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Ayer, Mass., Saturday, December 23, 1911.

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**AYER.**

**A Recent Visitor.**

Wellman J. Delano, former superintendent of the town farm, was in town this week on business. While here he was the guest of Mr. and Mrs. Jerry C. Reynolds. Mr. Delano, during his stay here, looked after the fixing up of the house that he purchased, which is located opposite the town farmhouse. Mr. Delano's daughter, Miss Sophia F. Delano, who graduated from the Ayer high school last June, is employed as a stenographer for the L. J. Fullam chair manufacturing company of Ludlow, Vt., and likes her position very much. Mr. Delano, since leaving here last April, has been engaged in farming in Ludlow, the farm that he purchased being about two and a half miles from the center of the city.

**Reception.**

A reception was tendered Rev. John Whitley, the new pastor of the Congregational church, and his wife last week Friday evening. Besides Mr. and Mrs. Whitley there were in the receiving line, Dr. and Mrs. B. H. Hopkins and Mr. and Mrs. F. C. Johnson. The ushers were Miss Maud L. Whitaker, Miss Lucy Wyman, Miss Rachael Osgood and Miss Bertha Stone. The reception lasted from eight to ten o'clock. Instrumental music was furnished throughout the evening by Peterson's orchestra. Vocal solos were given by Miss Mildred Sanders and Miss Helen Hardy. The accompaniments for Miss Sanders were Dr. Hopkins on the violin, and Edith L. Longley on the piano. Miss Flora Cole played the piano accompaniment for Miss Hardy.

Light refreshments were served under the direction of Mrs. R. C. Parker and Mrs. E. E. Sawyer. Mrs. Nina B. Lovejoy had charge of the arrangements for the reception.

**The Ministers' Union.**

It is now seventeen years since the launching of the Union movement among the ministers around Ayer. There were about thirty-eight present at the first meeting, January, 1895. Others also gave it valuable aid. About one-third of those then present have since passed on. We remember them with gratitude and joy. Dr. Joshua Young and Rev. Mr. Voorhees of Groton, Rev. Geo. S. Shaw of Ashby, Dr. Putnam of Concord, Revs. H. W. Holmes, Lyman Clark and A. S. Hudson of Ayer, Rev. C. S. Brooks of Fitchburg, Rev. E. R. Hodgman of Townsend, Rev. Mr. Peterson, then of Lunenburg and perhaps others.

This roll of starred names is not called with any discouragement, their lives are in part our strength today. The noble testimony of their memory, is the same today, as when they were with us, and added to our cheer. And with them we recall Dr. Edward Everett Hale, and Bishop Mallou, both of whom were our presidents and guided us wisely when they were here. More than another third of those who organized our first meeting have since then removed from our neighborhood—Revs. Everett, Slattery and Roberts of Ayer, Rev. Torrey of Harvard and Revs. Blackford and Torrey of Shirley, Rev. Buxton of South Acton, Rev. Cloues, our first president, then of Littleton, Rich of Milford and Porter of Littleton, Campbell and Weston of Concord Junction, Hewett of Fitchburg, Sanderson, then of Pepperell, and Lindh of West Acton.

These and others are not in our neighborhood now, but wherever they may be we are confident that, although scattered, they still testify for the brotherhood they stood for then. So many have gone away that only a little handful of the workers in that first meeting are now left to be active in our meetings today.

This sketch may meet the eyes of many ministers in this region. If it attracts your attention, does it not invite your support?  
Sometimes we have met in Ayer thrice a year, sometimes but once. But no meeting has ever been a failure. Never a meeting but the Good Spirit seemed to be with us, and welding us. Never a meeting but we have tenderly remembered our common master in the breaking of bread together, in His name.

If those who desire to aid another meeting of the Union, will at once drop a postal message to the undersigned, it will greatly help in arranging for another meeting quite soon.

WM. J. BATT, Cor. Sec.,  
Concord Junction, Mass.

**Clipping.**

The following was taken from the Fitchburg Sentinel of December 18: The congressional redistricting committee of the legislature has practically completed its labors and is ready to report to the legislature of 1912, a plan for making sixteen districts in the State where there were fourteen before. Eighteen of the twenty members of the committee are in favor of the plan as made up, and will sign the report, but there appears to be considerable democratic opposition, and some from the republicans in certain districts, also. It is a question if the legislature will adopt a plan for new districts this year.

The map of a new fourth district has been shifted considerably since a tentative outline was announced last week. The final construction of the district as reported by the committee places these cities and towns in it: From Worcester county: Ashburnham, Athol, Berlin, Bolton, Clinton, Fitchburg, Harvard, Gardner, Hubbardston, Lancaster, Leominster, Lunenburg, Petersham, Phillipston, Princeton, Royalston, Sterling, Templeton, Westminster and Winchendon; from Middlesex county: Acton, Ashby, Ayer, Bedford, Boxborough, Carlisle, Concord, Groton, Hudson, Lexington, Lincoln, Littleton, Marlboro, Maynard, Pepperell, Shirley, Stow, Sudbury, Townsend, Waltham, Wayland, Westford, Weston.

The new towns in the district are: Carlisle in Middlesex county, Athol, Petersham, Phillipston and Royalston in Worcester county. The towns in the present fourth district and not in the new one are: Ashland, Framingham and Natick in Middlesex county, and Boylston and Northboro in Worcester county. All in all, the district suffers about as few changes as any of them.

The total vote in the towns of Ashland, Framingham, Natick, Boylston and Northboro, taken away from the fourth district, based on the returns in the state election of 1910, was 244 republican and 247 democratic. The republican vote in the added towns of Carlisle, Athol, Petersham, Phillipston and Royalston at the same election, was 1021, and the total democratic vote was 583. The change in the district, consequently makes it more strongly republican.

**HARVARD.**

**News Items.**

Bromfield school closed this week Wednesday to re-open on Wednesday, January 3. The assistants, Miss Bernice Sears, spend her recess with her family in Providence, and Miss Alice Chadwick goes to West Somerville, to be with her folks during the holidays.

Mrs. J. Fred Barry, of Schenectady, N. Y., is visiting over Christmas with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Warren H. Fairbank.

A daughter was born to Mr. and Mrs. John Madigan on Monday, December 11, who reside on the Depot road.

James Riley, who has been with Fred T. Whitley this season, is spending this week with his mother in Lowell.

Kent T. Royal, of Colby college, is home for a week's vacation.

John Lee visited over last Saturday and Sunday with friends in South Boston.

The 600 club have revived, and with all of their old time enthusiasm are preparing for their annual Christmas dance party to be given at town hall on Monday evening. Music will be by McNally's orchestra of four pieces. Reuben A. Reed will be floor manager.

Mervin Bliss, of Amherst college, is visiting this week with his brother, E. H. Bliss, and family.

The Christmas exercises given by the Sunday schools of the churches will take place as usual. The Orthodox society have their exercises on Saturday evening at 7.30, in the church vestry. The Unitarian Sunday school will hold their exercises on Sunday afternoon, directly after the morning service in the church.

Mrs. F. R. Preston and Merrie Preston, of Amherst, N. H., are here in

town for a ten-days' visit with friends and relatives.

Special Christmas music is arranged for the morning service on Sunday. Mr. Thayer and Miss Sanders will sing. Mr. Thayer has chosen "The Christmas song" by Shelley, and will sing as a response "A little town of Bethlehem." Miss Sanders will also have appropriate music for the day.

Mrs. Frank M. Hynes returned from the hospital at Clinton on Thursday afternoon. She is recovering rapidly. Mrs. Abbie C. Sawyer is very ill at her home with bronchial pneumonia. She has a trained nurse from Boston in her attendance. Miss Dora St. John is assisting about the household.

Miss Mary D. Davis returned on Thursday from a two-days' visit to

Mr. and Mrs. E. G. Morse at Marlboro. She has received official notice from the Worcester Memorial hospital to report there for duty on January 3. She will enter upon a course of training for registered nurse.

The household goods of R. M. Lindley were moved from their home here on Thursday to West Newton, where Mr. and Mrs. Lindley will locate.

Word has been received here from Mr. and Mrs. J. G. Haggood in California. They enjoyed their cross-country trip very much and are having a delightful time.

George F. Pollard, of the firm of Farley, Harvey & Co., Boston, has been to Florida on a three-weeks' trip, taking a much needed rest after a strenuous business year. Mr. Pollard is on his way north now, and will plan to spend Christmas with his

daughter, Mrs. D. M. Morris, and family at Pittsburg, Pa.

It will be interesting to Harvard boys to know that Willard Houghton of San Diego, now working on a surveying expedition, pitched a game of baseball on Sunday, December 10, in a match between the surveyors and the Poway team and won his game by a score of 4 to 1. This speaks well of the athletic training at Bromfield.

**Grange.**

On Tuesday evening the grange held the last regular meeting of the year. Lecturer, Miss Reed, arranged an old-fashioned entertainment. This consisted of a spelling match, which was won by Miss Elsie F. Knight, with Miss Mildred Carman a close second. Brothers McLaughlin, Knights and other old-time champions now have to take off their hats to the younger set.

A Christmas tree with gifts for all was also a feature of the evening. Music was given by Misses Grace Morse, violin, and Mildred Carman, piano. A dinner paid lunch was served at the close of the entertainment. Old time costumes also added interest to the gathering.

**New Advertisements.**

**FOR RENT**—House on Pleasant Street, Steam Heated, with Barn, Heat-house, Fruit Trees. One-third acre of land. Good location. Apply to C. H. JEWETT, Pepperell, Mass. 1217

**LOST, STRAYED OR STOLEN**—From Newell Station on Sunday, December 10, a Small, Brown and White Dog, six months old; no collar, short tail, answers to name of Murphy. Finder will please return to JOHN FINDER, Bixby-Webber Storehouse, West Groton, and be rewarded. 16

**FOR SALE**—A Square Piano in good condition. Cheap for cash. Inquire at Public Spirit Office, Ayer. 1216



**SUGGESTIONS FOR**

**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 Japanette, soft finish..... 5¢, 10¢ and 15¢
- Men's Japanette, 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

**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

**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¢

**MEN'S HOSE**



- 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

**Geo. Brown**  
RELIABLE CLOTHIER AYER, MASS.



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To All Advance Paying Subscribers One Dollar.

**JOHN H. TURNER, Editor.**  
**GEORGE H. B. TURNER, Publisher.**

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Saturday, December 23, 1911.

**WESTFORD.**

**News Items.**

At the recent meeting of the W. C. T. U. held at Mrs. A. S. Wright's, a committee, consisting of Mrs. David Wallace, Mrs. Homer M. Seavey and Mrs. Alice Lambert, were chosen to draw up resolutions of sympathy to be extended to the family of their late sister member Mrs. Sarah J. Hildreth. Mrs. Hildreth was most interested in the W. C. T. U., having served as the local union's president for a number of terms and her tragic death is keenly felt by the members of this union. Further routine business was transacted at this meeting after which luncheon was served by the hostess and a social hour enjoyed.

Miss Gertrude Hamlin is at home from Wellesley college enjoying the three weeks' holiday vacation.

Miss Winnifred Burnham of the Frost school entertained on the week-end her niece, Miss Evelyn Proctor of Essex.

Howard Ferguson, who left home in September to try his fortunes in the Northwest writes interesting letters to the home people each week of his experiences. At present he is located in Fort Francis, Ontario.

Harwood L. Wright acted as best man at the wedding December 16 of his cousin, Herbert W. Wright of Worcester to Miss Edith A. Barber of Townsend. The wedding was a very pretty but quiet home affair. This is the sixth occasion that our genial Dick has acted in this gracious capacity for his friends.

Miss Grace Lumbert, who has made such a satisfactory recovery from her recent illness, assumed her new duties last Monday as helper and companion to Mrs. Etta Tyler in the latter's cosy new home.

The mid-week prayer service was held this week with Mrs. A. S. Wright with good attendance.

The Christmas exercises for the children of the Congregational church will take place Saturday evening. There will be a supper at six with Christmas tree and exercises following. All who have articles for the tree will please bring them earlier in the afternoon.

Miss Blanche Waller is enjoying the Christmas vacation at home and was a guest at the Tadnuck club Tuesday afternoon.

Pleasant word comes from Los Angeles to the Westford friends from the Misses Atwood, where they are spending the winter. They are very pleasantly located and find much to see and enjoy. Meeting with other sojourners in the Golden Gate state the H. B. Halls, has been mutually pleasant.

Word also comes this week from our around the world travelers, Mr. and Mrs. Walter F. Wright and Mrs. Elizabeth Whitney of their visit to Batavia on the island of Java and Singapore in southeastern Asia.

The Boy Scouts, under the direction of scout master, Dexter Coggs, had a most enjoyable supper with speeches and games at the town hall Friday evening of last week. The supper was managed by a group of young ladies as follows: Misses Sutherland and Sullivan, Marjory Seavey, Hazel Hartford and Pauline Wallace. The speakers of the evening were Mr. Williams, physical director of the Lowell Y. M. C. A., who spoke most effectively; also, John P. Wright and Rev. David Wallace, who were at their brightest and best. Altogether all who had to do with the affair felt that it had proved a thorough success.

**Tadnuck Club.**

The regular meeting of the Tadnuck club took place in library hall Tuesday afternoon. The program was the third in the season's special topic for study and was "Northern countries of South America." This was in charge of Miss Clara A. Smith, whose subject was Venezuela, Columbia and Guiana. Thoughtful study, good delivery and good sense always characterize Miss Smith's papers and this was especially true Tuesday afternoon and proved most interesting and instructive.

Miss Edith Forster supplemented the program with an article on South American emeralds, which are mined in these countries, also a sketch of the Tonka bean tree. Miss E. Marion Sweet read a dramatic traveler's sketch of a journey to the wonderful Kayeta Falls.

To add to the variety of the afternoon F. W. Brackett, supervisor of drawing in the schools, gave a talk on a few principals of art and exemplified the same with charcoal drawings.

The next meeting, January 2, will be a continuation of the season's study and will be "Chili—the land of progress," in charge of Miss Edith Forster. It is hoped that the members will make a good new year's beginning with a large attendance.

**About Town.**

The sign on the Kittredge farm has been changed to the Old Homestead, 1846. The change is appropriate and sentimental.

Hugo Page is back to business after his illness and is prepared to saw lumber and grind cob corn.

Vincent Brickford has left the employ of the H. E. Fletcher granite Company, and accepted the position of freeman at the Brookside mills, which is now running on full time.

Plans are being made to remodel the brown cottage at West Chelmsford owned by Donald Cameron, near the railroad station. It will be re-

The Unitarian Sunday school will observe Christmas with a Christmas tree and appropriate exercises in the vestry of the church this evening at 6.30 o'clock.

modeled into a modern bungalow. P. Henry Harrington is the contractor, which is some evidence that the work will be modern. When completed it will be occupied by Elliot Humiston, of Westford, clerk for the Cameron Press Bagging Company.

Rev. Lyman B. Weeks was in town Wednesday and made a busy day visiting his new parishioners. He has an apt faculty of entertainment along these lines.

By special request the next meeting of the West Chelmsford Debating society will be confined to members, as the new debaters are young and inexperienced, and wish to gain practice before giving the public the influence of their early oratory.

**Debating Society Organized.**

The West Chelmsford Debating society held a meeting at Historical hall last week Tuesday evening. Hon. Herbert E. Fletcher was elected chairman; James Dwyer, vice chairman; Fred A. Snow, sec.; Capt. John J. Monahan, treas.; William E. Edwards, L. J. Ellingwood, Harold Fletcher, trus.; Frank Ingalls, J. George Rudkins, Charles Peterson, subject com. Meetings will be held the first and fourth Tuesday evenings of each month, to which the public are invited. The next meeting for debate will be held on Tuesday evening, December 26, when the following question will be discussed: Resolved, "That the farmer is of more benefit to the community than the manufacturer." The society is making preparation to run social times of various kinds during the winter.

**Forge Village.**

Cameron school held its Christmas tree and exercise on Friday afternoon and were well attended. Children in all the different grades did exceptionally well and much praise is due the teachers who have so patiently and earnestly worked with the children to make the Christmas-tide this year the success it was. The primary grades, under the supervision of Miss Blaisdell and Miss Pyne, commenced the program, while the grammar grades, under Miss Ward and Miss Garvey, concluded the exercises.

The sympathy of the village is extended to Mr. and Mrs. George H. Weaver, in the loss of their infant son, born last Wednesday, at their home in North Littleton. The little one only lived twenty-four hours.

Mr. and Mrs. George Coughle have returned from an extended visit with relatives in Bridgeport, Conn.

Mrs. Louis Caisse and children, of Leominster, have returned home after spending a few weeks with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Augustine W. Carkin.

Archie S. Bennett, of Boston, was the guest of his grandfather, Alvin S. Bennett, last week Thursday.

Cameron school closed on Friday for their annual Christmas vacation of two weeks.

At St. Andrew's mission, services will be held at 4.30 p. m., instead of at 7.30 p. m. Sunday school will begin at 3.30, as usual. On Christmas morning, holy communion will be administered at nine o'clock. Rev. A. L. Bumpus will preach. Special music will be sung by the vested choir, and the church will be especially decorated.

Miss Della Drake left on Saturday for an extended visit at the home of her mother, Mrs. Lena Drake, of Ellsworth, Me.

At a meeting of Loyal Self Help lodge, I. O. O. F., M. U., on Monday evening. The following officers for the coming year elected: Fred Davis, g. m.; Charles Flanagan, n. g.; William Harrington, v. g.; William Baker, sec.; Harry Lee, sec.; William DeRoehn, w.; Robert Orr, chap.

Mrs. Chester Blodgett, of Groton, spent Wednesday at the home of her parents, Mr. and Mrs. William Burnett.

**Christmas Tree.**

The annual Christmas tree at St. Andrew's mission was held in Recreation hall on Tuesday evening, and proved to be most successful. The largest attendance in years was present, every seat being filled in the hall. The tree was very handsome in its gala dress and presented a fine appearance. During the time previous to Santa's arrival, a most pleasing musical program was carried out by the Sunday school, which well deserved the applause it received from the audience. Santa at last appeared "all smeared with soot," at the bottom of the chimney laden with presents and goodies, and was well received by all. He then distributed his present and candies, remembering pupils and teachers of the Sunday school as well.

With his cheery smile, Santa Claus wished all a Merry Christmas and departed on his journey. The affair was given through the generosity of the Groton School. Mr. Griswold was assisted by Mr. Lowe, who impersonated Santa Claus. The tree decorations were in charge of Miss Theresa Lowther, Miss Bertha Collins and Albert Collins.

**Graniteville.**

The members of St. Catherine's Temperance society held a very interesting meeting on last Monday night. Considerable business of importance was transacted and several applications for membership were received. It was voted to hold a social dancing party some time in January. The next regular meeting will be held on Tuesday, December 26, and as the election of officers will take place at this meeting a large number is expected to attend.

Christmas tree exercises were held in St. Catherine's church on Friday evening, and in the Sargent school on Friday afternoon.

Charles McLenna, who has been employed with the H. V. Hildreth Granite Company as engineer, has recently accepted a position as engineer of a large power plant in Peabody, where his brother Frank is foreman.

Mr. McLenna left here a few days ago, and his wife will join him shortly after Christmas.

The members of the M. E. church choir are to follow the old English custom this year and in the early hours of Christmas morning will sing carols and other appropriate music at some of the houses in this village, so don't be surprised if they give you a call.

The Sargent school closed here on Friday, after the Christmas tree exercises, to remain closed for two weeks, the usual Christmas vacation.

Business in the quarries has been practically suspended for the season, although good weather has prevailed at times, and some of the work continues. The different firms are about ready to stop at any time.

The trolley cars have been crowded during this week, many people from this village going to Lowell and Ayer for their Christmas shopping.

**Christmas Services.**

Special Christmas services will be held in the M. E. church here on Sunday, both morning and evening. Following is the program for the day:

Sunday morning: The choir, under the direction of Henry Smith, will render two anthems, "Christians awake" and "The nativity." The pastor's theme will be "The Christian's holy days."

Sunday evening: Christmas vespers service, anthem, "Blessed is the people," choir; invocation, pastor; "It came upon the midnight clear," ladies' quartet; readings, "The angels' message"; anthem, "In the fields with their flocks abiding"; choir; duet, "The holy birth"; the pastor's talk, "The song of the people"; anthems with gladness men of old, male quartet; anthem "How beautiful upon the mountain," choir; benediction. The morning service will begin at 10.45, and the vesper service at 7.30 in the evening.

The Christmas tree exercises at the M. E. church will begin at 7.30 o'clock on this Saturday evening.

**LITTLETON.**

**News Items.**

Miss Grace P. Conant, head of the English department in Milliken university, Decatur, Ill., arrived at the home of her parents, Mr. and Mrs. A. F. Conant early in the week for a Christmas vacation of two weeks.

Mrs. Goldsmith H. Conant and infant son went to St. Louis, Mo., last week to spend the holidays with her home people. A sister accompanied them.

A son was born on Wednesday, December 13, to Mr. and Mrs. George H. Weaver, of North Littleton, and died on the following day. This made four Littleton people that were claimed by the reaper, Death, during the week, and one body was brought to town for burial. An unusual occurrence in so small a town.

According to the latest reports, the A. A. Claffin house has not changed hands.

The Backlog club spent a pleasant evening playing whist at the town hall last week Thursday. There were ten tables. The next entertainment in the club calendar is the holiday dance on December 28.

January 1 will be observed as guest evening at the Woman's club. An address on "Saving bank insurance," will be given by Harry Kimball, of Boston. Music will be furnished by the club quartet, and by Elliot F. Young, accompanied by Mrs. Jessie Young.

**Christmas Home-comers.**

At home for Christmas vacation: Misses Marion Flagg from Newton, Elizabeth Smith from Morristown, N. J., Ruth Thacher from Lasell, (ora Warren from Boston, Abby McNiff from Belmont, Clara Fletcher from Beverly, Ethel Whittier and Edith Fletcher from Fitchburg Normal school, Mildred Flagg from Pembroke college, Florence Whitcomb from Mt. Holyoke college and Richard Conant from Lowell Textile school. Stanley Conant from Boston university, Roland Houghton from Harvard college, Langdon Prouty from Amherst Agricultural college, Malcolm Priest and Herbert Whitcomb from Technology, Boston, Carlton Needham from Lawrence academy, and Austin Hartwell from Waltham Business college.

**Broken Into.**

Thieves were "up and doing" in Littleton last week Friday night. They broke into and entered the flagman's house at the Willows, the station, postoffice and ticket office at West Littleton, smashing windows, breaking the grating at the ticket office, breaking the gum box and taking the contents, and completed their work along the Boston and Maine line at the flagman's house at Priest's crossing. Very little of value was taken away. This makes the fourth time within thirteen months that the station, ticket and postoffices have been ransacked by would-be thieves. On the same night, from Clifton E. Flagg's barn, located on Great road, near Nagog lake, a valuable young horse of dark chestnut color, with heavy mane and tail, a white face and four white feet was stolen; also, a beautiful harness, a black box buggy with yellow running gear, brown lap robe, a long corduroy coat, and an oilskin coat. At the time of writing the property has not been recovered.

**About Town.**

The Guild will be in charge of Miss S. F. White, who will speak of "The old and the new."

At the Unitarian church last Sunday, the many friends of Miss E. J. Jackson, a former teacher in the high school, gladly welcomed her back here for a visit.

Remember the little children's Christmas play and festival at the Unitarian vestry this Saturday afternoon at three o'clock.

During the past week, Miss Ellen Wetherby, of Leominster, has been the guest of Miss Elizabeth Thacher.

Conant & Company at the common are using a new auto truck now in their business.

**To the Editors:**

A bit of advice always kept in stock by the venerable John D., and other millionaire Sunday school speakers for the benefit of the working man is that every working man, no matter what his pay, ought to so live within

his income as to lay by for "a rainy day," a little out of every week's pay. As a theory this is undoubtedly beautiful, but in practice it does not work out so slick as it might.

The "rainy days" come too close together and the weeks when a man is out of work and has no income are a great strain on the theory. I have been out of work for three months at a time myself and I was not a kood enough economist to live within my income for that length of time, and under these circumstances.

It is easy for a man with a fat bank account to give such advice, and also a very economical recreation. Even the late lamented Russell Sage has been known to give good advice.

According to the latest available census report, fifty-four percent of the wage workers of this glorious land of the free are working for ten dollars per week or less, while only a fraction over sixteen percent make over fifteen dollars per week, and about forty percent make less than nine dollars.

Taking ten dollars as an average, I would like to know how it can be figured out that a man with a family of two or three small children can save anything for a "rainy day," or anything else, and live in a half-civilized sort of way.

In the first place it takes even in a small place like Littleton, where rents ought to be reasonable, at least one-fourth of his earnings to keep a roof over his head.

The man is exceptionally lucky who gets in fifty full weeks in a year, and figuring his rent at ten dollars per month, he has left four hundred and twenty dollars to feed, clothe and keep warm a family of say four persons. Deduct forty dollars for fuel, which is a moderate estimate, and we have left three hundred and eighty dollars for food, clothing and all incidentals.

A small fraction over a dollar per day to furnish the necessities and luxuries for four persons after rent and fuel bills are paid. This, figuring full time and perfect health for the wage earner of the family. Hardly an industry now-a-days but has its dull season, when its workers are temporarily out of work or working on short time, which of course reduces the income and makes closer pinching necessary.

If any reader of this article can figure out how under the above circumstances a man can lay by something each week, please give us the information for my own personal use.

It may be just possible, if the working people would return to primeval ways, go barefoot in summer and half clothed in winter, live on the cheapest possible food that would sustain life, cut off books and newspapers, the church and everything else that makes life worth living—in short return to a life of barbarism—they might save a few dollars to save the public the expenses of the closing of a life that was not worth the living anyway.

If possible, would it pay? I had a thought to discuss the results of such a possible revolution in the methods of living by the working people, but space will not permit and I will leave that for some future article. V. T. E.

**ENDS WINTER'S TROUBLES.**

To many, winter is a season of trouble. The frost-bitten toes and fingers, chapped hands and lips, chilblains, cold-sores, red and rough skins, prove this. But such troubles fly before Bucklen's Arnica Salve. A trial convinces. Greatest healer of Burns, Boils, Ulcers, Cuts, Sprains, Eczema and Sore throats. Only 25c. at William Brown's, Ayer.

**New Advertisements.**

**WANTED**—A Second-hand Hay Cutter, for hand use. Apply to BENJ. PEABODY, Littleton, Mass. 1115\*

**LOST**—Passbook No. 7475 of North Middlesex Savings Bank. Finder please return to said bank. 2115

**FOR SALE**—R. I. R. Pullets. Good Laying Strain. JOHN BURKE, Townsend Harbor, Mass. 3115\*

**WANTED**—A place as working housekeeper by a middle-aged woman with daughter nearly grown. Object, a good home rather than large wages. References. Address BOX 37, Center Store, Littleton, Mass. 2115

**FOR SALE**—Twenty Pullets \$3.00. Henhouse, suitable for 12 hens, \$3.00. One 1909 Gravelly Washer nearly new \$7.00. WALTER C. WINSTON, Ayer.

**Executrix's Notice to Creditors of Insolvent Estate.**

Estate of CLEMMA J. BLOOD late of Groton 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 CLEMMA J. BLOOD and notice is hereby given that six months from the twentieth 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 twenty-sixth day of January, 1912, at nine o'clock in the forenoon, and at Cambridge, on the twenty-sixth day of February, 1912, at nine o'clock in the forenoon.

FANNY F. BLOOD, Executrix. 3115

**NOTICE.**

The Annual meeting of the Shareholders of the First National Bank of Ayer, will be held at the 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 the meeting.

CHAS. A. NORMAND, Cashier, Ayer, Mass., Dec. 6, 1911. 4113

**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 February, 1912, at nine o'clock in the forenoon.

JOSEPHINE E. MORGAN, Administratrix. 3114

**THIS STORE**

Carries an excellent assortment of appropriate CHRISTMAS GIFTS.

We are running a sale on

**Fancy China**  
and **Cut Glass**

and invite your inspection

We would also ask you to look over our

line of **Diamonds, Watches, Rings**  
**Locketts, Chains, Etc.**

**J. J. Barry & Co.**

PARK STREET, AYER

**CHAS. E. PERRIN**

**Plumbing and Heating**

MAGEE Ranges and Heaters

Windmills Pumps Tanks Towers

Pneumatic Water Supplies

West Street Ayer, Mass.

Telephone Connection

**Daudelin & Cotton**

Inc., AYER, MASS.

**RENDERING**

We will remove promptly Dead Horses, Cows, Calves or Pigs from the following towns: Littleton, Harward, Shirley, Groton, Pepperell, Forge Village, Westford, Townsend and Ayer. Tel. 56-4.

**J. W. MURRAY**

Merchant Tailor

Turner's Block, Ayer

Ladies' and

Gentlemen's

TAILORING

In all its Branches

Suits and

Overcoats

From \$15.00 Up

Your own cloth made

and trimmed in good

shape at reasonable prices

Pressing, Repairing and

Dyeing neatly done.

Telephone 106-2

Holiday Gifts

of Silverware

Silver is the first thought when considering gifts for any season or occasion. No more graceful compliment can be extended than an offering of rich silver elegant in design, perfect in taste and in the newest shapes.

**1847 ROGERS BROS. X.S. TRIPLE**

is the mark which represents the highest perfection in silver plate. With this imprint on every article you can buy

"Silver Plate that Wears"

as safely as an expert. This stamp also guarantees that each piece is perfect in artistic design and finish.

Sold by leading dealers every where. Send for catalogue "C-L" showing all designs.

**MERIDEN BRITANNIA CO.**

(International Silver Co., Successors.)

Meriden, Conn.





## SHIRLEY.

### News Items.

Levi Wood Goodrich, a native of Lunenburg, who resided near the Shirley line, and who was well-known in this town, died in Nashua on December 15, of heart disease. He was a veteran of the civil war. During his residence in Nashua he held many positions of trust, and was a member of the common council, board of aldermen and had represented the ward in which he resided in that city in the legislature. Mr. Goodrich was a man of quiet and unassuming habits and tastes, of the most sterling character, one of those men in any community of whom we frequently hear. It is said: "His word was as good as his bond." He was born on September 7, 1835.

The annual dinner and roll-call at the Congregational church will be held on Wednesday, January 3. The committee in charge consists of Mrs. E. H. Conant, Mrs. F. Brockelman, Mrs. Marshall, Mrs. Pomfret, Mrs. Knowles, Miss Howe and Miss Emma Knowles.

Morris Cutler has moved into the house he recently purchased. He has also taken over the store and business of Mr. Descoeteaux, which he intends to conduct and is now hustling for customers.

Miss Margaret McMillan, teacher of the seventh and eighth grades, has been absent from her school duties this week owing to the illness of her parents. Miss Bernice Staples substituted until Wednesday, when the school closed to re-open on January 1.

Mrs. Dora Suhly, of Pittsburg, Pa., with daughter Thelma, have arrived at the home of Mrs. Suhly's parents, Mr. and Mrs. James Gately, for the Christmas holidays.

Mrs. Laura Ware has returned home after spending a week with her brother in Worcester, who is ill.

Thomas Love, of Nebraska, has arrived at the home of his mother, Mrs. Will Love, for a brief visit. Mr. Love is en route for his old home in Lake George, N. B.

Mary A. Livermore Rebekah lodge will hold a leap year party on Saturday evening, January 6. Johnson's orchestra, of Leominster, will furnish music. Late cars will run to Ayer, Leominster and Fitchburg. The committee in charge consists of Mrs. Ida M. Warren, Miss Margaret Love, Miss Evelyn Miner and Miss Emma Knowles.

J. C. Ayer lodge, A. O. U. W., will hold its regular meeting on Tuesday evening, December 26, owing to Christmas this year falling on Monday. Edward H. Harlow, deputy, of Leominster, will be present and officers for the year of 1912 will be elected. Consequently a good attendance is requested.

Mrs. Benjamin (Tyler) Brockelman died on Tuesday at her home in Leominster after a very brief illness of pneumonia. She was a sister-in-law to H. W. and F. Brockelman of this town. The funeral was held on Thursday afternoon.

The one-year-old daughter of Mr. and Mrs. George H. Wilson is very seriously ill.

A union Christmas service will be held at the Universalist church on Sunday afternoon at five o'clock. Rev. C. A. Knickerbocker and Rev. A. A. Bronson will deliver brief, appropriate addresses and the combined choirs will render the following program, to which everybody is invited: Anthem, "Behold I bring you good tidings," united chorus; trio, "Silent night," Mrs. Collyer, Mrs. Holdbrook and Mrs. McCoy; response, "Hear our prayer," Miss Ruby Felch, Mrs. Wolf and Mr. Byram; solo, "Song of the ages," Mrs. Harry Collyer; solo, selected, Miss Ruby Felch.

The C. A. Edgarton Mfg. Company will again this year give to the heads of all families in their employ a turkey ranging in size according to the number in the family. This includes all male or female who are keeping house, or in fact any individual in their employ who are in any way assuming the responsibility of keeping house. The employees are also given the privilege to name their own butcher or dealer to supply the turkey. When the announcement was made by the company it caused great rejoicing among the large number of employees who voiced their sentiments of gratitude with much emphasis and feeling.

The remains of Mrs. Minnieola Bohanon was brought to this town for burial in the village cemetery on Wednesday. Mrs. Bohanon died at her home in Springfield, where she was born, of tuberculosis, and the body was conveyed to Shirley in an electric express car, which left Springfield on Wednesday morning at seven o'clock, and arrived in Shirley at 12.45. Mrs. Bohanon formerly lived at Shirley Center. At the time of her death she was thirty-nine years of age, and leaves a husband, Ernest Bohanon. The remaining survivors are one son and two brothers. A brief service was held at the grave, Rev. A. A. Bronson officiating.

Another pleasant surprise was in store for the Sunday schools connected with the Congregational and Universalist churches; also the Sunday school connected with St. Anthony's church, when at their regular sessions last Sunday it was officially announced that C. F. Edgarton, president of the C. A. Edgarton Company, has sent each Sunday school a check for the sum of fifty dollars, the money to be used in furnishing good cheer and entertainment for the children of the schools at Christmas. These churches comprise all in the community, the Baptist church being closed. Suitable action was taken at the above churches expressing thanks to the donor.

These substantial acts of kindness have most certainly gone a long way in exemplifying within the confines of every home in Shirley this year the real spirit of Christmas and its influence for good will, and without doubt have a far-reaching effect.

Marshall Landry has secured a position in the store of Morris Cutler, who recently bought out Joseph Descoeteaux.

The Franco Independent club held a smoke talk at their clubroom on Monday night.

Mr. and Mrs. Gustave Gionet were visitors in Leominster last week.

Saturday morning, December 23, at seven o'clock, an anniversary mass of requiem was celebrated at St. Anthony's church for the late Charles Lepege.

Agapit Leger, brother of Philip Leger, and formerly a resident of this town, is reported seriously ill at his home in Carquet, N. B.

At the regular meeting of the Société l'Assomption held last Sunday afternoon one new member was initiated.

### School Exercises.

The Shirley public schools went on record last week Friday for having the best Christmas exercises in many years, the first, second, third, fourth, fifth and sixth grades, participating under the direction of Miss Julia Rynn, Miss Lura White and Miss Mary Gleason, teachers of the above grades. The exercises were held in Miss White's room, which was prettily decorated with evergreen, laurel and attractive decorative chains which the children had made. The center of attraction was a well-laden Christmas tree, from which each child received a gift, the teachers also being remembered by their pupils. A large number of the parents and friends were present to enjoy the program of entertainment prepared by the teachers, consisting of songs, readings and recitations by the pupils. Santa was also a conspicuous character in the affairs of the day, being impersonated by Master Henry Frederick.

The following program was rendered: Welcome song, Norman Formier; recitation, "We thank you," Hazel Dinmore; song, "Kris Kringle," third and fourth grades; recitation, "The Olden story," Henry Frederick; "If I were Santa Claus," Caroline Dodge; "The day before Christmas," Kathleen Miner; song, "Merry Christmas," school; "Santa Claus," Lorie Cutler; "Edna Hill exercises," "Night before Christmas," several pupils; recitations, Margaret Dodge; "A surprise," Earl Love; "Bertha Penesseau," song, "Now don't you tell," Myrtle Cole; "Santa Claus comes," Annie O'Brien; song, "Silent night," school; recitations, "Santa Claus," Guy Eisner; Donald Campbell; "Somebody's coming," Ernest Barnard; song, "Christmas bells," school; recitations, "A note to Santa Claus," Olive Green; "Christmas play," Ruth Hooper; Dolly Knowles; song, "Christmas lullaby," Ruth Lynch; recitations, Richard Holden; "Grandma's Christmas," Earl Pomfret; song, "Lullaby," school; recitations, "Christmas stocking," Clarence Hooper; "Christmas doll," Oma Wolf; "What little folks we see on Christmas eve," Fredie Will; song, "Christmas carol," school; recitation, "How Santa comes," Rose Monahan; song, "Long ago on Christmas," school; recitations, Mary Stebbins; "Peace and good will," Julia Malsky; reading, "All about Santa Claus," Albert Deardon; recitation, "Christmas bells," Ernest Holden; song, "If I were you," first and second grades. The exercises came to a close with appropriate remarks by Rev. A. A. Bronson.

### Successful Sale.

The sale of useful and fancy articles and home-made candy by the pupils of the seventh and eighth grades at their room in the high school last week Friday, was a great success. A large number of the parents and young people of the town were present.

Gladys Petersen, Lester Holden and Chester Hooper were the committee in charge of the decorations. Edna Holden, Hazel Ballou and Anna Lougee had charge of the tables devoted to fancy articles, and Bertha Wheeler, Alfred Felch, Sarah Stevenson and Edward Lilly took charge of the candy table. Thomas Burrill, Austin Fish and Hadden Beach did good work as an advertising committee.

The net profits from the sale was \$15.03, which was largely due to their teacher, Miss Margaret McMillan. This money will be used to beautify the schoolroom.

### Death.

Herbert Mills Dickson passed away at the Faulkner hospital, Jamaica Plain, last week Friday, afternoon at three o'clock, from the effects of septic conditions caused by the amputating of a leg. Mr. Dickson recovered from the operation, but complications developed and the grim reaper, Death, claimed him after an illness which lasted only about nine weeks. However, Mr. Dickson has been in failing health for nearly a year.

Mr. Dickson was born in Groton on August 5, 1848. He was the son of Charles and Rebecca (Mills) Dickson. His boyhood was spent in his native town, and later he moved with his parents to the vicinity of Lawrence, Kansas, returning to Massachusetts where he found employment in Leominster. For the past thirty-five years he has been connected with the firm of Cluett, Peabody & Co., of Troy, N. Y., where he served in the capacity of salesman, with his headquarters at Chicago, and at the time of his death was manager of the Cincinnati office. His business life was highly successful from the start because of his natural and unique fitness for the career in which he embarked. He was known by the leading business men of the country, who honored him, this fact being amply demonstrated when the sad news of his death was wired through the country to his business associates and friends, the bereaved relatives being the recipients of numerous telegrams of condolence and sympathy from men prominent in business and commercial life, the most lovable ones being from the members of his firm, Messrs. Cluett and Peabody.

Mr. Dickson was a Mason, being a member of Chevalier Bayard Commandery, No. 52, K. T. of Chicago, and for many years was a member of the Union League club of Chicago, and was also an honorary member of the Fay club, of Fitchburg. Mr. Dickson's distinguished business career, coupled with a magnetic personality, won for him life friends by men who had reached the top rung of the ladder in business and social circles.

For many years he had spent his annual summer vacation in Shirley at the home of his sister, Mrs. Louise Livermore. However, about a year and a half ago, Mr. Dickson retired from active business and took up his residence in Shirley, at the home of his sister, Mrs. Livermore, but during this time had made occasional trips through the far west and south on business and pleasure. Mr. Dickson loved Shirley and he was very much affected during his illness at the kindness and sympathy shown

him by his Shirley friends, which embraced the people at large, for he was a man of the people.

Mr. Dickson's many generous acts to the poor and unfortunate of the town for many years past, which was so quietly performed, together with a public-spirited interest in all matters pertaining to the highest and best interests of the town, have left a monument to his memory that time will never efface. No greater tribute could be paid to any man than to say Mr. Dickson was loved by the children of the town who waited for him almost daily at the postoffice as he went for his mail.

Mr. Dickson's illness at the hospital was characterized by courage and fortitude. When told of the necessity of the amputation of his leg he bravely consented, and as his strength and vitality was waning he attended to the final disposition of his affairs with a grace and dignity that was so strikingly apparent in his life. Miss Marion Dickson, his cousin's daughter, was his nurse at the hospital, and her devotion to Mr. Dickson most certainly was appreciated and helped in a measure to comfort and soothe his last days on earth. Mrs. Henrietta A. Field, his sister, of Grand Rapids, Mich., was also a constant attendant at his bedside during his stay at the hospital; also, his niece, Mrs. Alice L. Wright, of Shirley, to whom Mr. Dickson was very much attached.

The Congregational church was filled with mourners and friends on Monday afternoon, at one o'clock, when the funeral services were held. Rev. Allen A. Bronson officiating, and paying a sincere tribute to his memory. D. Chester Parsons and Elmer H. Allen served as ushers. The Nevin quartet of Fitchburg, consisting of Ernest H. Page, Mrs. Grace S. Chandler, Miss Florence M. Heron and Clifton Wood, rendered "Rock of Ages," "Abide with me," and "Gathering home." Words are almost inadequate to portray the beauty of the numerous, rich and magnificent floral tributes which were banked around the casket and altar, presenting an impressive scene, and were silent in which the testimonies of the esteem in which the deceased was held.

Members of the Masonic order, consisting of William H. Wilbur, John E. L. Hazen, of the town, and Edward A. Richardson and George Fillebrown, of Ayer, were the pall bearers. Burial was in the Dickson lot at the Groton cemetery.

The survivors are three sisters—Mrs. Louise Livermore of Shirley, Mrs. Isabella E. White of Bellingham, Wash., and Mrs. Henrietta A. Field of Grand Rapids, Mich.; also, a niece, Mrs. Alice L. Wright of Shirley, and nephews, Eugene N. Livermore of Shirley, and Erwin H. Livermore of Memphis, Tenn., and a niece and nephew who reside in Kansas. Mr. Dickson was never married.

Those present at the funeral from out-of-town were:

Mr. and Mrs. W. F. Dickson and daughter Marion, and son Herbert M. of Harvard; Mr. and Mrs. Philip Dickson and Mrs. Kate Bigelow of Harvard; Mr. and Mrs. Henry A. Dickson, Fitchburg; Miss Annie Marshall, of North Leominster; Rev. George W. Sibley, of Montague; Erwin H. Woodcott and Frank Fuller, of Boston, cousins of the deceased; S. E. Moorhead, of New York; Erwin H. Livermore, of Memphis, Tenn.; Mrs. J. E. Rogers, of Brattleboro, and Mrs. Henrietta A. Field, of Grand Rapids, Mich.

### Christmas Tree Exercises.

The Congregational church will hold its annual Christmas tree with entertainment in the church vestry this Saturday evening at seven o'clock. The program will consist of an entertainment given by the children of the Sunday school and a visit from Santa Claus with the distribution of gifts. Members and attendants of the Baptist church are very cordially invited to bring their gifts to the church to be placed in the trees and participate in the enjoyment of the evening. Refreshments will be served. On Monday evening, December 25, another entertainment will be given in the church vestry at seven o'clock, when Miss Area Farron, of the Eastern Lyceum Bureau, Boston, will present a most delightful program of enjoyment for the children of the Sunday school and their parents and friends. The members and attendants of the Baptist church are also cordially invited to be present.

The Universalist church will hold its annual Christmas tree with entertainment in the church vestry this Saturday evening at seven o'clock. A visit from Santa Claus with a pleasing program of entertainment and the distribution of gifts, and these together with refreshments, will be the features to be enjoyed.

### BOXBOROUGH.

#### News Items.

Mr. and Mrs. Frank W. Dodge, formerly of Boxborough and Somerville, are to move to their recently purchased cottage in the town of Belmont, and after January 1, will be at home at 36 Thayer road, Waverley.

W. H. Fairchild, of Lethbridge, Can., who is the superintendent of an experimental station there, has been visiting with his sister, Mrs. Poland. This is his first trip in five years.

Rolland Livermore is home from Cornell for his Christmas vacation.

Miss Annie Sherry, who is teaching in Seal Island, Me., is home for a two-weeks' vacation.

Mr. and Mrs. Louis Richardson went to Boston last week Friday and witnessed "Ben Hur," at a theatre there.

The school children gave a very pleasant entertainment in the town hall yesterday and in return were given a Christmas tree.

Friends gathered at the Furbush homestead last Saturday evening to remind Mrs. Furbush of her forty-ninth birthday. Mr. Furbush presented her with a beautiful fur coat. Refreshments were served and all enjoyed a fine time.

Miss E. May Hastings was a recent week-end visitor in town.

The sale which the Benefit club held last week was very successful, considering the weather, and it will be continued today.

The Steele family have been quarantined the past week because of a case of diphtheria in the family.

Mrs. R. Y. Nelson went to Silver Hill to visit with Mr. and Mrs. Henry Lawrence. With Mr. Lawrence, she enjoyed "Ben Hur" at a theatre in Boston.

News has reached us that Mr. Dean, a teacher in the Hyde Park schools, and a summer resident of our town, will be succeeded by Mr. Stark, formerly the superintendent of schools in Gardner, on January 1, when Hyde Park becomes a part of Boston.

The Nelson family will spend Christmas at Silver Hill.

E. C. Mead and family will spend Christmas at Townsend.

Mrs. Dodge and Mr. and Mrs. Frank Dodge will spend Christmas in Clinton.

Waldo Livermore is working in Watertown.

Daniel Cobleigh is on the sick list, but is improving.

### BROOKLINE, N. H.

#### News Items.

Harry Hobart, of Pepperell, was in town on Monday, having with him fifteen fox skins, two mink and one coon skin.

Mrs. Winnie Nye and daughter Mada were in Milford on a visit recently.

The following officers were elected at the grange meeting on Wednesday, December 13:

Edward R. Pierce, m.; James Gilson, o.; Mrs. Clara Russell, lec.; Chester E. Barby, stew.; George Marshall, chas.; Mrs. John Martin, chap.; Clarence Russell, treas.; Hattie Pierce, sec.; Alfred Barnaby, s. k.; Mrs. Florence O'Connell, Ceres; Mrs. Mabel Farnsworth, l. a. s.; Alice Whitcomb, pianist.

The hunting season closed on Friday night of last week. Only one dog, weighing a little over one hundred pounds, was captured.

The friends of Miss Mildred Gilman sent her a shower of postals on Tuesday.

Recent guests at the Elmwood are: N. E. Rogers, A. C. Bishop, George Bugbee, Mr. LaMonte, Nashua, N. H.; Edward Hadley and friend, Cambridge, Mass.; Thomas Martin, Ayer; Mr. Valentine, Boston.

There was a Christmas tree for the children at the Congregational church vestries on Friday evening. Friends and relatives were present to listen to a short program.

A two-weeks' vacation will be given the public school. The winter term will commence on January 8.

A Sunday school concert will be given by the children of the Congregational church, followed by a short sermon by the pastor, on Sunday morning.

Friday afternoon of last week, at the primary public schools, Christmas exercises were held and presents from a tree were distributed.

### DUNSTABLE.

#### News Items.

The entertainment by a magician from Boston, given under the auspices of the T. I. A. on Friday evening, December 15, was highly amusing. Considering the unfavorable evening, a fair sized audience was present.

Dexter Butterfield is suffering ill health. Dr. Heald attends him.

The Christmas tree for the Sunday school will be on Saturday evening at the town hall.

Mr. Boutwell has had electric lights installed in the Dixon house. He has also given quite a holiday aspect to the store by decorations in the large window.

Eleven attended the illustrated lecture given by Dr. Grenfell in Lowell last week.

**A TERRIBLE BLUNDER**  
To neglect liver trouble. Never do it. Take Dr. King's New Life Pills on the first sign of constipation, biliousness or inactive bowels and prevent virtual 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.

#### NOTICE.

The Annual Meeting of the Stockholders of the Townsend National Bank will be held at their Banking Rooms on Monday, January 1, 1912, at ten o'clock A. M., to choose a Board of Directors for the year ensuing, and act upon any other business that may legally come before said meeting.

HENRY A. HILL, Cashier.  
Townsend, Mass., Dec. 5, 1911.

### 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.

### Park Hotel

REOPENING OF THE

Taylor House

On Merchants' Row, Ayer

Under the New Name and New Management of Mrs. L. E. Canning

This hotel has a large and well-lighted, sunny dining-room and an excellent cuisine, under the charge of a competent chef.

The hotel has twenty airy chambers, electric lighted, neatly furnished and steam heated with bathroom.

Particular attention given to the catering for automobile and other parties.

No pains and expense will be spared in making the Park Hotel a most acceptable place for comfort and rest.

## 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 regret on stationery which stands for quality and reflects your personality.

Stationery for every occasion.

### BROWN'S PRESCRIPTION DRUG STORE

Main Street Ayer, Mass.

## Go to the Ayer Variety Store

To get a Gift for  
Father  
Mother  
Sister  
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We have pleased many and there is time and stock left for you to make your selection.

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AYER  
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SUGAR 5c. per lb., freight prepaid. Send 3 two-cent stamps for catalogue and full information. MAIL ORDER GEO. C. BERRY CO., 28 Main St., Brockton, Mass.

Lowell & Fitchburg Street Railway Co. TIME TABLE.

Cars leave Ayer for North Chelmsford and Lowell—6.05 a. m. and hourly at 5 minutes past the hour up to and including 10.05 p. m. An early car leaves the Ayer carhouse at 5.15 a. m.

Sundays—First car leaves Ayer at 7.05 a. m., then same as week days. Running time to North Chelmsford, 40 minutes. Running time to Lowell, 1 hour and 10 minutes.

Cars leave North Chelmsford for Ayer—6.20 a. m. and 20 minutes past the hour up to and including 11.20 p. m.

Sundays—8.20 a. m., then same as week days. Cars connect at Ayer up to 10 p. m. for Fitchburg and Leominster. Until 9 p. m. for Worcester.

Cars leave Forge Village for North Chelmsford and Lowell—24 minutes past the hour.

Cars leave Forge Village for Ayer—40 minutes past the hour.

Cars leave North Chelmsford for Brockton—5.50 a. m. and 60 minutes past the hour up to and including 10.50 p. m.

Sundays—First car at 7.50 a. m., then same as week days.

Leave Brockton for North Chelmsford, Lowell and Ayer—6.05 a. m. and 5 minutes past the hour up to and including 11.05 p. m.

Sundays—First car at 8.05 a. m., then same as week days.

Leave North Chelmsford for Westford—6.50, 7.50, 8.50, 9.50, 10.50 a. m., 1.50, 2.50, 3.50, 4.50, 5.50 p. m.

Leave Westford for Lowell—8.55, 7.40, 8.40, 11.40 a. m., 12.40, 1.40, 2.40, 3.40, 4.40, 5.40 p. m.

Sundays—7.40, 8.40, 9.40, 10.40 a. m., 12.40, 1.40, 2.40, 3.40, 4.40, 5.40 p. m.

All schedules subject to change without notice.

L. H. CUSHING,  
Superintendent.

## Engraved Cards

Business and Social  
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STYLES and PRICES  
Willingly Furnished

50 Engraved Cards in Script, including Plate, \$1.00

Public Spirit Office, Ayer.

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.

## 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.

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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  
CIGARS, CIGARETTES  
AND TOBACCO

In Christmas Packages

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

Xmas Postals at One Cent Each

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

GEO. S. PAULSON & Co.  
Telephone Connection Ayer, Mass.



# Holiday Greetings

.... FROM ....

*The Boston Store*  
GEO. B. TURNER & SON  
-AYER, MASS.

**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

## 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¢

### 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¢

### CHRISTMAS NOVELTIES OF ALL KINDS

Genuine Bradley Mufflers, all colors... 50¢  
Ward's Christmas Stationery... 10¢ to \$3.00

### 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

### 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¢  
Full Assortment of Tico Letter Forms, Small and Large Old English 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 Chine 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¢

### CHRISTMAS LEATHER GOODS AND VELVET BAGS

New Assortment of Envelope Purse, 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

### 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

**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

Genuine Bradley Mufflers; all colors... 50¢  
Ward's Christmas Stationery... 10¢ to \$3.00

### 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 95¢  
Underwear of all kinds... 50¢ to \$1.50  
Sweaters, Fine Assortment... 50¢ to \$5.00

### 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

### AVIATION CAPS—ALL COLORS

Ladies'... 98¢ and \$1.25 Children's... 50¢  
Boys' and Girls' Stocking Caps and Skating Caps 25¢ and 50¢

### SUGGESTIONS FOR BABY

Carriage Robes... 50¢, \$1.00 and \$1.50  
White Worsted Leggings... 50¢ and \$1.00  
White Mittens, Silk Trimmed, at... 25¢  
Crocheted Sacques, White, Pink, Blue, at... 50¢ and 75¢

### ACCEPTABLE HOUSEHOLD GIFTS

Fine Wool Blankets... \$3.98, \$5.00, \$6.00 and \$7.50  
Fine Cotton Blankets... 69¢, \$1.00, \$1.25, \$1.75, \$2.25  
Puffs and Comfortables... \$1.00 to \$4.00  
White Bed Spreads... \$1.00 to \$3.00  
Hemstitched Linen Table Sets... \$5.50  
Damask and Huckaback Towels... 25¢, 50¢ and 75¢  
Tray Cloths... 12½¢, 25¢, 37½¢ and 50¢  
Couch Covers... \$1.00, \$1.25, \$1.89, \$1.98, \$2.25, \$2.98  
Drawn Work Sideboard and Table Covers, New Patterns, at \$1.00, \$1.50, \$2.50 and \$2.98  
All Kinds of Empty Christmas Boxes for Gloves, Neckwear, Shirt Waists, Candy, Etc.

Gifts can be found here for every member of the family and your friends

COME AT ONCE and in the Morning if you can

No time for hesitation now

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

## GROTON.

### News Items.

A. H. Mason has been station agent at Lancaster during the illness of the regular agent.

Mr. and Mrs. Millard Sawyer attended the whole three sessions of the state grange at Worcester and took the sixth degree. Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Gilson, Miss Hattie Woods and Mrs. Blanche M. Brown were others from Groton, but not for the entire session.

The marriage of Miss Nathalie Henderson, of New York, and Joseph R. Swan, of Albany, took place on Tuesday in New York. Bishop Green performed the ceremony, assisted by Rev. Dr. Endicott Peabody, of Groton School.

The annual business meeting, roll-call and dinner of the Baptist church will be held on Wednesday forenoon and afternoon, January 10.

The regular W. R. C. meeting was held on Tuesday afternoon. The next regular meeting, which would come on January 2, will be omitted. This is because of the joint installation of the officers of the E. S. Clark post and W. R. C., which will take place on the afternoon of Monday, January 1. To this meeting the wives and husbands of the members of both organizations are invited.

Marjorie Molsen, daughter of Geo. E. Molsen, has scarlet fever. The school she attended—Miss Batchelder's, of the Butler building—is closed earlier than usual on account of this case. The regular vacation commences this week Friday.

Stewart Halligan, one of the Lawrence academy boys, was operated on for appendicitis at the Groton hospital on Monday forenoon. Dr. Kilburn operated, and Dr. Priest etherized. The student's father came on from his home at Canastota, N. Y., and was here at the time of operation. The patient is doing well.

Rev. Alonzo Bunker is one of the patients at the hospital. He is a returned missionary from Burmah, India, and the author of a number of books. He is the father of Prof. John

Bunker, of Harvard university. Mr. Bunker was brought by automobile to the hospital here a week or two ago.

The remains of Henry M. Dickson were brought from Shirley to Groton cemetery for burial on Tuesday. Mr. Dickson belonged to the same old family of Dicksons who lived in the old "community" village, now the Groton School neighborhood. He had been employed for years by the firm of Cluett, Peabody & Co. of Troy, N. Y. He died at the Faulkner hospital at Boston. His age was sixty-two years. Funeral services were held in Shirley.

Mr. and Mrs. Clarence Anderson have moved into W. W. Ames' house on Willowdale street. Mr. and Mrs. Ames have moved into their other house vacated by Darwin P. Keyes and family on that same street.

George S. Knapp visited last week his brother and other relatives in Dummerston and Brattleboro, Vt. While at Dummerston Mr. Knapp attended the funeral of the Reed brothers, who were killed in an automobile accident at Deerfield, an account of which was given in the daily papers. They were the only sons of their father's family and the whole affair was a very sad one. The Reeds were former neighbors of Mr. Knapp.

Groton seems to be having a taste of the lawlessness which we read of in other places. The attempted entrance of the railroad station, the burglary at the express office, the burglary at McGowan's store, West Groton, on Sunday night, when about twenty dollars' worth of goods was taken, and the holdup at North Groton, all within a little over a week, makes quite too much of that kind of work.

A man whose name is known, but not mentioned, held up a woman in North Groton some days ago. The woman succeeded in driving him off and suffered no loss. We have not heard any further particulars of the affair.

The church dinner, roll-call and business meeting of the Congregational church will be held on Wednesday, January 3.

George G. Tarbell of Pepperell is to be the installing officer for E. S. Clark post on Monday afternoon, January 1, and Mrs. M. W. Parkhurst of this town for the W. R. C.

Charles B. Campbell, clerk of the police court, Washington, D. C., is having a week's vacation, which he will spend with his parents at Nashua and his grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. C. H. Berry at Groton. He arrived at Nashua from Washington Wednesday evening.

Frederick N. Williams with his mother from Pepperell and his sister, Miss Carrie L. Williams from Boston, will spend several days of Christmas week at the home of his sister, Mrs. J. W. Wetherbee.

Miss Mildred Brown of Simmons college came home Thursday accompanied by her room-mate, Miss Gladys Minot of Gardner, who came particularly to attend the high school dance of Friday night.

Frank H. Palmer has captured six foxes so far this season. Their skins are in a very good condition with higher prices in the market than last year.

Mrs. Sherburne, whose obituary was given last week in this column, had lived for several years past in Littleton, and it was there she died, not at her former Groton home as stated.

Mr. and Mrs. O. W. Northrup and children from Somerville will spend Christmas day and some succeeding days of the holiday season at Mrs. Fanny Sampson's.

We hear that the state grange at Worcester last week favored, among other measures the bill for licensing cats, believing that the number of worthless and stray cats would thus be decreased, resulting in some protection to song and game birds. This bill, it is said, is to come before the state legislature of 1912.

The Groton School boys left on Friday morning for the Christmas vacation.

Mrs. Lillian Ames Stevenson, daughter of Amos L. Ames, Jr., was operated upon for appendicitis at the Groton hospital on Thursday morning. She

is doing well. Her little boy is being cared for at the hospital.

### Christmas at Chicopee School.

The Chicopee school closed the fall term last week Friday. A Christmas gathering was held in the school-room at 6.30 p. m. In spite of the inclemency of the weather, there was a goodly number of parents and friends present. The room by lamplight presented a pleasing appearance, being prettily decorated with Christmas festoons, streamers and bells. The exercises consisted of an entertainment, Christmas tree and refreshments. Even Santa made his appearance and helped distribute the gifts, much to the delight of the children. Happiness prevailed during the entire evening.

The entertainment, which consisted of choruses, recitations and dialogues given by the pupils, and calling in their older brothers and sisters, was very nicely rendered, and was as follows:

Song, "Ring the bells"  
Girls of the school  
Dialogue, "The true Christmas spirit."  
Mrs. Richley... Dorothea Gleason  
Mrs. Montague... Jessie Shattuck  
Marie, servant... Naomi Gleason  
Nora, servant... Lillian Knapp  
Dennis, servant... Carl Gleason  
Recitation, "Not broken, but cracked."  
Dialogue, "What we did."  
Elizabeth Lewis and Isidor Cagan  
Recitation, "A protest," Amos Bird  
Song, "The angel's song," Chorus  
Dialogue, "The day after."  
Minnie... Ruth Gleason  
Hilda... Mary Lewis  
Ada... Miriam Knapp  
Solo, duet and chorus, "What saw the shepherds."  
Dorothea Gleason, Elsie Shattuck and chorus.  
Recitation, "If," Isidor Cagan  
Recitation, "When I'm a man," Lawrence Lewis  
Dialogue, "Poor papa's Christmas neckties."  
Papa Keane... Lewis Knapp  
Mama Keane... Jessie Shattuck  
Maud, daughter... Alice M. Knapp  
Dorothy, daughter... Elizabeth Lewis  
Ben, son... Roland Rowe  
Song, "The happy day," Chorus

Supper and Entertainment.  
The regular Congregational church was sociable with supper and entertainment was given a large attendance last week Thursday evening. A fine

supper was provided and enjoyed. The same is true of the entertainment, which followed at eight o'clock. The first on the program was an pantomime, "An ad for a wife." S. F. Davis was the advertising bachelor. Among those who answered his ad were:

Mrs. Whitehill, Mrs. Whiting, Mrs. Lura Adams, Mrs. Mary D. Boynton, Mrs. A. A. Wood, Miss Margaret Benedict, Miss Helen Belle Moore, his choice falling on the latter lady; piano solo with encore, Lewis M. Knapp; three tableaux, "Evening prayer," Mrs. Rosa and daughter Bertha; songs, Hazel Gibson; tableau, "Stolen sweets," Malcolm Wood with jam and some smearing his face; "True Christmas spirit," Mrs. Benedict and daughter Blanche; vocal duet, Misses Dora Bailey and Margaret Benedict; instrumental solo, Miss Thekla Huebner; tableau, "Liberty," Mrs. Leonard standing dressed in the regular statue representation with large flag draped and kneeling down at her feet Blanche Benedict and Bertha Rose with smaller flags. Red lights were shown during the tableaux, making them very attractive.

### Grange.

At the grange meeting on Tuesday night, there was a large attendance. Besides the local members there were representatives from some eight or ten other granges. The following program was carried out during a recess, as some who took part were not members:

Poem written for the occasion, Mrs. E. A. Barrows; piano solo, Miss Mabel Dickinson; songs by quartet, Mr. and Mrs. W. F. Gleason, Mrs. D. Gibson, G. S. Knapp; songs, Miss Dora Bailey; instrumental solo, Lewis M. Knapp; "The house that Jack built," by the necessary number required to illustrate; songs, Dr. Arthur G. Kilbourn.

The Christmas tree, arrangements with decorated hall and distribution of candy boxes passed off very nicely under the charge of Mrs. Jane Clark.

The third and fourth degrees were worked on a class of five—Mrs. Harry Nutting, Miss Gladys Swallow, Lewis M. Knapp, Harold Wright and Howard Sawyer. The ladies' degree team worked the third degree, and the regular officers the fourth degree.

A bountiful supper, under charge of Mr. and Mrs. Frank Patterson was enjoyed. At the close some tripped the light fantastic toe. The whole evening was one of unusual success and pleasure.

### Funeral.

The funeral services of Mrs. Betsey (Tufts), widow of George Dalrymple, were held from the Baptist church on Wednesday afternoon, Rev. H. A. Cornell officiating. Besides the usual scripture reading and prayer, Mr. Cornell read from "The eternal goodness" and W. F. Gleason and Mrs. Gibson rendered two hymns. Mrs. Dalrymple was aged 78 yrs. 10 mos. She passed away at the home of her daughter, Mrs. George Decatur, at Winthrop, where, the infirmities of age increasing, she had gone some three years ago. Previous to that she had lived at the Dalrymple place on the Lowell road near Baddacook, where the years of her married life and widowhood had been spent, many of the latter alone.

She was the daughter of Levi Tufts, who lived with his family on the Boston road, their home being in the house now owned and occupied by Nesbit L. Woods.

Mrs. Dalrymple is well spoken of by her neighbors as being an estimable woman, friendly and kind, but one who never made trouble by meddling with others' affairs. Her love for the church to which she belonged—the Baptist—and her very constant attendance at its services is heard on every hand. Through sunshine or storm she would walk every Sunday from her home to the church, a distance of fully three miles, and back again, whenever it was possible to get there. One Sunday, a neighbor remarked to her, "we didn't go to church last Sunday it was so rainy." She replied, "I don't wonder, it was too stormy to take horses out but as I walk of course it was different with me."

She was a woman who had experienced much sorrow and trouble, but kept bravely on with her life as cheerfully as many whose lives were more smoothly cast.

She leaves but one child, her daughter, Mrs. Georgie Decatur, of Winthrop. The interment was in the family lot in Groton cemetery.

For other Groton news see last page.



**JOHN H. TURNER, Editor.**  
**GEORGE H. B. TURNER, Publisher.**  
 All Advertisements Appear in All the  
 Nine Papers we Publish.  
 The circulation of our nine papers is  
 ten times larger than that of any other  
 paper circulating in the nine towns.  
 "Tis to the Pen and Press, we mortals  
 owe,  
 All we believe and almost all we  
 know."  
 Saturday, December 23, 1911.  
**AYER.**

**News Item.**  
 The whist party and dance given under the auspices of the department aids of the W. R. C. last week, Thursday evening was a success in every way. The party was in charge of a committee composed of Mrs. Ellen G. Sawyer, Mrs. Mary A. Beverly, Miss Millie M. Boverly, Mrs. Lucie Richardson and Mrs. Mary B. Johnson, of this town. Mrs. C. Phelps, of Shirley, and Mrs. Josie Stiles, of Boston. Enough money will be taken from the proceeds of the party to purchase flags for the schoolrooms in Ayer, Haverd and Shirley.

Waldo W. Sprague and John L. Leahy concluded their duties as jurors at the civil session of the superior court at Lowell on Thursday.

Earl Daniels, son of Mr. and Mrs. Charles E. Daniels, of East Main street, met with a serious accident on Monday, when he was run over by a heavily loaded wagon owned by Frank E. Kemp, of Woods Village, on which the boy was riding. One of the rear wheels of the wagon passed over the boy's chest. His collar bone was fractured and several ribs injured. He was taken to his home where Dr. Hopkins attended him.

A public hearing on the proposed laying out of the way between West Main and Shirley street, such way to be called Rogers street, was held in the selectmen's room on Thursday evening. There were no remonstrants and the hearing was declared closed.

The Peace and Unity club, the well-known colored organization, will hold its annual emancipation concert and ball in the town hall on Monday evening, January 1.

George H. Woods, of Groton, has purchased the lot in the rear of Benjamin Taft's house and will erect a cottage house for rent. Mr. Taft sold the land through P. Donlon & Co.

Fred Burnham, an employe of the Boston and Maine railroad at the local transfer sheds, broke his right ankle while at work on Tuesday. While engaged in moving a heavy case on a truck, his foot caught in the run and the case fell on him. He is confined to his room at the Hillside boarding house and is under the care of Dr. Bulkeley. Mr. Burnham came here from Lawrence a short time ago.

A freight car jumped the track near the overhead bridge Monday afternoon, which blocked the Lowell track for two hours.

Mrs. James A. McMillan has been very sick during the past week. Miss Margaret McMillan, her daughter, has been absent from her duties as school teacher in Shirley, to take care of her.

William E. Wheeler will go to the Groton hospital this Saturday, where he will undergo an operation for appendicitis.

One of the Greek employes at the tannery had the small finger of the right hand amputated while at work Wednesday.

These officers of Ladies' Auxiliary, A. O. H., were chosen at the last regular meeting:  
 Mrs. Annie M. Wilson, pres.; Miss Mary Skerritt, v. p.; Miss Susie Neylan, rec. sec.; Miss Catherine McCarthy, treas.; Mrs. Maude E. Sullivan, fin. sec.; Miss Mary Carlson, serg.-at-arms; Miss Hannah Hackett, sent.

Miss Minnie Evans fell on the stairway at the Congregational church on last week Friday evening while attending the reception and received injuries to the head, from the effects of which she was unconscious for a time. Dr. Hopkins, who was present at the reception, attended her. She is at home recovering from the effects of the accident.

Delbert Graffam, of Portland, Me., an engineer on the Boston and Maine railroad, met with a serious accident in the upper railroad yard early Wednesday morning. As he was getting off his engine he fell into the ash pit and sustained a compound fracture of the right leg. Dr. Sullivan was called and the injured man was taken by the doctor to the Massachusetts General hospital on the train leaving here at 5:12 in the morning.

Thursday noon there was a fire in the harness shop of Mr. Barker on East Main street, which started in a coal hod full of waste paper and other combustible stuff back of the stove, and burned some of the wood casing of the chimney to charcoal. It was discovered in time to stay what might have been a very serious fire.

Venus was seen last Tuesday evening in all its brilliancy and at times it looked like an aeroplane at full speed with all lights on.

At the chapter meeting in Masonic hall last Tuesday evening, Mrs. Canning of the Park hotel provided a supper "fit for the kings" and the partakers were very much gratified at the splendid spread.

Mr. Hardy is pushing his building on Central avenue to completion and the sign, as well as the building, looms up to the view of the many passersby to and from the railway bridge. Mr. Hardy is a pusher and since locating in Ayer has done a large and successful business as a builder and contractor.

The concrete sidewalk on East Main street that has been raised and completed last week to Elm street is a great improvement over the old one and will be a great aid to those who travel that way in keeping them out of the slush and from having wet feet. It has for sometime at times in the winter been almost impassable from collected water that had no outlet.

At the wedding of Miss Beatrice Flagg and Oliver K. Iselin, which takes place in New York, January 18, in St. Thomas's church, Rev. Dr. William G. Thayer of Southboro, formerly rector of St. Andrew's church here,

will be one of the officiating clergymen.

Mr. and Mrs. Herbert Lang of Manchester, N. H., came to Ayer Tuesday night and he returned to Manchester after a short stay, his wife, with her baby, to remain over Christmas with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Charles C. Wood, of Washington street. Mr. Lang will return to spend Christmas.

There will be a social dance in Page hall on Christmas night, held under the auspices of Robert Burns lodge. Johnson's orchestra of Leominster has been secured for the occasion.

There will be a Christmas tree at the Baptist church on Saturday evening, December 23, at 7:30 o'clock.

Rev. and Mrs. J. W. Thomas will spend Christmas in Boston with their daughter, Mrs. L. H. Merchant.

Mr. and Mrs. Ernest Gleason and baby left town on Friday night to spend the Christmas vacation with Mrs. Gleason's mother, Mrs. Gooding, at Somerville. They expect to return the latter part of next week. Mr. Gleason is principal of the high school.

The Christmas tree service of St. Andrew's Sunday school will be held on Thursday, December 28, at five o'clock.

The Unitarian Sunday school will be entertained by the teachers on Saturday afternoon from three to six o'clock with Christmas tree and supper.

These officers of Ayer Circle, C. of F., were elected at the regular meeting on Tuesday evening:  
 Julia O'Leary, c. c.; Kate V. Foley, r. s.; Minnie P. Murphy, treas.; Jennie McGuane, r. s.; Ida Corneller, l. g.; Annie Hackett, l. g.; Julia Murphy, o. g.; Mary Barrett, trustee 3 yrs.; L. D. Sullivan, physician.

On Wednesday of last week, a collector for the Salvation Army, who with two others, were in town soliciting supplies and money for their charitable work, disappeared after collecting four dollars in money, and nothing has since been heard of him. The other men were here with two covered army wagons gathering clothing and other supplies. One of these men said the missing Salvationist had been with the army only about four months and so little did he know about him that he could not tell even the name of the fugitive.

The regular gymnasium team played a return game with the Fitchburg Y. M. C. A. five in that city. The Fitchburg men were easily victorious by the score of 43 to 15. Green was the star player for the Ayer team, securing four of the five baskets from the floor. Hooley secured the other goal. Sullivan of the gymnasium team threw five baskets from fouls.

John B. O'Connell left on the 10:25 express train on Tuesday morning for Yuma, Arizona, where he will have charge of the large railroad yard. Yuma is one of the terminal points of the Southern Pacific railroad company, and the yard is a part of the system owned by this corporation. Mr. O'Connell is a well-known railroad man, and for several years was employed by the Boston and Maine railroad here as yardmaster. It is his intention after he is settled in his new location, to move his family there.

The annual meeting of the Unitarian Social Gathering was held on Monday afternoon in the church parlor. There was a large attendance. The reports showed that the organization was in good condition. It has very materially aided in the support of the church. Mrs. Alice Butterfield and Mrs. Franklin Lawton were chosen a nominating committee to secure officers for the coming year.

A very interesting program was given at the meeting of the Y. P. R. U. on Sunday evening. The leader was Miss Alice Sanderson. The address was by S. N. Lougee and included an account of Sunday life and customs of seventy years ago. There were vocal solos by Reginald MacDonnell, Miss Myrtle Smith accompanist, and by Mrs. Daisy Beckford, who played her own accompaniment.

The Ayer National bank will be open on Saturday evening, December 23, from 7:30 to 8:30, to receive deposits only.

A fine exhibition is on tap for the moving picture show this Saturday evening, and a Boston singer will sing three illustrated songs. A special show is to be given on Christmas afternoon at three o'clock, and will be featured by five of the best pictures that can be obtained.

The inquest on the death of Nicholas Tafutes, who was killed at the tannery last week, will be held in the district courtroom this morning.

Judge and Mrs. Warren H. Atwood returned from an extended western trip last Saturday.

The barber shops in town will close at eleven o'clock on Monday for the remainder of the holiday.

There will be two games of basketball in the town hall on Christmas afternoon. The teams that will play are the Civic gymnasium and Central-ville of Lowell, and the Ayer high school and the Employed Boys' class of the Fitchburg Y. M. C. A. The first game will be called at 3:45 o'clock. Reserved seats are on sale at Brown's drug store.

Misses Madeline E. Donlon and Edna Brown came home on Tuesday from St. Elizabeth college, Convent Station, N. J., for a three-weeks' vacation. Miss Marion Farnsworth is also at home from her studies at Northfield seminary for the Christmas vacation.

The decision in the inquest on the death of Thomas A. Fitzgerald, who was fatally injured here on November 30, has been rendered by associate justice, John M. Maloney, after a summing up of the evidence given at the proceedings. The court finds that it does not appear that the unlawful act of any other person contributed to the death of the young man.

A fine model of the locomotive of the Atlantic City Flyer is on exhibition in one of the windows of George H. Brown's clothing store. This famous passenger train makes the trip from New York city to Philadelphia, a distance of ninety-five miles, in ninety minutes. The model was made by N. E. Beers, of this town.



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

A Few Christmas Suggestions:

Men's Sweater Coats.....	50¢ to \$5.00	Men's Slippers.....	50¢ to \$2.00
Boys' Sweater Coats.....	50¢ to \$2.00	Ladies' Furfelt Slippers.....	\$1.00, \$1.25, \$1.50
Men's Umbrellas.....	50¢ to \$5.00	Neckwear.....	25¢, 50¢, \$1.00
Ladies' Umbrellas.....	\$1.00 to \$5.00	Cuff Links.....	25¢, 50¢, \$1.00
Cuff Links and Pin to Match.....	75¢ and \$1.00	Mufflers.....	50¢, \$1.00
Gloves of all kinds.....	25¢ to \$5.00	Fancy Arm Bands.....	25¢, 50¢
Handkerchiefs, all kinds, Plain and Initial.....	5¢ to 50¢	Suspenders in fancy boxes.....	25¢, 50¢

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

**COME IN AND SEE THEM**

**Fletcher Bros.** Opposite Depot  
**AYER - MASS.**

Sunday services at the Baptist church will be as follows: A Christmas sermon at 10:45 a. m. Sunday school at twelve o'clock. Service of songs and short address at seven in the evening. Rev. W. E. Waterbury, field secretary of the Massachusetts Baptist Missionary society, will preach morning and evening on Sunday, December 31.

Sunday service at St. Andrew's church on Sunday at 10:45 a. m. morning prayer and sermon. Sunday school at twelve o'clock. Christmas day will be held at eleven o'clock, holy communion and sermon.

Unitarian church service on Sunday at 10:45 a. m. Dr. Fisk will preach a Christmas sermon. Sunday school at twelve o'clock. The Y. P. R. U. service will be omitted.

**Christmas Trees in Schools.**  
 There was a very decided mad, merry time in the celebration of Christmas in the schools on Friday. Especially was this the case in the Washington street building. Here, there were three Christmas trees, the first, second and third grades, with their teachers, Miss Neylan and Miss Wright assisting, and trees being also had in the special grade, Miss Jenness, teacher, and in the fourth grade where Miss Brown was mistress of ceremonies. There were very fine exercises of speaking and singing in all the rooms, everything being done in a very creditable manner. The trees were very artistic.

The special feature was a call from Santa Claus, who in his red robe and long beard and fur coat, danced into the rooms one after another, gave greetings to everyone, and presented every child with a bag of Christmas candy.

There was a great many visitors in all the rooms, especially in the lower grades, and everyone enjoyed a happy afternoon. In the fifth and sixth grades there was a union singing exercise of singing that was very fine.

**Woman's Club Notes.**  
 The Ayer Woman's club met in the Congregational vestry Wednesday afternoon. Mrs. Avis B. Fisher gave a very interesting account of the Federation meeting at Haverhill November 16. The program was in charge of Miss S. Adelaide Blood. Miss Mildred Sanders favored the audience with a song with Miss Flora Cole as accompanist. Rev. Robert W. Wallace of Hillsboro, N. H., gave a very interesting and instructive lecture on Raphael. A piano duet followed by Miss L. Etta Green and Mrs. Avis B. Fisher. A dainty tea was served by members of the Art class. Mrs. Carrie L. Lynds and Mrs. Edith D. Johnson poured.

The literature committee will hold the next meeting for Dickens' readings Wednesday, December 27, at three p. m., at Mrs. Clara F. Hill's.

The Art class will meet at 7:30 p. m., Friday, December 29, with Mrs. S. M. Barker.

**Cutting Down Service.**  
 While the Fitchburg division will to some extent feel the effects of the general retrenchment policy being put into operation all over the Boston and Maine railroad system, the Worcester, Nashua and Portland division will undoubtedly be affected more than any other division of the road, owing to a big reduction of passenger accommodations and the turning of practically all its freight traffic over to other divisions, with the exception of that of strictly a local character.

Nashua has already been seriously affected by the changes, over one hundred railroad men of that city being thrown out of employment. The yards there are to be no longer used as a terminal for freight trains, and half a dozen shifting locomotives were removed from that city on Wednesday.

All other important points on the division have been similarly affected, with the single exception of Ayer, to which place the freight activities of nearly the entire division will be shifted and concentrated with those of the middle section of the Fitchburg division.

**In a Dilemma.**  
 Two of Pepperell's business men attended a lodge meeting in Masonic hall last Tuesday evening, and after the banquet, which was near midnight, they were ready to return but experienced some difficulty in securing conveyance to their homes. They visited the livery stables and got a cold reception. Then they returned to the lodgeroom and telephoned the owners of the livery, at their residences.

From one they did not get any answer, and the other took down the receiver of his telephone to break the connection from central office so that his slumbers could not be broken into by central ringing of the telephone bell. They then tried two in Pepperell and one in Groton. One in Pepperell said he had just taken a bath and would not take the chances of an exposure. The one in Groton had just returned from Ayer with a passenger and thought that was enough work for one night.

After a great deal of trouble and worry they secured a conveyance through the instrumentality of Mr. Canning of the Park hotel, and were soon on their way home, arriving there at two o'clock in the morning. In such a dilemma, excited from the bosoms of their families, they were almost frantic, and the next time they visit, the lodge they will provide for their own home-going.

**Grange.**  
 There was a well attended meeting of the grange on Thursday evening and those who were present enjoyed the evening's program thoroughly. At the business session, Mrs. Robbins, delegate, to the state grange, made her report of the meetings held in Worcester last week, which was accepted. The following program was given after the business meeting: Reading, an extract from Dickens' "Christmas carols," Miss Grace Dottridge; vocal solo, Leroy C. Smith; reading, two poems, "Companion outside," and "The bells across the snow," Mrs. Emma L. Wood. A peanut hunt was next and proved an enjoyable feature.

The next in order was the presentation of gifts from the Christmas tree, with Eli W. Carley acting the part of Santa Claus, although not dressed in the costume generally assumed by that gentleman. Each of the ladies present received a present donated by the gentlemen members, none of which were to cost over five cents. Some of the presents received were amusing, one present taking up the space of a shoe box all wrapped in paper, which took up about ten minutes' time to unravel and find out what was inside. All the members were supplied with pop corn and candy. Games and a general social time filled the remainder of the evening.

Charles Gardner, of Westfield, the master of the state grange, who was expected to install the officers next month, will be unable to do so, and Ella D. Wright, of Leominster, is to be invited to act in his stead. Three new members were voted in by ballot.

**District Court.**  
 Mrs. Samuel Sloski appeared in court on Thursday morning to answer to the charge of larceny of a pocket-book and \$12.30 from a lodger at her house, named John Walkin, on last Sunday afternoon. Samuel Sloski, whose name and presence was familiar to the court, and the husband of the defendant, was pressed into service as an interpreter. After hearing the evidence the court continued the case until February 21.

Augusto Pelletier, of Ayer, was found guilty on Tuesday morning of illegally setting snares, and of killing a partridge. He was fined ten dollars on each complaint, which he paid and he was discharged.

**Basketball.**  
 Two interesting games of basketball were played in the town hall last week Friday evening between the Fitchburg Y. M. C. A. team and the regular Civic gymnasium team which proved the principal attraction, and the Ayer high school and the Civic gymnasium second fives. The regular gymnasium team had for its opponents the strongest aggregation of players that Fitchburg could produce and all things considered made a creditable showing. In the first half the contest was very close throughout and when time was called the score was a tie, 9 to 9.

The rest and a shift in the players made a great change with the Fitchburg team, for in the second half their playing was much sharper than in the first period. Sullivan, who was put in the game in the second half, was really the whole show and to his good basket shooting the victory of his team was no doubt due. Out of the eight goals from the floor in the

last period he made six. The visitors made 17 points in this half, making a total of 26. The Civic gymnasium team made but 6 points in the last period, or a total of 15. For this team, Green scored the most points, a total of 6.

The second game between the second gymnasium and high school teams was closely contested throughout, the former winning by a score of 26 to 17. The best playing for the victors was done by Hooley, who scored seven baskets from the floor. Donahue did the best work for the high school team. An enthusiastic crowd witnessed the games. The lineup:  
**FITCHBURG CIVIC GYMNASIUM**  
 Woods, Fletcher, r. f.; Sullivan, Pearson, Sullivan, l. f.; Green, Lyons, McGarratt, c.; Donahue, Stirling, rb.; Ryan, Hurley, McGinnes, Forbes, lb.; Burns  
 Score-Fitchburg Y. M. C. A. 26, Civic Gymnasium 15. Goals from the floor-Donahue 2, Sullivan (Ayer), Green 2, Woods 2, Stirling 2, Sullivan (Fitchburg) 6. Goals from fouls-Sullivan (Ayer) 1, Stirling 6. Referee-Forbes. Timekeeper, Mullin. Time, 20m halves.

**CIVIC 2d.**  
 Scruton, f. r.; Bowler, Hooley, l. f.; Hurley, Donahue, c.; Donahue, Saboli, rb.; Fillebrown, McGuane, lb.; Brown  
 Score-Civic Second 26, High School 17. Goals from the floor-Bowler 2, Hurley 2, Fillebrown, F. Donahue 3, M. Donahue 2, Hooley 7, Scruton, McGuane, Saboli. Goals from fouls-F. Donahue, M. Donahue 2, Referee-Forbes. Timekeeper, Mullin. Time, 20m halves.

**Longest in Service.**  
 Conductor Walter Goddard and motorman L. G. Robbins are the only two now employed by the Lowell and Fitchburg street railway who have been with the company since the road was opened to traffic five years ago last May 31. They are both very popular as are also the other eight conductors and motormen. The road, under its present management of L. H. Cushing, superintendent, has made great strides in the carrying of passengers since first opened. What is really needed is an electric road from Ayer to Nashua, going through Groton and Pepperell. Such a road would be of great benefit to the town in way of added business. A survey sometime ago was made for such an electric route. It would be a valuable feeder for the Lowell road.

**Jewels Presented.**  
 At the regular meeting of St. Paul lodge, F. and A. M., held on Monday afternoon, December 18, a large number of brethren were present. After the work, a most enjoyable feature was introduced, it being the presentation of an appropriate jewel to the living past masters—Charles W. Mason, George G. Tarbell of East Pepperell, Dr. D. R. Steere, of Groton, John C. Fraser, of East Pepperell, George A. Wilder, of Townsend, Edward G. Whitney, of New Bedford, Fairfield Whitney, of Everett, L. G. Robbins, of East Pepperell, and Dr. Richard S. Ely, of Townsend, who had not already received jewels. The presentation addresses were made by members of the lodge, assisted by two invited brethren. Daniel W. Mason, the youngest master, presented the jewel to his father, Charles W. Mason, the oldest past master.

Feeling responses by the recipients showed how deep was their attachment to their ancient Masonic home. "Truly, it was good to be there."

**Death.**  
 Elbridge Warren Whitaker died at his home on Nashua street at five o'clock on Wednesday afternoon, following a surgical operation from an abdominal trouble, aged 63 yrs. 5 mos. 24 days. He was a native of Mason, N. H., where he was born on June 26, 1848, the son of William W. and Adeline (Wetherbee) Whitaker. For the past thirty years he had lived in Groton and Ayer, the greater portion of that time being a resident of this town. At the time of his death he was employed by the Boston and Maine railroad company. For years he was employed by E. D. Martell as driver of his bakery wagon when Mr. Martell was in business here.

Mr. Whitaker is a veteran of the civil war, and served in the Second Massachusetts cavalry from February 25 to August 24, 1865. He is a member of George S. Boutwell post, G. A. R.

He leaves a widow, Mrs. Mary J. (Morey) Whitaker, three daughters, Misses Minnie E. and Maude L. Whitaker, of Ayer, and Mrs. Laura A.

Allen, of South Dennis, and one sister, Mrs. J. Haskell, of North Weare, N. H. The funeral will be held from the Congregational church this Saturday afternoon at 1:30. The members of George S. Boutwell post, G. A. R., the Woman's Relief Corps and Capt. George V. Barrett camp, S. of V., are requested to be present, and reserved seats will be provided for them. All friends are also invited to attend the funeral.

**Did You See the Airship?**  
 According to the evidence of some of our most substantial citizens, an airship was plainly seen flying above the town on Tuesday evening. The same authority says that it could be plainly seen without the aid of a field glass early in the evening. Later, when it became darker, a spy-glass was necessary to see the mysterious airship, which is supposed to be operated by or under the authority of Tillinghast, the much advertised Worcester inventor, whose supposedly mysterious night trips through space were widely circulated through the medium of the press about two years ago. But the evidence of the appearance of the winged ship appears to be conclusive so we accept the statement at its face value.

For other Ayer news see first page.

**New Advertisements.**

**P. DONLON & CO.**  
 Ayer, Mass.

**CHRISTMAS GOODS**

SLEDS	SKIS
SLED BOXES	
FLEXIBLE FLYERS	
TOBOGGANS	SKATES
HOCKEY STICKS	
DOLLS	DOLL CABS
WAGONS	SHOO-FLIES
WHEELBARROWS	CARTS
TYPEWRITERS	
STEAM ENGINES	
ELECTRICAL ENGINES	
MECHANICAL TOYS	
BELLS, TINSEL AND FANCY DECORATIONS	
FANCY CHINA AND GLASS-WARE	

**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



**TOWNSEND.**

**West Townsend.**

Rev. S. D. Ringrose is expected to occupy his pulpit at the Baptist church on Sunday morning and evening, preaching appropriate to the occasion. The Y. P. S. C. E. in the vestry at six o'clock will be conducted by Mrs. Ringrose.

On Saturday afternoon at three o'clock, Mr. and Mrs. C. S. Homer's Christmas treat for the children of the public schools will be held at the reading-room under the charge of Mr. and Mrs. F. D. Parsons.

Alex Crosby, assistant at C. T. MacDormond's, is at his home in Soumerville for the present.

Both William Lawrence and his sister, Mrs. C. B. Stickey, have been the recent guests of relatives in Soumerville.

Mrs. Everett Bruce has been on the sick list for a few days, but is rapidly recovering.

Mr. and Mrs. E. T. Davis have returned from Stoddard, N. H., where they have been since last summer, and opened their home on Main street.

Rev. C. E. Hardy and family are moving from their home on Bayberry hill to South Hadley, where Mr. Hardy has received a call to the pastorate.

Miss Lena Thompson, who is teaching in Fitchburg, is at home this week on the sick list.

Sumner Lawrence, of Concord, N. H., is at the home of his mother, Mrs. Oren Lawrence, this week.

A cottage prayer meeting was held at the home of Walter Bennett on Wednesday evening and eighteen were present. The service was conducted by Walter E. Wilder, and the topic was the word "Let." Texts containing that word were read and explained by those present and the meeting was enjoyed by all.

William Mills, of Josselynville, who is employed by the Belgrade Rug Co., was confined to his home by illness last week, but has now resumed his duties as teamster.

Mrs. Frank Hardy has closed her house on Bridge street and gone to Bethel, Vt., where she will spend several weeks.

Mr. Miller, who has been employed with Daniel Coffey at Alexander Reed's, has returned to his home in Milford, N. H.

Herman Wood has entered the employ of Joseph Thompson at his mill on Main street.

Mrs. F. A. Hardy has gone to Bethel, Vt., to pass the holidays with her niece, Mrs. S. L. Abbott. Mrs. Abbott was formerly Inez M. Stevens, of this village.

I. P. Sherwin and his clerk, Charles Donley, went on a hunting trip to Rindge, N. H., last week Friday, and Perry W. Stetle assisted in the store during their absence.

Mrs. Samuel Wares has been spending a few days this week at the home of Miss M. Elinor Tower.

Mrs. Luther Blood has been visiting relatives and friends in Nashua, N. H., recently.

Mrs. Martha Lawrence visited her son at Palmer last week Thursday.

Mr. and Mrs. Fred J. Tenney have closed their home for the remainder of the winter and will live in the Lewis house on the street leading to the station at the Center, near Mr. Tenney's store. They will be greatly missed by their many friends here.

Mr. and Mrs. Frederick Howard, from East Boston, have been recent visitors at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Charles R. Morgan.

Rev. John H. Cox, of Dorchester, a former resident and pastor of the Baptist church here, is spending a few days with Mr. and Mrs. Fred A. Patch, of Josselynville.

Mr. and Mrs. Hayward, from Deerfield, N. H., have been recent visitors at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Warren Elliott.

Mr. Andrews, who boards at the home of Miss Anna Rundlett, has been on the sick list for the past week.

Mrs. Samuel Wares is spending a few days this week at the home of Miss M. Elinor Tower.

**Christmas Dinner.**

On Monday, Christmas day, a chicken dinner will be served in the vestry of the Baptist church to the members of the church and the Sunday school, and all others who care to bring their contributions of food and join with them will be heartily welcomed. In the afternoon the public tree and exercises, instead of being held in Seminary hall, as formerly, will be held in the auditorium of the church, and the public is cordially invited to join in making the tree and the afternoon a success. The committees in charge are as follows:

Executive—Walter E. Wilder, Perry W. Sawtelle, Rev. S. D. Ringrose and Fred A. Patch.

Entertainment—Mrs. W. E. Wilder, Mrs. Fred A. Patch and Miss Alice Seaver.

Dinner—Mrs. Lucy A. Lawrence and Mrs. Herman W. Lawrence.

Tree—Mr. Wilder's class of young ladies.

**Townsend Center.**

The Country club held its meeting last week at the home of Mrs. O. Williamson on Thursday afternoon, instead of Friday, on account of the new organ, which is to be used at the M. E. church, has arrived this week and has been put into place.

The usual afternoon program was observed and there was also a reading by Mrs. Annie Greenleaf, and a piano solo by Mrs. Albert Powell. The next meeting will be the first Friday in January, at Mrs. Albert Powell's.

Joseph T. Powell is to soon complete his work at the Fessenden cooperative shop, and is to go to Togus, Me., as second cornetist in the military band at the National Old Soldiers' home. He secured the position through Westminster parties, together with the aid of Gen. Nelson Miles.

Saturday at 5.30, a luncheon is to be given at the M. E. church for members of the Sunday school, and in the evening there will be a concert and Christmas tree at seven o'clock. Parents and friends are cordially invited. Sunday the subject of Mr.

Robertson's sermon will be "His reception and His rejection." There will be special music by the choir, and a joint concert by the Methodist and Congregational Sunday schools at twelve o'clock. Manger services for poor of Boston; also, an organ recital at 6.30, and evening service at seven.

William Cromble, of the Mt. Vernon schools, visited at Harry Winchester's this week while on his way home to Chelsea for his vacation.

Mrs. George Page, of Pawtucket, R. I., is at George Gates' this week.

**Wedding.**

Stephen W. Keefe and Miss Dorothy Barnes, of Scituate, who has been a successful teacher at the Harbor schoolhouse, were united in marriage on Sunday evening at the Congregational parsonage by Rev. A. L. Struthers. Although "Steve" had tried to keep the affair a secret as far as possible, and did succeed in giving many of his friends a great surprise, nevertheless, quite an aggregation was awaiting him when he left the parsonage door. The young couple were showered with rice and their team had been decorated while the ceremony was being performed, but they managed to get safely home amid the congratulations of those who returned to the Harbor at the same time.

Mr. Keefe is the popular shortstop of the Townsend A. A., and has many friends in town. Since early summer he has been employed by the B. & A. D. Fessenden Company at the office where he has done efficient work. Mr. and Mrs. Keefe have the best wishes of all for a happy future.

Last year Steve won the cup for the largest number of stolen bases; this year it went to another, but he and Honey Bartlett, who also has lately joined the benedictines, have at least evidently made the best record in "stealing a march" over the rest of the team.

**A Success.**

The supper, fair and entertainment given by the L. B. S. of the Congregational church at Memorial hall last week Friday afternoon and evening was a decided success in every way.

The booths were unusually pretty this year and several of the ladies put in much time in making paper flowers for decorations. All the booths were trimmed with pine branches artistically arranged. The fancy article booth in charge of Mrs. E. A. Blood, Mrs. Norris and Mrs. Ed. Bliss was covered with purple wisteria blossoms, which made a pleasing sight mingled with the pine; also, the next booth, the candy booth, in charge of Mrs. Charles Smith and Miss Helen Dobson, had two handsome pine arches over it. These arches were fastened together overhead near the center of the table and were profusely trimmed with Japanese cherry blossoms, and the candies were temptingly displayed. The apron table, in charge of Mrs. George Gates, Mrs. Bert Estes and Mrs. J. Livingston, was trimmed with a Japanese umbrella over each upright pine-trimmed post, and also had a large umbrella in the center of the table.

The food table, in charge of Miss Grace Davis, and ice cream table, in charge of Mrs. Andy Gray, were also resplendent with pine and chrysanthemums. The miscellaneous table, in charge of the members of Mrs. Jeff's class, but for the whole Sunday school, was decorated with pine and Japanese fans.

There was also a well with a real bucket, where the children could get five and ten-cent articles. This, as usual, was well patronized and was in charge of Mrs. John J. Piper and Mrs. Wilbur L. Bruce. This well was decorated with pine, and the Japanese and American flags were also in evidence.

Mrs. Emma Josselyn, who had the entertainment in charge, did not fail to please her audience and the excellent program, which was printed last week, was given. The evening closed with a social time and promenade.

**Wedding.**

One of the prettiest weddings of the season took place on last Saturday afternoon at the home of Mrs. George F. Wright, of 19 Forbes street, Worcester, when Hubert Nelson Wright, vice president and treasurer of the Wright Wire Company, was united in marriage to Edith Athena Barber, of this town, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Orlando Barber, formerly director of art in the schools of Newport, R. I.

The rooms, artistically decorated by H. F. A. Lang, were very effective with banks of palms and cut flowers. Palms and Easter lilies formed an arch beneath which the couple was united. Bertie Adams, who was pianist, played as an interlude Mendelssohn's wedding march.

The bride was gowned in a pale mauve traveling costume of mauve satin, and carried a shower bouquet of bride's roses and lilies of the valley. She was attended by her niece, Miss Pilma Browne, of Manchester, N. H., daughter of G. Waldo Browne, the novelist.

Harwood L. Wright, of Westford, cousin of the groom, served as best man. The groom's gift to him was a gold scarf pin set with an opal. The bride presented the maid with an imported coral necklace.

Rev. Arthur S. Burroughs, pastor of the South Baptist church, performed the ceremony, after which a reception of the friends and relatives present followed, and a buffet lunch was served by Rabboli.

The couple then left for an extended tour including New York, Atlantic City and Bermuda.

Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Barber, Frank Barber and Mrs. Orlando Barber of this town attended the wedding. Miss Barber has many friends in town, and also in Newport, R. I., and best wishes are in order to wish her a happy future.

**HOLLIS, N. H.**

**News Items.**

Mrs. E. K. Jewett returned on Monday evening from a five and a half-days' visit in Lowell.

Mr. and Mrs. F. W. Dudley attended the annual meeting of the New Hampshire grange held at Concord on December 19 and 20.

The annual Christmas exercises and tree for the children of Hollis

will be held at the town hall on Saturday evening, December 23.

All the schools in town closed on December 15, for a two-weeks' vacation.

It is reported that only one Hollis hunter was fortunate enough to shoot a deer during the open season. Norman Howe was the fortunate man.

C. J. Bell has purchased the milk route in Pepperell owned by J. P. Nutting. It was formerly owned by Harry F. Lawrence. Mr. Bell has a large route in Nashua only.

The Christmas concert of the Sunday school will be given on Sunday morning, instead of the usual sermon. The school will occupy the seats in the center aisle.

Mr. and Mrs. Wetmore, of Peterboro, who had charge of the Van Dyke farm last winter, are in charge this winter during the visit of Mr. Van Dyke and his sister to California.

The Hollis W. C. T. U. met on Tuesday afternoon with Mrs. C. F. Burge. It was observed as crusade day.

**SAVED HIS WIFE'S LIFE.**

"My wife would have been in her grave today," writes G. H. Brown, of Muscadine, Ala. "If it had not been for Dr. King's New Discovery. She was without help, not able to get up down in her bed, had a severe bronchial trouble and a dreadful cough. I got her a bottle of Dr. King's New Discovery and she soon began to mend, and was well in a short time." Infallible for coughs and colds, its most reliable remedy on earth for desperate lung troubles, hemorrhages, laryngitis, whooping cough, croup and grippe, asthma, hay fever, croup and whooping cough. 50c., \$1.00. Trial bottle free. Guaranteed by William Brown, Ayer.

**New Advertisements.**

**FOR SALE.** The seven-room House and Land, Station Avenue, Groton, owned by Miss F. Ready. For information, address A. E. FAY, Haverhill, Mass. h15

**TOWN OF SHIRLEY.**

At a legal meeting of the Inhabitants of the Town of Shirley, Massachusetts, duly warned as required by law and held November seventh, 1911, under the following article in the Warrant for calling the same, to wit:

Article 6. To see if the Town will vote to adopt the following additional by-laws to provide for the removal of snow and ice from sidewalks within the limits of the highways or Town ways of the Town, and instruct the Selectmen to take the necessary steps to have the same approved and become effective, or act thereon.

Section 1. The tenant, occupant or owner of any estate abutting on any street, highway or Town way in the Town, and where there now is, or hereafter may be, sidewalk constructed of or covered with concrete, brick, cement, stone, wood, or any other material than earth, ashes, or gravel, shall within twelve hours after the ceasing to fall, form or drift thereon, of any snow, sleet or ice, remove or cause to be removed such snow, sleet or ice therefrom so far as it can be removed, and, if the same cannot be wholly removed, shall sprinkle or cause to be sprinkled thereon, sand, ashes, sawdust, or other suitable substances, so that such sidewalk shall not be slippery and shall be safe and convenient for public travel.

Section 2. Whoever violates the provision of the preceding section shall be punished by a fine not exceeding Ten Dollars.

It was voted to adopt the above article as one of the by-laws of the Town.

HERMAN S. HAZEN, Town Clerk of Shirley, Shirley, Mass., November 20th, 1911.

Boston, December 1, 1911. I approve the foregoing by-laws.

JAMES M. SWIFT, Attorney-General.

**COMMISSIONERS' NOTICE**

Estate of ANN DOWNS, late of Groton in the County of Middlesex, deceased, represented insolvent.

The subscribers, having been appointed by the Probate Court for said County, commissioners to receive and examine all claims of creditors against the estate of said ANN DOWNS, hereby give notice that six months from the twentieth day of November A. D. 1911, are allowed to creditors to present and prove their claims against said estate, and that they will meet to examine the claims of creditors at the Selectmen's Room, Town Hall, in said Groton, on the sixth day of January, and the eleventh day of May A. D. 1912, at nine o'clock in the forenoon.

JOHN M. MALONEY, APPELTON H. TORREY, Commissioners. Groton, Dec. 15, 1911. 3114

**COMMISSIONERS' NOTICE**

Estate of THOMAS DOWNS, late of Groton in the County of Middlesex, deceased, represented insolvent.

The subscribers, having been appointed by the Probate Court for said County, commissioners to receive and examine all claims of creditors against the estate of said THOMAS DOWNS, hereby give notice that six months from the twentieth day of November A. D. 1911, are allowed to creditors to present and prove their claims against said estate, and that they will meet to examine the claims of creditors at the Selectmen's Room, Town Hall, in said Groton, on the sixth day of January, and the eleventh day of May A. D. 1912, at nine o'clock in the forenoon.

JOHN M. MALONEY, APPELTON H. TORREY, Commissioners. Groton, Dec. 15, 1911. 3114

**FOR SALE**

Three Inside Doors; One Outside Hall Door, lighted; One Double Store Door, lighted; a lot of Inside Blinds, upper and lower, for five windows; Several Outside Blinds, several sizes. All second-hand and in good condition. Will be sold cheap. Public Spirit Office, Ayer.



**In the New Home**

You want the best when starting in the new home. Above all, you want that home to be snug and warm and comfortable. You are sure of warmth and comfort with a Perfection Smokeless Oil Heater.

The Perfection is the best and most reliable heater made. It is a sort of portable fireplace. It is ready night and day. Just strike a match and light the wick. The Perfection is all aglow in a minute.

The Perfection Oil Heater does not smell nor smoke—a patent automatic device prevents that. It can be carried easily from room to room and is equally suitable for any room in the house. Handsomely finished, with nickel trimmings; drums of either turquoise-blue enamel or plain steel.

Ask your dealer to show you a Perfection Smokeless Oil Heater, or write for descriptive circular direct to any agency of

**PERFECTION SMOKELESS OIL HEATER**

Standard Oil Company (Incorporated)

**Christmas Suggestions**

Artistic, Useful and Durable Gifts at Moderate Cost

Read Carefully, you will find just what you are looking for

Chairs, Mahogany, Oak and Reed, Center Tables, Book Cases, China Closets, Buffets, Chiffoniers, Cribbs, Jardiniere Stands, Tabor-ets, Clothes Poles, Children's, High, Table and Rocking Chairs, Bamboo Music and Magazine Racks, Waste Baskets, Screens, Ladies' Work Baskets, Axminster, Velvet and Smyrna Rugs, Couch Throws, Portieres, Etc.

Our line of Pictures is unsurpassed.

**W. WRIGHT & SON**

MEAD'S BLOCK AYER, MASS.

**Stickney Gasoline Engines ARE THE BEST**

Always on the Job

When you buy a Stickney Engine of me, you know that I'm always on the job at the other end of the telephone wire. The buying of the engine is the first thing and then you will need supplies. I am here on the job to take care of you without your bothering with letter writing to corporations hundreds of miles away.

C. F. Wolcott

EXCLUSIVE AGENT

**C. F. WOLCOTT - Concord Jct., Mass.**

**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.

Close by Ayer over 60 acres, eight-room house and out buildings, variety of fruit, wood, early productive land, near trolley, with stock, tools and crops, complete, \$2800.

For \$6200, \$1200 cash, a large attractive place for which some one will give \$5000 next spring, with just the hand of care to put in tune.

One of Harvard's very best, just offered by owner of long holding. Large attractive buildings, unsurpassed water, productive land, a fine place.

Over one hundred places of all kinds, personally examined. Some are good value for full sale.

3m49 **EDWARD H. BLISS, Ayer, Mass.**

**Another Reo Sensation**

Drop of \$250 and Improvements Both

Have you seen it? The new car for 1912! All pronounce it a beauty! Remember also, "Handsome is as handsome does," and study well her record before you buy. Until the Reo went from New York to San Francisco last summer in 10 days, 15 hours, 18 minutes, the best time was 15 days, 2 hours, 12 minutes and made by a \$4,000 car. This record-breaking car (not race track spurring), but for reliability has been refined and brought up-to-date and sells for \$1,000. Find its equal if you can for classy appearance and general every-day useful qualities. She will give you a comfortable ride either fast or slow and climb anywhere. If experience repeats herself she will cost you less for repairs than anything in sight. Ask Reo owners who don't change every year, and who care for their own cars, seldom going to shop.

**EDWARD H. BLISS Local Agent AYER, MASS.**

**GATARRH DOCTOR**

You Can Get the Best One in the World for \$1.00

Go to William Brown today. Say "I want a HYOMEI outfit," take it home with you, open the box and pour a few drops of HYOMEI (pronounce it High-o-me) into the little hard rubber inhaler.

Then breathe pleasant, soothing, healing, germ killing HYOMEI over the raw, inflamed, germ ridden membrane for a few minutes and relief is immediate.

Stuffed up head will vanish. Keep up the treatment four or five times a day for a few days and hawking, spitting and forming of mucus in the nose and throat will cease.

HYOMEI is guaranteed to end catarrh, coughs, colds, croup, asthma, catarrhal deafness, or money back. Complete outfit \$1.00, subsequent bottles if needed 50 cents at William Brown's, Ayer, and druggists everywhere.

**B. F. Keith's Theatre Lowell, Mass.**

**V High Class Vaudeville Attractions**

**WEEK OF DECEMBER 25**

**THE ASahi TROUPE OF JAPANESE**

In a Sensational Novelty, including the Famous Kitamura Bros.

**THE WILLIAM RAYNORE CO.**

"Between the Races."

**THE COLLEGE TRIO**

Present "The Rehearsal"

**SENSATIONAL IOLEEN SISTERS**

Australian Novelty Sharpshooters and Tight Wire Artists

**THE GBAZERS**

In a Musical and Terpsichorean Novelty

**THE CREIGHTON BROS.**

Two Old Rubes who Sing and Dance to Beat the Band

**HELENE DICKSON**

The Comedienne with a Voice

**DOC O'NEILL**

A New Style Funny Fellow from the West

Prices 10c. to 50c.—Matinee, best seat 25c.—Phone 28—Box Office Open from 9.30 a. m. to 10 p. m.

Those patrons of the Lowell and Fitchburg St. Ry. attending the evening performances have ample time to take the 10.47 car for Ayer.



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

This is a

**5A Taunton**

Duck Blanket Strong and Long of Wear

A Full Line of These Well-known Blankets For Sale by

**Geo. H. Brown**

Reliable Clothier, Ayer

**ADMINISTRATOR'S NOTICE**

Estate of ELIZA M. HOBART late of Pepperell 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 ELIZA M. HOBART and notice is hereby given that six months from the sixth 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 eighth day of January, 1912, at nine o'clock in the forenoon, and at Cambridge, on the twelfth day of February, 1912, at nine o'clock in the forenoon.

M. PERRY SARGENT, Administrator. 3114

**ADMINISTRATOR'S NOTICE**

Estate of HARRIETT H. LIBBY late of Pepperell 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 HARRIETT H. LIBBY and notice is hereby given that six months from the sixth 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 eighth day of January, 1912, at nine o'clock in the forenoon, and at Cambridge, on the twelfth day of February, 1912, at nine o'clock in the forenoon.

M. PERRY SARGENT, Administrator. 3114

**Jas. P. Fitch**

**JEWELER**

CARLEY'S BLOCK, MAIN STREET

NEAR P. O., AYER



1912 Ford Touring Cars  
\$690, F. O. B. Detroit

1912 Ford Runabouts  
\$590, F. O. B. Detroit

**R. B. ANDREWS**  
LEOMINSTER, MASS.

Agent for Ayer, Townsend, Littleton  
and Leominster

A Nice Assortment of

**Democrat  
Wagons**  
Concord  
Buggies

**Carriages,  
Butcher  
Carts  
Harnesses**

A GOOD ASSORTMENT AND  
AT ALL PRICES.  
CALL AND SEE THEM.

Carriage Repairing in All Its  
Branches Promptly  
Done

ALSO, HORSESHOEING AND GEN-  
ERAL BLACKSMITHING

**Frederick Whitney**  
AYER, MASS.

**Union Cash  
Market**  
AYER

GOOD LAMB FOR STEWING, 7c. lb.  
LOINS SPRING LAMB, 12c. lb.  
LEGS SPRING LAMB, 15c. lb.  
ROAST PORK, 12c. lb.  
SIRLOIN ROAST BEEF, 16c. lb.  
GOOD SIRLOIN STEAK, 20c. lb.  
FRESH PORK SHOULDERS, 11c. lb.  
GOOD RIB ROAST BEEF, 12c. to 14c. lb.  
GOOD SIRLOIN ROAST, 16c. lb.  
4 lb BEST CAROLINA HEAD RICE,  
25c.  
BEN HUR FLOUR, 55c. bag.  
WHITE ROSE PASTRY, 75c. bag.  
5 CANS CORN 25c.  
8 CANS STRING BEANS 25c.  
GOOD COFFEE, 23c. lb.  
BEST CEYLON TEA, 35c. lb.  
OOLONG TEA, 30c. lb.

Remember the Place

**UNION CASH MARKET, Main Street**  
Ayer, Mass.

**LYMAN KENNETH CLARK**  
Counselor-at-Law  
417-421

OLD SOUTH BUILDING, BOSTON  
Telephone 9-2, Ayer  
At Residence, Washington St.,  
Evenings

**AUGUSTUS LOVEJOY**  
Insurance Agent and Broker

Farm Property written; also, all kinds  
of Property placed in good, strong  
companies.

42 East Main Street, Ayer.

FOR SALE—Breeding Pen of Laying  
W. R. Rock Pullets, \$25.00. Need the  
room. MRS. L. E. STARR, Pepperell.

Highest Grade  
**PLUMBING  
HEATING  
AND  
VENTILATING**  
**O'Toole Brothers**  
CLINTON, MASS.  
Get Our Prices

**E. D. HOWE, D. D. S.**  
Dental Rooms

OVER WHIPPLE & TOWER'S STORE  
EAST PEPPERELL

**D. W. FLETCHER**  
Successor to John L. Boynton  
INSURANCE AGENT AND BROKER  
Conant Building, Main Street  
East Pepperell, Mass.

**SHIRLEY.**

**Center.**  
Mr. and Mrs. John W. Farrar spent  
last week at Pomfret, Me.

Mrs. Emma Farwell is a visitor  
with Mr. and Mrs. George Holden,  
having just returned from a trip in  
the west.

Harry N. Brown spent the week-end  
with his sister, Mrs. Graves, at Fitch-  
burg.

Christine G. Longley, of Quincy  
Mansion school, returned home last  
week for a Christmas recess of three  
weeks.

The Center primary and grammar  
schools closed on Friday for a two-  
weeks' Christmas vacation.

Mr. and Mrs. J. Otis Evans were  
visitors last week with Mr. and Mrs.  
Fred Holden, of Shrewsbury.

Mr. and Mrs. Ardie A. Adams, Ralph  
I. Evans and Elsie M. Holden attend-  
ed the meeting of the Massachusetts  
state grange at Worcester last week.

J. Edward Adams, who has been  
very ill with pneumonia, is well on  
the road to recovery.

Ruth M. Graves was a visitor last  
week with Miss Gladys Hastings, at  
Lunenburg.

Mr. and Mrs. Alonzo Jenkins, at the  
North, who recently sold their farm,  
are to occupy the Buckminster place  
during the winter, instead of moving  
to Townsend.

Miss Ruby T. Crockett, of Fitch-  
burg Business college, spent the week-  
end with her parents, Mr. and Mrs.  
William A. L. Crockett, at the North.

The Girls' Sewing Guild of Trinity  
chapel, held its regular meeting on  
Saturday afternoon at the home of  
Miss Edith Longley.

The Matrons' Aid will hold its next  
regular meeting on Wednesday after-  
noon, December 27, at the home of  
Mrs. Homer P. Holden.

Sidney A. Carter has returned from  
a week's visit in Boston.

Mr. and Mrs. Clinton Lovell, of Hen-  
niker, N. H., are spending a few days  
at William E. Barnard's.

Rev. Howard A. Bridgman will con-  
duct the services at Trinity chapel  
on Sunday afternoon in the absence  
of Rev. A. L. Bunpus.

Ernest Bohanon left last week for  
Springfield, where his mother was ill,  
and who has since died, her body  
being brought here for interment in  
the village cemetery.

It will perhaps interest some to  
hear of the success of John Doherty,  
who was formerly a resident of this  
town for several years. In a letter  
received by Norman R. Graves, Mr.  
Doherty states that he is situated in  
Wyoming and is carrying on a large  
and successful ranch. He is in a  
somewhat wild part of the state, his  
nearest neighbor being ten miles dis-  
tant.

Mr. and Mrs. Ware, of Brookline,  
are spending a few days at their  
house on Hazen road.

Mr. and Mrs. Charles K. Bolton, of  
Brookline, were at their house on  
Center road the first of the week.

Shirley grange held their last meet-  
ing of the year on Tuesday evening.  
The reports of Mr. and Mrs. Ardie A.  
Adams, delegates to the three-days'  
session of the Massachusetts state  
grange at Worcester, and of Miss  
Elsie M. Holden, delegate to the lec-  
turer's convention at Worcester were  
heard. The lecturer's hour was taken  
up with the distribution of Christmas  
gifts. The gifts were tied to roses  
and each received a gift by drawing a  
rose.

Rev. William Ware Locke preached at  
the First Parish church last Sun-  
day and took for his text "Give us  
this day our daily bread." On Sunday,  
December 24, Mr. Locke will supply  
the pulpit again at 11:15 in the morn-  
ing and will speak appropriate to  
Christmas.

The annual Christmas tree of Trinity  
chapel was held in the town hall  
on Monday evening. A program of  
songs and recitations was given by  
the members of the Sunday school,  
under the direction of Miss Margaret  
Evans. The presents were then dis-  
tributed from a well-filled tree, after  
which the evening was spent in play-  
ing games. The program:

Hymn, by all; piano solo, Edith  
Locke; "Santa Claus in Morocco," Gil-  
bert Evans; recitations, Doris Wood,  
Helen Wood, Mary Groat, Olive Groat,  
Olive Harriman, Olive Evans, Clyde  
Graves, Richard Holden, Alta Graves,  
Clara Buxton, Florence Wilkins, Mar-  
ion Bridgman, Carl Boutiller, George  
Boutiller, Chandler Hubbard, Sarah  
Hubbard; songs, Bessie Ross, Christine  
Longley, Eleanor Longley; hymn, by all.

**Christmas Exercises.**

The Center and grammar schools  
united on last week Friday for the  
annual Christmas exercises. A fine  
Christmas program was given, after  
which all received presents from the  
Christmas tree. The program was as  
follows:

Songs, "One starry night," grammar  
school; "Oh, little town of Bethlehem,"  
Eleanor Longley; "Long ago at Christ-  
mas," grammar school; "Santa Claus  
will come tonight," primary school;  
"Shine out O blessed star," Phyllis Far-  
rar and Mary Groat; "Holy night,"  
grammar school. This was followed  
by a Christmas play with the follow-  
ing cast of characters: Harry, Jack  
Groat; Nell, Helen Wood; Dot, Alta  
Graves; Bob, George Boutiller; Mother  
Goose, Marion Moulton; Jack, Clyde  
Graves; Jill, Carrie Carlin; Boy Blue,  
George Leahy; Miss Muffet, Doris  
Woods; Simple Simon, Arthur Carlson;  
Jack Horner, Kenneth Longley; Mis-  
tress Mary, Phyllis Farrar; Bo Peep,  
Mary Groat.

**Funeral.**  
The funeral of Leander S. P. Marsh,  
who committed suicide last week  
Wednesday evening by shooting him-  
self, was held on Friday morning at  
his home. The body was taken to  
Bedford for burial in the family lot.  
Mr. Marsh was seventy-seven years of  
age, and had been a resident of this  
town for some years. He was an ex-  
pert carpenter, and when younger had  
spent years in the mining regions of  
the west. He had been ill and in  
great pain for some time, and it is  
thought that this was his motive for  
committing suicide. Among the near  
relatives who survive him are his  
sons, Mitchell and David, of this town,  
and a niece in South Boston.

**LUNENBURG.**

**News Items.**  
The Woman's Christian Temperance  
Union held an all-day meeting at the  
home of Mrs. J. L. Harrington on  
Wednesday. Work was to be done  
for the Willard settlement in Boston.  
A home for working girls who receive  
too small wages to allow of their  
paying very high prices for board.  
Many busy hands made easy work,  
and soon one dozen linen table nap-  
kins were cut and hemmed, and a new  
piece of cloth made up into sheets.  
A most excellent dinner was served  
by the hostess, to which all did ample  
justice. A rising vote of thanks was  
given Mrs. Harrington for her very  
hospitable entertainment.

An industry that deserves liberal  
patronage is that of Mrs. Wilbur Lan-  
cey, who is manufacturing most deli-  
cious home-made candy at her home  
on Massachusetts avenue. No doubt  
it will be remembered that her hus-  
band, W. A. Lancey, received a severe  
paralytic shock about a year ago, and  
much of the time has been very feeble  
and unable to do any work.

The Methodist church and society  
will hold their Christmas tree festi-  
vities on Saturday evening, and the  
concert on Sunday evening.

In the Congregational church on  
Sunday morning the pastor, Rev. A. T.  
Kempton, will preach a Christmas  
sermon. The annual supper and  
Christmas tree, entertainment, sing-  
ing by the little folks, etc., will be  
held on Monday evening. A general  
invitation is given for all interested  
to come in to this entertainment, to  
place gifts on the tree, and have a  
part in this annual festivity of "peace  
on earth, good will to men."

Miss Blanche Lancey is enjoying  
a two-weeks' vacation from school  
duties at home with her parents and  
friends.

Charles A. Cunningham has closed  
his residence in Lunenburg and will  
spend the winter in Fitchburg.

Through the efforts of some of our  
enterprising citizens there is a pretty  
sure prospect that the Leominster  
Electric Light and Power Company  
will furnish power to those citizens  
who wish to install labor saving de-  
vices at their homes. It is probable  
that quite a number will avail them-  
selves of this opportunity.

**New Advertisements.**  
**MORTGAGEE'S SALE OF  
REAL ESTATE  
IN AYER, MASS.**

By virtue of a power of sale con-  
tained in a certain mortgage deed  
given by Charles J. Day to Joseph  
Holden, Annie L. Walker, and Jose-  
phine 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 Regis-  
try of Deeds, book 3588, page 256, and  
for breach of the conditions contained  
therein, and for the purpose of fore-  
closing the same, will be sold by pub-  
lic auction at the dwelling house on  
the premises hereinafter described, in  
Ayer, aforesaid, on Saturday, the thir-  
teenth 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:

"Two certain tracts or parcels of  
land situate in the southeasterly part  
of Ayer in the County of Middlesex  
and Commonwealth aforesaid and the  
northerly part of said Harvard. The  
first tract with the buildings thereon  
is situate on the south side of the road  
leading from Ayer to Littleton and on  
the east side of the road leading from  
said Ayer and Littleton road to the  
Harvard Shakers and is bounded and  
described as follows:

Beginning at the northwest corner  
of the granted premises at a corner of  
the wall, said corner being at the  
junction of the east road line of the  
said road to the Harvard Shakers, and  
said Littleton road; thence by the said  
east line of the said road to Harvard  
Shakers as the wall, now stands  
South 14° West 960 feet to a curve in  
the said road; thence by said curve  
about 90 feet; thence by said road as  
the wall now stands South 75° East  
passing through a bound between the  
town of Ayer and the town of Harvard  
360 feet to an angle in the road; thence  
by said road South 73° East 500 feet  
to a County road; thence by said  
County road as the wall now stands  
North 2° West 790 feet to the said  
Ayer and Littleton road; thence by  
said last named road North 53°  
30' West 780 feet to the point of be-  
ginning containing 16-3/4 Acres be-  
the same more or less.

The second tract is situate on the  
westerly side of the said road leading  
to the Harvard Shakers and is bound-  
ed and described as follows: Begin-  
ning at the northeast corner at the  
corner of the wall at the junction of  
the south road line of the road lead-  
ing from Ayer to Littleton, and the  
west road line of the said road lead-  
ing to Harvard Shakers; thence by  
said Harvard Shakers road as the wall  
now stands South 14° West 1030 feet  
passing through a bound between the  
town of Ayer and the town of Har-  
vard to a corner of the wall at land  
of grantee; thence by said grantee's  
land as the wall now stands North  
75° West 143 feet to a corner in the  
wall; thence by said grantee's land  
as the wall now stands North 5° East  
1145 feet to the said Ayer and Little-  
ton road; thence by said Ayer and  
Littleton road as the wall now stands  
South 55° East 335 feet to the point  
of beginning. Containing 4-3/8 Acres  
be the same more or less."

Said premises will be sold subject  
to all unpaid taxes. A deposit of two  
hundred dollars (\$200.00) in part pay-  
ment will be required at time of sale,  
balance on delivery of deed within ten  
(10) days. Further terms made  
known at time and place of sale.

**JOSEPH HOLDEN,  
ANNIE L. WALKER,  
JOSEPHINE C. JILSON,**  
Trustees of the United Society of  
Believers.  
Mortgagees.  
Ayer, Mass., December 7, 1911. 3114

**CHALLENGE FROM GEO. H. HILL**

**Offers to Refund Money if Dr. How-  
ard's Specific Will Not Cure Any  
Case of Constipation or  
Dyspepsia.**

George H. Hill is seeking the worst  
case of dyspepsia or constipation in  
Ayer or vicinity to test Dr. Howard's  
new specific for the cure of those dis-  
eases.

So confident is he that this remark-  
able medicine will effect a lasting cure  
in a short time, that he offers to re-  
fund the money should it not be suc-  
cessful.

In order to secure the quickest pos-  
sible introduction, Mr. Hill will sell  
a regular fifty cent package of this  
medicine at half price, 25 cents.

This specific of Dr. Howard's will  
cure sick headache, dizzy feelings, con-  
stipation, dyspepsia and all forms of  
malaria and liver trouble. It does not  
simply give relief for a time; it makes  
permanent and complete cures.

It will regulate the bowels, tone up  
the whole intestinal tract, give you an  
appetite, make food taste good and  
digest well, and increase vigor. Joy  
and happiness will take the place of  
that "don't care whether I live or die"  
feeling.

**New Advertisements.**  
**MORTGAGEE'S SALE OF  
REAL ESTATE**

By virtue of a power of sale con-  
tained in a certain mortgage deed  
given by Frederick A. Sherwin and Bes-  
sie E. A. Sherwin to Mortimer B. Will-  
iams, dated January 31, 1911, and re-  
corded with Middlesex South District  
Deeds, Book 3580, Page 119, will be  
sold at public auction for a breach of  
the conditions of said mortgage on the  
premises hereinafter described on  
Tuesday, the second day of Janu-  
ary, A. D. 1912, at three o'clock in  
the afternoon, all and singular the  
premises conveyed by said mortgage  
deed and therein described substan-  
tially as follows:

A certain parcel of land with the  
buildings thereon, situated in the  
center of Groton in the County of Mid-  
dlesex and Commonwealth of Massa-  
chusetts, on the northwesterly side of  
Station Avenue and bounded as fol-  
lows:

Beginning at a stone bound at said  
Avenue and at land of the Worcester,  
Nashua and Rochester Railroad Com-  
pany; thence northeasterly by said  
Avenue Sixty-two (62) feet to stake  
and stones; thence northwesterly by  
land of Mary W. Shattuck one hun-  
dred and thirty-five (135) feet to land  
of William A. Lawrence; thence south-  
westerly by said Lawrence land sixty-  
two (62) feet to land of said Rail-  
road Company; thence southeasterly  
by land of said Railroad Company one  
hundred and thirty-seven (137) feet  
to the point of beginning.

The above premises are conveyed  
subject to the conditions in a deed  
from Mary W. Shattuck to Henry M.  
Adams, recorded with Middlesex  
South District Deeds, Book 2354, Page  
524.

Said premises will be sold subject  
to a first mortgage of Twenty-five  
Hundred (\$2500.) Dollars, a second  
mortgage of Fifteen Hundred (\$1500.)  
Dollars and unpaid interest thereon,  
and unpaid taxes. Terms at sale.

**MORTIMER B. WILLIAMS,**  
3113 Mortgagee.  
Boston, Mass., Dec. 2, 1911.

**Boutwell & Hastings, Attys.,**  
209 Washington St., Boston, Mass.

**HARRY P. TANTER**  
Fire and Life  
Insurance Agent  
Groton, Mass.

**STAMPING**  
I am prepared to do all kinds of  
stamping at my home.  
ANNA SARTELL, 196  
Groton Street, East Pepperell, Mass.

**COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHU-  
SETTS.** Probate Court.  
To all the persons interested in the  
estate of DORCAS W. WRIGHT late  
of Harvard in said County, deceased:  
Whereas, GEORGIA E. WHITNEY,  
executrix of the will of said DORCAS  
WHITNEY who was executrix of the  
will of said deceased, has presented  
to the Probate Court the final and  
account of her administration upon the  
estate of said deceased and also her  
own first and final account as admin-  
istratrix with the will annexed of  
the remaining estate of said deceased.  
You are hereby cited to appear at a  
Probate Court to be held at Worcester,  
in said County, on the second day of  
January, A. D. 1912, at nine o'clock  
in the forenoon, to show cause, if any  
you have, why the same should not be  
allowed.

And said administratrix is ordered  
to serve this citation by delivering a  
copy of the foregoing instrument in-  
terested in the estate of said de-  
ceased, once in each week, for three  
successive weeks in the Harvard Hill-  
side a newspaper published in Ayer  
the last publication to be one day at  
least before said Court, and by mailing  
postpaid, a copy of this citation to all  
known persons interested in the estate  
seven days at least before said Court.  
Judge of said Court, the seventh day  
of December in the year of our Lord  
one thousand nine hundred and eleven.  
3114 JOHN W. MAWBEY, Register.

**COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHU-  
SETTS.** Probate Court.  
To the heirs at law, next of kin,  
and all other persons interested in the  
estate of MARGARET LEAHY late of  
Harvard in said County, deceased:  
Whereas, a copy of a certain instru-  
ment purporting to be the last will  
and testament of said deceased has  
been presented to said Court for prob-  
ate, by JOHN LEAHY who prays that  
letters of administration with the will  
annexed may be issued to him, or  
some other suitable person, no execu-  
tor being named in said will.  
You are hereby cited to appear at a  
Probate Court to be held at Worcester,  
in said County of Worcester, on the  
second day of January, A. D. 1912, at  
nine o'clock in the forenoon, to show  
cause, if any you have, why the same  
should not be granted.

And said petitioner is hereby direct-  
ed to give public notice thereof by  
publishing this citation once in each  
week, for three successive weeks, in  
the Harvard Hillside a newspaper pub-  
lished in Ayer, the last publication to  
be one day at least before said Court,  
and by mailing, post-paid, or deliver-  
ing a copy of this citation to all known  
persons interested in the estate, seven  
days at least before said Court.

Witness, William T. Forbes, Esquire,  
Judge of said Court, this seventh day  
of December in the year of our Lord  
one thousand nine hundred and eleven.  
3114 JOHN W. MAWBEY, Register.

**PLANTS  
GEO. E. FELCH  
FLORIST  
Designs a Specialty  
AYER, MASS.  
SHRUBS**

**Buy or Hire the**

**VACUUM CLEANER**  
Save taking up  
carpets, save time,  
labor, trouble and  
money. Clean every-  
thing and every-  
place that is dusty.  
Reduce danger of  
dust diseases.  
You can have the  
Hand Sante or Elec-  
tric power in size  
and price to fit your  
house.  
Easy to operate.  
Best made. Will last  
a life-time.



**Santo VACUUM  
CLEANER**  
Santo is the most efficient Portable Electric  
Vacuum Cleaner made. Used and endorsed by U. S.  
Army and Navy. Recommended by 75,000 homes. Office  
and foreign correspondence. Sample order, enclosed,  
easy to use. Tools for 20 purposes. Sold under a  
patented guarantee bond. Licensed under Edison  
patent and covered by manufacturer's own basic patents.  
Risk a postal and see it.  
Marshall Swallow, Groton

**Just One  
Trial**



**Mullin Bros.**  
Ayer, Mass.

**N. A. SPENCER & SON**  
Wish to call your at-  
tention to their stock of

**GEMETERY  
MEMORIALS**

which they would be  
pleased to have intend-  
ing purchasers inspect  
and obtain prices.

**Ayer, Mass.**

**PROTECT YOURSELF AGAINST  
— FIRE —**

**BY INSURING WITH  
E. D. STONE, Insurance Agent  
Page's Block, Ayer.**

**LIVE POULTRY WANTED**  
I buy all kinds of live poultry and  
pigeons. Drop me a postal or telephone  
and team will call.  
O. B. OLSEN  
Townsend Harbor, Mass.  
Telephone, Pepperell 59-12. 6m33

**MORTGAGEE'S SALE OF  
REAL ESTATE  
IN TOWNSEND, MASS.**

By virtue of a power of sale con-  
tained in a certain mortgage deed  
given by Clifford R. Keenan, of  
Townsend, in the County of Middle-  
sex, in the Commonwealth of Massa-  
chusetts, to Joel S. Cook, of said  
Townsend, dated November 23th, A.  
D. 1910, and recorded with Middlesex  
South District Deeds in book 3564,  
page 525, will be sold at Public Auction  
upon the premises hereinafter  
described on Monday, the first day  
of January A. D. 1912, at Ten o'clock  
in the forenoon, all and singular  
premises conveyed by said mortgage  
deed and therein described as fol-  
lows:

A certain piece or parcel of land  
with the buildings thereon, situated  
in the Easterly part of said Town-  
send, and on the Northerly side of  
the road, leading from the old Isaac  
Spaulding place to Townsend Har-  
bor, so called, bounded as follows,  
to wit:

"Beginning at a stone monument at  
the Southeasterly corner of the pre-  
mises and at a corner of land now or  
formerly of John M. Campbell on the  
northerly side of said road; thence  
northerly by said Campbell land ten  
rods to a stake and stones; thence  
Westerly by land now or formerly of  
Lucy C. Mitchell, sixteen rods to a  
stake and stones; thence southerly  
by said Mitchell land ten rods to said  
road; thence Easterly by said road  
to the bound first mentioned, contain-  
ing one acre of land be the same more  
or less."

Said premises will be sold subject  
to all unpaid taxes. Other terms  
made known at time and place of  
sale.  
15 JOEL S. COOK, Mortgagee.  
Townsend, Mass., Dec. 8th, 1911.

**WOMEN'S HAIR**

Easy to Make It Soft, Luxuriant and  
Radiant

Many women have hair so dull and  
faded that it is actually repulsive.  
These women have probably never  
heard of PARISIAN SAGE the invig-  
orating hair dressing that is being  
used by thousands of refined women  
throughout America.

If your hair is falling or thin or  
faded or lifeless; if you have dandruff  
or itching scalp; if your hair is not  
as fascinating as you would like to  
have it, go to William Brown's, Ayer,  
this very day, ask for a fifty-cent bot-  
tle of PARISIAN SAGE and start at  
once to make your hair perfect and  
even glorious.

PARISIAN SAGE is guaranteed to  
give satisfaction, or money back. Girl  
with Auburn hair on every carton.  
For sale by William Brown's, Ayer,  
and druggists everywhere.

**Buy your Christmas Turkey of the  
SHIRLEY CASH MARKET**  
McCarthy & Markham, Prop.  
DEALERS IN

**Meat and Provisions**  
Tel. Con. / SHIRLEY, MASS.  
Our cart will be in Ayer every Tues-  
day and Saturday.

**AT LOWEST PRICES**  
A FULL LINE OF  
**BLANKETS AND ROBES**

Stable and Street Blankets, Collars,  
Harnesses, Storm Covers and Whips  
never before offered at such prices at  
the Blacksmith shop of

**WM. E. WHEELER**  
Central Ave. Ayer, Mass.  
Phone, 74-3. Res. 78-4.

Carriages of all kinds repaired in a  
thorough manner, Rubber Tires Fur-  
nished, Carriage and Auto Painting  
and General Jobbing.

**HORSESHOEING A SPECIALTY**  
**COMPLY WITH THE LAW**  
**The Neverout**  
TRADE MARK

**PATENT LAMP**  
FOR CARRIAGES, WAGONS, Etc.

**THE NEVEROUT**  
Style No. 44  
Shows light  
front, rear and  
side.

Complies with  
the laws in the  
various States  
and Municipalities.

Guaranteed to  
positively stay  
lit. The Never-  
out has been  
for ten years,  
the world's  
standard; there-  
fore, you take  
no risk.

All styles and finishes of the celebrated  
NEVEROUT for sale by  
**L. SHERWIN & CO.**  
Ayer, Mass.

**FRANK S. BENNETT**  
Successor to ARTHUR FENNER  
Insurance Agent and Broker  
Main Street, Turner's Building  
AYER, MASS.

**EVAN P. WENTWORTH, D. M. D.**  
**BURT M. BRISTOL, D. M. D.**  
DENTISTS  
419 Boylston St.,  
Boston, Mass.  
Dr. Bristol, Boston, Mondays and Wed-  
nesdays.

**William R. Burns**  
INSURANCE  
Ayer, Mass.

**FLOWERS**  
For Every Occasion

**DESIGNS A SPECIALTY  
HARDY ORNAMENTAL  
PLANTS, TREES, SHRUBS**  
**H. HUEBNER**  
All Orders Given Prompt Attention  
GROTON, MASS.

**Greenhouse near Groton School**  
Telephone Connection  
**R. M. Erving**  
Foto Portraits  
PICTURE FRAMING  
25 Champaign Street Groton, Mass.



PEPPERELL.

Items of News.

Christmas services will be held on Sunday evening at seven o'clock at the Congregational church for the Sunday school. There will be a concert and Christmas tree.

The Oak Hill Improvement society will hold its Christmas tree on Saturday evening.

Lyman Blood and family of Oak Hill will go on Monday to spend Christmas with his brother in Townsend.

Mr. and Mrs. Rivers, of Cushing, Me., came to Pepperell on Monday on a surprise visit to their son, Donald Rivers and their daughter, Miss Olive Rivers.

On Tuesday, December 19, a son was born to Mr. and Mrs. James Attridge, and on Wednesday morning when some of his friends were congratulating him, Mr. Attridge said: "I had him out in the woodshed, this morning chopping wood."

J. I. Rowell accepted a ride in an auto on Monday, and in getting out tripped and hurt his knee.

The Manchester Unity have given the four settees that were loaned until the reading-room had run a year.

Miss Effie Merrill, of Boston, spends Christmas with Mr. and Mrs. Lucius Wilson.

Leroy Howe, of Westminster, has been visiting Mr. and Mrs. Calvin P. Lawrence, and left on Friday on his way to Harry Swallow's in Dunstable.

Mrs. P. F. Sullivan has purchased lumber and is to erect some hen-houses on her place in Groton.

Messrs. Atkinson and Kimball, of Rivers street, have had new chicken houses built, and each have their houses built on different lines.

Christmas Sunday services at the Unitarian church at 10.45 a. m. The Sunday school will assemble for the morning service and hold its own service at noon. A Christmas vesper service of song will be held at 6.30 in the evening, with hymns by a chorus choir and a short address by Rev. D. R. Child, who will speak on "The three wise men." A welcome is extended to all in the spirit of Xmas.

The Christian festival of the Unitarian Sunday school and friends will be held in the vestry on Thursday evening, December 28, at 7.30 o'clock.

A. H. Harris and brother-in-law, Horace Patterson, of South Merrimack, N. H., attended the poultry show in New York on Tuesday.

Mrs. Alice Tabor, of Augusta, Me., has been the guest of her sister, Mrs. H. A. Drury, the past week.

Vernon C. Grant is spending Christmas week vacation with his parents in Boston.

The annual meeting of the L. B. S. of the Congregational church will be held on Thursday, December 28, at 2.30 o'clock. A supper will be served to members of the society.

Mrs. Harry Wentworth has returned from a short visit in Boston.

Mrs. David Hills, of Brookline street, has been at Harry Lawrence's, where there is several cases of measles.

Wesley Gillespie and family of Lynn, are spend the holidays with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Wellington Gillespie, of the South road.

Charles A. Dennen, Walter Shattuck, Mr. and Mrs. James Starr and Miss Sadie Tucker arrived home from Worcester last week Thursday evening, where they had been in attendance at the state grange.

There is quite an epidemic of measles in town at present.

Those examining the snow of the last left in the woods, found that it was nearly covered with snow fleas.

Rev. Dudley R. Child's home was lighted by electricity for the first time on Tuesday.

The schools closed last week Friday for a two-weeks' vacation.

The report of the union meeting of the Young People's Religious societies held at the Unitarian church on Sunday, December 3, was lost, but the effort should be noted, and it is but just to say that the services were good and that there was an attentive audience, and was fully as large as was expected. It was suggested that the meeting be followed up by others at the other churches.

It is reported that there is soon to be a meeting of delegates from every society of the town to discuss "A better Pepperell."

The early winter has been remarkably free from disease, and the weather has been almost semi-tropical. Many of the farmers have been plowing in the middle of December.

Those persons interested in the Pomona grange should not fail to bear in mind that this year the Pomona day is changed, and the first meeting at Fitchburg will be on Thursday, January 18.

Death.

Frederick H. Lawrence, the baby son of Mr. and Mrs. Harry Lawrence, of Nashua road, died on Tuesday morning at five o'clock. The funeral was held at the house on Wednesday afternoon, Rev. R. W. Drawbridge officiating. There were many flowers, a beautiful pillow from the parents, spray of carnations from Mr. and Mrs. Pierce, spray of cut flowers from Mr. and Mrs. Fred Reed of Nashua, N. H., cut flowers, Mr. and Mrs. J. A. Lawrence, sweet peas from children, and three bunches of sweet peas from friends.

One of the saddest thoughts are that the entire family were ill and the other children were just recovering from the measles and the mother was sick in bed. Loving sympathy is extended to the entire family.

Tuft's College Glee and Mandolin Clubs. Tuft's college has always been proud of its Glee clubs since it has the reputation of being the best of its kind in New England, excepting none. The remarkable success of the clubs is due to the system of coaching which has been employed there for many years, and to the exceptional ability of Prof. Leo Lewis, a man of world-wide fame.

In musical circles. Since his return from Munich university, Prof. Lewis has devoted practically all his time to the development of the musical interests of Tuft college, and it is extremely doubtful if there is another man in this country so capable of developing a male choir or Glee club as is Prof. Lewis.

About forty concerts are given by the clubs each season. Concerts are given all over New England and even outside of New England. Concerts were given as far west as Chicago last season. This year the clubs are booked for concerts in New York, Boston, more, Washington, New Orleans and several other large southern cities. The feature this year's program is the "Jumbo cantata," a Tuft's song written in honor of P. T. Barnum's greatest elephant on earth. When Jumbo died he was installed in the Barnum museum at Tuft's by his owner, who was a trustee of the college. In this number one of the most enjoyable features is Mr. Scott's humorous rendition of the baritone solo and the reading. Mr. Scott has proved a valuable man for the clubs as a reader. Although a young man he has already won distinction as a public orator and lecturer, he being an undergraduate in the theological department.

The entire numbers of the clubs are always very popular since much attention is given to the selection and perfection of these as to the leading numbers. This year's soloists are Messrs. Marble and Street, tenors; Messrs. Wood Scott, Page and Lamont, baritone, and the quartet is composed of Messrs. Marble, Brigham, Wood and Lamont. A treat is in store for all who plan to see and hear the clubs on December 26, at Prescott hall. Much attention is given to the humorous side of the concert. In fact there will be an abundance of music and fun. Don't miss it.

GROTON.

News Items.

A special meeting of the Improvement society for Wednesday afternoon, December 27, at 3.30, at the home of Mrs. George Blood on Main street.

Miss Frances Ready, who is still at the Carney hospital, Boston, is slowly recovering from the effects of the operation which she underwent.

James F. D. Garfield, a well-known citizen of Fitchburg, died in that city on December 14. He was born at Langdon, N. H., on August 14, 1828, from the year 1852 to 1860, he owned the Fitchburg Sentinel, one of the leading papers of the state, and he was one of the prime movers that formed the Fitchburg Historical society. He received his early education at Lawrence academy, having attended school there more than sixty years ago.

Miss Gladys Mason and Miss Marion Blood closed their schools in Pepperell last week Friday for a two-weeks' vacation.

John Moyle, Jr., is home from Amherst Agricultural on his vacation. He is assisting at H. P. Tainter's store.

Friday evening, December 15, the Middlesex Rebekah lodge, met for election of officers with the following results:

Mrs. Mary D. Boynton, p. g.; Mrs. Blanche M. Brown, v. g.; Mrs. Effie V. Harrington, r. sec.; Miss Carlissa Coburn, f. sec.; Miss Lois Wright, treas.

The children of the Groton Sewing school were given their annual Christmas party last Saturday afternoon from 2.30 to four o'clock. The exercises opened with singing. The distribution of presents—dolls, children's tea-sets, jewel cases, etc.—from the tree made happy hearts and smiling faces. Dancing was enjoyed and ice cream and cake were welcome refreshments. It was a very pretty party.

Groton School employees were given a Christmas party at the gymnasium on Wednesday evening with musical entertainment by the students. The tree bore plentiful fruit, which was distributed by Santa Claus.

Mrs. Fanny Harrington is at Moore's store afternoons, waiting on customers, and Miss Florence Roache is an occasional extra hand there, helping out during the holiday rush.

Miss Lillian Robinson, being out of health, has returned to her home at South Fairlee, Vt. She expects to return to her studies at the Groton high school and her home here at her aunt's, Mrs. Minnie Moore, after the holiday vacation.

The high, grammar and intermediate schools closed this week Friday for the two-weeks' vacation.

Mr. and Mrs. James Lawrence, according to their annual custom, entertained the Groton School boys and the masters and their families at their residence on Thursday evening. This is an event of Christmas-tide always looked forward to with keen anticipations of enjoyment by the school.

Mr. Sheehan, of Westford, is getting his portable saw mill in readiness to move to Wayland. The sawed boards are being teamed away this week. This is from the woodlot which F. O. Dutton cut off and bought of J. L. Gilson.

Mr. Trayne's sister, Mrs. John E. Carey, is doing nicely at the hospital, and her children are staying at Mr. Trayne's house.

Mrs. Maud E. Trayne has returned from the hospital, where she went under an operation eight weeks ago.

James Dunphy, who was operated on for appendicitis on December 10, is to return home for Christmas.

Miss Mary Woods sat up on Friday for the first time since her recent operation.

Miss Helen MacCherlie is at home for the holidays, and Mrs. MacCherlie will spend a few days with out-of-town friends.

Harold Hamblett Woods and Carl A. P. Lawrence came home on Thursday from Dartmouth college.

Vesper Service.

At the vesper service to be held in the Unitarian church on Sunday at five o'clock, the following program will be given:

- Prelude, violin and organ. Handel Solo and chorus, "Jerusalem." Gounod Solo and chorus, "Hark, hark my soul." Shelley Solo, "Old English carol." Adam Trio, "O holy night." Handel Pastoral symphony from "Messiah." Violin and organ. Ring out wild bells. Gounod Organ postlude, "Hallelujah chorus" from "Messiah." Handel Those taking part are: Miss Ruth Gerrish, Miss Hazel Gibson, Miss Genevieve Hodgman, Mrs. David Gibson, Miss Gertrude Gerrish, Mrs. Fred Mansur, Miss Ruth Rockwood, Miss Lillian Tuttle, Everett Gerrish, George Hodgman,

Wyman Gibson, Dr. Arthur Kilbourn, Fred Mansur, violinist. The music is under the direction of Miss Lowe, organist.

Death.

Mrs. Shelby Sawyer spent Thanksgiving and several succeeding days at the home of her sister, Mrs. Burton Potter, and family, at Worcester. Soon after her return to Groton she received the sad and sudden news of the death of her granddaughter, Miss Bertha Sawyer, at Winchendon. Her daughter, Mrs. Alice Sawyer French, having heard the sad tidings, came up on Tuesday from her home in Westbrook, Me., and with her mother, attended the funeral at Winchendon on Wednesday, December 13. After the funeral, Mrs. French came back with her mother to Groton, but soon returned to her own home in Maine.

Entered.

The office of the American Express company was entered sometime between Tuesday night and Wednesday morning. As the police was at the station as late as 11.30, it must have occurred after that time. The thief or thieves made the entrance by unlocking the door with a key that somehow, they knew would fit all right. They went through the bundles, mostly packages of Christmas presents, and took property estimated in value from thirty to thirty-five dollars. It is thought to be the same person, probably one of a gang, who attempted an entrance through the station door one night a short time ago. At that time the attempt failed, the key breaking off in the lock.

West Groton.

Mr. and Mrs. F. L. Blood and family expect to be with relatives in Fitchburg over Christmas.

Miss Ruth Humiston, coming on Friday of last week, remained until Saturday at the home of her grandmother, Mrs. Martha Tarbell. Her sister, Miss Helen Humiston, arrived on Saturday, staying until the following Monday. These young ladies were on their way to their home in East Jaffrey for the holidays, and a rest from their duties in Bates college.

The report, current here last week, of the death of Mrs. Joseph Lucia, was not authentic, so far as the identity of the person was concerned. Another Mrs. Lucia, of Fitchburg, was the subject of the newspaper report that gave rise to the rumor mentioned last week. We are glad to hear that Mrs. Lucia, late of this village, so far as known, is in her usual health.

Those of our people who remember Herman Gilchrist, when as a boy, he attended school here as a ward of Lewis Williams, will be sorry to learn of the sad loss he has sustained this week in the death of his only son. The decease of this young lad of eighteen, of pulmonary tuberculosis, at Rutland sanitarium, was an unexpected blow, as, until within a very short time, his recovery was looked for. Mr. Gilchrist is now childless, the only daughter dying several years ago.

Mrs. George G. Harrington and children are visiting out-of-town relatives.

Mrs. John Carey returned from Groton hospital on Wednesday.

The Misses May and Inez Briggs, teachers at Pike and East Haverrill, N. H., respectively, were guests of their sister-in-law, Mrs. Percy Briggs, on Friday of last week; also, visiting both rooms of the Tarbell school.

Mr. and Mrs. Gerald Flewelling, coming on Sunday afternoon, were entertained until Monday noon at the home of A. H. Thompson.

Born at Shattuck farm, December 11, a son to Mr. and Mrs. Francis Hayes.

Mrs. G. S. Webber spent Wednesday and Thursday at her parents' home in Groton.

The L. A. society held its last regular meeting of the year on Thursday afternoon with Mrs. John Young, Mrs. A. W. Lamb and Miss Bertha Bixby entertained with readings during the half hour devoted to the literary program.

At their regular meeting on Thursday evening, the members of Squannacook lodge, I. O. O. F., M. U., welcomed to their lodge as fellow members, all who were able to be present of Oak lodge of Pepperell, recently dissolved.

A Christmas tree, bearing its usual holiday fruit, will gladden the hearts of the little people on Saturday evening at the hall. The entertainment is in charge of Miss Bixby, Miss Sylvia Lawrence and Miss Lillian Harrington.

Electric lights have been installed in Squannacook hall. It is understood that the work is completed, and the lights are ready for use.

Those in charge of the water supply have taken advantage of the unusually warm weather to push the work with all possible speed. Ledges and boulders have made considerable blasting necessary. Work is progressing on the standpipe, the pipes are nearly laid on Bixby street, and excavations are well under way on Main street.

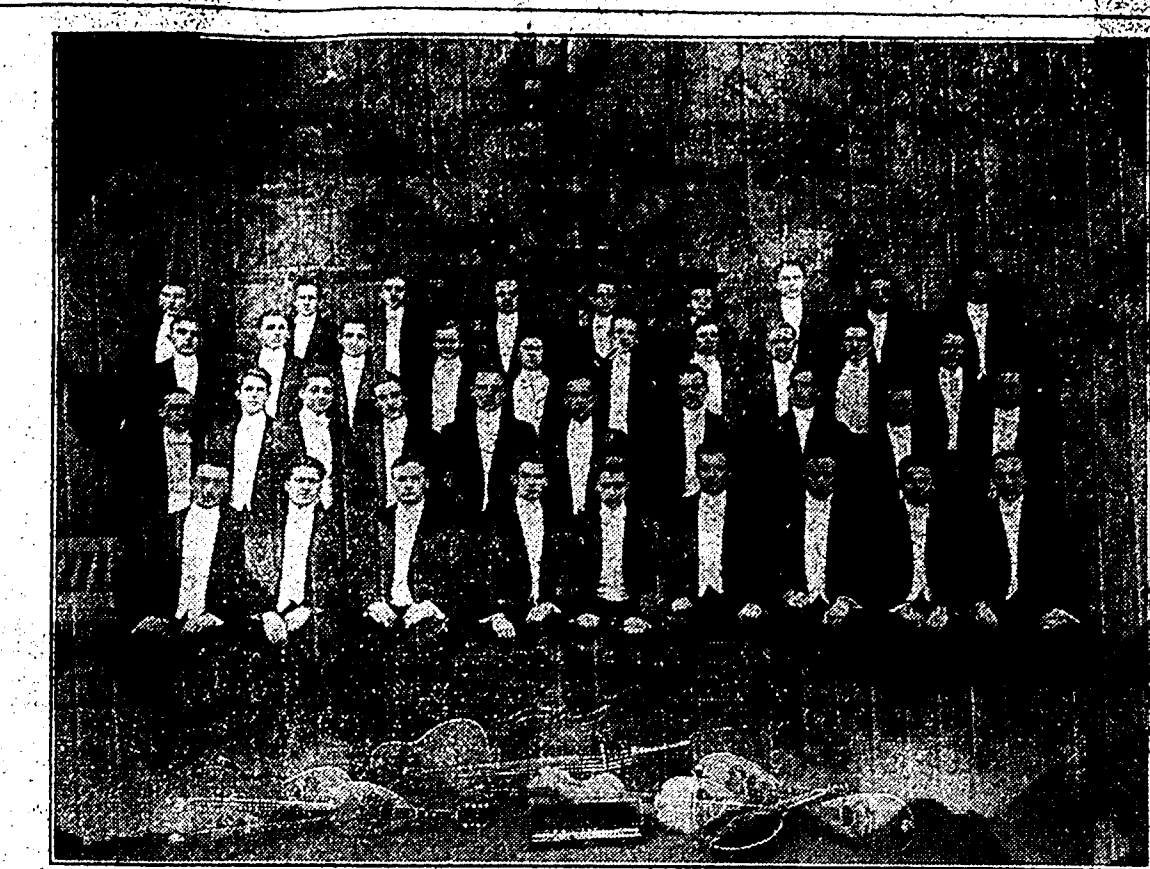
M. F. McGowan was the loser, last Sunday night of goods amounting to about twenty-five or thirty dollars in value. The thief entered by means of a window and helped himself to whatever suited his fancy, cigars, shoes, neckties, etc.

The Misses Olive Tarbell, of Brookline, and Esther Jarvis, of Fitchburg, are expected home for the holidays.

Entertainment.

Our well-known blacksmith, L. G. Strand, was initiated by proxy into the up-to-date order of Goozie Girls in Squannacook hall on Friday evening of last week. The water supply company below, and the more than generous supply from above, did their united best to make traveling an impossibility. Nevertheless, a good audience greeted the entertainers. The first part of the entertainment consisted of songs by Mrs. A. W. Lamb, Miss Susie Hill, accompanist, and xylophone solos by Raymond Sleeper, with piano accompaniment by Mrs. Wiggins.

The play, Goozie Girls, followed, and was greatly enjoyed. The local



TUFT'S COLLEGE GLEE AND MANDOLIN CLUBS

hits were appreciated, causing considerable merriment. Mrs. E. K. Harrington, in her role of Majestic Mighty Goose, successfully carried out a difficult part in her usual animated manner. The Misses Nellie Harrington and Elsie Tarbell were attractive as Most Worthy Propeller and Most Exalted Assistant, respectively, and by them the candidate, Andrew Blood, was propelled through the various feats incidental to a mock initiation. He sang, recited, climbed a greased pole, walked a tight rope, sat (2) on the seat of honor, and lastly rode the goat. His efforts to do, and not to do, were strenuous, but he survived to be congratulated on his good work.

Mrs. M. E. Williams, as Shining Majestic Boodletaker, caused many ripples of merriment. Miss Lillian Harrington, as Mother Goose, queen of the order, both looked and acted the part, and Miss Ruth Mellish, a captivating gosling, sang her "little song" in a very pleasing manner. Others taking part were: Mrs. F. L. Blood, high and mighty piano pounder; Mrs. John Young, worthy and admired refreshment committee; Miss Sylvia Lawrence, keeper of goat; Mrs. C. T. Spaulding, soining serene recorder.

The costumes of all concerned were beyond description, and need to be seen to have their beauty and style, especially the fit, appreciated. The committee in charge were Mrs. C. L. Roy and Miss K. A. Tarbell.

SHIRLEY.

An interesting and well attended meeting was held at the home of Mrs. E. J. Miller on Thursday afternoon, December 14. Three new members were voted in at this meeting and other business was transacted. The topic of the afternoon was "The story of Arcadia," which was told by Miss Agnes M. Holden, who held the close attention of her hearers as in simple, but dignified language she unrolled the fascinating story of an unfortunate people who lived and loved and trusted, but were finally driven into the heartbreaking exile which Longfellow has immortalized in his poem. A social hour followed, during which the hostess served refreshments.

HARVARD.

The sale held by the Alliance on Saturday afternoon and evening was well patronized. The proceeds will be about twenty-six dollars.

Still River.

Friday evening, December 23, there will be a social at the vestry, which will consist of the play "At the Junction." The cast of characters are Chester Willard, Fannie Haskell, Walter Haskell and Warren Harrod. Ice cream and cake will be for sale.

Sunday evening there will be a Christmas concert with an interesting program. The Christmas tree will be Saturday evening.

Malcolm Campbell is at home from Amherst for the holiday season.

Miss Alice Marshall has visited friends and relatives in Somerville and West Newton this week.

The household goods of James Nolan were shipped to Chicopee on Tuesday, as he is now working there, and has not had his family here for a couple of months.

Miss Nellie Neyland, of Boston, is visiting her parents, Mr. and Mrs. John Neyland.

Saturday evening some miscreant threw a stone through one of the windows of the Fairchild house. The blinds were closed and the stone went through both blind and glass. It was a piece of work that deserves severe punishment to the one who did the job. The house is closed for the winter, as the Fairchilds are spending the winter at their home in Rutherford, N. J.

LITTLETON.

News Items.

The subject at the morning sermon at the Congregational church tomorrow will be "Good will." There will be special music by the choir. In the evening there will be a scripture and musical service with a short address by the pastor. The musical part of the service will include solos, a trio and chorus.

A son was born on Saturday, December 16, to Mr. and Mrs. Parker Ogilvie.

P. S. Whitcomb is confined to the house on account of illness.

Miss Jackson, of Leominster, spent last Sunday at G. H. Barker's.

George A. Gardner and family of New Bedford, have arrived at J. H. Whitcomb's for the holidays.

Miss Dorothy Blodgett, of Wellesley college, and Miss Gladys Wilde, of Simmons college, are at home for vacation.

Elmer Canney and family, of Cambridge, and Roy Canney, of New York, will spend Christmas with their parents, Mr. and Mrs. George W. Canney. Prof. Warren Green's dancing lesson will be omitted next Tuesday, and one week from that date the new term will begin.

It is reported that Clifton Flagg's horse has been found in Princeton, but the harness, buggy, laprobe and coats have not been heard from. Mr. Flagg started at once for Princeton to claim his property, but at time of writing had not returned home.

Mrs. Packard was called suddenly to Roxbury this week on account of the serious illness of an aunt.

Gladys Kimball has passed the examinations at St. Luke's hospital, New Bedford, and entered up the regular training for nurses. She spends her first vacation of two days at her home today and tomorrow.

Rev. H. B. Drew and Miss Hazel M. Wood were married in the Second Presbyterian church of Roanoke, Va., Tuesday evening, December 19, afterwards holding a large reception at the bride's home. Their wedding trip took them south of Roanoke for a few days. They return to Dr. Woods' for Christmas, and shortly afterwards leave for their new home in New Bedford, where Mr. Drew is engaged in immigration work as secretary for the Y. M. C. A.

Miss Ruth Prescott spent Sunday at Cushing academy, Ashburnham.

The Italians, who have been digging the trench and laying pipe for the public water works, have practically completed their work for this season and are leaving town.

George A. Cook is removing the shingles from his buildings and substituting a fire-proof roofing of asbestos and cement.

Rev. P. J. Sheedy, of Ayer, will hold a service in the town hall on Christmas morning at ten o'clock.

The grange observed Christmas Wednesday night by having a tree which contained a gift for everyone present, and for Mr. and Mrs. Henry Works, a substantial wedding remembrance. Decorations of red tissue bells and other red and green paper ornaments added much to the tone of festivity. The debate scheduled for the evening did not materialize, but Richard T. Barrows, master, gave an interesting account of the state grange meetings recently held in Worcester.

Conant Company are running an auto express between their stores.

Christmas Guests.

Mr. and Mrs. D. G. Houghton entertain as their Christmas guests, Dr. and Mrs. Herbert Priest, of Groton, and Mrs. Houghton's sister from Barre, Mr. and Mrs. Henry Reed and Mr. and Mrs. Boynton, of Westford.

Mr. A. W. Knowlton and son Heywood go to Woburn for Christmas. Edward W. Stone will join his family at New Bedford. Hon. G. W. Sanderlin will gather about his fireside his children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren to the number of twenty-seven, and entertain about four other friends.

Mr. and Mrs. Everett Kimball extend their hospitality to the Allen Kimball family, including some over twenty. Douglass Whitcomb and family will join a large family party in Lexington. Mr. and Mrs. Elmar A. Flagg receive their sister, Mrs. Wheeler, and family of Stow, as Christmas guests. Mrs. Frank Hill and three youngest children plan to visit her people in South Portland, Me., on Christmas.

Funeral.

The funeral of Mrs. Samuel Reed, Jr., was held last Saturday afternoon at Fred C. Reed's home on Great road, not on Thursday, as reported in last week's issue. The services were attended by many relatives and friends, among them the father and a brother of the deceased from Maine. There were many beautiful flowers.

Pillow, marked "Wife," Samuel Reed, Jr., sprays of pinks, Mrs. M. A. Boynton and daughter; father and brothers Mrs. E. S. Mose and family; spray of roses, Mr. and Mrs. George H. Votter; pillow, I. O. O. F. M. U. Lodge; spray of pinks, Mr. and Mrs. H. J. Sewler; Mrs. A. H. Coombs and family; Mr. and Mrs. E. L. Boynton; Mr. and Mrs. James Crowley; basket of flowers, Mr. and Mrs. F. C. Reed.

Lyceum.

A small, but appreciative audience was present at the Lyceum on Tuesday evening. The speaker, Prof. Malloy, of the State Normal school, Lowell, was introduced by the president, Rev. O. J. Fairfield, in the latter's usual happy manner.

Prof. Malloy's address on "Daniel O'Connell," represented the famous Irish statesman as the spirit incarnate of democracy that taught the value of peaceful agitation. The speaker marveled that the rising generation knows so little of the great Irish liberator, whose life presents a grand ideal to hold before the youth of America.

The next and last entertainment in the lyceum course will be furnished by home talent. The committee is not prepared to state definitely the date and character of that entertainment.

Repairs Needed.

Holes in the edge of the sidewalk on King street near the old harness shop have been made by some person or persons—doubtless schoolboys—who either little realize or care about the danger thus made for the walking public. As there are no street lights this season, it is absolutely impossible in the night time to know just where these dangerous spots are, unless one carries a light of some kind. Many people who come to town on the evening train make use of this sidewalk and ought to be assured of a safe stepping place. Perhaps the town authorities will have the kindness once more to make repairs, but their patience must have a limit, and it may not be a bad idea for the parents to impress the youths with the grave possibilities likely to result from what seems to them but an expression of innocent fun. This warning and the suggestion that accompanies it are given only in the spirit of kindness and for the safety of all who must walk to or from the station after dark.

TOWNSEND.

Christmas Sale.

The Christmas sale, supper and entertainment given at the M. E. church on Wednesday afternoon and evening was well patronized. The hall decorations had a color scheme of red, white and green, and much work was put in trimming the posts and sides of the hall. This was done by Mrs. Richard Hargreaves. The sale began at three o'clock, and there were quilts, aprons, fancy work, handkerchiefs, home-made candy and ice cream for sale. The various booths looked very pretty and were decorated with evergreen and crepe paper. The supper was in charge of Mrs. Mary E. Taylor and Mrs. Lucy Lawrence and the tables were bountifully spread with all kinds of good things, and had to be re-set several times to accommodate those wishing supper. The following program was given in the evening:

- Piano duet, Mrs. Woods and Mrs. Guinn Ladies' trio, "Bright star of love" Harmonica duet. Mrs. R. M. Cowdrey and C. A. Hodgman Farce, "A blind attachment." Cant of characters. Mrs. Phillips. Mrs. Ica Cowdrey Mary Phillips, Miss Hazel Marshall Miss Minnie Fogdick. Mrs. Florence Guinn Mrs. Elton Christy. Miss Ivora Sprink Mrs. Fogarty. Miss Esther Eastman Harmonica duet. Ladies' Trio, "The runaway goose" Pantomime. Wibur H. Scates Entertainment. "Charity Higgins' vocal organ." Charity Higgins, Mrs. Eva Cook

Death. Mrs. Berley Blood, formerly of this town, died suddenly on Tuesday morning at the home of her son, W. F. Blood, of Derry, N. H. Mrs. Blood suffered from acute heart disease and was sick only a few hours. The body was brought to Townsend on the afternoon train on Thursday, and the funeral was held at the home of Mrs. Lizzie Hildreth, where Mrs. Blood stayed of late years, when in town, Rev. A. L. Struthers, officiating.

Mrs. Blood was seventy years of age and leaves besides the son with whom she was staying, a daughter, Mrs. Annie Gay, of Salem, a sister, Mrs. Alonzo Scoble, of this town, and a brother, George Hildreth, also of this town. Interment was in the family lot.

New Advertisements.

CARD OF THANKS.

I wish to thank all the kind friends, the Odd Fellows in particular, who have expressed their sympathy for me in my bereavement, and their esteem for my beloved wife through comforting messages and many beautiful floral tributes. SAMUEL REED, Jr. Littleton, December 23, 1911.