \$1.75
Fancy Decorated Lamps. 25¢ to \$3.50

NOTIONS

Full Line of Ribbons in All Colors. 1¢ to 25¢
Choice Laces for Fancy Work. 5¢ to 15¢
Linen and Fancy Handkerchiefs. 5¢ to 25¢
Fancy Three-piece Combs Sets. 50¢ to \$1.25
Shopping Bags and Pocketbooks. 5¢ to \$2.00
Fancy Belts, Collars, Jabots, Ruching, Side Combs, Barrettes, Etc.

JEWELRY

Brouches, Beauty, Veil and Belt Pins, Locketts and Chains, Bracelets, Rings. 10¢ to \$6.00
Collar and Cuff Buttons, Scarf Holders and Pins, Society Emblems and Pins, Chains, Rings, Etc. 5¢ to \$4.50

PHONOGRAPHS

A Full Line of Edison Phonographs, Records and Attachments

CHRISTMAS CANDIES

Chocolates and Bon-Bons. 10¢ to 40¢ lb.
Christmas Candy, 25¢ box. 10¢ lb.
CANDY SPECIAL FOR WEEK OF DECEMBER 18 to 23
20c. Peach Blossoms at. 17¢ lb.
40c. Box Clisbee's Chocolates. 29¢

STORE Will Be OPEN Every Evening From December 15-23
Tel. 82-2 AYER VARIETY STORE

LITTLETON.

News Items.

The body of Don John Pierce, of Hyde Park, was brought to town on Sunday morning and was followed by many relatives and friends to West-lawn cemetery, where interment in the family lot took place. Mr. Pierce's death came very suddenly at the age of eighty-nine years. He was formerly a resident of Littleton, living in the east part of the town. He was deacon of the Baptist church which honors his name with a memorial window.

At a business meeting of the Baptist church held on Monday evening, it was unanimously voted to extend to Rev. Herbert Caulkins, of Hartland, Me., an invitation to become pastor of the church and society.

Leon Nash has been suffering from a severe attack of lumbago.

A daughter was born to Mr. and Mrs. Samuel Reed, Jr., on Wednesday, December 6. Mrs. Reed is reported critically ill.

Miss Myrtle Case is confined to the house because of illness.

Frank Eugene Rivers and Della May Case, both of North Littleton, were united in marriage at the Congregational parsonage by Rev. Harrison L. Packard on Saturday evening, December 9. The bridal couple was attended by the parents of the groom.

Mr. and Mrs. John H. Kimball attended the funeral of Mrs. Kimball's aunt, Mrs. Maria Cleaves, at Arlington on Tuesday afternoon.

M. W. Leahy was very pleasantly surprised a few evenings ago by the Fourth of July committee, who called at his home and presented him with a valuable horse blanket. Mr. Leahy was much pleased with the gift, and especially grateful for the manifestation of good will and friendship that prompted the generous act.

Mrs. Frank Dodge and Evelyn Kimball enjoyed a week-end visit with Miss Jackson at Leominster.

Rev. P. J. Sheedy, of Ayer, will hold a service in the town hall on Christmas morning at eleven o'clock. It is expected that services will be continued every Sunday at the town hall for people of the catholic faith. Notice will be given later in regard to the hour and other particulars.

Rev. Herbert Caulkins, who preached at the Baptist church on Sunday, was entertained at Joseph Dodge's home.

Leander Fisher's little daughter Alma, who has been a victim of infantile paralysis, was taken to the children's hospital last week for medical advice. A support for the affected limb has been made with the hope of lending assistance in walking.

Rev. H. L. Packard continued his series of addresses on the great reformers last Sunday evening, taking for his subject, "John Wesley and the evangelical movement in England." These addresses have been listened to with deep interest and won the high commendation of those who have enjoyed the privilege of attending them.

Mrs. James C. Houghton, of Albany, N. Y., observed her seventy-seventh birthday last week Saturday. Littleton friends who were aware of the fact were happy to contribute to the postcard and letter shower given her on that occasion.

Charles A. Kimball attended the annual dinner of the New England Association of Phillips Exeter academy alumni held at the American house in Boston last Saturday night. Among the speakers were Gov. R. P. Bass of New Hampshire, Pres. A. L. Lowell of Harvard university, H. P. Amen, principal of Exeter academy, A. E. Association of Phillips Exeter academy, Gifford Pinchot, class of '84, and Hon. Winfred Denison, assistant attorney general of the United States.

Mrs. Emma Byam, of Foster street, has been visiting friends in Chelmsford the last two weeks.

The ladies of the Baptist society wish to remind the public of their fair which will be held at the vestry on Thursday, December 21, afternoon and evening. There will be a substantial supper at six o'clock. The entertainment of the evening will be given by the ladies of the church, who will present "The graduating exercises of the Littleton Female academy of the year 1855." This was given by the Dorchester Woman's club last spring and was much enjoyed by a very large audience.

Alliance Meeting.

The ladies of the Alliance met with Mrs. S. E. Abbott at her pleasant home, The Blossoms, on King street last week Friday for an all-day session. Thirty-three members were received with charming hospitality by the gracious hostess. After the business meeting, Mrs. Mary J. Priest read a paper on religious news, which covered many topics of interest in the religious world. The most painstaking preparation was evident in every item, and the whole was woven into a comprehensive and educative address whose worth was highly appreciated and praised.

This was followed by a delicious luncheon, daintily served by Mrs. Abbott, Mrs. Knowlton, Mrs. Wilcox, Mrs. Hardy, Mrs. Wakefield and Mrs. Paul Brown; Mrs. D. G. Houghton and Mrs. J. M. Hartwell, pouring.

In the afternoon several other ladies were present and Rev. Q. J. Fairfield gave a synopsis of Masterlink's "Bluebird," and readings from the play with frequent explanations. This too, was greatly enjoyed by all who had the opportunity to listen to our able literary critic and reader. The day will be remembered as one of exceptional pleasure and inspiration.

Christmas School Exercises.

The grade schools closed yesterday and the high school will close next week Friday. All schools will begin again on Monday, January 1. Christmas was observed by singing of Christmas carols, recitations and other exercises at the various schools. The children of the third, fourth, fifth and sixth grades in the Union building had their exercises together in Miss Andrew's room, the pupils of the first and second grades in Miss Davis' room celebrated with songs and a Christmas tree. At the west school

all the grades united in Miss Whittier's room, where exercises and singing and a Christmas tree, with Santa Claus, created a real Christmas atmosphere. Neat invitations, artistically decorated by the children were sent to parents and friends who were pleased to attend the celebration.

The out-of-town teachers are leaving for their homes today: Miss Cornwell spends the vacation in Roslin-dale, Miss Andrews in Portland, Me., Miss Davis in Concord, Miss Bowley in Milton, and Miss Dodge in Wool-wich, Me.

LUNENBURG.

News Items.

Three new houses are well under way and more are planned for the coming spring. Frank Hurley has his cellar dug and walled, and the first floor laid. Batters are up for a new house on Cunningham avenue, just below John Davidson's, and other batters were set for a house of the bungalow style on Massachusetts avenue for Prof. Elwin R. Bemis, principal of the high school.

Augustus Taylor has sold his saw mill and it is to be moved out-of-town. The boiler was taken out last week.

The many friends of Mr. and Mrs. Charles E. Wylie (Marian Burrage), Fitchburg, will be interested to know that an eight-pound baby boy came to make his home with them on Sunday, December 3. Both mother and son are doing nicely, and receiving congratulations from hosts of friends.

All who heard Rev. Sumner P. Vin-ton in the Congregational church on Sunday morning, November 26, will be very glad to know that he has planned to come here again in February and deliver one of his illustrated lectures, probably "In Burmese Land."

Loren Brown, one of Lunenburg's successful poultry raiser of thorough-bred stock, sent two Golden Wyandotte cockerels to the Agricultural college in Tokio, Japan, for breeding purposes recently. He also sent two cockerels and two pullets to Kentucky, about the same time. Later they will be taken to the great poultry fair in Chicago for exhibition.

Mrs. Harvey Page and Mrs. Barney took a trip to Templeton on Tuesday, and will spend a few days visiting with friends there and in Gardner.

Henry D. Kelley, who has been in Burbank hospital, where he underwent surgical treatment for appendicitis, is at home now and reports himself as well again.

Little Glennis Brown, the youngest son of Mr. and Mrs. I. C. Brown, is seriously ill with tonsillitis and bronchitis combined. Dr. C. E. Woods is attending him.

The Congregational church held its annual banquet, business meeting and election of officers on Thursday evening, December 7, with the following result:

E. S. Francis, cl.; G. C. Jewett, treas.; John Davidson, aud.; William A. Warren, col.; Charles Allen, ex. com. 3 yrs.; Mrs. Maud McIntire, exam. com. 3 yrs.; Samuel A. Warren, exam. com. 3 yrs.; Mary Sands, Mrs. Lulu Francis, Mrs. Nettie Barter, social com.; Ulmer McIntire, Hoyt Barter, John Davidson, William Glen, William Warren and Joseph Gilchrist, ushers; John Davidson, supt. Sunday school; E. S. Francis, asst. supt. Mrs. Edith Harley, treas.; Eleanor Harley, lib.; Miss Mabel Allen, supt. home dept.

Miss Florence Burrage went to Worcester last week by invitation to spend a few days with her friend, Mrs. C. C. Allen. Her mother received a letter from her on Tuesday saying that Mrs. Allen had been taken with diphtheria and as they were quarantined she would remain with her, but had no fear of taking the disease, as the doctor had examined her throat, and as yet there were no signs of it. He had given her a preventive and would watch it closely, and she did not think she would take it, and they must not worry about her at home.

Deaths.

Luke Chase, the oldest citizen of this town, died on Sunday at the home of his daughter, Mrs. Annie E. Brown, aged 90 yrs., 10 m. 15 days. He had lived in Lunenburg for forty-one years, engaged in farming until about three years ago. His wife died about sixteen years ago, and he lived with his youngest son and family until his eyesight and health began to fail, when he went to his daughter's home, a few rods from his old home. His death he was totally blind. Several years ago he received the cold-headed cane from the Boston Post, and it was highly prized by him. The funeral was held from his late home on Wednesday, and the burial was in the family lot in the North cemetery.

George H. Smith received a very severe paralytic shock some time during Saturday night, which affected his entire right side. He remained unconscious all day Sunday, and died on Monday evening. His age was 66 yrs. 6 mos. 8 days, and he had been a resident of Lunenburg for many years. He is survived by his wife, one daughter, several sons and grandchildren. The funeral was held at his late home on Thursday afternoon, and interment was in the South cemetery.

TOWNSEND.

Townsend Harbor.

The following items were received too late for last week's issue and are printed to read as last week's news:

Miss Hazel Cummings is doing substitute school work for Miss Melora Warren, who has been called home on account of her mother's illness.

Mrs. Strout is in Mason, visiting her brother, Mr. Reed.

The early part of the week, Mrs. Chancel LeFontaine returned from a visit with friends in Leominster.

On Thursday, Mr. and Mrs. Porter and Miss Mary Doran, of Fitchburg, were guests of Mr. and Mrs. Lorenzo Doran.

Mr. Cummings has recently sold his farm in this village to his son-in-law, Mr. Gilson, who at present is in the employ of Spaulding Bros. As the house is arranged for two families, Mr. Cummings will continue to reside here and carry on the poultry business as formerly.

Mrs. Kelley has sold her estate to a party from the Back Bay, Boston, who, we understand, will convert it into a stock farm.

On Wednesday evening, Lawrence Morgan was given a most pleasant surprise party by his many Pepperell friends.

Mr. Josselyn has purchased from the Harbor farm, two acres of grass land adjoining his estate on which he is building an icehouse with a capacity of five hundred cakes.

Daisy, a pet horse of Mr. and Mrs. Josselyn, and one that had been of faithful service to the family for nearly sixteen years, met its death recently at the kindly hand of Frank Knight. The horse, which so many years had been driven by Mrs. Josselyn, was greatly beloved by its mistress. Daisy was thirty years old and on account of her age it was thought best to lay her away.

The As You Like It club had a most pleasant meeting at the home of Mrs. Leadbetter last Tuesday. A prominent feature of the afternoon's entertainment was the reviewing of the Shakespeare play, "As you like it," from which the club takes its name. While serving lunch the school barge arrived and Mrs. Leadbetter invited the schoolmates of her son Hubert to a share of the refreshments. The invitation was most happily accepted. Miss Dorothy Smith assisted the hostess in serving. The next meeting of the club will be at Fairview farm.

BROOKLINE, N. H.

News Items.

Mr. and Mrs. orace Nye have been spending a few days in Boston, and Sandown, N. H., and Mr. Nye has returned to Keene, N. Y.

About thirty couple attended the social dance on December 5. There will be another held on December 19, Thayer's orchestra, of Pepperell, furnishing music.

Miss Eva Sawyer has returned to her aunt's, Mrs. Etta Rockwood.

Elmer Corey has bene on the sick list the past week.

Wednesday evening, December 13, is election of officers in Brookline garage.

Miss Florence Frost returned to Maine last week, taking Master Norman Frost with her to spend the winter.

The Loyal Workers met with Mrs. Clinton Gilson on Wednesday afternoon and enjoyed a very social time.

A TERRIBLE BLUNDER
To neglect liver trouble. Never do it. Take Dr. King's New Life Pills on first sign of constipation, biliousness or inactive bowels and prevent violent indigestion, jaundice or gall stones. They regulate liver, stomach and bowels and build up your health. Only 25c. at William Brown's, Ayer.

New Advertisements.

WANTED—Real Live Corset Agents at once. Patent boning the feature. Good commission and protected territory. If taken now. Address: S. A. AYER, 149 Tremont Street, Boston, Mass. 1111

SUGAR, 5c. per lb., freight prepaid. Send 3 two-cent stamps for catalogue and full information. MAIL ORDER GROCERY CO., 23 Main St., Brockton, Mass.

Sheriff's Sale

Ayer, December 1st, A. D. 1911. Taken on execution and will be sold at Public Auction at my office on East Main Street in said Ayer, on Saturday, January 6, A. D. 1912, at nine o'clock in the forenoon, all the right, title and interest not exempt by law from attachment or levy on execution, that Katie A. Hooper and Forest Hooper, both of Shirley, in the County of Middlesex, had on the seventh day of April A. D. 1910, at seven o'clock P. M., that being the time attachment was made on mesne process, in and to the following described real estate:

A certain piece or parcel of land with the buildings thereon situated on Maple Street in that part of said Shirley called Shirley Village, and bounded as follows, namely:

Commencing at a stone bound at land now or formerly of Alexander L. Hume; thence running northerly on said street eighty-six (86) feet; thence turning at right angles and running easterly about one hundred ninety-four (194) feet to land now or formerly of Captain Collins; thence southerly on said Collins land eighty-five and five-tenths (86.5) feet to land now or formerly of said Hume; thence westerly by said Hume land to the point of beginning.

Being the premises described in a deed from M. Louise Butler to Katie A. Hooper, dated February 8, 1906, and recorded in the Middlesex Registry of Deeds, book 3213, page 194, and subject to the restriction or reservation made in the last named deed; also, subject to a mortgage now held by Mary B. Jenkins to secure payment of the principal sum of one thousand dollars.

ALBERT A. FILLEBROWN,
311
Deputy Sheriff.

Write to Others

ON

Right Stationery

—

When you write to others and use any one of the delightful styles of stationery as shown in our immense stock, your correspondence will have a pleasing appearance and is most likely to be just twice as much appreciated.

Send your acceptance or request on stationery which stands for quality and reflects your personality.

Stationery for every occasion.

BROWN'S

PRESCRIPTION DRUG STORE

Main Street Ayer, Mass.

THE PARK & POLLARD CO. DRY-MASH

MAKES THEM LAY OR BUST

GOLDEN EGGS

Talk about your "Goose and the Golden Eggs." Your hens and The Park & Pollard DRY-MASH combined beat them a whole block. Every one of your hens will lay "Golden Eggs" if you feed them The Park & Pollard Dry-Mash and Scratch Feed.

No side stepping or excuses—they LAY or BUST, and they don't bust. Get their Almanac and Yearbook, and learn all about the wonderful feed that is sold on the "money back plan."

Feed the maturing pullets GROWING FEED and DRY-MASH mixed, but as soon as they begin to lay, give them the DRY-MASH straight.

Don't delay, get them started now and you will have eggs all winter. There are no "just as good" feeds and you have no time to try them—eggs are too high.

For Sale by A. E. LAWRENCE & SON, Ayer

Buy Latest Style Millinery Goods

AT

Geo. L. Davis's

26 Main Street

Ayer, Mass.

Tailor Suit Hats very smartly trimmed, large and small shapes, from \$2.98 to \$5.00

Velour and French Felts, hood shapes, in a broad collection.

C. H. Hardy

Contractor and Builder

AYER, MASS.

Residence, Pleasant Street

I AM PREPARED TO TAKE CONTRACTS FOR

Painting & Paper-Hanging

Plumbing and Heating

ALSO

Stone Work, Grading

and Mason Work

REAL ESTATE

BOUGHT AND SOLD

I have Lots For Sale on Pleasant, Washington and High Streets, and Central Avenue.

I have for sale a two-tenement house in Ayer, with land enough for a garden, centrally located. One tenement now rented.

High-grade Paints

Ayer

Fruit Store

Mead's Block, Ayer

Is the place where you will find almost everything for Xmas presents.

The best line of

Fancy Boxes

OF

Chocolates

in Town

ALSO

GIGARS, GIGARETTES AND TOBACCO

In Christmas Packages

A very nice line of all kinds of PIPES Especially for Christmas

Xmas Postals at One Cent Each

Visit us before you do any shopping and you'll see for yourself.

GEORGE S. POULIUS & CO.

Telephone Connection Ayer, Mass.



Christmas Opening

Our carefully selected assortment of CHRISTMAS NOVELTIES, useful and practical articles suitable for Christmas Gifts for Men, Women and Children is now ready for your inspection and approval.

Do your Christmas Shopping Now. Come to the BOSTON STORE

and supply your Christmas wants from our stock of Reliable Merchandise

FANCY CHRISTMAS APRONS
 Tea Aprons, Embroidered and Lace Trimmed at... 25¢ and 50¢
 White Muslin Aprons, Plain and Hamburg Trimmed, at... 25¢, 50¢ and 75¢
 Ward's Christmas Stationery... 10¢ to \$3.00



SEALS AND TAGS
 For Christmas Packages. Full assortment of Crepe Paper at 8¢ per roll. Christmas Garlands and Bells for decorations. Narrow Christmas Ribbons for Christmas packages.

Christmas Novelties of all Kinds

GLOVES MAKE PRACTICAL GIFTS
 Men's Cape Gloves, Spear Back, Fine Quality, at... \$1.50
 Men's Fine Kid Dress Gloves, Heavy Stitched Backs, at... \$1.00
 Men's Fur Plush Gauntlet Driving Gloves at... \$1.00
 Men's Lined Mocha Gloves, Heavy Wool Gloves and Mittens at 50¢
 Ladies' Two-clasp French Kid Gloves, in Tans, Grays, Modes, Black and White, at... \$1.00 and \$1.50
 Ladies' Cape Gloves, Spear Point Backs, Out Seam, Fine Quality, at... \$1.00 and \$1.50
 Ladies' Heavy Golf Gloves and Silk-lined Cashmere Gloves at 50¢
 Children's Cape Gloves, Spear Point Backs, Out Seam, at \$1.00
 Children's Fur Plush Gauntlet and Indian Gloves at... 50¢
 Children's Mittens at... 10¢, 15¢ and 25¢
 Children's Heavy Wool Gloves at... 25¢

ART EMBROIDERIES FOR CHRISTMAS
 Stamped Tea Aprons at... 15¢ and 25¢
 Stamped Belts at... 10¢
 Stamped Jabots, White and Colored, at... 10¢
 Stamped Work Bags of Art Linen at... 25¢
 Stamped Burlap Pillow Covers at... 50¢

CHRISTMAS NOVELTIES OF ALL KINDS
 Genuine Bradley Mufflers, all colors... 50¢
 Ward's Christmas Stationery... 10¢ to \$3.00

HANDKERCHIEFS FOR CHRISTMAS GIFTS
 Ladies' Plain Hemstitched, All Linen Handkerchiefs at... 10¢, 12½¢ and 25¢
 Ladies' Madeira and Silverine Embroidered Handkerchiefs, in All Linen and Swiss, splendid assortment of patterns, at... 25¢ and 50¢
 Ladies' All Linen Initial Handkerchiefs at... 25¢
 Ladies' All Linen, Val and Point Venice Lace Trimmed, at... 50¢ and \$1.00
 Boys' and Girls' Handkerchiefs, three in box, at... 15¢
 Ladies' Fine Swiss Embroidered Handkerchiefs, all new patterns, at... 5¢, 10¢ and 12½¢
 Large Assortment of Fancy Work Handkerchiefs at... 10¢
 Men's Handkerchiefs, All Linen, at... 12½¢ and 25¢
 Men's Handkerchiefs, All Linen, Initials, at... 25¢
 Men's Silk Handkerchiefs, with Embroidered Initials at... 50¢
 Men's Handkerchiefs, Colored Borders, at... 10¢

Letters for Embroidery
 Damask Towels for Embroidery... 50¢
 Ward's Holiday Stationery... 10¢ to \$3.00

CHRISTMAS NECKWEAR FOR LADIES
 Each in Fancy Christmas Box, All New Patterns
 Evening Scarfs, in Plain and Fancy Flowered Crepe de Chene and Silk Muslins at... 50¢, \$1.00 and \$1.25
 Fancy Stocks, Lace Trimmed, Lace and Embroidered Jabots and Cascades at... 25¢ and 50¢
 Bows in Silk and Velvet, Rosebud Ties and Side Fulls at... 25¢
 Square Veils in Christmas Boxes at... 98¢

MEN'S CHRISTMAS FURNISHINGS
 Suspenders in Christmas Boxes at... 25¢ and 50¢
 Knitted Neckwear in Boxes at... 50¢
 Silk Neckwear in Boxes at... 25¢ and 50¢
 Bradley-Mufflers in Boxes at... 50¢
 Suspenders, Armbands and Hose Supporters Sets, in Boxes, at \$1.00
 Suspender and Hose Supporter Sets, in Boxes, at... 50¢
 Silk Lisle Hose, Four Pair in Boxes, Assorted Colors, at \$1.00 per box
 Negligee Shirts, New Patterns, Coat Style, Collars to Match, at 95¢
 New Assortment Scarf Pins in Boxes at... 50¢
 New Cuff Links and Scarf Pin Sets at... 50¢ and \$1.00
 Bow Ties in Fancy Boxes at... 15¢
 Fancy Silk Arm Bands in Boxes at... 25¢ and 50¢
 Heavy Outing Night Shirts at... 50¢, 75¢ and 98¢
 Underwear of all kinds... 50¢ to \$1.50
 Sweaters, Fine Assortment... 50¢ to \$5.00

CHRISTMAS NOVELTIES OF ALL KINDS
 Genuine Bradley Mufflers, all colors... 50¢
 Ward's Christmas Stationery... 10¢ to \$3.00

CHRISTMAS LEATHER GOODS AND VELVET BAGS
 New Assortment of Envelope Purses, all new, at... 50¢, \$1.00 and \$1.50
 Genuine Leather Hand Bags, Silk and Leather-lined, New Christmas Patterns, at... \$1.00 to \$5.00
 Black Velvet and Heavy Plush Hand Bags, Gilt and Oxadized Frames at... \$1.00, \$2.00, \$2.25 and \$2.50
 Swede Bags, Gilt Frames, Colors Black, Green, Navy, Gray at \$1.00

CHRISTMAS SHIRT WAISTS
 Fancy Shirt Waists in Holly Boxes at \$1.75, \$1.98 and \$2.50
 Shirt Waist and Dress Patterns in Holly Boxes at 98¢ to \$5.00
 Kimonos and Dressing Sacques 50¢, \$1.00, \$1.25 and \$1.69

UMBRELLAS, A SENSIBLE CHRISTMAS GIFT
 Men's 28-inch Umbrellas, made on Paragon Frames, Mission Wood and Box Wood Handles, at... \$1.00 to \$3.00
 Ladies' 26-inch Suit Case Umbrellas at... \$1.50
 Ladies' 26-inch Union Taffeta Umbrellas, made on Paragon Frames, Mission Handles, at... \$1.00 to \$4.00
 Ladies' Taffeta Silk Umbrellas, Colors Red, Green, Blue and Black, at... \$3.50

POPULAR CHRISTMAS GIFTS IN JEWELRY AND FANCY ARTICLES
 Mesh Bags, German Silver Engraved Frames, Lined with White Leather, at... \$2.75, \$3.98, \$4.50 and \$5.98
 Hat Pins, Hand Painted, at... 25¢ and 50¢
 Hat Pins, Set with White Stones, at... 50¢
 Beauty Pins, Each Pair in Lined Box, at... 25¢ and 50¢
 Back Combs and Comb Sets, Set with Fine White Stones, at 50¢, 69¢, \$1.00 and \$1.50 per set
 Rosaries—Amethyst Beads, at... \$1.25
 Perfume in Fancy Boxes at... 50¢ and 69¢
 Belt Buckles, New Patterns, at... 50¢ and \$1.00
 Fancy Belts in Boxes at... 50¢
 Flat English Brushes for Hair, Clothes and Hats in Leather Cases, one of the season's newest novelties, prices \$1.00 to \$3.00
 Fancy Hose Supporters in Boxes at... 25¢ and 50¢
 Brooch Pins, New Patterns, at... 25¢ and 50¢
 Fancy Needle Books at... 50¢ 75¢, \$1.00 and \$1.50

AVIATION CAPS—ALL COLORS
 Ladies'... 98¢ and \$1.25 Children's... 50¢
 Boys' and Girls' Stocking Caps and Skating Caps 25¢ and 50¢

COME AND SEE OUR XMAS DISPLAY

Store will be open every Evening the week before Christmas

Geo. B. Turner & Son, Ayer, Mass.

GROTON.
News Items.
 The fourteenth annual concert and ball of Engine and Hose company No. 1, will be held in town hall, Friday evening, January 12. Music by Neviers' Second Regt. orchestra of Concord, N. H., eight pieces.
 Mrs. Mary E. Prescott, wife of Lorenzo Davis of Crookston, Minn., and daughter of Capt. John Prescott, formerly of Groton, was a cousin of Mrs. Ellen A. Barrows, also a cousin of Mrs. Eugene O. Collier, both now living here in Groton. Mrs. Mary (Prescott) Davis' death was given in this column last week.
 Mr. and Mrs. Millard S. Sawyer went to Worcester on Tuesday to attend the meeting of the state orange, which held a three days' session there this week.
 Milo Harrington, R. F. D. carrier, is off his route on account of a severe attack of tonsillitis. The doctor was called Sunday. H. L. Gilson is substituting on the mall route during Mr. Harrington's illness.
 James Bywater, whose eye trouble was pronounced glaucoma by an eye specialist at Nashua, went to that city last week with his wife and Dr. Kilbourn and was fitted to glasses. The last reports are that he was much benefited and had walked out.
 Abram Miller has had a telephone put in his residence on Champney street, call 61-21.
 The first of the Luther Blood series of free lectures was held Saturday evening, December 9, greatly to the satisfaction of the large sized audience. Sidney Landon, character artist, gave selections most effectively from Longfellow, Poe, Mark Twain, Bill Nye and others. One person says:

I would walk five miles to hear his rendering of "The psalm of life," to say nothing of the others in his program, the whole of which was admirable. The next in the course comes on January 20.
 Miss Nellie Bywater is assisting at Moores' during the Christmas trade which is in full swing.
 Dana house is being repaired, Henry Adams doing the carpenter work.
 Lawrence academy closes next week Wednesday for a two-weeks' vacation.
 C. B. Eddy has a telephone, call 117-3. G. A. Tuttle's call is changed from 61-3 to 52-12.
 Mr. and Mrs. John Lawrence returned from Europe, passengers on the Franconia, last week.
 Hon. and Mrs. William F. Wharton closed their Groton residence on Thursday for the winter.
 Mr. and Mrs. J. H. Robbins left last Saturday for their usual winter stay at Pasadena, Cal.
 Edward Wharton, brother of Hon. W. F. Wharton, and husband of Edith Wharton, the authoress, is at Groton Inn for a few days.
 Groton School closes next week for the holidays.
 Frank Toomey is taking James Dunphy's place at the freight depot during the latter's illness.
 There will be Christmas tree exercises and a short entertainment for the children at the Unitarian vestry on Saturday evening, December 23, at five o'clock.
 Pussy willows are in blossom here and buds on some other bushes and trees are swelling owing to the spring like weather.
 The primary and intermediate departments of the Congregational Sun-

day school are preparing to send a little Christmas cheer and sunshine into a number of homes in town. They will bring their gifts next Sunday, when they come to Sunday school, and Miss Riley will distribute them according to her judgment.
 Born at Denver, Col., Friday, December 1, a son, Wilmer Archibald Parker, to Mr. and Mrs. Wilmer J. Parker, (née Miss Abbie Archibald), of that city.
 The Neighborhood club met very pleasantly with Mrs. Joseph Graves last week Friday afternoon. There were seventeen present. Mrs. Susan Barker, of Ayer, gave a talk, her subject being "What some Woman's clubs are doing." After her interesting talk, Mrs. Graves, the gracious hostess, served dainty refreshments. This club meets fortnightly.
 The vestry of the Congregational church was filled to overflowing last Sunday evening by those who had come to see and hear Miss Charlotte Grant, a returned missionary trained nurse, tell of her experience in Aintab and vicinity, Turkey, during several years past. She spoke of the religious work carried on, the conditions under the new government, the Mohammedans, etc. Altogether there seemed to be hope for a brighter religious future. Many old friends here were pleased to meet Miss Grant again.
 A. A. Wood is putting in a bathroom with heat at Michael Denahy's house on Pleasant street.
Appointed.
 Maj. Gen. Hugh Bancroft, of Boston and Cohasset, son of Maj. Gen. William A. Bancroft, of Cambridge and Groton, has been appointed by Gov. Foss, chairman of the new Dock Commission of Boston. Gen. Hugh Bancroft is only just turned 32, but

by his character and ability, has advanced much beyond his years. Graduating from a Cambridge grammar school at the head of his class at 10 years of age, he finished the five years' course in the Latin school in four years, entered Harvard college at 14 with fourteen honors; graduated in three years at 17, receiving his A. B. degree magna cum laude; studied engineering for one year, receiving an A. M. degree for his work in the Lawrence Scientific school. Studied law in Harvard Law school, graduating at 21 with the degree of LL. B. He was admitted to the bar the same year, and the following year was appointed assistant district attorney by district attorney, now Judge Sanderson, and later district attorney by Gov. Guild, to fill an unexpired term.
 For the five years following his admission to the bar, Gen. Hugh Bancroft was constantly employed in trying both civil and criminal cases, and at 27 had probably tried more jury cases than any other English speaking lawyer at that age. He enlisted in the Massachusetts militia at 14, and after serving as private, corporal and sergeant, and having studied military science under the instruction of a regular officer at college, he was made a captain and engineer on his 18th birthday, a lieutenant colonel and adjutant general of brigade at 23, a brigadier general (judge advocate general of Massachusetts) at 26, and was retired as a major general at 28. During the Spanish war, at 18 he was adjutant of the 5th Massachusetts Volunteer Infantry.
 Before he was 21 he engaged in a profitable publishing business, and had spent several summer vacations in a leading banking house in Boston. He has been a director in several banking, insurance and business cor-

porations, and in 1909, gave up court practice to become treasurer of the Boston News Bureau. Gen. Hugh Bancroft is also an extensive manufacturer.
 He is a member of Boston and New York clubs, and of military societies by right of service. Besides being a member of the Harvard Varsity crew for three years, he is an enthusiastic yachtsman and horseman, and is vice president of the Union Boat club. Gen. Hugh Bancroft; it will be recalled, delivered a Memorial-day address in Groton a few years ago.
 Besides his school and college training, he has had good training in law, engineering, military science, banking, business, manufacturing and public office. Gen. Hugh Bancroft's salary of \$15,000 annually is by far the largest paid to any public official in New England.
To the Editor:
 Will you kindly allow me to make use of your paper to assure the citizens of Groton that we are always glad to welcome them at our school chapel?
 During term time, we have morning services on Sundays at eleven o'clock; evening service at 7.15.
 I write this letter because a neighbor mentioned to me the other day that there existed some doubt as to whether the chapel services were open to visitors. I wish therefore to assure our friends in Groton that it always gives us pleasure to have them join us in our worship.
 Very truly yours,
 ENDICOTT PEABODY.

A Fine Success.
 The Unitarian church fair in the town hall last week Thursday afternoon was held under most favorable conditions. The weather was delight-

ful, the attendance large, the purchasers many and generous in patronage. It was a fine success.
 The entertainment committee, when the time for preparation became limited, decided on making an experiment or venture, which would be a departure from an ordinary effort to entertain the public. This was to engage available nearby musical talent, which gave good promise of pleasing.
 The inability of the cornet player to be present was a disappointment to the committee as well as the musicians, but several numbers of the reader's and the musical program were given hearty encores. The net results of he whole are over \$250.

Hospital Notes.
 There are at present fourteen patients at the Groton hospital and all seem to be doing well. Last Sunday, Miss Mary Woods, who works at the hospital, was operated on about five o'clock in the afternoon for the removal of a cyst. The same night, at eleven o'clock, James Dunphy was operated on for appendicitis. The case was acute and the operation very imperative. The young man had suffered milder attacks previously, but that afternoon had been riding in a motor car with a friend, and upon arriving home grew seriously ill, and was taken to the hospital, where Dr. Kilbourn performed the operation. Dr. Priest etherized. Dr. Goble gave the gas, and Dr. Hopkins, of Ayer, was also present.
 Rita Naylor, a girl twelve or thirteen years old, from Lowell, had been brought to the hospital suffering from chronic pericarditis. She died there during the same Sunday afternoon.
 Miss Alice Ames and Mrs. Walter Fletcher are employed at the hospital.
 For other Groton news see page 8.

AYER.

New Items.

A platform is being built by Mr. Kingbury for E. O. Proctor on West Main street, east of his garage, for a lunch cart that is to be conducted by F. A. Houle & Son of Nashua, and they expect to be ready in a couple of weeks to do business.

Mrs. S. M. Felton, formerly of this town, and better known as Clara Stone, started Wednesday with her husband from New York for Europe, to be absent for some time. While there they will travel extensively over the continent, Mr. Felton going on a business trip for a drug company of Detroit, Mich.

At the glass blower's exhibition in Page hall last week, the prize given to the baby under five years of age who received the most votes, was won by Edward T. Pillman, and H. Irwin Pillman won the prize for being the most successful glass blower of the school boys.

A teachers' meeting in charge of F. C. Johnson, superintendent of schools, was held in the high school building on Tuesday afternoon. "What to do in the teaching of English," "How to arrange for games and play among pupils," and "Home and school associations," were some of the points taken up.

Miss Hope Robinson who is employed in the Worcester library, is ill in Worcester.

Dr. L. D. Sullivan has purchased this week the Flanders "20" Witt 1912 model of the Ayer Auto Station.

E. O. Proctor has orders for delivery in April of six Buicks. He has at his garage a model 24, little roadster, Buick, that is attracting a good deal of attention.

A special communication of Caleb Butler lodge of Masons will be held on Monday evening, December 18. Work—M. degree. A lunch will be served after the work.

A regular convocation of Bancroft Royal Arch chapter will be opened at Masonic hall, Tuesday evening, December 19. Work—Royal Arch degree. Lunch served after the work.

A black Morgan mare belonging to George H. Hill has just died at the age of thirty-seven years. She was born on July 25, 1875, and was owned by Mr. Hill thirty-two years. So far as known she was the oldest horse in the country.

There was a very interesting program at the meeting of the Y. P. R. U. on Sunday evening. The leader was Miss Marion Pector. The address by Mrs. Ella A. Church upon Fletcherism was a very interesting presentation of an important subject. The music added much to the interest of the meeting. It was in charge of Mrs. George J. Burns, Mrs. Avis Fisher, accompanist, and these in the choir: Dr. Butterfield, Harry Fisher, Mrs. Ida Perkins, Mrs. Ruth Sherwin, Mrs. Carrie Bigelow and Miss Emma Butterfield.

At the next meeting of Ayer grange, Thursday evening, December 21, there will be a Christmas tree. All lady patrons are requested to bring two paper napkins full of candy, popcorn, etc. All gentlemen patrons are to bring a present, not to cost over five cents.

That the Boston and Maine railroad officials have practically decided to eventually abolish the east yard in Fitchburg is being more and more indicated by the frequent orders received that affect the many train crews running out of that city. Changes that affect eleven of the sixteen regular freight trains running out of that yard daily have already been received, necessitating the removal of the members of the train crews to Ayer, where the trains are now being made up.

Judge Warren H. Atwood was elected a member of the executive council for three years of the Middlesex Bar County Bar association, at the annual meeting held in Cambridge on Monday.

Chief Beatty and Officer Mullin rounded up three hoboes at the railroad station shortly before one o'clock on Thursday morning. They gave their names as James Turner, of England, Samuel Bass, of Boston, and Fayette Snowdale. Although they all looked the worse for wear, they told sufficiently good stories of themselves and their wanderings as to merit release without arraignment. They were therefore discharged from custody.

St. Andrew's aids meet at the parish room on Saturday night at seven o'clock.

On Tuesday afternoon at three o'clock, St. Andrew's Guild meets at the parish room.

Judge George A. Sanderson, of the superior court, will preside at the trial of Rev. Clarence V. T. Richeson accused of the murder of Avis Linnell, which will begin on January 15. Chief Justice Alker assigned Judge Sanderson to the case on Thursday.

These officers of Ayer council, K. of C., were elected at the regular meeting on Tuesday evening: J. H. Burns, g. k.; Peter McNeil, d. g. k.; John Hooley, c. m. H. O'Neill, f. s.; Joseph McCarthy, rec. J. P. Mullin, treas. M. J. Griffin, w. J. P. Merrill, l. g.; David Walsh, o. g.; Hugh McDonald, adv.; A. H. McDonald, trus. 3 yrs. T. F. Mullin, loc.

Employees of the Boston and Maine railroad company are putting in a block signal near the Worcester and Nashua railroad crossing on Main street.

At a special meeting of Ida McKinley chapter, O. E. S., held on Wednesday evening, a hundred or more were present to witness the initiation of sixteen candidates. There was also an exemplification of the floral work, which was very impressive. A lunch was served after the work.

The following officers were elected at the annual communication of Caleb Butler lodge of Masons held on Monday evening: W. L. Peabody, w. m. W. H. Fairbank, h. y. B. H. Hopkins, l. w. G. H. Bixby, West Groton, treas. E. H. Bigelow, sec. O. K. Pierce, 3 yrs. J. A. Fitch, proxy; E. A. Richardson, associate member of the Masonic relief committee of the grand lodge.

The Baptist ladies held a sale on Wednesday afternoon in the lower town hall. The decorations were all of red and white paper. The candy

table was in charge of Mrs. George Cole and Miss Dorcas Scruton; pop corn, Mrs. L. E. Sprague; fancy and aprons, Mrs. Byron Murphy; Mrs. W. Thomas and Mrs. Fred Lowell. A fine supper was served by Mrs. Ida Freble, Mrs. Jennie Chaffin, Mrs. Terry Reynolds, Mrs. Oscar Rand, Mrs. Charles Washburn, Mrs. John Washburn, Mrs. Howard Pillman and Mrs. S. B. Gelo.

Conductor B. H. Church, who has been quite ill for some time with a stomach trouble, is on the gain, slowly but surely.

The leader at the Y. P. R. U. on Sunday evening will be Miss Alice Sanderson. There will be select reading by S. N. Lougee.

These officers of Capt. George V. Barrett camp, S. of V., were chosen at the regular meeting on Thursday evening: J. Walker Ward, com.; H. E. Evans, s. v. Harry Davis, v. c.; Rev. Arthur Bumpus, pat. inst.; H. C. Harlow, treas.; E. E. Sawyer, Ellis B. Harlow, James M. Gouville, camp coun.; E. Sawyer, sec.; James Dolloff, color bear.; Ellis B. Huston, chap.; Henry Adams, guide; Ruel Scruton, l. g.; G. P. Beverly, g. k.; Leon A. Downing, mus.; Rev. A. A. Bronsdon and E. B. Harlow were chosen delegates to the departmental convention, and Leon Downing and G. P. Beverly, alternates.

The officers will be installed with those of George S. Boutwell post and the Woman's Relief corps on Thursday evening, January 11.

The following officers of Ayer Junction Aerie, F. O. E., were chosen at the regular meeting on Thursday evening: Martin Scullane, w. p.; Michael Fitzgerald, w. v. p.; James J. Horan, w. c.; C. A. McCarthy, w. sec.; Joseph Foley, s. v. L. D. Sullivan, physician; Calixte Girard, w. g.; John Sherman, w. o. g.; Patrick Cheasty, 3 yrs. Dr. L. D. Sullivan, 2 yrs.; Fred O'Clair, 1 yr.; trustees: W. J. Donlon, W. C. Fitzgerald, Martin Scullane were chosen delegates New England Field day association convention at Lawrence on January 15.

John Skeritt, of Ayer, charged with non-support, was placed on probation for six months and ordered by the court to pay three dollars per week for the support of his wife in court on Wednesday morning.

Otis Kittredge started on Tuesday putting in the cellar for the new house which will be built for Harvey W. Winslow on Highland avenue. The house will be built by C. H. Hardy, who expects to begin work about January 1. The house will be a two-story structure.

Three candidates were initiated at the regular meeting of Easter lodge, N. E. O. P., on Tuesday evening. Mrs. Margaret Brunet, of Roxbury, Mrs. Estelle Evans, of Cambridgeport, and William H. T. Read, of Dorchester, were present as representatives of the grand lodge. After the meeting refreshments were served and a social hour enjoyed.

The work of re-filling the standpipe is now going on and it is expected that it will be filled by tonight, and from now on the added pressure from this source will be permanent.

Two wheels of a passenger coach on the 12.50 p. m. train for Lowell left the track near the overhead bridge on Tuesday, delaying the train for a short time.

Judge and Mrs. Warren H. Atwood are on their way home from the west where they have been for three or four weeks on a visit to relatives in Iowa and Kansas. They are expected here today or Monday. During the absence of Judge Atwood, associate justices John M. Maloney and Charles F. Worcester have attended to the court business.

The abolition of the Boston and Maine east yard at Fitchburg, and the removal of its freight activities to Ayer and necessitating the removal of several hundred railroad men from Fitchburg in the near future, is the latest plan that is being considered by the Boston and Maine and New Haven officials as one of the next steps in systematizing the operating departments of the road with a view of cutting down expenses to the lowest possible point in all branches of the service.

The idea is the biggest and most important one yet advanced for the Fitchburg division. The plan will not only require the removal of all freight trainmen from that city, but large numbers of other employees as well, including switching crews, yard employees and many employees of the locomotive department as the proposed changes include the removal of all the freight locomotives to Ayer. All inspection of the facilities at Ayer showed plenty of land to provide for the consolidation with room enough for further expansion. The change is now under advisement by the officials of the two roads and it is considered probable by those conversant with their attitude toward the matter that the plan will be carried through in the immediate future.

The location of two large railroad yards within thirteen miles of each other was never contemplated by railroad men and is the result of developments not anticipated in the original plans of the road. While the change is so important that it was not taken seriously by local railroad men when the rumor was first heard, it has gradually become evident that the plan is being seriously considered and that all indications point to its being carried through, everyone admitting that there is no necessity for two large yards so near to each other and that a great saving could be effected through the proposed consolidation.

The removal of the freight locomotives to Ayer would necessitate the building of a new roundhouse there, which, with a comparatively small amount of new trackage, will be about the only expense involved in making the change. It is contended that the saving in the operating expense would soon offset the expense of improvements at Ayer, where the railroad company already owns land enough to meet all their needs for many years to come. Railroad men in general pronounce the plan as entirely feasible and many express surprise that the change was not made years ago when Ayer first came into its own as a railroad center and the junction point to several important divisions each of which is more important from a freight viewpoint than on account of the passenger traffic handled.

Patrick Francis, an employee of the Boston Ice Company at Sandy pond, died at St. John's hospital, Lowell, last Sunday of Bright's disease of the kidneys, aged forty years. He was taken to the hospital last Saturday. He had been sick and unable to work for some time, and was cared for at the boarding house at Sandy pond by Mr. and Mrs. Michael Daley. Mr. Daley being foreman for the Boston Ice Company. The sick man continued to gradually grow worse until the end despite of all the care that could be given him. He was a stranger here and little is known of him or his family. He worked for the company at Sandy pond only about four months.

The third entertainment in the course of the Middlesex Country club

was given on Tuesday evening in Page hall before a large and appreciative audience. The artists were the Hayden concert company. Miss Eleanor Soule Hayden played the organ, chimes, xylophone and mandolin. Miss Hayden's musical talent is of high order and is the only person playing the organ chimes this side of Chicago. Miss Edith Gertrude Wales is an exceedingly sweet pianist. Edwin Byron Powell is a thorough master of the violin and his selections were greatly enjoyed. The reader, Miss Maud Huntington Benjamin, in the different and difficult parts rendered by her, were of a superior order. They gave a generous program and every number was received with enthusiasm. The management of the Country club was excellent in every detail. This evening was a fitting finish to a fine course that has been given.

Nicolas Fafutes, an employee of the Ayer Tanning Company, was killed while at work there on Tuesday forenoon at eleven o'clock. At the time of the accident he was engaged in taking skins out of what is known as a drum. This drum is a large circular box like contrivance, into which the skins are placed for the purpose of coloring them. When a sufficient amount of skins is placed in the drum it is made to revolve by means of machinery, a belt being attached to a pulley from an overhead shafting for that purpose.

When the work of coloring is done the drum is stopped by throwing off the belt onto the loose pulley. The drum was stopped and the door of it opened, and the young man was removing the skins when the drum started to revolve. Before he could get clear of it his head was caught between the drum and a post and crushed. The belt was thrown off the pulley as quickly as possible, but it was too late.

Medical aid was quickly summoned and Drs. Hopkins and Cowles responded, but their services were not required as the young man was beyond aid when they arrived, death being instantaneous. Medical examiner, Frank S. Bulkeley, of this town, came to the scene of the accident and viewed the body of the young man. An examination showed that the neck was broken and he was otherwise bruised about the head.

Mr. Fafutes was a native of Thessaly, Greece, and had lived here for the past four months with his uncle, John Manvrais and Peter Anton, on Forest street. Besides these relatives he leaves a father and one sister in Greece. He was twenty-three years of age. The remains were taken in charge by Undertaker Wright and prepared for burial.

The funeral was held on Wednesday afternoon and was largely attended. Services were performed at St. Andrew's church by K. Hagidimitriou, a Greek priest from Lowell. The interment was at Woodlawn cemetery.

A sale was held in the lower town hall on Tuesday afternoon in charge of the members of St. Andrew's Guild. The fancy table was cared for by Mrs. Frank S. Bennett and Mrs. M. L. Savage; candy, Mrs. Charles Farnsworth and Mrs. George A. Sanderson; apron, Mrs. Henry Turner and Mrs. James. The mystery sales were conducted by Miss Ruth Peters, who in antique and mysterious dress traversed the hall, bearing her basket of mysteries from which the children selected their packages. A fine supper was served in charge of Mrs. Frank Briggs and Miss Kate Lynch, who were assisted by the Misses Inez and May Briggs, Bessie Chauvin, Nina Phillips, Elizabeth Sabine and Mrs. Chauvin.

The annual fair of the Unitarian Social Gathering was held in the vestry of the church on Thursday afternoon and evening. The room was gay with pretty booths in which the decorations were largely evergreen. The food table was in yellow and white, with Christmas bells of red. It was in charge of Mrs. H. M. Bixby and Mrs. Franklin Lawton. Mrs. George J. Burns and Mrs. J. W. Kittredge presided at the fancy table, which was evergreen with apple blossoms. Mrs. Lyman Clark and Mrs. Ruth Sherwin had charge of the aprons in a booth of evergreen and roses. Candy was

Very Highly Appreciated. The third entertainment in the course of the Middlesex Country club



If you are worrying about the selection of some of your Christmas Presents, we can help you.

A Few Christmas Suggestions:

Table listing various Christmas items and their prices, such as Men's Sweater Coats (50¢ to \$5.00), Ladies' Umbrellas (\$1.00 to \$5.00), and Men's Slippers (50¢ to \$2.00).

These are only a few suggestions, we are unable to catalogue the whole stock

COME IN AND SEE THEM

Fletcher Bros. AYER - MASS. Opposite Depot

The change would mean the removal of about two hundred railroad men, with their families, from Fitchburg to this town.

It is expected that the change will be gradually effected by the occasional removal of the headquarters of trains and their crews to Ayer to suit the convenience of the operating departments, a sufficient number of changes having already been made to greatly decrease the amount of work done at Fitchburg, and to promise the carrying out of the entire plan in the near future.

Change in B. and M. Freight.

A readjustment of the freight service between Portland and Ayer on the Worcester, Nashua and Portland division of the Boston and Maine railroad was made Monday, and while there is a reduction in the number of trains there is an increase in the capacity of the new service.

Several trains were taken off by way of Nashua and Rochester but two of them were transferred to the other line, via Lowell, Lawrence and Dover, which is three miles longer. This was done because of a difficult grade between Rochester and Portland, where locomotives of class 70 were used. The larger type of locomotive, known as class 85, has been substituted, representing a larger carrying capacity.

To Combine Divisions.

Plans leading to a further consolidation of divisions of the Boston and Maine railroad system are said to be under consideration by the officials of that road, with the object of dispensing with the services of some of the division heads and other high salaried men and reducing operating expenses through combining the smaller divisions with the larger ones wherever the plan can be worked out on a practical basis.

Plans under consideration will provide for including that part of the Massachusetts Central division, north of Oakdale in the Worcester, Nashua, Portland division, and that part of the White Mountain division north of Woodsville, N. H., as a part of the Passumpsic division. The other sections of these two divisions will probably be annexed to adjoining divisions at a later date. The Manchester and Portsmouth divisions may be made a part of the Portland division and the inclusion of some of the intersecting lines of the Fitchburg division as a part of that division are also possibilities of the future.

After Boys Who Escaped.

Chief of police Beatty received word from the Shirley Industrial school on Tuesday night that four boys had escaped and might come toward Ayer. The chief failed to find any trace of them. The same night he received a message from the home for the feeble minded at Baldwinville that two of the inmates had escaped. The chief caught one of them, but the other has so far eluded capture. The one who was captured gave his name as Victor Bigwood, seventeen years of age. He was held till the arrival of the officials from the institution, who took the fugitive back on the five o'clock express on Wednesday afternoon.

Bigwood appeared to be anything but feeble minded as he told the story of his life to the chief. He said that this was his fourth escape from the Baldwinville institution.

On Wednesday forenoon it was learned that a boy supposedly the one who was with Bigwood when he escaped, was seen on the Littleton road, but nothing further was heard of it.

Death.

Patrick Francis, an employee of the Boston Ice Company at Sandy pond, died at St. John's hospital, Lowell, last Sunday of Bright's disease of the kidneys, aged forty years. He was taken to the hospital last Saturday. He had been sick and unable to work for some time, and was cared for at the boarding house at Sandy pond by Mr. and Mrs. Michael Daley. Mr. Daley being foreman for the Boston Ice Company. The sick man continued to gradually grow worse until the end despite of all the care that could be given him. He was a stranger here and little is known of him or his family. He worked for the company at Sandy pond only about four months.

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Fatal Accident.

Nicolas Fafutes, an employee of the Ayer Tanning Company, was killed while at work there on Tuesday forenoon at eleven o'clock. At the time of the accident he was engaged in taking skins out of what is known as a drum. This drum is a large circular box like contrivance, into which the skins are placed for the purpose of coloring them. When a sufficient amount of skins is placed in the drum it is made to revolve by means of machinery, a belt being attached to a pulley from an overhead shafting for that purpose.

Redistricting.

The work of the special legislative redistricting committee has been pushed along so well that nine of the sixteen districts of this state have virtually been laid out as they will finally be reported to the legislature of 1912. It is possible by taking up these nine to forecast fairly well what the other seven will be. As it looks now, the state will be made up so that there will be three safe democratic districts, all to be in Boston, where the three present safe democratic districts are.

To the present fourth district, which now has a population of 229,612, Athol, Petersham, Royalston and Phillipston, in Worcester county, are added from the second district, and Shrewsbury and Westboro from the third, giving the district a population of 247,515. To reduce this so as to approximate the standard number, there are taken from the present district the towns of Ashland, Ayer, Bedford, Concord, Groton, Lexington, Littleton, Natick, Pepperell and Westford with a total population of 36,103, which subtracted from the 247,515, leaves the population of the new fourth district at 211,412.

Taking the vote for governor in 1910, as a basis of calculation, the new fourth district is fully as strongly republican (which isn't saying much) as the old one. The total republican vote in Athol, Royalston, Petersham, Phillipston, Shrewsbury and Westboro, the added towns, was 1633 in 1910, while the total democratic vote that year was 933.

The total vote in the towns taken away from the district, Ashland, Ayer, Bedford, Concord, Groton, Lexington, Littleton, Natick, Pepperell and Westford was as follows in 1910: Republican 3198, Democratic 2746.

The republican margin in 1910, in the towns taken from the district was 452, while the republican margin in the added towns in the same year was an even 700. This means on the same basis a republican gain of 248 votes. That isn't much, but in the election of 1910, Wilder defeated Mitchell for the long term by only 130 votes, and Mitchell defeated Wilder for the short term by twenty-four votes.

Has Moved Away.

One department of the Ames Plow Company, confined to the manufacture of plows and corn shellers, and located at Worcester for the past three-quarters of a century, has recently moved from that city to South Framingham, where they now give employment to about two hundred hands. In 1855, there was manufactured here agricultural implements by Hazen O. Bean and Walter Leakey, with the late Benjamin F. Taft as superintendent. The firm known as Nourse, Mason Co., which position he filled when the manufacturing concern was known as Oliver Ames & Sons, and then the Ames Plow Company.

Arthur Fenner first came here in 1857, in the employ of the company. In 1867, he was appointed superintendent of the works here, which position he held until the Ames Plow Company moved to Worcester in 1878 or 1879. The several buildings of the Ames Plow Company covered a large portion of the grounds now occupied by I. W. Phelps, and the Haynes-Piper Company, and two of the original brick buildings are still standing and occupied by Mr. Phelps, the other, the office of the Haynes-Piper Company. These two buildings are all that are left from the works which were destroyed when occupied by the William A. Baeder Glue Company.

The buildings of the Ames Plow Company here in 1878 for a number of years after the moving of the works to Worcester, where the company hired shops of Stephen Salisbury, paying him a rental of \$10,000 a year for ten years, and the large property here going to ruins. It was at the time considered a foolish move and it would have been much better if the plow part of the company had moved here

from Worcester and occupied the shops where was manufactured mowing machines, hay tedders and other implements of agriculture. When the Ames Plow Company were enjoying their palmiest days here they gave employment to at least two hundred skilled workmen, and some part of the time to 275. It is said that the present owners of the Ames Plow Company are the Moline Plow Company, of Moline, Ill.

For other Ayer news see page eight.

New Advertisements.

Reopening

I will open on Monday, Dec. 11, at the old stand on East Main St. the Boot and Shoe Repairing Business of the late S. P. Morgan.

All kinds of Repairing neatly and quickly done.

E. L. WORRICK. Ayer, Dec. 8, 1911.

P. DONLON & CO.

Ayer, Mass.

CHRISTMAS GOODS

- SLED BOXES, FLEXIBLE FLYERS, TOBOGGANS, HOCKEY STICKS, DOLLS, WAGONS, WHEELBARROWS, TYPEWRITERS, STEAM ENGINES, ELECTRICAL ENGINES, MECHANICAL TOYS, BELLS, TINSEL AND FANCY DECORATIONS, FANCY CHINA AND GLASSWARE.

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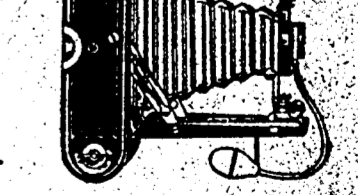
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P. DONLON & CO.

Ayer, Mass.



It's a Merry Christmas for one who gets a

KODAK

Have you thought of that?

Geo. H. Hill Druggist Ayer

SHIRLEY

The Girls' Sewing Guild of Trinity chapel will meet with Miss Edith Longley on Saturday afternoon, December 16.

Mrs. Louis J. Farnsworth and Mrs. L. Forrest J. Carpenter visited in Lowell last week.

Mrs. Susan E. Farnsworth, of Woodsville, visited with relatives in Leominster several days last week.

Mrs. Helen M. Winslow, of Cambridge, spent the week-end with her sister, Miss Harriet Winslow.

Sidney A. Carter was a guest last week of Charles Clapham, of Boston.

Walter Woods, who has for the past two weeks been employed by B. Cram, left on Tuesday for Boston to enter the Boston Y. M. C. A. school on St. Paul street, in order to learn to become a chauffeur.

Rev. William Ware Locke, of Boston, conducted the services at the First Parish church last Sunday morning.

Mrs. Ruth M. Graves is home from Fitchburg, where she was attending to an attack of the grippe.

given numbered clothespins to fasten their rubbers together with. These were left in the vestibule and the checks to correspond were kept in a box.

At the regular meeting of the Shirley Grange last week the following were elected officers for the ensuing year: Frank Wilby, m.; Harold Hardy, o.; Mrs. Harriet Dudley, sec.; Mrs. M. Jameson, chap.; W. W. Worcester, steward; Robert Leslie, asst. stew.; Mrs. Charlotte Leslie, l. a. s.

The John H. Worcester W. R. C. held its annual meeting on Tuesday afternoon at their headquarters and the following officers were elected: Mrs. M. Jameson, pres.; Miss K. Hardy, v. p.; Mrs. Nellie L. Hall, j. v.; Mrs. Locke, chap.; Mrs. H. Hazard, treas.; Mrs. F. L. McInnes, con.; Mrs. S. Messer, g.

Supper and Sale. Tuesday evening, December 12 the King's Daughters' circle held a supper and sale in the town hall.

Miss Marion Routelle has been on the sick list, suffering from a severe cold for the past week.

Ernest G. Wilson has been at his home here for a few days on account of illness, but has resumed his work in West Townsend.

Benjamin Seaborn, who is employed at the Shirley mill, was confined to his home in Josselynville last week by a severe cold.

Miss Ellen Pratt has closed her cottage here for the winter and gone to New Jersey to spend the holidays with her eldest son.

HOLLIS, N. H.

News Items. Walter B. Stickey, one of our oldest citizens, spent two days in Nashua last week as the guest of his daughter, Mrs. Greenleaf.

Mrs. E. K. Jewett left Hollis on Wednesday for a visit with friends in Lowell, Mass.

Station agent J. F. Lee, at Hollis station, was called to Nashua last week to attend the funeral of his cousin, George W. Hardy served as station agent during his absence.

Ray H. Drayton, of Pepperell, occupied the pulpit last Sunday, in exchange with Rev. C. H. Davis. At the close of the service he read the resignation of Mr. Davis as pastor of this church to take effect on February 1, as he has accepted a call to the Second Baptist church of Portland, Me.

At the regular meeting of Hollis Grange last week the following were elected officers for the ensuing year: Frank Wilby, m.; Harold Hardy, o.; Mrs. Harriet Dudley, sec.; Mrs. M. Jameson, chap.; W. W. Worcester, steward; Robert Leslie, asst. stew.; Mrs. Charlotte Leslie, l. a. s.

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It Never Flickers. The long winter evenings give a woman a splendid chance for sewing or embroidery; but her eyes suffer from the strain unless she has a good light. The Rayo is the best lamp made.

Christmas Suggestions. Artistic, Useful and Durable Gifts at Moderate Cost. Read Carefully, you will find just what you are looking for.

Stickney Gasoline Engines ARE THE BEST. Not Possible. I can't divide my profits with you. My business has not increased \$75,000,000.00 the past year and I don't spend \$2,000,000.00 in advertising.

More Fall Bargains in Farms. For \$2100 with personal property on easy terms, new buildings, 16 acres good land, handy to trolley and good market.

Another Reo Sensation. Drop of \$250 and Improvements Both. Have you seen it? The new car for 1912! All pronounce it a beauty!

SPECIAL NOTICE. The New England Telephone and Telegraph Company desires to remind its subscribers that the 20 days allowed in which to pay the service bills expire Wednesday, December 20, 1911.

GOLDS VANISH. Quick, Sensible Method That Doesn't Upset the Stomach. Have you heard of the overnight cold cure that is putting colds in the head and chest out of business between sunset and daybreak?

B. F. Keith's Theatre. Lowell, Mass. High Class Vaudeville Attractions. WEEK OF DECEMBER IS. MARGUERITE HANEY. "The Leading Lady" with Ralph Lynn.

HOUSE LOT FOR SALE. In Ayer, situated on Oak Street, adjoining the estate of Benjamin Taft. The lot is 108 feet on Oak Street, and is 60 feet deep.

5A HORSE BLANKETS. Blanket your horse in the stable and use a 5A Bias Girth. 5A Blankets are made for strength and wear, and will outlast others.

Geo. H. Brown. Reliable Clothier, Ayer. TAILORING. In All Its BRANCHES Done at Murray's.

J. W. Murray. MERCHANT TAILOR. Ladies' Coats Made to Measure. Suits Made to Order from \$15 up.

TOWNSEND

Townsend Center. The following officers were chosen on Monday evening to serve at the grange during the ensuing year: Helen Proctor, m.; Emma W. Seaver, o.; W. H. Scates, sec.; Clara C. Flarity, treas.; Frank Woods, asst. stew.; E. L. Hayes, chap.; M. Farrar, pres.; Charles Dix, g. k.; Ella Wilson, Cor.; Alice Brown, Pomona; Bertha L. Drake, Flora; Amy Whitcomb, l. a. s.

The body of W. W. Ladd, of South Ashburnham, was buried on Wednesday. Mr. Ladd leaves a widow, who was formerly Miss Ellie Brown, of this village.

Mrs. Evelyn Warren gave a talk on "Reference books" at the library on Wednesday afternoon. The talk was for the benefit of the upper classes of the high school. They were invited to the library by Mrs. Warren, who gave them much valuable information in regard to selecting reference books and treating the students to ice cream and fancy cookies. Miss Hattie Smith, Helen Dobson and Mrs. Eunice Bruce assisted in serving.

At the Christian Endeavor meeting on Tuesday evening the following officers were elected to serve during the following year: George Davis, pres.; Ralph Bush, v. p.; Charles Howard, treas.; Alice Davis, cor. sec.; Edna L. Haynes, rec. sec.

Henry Spear, who is over eighty years of age, left this week for Los Angeles, Cal., where he is to live with his brother. He is to be followed by alone, and he has left behind many friends who wish him well in his new home.

A postal savings bank is to be started in town on January 2. All information as to rules and regulations will be kindly given by the postmaster, H. E. Hildreth. Anyone over ten years of age may be a depositor and one dollar is the smallest amount which will be received to start an account with.

Mrs. Laura I. Richards, master of the grange, and Mr. and Mrs. T. E. Flarity, both past masters, attended the state grange convention at Worcester on the week-end.

The E. A. Spaulding Rebekah lodge had a supper and initiation last week Friday evening. An interesting entertainment was also given in charge of the men and they said that John E. Piper and E. B. Higgins took the cake in their vaudeville act.

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PEPPERELL.

Items of News.

Prescott grange held their regular meeting on Friday evening of last week and elected officers for 1912.

Thursday evening, December 14, the annual clock supper was served in the vestry of the Congregational church to a large company.

The Christmas party of the Congregational Sunday school will be held in the vestry on Saturday afternoon, December 23, from three to six o'clock.

The schools throughout the town closed on Friday for the Christmas vacation of two weeks.

On Tuesday, December 12, Mrs. James H. Gilson entertained her husband's brothers and sisters in recognition of the eightieth birthday of her sister, Mrs. Lucy A. Boynton.

Mr. and Mrs. H. N. Tower will be at home to their friends on the twenty-fifth anniversary of their wedding on Monday afternoon, December 25, from three to six o'clock.

Mrs. Effie F. Ross, of Bennington, N. H., is a guest of Mrs. D. E. Weston and Mrs. Nellie M. Gutterston.

Miss Ann Goodnow, who has been ill a few weeks past, is being cared for in Groton.

The members of the high school would be well paid if they attend the concert of the Tufts college glee and mandolin clubs in order that they might choose a satisfactory college to complete their education.

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Mrs. Jennie McCullough Hazen, of Fitchburg, formerly of this town, spent Thursday of last week with Mrs. George Shaw.

Miss Doris Hartwell has returned to the Normal school in Fitchburg, after having been quarantined for two weeks on account of measles in the family.

S. Thompson Blood, of Concord, spent Sunday with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. L. P. Blood.

Mrs. Nathaniel Shattuck, who has been quite ill at her home here with an attack of acute indigestion, is able to be out again.

Mrs. Chester Parker and daughter, and Mrs. John Fiske spent a day this week in Fitchburg as guests of Mrs. Sherman Parker.

Leon Richardson has been confined to the house for a few days on account of a severe cold that is very prevalent in town.

Mrs. Myra Attridge and Mrs. O. K. Shattuck are at work for the holiday season for C. A. Swasey.

The next regular meeting of the Woman's club will be held in Central hall on Tuesday, December 19, at the usual hour.

The cottage prayer meeting on Thursday evening of next week will be held at the home of Mrs. Burns on Pleasant street.

Miss Lena Brown, of Cottage street, returned on Friday of last week from New York, where she had been spending a number of weeks with friends.

Sherman Cleveland is quite sick with a cold, and has been unable to work for a number of days.

Mrs. John R. Shattuck has returned to her home with her daughter in Concord, going from here to Nashua on Thursday, later to Concord.

Rev. J. M. Sutherland will speak at the Methodist church at seven o'clock on Sunday evening. Subject, "The strong man, who made a great failure."

Rev. Charles Davis, of Hollis, N. H., has accepted a call to a Congregational church in Portland, Me. He expects to leave Hollis in January.

GROTON.

News Items.

The primary grades of the public schools closed this week Friday for a three-weeks' vacation.

There will be the usual Christmas tree festivities for the children at the Baptist vestry Saturday evening, December 23, and on Sunday, December 24, there will be special Christmas exercises at the Sunday school session of the same church.

On Sunday evening, December 24, at five o'clock, there will be a vesper

service with Christmas music at the Unitarian church.

There will be a Christmas tree and a short entertainment for the children at the Congregational vestry on Saturday evening, December 23.

Mrs. Blanche M. Brown went to Worcester on Wednesday to attend the meeting of the state grange.

Shooting Match.

James Hill, William Gale, Henry Woods, Henry Erving, Patrick Ryan and J. F. Peabody were close competitors in a shooting match at the gallery at Palmer's block last week.

On a European Trip. S. M. Felton and wife, nee Miss Clara Stone, formerly of Groton, sailed Wednesday from New York en route for Europe.

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On Friday of last week she was taken violently ill while in school. She was removed to her boarding place and a physician summoned who advised immediate surgical treatment.

She recovered from the effects of the ether and was able to converse with her parents, but peritonitis set in and she passed away Sunday morning.

Miss Sawyer was of a particularly lovable nature. No one was heard to speak ill of her. For several years she had been of the greatest assistance to her father in the management of his business.

She was born in Winchendon July 24, 1837. Funeral services were held at the First Baptist church in that place on Wednesday afternoon.

West Groton.

Mrs. R. A. Webber, of Ayer, is a week-end guest at the home of her son, G. S. Webber.

Mrs. E. P. Shores, Mrs. G. S. Webber and Miss Bertha Bixby attended the meeting of the Eastern Star in Ayer on Wednesday evening.

Mrs. Stanley, of Pawtucket, R. I., daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Edmund Blood, visited relatives here this week.

Reports have reached this village of the death in Burbank hospital, of Mrs. Lucia, a late resident of this place, who left town but a few weeks ago.

Willis Crossman, of Pittsfield, was a recent guest of his cousin, F. L. Blood. This was Mr. Crossman's first visit to Groton in fifty-two years.

Mr. and Mrs. Talmage Kierstead are entertaining a number of guests. Going on Saturday, Mrs. C. L. Roy spent several days with her parents in Westmoreland, N. H.

It was lately reported in this column that Alonzo Jenkins, of North Shirley, had sold his farm and was to reside in Townsend.

Miss Kathleen McGowan has returned to her position in Groton hospital and Mrs. Parkhurst is at present night assistant there.

AYER.

Letters remaining uncalled for at the Ayer postoffice for the week ending December 11: Mrs. Carrie E. Edmonds, Mrs. Edmond, Robert E. Eddis, Edward Moulton, T. S. Smith.

A notice has been posted by the selectmen for a townway to be called Rogers' street that should be laid out from Main street to Shirley street over land supposed to be owned by Mary Rogers.

Mr. Lovett will have his annual Christmas tree in Park hall on Friday, December 22.

Miss Amy Lougee, of this town, who has been confined at the C. Light Edgerton Company for the past three or four weeks got through last Saturday. While there she was employed on the underwear work previous to the holidays.

Ayer council, K. of C., will hold a social dance in Page hall on Thursday evening, December 14. Music by Newell's orchestra of Marlboro, five pieces.

The public schools will close next Friday for the Christmas vacation and will reopen on Monday morning, January 1.

Capt. George V. Barrett is not only a veteran of the civil war, but a veteran of the Boston harbor, where for the past twenty-three years he has occupied the position as boarding officer of inbound vessels.

A. E. Lawrence intends to build an addition to his house on Washington street. When it is made, the upper tenement will be rented to Geo. O. Filibeuro, who will take possession of the premises on December 11.

Beginning last evening the eight days' celebration of the Jewish people of the feast of Hanukkah began. On the first night the candles were burning, and each succeeding night one is added till the last night of the celebration when the lights are burning every night, papers are said. The local Jewish people will celebrate the event.

The public is cordially invited to attend the Kimmy sisters' annual sale of embroideries, linens and useful articles at the display window of the stores carrying Christmas goods at 11 and Williams street from December 11 to December 21.

Mass will be celebrated at the town hall in Littleton by Rev. P. J. Sheedy on Christmas morning at eleven o'clock. It is expected that services will be held there every Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. Oscar C. Rand were surprised at a meeting of the members of the Eastern Star, E. O. P., last week Friday evening, the occasion being their tenth wedding anniversary. The meeting was called for the supposed purpose of rehearsal for the class initiation.

Our stores were never more inviting than they are at this time of the holiday trade. The display windows of the stores carrying Christmas goods are beautifully arranged and the assortment of goods for holiday presents are in abundance.

Annual Meeting.

The annual meeting of the Congregational church was held on Monday evening, Augustus Lovejoy was chosen moderator, and these officers and committees were elected:

Dr. B. H. Hopkins, clerk; F. C. Johnson, Dr. M. H. Evans, H. E. Evans, C. H. Hardy, and Augustus Lovejoy, Mrs. Clara E. Richardson, C. H. Hardy, Fredson, Mrs. Annie E. Sargent, Mrs. Mary E. Blood, church com. Mrs. Francis Lovejoy, dea. 2 yrs.; H. E. Evans, trustee parsonage fund; Miss Mary B. Johnson, Miss Annie E. Sargent, Mrs. Hardy, soliciting com.; F. B. Harlow, Miss Rachael A. Osgood, Francis Love-

joy, mus. com.; C. H. Hardy, supt. Sunday school; H. E. Evans, asst. supt. and treasurer.

The reports of the committees showed prosperity during the past year, \$1,447.03 having been raised for current expenses, and \$2,332.26 for the reduction of the church debt.

Moving Pictures.

At the moving picture show on Saturday night will be shown the "Two Orphans," in three reels over three thousand feet long. This is the best drama that has ever been shown on the curtain.

SHIRLEY.

Leander S. P. Marsh, seventy-six years old, a contractor and builder, took his own life by shooting, Wednesday afternoon at his home on Hazen road.

Mr. Marsh had been unwell for some time past and sent for Dr. Thomas E. Lilly on Tuesday, who called on Mr. Marsh during that day.

The Marsh home is in the vicinity of the Boutillier, Evans and Holden farms in the direction of Woods Village from Shirley Village, and the deed was not discovered until Mr. Marsh's two sons, David and Mitchell, returned home at six p. m. from Ayer, where they are employed as carpenters by C. H. Hardy.

The body of the father was found lifeless on a couch in a shop at the rear of the house, with a bullet hole in his head, and the rifle with which the act was committed was fastened in a vise.

Neighbors were notified and Dr. Lilly summoned. The bullet passed through the head, above the right cheek bone in front of the ear, and was found lodged in some brackets in the shop.

Associate Medical Examiner Herbert B. Priest of Groton was sent for and viewed the body of the aged man soon after the deed was discovered by the sons.

News of the death of Mr. Marsh spread rapidly during the evening and was a great shock to the townspeople.

LITTLETON.

Much sympathy is felt for Samuel Reed Jr. in the loss of his wife, whose death occurred in Marlboro on Tuesday, following an operation for appendicitis on Monday.

Mrs. Reed was born in Maine, thirty-five years ago, and previous to her marriage, little more than a year ago resided in Westford.

Mrs. Fannie A. Sherburne passed away at her home on Goldsmith street on Tuesday morning at the age of seventy-five years, having been a sufferer from pleurisy and heart trouble for several weeks.

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The Holiday Season. It is quite the usual thing for Christmas shoppers, especially Mothers, Daughters and "Best Girls" to depend on a considerable extent upon a man's store. Time was, when gifts were given simply as a remembrance; they could answer no practical purpose, nor were they meant to. But in late years the useful, wearable gift has made an indisputable place for itself.

LANE BROS. East Pepperell Mass. UMBRELLAS, HATBOXES, NECKWEAR, HANDKERCHIEFS, HOSIERY, CUFF LINKS, WATCH GUARDS, BATH ROBES, SHOES, SLIPPERS, FUR COATS, HOUSE COATS, SHIRTS, COLLARS, SCARF PINS, SCARF HOLDERS, MUFFLERS, NIGHT ROBES, PAJAMAS, BAGS, SUIT CASES, TRUNKS, FANCY WAISTCOATS, HATS AND CAPS, DRESS GLOVES, FUR-LINED GLOVES, ARM BANDS, SUSPENDERS, BELTS.

MORTGAGEE'S SALE OF REAL ESTATE IN AYER, MASS. By virtue of a power of sale contained in a certain mortgage deed given by Charles J. Day to Joseph Holden, Annie L. Walker, and Josephine C. Jilson, Trustees of the United Society of Believers (called Shakers) of Harvard, Massachusetts, which said mortgage is dated the fourteenth day of March, A. D. 1911, and recorded with Middlesex South District Registry of Deeds, book 3583, page 256, and for breach of the conditions contained therein, and for the purpose of foreclosing the same, will be sold by public auction at the dwelling house on the premises hereinafter described, in Ayer, aforesaid on Saturday, the thirtieth day of January, A. D. 1912, at two o'clock P. M., all and singular the premises described in and conveyed by said mortgage deed, to wit:

Notice to Creditors. Estate of SILAS P. MORGAN late of Ayer in the County of Middlesex deceased, intestate, represented insolvent. The Probate Court for said County will receive and examine all claims of creditors against the estate of said SILAS P. MORGAN and notice is hereby given that six months from the twelfth day of December, A. D. 1911 are allowed to creditors to present and prove their claims against said estate, and that the court will receive and examine the claims of creditors at Cambridge, on the twelfth day of January, 1912, at nine o'clock in the forenoon, and at Cambridge, on the twelfth day of June, 1912, at nine o'clock in the forenoon.

NOTICE. The Annual Meeting of the Shareholders of the First National Bank of Ayer will be held at their Banking Rooms in Ayer, Mass., on Monday, January 8, 1912, at one o'clock P. M. For the purpose of acting upon the following business: To choose a Board of Directors to serve for the ensuing year, and to transact any other business that may come before said meeting.

NOTICE. The Annual Meeting of the Stockholders of the Townsend National Bank will be held at their Banking Rooms on Monday, January 8, 1912, at ten o'clock A. M. to choose a Board of Directors for the year ensuing, and to transact any other business that may legally come before said meeting.

FOR RENT—House on Pleasant Street, Steam Heat, with Barn, Hot-house, Fruit Trees. One-third acre of land. Good location. Apply to C. H. JEWETT, Pepperell, Mass. 131r. Send in your subscriptions to this paper before January 1, 1912, and save fifty cents on each yearly subscription as the price will advance to \$1.50 per year on that date.