

TURNER'S PUBLIC SPIRIT.

Forty-Fourth Year

Ayer, Mass., Saturday, December 30, 1911.

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State Lib.

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TOWNSEND.

Townsend Harbor.

Little Ruth Stearns, of the Center, is ill with scarlet fever at her grandfather's, S. J. Stearns'. Dr. Ely is in attendance.

Mr. Josselyn, accompanied by his son Louis made a business trip to Boston, the latter part of last week.

Mrs. Charles Warner has so far recovered from her recent illness as to sit up a few hours each day.

Miss Myrtle Gray has received the appointment of teacher of the Harbor school.

Willard Gray, who has been a victim of the grippe for the past few days, is nearly recovered.

Mrs. Josselyn went to Boston on Thursday for the week-end.

Miss Mary Cruikshank returned on Wednesday from visiting friends in Boston.

Mrs. Oliver Proctor spent the earlier part of the week at her son's, E. O. Proctor, of Ayer.

Mr. and Mrs. Stephen Keefe went to Seltuate last Saturday to visit friends, returning home on Tuesday noon.

Mrs. Adney Gray, with her daughter, Miss Myrtle and little son Ellis, recently visited in Boston.

Mrs. Pierce spent last Saturday in Boston.

Mrs. Oliver Proctor, Miss Mary Cruikshank and G. A. Proctor, were Christmas guests at E. O. Proctor's, Ayer.

Mr. and Mrs. Steward, of Porto Rico, who are making their headquarters at Mr. Bagley's returned from a week's visit in Cambridge last Wednesday evening.

A pet dog belonging to one of the families in this vicinity was found dead in a snare a few days ago, another victim of scented bait. Unfortunately the smaller domestic animals are lured by the seemingly tempting morsels as well as the foxes and other wild game.

The Farrar house is being renovated and later will be occupied by Mr. and Mrs. Stephen Keefe.

The Christmas entertainment held at the Harbor hall drew a large attendance and reflected great credit on the committee of arrangements. Supper was served at six o'clock, followed by exercises appropriate for the occasion. At 8.30, Santa Claus appeared much to the delight of the younger people, nor was he lacking in generosity in response to their happy welcome. Games and a social closed the evening's program.

Mrs. E. C. Spaulding, of Hotel Brunswick, of Boston, called on her niece, Mrs. Emma Josselyn, the first of the week, coming in her new Peerless Limousine. Mrs. Spaulding was accompanied by her daughter.

The As You Like It club held its last meeting at Fairview farm with Mrs. Morgan as hostess. An attractive program, consisting largely of music, was happily rendered. Mrs. Adney Gray was chosen lecturer for the ensuing month. Following the serving of refreshments, the meeting adjourned.

Mrs. Knight and her mother, Mrs. Fletcher, are visiting in New York city. They will return by way of Greenfield, to visit Mr. Fletcher's brother-in-law, Henry Fletcher.

On Wednesday, Frank Knight visited his brother, Maitland Knight, who last week underwent a severe surgical operation at the Lowell General hospital. Although Mr. Knight found his brother in a critical condition, he entertains hopes of his recovery.

Among the Christmas guests in this vicinity were Miss Mary and Joe Worcester at Mrs. P. B. Adams'; Mr. and Mrs. Wharf at Frank Conant's; Miss Evangeline Taft at her parents'; Miss Marion Dana at her aunt's; Mrs. A. D. Cooper; Miss Anne Hager at her parents'; Ray Smith at Adney Gray's; Miss Melora and Lillian Warner at their parents'; Miss Blanche Baldwin and Isabel Ewans at Mrs. Baldwin's; Miss Ellen Harvey at her parents';

Mrs. Bailey and daughter at Mr. Bagley's.

HARVARD.

News Items.

Visiting this week with O. A. Fairbank, is his cousin, I. E. Green, of Lowell, now the New England representative of the Thomas A. Edison, Inc., Electric Heating and Lighting Company. He is installing a lighting plant at the town hall, Harvard, under Mr. Edison's new system at an estimated cost of installing about five hundred dollars.

On last Saturday, Michael McMahan's house on West Bare hill was broken into by two young men claiming South Boston as their place of residence. So far as can be found, nothing but food was taken. The young men went toward Ayer, and on Constable Hanna's tip they were arrested there. Mr. Hanna later went for them, and on Sunday morning they were taken to Clinton. They were up before Judge Smith on Tuesday and were held for the grand jury.

E. J. McLaughlin is in Maine this week on a combined business and pleasure trip.

On Monday, January 1, the ladies of the Orthodox society will serve their regular new year's dinner to the parish. All interested are invited to meet as usual and to contribute to the table. Reception to Rev. and Mrs. H. B. Mason, and a general social time will be the features of the afternoon.

The annual meeting of the Harvard Complimentary club was held on last week Thursday and the following officers elected:

A. H. Bigelow, pres.; P. O. Dickson, v. p.; A. H. Turner, treas.; J. E. Maynard, sec.; committee for ball—music, A. H. Bigelow, W. J. Kerley; arrangement and clothing, W. F. Dickson, Henry Dickson; printing, J. E. Maynard; supper, W. P. Farwell, H. F. Whitney, C. L. Russell; George C. Maynard, floor dir.; H. H. Gale, door keeper; Mr. and Mrs. A. H. Bigelow, Mr. and Mrs. W. H. Fairbank, Mr. and Mrs. H. H. Gale, Mr. and Mrs. George T. Gale, Mr. and Mrs. A. H. Turner, Mr. and Mrs. W. P. Farwell, Mr. and Mrs. H. F. Whitney, Mr. and Mrs. W. B. Willard, reception.

Schools re-open on Monday for the winter term, and Bromfield opens on Wednesday.

The teachers of the Center school gave a party to their pupils on last Saturday afternoon at the town hall from 1.30 to 3.30. The young people report a very pleasant time. They played games, feasted on ice cream and fancy crackers, and had a general good time. Miss Reid furnished music at the piano.

Mrs. A. C. Sawyer, who has been very ill with bronchial pneumonia, has now passed the critical point in her case and is convalescing. Miss Hanley, a trained nurse from Boston, has had charge of her case. Mrs. Frank M. Hynes also continues to improve.

Miss Catherine Hazard is visiting this week with friends in Boston.

Miss Sarah L. Jones is enjoying her week's vacation from school with relatives in Worcester.

Mrs. B. I. Goldsmith is enjoying this week a visit from her son William, who is enlisted in the U. S. navy, connected with the crew of the U. S. Battleship North Dakota.

Mrs. Mary Waters entertained over Christmas her daughters, Miss Mable Waters, of Hudson, Miss Katherine, of Fitchburg, and her son, Thomas Waters, of Boston.

Page Edmonds, of Watertown, spent Christmas day with friends here in town.

Mrs. H. B. Royal and Ellery Royal started on Monday last for a week's visit with friends in Albany, N. Y. During her absence Kent Royal, who is home from Colby college, is serving in the capacity of head cook.

Mr. and Mrs. Frank Gale, of Providence, R. I., were here over the holidays with Mr. and Mrs. George T. Gale.

Mr. and Mrs. Harry Atwood, of Fitchburg, spent Sunday and Monday with H. H. Gale and family.

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Fletcher Brothers never had a better line of Winter Clothing. We handle the celebrated

Hart Schaffner & Marx

Goods, made not only to look well but to wear well. We also have a complete stock of Hats, Caps, Shoes, and everything in the Gents' Furnishing-line at prices that will please you. No trouble to show goods.

Fletcher Bros. AYER - MASS.

Opposite Depot

Prof. A. F. Leonard and family spent a portion of this week with relatives in Cotuit.

The invitations are out for the annual ball given by the Harvard Complimentary club. The party is to be given on Thursday evening, January 4. Music will be given by Hibbard's orchestra, seven pieces. Supper will be furnished by the ladies of the Unitarian society.

The family of Thomas F. Dolan are here for this week at their summer residence on Oak hill.

Earle Turner is home this week from the M. I. T., Boston.

Death.

John McDade, of this town, who recently bought the farm property of Harrison Goding, and moved with his family there, died at his home on Sunday last, death resulting from the effects of a shock. Mr. McDade was a resident here several years ago, owning at that time the farm known as the Ellis Wetherbee farm. He sold it, going to Maine in the lumber business. He returned to town this summer and bought the Goding farm, where he died.

Burial services was from St. Mary's church, Ayer, on Tuesday. He leaves a widow and two sons. He was a very capable business man, respected by his fellow townsmen, whose sympathies are extended at this time to his family in their bereavement.

Christmas Exercises.

The Orthodox Sunday school observed Christmas with a tree and appropriate exercises on Saturday evening at the church vestry at 7.30. William Hanna, very acceptably played the role of Santa Claus. The children presented the following program:

Prelude, Miss Pollard; song, school; scripture reading, Martin Hazard; song, school; exercises, "Come to the manger," four girls; recitation, Raymond Kinsman; song, school; scripture reading, Lizzie Rockwell; song response, "The Eden Houghton"; "Christmas carol," Carrie Houghton; Rachel Ryan; reading, "A great saving," Madeline Parker; reading, selected, Grace Tewksbury; recitations by Junior class, Robert Goodearl, Leon Hazard, Marquis Houghton, Leslie Davis, Carrie Hazard, Henry Mason.

Following the program, the two trees trimmed with candies and presents were stripped and a general social time indulged in.

Christmas was commemorated at the Unitarian church on Sunday, the services at the tree following directly after the morning service. The services opened at 10.45, Rev. George Jones, pastor, officiating. With the seating capacity of the auditorium taxed to the utmost, the people listened to the opening exercises, which was followed by a tenor solo beautifully rendered by H. A. Thayer. His response followed the prayer. Miss Mildred Sanders gave an appropriate soprano selection also, very artistically rendered. After the regular church service, the members of the Sunday school gave a short program as follows: Reading, Evelyn King; recitation, Eula Whitney; piano duet, Dorothy West and Beryl Bigelow; readings, Josephine Baker, Elsie Knight, Mildred Fairbank.

Remarks were made by Rev. George Jones, and the boxes and presents were then distributed. The Sunday school presented Mr. Jones with a very nice leather traveling bag. The exercises closed with a song by the school.

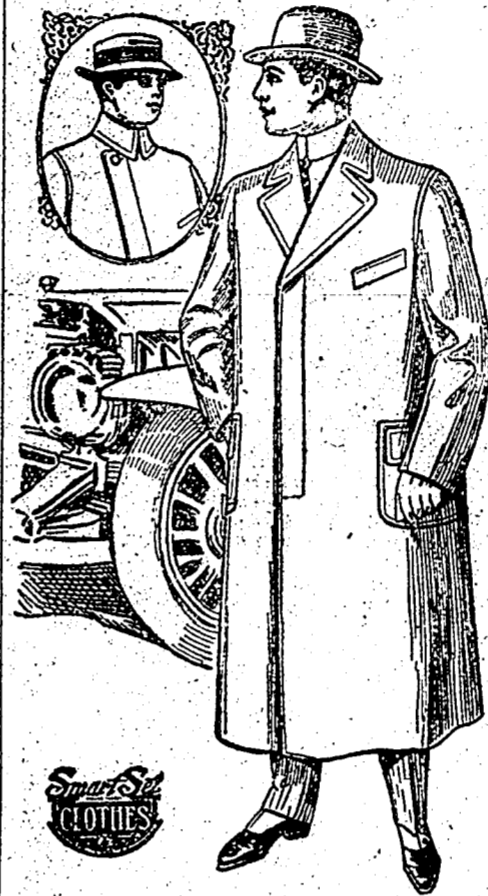
Still River.

On Saturday evening there was a pleasant gathering at the vestry for the annual Christmas tree, not as many being out as usual, but those there seemed to enjoy themselves. There were presents for everyone, and some of the jokes caused much merriment. On Sunday evening there was a concert in the church, a program furnished by the Baptist Missionary society being used.

Among the visitors for Christmas and the week we note Mr. and Mrs. John T. Kenney and Miss Nellie and Miss Agnes Joyce, of Boston, at the home of their mother, Mrs. Bridget Joyce; Misses Minnie, Grace and Edith Farnsworth, of Boston, Malden and Springfield, at the home of their parents, Mr. and Mrs. M. A. Farnsworth; Mrs. Haynes, of Boston, at Mr. and Mrs. W. W. Viles; Hubert Robinson and friend, of Fitchburg, at his parents, Mr. and Mrs. A. W. Robinson; Warren K. Harrod, of Worcester, with Mr. and Mrs. H. R. Harrod; Mr. and Mrs. Williams, and Mr. and Mrs. Newgent, of Worcester, at Mr. and Mrs. L. H. Morse's.

Fred W. and Miss Eliza A. Bateman have been visiting their brother, Luther H. Bateman, in Arlington this week.

Miss Katherine L. Lawrence spent Christmas day with her sister, Mrs. Annie M. Clark, at Manchester.



Geo. F. Brown
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Every man will find here an Overcoat that will be sure to please him. We have the Regular Overcoat with the Regular Collars, and the Long, Full Overcoats with the new Convertible Collars.

If you are at all particular about your Overcoat, come to the store that sells the best Overcoats made. Our Overcoats come from the best makers in the country. Our Overcoats are the very best your money can buy.

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Made of Heavy Corduroy or Heavy Duck, and Lined with Heavy Sheep Skin. Also Leather Coats with Corduroy, Linings and Duck Coats with Blanket Linings. Sheep Skin Vests to match.

Corduroy, Sheep-lined	\$5.00 to \$8.00
Leather, Corduroy-lined	\$5.00
Duck, Blanket-lined	\$1.50 to \$3.50
Duck, Sheep-lined	\$3.50 to \$5.00

SWEATERS

Every kind of Sweaters in the New Colors for Men and Boys; also, Sweaters for Women and Children.

Men's Coat Sweaters	48¢, \$1.00, \$2.50, \$3.00, \$4.00 and \$5.00
Boys' Coat Sweaters	48¢, 98¢, \$1.50 and \$2.00
Children's Coat Sweaters	50¢, 98¢ and \$1.50
Women's Coat Sweaters	\$2.00, \$3.00, \$4.00 and \$5.00

RUBBER FOOTWEAR

We have everything you may need in Rubber Footwear to keep your feet dry and warm. We carry the very best makes and the very best qualities in Rubber Footwear made in the country. You will find here such makes as

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Prices no more than those you pay elsewhere for the ordinary kind of Rubber Footwear.

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Many kinds of Fur Outside Overcoats, Dog Skin, Calf Skin, Horse Hide and Galloway Calf, all made with Large Fur Collars and Heavy Quilted Linings. All sizes, 38 to 48.

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WINTER UNDERWEAR

Everything a man or boy may need in warm underwear for winter wear.

Men's Heavy Double Breasted Fleece-lined Shirts and Drawers, made by the High Rock Mills	50¢
Men's Cotton and Wool Underwear	50¢
The Well-known Glastonbury Wool Underwear, in Single or Double Breasted	\$1.00 to \$1.50
Wright's Health Underwear, Wool-fleeced	75¢ and 95¢
Men's Union Suits in Heavy Derby Ribbed, and in Heavy Wool	\$1.00 to \$3.00
Boys' Union Suits	50¢ to \$1.00
Boys' Fleece-lined Underwear	25¢
Boys' Wool Underwear	50¢

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Men's Warm Caps	50¢ to \$1.00
Men's Golf Caps, Fur Band	50¢ to \$1.25
Boys' Golf Caps	25¢ and 50¢
Yarn Toques for Men	50¢
Yarn Toques for Boys	25¢ and 50¢
Yarn Toques for Girls	25¢ and 50¢
Yarn Toques for Women	50¢ and \$1.00

HORSE BLANKETS AND ROBES

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Stable Blankets	\$1.00 to \$3.00
Street Blankets	\$2.00 to \$5.00
Plush Robes	\$3.00 to \$5.00

Calendar Week

well-known American artists. We feel sure that you will be pleased with one and will find it worth having and keeping.

We shall present to every customer who makes a purchase at our store a beautiful Osborne Art Calendar for the Year 1912. These Calendars are reproductions of high-class original paintings by

ONE DOLLAR AND FIFTY CENTS A YEAR.

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

Subscribers are urged to keep their subscriptions paid in advance.

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Saturday, December 30, 1911.

WESTFORD.

Center.

The schools closed last week Friday for two weeks' vacation. Suitable closing exercises were held, and at the Frost school the children gave some good recitations and music under the direction of the teachers. The time-honored saying that "It is more blessed to give than to receive," was exemplified by the packing and sending of two barrels of apples and vegetables to the Children's Mission in Boston, the materials being gathered by the children themselves.

Mr. and Mrs. Edwin N. C. Barnes are rejoicing over the advent of a little son into their home in Braintree, born on December 19. They have named the little stranger Chaloner Monroe Barnes. Mr. Barnes is pleasantly remembered as a former instructor of music in the schools in this district.

Miss May Day is enjoying the Christmas vacation from Mt. Holyoke college at the parental home.

Misses Ruth Tuttle, Edna Ferguson, Lila Fisher, Edith Bicknell, Edith A. Wright, Jennie Chandler and Archie Hartford are among those of our young people teaching in other places at home for the Christmas holidays.

Mrs. Myrtle Snow Clark has been spending a few weeks at the home of her parents in North Westford. Mr. Clark joined his wife for Christmas and they return to their home at Saranac Lake, N. Y., this week Saturday.

John P. Wright was shut in over Christmas with an attack of grippe, but was able to return to his office duties in Boston on Wednesday.

The H. V. Hildreths were over Christmas guests of the Fred A. Hildreths at Malden.

Christmas guests at Mr. and Mrs. A. W. Hartford were Mr. and Mrs. Wesley O. Hawkes, Mrs. J. P. Meserve, Mr. and Mrs. Frank Hawkes, their son Wesley, and daughter Dora. This family party enjoyed a Christmas dinner and a tree in the evening.

Mrs. Betsy Tufts Dalrymple, whose death and funeral were noted in Grotton in last week's issue of this paper, formerly lived in Westford, her father being Levi Tufts, who lived with his family in the house now occupied by George Bennett. Mrs. Dalrymple's only daughter married Joshua Decatur, formerly of Westford, but now residing in Winthrop.

The engagement is announced of Miss Charlotte Helen Prescott and John Sumner Greig.

The old barn is being torn down on what is known as the True Bean place recently purchased by Mr. and Mrs. Will R. Carver. This is preparatory to remodeling of the house into a pleasant summer home.

Mrs. William E. Green, who has been so seriously ill, is reported as gaining. The pneumonia is conquered and the heart weakness is not as pronounced.

Members of the Tadmuck club are reminded of the first meeting of the year at Library hall, Tuesday afternoon, January 2, at 2.30. Miss Edith Forster will have charge of the afternoon with "Chili—the land of progress," as the subject. This is sure to be interesting and the members are reminded gently to make a good new year's beginning with a large attendance.

Mrs. David Wallace and daughters, Pauline and Rachael, are enjoying a week's vacation at West Hartford, Vt., which is Mrs. Wallace's home town.

Postmaster Sherman H. Fletcher reports the largest amount of Christmas mail matter ever handled at this postoffice. The R. E. D. carriers will have new year's day to themselves to compensate in a measure for the hard work done on Christmas day. There will be no mail delivered on the two routes that day.

A pleasant manifestation of the loyalty and interest one may cherish for their home town after many years removal, is that of Mrs. E. H. Smead, of Los Angeles, Cal., in supplying our library with "The geographical magazine." Mrs. Smead is remembered pleasantly by her Westford contemporaries as Garrie Wright, daughter of Deacon Prescott Wright, the long-time station agent of Forge Village.

Mrs. Alice M. Lambert went to Kittery, Me., this week to attend the funeral of the senior Mr. Lambert.

Mrs. Arthur E. Day is enjoying a visit from her mother, Mrs. D. Y. Gunther, of Coc Hill, Ontario.

Mrs. Clara Wright Anderson, who has been seriously ill with typhoid fever at her home in Covington, Va., is reported to the home people, who have been so justifiably anxious, as better and gaining each day.

Mrs. Thomas Murray is reported seriously ill with pneumonia.

The annual firemen's ball will be held at the town hall on Friday evening, January 5. Brigham's orchestra of six pieces will be in attendance.

Grange.

The last meeting of the grange for the old year, December 19, proved interesting and profitable. James Ramsey, of Lowell, probation officer, was present and gave an address. Mr. Ramsey is an engaging speaker and showed himself a thorough student of the penal code of various countries from early times up to the present. He defined clearly what the duties of a probation officer were and showed that the many possibilities were in the way of reformation of criminals if rightly administered. It was a most informing, humanitarian and practical address, one that would appeal

to the common sense and good feeling of any audience. The only regret was that Mr. Ramsey did not have a full evening and a capacity audience.

Earlier in the evening much routine business was transacted by the grange. William R. Taylor, master-elect, gave a comprehensive and interesting account of his stay at the state grange session at Worcester. Mrs. Clara E. Greig, lecturer-elect, followed with a shorter report.

J. Henry Colburn has charge of the supper at the first regular meeting in January, when the new officers will be installed by past master W. M. Wright, assisted by Mrs. Henry B. Read. This will be preceded by the conferring of third and fourth degrees on the incoming class of three candidates.

The regular meeting of Middlesex North Pomona grange will take place in Billerica on Friday, January 5, with installation of officers by state master Charles M. Gardner.

Christmas Exercises.

The Christmas tree and concert by the Sunday school of the Congregational church took place on Saturday evening, and was well attended by interested parents and friends. There were songs and recitations by the children and Miss Althea Symmes sang a beautiful solo. Miss Edith Wright, who has such capable faculty in this direction, accompanied the children at the piano and directed them. The vestry was trimmed with evergreen and the Christmas tree presented a most attractive appearance. Santa Claus was in attendance and distributed the gifts, accompanied with much felicitous comment in a voice that quite resembled William Pollock's.

Mrs. Ida M. Gould had charge of trimming the tree and arranging the gifts. Not the least among the presents was a substantial sum of money to the faithful pastor and his wife. Earlier in the evening a supper was served to the children upstairs in charge of Mrs. Wallace.

The Christmas Sunday services at this church were largely attended with good singing and sermon. A full choir of fifteen voices, with solo parts by E. G. Boynton, Miss Edna Ferguson and Miss Althea Symmes added much to the service.

In the evening, some of the music and recitations that were used the previous evening that were particularly suitable, were repeated, and Mr. Wallace read Henry Van Dyke's beautiful story of "The other wise man."

About Town.

Hon. Herbert E. Fletcher, of the governor's council, addressed the Get Together club last week Friday evening at the rooms of the club. It was a characteristic address and brim full of the business and social qualities of the speaker. Following the address, the members of the social work committee held a business meeting, to complete the plans for the new year day open house, when a gymnastic, musical entertainment and other attractions will be provided for members and their friends.

The West Chelmsford Debating society, recently re-organized, held its first debate on Tuesday evening in Historic hall, West Chelmsford. The subject for discussion was, Resolved: "That the farmer is more valuable to the community than the manufacturer." Several young men of the village took part in the debate, and a very profitable evening was spent. The next debate will be held at the same hall on Tuesday evening, January 9, with the question for debate, Resolved: "That life in the country is more beneficial for man's development than life in the city."

Westford station was again visited by thieves on Wednesday evening, but they did not secure very much of a haul.

Miss Luana Decatur was home from teaching and spending the holidays at the old homestead on the Lowell road.

Mrs. William Green, who has been ill with pneumonia and had several relapses, is at present slowly recovering.

At the last meeting of the grange it was voted to invite Middlesex North to hold a farmers' institute in town this winter at the earliest open opportunity.

The homestead residence of Miss Ella Wright on the Lowell road at Brookside has recently been connected on the farmers' telephone line. Her aged aunt, Miss Sarah Richardson, now ninety-three, is still smiling at old age.

Andrew G. Anderson is having lumber sawed to repair his barn on the Lowell road. This barn was at one time part of the farm buildings of the Levi T. Fletcher place and was moved to its present location by William H. Decatur.

Charles E. Walker lost a horse on Wednesday from inability to rise and remain risen. It had been his farm horse for many years.

Mrs. Solon Dodge of Grotton was a recent guest at her aunt's, Miss Belle Walker.

Business at the stone quarry of Hon. Herbert E. Fletcher on Oak Hill is beginning to close in for the winter. Nearly half the help have already left. The season has been long delayed into the lap of winter or what is naturally the lap of winter, but the warm weather has kept it thawed out.

Horse Thieves About.

Horse thieves are again looking over the territory of South Westford for bargains. This is the same territory that yielded such good returns about a year ago. Last Saturday evening they visited the barn of Alvin J. Blaisdell on the South Chelmsford road. About a year ago Mr. Blaisdell had a horse stolen which was never recovered. Since then he has had an electric alarm installed in the barn, connecting the house.

At twelve o'clock Saturday night the alarm sounded and Mr. Blaisdell and his sons went to the barn and found the doors open but the thieves had been frightened away. The selection were notified and are investigating the case and warning the farmers to beware how they entertain "strangers unawares" under the dis-

guise of buying farm produce and possibly looking the lay of the barn over. Most of the horses stolen a year ago were traced in the direction of Billerica.

Fortnightly Club Meeting.

The Fortnightly club has all the qualities that belong to the best and observed Christmas with all the enthusiasm of larger gatherings with tree, presents and literary exercises Friday evening, December 22. The following program was entertainingly carried out: Reading, Ralph Farham; recitation, Anna and Clarence Wyman; reading, Mrs. Walter Wyman; recitation, Anna Wyman; song, Mrs. Arthur Blodgett; readings, Mrs. Edwin Gould, Charles Blodgett, Horace Gould, Miss Lillian Wright; song, Mrs. Arthur Blodgett; reading, Edwin Gould. As a disguised Santa Claus, Charles Blodgett brought forth all the mirth in old and young, as he chatted with them distributing the presents.

The Fortnightly club has done much for the literary and social life of North Westford. It has developed a willingness on the part of the individual to contribute to the extent of its talents towards the entertainment of the club.

Christmas Tree Exercises.

Christmas tree exercises were held in the vestry of the Unitarian church on Saturday evening. An interesting program and an interested audience made the evening one of cheer. The program was mostly tableau and music. An exceptionally good number was "The snow man." Rev. Lyman B. Weeks read "The night before Christmas"; piano duet, Miss Julia Fletcher and Miss Hazel Hartford; tableau, "Pyramid of roses"; song, "Holy city"; Morton Seavy; recitation, Gordon Seavy; song, Anna Sears; tableau, "Choir singers"; recitation, "Snow man"; Oscar Sears. Harold Hildreth impersonated Santa Claus with the usual good will remembrances. The evening was up to the character of the Old First Parish church.

Forge Village.

Christmas day this year was certainly a prize weather day. It seemed as if spring had awakened to help rejoice and had come on wings to bring a better feeling of "Peace on earth, good will to men" to mankind.

One of the residents of the town stated that for eighteen or twenty years such a warm, spring-like day had not been known on December 25. Some of the visitors formed a ball team and played a most interesting game of baseball on the diamond in Cameron park and was thoroughly enjoyed by all, players and witnesses alike. Many of the players were seen in shirt sleeves and hatless, the heat from the sun was so great.

The mills of the Abbot Worsted Company resumed operation on Tuesday morning after the holiday.

Cameron school is closed for the two-weeks' vacation.

Mrs. George Weaver, of North Littleton, is visiting at the home of her parents, Mr. and Mrs. James Wilson.

The feast of Christmas was very appropriately observed at St. Andrew's mission this year. At 9.30 o'clock on Monday morning, communion services were held, after which the Christmas service was sung. The pastor, Rev. A. L. Bumpus, officiated and preached a very appropriate sermon on the day. The church interior was decorated with laurel, evergreen and holly, and many fragrant flowers helped to make it very attractive. The singing was by the vested choir. On Sunday services will be held at 4.30 p. m. Sunday school at 3.30 p. m.

Many from this village attended the Christmas services held at St. Catherine's church, West Grantville, on Christmas night.

Christmas.

Family reunions were held in many of the homes, while others left the village to enjoy the holiday afar. As is the usual custom, Christmas was ushered in by the singing of carols at midnight. Mr. and Mrs. William Burnett, following their custom of many years, held a reunion at their home on Pleasant street. The following children and grandchildren were present: Mrs. George Wyman and daughter Mabel, of Camden, N. J.; Mr. and Mrs. John Jones and daughter Ethel, of Worcester; Mr. and Mrs. Albert Jones, of Worcester; Mr. and Mrs. Ernest Longbottom and son William, of Arlington Heights; Mr. and Mrs. John E. Burnett, of this village; Mr. and Mrs. Chester Blodgett, of Grotton.

Robert McCardell, of Manchester, N. H., was the guest of his daughter, Mrs. John E. Burnett, over the holiday; Mr. and Mrs. William Blodgett, of Grotton, spent the day with Mr. and Mrs. James Whigham, of Orchard street; Edwin Cherry, of New York, was the guest on Monday of his sisters, Rachael, May and Annie Cherry, and Bradford street; Miss Alice L. Prescott, of Andover, is at the home of her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Nelson Prescott, for the holidays; Mr. and Mrs. John Paquette and family, of Nashua, N. H., visited at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Felix Leclerc; Misses Agnes and Mary Moran, of Lowell, spent the day as guests of Miss Sadie Smith.

Mr. and Mrs. Daniel Hanley entertained Mr. and Mrs. John Hanley and family, of Marlboro, and Mr. and Mrs. D. Downey and family, of Marlboro; Mr. and Mrs. Henry Tyler and children, of Worcester, visited with her mother, Mrs. William Weaver, Mrs. Weaver, being confined to her home by illness; Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Farrot had Mr. and Mrs. Fred Poseucher and Elwyn Twiss, of North Adams, at dinner; Mr. and Mrs. Frank Roso and family, of Belmont, spent the day with Mrs. Elizabeth Splain; Mr. and Mrs. Edw. Hyde and baby, of Ayer, spent the day with Mr. and Mrs. Felix Leclerc.

Grantville.

Mr. and Mrs. Fred Saunders and daughter Doris, of Nashua, N. H., were Christmas guests of Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Wall.

Mrs. Catherine Sullivan, with her son and daughter, spent Christmas with relatives in Saxtonville.

Christmas Exercises.

The regular program of Christmas tree exercises was held in the Sargent school here as announced, but on last week Friday afternoon the different teachers gave their scholars a little treat, and in return the children presented some little gifts to their teacher. The whole affair, though very informal, proved to be very enjoyable to all, and judging from the smiling faces of the teachers and the laughter of the children, it was difficult to distinguish who was really getting the most enjoyment out of it. Suffice to say, that all had a merry time.

Largely Attended.

The members of Court Grantville, F. of A., held a largely attended and interesting meeting in their rooms last week Thursday night. Much business of importance was transacted and under the head of new business the following officers were duly elected for the ensuing year: F. G. Sullivan, c. r.; M. Edward Hiney, s. e. r.; P. Henry Harrington, t. r.; John Spinner, sec.; Albert H. Wall, rec. sec.; Charles E. Dudevot, s. w.; Edward DeFee, J. W.; Edward Spinner, s. b.; William Buckingham, J. B.; Thomas E. Denio, t. r.; John Boyd, lec.; Dr. W. H. Sherman, of Grantville, phy.

The next meeting of the court, that will be held in two weeks, promises to be a very busy affair. The meeting will open one-half an hour earlier than usual, owing to the fact that there is to be the installation of officers, followed by a class initiation, in which the degree team of the local court will have charge, and at the close of the meeting a smoke talk and entertainment will be given. About twenty-five candidates will be initiated on the next meeting night, and the degree team is now busy rehearsing for the event.

Christmas Tree Exercises.

The usual Christmas tree exercises were held in St. Catherine's church last week Friday evening, and in spite of the inclement weather, a large number were present. This affair was given under the direction of the Sunday school teachers, and great praise is due to them for their untiring efforts in carrying everything out so successfully. The committee were aided in a great measure by the generosity of the Abbot Worsted Company, who sent a substantial check to buy gifts for the children. This kindly act was greatly appreciated by all. Miss Catherine Conley had general charge of the affair, assisted by Miss Fannie McCarthy, Miss Hattie O'Brien, Miss Rebecca LeDuc and the other Sunday school teachers. Joe Wall made an ideal Santa Claus, and on his appearance received a warm greeting from the children.

It certainly was a great night for the children, and they enjoyed themselves immensely. Owing to illness, the pastor, Rev. E. T. Schofield, was represented by his curate, Rev. M. E. Doherty, who extended the season's greetings, thanking all in Rev. Schofield's name for the fine entertainment provided, and the Sunday school teachers in particular for their patience and zeal in preparing the children for the happy event. Rev. Mr. Doherty also gave a very instructive talk on "The birth of the Savior," and gave a clear, concise explanation of the true meaning of Christmas.

Death.

Mrs. Bridget Healy, widow of the late James Healy, died early Christmas morning on the eighty-second anniversary of her birth. Mrs. Healy had been ill for several years, all of which she bore with great patience and christian fortitude until the end came, peacefully and quietly at the home of her son, H. J. Healy. Her death had been expected and all her children were at her bedside when the dread summons came. She leaves to mourn her loss, five sons and two daughters—John A. Peter, William J. Anthony and H. J. Healy, of this village, Mrs. Lena Carroll, of Lowell, and Miss Mary A. Healy, of this village, as well as several grandchildren. Mrs. Healy was one of the oldest residents of this village, and her death removes one more of that old familiar group, who were prominent in the affairs of the village a quarter of a century ago.

Fittingly Observed.

Christmas day was fittingly observed in St. Catherine's church here, where two masses were celebrated by Rev. M. E. Doherty, both of which were largely attended. At 10.30 a high mass was sung by Rev. M. E. Doherty, the choir under the direction of Miss Mary F. Hanley singing for the first time Blaisel's mass, the solos being sustained by Miss Mary Gardner and Miss Rebecca LeDuc. The mass was preceded by the processional, "Angels we have heard," with solo by Miss Sadie Smith, and chorus by the choir. At the offertory, "Adeste fideles," was given with solos by R. J. McCarthy and Miss Smith. At the recessional, "Gloria to God," was given with solo by Miss Rebecca LeDuc, chorus by the choir. The singing was unusually good, both in the solos and the chorus work.

Rev. M. E. Doherty delivered an eloquent sermon appropriate to the day. The altar was beautifully arranged with flowers and presented a very pleasing sight. The crib representing "The nativity," was also tastefully arranged. In the evening benediction was given.

A Fine Program.

The usual Christmas tree exercises for the children of the M. E. church was held in the church vestry on last Saturday evening, commencing at 7.30 o'clock. An unusual fine program had been prepared and all did finely in their respective parts. Alvin Nelson had general charge of the program and also represented Santa Claus in a very able manner. The interior of the church was beautifully decorated for the occasion, and the large Christmas tree tastefully arranged with presents of all kinds, added greatly to the beauty of the scene. The whole affair was very enjoyable and the following committees contributed toward the success of the affair: Procuring tree and evergreens—Albert Day, Albert Blanchard, Harold Hanning. Staging—Vernon Fletcher.

CHAS. E. PERRIN

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MAGEE Ranges and Heaters
Windmills Pumps Tanks Towers
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West Street Ayer, Mass.
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Inc., AYER, MASS.

RENDERING

We will remove promptly Dead Horses, Cows, Calves or Pigs from the following towns: Littleton, Harvard, Shirley, Grotton, 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



Notice to Creditors.

Estate of SILAS F. 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 F. MORGAN and notice is hereby given that six months from the twelfth day of December A. D. 1911, are allowed to creditors to present and prove their claims against said estate, and that the Court will receive and examine the claims of creditors at Cambridge, on the twelfth day of January, 1912, at nine o'clock in the forenoon, and at Cambridge, on the twelfth day of June, 1912, at nine o'clock in the forenoon.

JOSEPHINE E. MORGAN, Administratrix.
Dec. 17, 1911. 3114

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, Piles, Cuts, Sores, Bruises, Eczema and Sprains. Only 25c. at William Brown's, Ayer.

New Advertisements.

MANY FAILURES

But Parisian Sage Overcame Miss Kruger's Hair Troubles

PARISIAN SAGE is not guaranteed to grow hair on bald heads but it is guaranteed by the well-known druggist, William Brown, to stop falling hair, eradicate dandruff and ston itching scalp, or money back. Sold in every town in America by leading druggists for 50 cents a bottle. Read Miss Kruger's letter.

"PARISIAN SAGE is the best hair grower and beautifier and dandruff cure. I lost all my hair through typhoid fever; I was almost baldheaded and my scalp was as sore as could be. I tried everything, but in vain. Finally I tried PARISIAN SAGE, and after using one bottle my hair started to grow, and has grown three or four inches inside of two months. I advise every woman who wants beautiful hair to use PARISIAN SAGE." Miss Meta M. Kruger, Browntown, Minn.

LOST—Passbook No. 7475 of North Middlesex Savings Bank. Finder please return to said bank. 3115

FOR SALE—R. R. Dillets' 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. 215

EXECUTRIX'S NOTICE TO CREDITORS OF INSOLVENT ESTATE.

Estate of CLEMMA J. BLOOD late of Grotton 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 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 twenty-sixth day of forenoon, 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 Stockholders of the Townsend National Bank will be held at their Banking Rooms on Monday, January 3, 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. 4113

Park Hotel

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.

Taylor House

On Merchants' Row, Ayer
Under the New Name and New Management of Mrs. L. E. Canning

This hostelry 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 automobiles and other parties. 3m10

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

TOWNSEND.

West Townsend.

The L. B. S. will hold an all-day session at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Charles Hodgman on next Wednesday.

Mrs. E. R. Brayton and son Randall, from Providence, R. I. are spending a few days this week with Mr. and Mrs. George Adams, of Main street.

A social dance was given in Seminary hall on Christmas evening by the young men of the village, and was well attended, both by people of the town and neighboring villages. Music was furnished by Thayer's orchestra of Pepperell.

The public schools will begin on Monday after a two-weeks' vacation.

Charles Thorning has taken up his former position as driver of the milk route for Walter Weston, of Josselynville.

Mr. and Mrs. Barker are enjoying a visit from Mr. Barker's son from West Virginia.

The Men's club held their regular meeting in the Reading-room on Tuesday evening and discussed current events.

On Friday afternoon of last week a party of ten members of the L. B. S. drove to the town farm, where they held a brief service with a program consisting of songs from the Chapman-Alexander hymnal, two select readings from Mrs. Charles Hodgman, remarks and prayer from the pastor, and a few little remembrances were left as a token of the season.

Mrs. Perry W. Sawtelle is again on the sick list, and all her many friends are hoping for her speedy recovery.

Miss Grace L. Seaver, of Montclair, N. J., has been enjoying a brief trip to her home here.

Miss Emily Cutting, who was confined to her home by illness last week, is much improved.

Miss Lena Thompson has recovered from an attack of chicken-pox and resumed her duties at the reading-room last Saturday.

Mrs. Luther Blood has closed her rooms at the parsonage for a few weeks and is visiting relatives in Boston.

Enjoyed a Social Time.

The Christmas for the pupils of the public schools given by C. S. Homer, of New York, under the charge of Mr. and Mrs. F. D. Parsons, was held this year at the Reading-room, instead of at Seminary hall, last Saturday afternoon at three o'clock, and proved to be one of the most successful of these gatherings. The room was decorated with Christmas greens, bells and other decorations, and in place of the usual tree the gifts were piled upon the reading table, and after the children had enjoyed a social time they formed in line and marched around the table, where they were presented with their gifts and bags of candy and peanuts, after which they were served with ice cream and cake. About sixty little ones were present and all expressed great pleasure in their afternoon's enjoyment.

All-day Celebration.

Instead of the customary celebration of Christmas by the Sunday school of this village by a tree and entertainment in the evening, an experiment was tried this year of having an all-day celebration at the Baptist church, which proved most successful and enjoyable to all participating. A chicken dinner was served in the vestries at twelve o'clock, at which about fifty partook bountifully of the good things supplied in abundance. After all had eaten their fill after-dinner speeches were in order, and one of the most delightful features of the day was the presence of Lieut. Col. George B. Griffiths, of Melrose, chaplain of the First Division Massachusetts P. M., staff of Maj. Gen. Z. W. Lewis, who as a guest of Dr. H. B. Boynton, was present with the family and spoke in a very pleasing manner, which won the appreciation of all who heard him. Other remarks were made by W. E. Wilder, Dr. H. B. Boynton and others.

Rev. S. D. Ringrose, the pastor, was presented with a gift of fifty dollars as a token of the regard and esteem of the people of his church and community, to which he responded in a fitting manner. After a social hour the exercises of the afternoon in the audience room of the church took place at 2.30, when the eyes of the children were gladdened by the sight of a large Christmas tree, gaily decorated with tinsel and bells and laden with gifts which occupied the platform.

A very pleasing program, which consisted of songs by the grammar and primary schools; Recitations by Ina Wilder, Ruth Bennett, Alice Wilder, Gertrude Hamilton, Gladys Rawson, Freddie, Milton and Lois Wilder and Herbert Bowen; Christmas exercise by Walter and Ralph Davis, Lawrence Thorpe and Gordon Bennett, trio, "Light o'er the shadows," Ina, Milton and Alice Wilder.

After remarks by the pastor the gifts were removed from the tree by Mr. and Mrs. Wilder and distributed by Miss M. E. Tower's class of boys, all being remembered by St. Nick. The exercises closed about four o'clock and the party dispersed to their homes having passed a most enjoyable day, both young and old.

Christmas Day.

Among the guests in town for the Christmas holidays were Mr. and Mrs. Fred Bruce, of Everett; also, Walter E. Bruce, of Boston, at W. E. Bruce's; Mr. and Mrs. S. Leroy Shapleigh, of Somerville, with Mrs. Mary Foster; Winfield Reed, Boston, with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Alexander Reed; Albert Adams, Providence, R. I., at George Adams'; Miss Mildred L. Seaver, of Nashua, N. H., and R. E. Willard, Boston, at G. A. Seaver's; Mrs. Geo. Ball, Concord, with her little daughter and her niece, Miss Freda Jodery, at L. F. Wood's; Mr. and Mrs. Fred Tenney, from the Center, at George Tenney's; Miss Agnes Thompson, Montpelier, Vt., and Miss Grace Thompson, Boston, with their mother, Mrs. C. E. Patch; Edward Patch, Boston, with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. F. A. Patch, of Josselynville; Mr. and

Mrs. Bennett, Worcester, at W. E. Bennett's; Warren Hadley, Charlestown, and G. B. Griffiths, Melrose, at Mrs. Josephine Boynton's; Misses Ruth and Agnes Wilson, Waltham, at E. G. Wilson's; Chester Davis, Ashby, at Lucy A. Lawrence's; Mr. and Mrs. Wilbur Bruce, of the Center, at L. O. Bruce's.

Benjamin Lawrence, of the White store, spent the holidays with friends in Somerville; Mr. and Mrs. Benjamin Seaborn, Josselynville, visited relatives in Ayer; Mr. and Mrs. George Richardson and Mr. and Mrs. Albert H. Wilson spent the day at their home in Mason, N. H.; Mr. and Mrs. Herman Wood and daughter Ella spent the day at Mrs. Wood's home in Mason, N. H.

Townsend Center.

Gustavus Anderson has purchased Warren Kemp's house on Brookline street, and Mr. Kemp has gone to Nashua to live with his daughter, Mrs. Bertha Wright.

Mrs. Wilbur Bruce attended the funeral of Mrs. Mary Holden at West Groton, near the Shirley line, Tuesday. Mrs. Holden was quite well-known in town, and often came here to visit relatives. She has suffered from a cancer for the past year.

The body of Mrs. Martha Wright, a former resident, and a sister of the late Horace Eldridge, was brought to town for burial on Thursday morning.

Mr. and Mrs. Robert Fessenden enjoyed several days at Worcester during Christmas week, at B. W. Potter's.

Frank C. Parker and Charles Parker have been visiting in New York city and Hoboken, N. J.

Miss Elizabeth French, of Ashby, is the guest of her aunt, Mrs. A. J. Atwood, this week.

The Christmas exercises held by both the Congregational and M. E. churches were much enjoyed and were observed according to program given last week. The new pipe organ was in place in time for the recital at the M. E. church, and there was a large attendance out. The Christmas exercises at both churches brought forth a large audience both Saturday afternoon and evening.

Death.

John Hildreth passed away early on Sunday morning from the effects of a shock brought about by his late ill health. He was seventy-five years and eleven months of age. The funeral was held at the Congregational church on Tuesday afternoon, Rev. A. L. Struthers officiating. The G. A. R. service was also used and was in charge of Post 19, of Fitchburg. The Phoebe Weston Farmer tent, D. of V., and members of the Memorial association were present and marched to the cemetery; also, several members of the A. D. Fessenden camp, S. of V. There were many beautiful flowers sent in by the various orders and by loving friends and relatives. The burial was in the family lot.

Mr. Hildreth has resided for several years on Brookline street, and was a kind neighbor and friend, and until recently he has been quite active and greeted one with a cheery smile as he was about town. He leaves a widow, a daughter, Miss Mary Hildreth, of this town, and a step-son, Earl Bohannon, of Cleveland, Ohio. He also leaves two brothers, Charles and Henry B. Hildreth, of this town, and two sisters, Mrs. James Woolley, of East Boston, and Mrs. Albert Turner, of this town, who is now in Orlando, Fla., for the winter. The family have the sympathy of all in their great loss.

Holiday Visitors.

Among holiday visitors in town were the following: Mr. and Mrs. Louis Streeter and son, of Waltham, at T. E. Flarity's; Ellery Kilbourne, of Montreal, Que.; also, Ralph Kilbourne, of New York, and Rev. Albert Kilbourne at Mrs. Sarah Ball's; Mr. and Mrs. Earl P. Miller, of Somerville, and Mr. and Mrs. Ed. Harvey, of Nashua, at George G. Clarke's; George E. Sheridan, of Malden, at E. K. Marshall's; Fred Davis, Harry Spaulding and Miss Bessie McGuire, of Boston, at their respective homes; Jasper F. Eastman, of Morrissett, N. Y., at George Eastman's; Arthur Eastman, of M. I. T., and Miss Bessie Eastman, of Dover, at J. W. Eastman's.

Miss Ethel Rockwood, of Baltimore, Md., and Miss Gertrude Rockwood, of Boston, at W. F. Rockwood's; Mr. and Mrs. Victor Miller and family, of Quincy, at Mrs. A. D. Fessenden's; Dr. Arthur Bush, of Vermont university, and family at William Bush's; Mr. and Mrs. George Page, of Pawtucket, R. I., and Mr. and Mrs. Christy Gates, of Waltham, and children at George Gates'; Richard T. Eldridge and family at H. J. Miller's; Miss Annie Spring, of Lunenburg, at F. S. Spring's.

LITTLETON.

News Items.

Miss Clara Shaw, of Belmont, has been the guest of her grandparents, Charles W. Houghton, at the Center, and Mrs. Maria Shaw at the common this week, returning home on Wednesday.

Monday evening, January 1, the Woman's club will meet in the Orthodox Congregational vestry. Club members and their guests will confer a favor by arriving early so that the speaker can begin his address promptly at 7.45 o'clock, as he wishes to board the 9.15 train for Boston. Mr. Kimball is secretary of the Savings Banks Insurance league. The subject of his address is "Vague earners' Insurance—the way to social efficiency." The music by the club quartet, assisted by outside artists, promises to be a very attractive feature of the entertainment. Again, please come early.

Rev. Herbert Caulkins, of Hartland, Me., has accepted the call to the Baptist church and will enter upon his new pastorate the first of February.

All the public schools will open on Monday.

The standpipe for the water works has arrived and been taken to Oak hill, where it will be raised shortly to its permanent position.

Littleton, the home of many clubs, has found a place for still one more,

the "M. M." club, made up of young ladies, who will be heard from soon, as they are planning some entertainments for the winter.

Frank E. Rivers has moved into George Yapp's cottage on Newtown road.

Miss Cora Warren spends today and Sunday with a former associate teacher in New York city, returning to her school duties the first of next week.

Miss Mabel Pickard, of Boston, spent Saturday and Sunday with her mother at J. T. Warren's.

Frank Davis has moved into the Lactart house recently vacated by Michael Bradley.

A. E. Hopkins, tree warden, and his men are removing the moth nests from trees bordering the highways. Not nearly so many brown tail nests are found as in recent years. As the state authorities do not require the wardens to go up into the elms, the work is completed in half the usual time.

Frank J. Hager and nephew, George W. Sanderson, Jr., from Ironwood, Mich., are visiting friends in the east, making their headquarters at Leslie Hager's.

The services at the Congregational church on Sunday deserve particular mention. In addition to an excellent sermon by the pastor, the service of the morning included a beautiful anthem by the choir with well rendered solos and other music especially appropriate to the season. In the evening there was a scriptural and musical service with a short address by the pastor. This was well attended and much appreciated. At the Unitarian church there was special singing in the morning and a new quartet rendered selections at the Guild.

Mass was celebrated at the town hall on Christmas morning, and the large number of worshippers filled the audience room. A service will be held in the same place tomorrow at ten o'clock in the morning. Rev. P. J. Sheedy will be the officiating clergyman. It is hoped that services can be continued weekly and arrangements have been made for such in the immediate future.

Capt. William H. Sawyer attended the burial service of his cousin, Melvin Bancroft, at Montague on Thursday. Mr. Bancroft was a well-known manufacturer of piano stools in Lowell, where he had resided for many years previous to his removal to New York state last August.

Christmas Festivities.

Christmas festivities were enjoyed at the Congregational and Unitarian vestries on Saturday afternoon. At the former the program consisted of Christmas songs and recitations by the children, who were at their best. Santa Claus was welcomed heartily and seemed as happy in his role as the little people who clustered about him. The Christmas tree was well loaded and all members of the Sunday school shared in its treasures.

At the Unitarian vestry, the Christmas tree contained gifts for the Sunday school children and there was the annual donation of presents from them for children in charitable institutions. The entertainment consisted of a very amusing pageant by several Sunday school children.

The Baptist Sunday school observed Christmas on Tuesday evening with the usual tree and entertainment for the children.

The Lost is Found.

Probably one of the happiest men in Littleton this last week was Curtis W. Drew, who was presented by his little daughter with the purse and its valuable contents which he lost, advertised for, and searched for vigorously in the early fall, and had despaired of ever recovering. The children, in their play, chanced to go into Mr. Drew's barn cellar, and there they found the long lost treasure where the owner had thrown his coat while working one day. Evidently it had dropped out of the coat pocket, and remained undisturbed all this time, for everything in the pocketbook was just as Mr. Drew had arranged it.

Stolen Property Recovered.

Another man recently treated to a happy surprise is Clifton E. Flagg, who has recovered his stolen property. A week ago Thursday he received word from a constable in Princeton that a horse running through the streets of that town had been captured and awaiting an owner. The description of the strange horse tallied with that given by Mr. Flagg, and as soon as he could make the journey to Princeton, he was there to claim his property. The horse was in very good condition and showed no signs of unkind treatment.

A few days ago, Mr. Flagg received another communication from the same constable, saying that the buggy, harness and robe had been found out in the woods. Mr. Flagg returned to Princeton and claimed the rest of his property. Circumstantial evidence suggests strongly that the horse thieves became frightened and dared not carry out their original plans.

Fair and Entertainment.

The fair and entertainment held by the ladies of the Baptist society last week Thursday afternoon and evening called out a good number of appreciative patrons. A pleasing assortment of wares found ready sale, and the vegetable and fruit booth proved especially attractive. The supper, as usual, was pronounced O. K., and the entertainment was capital. Mrs. William H. Tenney, as preceptress of the Littleton Female seminary, presided over her illustrious graduating class of 1855, with dignity and grace. The graduates, some twenty in number, although a little past the average age of seminary girls, laid aside all thoughts of family cares, and in gowns of antique style and braids of silvery hair, neatly fastened with

the unpresuming ribbon bow of '55, filed into the audience room after the approved fashion of their day.

Each member of the class had a part, and contributed to the program by singing, recitation or reading of an essay. The songs were the old familiar selections, such as "Lightly row," "Star of the night," and "The spider and the fly." Mrs. Jennie Couper played the piano accompaniment and Mrs. Mattie K. Priest rendered two of the solos. A public exhibition of gymnastics formed an amusing part of the program. At the close of the exercises Mrs. Tenney addressed her students and presented diplomas. Every detail was carried out to perfection, and the audience has accorded to all who helped plan and execute the program only the highest praise. Net receipts will amount to about one hundred dollars.

LUNENBURG.

News Items.

On last Sunday morning, Rev. A. T. Kempton, the pastor of the Congregational church, preached a most interesting Christmas sermon from a text, "It is more blessed to give than to receive." Sunday evening at the Y. P. S. C. E., the subject was "The gift that transforms the world," a most appropriate subject for Christmas eve.

The festivities at the church on Monday began with the Christmas supper, which was served promptly at 6.30. This was free to everyone and nearly two hundred partook of it. After the supper came the exercises in the church above, and included songs by the Sunday school pupils of three grades from the wee ones to those of larger growth, and Mrs. N. G. Barter told several legends and stories of the Christ child in her usual winsome, fascinating manner. The presents were then distributed from the trees with the usual satisfactory results.

The Methodist society held their Christmas tree exercises in the chapel on Saturday evening, and the concert on Sunday evening. The Lincoln club gave the pastor, Rev. G. A. Moody, a very fine bible.

A little daughter, weighing eight pounds, came to the home of Mr. and Mrs. Alfred C. Gould on Friday morning, December 22. She has been named Eleanor Christie.

Augustus Taylor has bought six acres of land of Stillman Stone on the Fitchburg road and intends to build a new house there in the near future.

John Lang of Jaffrey, N. H., visited his brothers-in-law, Harvey D. and Charles Paige on Saturday.

Edward L. Davis of Worcester visited his grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. C. B. Longley on Christmas day.

Skaters Were Merry.

Monday morning dawned bright and beautiful, the keen, frosty air of the night before had covered the surface of Marshall's pond with beautiful, clear ice, and a merry crowd of skaters were soon enjoying royal sport on the most ideal pond in this vicinity. Ideal, because the water is nowhere more than four or five feet deep, and is in full sight of many houses nearby. One of the young men playing hockey broke through the ice on Christmas morning, and cut and bruised his face considerably, and also bruised his arm. As he was near home he went directly there, where a physician looked him over and finding no broken bones, repaired the damages to his face as much as possible, and he soon after returned to the pond to see "the finish" of the game. All day long the pond was the mecca toward which all the young people traveled.

Received a Call.

Rev. A. T. Kempton received a unanimous call on Sunday morning to the Broadway Baptist church, Cambridge, by telephone, asking him to become its pastor. This call, like the one he received from Attleboro a few weeks ago, was entirely unsolicited, and unexpected. The churches outside of this atom of the world are finding out what an excellent pastor Lunenburg Congregational church has and it looks as though they will keep after him until they get him. Rev. Mr. Kempton told his congregation about it at the Sunday evening meeting, and he will investigate the call and make known his decision on Sunday, January 7. The first Sunday of the new year.

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

New Advertisements.
Best for Asthma
Catarrh, Bronchitis

Why need anyone suffer from any throat or nose troubles when soothing, healing HYOMEI is guaranteed to banish all misery or money back. The undersigned herewith recommends HYOMEI to all who are afflicted with asthma, catarrh or bronchitis. HYOMEI was used by my wife for bronchitis and asthma and I used it for bronchitis and sore throat. It has given relief and permanent results and I write these few lines for the benefit of all who are afflicted with the ailments named above. Theodore Boehlan, Traffic Manager of the Concordia Publishing House, Cor. Jefferson Ave. and Miami St., Concordia, Kas., Jan. 2nd, 1911. William Brown and druggists everywhere sell Hyomel. A complete outfit including inhaler costs \$1.00. Extra bottles if needed 50 cents. Just breathe it.

Jas. P. Fitch
JEWELER
CARLEY'S BLOCK, MAIN STREET
NEAR P. O., AYER.

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.

Reductions

- 1.25 Dressed Dolls, .75
- 1.50 " " .98
- 1.75 " " 1.19
- 2.25 " " 1.39
- 2.75 " " 1.98

Many Other
Christmas
Goods

At Reduced Prices

Candy Special

FOR
Saturday, Dec. 30

Ribbon Candy, 9c. lb.

AYER
VARIETY STORE

SUGARSe-perlb, freight prepaid. Send 3 two-cent stamps for catalogue and full information. MAIL ORDER GROCERY CO., 23 Main St., Brockton, Mass.

Lowell & Fitchburg Street Railway Co. TIME TABLE.

Cars leave Ayer for North Chelmsford and Lowell—8.05 a. m. and hourly 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 at 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 Brookside—5.50 a. m. and 50 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 Brookside 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, 11.50 a. m., 12.50, 1.50, 2.50, 3.50, 4.50, 5.50 p. m.

Sundays—7.50, 8.50, 9.50, 10.50 a. m., 12.50, 1.50, 2.50, 3.50, 4.50, 5.50 p. m.

Leave Westford for Lowell—6.55, 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.

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 the high.

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

Buy Latest Style

Millinery Goods

Geo. L. Davis's

26 Main Street
Ayer, Mass.

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

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



C. H. Hardy

Contractor and Builder
AYER, MASS.
Residence, Pleasant Street

I AM PREPARED TO TAKE CONTRACTS FOR

Painting & Paper Hanging

Plumbing and Heating

ALSO

Stone Work, Grading and Mason Work

REAL ESTATE

BOUGHT AND SOLD

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

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

High-grade Paints

Ayer Fruit Store

Mead's Block, Ayer

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

The best line of

Fancy Boxes

OF

Chocolates

In Town

ALSO

GIGARS, CIGARETTES AND TOBACCO

In Christmas Packages

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

Xmas Postals at One Cent Each

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

GEO. S. FOULIUS & CO.

Telephone Connection Ayer, Mass.

Engraved Cards
Business and Social
Wedding Stationery
Card Showing
STYLES and PRICES
Willingly Furnished

50 Engraved Cards in Script, Including Plates, \$1.00

Public Spirit Office, Ayer.

Send in your subscriptions to this paper before January 1, 1911, and save fifty cents on each yearly subscription as the price will advance to \$1.50 per year on that date.

Watch the Date on Your Paper. The date with your name is stamped on the margin shows to what time your subscription is paid, and serves as a continuous receipt.

Change of Address. Subscribers wishing the postoffice address of their paper changed must send us both the old and new address.

"The daily labors of the Bee. Awake my soul to industry. Who can observe the careful Ant. And not provide for future want?"

Saturday, December 30, 1911.

GROTON.

News Items.
Mrs. Mary E. Bailey of Boston and her sister, Mrs. Lizzie M. Storer of Nashua, N. H., received the sum of fifty dollars each from the estate of their mother in Groton.

The high school dance of Friday evening, December 22, passed off successfully, about one hundred and seventy-five being present. The only disappointing thing was the absence of the fathers and mothers and other older friends who were kept by the weather from attending. The young people were out in full force. Fifty dollars was the net financial results.

Miss Mildred E. Gilson, daughter of Dr. F. E. Gilson, came home last week from Simmons college for a two weeks' vacation. Her eyes have been giving her some trouble.

A. H. Mason is working at the telegraph office at Ayer.

Perlie P. Fallon, student at Columbia law school, New York, came home last week Thursday to spend Christmas. He returned this week Tuesday, his duties at the city public library, where he works evenings in the reference department, made the short vacation necessary.

Ansel M. Shattuck returned to his work Wednesday morning, having been unable to work for a few days previous.

Miss Lena Tuttle has been spending her Christmas vacation with her sister, Mrs. J. H. Sargent, and returns to her school in Boscawen, N. H., Monday, January 1. Miss Tuttle has lately received a New Hampshire teachers' state certificate, which entitles her to an increase in salary.

The Ladies' Missionary society of the Baptist church held their regular monthly meeting Thursday afternoon. Subject, "Missions in Cuba and Porto Rico." Leader, Mrs. Maria Parkhurst.

The Groton postoffice has been made a postal savings bank depository. Lawrence Harrington, James Harrington's youngest son, was the first depositor.

Mr. and Mrs. Fred O. Parker, with their children from Pepperell, spent Christmas day with her mother, Mrs. S. R. Mason, and family.

There will be no meeting of the sewing school on Saturday, December 30, but it will meet as usual on the following Saturday.

The going has been bad on account of the very muddy condition of roads, outside the state road.

E. E. Tarbell, of East Pepperell, is cutting off a large woodlot in East Groton, quite a large force of men and teams being at work. H. A. Floyd superintending.

The remains of Miss Helen F. Winn, only child of the late George and Ellen Mansfield Winn, of Lowell, were brought from that city on Tuesday for burial in the Groton cemetery. Rev. G. M. Howe officiated at the committal service. Miss Winn was the granddaughter of the late Dr. Joseph Mansfield, formerly of this town. She was sixty-five years old and the cause of death was endo-carditis. A cousin, George S. Knapp, is one of the remaining relatives on the Mansfield side now living in Groton.

Ethel Green, daughter of Arthur Green, of Hollis street, has scarlet fever.

Mr. Hatch and Mr. Miller, Harvard college friends of Harold Hartwell and Daniel Needham, were their guests this week at Mrs. Needham's, staying over to the Happy Dozen dance on Friday evening of this week.

The second degree will be conferred on Edward Roache, Jr., at the meeting of the Groton lodge, I. O. O. F., on Monday evening. The installation of officers will take place at the next following Monday evening meeting.

The vesper service at the First Parish Unitarian church last Sunday afternoon at five o'clock, was fully attended, there being representatives from all the churches present. The program, which was given last week, was carried out, each number being well rendered, much to the enjoyment of the audience.

The children of the Unitarian parish were out last Saturday evening to the Christmas tree exercises, where the recitations, singing and a good supper was enjoyed by the little folks.

There was a merry Christmas party on Monday at Mrs. Needham's, when her children, grandchildren and a few others, in all a happy thirteen, sat down to the Christmas dinner, and later enjoyed the family Christmas tree.

Donald McMillan, who was with Lieut. Peary in his dash for the north pole, will give a lecture illustrated with stereopticon views in the town hall on Friday evening, January 5. This is the same lecture that was necessarily postponed some weeks ago. It is said to be a superior lecture and should call out a large house. This is a lecture in the Luther Blood free course.

Lawrence, Edward, Francis and Theophilus, Jr., the four unmarried sons of Mr. and Mrs. Theophilus Smith, spent Christmas at home with their parents. Miss Kaan, a sister of Mrs. Smith, and a teacher in Somerville, was also a Christmas guest of the family.

Mrs. Robert Forbes has been confined to her room for the past two weeks with the grippe.

Rev. H. A. Cornell enjoyed his Christmas dinner with friends in Lowell.

Among the members of the Groton School club for 1912 at Harvard are: C. M. Amory, C. S. Cutting, Thomas

Frothingham, Jr., Arnold W. Hunnewell, Kermit Roosevelt, H. J. Sargent and R. W. Williams.

Mrs. Jennie Hemenway, who went a few weeks ago to see her mother, who was sick at her home in Bradford, Pa., returned last week Thursday.

William H. Whitehill was called this week to Peacham, Vt., by the death of his mother, who was eighty years old her last birthday. Mr. Whitehill left home on Tuesday night, the funeral being held on Wednesday, and expected to return by Thursday evening.

William E. Wheeler, of Ayer, was brought to the Groton hospital and operated on for appendicitis last Saturday afternoon. The case was chronic, but had given him much trouble of late. He passed through the operation successfully and is doing well.

William A. Lawrence and family, with guests, Mr. and Mrs. Porter and family from Leominster, dined at Groton Inn on Christmas day, which is their usual custom.

The Woman's branch Alliance met with Mrs. E. B. Gerrish on Thursday afternoon.

The Reading club met with Miss Lillian Kane on Wednesday afternoon.

Mr. and Mrs. F. F. Woods entertained as Christmas guests, their cousin, Miss Anna Whidden, of Lowell, and Mr. and Mrs. Parker, from Dunstable.

Miss Helen Dodge, of Groton Inn, received among other Christmas presents a nice gold watch. The watch was a present from some young gentlemen, who have been guests at the Inn and other town friends.

The Christmas tree and exercises of singing and recitations with supper at six o'clock, which was arranged for the children at the Congregational vestry last Saturday evening, passed off very pleasantly.

The W. R. C. sent Christmas greetings with tokens of remembrance to some of their number whom they thought to cheer.

Miss Marion Green has been staying at Groton Inn, and her brother, Waldo Green, at Mrs. Georgianna Dodge's, since the attack of their sister Ethel with scarlet fever. This is to allow both to continue their school duties.

Miss Mary Dunphy, teacher at North Attleboro, spent the Christmas vacation at home and returns to her duties next Monday.

Miss Blood and Miss Mason, teachers in Groton street school, Pepperell, resume their work there on Monday.

Mrs. Ella P. Woolley has been quite ill and under the doctor's care, but is recovering.

The Neighborhood club met last week with Mrs. Robert Sargent and had a most delightful afternoon with much of Christmas good cheer. There was a Christmas tree hung with presents for each one attending. Those coming brought in number, presents corresponding to those of their family attending so that none were omitted. The husbands and children and others were invited. The gentlemen made speeches and there were other interesting social features with a generous serving of ice cream and cake, and a bag of the never-to-be-forgotten Christmas candy.

Miss Marguerite Cleary, teacher from Gilbertville, was home for Christmas.

Miss Louise Nutting entertained the Q. M. club at her home on Wednesday evening. The gentlemen friends were invited, making up a merry party. The young ladies staid over night, returning to their home on Thursday morning.

The several Groton young ladies attending the Fitchburg Normal enjoyed a week's Christmas vacation, which ends next week Tuesday morning, when they resume their school work.

Mrs. Herbert B. Priest entertained a party of her Fitchburg Normal classmates and other school friends at her home on Wednesday afternoon. They had a very enjoyable gathering and at the dainty and appetizing lunch served, Miss Marion Viets, of Boxborough, and Miss Elizabeth Lincoln, of Leominster, poured. Mrs. Priest was a most engaging hostess.

Samuel Ramsden sold his place—which he bought of J. R. Hawkes—on the Ayer road last week to Mrs. Sarah J. Meade, mother of Mrs. Nowill. The Nowills own and occupy the Willis, or, as some know it best, the old Dea. Curtis Lawrence place. The Nowills intend to farm the land on the newly purchased Ramsden place and rent the buildings.

Wilmer Archibald Parker, the little son born to Mr. and Mrs. W. J. Parker, (née Miss Abbie Archibald), at Denver, Col., on December 17, passed away on Sunday, December 17.

Mrs. James H. Mapp (née Miss Beatrice Bennett), who has been visiting relatives here, returned on Thursday morning to her home at Buena Vista, Va.

The Groton Historical society will hold its annual meeting for election of officers in the lower town hall on Tuesday evening, January 2.

Mrs. Catherine Coughlin and daughter Mary, spent Christmas with her daughter, Mrs. Herbert, and family at Pepperell.

Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Aitken and son Edward spent Christmas day with Dr. and Mrs. Goble.

The regular church social and supper of the Unitarian society will be held next week Thursday evening. Mrs. E. I. M. Needham is chairman of the entertainment committee, and Mrs. Frank Lawrence Blood of the supper committee. Attractive features of the entertainment will be piano and violin selections by the Misses Hester, Mary and Geraldine Lawrence, and readings by Mrs. Alice Needham Barnard. Some vocal selections may also be expected, making up a fine program. The supper will be at 6.30, and the entertainment at eight.

True Christmas Spirit.
Several townspeople, wishing to carry a little brightness and cheer into the lives of others, let the influence of a true Christmas spirit reach

over to the town farm, and on Monday morning the inmates—seven in number—were given a Christmas tree which they enjoyed very much. We believe this is the first occurrence of the kind in its history. Supt. and Mrs. Robert Trask entered into the spirit of giving those under their care a merry Christmas, and they greatly appreciate the contributions and kindness of the outsiders who remembered those less fortunate than themselves. A very enjoyable part of the good time was music from a graphophone, which had been loaned for the occasion. Supt. Trask manipulated the instrument, turning out music to attentive and pleased listeners.

Family Gathering.

The usual Christmas family gathering met with Mrs. Augustus Woods at her home, corner of Main and Peabody streets on December 24. There were present, Miss Fannie E. Woods, William A. Woods, Miss Fannie Boynton, Mr. and Mrs. Alfred Woods and son, Harold Bigelow Woods, from Hudson, Mr. and Mrs. Nesbit L. Woods and children, Harold Woods, son of W. A. Woods. They enjoyed their Christmas dinner, and in the evening the Christmas tree with its accompanying pleasures. On Monday morning, Harold Hamlet Woods went with his cousin, Harold Bigelow Woods, to his home in Hudson, to attend a sunset dance given that afternoon at two o'clock.

A Belle.

The following is a copy of an invitation to a new year's ball sixty-two years ago. It comes quite apropos to light at this time and brings a smile as well as a serious thought as one looks back at time changes. Perhaps some of our oldest citizens attended this ball and will recall that "Happy new year." Notice the hour dancing commenced:

Peace, Love and Harmony
NEW YEARS' BALL

Your Company is respectfully solicited at
GILLS' HOTEL, GROTON
Monday Evening, Dec. 31, 1849

Managers:
Albert Shattuck, J. Spaulding, Nathan Russ, A. Pollard, W. A. Shattuck, L. D. Hutchins, George Dow, Joseph Fitch, J. P. Shattuck

Music—Robbins Band
Tickets \$1.50. Dancing to commence at 6 o'clock

Groton Press

Christmas Tree Exercises.

The Christmas tree exercises at the Baptist church on Saturday evening were under the direction of a committee of which Miss Mary E. Parmenter was chairman. The vestry had been very prettily decorated by the boys of Miss Parmenter's class and the girls of Mrs. Peabody's class. Ice cream and cake were served to all present, after which the following program was rendered:

Recitation, "A Christmas welcome." Paul Blood; solo, "The little village of Bethlehem." Dora Bailey; recitation, "A dream." Stella Sargent; recitation, selected, Roland Sawyer; trio, "A lonely stocking." Lauretta Fletcher, Lottie and Marion Patterson; recitation, "If you had a little brother." Raymond Sawyer; song, "Sleep baby sleep." Ethel Patterson; exercise and song, "The candles." Elizabeth Blood, Ethel and Bertha Patterson, Stella Sargent, Dorothy Stevens; exercise, "The Christmas star." Lauretta Fletcher, Lottie, Marion, Ethel and Bertha Patterson, Leroy Hammond, Clifford Folkins, Raymond Sawyer; reading, "What means this glory?" M. W. Parkhurst; distribution of gifts, Santa Claus (Kenneth Graham); accompaniments, Miss Edna Keyes, Miss Lillian Tuttle.

Concert.

Mr. and Mrs. James Lawrence gave their twenty-sixth Homestead concert at their home on Thursday evening of last week for the boys of the Groton School and their instructors. The boys, led by Rev. Endicott Peabody, head master, marched in line to the Lawrence residence, where they were entertained with music, following which refreshments were served. Mrs. James Lawrence sang and Miss Mary Lawrence played selections on the violin. A poem was read by Rev. Sherrard Billings and Mr. Abbott of Groton School, and Frederick Roche of Boston gave a slight-of-hand performance. The Groton School boys added to the good time by singing a number of college songs.

West Groton.

Mrs. Charles Holden, for many years a resident of North Shirley, died of cancer last Saturday night at the home of her brother, George H. Adams. She had been unconscious for several days and her death was not unexpected. The funeral was held on Tuesday morning, and interment was in Shirley cemetery.

The following is a notice clipped from a Boston paper: "Died at Cambridge, December 26, Doris Emily, daughter of Frank L. and Martha Collyer, aged four years." Frank Collyer, during the later years of his boyhood was a resident of this village, and was very popular with his mates. His little daughter, remarkably bright and attractive, was an only child. Mr. Collyer has many friends here who will deeply regret his sad loss.

John Wolaver, of Hansport, N. S., is a two-weeks' guest of his son, George Wolaver.

Mr. and Mrs. E. K. Harrington entertained on Monday their daughter and husband, Mr. and Mrs. Clarence Tuttle, of Groton.

Christmas day was celebrated at the Kemp homestead by the presence of Frank Kemp and children of Shirley, and Mr. and Mrs. J. T. Shepley.

Mrs. George H. McCurdy and her son Royden, coming on Tuesday, are guests at Charles Bixby's.

Mr. and Mrs. Guy Wright and children spent Christmas with friends in Pepperell.

Rev. and Mrs. Trowbridge enjoyed a visit for several days this week at the home of their daughter, Mrs. Cathlin, of Swampscott.

The school children are enjoying their usual Christmas vacation. Mrs. Isabel Wiggin, of the grammar department, left for her home in Morriamack on Saturday.

Mrs. Percy Briggs, accompanied by her little niece, Bertha Harrington,

visited relatives in Ayer on Thursday of last week.

On Sunday, Mrs. E. P. Shores was surprised by a flying visit from her brother, George Powers, of Lynn, who left on the morning train.

Miss Evelyn Lindall, of Rosindale, is a guest at C. E. Blood's.

Mrs. Roscoe Ferden, with her infant son, going on Wednesday of last week, spent a week with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Herbert Brown, of Foxboro. Mr. Ferden joined her for Christmas. On her return, she was accompanied by her brother Elbridge, who will spend his holidays here.

Mrs. C. R. Dudley entertained her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Elliott, of Danvers, over the holidays. Mrs. Elliott remains for an extended visit.

Mr. and Mrs. Chester Hill and their mother, Mrs. Emma Hill, spent Christmas day with relatives in Pepperell.

The usual number of sons and daughters gathered around the Christmas board this year at Martin O'Mealey's, making the family circle complete, as usual. The unusual part was the presence of a little grandchild, its parents being Mr. and Mrs. Michael O'Mealey, of Leominster.

The Misses Elsie and Olive Tarbell joined a family gathering on Monday at the home of their aunt, Mrs. David Petrie, of Lowell.

The annual roll-call supper will be held at the hall on Wednesday evening, January 3, followed by the usual exercises at the church.

The first regular meeting of the year of the Ladies' Aid society will be held on Thursday afternoon, January 4, with Mrs. M. E. Williams. The chief business will be election of officers for the year.

On Sunday evening, a man from Pepperell, who drives a market wagon into this village, drove into a trench opposite the house of G. S. Webber. Men were hastily summoned and after a half-hour of strenuous work, the horse was drawn from its perilous position, somewhat bruised, but not seriously injured. It was taken in charge and stabled for the night by L. G. Strand. A similar, though much less serious accident, was experienced by the same man at the same place a week previous. On Sunday evening this portion of Bixby street had been closed by order of the road commissioner and adequate barriers with the usual red lights had been erected.

Christmas Entertainments.

On Friday afternoon of last week was Christmas time at Tarbell grammar school, and friends and relatives of the pupils were invited to listen to an interesting program. Six chorus songs were given by the school, and recitations by Beatrice Noonan, Bernard Cronin, Irving Kezar, Ethel Robinson, George Wolaver, Gregory Smith and Florence McCann. There was also essays by Marianne Duquette, Ethel Robinson and Rose Fallon, and readings by Ruth Mellish and Frank Belyea. A tree prettily decorated and lighted was naturally a most interesting feature to the pupils, who each received, as usual, a book from their teacher. In addition, special presents were given as a reward to those on the roll of honor for the term. A variety of gifts was received by the teacher, including a handsome umbrella with gold-tipped handle, presented by the school, with which she was greatly pleased.

On Saturday evening, the usual neighborhood tree was held at the hall. Piano solos were rendered by Miss Edna Kierstead, a young sister and guest of Mrs. Talmage Kierstead, whose musical ability is remarkable. Recitations, songs and effective Christmas tableaux made an attractive program. "The Icicles," song by several small boys in costumes was heartily received. William MacCherie made an ideal Santa Claus, joyously welcomed by the happy children.

R. F. D. Routes Changed.

Orders to go into effect on January 1, have been received from Washington by postmaster G. H. Bixby, changing somewhat the route of the R. F. D. carrier. The route, as originally formed, led from Kemp's corner over the Pepperell road, past the F. L. Blood and Shattuck farms to the railroad bridge. As there were no subscribers on this road it was soon discontinued by the carrier, who served, instead, the road leading from Lawrence's corner to the town farm, not a part of his route. Both these roads are to be discontinued. The route is now outlined as follows: From postoffice on Bixby street to parsonage corner, over Bixby hill to Mill street, the usual route to Kemp's corner, thence the straight road to railroad bridge, and Hill's corner, thence on Main street to postoffice. On the north Shirley part of the route, the loop through the village known as Bull Run, where it intersects the Shirley route, is eliminated, the carrier tracing his route on both roads and serving the straight road from Johnson's corner to the schoolhouse. This arrangement will give R. F. D. service to twenty additional families. During Christmas week 1497 pieces of mail were handled.

Christmas Guests.

Our little village received its usual number of guests this Christmas week. Among those who enjoyed the holiday at their respective homes were noted: Misses Helen MacCherie, Ruth Lawrence, Isabel Bixby, Olive Tarbell, Esther Jarvis, Kathleen McGowan; also, Harold Strand, Martin O'Mealey. Mr. and Mrs. Fred Reid entertained Mr. Reid's parents from Fitchburg, Mr. and Mrs. David Reid; Mr. and Mrs. Champlin, of Worcester, were guests of Mr. and Mrs. A. W. Adams, also twin brothers of Mrs. Adams from Upton; a family gathering was held at the home of Mrs. Albert Harrington, her daughter, Mrs. William Williamson, coming some days before, was joined by her husband for the Christmas festivities. There were also present Mr. and Mrs. Edward Glynn and three daughters of Ayer, Mrs. Aden Fuller and two sons, of Fitchburg.

Over Christmas guests at the home of Mr. and Mrs. H. Spaulding were

The Boston Store

GEORGE TURNER & SON

AYER, MASS.

Wilhelmina Corsets

Are designed to meet the requirements of particular people. The materials employed in the manufacture of these Corsets are most carefully selected. The workmanship is not surpassed by those of any other make.

Ask to see the following styles:



Zona Reducing Corset

No. 888, at \$1.50

A form reducing and adjusting Corset without equal. Made with long skirt and hips of heavy contel. Six hose supporters. Price \$1.50.

Model 880, at \$1.00

Extra long, made of good contel, hose supporters side and front, draw string at top, nickel skirt hook.

Price \$1.00



Model 832, at \$1.00

Made of fine contel, extra long skirt and hips, fine lace trimmed, draw string top.

Price \$1.00



MEN'S FURNISHINGS

Gloves of all kinds
Best Grade Overalls, Railroad Style, at 75c.
Sweaters
Sterling Brand Collars and Cuffs

Rev. Albert Kilbourn, of Dartmouth college, Ralph Kilbourn of Albany, N. Y., and Ellery Kilbourn of Montreal, all nephews of Mrs. Spaulding. Mrs. Charles Hill was made happy by the presence of all her children on Sunday, at which time the Christmas dinner was held. In addition to the usual members of the family there were present Mr. and Mrs. Frank Lewis and four children, Maud, Mary, Elizabeth and John, of Groton; Harry Hill, of Fitchburg, Miss Nellie Hill, of Boston, and Mrs. A. J. Matt, formerly Miss Beatrice Bennett, now the wife of Dr. Matt, of Buena Vista, Va.

New Advertisements.

MORTGAGEE'S SALE OF REAL ESTATE

By virtue of the power of sale contained in a certain mortgage deed given by Douglas C. Smith to Levi W. Phelps, dated March 14, 1900, and recorded with Middlesex South District Deeds, libro 2805, folio 376, and for breach of the conditions contained in said mortgage and for the purpose of foreclosing said mortgage, will be sold at public auction upon the premises on Tuesday, the twenty-third day of January, A. D. 1912, at two o'clock in the afternoon, all and singular, the premises conveyed by said mortgage deed, namely:

A certain lot of land with the buildings thereon situated in Ayer in the County of Middlesex and Commonwealth of Massachusetts on the Northernly side of a proposed Street, called Howard Street as shown on plan entitled "Plan of House-Lots belonging to Levi W. Phelps, Surveyed 1895" H. C. Hovey, Surveyor, Bounded and described as follows:

Beginning at South-easterly corner of the premises at the junction of the Northernly side of said Howard Street with Westernly side of Jackson Street, so called, as shown on said plan; thence Northernly by the Westernly side of said Jackson Street eighty feet to a bound; thence Westernly at a right angle with Westernly side of said Jackson Street one hundred and ninety-two feet to Easterly line of Pearl Street, so called, as shown on said plan; thence Southernly at a right angle with last described course and by the Easterly side of Pearl Street about one hundred and fourteen and one half feet to the northernly line of said Howard Street; thence Easterly at an angle of 79° 10' with last described course and by the Northernly side of said Howard Street about one hundred and ninety and ninety six-one-hundredths feet to point of beginning.

Being lot No. 20 on said plan.

All the above named streets are contemplated streets.

Said premises are subject to a prior mortgage for sixteen hundred dollars held by North Middlesex Savings Bank.

Terms made known at the time and place of sale.

LEVI W. PHELPS, Mortgagee.

Standard Oil Company of New York
New England Department
50 Congress Street
W. D. McMillan, Manager
H. A. Wilkinson, Asst. Manager
Boston, Mass., November 17, 1911.
To the Honorable Board of Selectmen, Ayer, Massachusetts.

The Standard Oil Company of New York petitions your Board for license to it to erect, maintain and use one additional iron storage tank ten and one half (10½) feet in diameter and twenty-five (25) feet high, for the storage and sale of Petroleum Products on its premises in the Town of Ayer.

Standard Oil Co. of New York.
New England Department.
By W. D. McMILLAN.

TOWN OF AYER

In Board of Selectmen
December 21, 1911.
Upon the foregoing petition, it is ORDERED, that a public hearing be given at the Selectmen's Room in the Town Hall on
TUESDAY, JANUARY 16, 1912,
at 7.30 o'clock P. M.,
at which time and place all persons interested may attend and will be heard; and that the petitioner give public notice of said hearing by publishing an attested copy of said petition and this order thereon in Turner's Public Spirit and the Ayer News, newspapers published in said Ayer, fourteen days, at least, before the date thereof.

ELISHA D. STONE,
FRANK S. PIERCE,
JOHN M. MALONEY,
Selectmen of Ayer.

A copy of petition and order thereon. Attest:
JOHN M. MALONEY,
Clerk, Selectmen of Ayer.

JOHN H. TURNER, Editor.
GEORGE H. B. TURNER, Publisher.
All Advertisements Appear in All the
Five Papers We Publish.
The circulation of our five papers is
ten times larger than that of any other
paper circulating in the five towns.
"This is the Pen and Press we mortals
own.
All we believe and almost all we
know."
Saturday, December 30, 1911.

AYER.

Death.
The funeral of the late Elbridge W. Whitaker was held at 1:30 last Saturday afternoon from the First Congregational church. Rev. John E. Whitley, the pastor, performed the service at the church. The church quartet, composed of Dr. B. H. Hopkins, E. H. Bliss, H. C. Harlow and E. E. Harlow, rendered "Beautiful Isle of Somewhere," "Beyond" and "Shall we meet beyond the river."
The bearers were D. H. Dickinson, E. D. Martell, Francis Lovejoy, S. B. Froble, G. V. Barrett and W. A. Wright.

The service of the G. A. R., of which the deceased was a member, was performed at the church. Members of this organization, as well as those of the W. R. C. and S. of V., attended the services. The members of George S. Boutwell post, G. A. R., escorted the remains to Woodlawn cemetery, where the interment took place, the committal service being performed by Rev. John E. Whitley.

A Fine Instructor.
The Christmas tree exercises at Page hall on last week Friday afternoon and evening, under the direction of B. B. Lovett in connection with his dancing school, were very enjoyable. In the afternoon the Christmas tree for the children came off. It was well attended and the tree was prettily decorated and presented an attractive appearance. It was well laden with a variety of gifts for the young people. The pupils took much pleasure in remembering Mr. Lovett, their teacher, with a gift of a five dollar gold piece, which was appreciated, thanking them in his genial pleasant manner. Mr. Wheeler, the pianist, was kindly remembered. The number of pupils are between fifty and sixty and they manifest much interest in their school. The parents also realize the worth of their fine instructor.

Wedding.
A quiet home wedding took place at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Frank J. Perry on Christmas afternoon at two o'clock, when their daughter, Miss Clara Perry, was united in marriage to Hiram K. Slayton, of Hudson, formerly of Ayer. Rev. Arthur D. Stroud, a former pastor of the local M. E. church, performed the ceremony in the presence of only the relatives of the parties. The bride was dressed in a navy blue suit with a hat to match. The ring service was used.

After the ceremony, Mr. and Mrs. Slayton left on their wedding journey, which includes visits to Washington, D. C., New York city and other places. Upon their return they will live in Hudson, in a house already furnished for them. They received many useful and ornamental gifts, including a piano, silverware, linen, cut glass and other articles.
The bride was engaged as a telephone operator at the local office before her marriage, and the groom has a responsible position with the telephone company, being in charge of the cable of Marlboro, Hudson, Clinton and Berlin.

Installation.
A special communication of Caleb Butler lodge of Masons will be held in Masonic hall, Monday evening, January 1, at 6:30 o'clock. The newly-elected and appointed officers will be installed by Ira G. Dwinell and Edward A. Richardson will act as marshal. The installation is public to the ladies. Supper will be served in the Banquet hall at seven o'clock. An entertainment will be given after the installation services. Music for installation services and entertainment will be furnished by the University male quartet of Boston, with Edith Arcey of Boston, reader and entertainer.

Death.
James F. Doherty, formerly of this town, died in St. John's hospital last Monday night aged forty-nine years. Before going to Lowell, he was employed as an iron moulder in the foundry here. Later on he and his two brothers, John F. and William C. Doherty, formed a partnership under the firm name of Doherty Bros., and carried on the business of iron foundry here till their removal to Lowell, over twenty years ago, where the firm is still doing a good business.
He leaves a wife, Mrs. Elizabeth Doherty, a daughter, Miss Winnifred Doherty, two brothers, William C. and John F. Doherty, and three sisters, Mrs. W. W. Murphy and Misses Alice H. and Anna M. Doherty.

The funeral took place on Thursday morning and was attended by a large number of relatives and friends of the deceased, including a number from out-of-town. At ten o'clock, a solemn high requiem mass was sung at St. Margaret's church. The celebrant was Rev. John J. Hopkins, the pastor, who was assisted by Rev. Philip J. Lee, of Leominster, as deacon, and Rev. Henry C. Reardon, of Lowell, as sub-deacon. The choir sang the Gregorian mass, with Miss Elizabeth Coughlin at the organ. The solo parts were sung by Mrs. Hugh Walker, Miss Hennessey and Joseph McCaffrey. At the conclusion of the mass the choir sang the "De Profundis."
The ushers at the house and church were William A. Driscoll, Geo. P. Scannell, Paul Kearney and Dr. James F. McAdams. The bearers were M. D. McGrail, of Roxbury, Daniel E. Hogan, Joseph F. Egan, John W. Daly, John J. Garrahan and Daniel T. Egan.

The interment was at St. Patrick's cemetery in charge of undertakers J. F. O'Donnell & Sons. Rev. Mr. Lee

performed the committal service at the cemetery.
In Town.
Frank Schurman came here last Saturday on a ten-days furlough to spend the Christmas holidays with his mother, Mrs. J. A. Hart, and it was his first Christmas in town since he enlisted four years ago, in March 1908, and his furlough expires on January 5. Of late he has been doing duty in the navy yard band at Charlestown, where he is stationed on the receiving ship Wabash, and will remain there until the expiration of his enlistment next March. Last year he spent Christmas in Paris, where he was on leave of absence for eighteen days, which he spent in sight-seeing in France, and was on leave of absence afterwards for sixteen days in London and visited other parts of England. During his four years' service in the navy he has been on different vessels and has seen much of the world in the cruises of the battleships on which he was. He has enjoyed his four years' service and when he receives his discharge, it will be worth having, as he has been very faithful in all his duties during his service of four years.

Disastrous Fire.
The house in Ayer occupied by Paul A. Weber on the Groton road, at the corner south of the brook, was totally destroyed by fire with the household furniture and barn and contents on Friday morning, December 29. The fire was discovered about four o'clock and the fierce gale fanned the flames so that those in the house had but little time to dress and escape. An attempt was made to save the piano and other property, with the assistance of the neighbors, but their efforts proved unavailing. The origin of the fire is unknown. All in the house—Mr. and Mrs. Weber and two daughters—were awakened from the suffocating smoke.
The house and barn and household furniture and other personal property is partially covered by insurance. Miss Eleanor Weber, who is a school teacher in the town of Orleans, this state, came home Friday of last week to spend her vacation with her parents and returns to her school next Monday. She brought with her many of her school papers and keys of her school, which were destroyed in the fire.
It was a terrible cold and blustering morning to be turned out of house and home, but they were kindly cared for by their neighbors.

News Items.
A test was made of the new water pressure on Wednesday and proved entirely satisfactory. One test was made at the carriage shop of Frederick Whitney where the pressure was found to register ninety-two pounds. Two men had all they could do to hold the hose. Another trial was made in front of the residence of Hon. George J. Burns, where the pressure was forty-two pounds. This is probably the highest elevation in town where the pressure is needed for fire purposes and there was no difficulty in throwing two streams over Mr. Burns' house, which is certainly some pressure.
A public hearing will be given in the selectmen's room on Tuesday evening, January 16, at 7:30 o'clock, on the petition of the Standard Oil Company for permission to erect, maintain and use an additional iron storage tank for the storage and sale of petroleum products on its premises in Ayer.

The annual dance given by the senior class of the high school will take place on Friday evening, January 5.
Vesta Rebekah lodge, I. O. O. F., elected these officers at the last meeting: Mrs. Grace E. Winslow, n. g.; Miss Nellie F. Kellerman, v. g.; Ralph O. Jenkins, sec.; Mrs. Ella F. Hovey, treas.; Peter Tarbell, trus. 3 yrs.

James Manning, no home, was sentenced to the house of correction in court last Saturday morning at his own request for thirty days. Manning had but one leg and said he needed care, as he was unwell.
The annual meeting of the First Unitarian church will be held in the Unitarian church vestry on Wednesday evening, January 3, at seven o'clock.
F. J. Perry next March will have completed his twenty-ninth consecutive year in the employ of Frederick Whitney, taking the late James McRay's place as carriage and ornamental painter, when he retired from the firm of Brigham, McRay & Whitney, afterwards Brigham & Whitney.

Rev. and Mrs. A. D. Stroud spent Christmas day with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. S. J. Andrew, returning to Newton Highlands the following day, where he is pastor of the M. E. church. Mr. Stroud is now taking a course at Harvard college.
Daniel Joy and Miss Mary M. Sherman were married last Saturday evening at the parochial residence. Edward J. Sherman and Miss Lottie A. Sherman, brother and sister of the bride, attended them. After the return from a wedding journey they will make their home here.
John L. Leahy won the five-pound box of candy offered by George S. Poulis & Company on Christmas day.

Mrs. George Harrigan, of Portland, Me., and Mrs. Frank Lehan were visiting their mother, Mrs. Winnifred Leahy, during Christmas.
The January meeting of the Ayer branch Woman's Alliance will be omitted.
Rev. and Mrs. J. W. Thomas spent Christmas with their daughter, Mrs. L. H. Merchant, of Boston. Mrs. Thomas remained till Wednesday, before returning home.
The bicycle belonging to Hartwell Kidder, which was stolen several months ago, has been recovered and restored to its owner. At the time it was taken it was left at the curbing in the business section for a good while. It might be well for the owners of bicycles if they value their property to be careful about leaving them in this manner, as the chances

are decidedly against the finding of them where they leave them in such places.
The Christmas tree exercises at the Baptist vestry last Saturday evening were very enjoyable and largely attended. Prayer was offered by the pastor of the church, which was followed by an informal program of singing and recitations appropriate to the Christmas season. The presents were distributed by John B. Washburn, who made an excellent Santa Claus. The exercises were in charge of Warren L. Preble, superintendent of the Sunday school.

At the regular meeting of Ida McKinley chapter, O. E. S., held on Wednesday evening, six were initiated into the chapter, making a total of fifty-five during the past year, while Miss Fannie E. Woods, of Groton, was matron, and more than was ever initiated in any year since the chapter has been organized. The following officers were elected and with the appointed ones will be installed at the next regular meeting to be held on Wednesday evening, January 24:
Mrs. W. L. Irwin, w. m.; Elson H. Bigelow, w. p.; Mrs. Male A. Carlin, s. m.; Mrs. Mary A. Lawrence, con.; Mrs. Grace A. Lantz, a. con.; Mrs. Gertrude C. Turner, treas.; secretary, not decided; Mrs. Lucy Parsons, trus. 3 yrs.

Miss Nina Fletcher, violinist, formerly of this town, will give a recital at Steiner hall, Boston, on Saturday, January 6, at three o'clock. For her program she will play Handel's sonata in D major, Lajo's Symphonie Espagnole, Dubois' Adagio, Bron's Berceuse and Guirand's Caprice. Miss Fletcher will have the assistance of Alfred de Voto at the piano.
The following officers of Easter lodge, N. E. O. P., were elected at the regular meeting on Tuesday evening: J. B. Washburn, w.; Mrs. Margaret Rand, v. w.; Mrs. A. S. Washburn, sec.; Miss Nellie H. Carrigan, f. s.; Mrs. Kate C. Carrigan, treas.; Mrs. Ida-L. Preble, chap.; Mrs. Elizabeth Scruton, g.; Mrs. Charlotte Miller, g.; H. H. Pillman, s.; G. R. Downing, 3 yrs.; Mrs. E. M. Reynolds, 2 yrs.; Mrs. G. M. Rhymes, org.; W. L. Preble and J. E. Washburn were elected representatives to the grand lodge and G. R. Downing and H. H. Pillman, alternates.

The cellar for the new house of Harvey W. Winslow, on Highland avenue, is finished and a force of men began work on the house on Thursday morning, under the direction of C. H. Hardy.
A warrant has been posted for a special town meeting next Tuesday evening at seven o'clock to take action on the acceptance and laying out of Rogers street between West Main and Shirley streets.
William E. Wheeler, who was operated upon for appendicitis at the Groton hospital last Saturday, is reported to be improving.
Judge Warren A. Atwood and associate justice John M. Maloney, attended the banquet of the Massachusetts State Bar association at the Hotel Somerset, Boston, on Thursday evening.

Joseph E. Carman, of Boston, was in town over Christmas, stopping with his aunt, Mrs. Weldon. He has a good position as window dresser for the Riker-Jaynes drug stores throughout New England.
At the meeting of Robert Burns lodge, I. O. O. F., on Tuesday evening, these officers were elected: Joseph Kyle, n. g.; J. R. Phileas Daude-lin, v. g.; S. L. Cotton, sec.; Peter Tarbell, treas.; R. H. Irwin, trus. 3 yrs.
The fire department was called out at 5:30 o'clock last Saturday morning for a slight fire in the house of Charles Sherwin on Columbia street. There was practically no damage.

At the meeting on Wednesday evening of the Ayer lodge of International Association of Car Workers at their lodge room, the following officers were chosen for the ensuing year:
C. W. Washburn, pres.; Charles Daniels, v. p.; J. B. Washburn, rec. sec.; H. Cunningham, fin. sec.; H. H. Watson, treas.; John Fredricks, con.; Frank Lyons, L. E. Canning, H. J. Allen, trus.; J. B. Washburn, four. cor.; J. B. Washburn, L. J. Taylor, rep. to dist. H. J. Allen, ent. com.
Mr. and Mrs. William H. Reardon, of Boston, spent Christmas with Mr. and Mrs. Clarence Moore, his sister, returning to their home in the city on Wednesday.

These officers of Court Napoleon Bonaparte, F. of A., were elected at the last regular meeting last week Friday evening:
M. E. Fitzgerald, c. r.; L. M. Martell, s. c. r.; J. C. Martell, treas.; O. E. Carlson, f. s.; H. E. Chauvin, r. s.; George Chauvin, v. w.; F. W. Cote, J. W. John, E. J. Martell, G. C. L. Washburn, L. E. Canning, H. J. Allen, trus.; J. B. Washburn, four. cor.; J. B. Washburn, L. J. Taylor, rep. to dist. H. J. Allen, ent. com.
All members of the Ayer Woman's club are entitled to one guest ticket for guest afternoon of the club on January 3, and may procure the same of Mrs. Elizabeth Kyle on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday mornings.

Tomorrow, Rev. W. E. Waterbury, chief secretary of the Massachusetts Baptist Missionary society, will preach at the service at 10:45 in the morning, and at seven o'clock in the evening. He will also address the Sunday school, which begins at twelve o'clock, at the Baptist church.
Letters remaining uncalled for at the Ayer postoffice, for the week ending December 25: Mrs. Eva Druchel, Archie McDonald, P. J. O'Connell, Pond Pilsbury.

Death.
Mrs. Catherine W. (Hard) Batchelder, wife of associate justice Clark A. Batchelder, of the Fitchburg police court, and a former well-known resident of this town, died at her home in Fitchburg last week Friday night as a result of heart disease, of which she was a sufferer for some time past. She had not been well for nearly a year, and during that time had at different periods been seriously ill. For the past several months she had been planning to start for California, in the hope that it would benefit her. A few days before her death, however, she became so sick that the idea of the western journey was abandoned. Friday she failed rapidly until death came at 10:30 that evening.

Mrs. Batchelder was born in Manchester, Vt., May 19, 1853, the daughter of Zera and Mary Jennings (Walter) Hard. She received her education in the public schools and seminary in Manchester. She was married to Clark A. Batchelder on May 13, 1874. She leaves besides her husband, three children, Mrs. Edward Fletcher and Miss Louise E. Batchelder, of San Diego, Cal., and Eugene C. Batchelder, of Del Mar, in the same state.
The family lived here for several years before moving to Fitchburg. Mrs. Batchelder was highly esteemed by all who knew her. She was an active worker in the Rollstone Congregational church in Fitchburg, but belonged to no other organization as she believed that her home was her place.

The funeral was held Sunday afternoon at 2:30 o'clock, at her late home in the presence of a large gathering of relatives, neighbors and friends, including a large representation from the membership of the Rollstone church of which the deceased was a member. Rev. Arthur J. Covell, pastor of that church, was the officiating clergyman. Mrs. Mary Howe Burton of Lancaster sang. The body was taken to Manchester, Vt., on Monday, and interment was later in the day at that place.

Basketball.
The honors were even in the basketball games played here on Christmas afternoon. The game that attracted the most attention, was that between the strong Centralville team of Lowell and the regular gymnasium team. The Lowell boys won after a hard contest by the narrow margin of six points, the score being 36 to 30 at the finish.
Green scored the most points for the local team, getting a total of 14. For the visiting team Dole played the best, scoring nine baskets, or a total of eighteen points, from the floor. A number of enthusiastic supporters of the teams were on hand to cheer their favorites. The lineup:
CENTRALVILLES
Hooley, lb.; lb. Atkinson, lb.
Burns, Ryan, Hurley, rb.; rb. O'Brien
Donahue, c.; c. R. Freeman
McIntire, rf.; rf. Dole
Green, lf.; lf. Manning
Score—Centralvilles 36, Civil gymnasium 30. Goals from floor—Hooley, Donahue 2, Green 7, Dole 9, Manning 3, Freeman 2, Atkinson, Sullivan 2. Goals from fouls—Sullivan 6, Manning 1. Scorer, Mullin. Referees, Forbes and Coulter. Time, two 20m periods.

HIGH SCHOOL FITCHBURG
Bowler, Filibrown, Kittredge, rf.
Hurley, lf.; lf. Nickerson
Donahue, c.; c. Roberts
Brown, lb.; lb. Monhill
McNitt, rb.; rb. McIntire
Score—Ayer high school 41, Fitchburg 24. Goals from floor—Bowler 2, Donahue 1, Filibrown 1, McIntire, Monhill, Roberts 4, Nickerson 5. Goals from fouls—Donahue, Scorer, Mullin. Referees, Brown. Time two 20m periods.

Inquest.
The inquest on the death of Nicholas Fafutes, who was killed at the tannery on December 12, was held in the district courtroom on last Saturday morning before associate justice John M. Maloney.
Medical examiner, Dr. Frank S. Bulkeley, of Ayer, was the first witness. He described the wounds on the body which he viewed after arriving at the scene of the accident, and said that death was caused by a broken neck, just below the base of the skull, and that death was instantaneous.
John Sheehan, an employee of the Ayer Tanning Company, under whose orders the deceased was working, was the next witness. Mr. Sheehan told substantially the same story as was published at the time of the accident. Theodore W. Barry, a member of the firm of Eugene Barry & Sons, told about the drum, its general construction and its approximate size and weight.

John N. Martin, employed as a carpenter at the shop where the accident occurred, said he was near the drum to make some repairs on it, when it was empty. After the accident he went to the office and told of it. Mr. Martin said he could not explain how the drum started up after it had stopped.
The last witness was Anthony Cian-acopolis, an employee of the Ayer Tanning Company, who gave his evidence through an interpreter. At the close of the evidence, the hearing was adjourned. The court withheld its decision.

The decision of the court was filed on Wednesday morning. The court finds that the said Nicholas Fafutes came to his death at said Ayer on the twelfth day of December, 1911, in consequence of getting his head caught between a revolving machine about which he was working and a cross timber which supported the axle of said machine, whereby his neck was broken just below the base of the skull, causing instantaneous death.
The material circumstances attending his death are as follows: He had been employed for several months as a general helper in the coloring room of the tannery of Eugene Barry & Sons at Ayer. In this room are ten machines, or drums, in the form of hollow cylinders, each about eight and one-half feet in diameter, and four in length, with a door in the end, through which skins are put in and taken out in the process of coloring. Each cylinder is supported at the ends by unconnected axles resting upon cross pieces of timber, which are just high enough above the floor to allow the cylinder to revolve.

These axles are hollow and through them a prepared liquid is injected by means of a pipe into the cylinder. The revolution of the cylinders is designed to cause the skins to be thoroughly shaken up and uniformly colored. This is further facilitated by about twenty-five pins set staggering and projecting twelve inches into the cylinder which toss the skins about in the liquid.
There are several different liquids used in the coloring process without removing the skins from the machine. As each liquid has performed its function, it is drained off by knocking out a plug, the skins meanwhile being placed on two 12-inch shelves on the inside, one on each side of the door. Each cylinder is independent of the other and received power from the main shaft by means of a belt to a counter shaft.

upon which is a tight and loose pulley and a small gear, which meshes with a gear around the circumference of the machine and causes the latter to make sixteen revolutions a minute. The machine is started and stopped by means of a wooden slipper which throws the belt from the loose to the tight pulley, and vice versa.
In the forenoon of December 12, the deceased was helping John Sheehan, a fellow employee. The shelves in one of the cylinders had broken and had been removed and Sheehan had asked John N. Martin, a carpenter and repair man employed by Eugene Barry & Sons, to fix them. This would make it necessary for Martin to go into the machine and Sheehan told him as a precautionary measure to throw the belt off the countershaft before he went in. This was some time before the accident. The machine had been used with the shelves removed and Sheehan told the deceased to take out a batch of colored skins to be carried away, and the deceased had taken out about half of the 110 skins he had to put his head through the door to reach the skins and take it out to pile them on a cart beside him.
While he was so engaged Martin arrived with his tools to fix the shelves. He did not see the deceased, but did see that the machine was not running. I find that Martin then threw the belt off, preparatory to going into the machine to repair the shelves; that in so doing he threw it from the loose pulley across the tight pulley, which caused the machine to start and kill the deceased before he could withdraw his head from the door, and that the machine stopped as soon as Martin had completely thrown the belt off.
Whether the act of Martin was negligent, in view of his instructions, and the fact that the machine was at rest, with no knowledge on his part that anyone was in a position to be injured by what he did, is at least open to doubt. But I am satisfied that if there was any negligence on the part of Martin it did not amount to criminal negligence. I find therefore, that it does not appear that the unlawful act of any person contributed to the death of Nicholas Fafutes.

Commonwealth of Massachusetts.
Middlesex, ss: Probate Court.
To all persons interested in the estate of HENRY H. BASKELL late of Littleton in said County, deceased.
Whereas, NATHAN A. TAYLOR, the executor of the will of said deceased, has presented for allowance in the account of his administration upon the estate of said deceased.
You are hereby cited to appear at a Probate Court, to be held at Cambridge in said County, on the twenty-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 executor is ordered to serve this citation by delivering a copy thereof to all persons interested in the estate fourteen days at least before said Court, or by publishing the same once in each week, for three successive weeks, in the Boston Globe, a newspaper published in said County, 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.

Witness, Charles J. McIntire, Register.
First Judge of the Court, this twenty-eighth day of December in the year one thousand nine hundred and eleven.
3116 W. E. ROGERS, Register.

**Through the efforts of the Ayer police a clever capture was made of two young men who entered the house of Michael McMahon in Harvard last Saturday afternoon and helped themselves to what they could find to eat. A telephone message was received from Harvard between four and five o'clock on the day the crime was committed and officer W. J. Mullin was notified and immediately began work on the case, as it was thought the fugitives might come this way.
Chief Beatty was out of town, having taken a prisoner to the East Cambridge house of correction, who was sentenced that morning from the local court. Upon the chief's arrival in town on the five o'clock express, he was notified of the robbery and he and officer Mullin made a further search for the missing couple.
The chief thinking that they might be found around the railroad station, went to that point. He was not there long when he saw two suspicious looking characters. Following up this observation he saw the same two get aboard the accommodation train for Boston and hide on the front platform of the forward car next to the engine, as though they might be attempting to steal a ride. The chief took them from their hiding place and brought them into the ticket office where he questioned and searched them. He found a stocking cap in the pocket of each of them, while they wore caps of other material. This fact, together with the previous investigation, looked very suspicious and the young men were taken to the police station and the Harvard police notified.
Officer William Hanna of that town came here and brought the men, who proved to be the right ones, to the Clinton police station. They gave their names as Peter Joyce, aged nineteen, and Alfred M. O'Connell, aged eighteen, both of Boston. Joyce has no relatives and O'Connell has only a mother living.
The trial took place in the Clinton court on Tuesday morning, when they were arraigned before Judge Jonathan Smith on a charge of breaking entering and larceny. They were held in five hundred dollars bail for the grand jury, which they were unable to furnish and they were committed to the Fitchburg jail to await action by that body.
Joyce was also found guilty of the larceny of a bicycle, valued at ten dollars, in Clinton some time ago.**

Notice.
Worcester, Mass., Dec. 23, 1911.
To each and every officer and member of Ayer Circle, No. 478, C. of F. of A.:
The Grand Executive Council, Grand Circle of Massachusetts, C. of F. of A., has appointed January 2, 1912, at two p. m., as a time, and the American House, Boston, Mass., as a place, at which you may appear before it and show cause why you should not be suspended from the Order.
No. 1. For neglecting and refusing to conform to the laws, enactments and resolutions of the Grand Circle, and of the Grand Executive Council.
No. 2. For improper conduct in refusing to recognize the authority of the Grand Officers, and to accord to them the privilege due to their rank.
No. 3. For refusing and neglecting to make proper returns to the Grand Circle, as required by law and to pay such quarterly per capita taxes and assessments as are now due to the Grand Circle for the quarters due since June, 1909, and unpaid.
This notice is given, and action under it will be taken without prejudice to the rights of any persons which have accrued by virtue of the events of November 1, 1910, and without conceding to any degree that those proceedings were invalid, a question which has not yet been determined.
Since, however, it is claimed that you were not lawfully suspended, and have remained members of the Order, despite those events, this notice is given.
Yours in B. S. and C.
VIRGINIA MORIARTY,
G. F. Sec'y.

New Advertisements.
WANTED—A Girl to assist in General Housework. Apply to WHITNEY COTTAGE, near Groton School, Groton, Mass. 1611

NOTICE.
To whom it may concern:
Attention is called to the following amended paragraphs of the Revised Laws:
Chap. 151, Sec. 16.
Persons who intend to be joined in marriage in this commonwealth shall, not less than five days before their marriage, cause notice of their intention to be entered in the office of the clerk or registrar of the city or town in which they respectively dwell, or, if they do not dwell within the commonwealth in the office of the clerk or registrar of the city or town in which they propose to have the marriage solemnized.
Sec. 23. After the expiration of five days from the date of the entry of such intention the clerk or registrar shall deliver to the parties a certificate signed by him, specifying the time when notice of the intention of marriage was entered with him and all facts relative to the marriage, which are required by law to be ascertained and recorded, except those relative to the person by whom the marriage is to be solemnized. Such certificate shall be delivered to the minister or magistrate before whom the marriage is to be contracted, before he proceeds to solemnize the same.
Sec. 7. This act shall take effect on the first day of January, nineteen hundred twelve.
GUY B. REMICK, Town Clerk.

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS.
Middlesex, ss: Probate Court.
To all persons interested in the estate of HENRY H. BASKELL late of Littleton in said County, deceased.
Whereas, NATHAN A. TAYLOR, the executor of the will of said deceased, has presented for allowance in the account of his administration upon the estate of said deceased.
You are hereby cited to appear at a Probate Court, to be held at Cambridge in said County, on the twenty-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 executor is ordered to serve this citation by delivering a copy thereof to all persons interested in the estate fourteen days at least before said Court, or by publishing the same once in each week, for three successive weeks, in the Boston Globe, a newspaper published in said County, 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.

Witness, Charles J. McIntire, Register.
First Judge of the Court, this twenty-eighth day of December in the year one thousand nine hundred and eleven.
3116 W. E. ROGERS, Register.

P. DONLON & CO.
Ayer, Mass.

CHRISTMAS GOODS
SLEDS SKIS
SLED BOXES
FLEXIBLE FLYERS
TOBAGGANS
HOCKEY STICKS
DOLLS DOLL CABS
WAGONS SHOOF-LIES
WHEELBARROWS CARTS
TYPEWRITERS
STEAM ENGINES
ELECTRICAL ENGINES
MECHANICAL TOYS
BELLS, TINSEL AND FANCY DECORATIONS
FANCY CHINA AND GLASSWARE

P. DONLON & CO.
Ayer, Mass.

Thermos Bottles
GENUINE ORIGINAL VACUUM BOTTLE
At One dollar
One dollar and fifty
Two dollars and fifty
Three dollars and fifty
ALSO
One and Two Bottle Cases and Lunch Sets

DRUG STORE
AYER

SHIRLEY.

News Items. Miss Augustine Pelecler has suddenly been called to St. Francis du Lac, P. Q., owing to the death of her father. J. Edwin Pomfret and Thomas S. Gately have been drawn to serve on the jury. Horbert E. Lawrence picked a pansy from the north side of his yard on Christmas day. Edwin H. Conant has been confined to his home the past ten days with sickness. Mrs. Augustus Chaisson, of Lincoln, N. H., is visiting her parents. Mr. and Mrs. Arsenault, of Leominster, visited friends in town on Monday. Employees of the C. A. Edgarton Mfg. Company, who have been in the employ of the company for twenty-five years, were very happily surprised a few hours before the work closed for the Christmas holidays by being summoned to the private office of C. F. Edgarton, president of the company, and each were presented with a purse of twenty-five dollars in gold. William H. Brown, who has been confined to home with pneumonia, is slowly improving. Mr. and Mrs. H. D. Allen, of Brookline, and W. J. Harrod, of Waverley, were entertained on Christmas day at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Frank W. Snell. The Sunday schools of the town held their annual Christmas tree with entertainment last week Saturday evening. All the boys and girls this year were the recipients of gifts and a general good time was indulged in. Mr. and Mrs. Harry Collyer attended the funeral of their niece, Doris Collyer, at Cambridge, Thursday. Doris was four years of age and died of pneumonia. Mary A. Livermore Rebekah lodge have elected these officers for the ensuing year: Ella F. Lawrence, n. g.; Annie M. Brockelman, v. g.; Altie F. Howe, sec.; Martha A. Holden, treas.; Harry H. Lynch, trus. 3 yrs. Installation and supper will take place on Friday evening, January 12. Miss Arline Wilbur, of Ashburnham academy, spent the Christmas holidays at home. Miss Mabel Hazen, of New Haven, is spending the Christmas holidays at her home. Miss Barbara Hazen, of New York, spent the Christmas holidays at her home. Mrs. Ella Keyes, of New Hampshire, is visiting at the home of Mrs. Sarah Holt and Mrs. Mary Hastings, Harvard road. Mr. and Mrs. Elmer H. Allen; also, Mrs. McMichael spent the Christmas holidays with relatives in Boston. Miss Mildred Tilden, of Smith college, spent the Christmas holidays at home. The Congregational church will hold its fourteenth annual roll-call, with dinner, Wednesday, January 3. Dinner will be served at 12.30, followed by reports and the usual routine of business. Mrs. Nellie Ford spent Christmas at the home of her daughter, Mr. and Mrs. Frank Lee, of Fall River. Mary A. Livermore Rebekah lodge will hold a leap year party on Saturday evening, January 6, at Odd Fellows' hall. Johnson's orchestra, of Leominster, will furnish the music. Late cars will run to Ayer, Leominster and Fitchburg. Refreshments to be one of enjoyment for all who attend. Mrs. Ida M. Warren is floor director. Fred C. Saboll, of Shirley, and Mrs. Yenna E. L. Ophot, of Lowell were united in marriage at the Congregational parsonage by Rev. Allen A. Bronson, Tuesday afternoon at one o'clock. They will reside for a time at the Brookside, Mr. Saboll, for some years past, has been employed as packer in the shipping room of the C. A. Edgarton Mfg. Company. Officers Elected. J. C. Ayer lodge, A. O. U. W., held its regular meeting on Tuesday evening, when the following officers were elected to serve during the year 1912: Thomas C. Burrill, m. w.; John E. Adams, f.; Arthur Bassett, o.; Walter Knowles, rec.; John M. Leopold, n. g.; Charles W. Wolf, trus.; Sylvester Chesbrough, g.; Alvah A. Watton, f. w.; Alwin Buchheim, o. w.; William J. Flynn, trus. 3 yrs.; Chester Parsons, rep. to grand lodge; Jacob C. Beach, alternate. These officers will be installed on Monday evening, January 8. The features of the evening to be enjoyed will be a collation with brief addresses by the grand master, grand recorder, advisory counsel, grand inside watch. At this meeting the grand master will present to the lodge the block and gavel won at Clinton on November 7. Christmas Day. Mr. and Mrs. Fred Burden, in company with daughter Louise; also, Mr. and Mrs. Willbur Scott and family, all of Everett, were visitors at the home of Mrs. Will Love on Christmas day; Walter Manning and family, of Mt. Vernon, N. Y., spent the holidays with Mr. and Mrs. John G. Conant, parents of Mrs. Manning; Mrs. Annie I. Banks, in company with her daughter, Miss Ida M. Warren, spent the holidays in Manchester, N. H.; Mr. and Mrs. John W. Slocumb and family spent Sunday and Monday with friends in Worcester; Fred Paulin, of Conway, N. H., visited friends in town; Mr. and Mrs. Frank Noel, Cezene Noel, and Miss Bella Beau-line, all of Worcester, were visitors at the home of Sylvester Thomas; William Corning, of Athol, a former resident, visited his parents in town on Sunday and Monday; Miss Sarah Knowles spent the day with relatives in Revere; Mr. and Mrs. Henry Gately, with baby, spent the day with relatives in town; C. F. Edgarton and family, of Concord, spent the day with his mother, Mrs. C. A. Edgarton; Mr. and Mrs. H. A. Polly and family, of Waltham, also spent the day with Mrs. C. A. Edgarton. Mr. and Mrs. Walter Knowles spent the holidays with relatives in Providence; Mrs. Ida M. Warren spent the holidays with her sister in Manchester, N. H.; Miss Inez McMurray visited her sister in Everett; John and Alice Flynn spent the day with relatives in Boston; Miss Nellie Casey spent over Christmas with her sister in Lexington; Miss Christine G. Longley, a student at the Quincy Mansion school, spent over Christmas at her home at the Center; Miss Elsie Knowles spent over Christmas with friends in North Prescott; Miss Amanda Beaudette, of Springfield, spent over Christmas with her sister, Miss Eva Beaudette; Arthur E. Felch with son Clifford, of Barre, spent over Christmas at their home on Harvard road. Mr. and Mrs. John Leopold spent over Christmas with Mr. and Mrs. Timothy J. Crowley, of Groton; Edward Smith, of Marlon, N. J., a former resident, spent over Christmas at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Arthur E. Felch; Miss Eta Gately, of Boston, a former resident, spent over Christmas with relatives in town; Mr. and Mrs. Leon Mudgett spent Christmas with Mr. Mudgett's parents in Leominster; Howard Willoughby spent the day at his home in Pepperell; Mr. and Mrs. John Pomfret, of Hudson; also, Mr. and Mrs. George Pomfret, of Waverley, were guests of their parents, Mr. and Mrs. Richard Pomfret, over the holidays. Serious Accident. Mrs. Martha Cooper, seventy-eight years of age, accidentally came in contact with the shafts of a team driven by August Buckheim, caretaker at the Holiday house, Lancaster road, last week Friday evening, about six o'clock. The force of the blow felled her to the ground and broke her hip. Mrs. Cooper, who resides in the same house with Mrs. Nickless had been to the store and was on her return, had crossed the roadway and had almost reached the steps leading to her home when the accident happened. No one is really responsible as the evening was extremely dark owing to the heavy downpour of rain, and the fact that Mrs. Cooper was carrying an umbrella which seemed to hide her completely from view. The front part of the shaft struck her squarely on the hip, and fortunately when thrown to the ground, she happened to be out of the way of the horse and wheels of the team. Mrs. Cooper was carried to her home and Dr. Lilly immediately sent for. If nothing unforeseen develops Mrs. Cooper, who is being cared for by a trained nurse, will recover in due time. Altruism. The Altruism club assembled at their clubroom on Thursday afternoon of last week, the president calling the meeting to order at 2.30. During the business hour Dr. Schenck announced that 2500 Red Cross stamps had been sold since the last meeting. Mrs. Schenck also gave notice that Rev. William Ware Locke would speak at the next meeting. A thimble party was held the remainder of the afternoon, where every lady brought sewing and kept busy while Miss Margreta Hastings entertained them by reading the Van Dyke's story of "The other wise man"; also, a chapter from Bird's Christmas carol by Kate D. Wiggin. A dainty lunch was served by the hospitality and entertainment committee. It was a very enjoyable afternoon. B. LITTLETON. News Items. The Forget-not circle of King's Daughters will hold the regular meeting next week Tuesday with Mrs. William H. Davis. The annual election of officers will take place and other important business will be brought before the circle. A large attendance is urged. The next meeting of the Alliance will be held at the home of Mrs. Gardner Prouty, and the program will be in charge of Rev. O. J. Fairfield. The Mission Study class of the United Workers at the Congregational church will meet on Wednesday afternoon, January 3, with Mrs. George W. Canney. The subjects to be considered are "Problems of legislation" and "The new immigration." Mrs. A. F. Conant will have charge of the program. The subject of the C. E. society for tomorrow evening is "Things I want to do better next year." About Town. Mr. and Mrs. Patch entertained over Sunday and Christmas their friends, the Gillette family, of Brockton. The guest evening of the Woman's club comes on Monday evening next, when Harry Kimball, of Boston, will speak on "Savings bank insurance." Frank Hager and little son, from Ironwood City, Mich., arrived here last week Friday for the Christmas holidays among friends and boyhood scenes. Frank Moore, of Chicago, Ill., came on to spend Christmas with his father and other relatives here. Unitarian Notes. At the Unitarian church tomorrow, the last day of the year, Rev. O. J. Fairfield will give a sermon of retrospect and prospect, "The lessons of the old year and the message of the new." The warrant has been posted for the annual parish meeting of the First Congregational society (Unitarian) in the vestry on Tuesday evening, January 2. The Christmas festival was observed at the Unitarian church in an appropriate manner. Rev. William Channing Brown, a former pastor, was present at the morning service and read the scripture lesson and offered prayer. Mrs. M. K. Priest sang as a response to the prayer, "Cantique de Noël," and Rev. O. J. Fairfield gave an inspiring and helpful Christmas sermon from the text: "And when they saw the star they rejoiced with exceeding great joy." At the Sunday school hour there was a wealth of Christmas carols and recitations that the time was more than filled, and the Christmas story that was to have been told by the pastor was put over for another time and will be told next Sunday. On Sunday evening the meeting of the Young Peoples' Guild was a service of song prepared by the music committee, and besides the carols, included a piano solo by Heywood Knowlton, a vocal solo by Miss Eunice Priest, and a quartet by Miss Dorothy Priest, Miss Lucy Houghton, H. Malcomb Priest and Kariton A. Priest, and as appropriate to Christmas eve, Rev. O. J. Fairfield read Dr. S. M. Crother's delightful story, "Miss Muffit's Christmas party." Altogether it was a day well spent. It was a jolly company that gathered at the Unitarian vestry last Saturday afternoon for the Christmas party of the Sunday school. 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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, Cribs, 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.

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Stickney Gasoline Engines ARE THE BEST. Don't Try It. You can't get something for nothing, neither can you get a gasoline engine for less than its worth. You get exactly what you pay for when you trade with me. And when I sell you a Stickney Engine, every dollar you give me works overtime. C. F. Wolcott. EXCLUSIVE AGENT C. F. WOLCOTT - Concord Jct., Mass.

More Fall Bargains in Farms. Blanket your horse in the stable and use a 5A Bias Girth. 5A 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

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.

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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

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8 CANS CORN 25c.
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Successor to John L. Boynton
INSURANCE AGENT AND BROKER
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East Pepperell, Mass.

SHIRLEY.
Center.
Edward Fuller entertained a party of five, including Dr. Fuller and two nieces from Boston over Christmas.

Mr. and Mrs. Henry Ware went to Brookline for several days, but returned on Monday for a short stay before leaving the house in charge of a hired man for the winter.

An impromptu party was held in the town hall on Monday evening, under the charge of Miss Allison B. Winslow. Games were played and dancing was enjoyed by all. Music for dancing was kindly furnished by Stanley F. White, Hazel Cummings, Allison Winslow and Louise Chevrete. Ice cream and cake were served. All spent a very enjoyable evening.

The next meeting of the Pomona grange will be held on Thursday, January 18, at Fitchburg.

Rev. William Ware Locke will preach a sermon appropriate to the closing of the old year and beginning of the new year at the First Parish church on Sunday.

Miss Helen M. Winslow and adopted daughter, Allison, of Cambridge, spent several days with Miss Harriet Winslow, returning to Cambridge on Tuesday.

Mrs. E. J. Adams is visiting relatives in Lunenburg and Townsend this week.

Mr. and Mrs. Welcome Longley and Mr. and Mrs. Frank Longley were guests of Mrs. Sara Longley and S. LeRoy Longley over Christmas.

Ruth Lawrence spent a few days last week with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Charles Lawrence, of Groton.

Mr. and Mrs. Elmer Hubbard were called to Princeton on Saturday to attend the funeral of Mr. Hubbard's mother.

Miss Annie Bridgman, of Brookline, was a Christmas guest of Rev. and Mrs. Howard R. Bridgman.

Christmas brings home the out-of-town students for their holiday recess. Among them who are home are the following: Arthur R. Holden, of Middlebury; Ruby Crockett, of Fitchburg Business college; Robert J. Evans, of Bowdoin; Hazel Cummings and Thomas Evans, of Fitchburg high school; Horace Harris, of Massachusetts Technology; Robert H. J. Holden, of Harvard university; Ruth M. Graves and Marlon L. Holden, of Fitchburg State Normal school; Lottie Bohanon, of Boston university; Harrison M. Patch, of the University of Maine; Christine G. Longley, of Quincy Mansion school.

William Craig, of West Acton, has moved into the house at the North, recently purchased of the late Mrs. Mary E. Holden.

Mr. Hancock and family, of South Acton, have moved to the house recently purchased of Alonzo Jenkins, at the North. It is interesting to note that the deed necessitated by this transfer of property, was the first new deed for over one hundred years, the last deed being given during the eighteenth century.

Mrs. Hattie P. Holden and son, Robert H. J. Holden, spent the first part of this week with Mr. and Mrs. Harrie P. Barnard at the village.

Mrs. Eleanor Foster Noble suffered a paralytic shock affecting his left side, on last week Friday, at the Old Ladies' home in Waltham. Mrs. Noble had been a boarder at the home of Mr. and Mrs. J. C. Ayers for about a year previous to her removal to the home a few weeks ago.

Rev. Howard A. Bridgman preached an interesting sermon at Trinity chapel on Sunday afternoon. During the absence of the Groton School boys the Sunday school classes were taken charge of by Misses Ruth M. Graves, Ethel M. Holden and Margaret Evans, all members of the older class. On Sunday, Rev. Mr. Sturgis, of Groton School, will address the congregation.

Mr. and Mrs. John W. Farrar have returned from a week's stay at their newly purchased farm in Pomfret, Vt. They report excellent sleighing in Vermont.

George H. Farmer, of Woodsville, was a Christmas guest of his sister, Mrs. Rockwood, of Lunenburg.

Russell Blood, of Boston, is spending a few days with his parents at the East.

Mr. Shattuck, of West Groton, has purchased the horses and logging teams belonging to the estate of the late Henry Farnsworth, at the East.

The Almon Holden farm, at the North, has been sold by Mr. Clement, of Townsend, to parties in Fitchburg. These parties intend to occupy the house in the spring, when Mr. and Mrs. Alonzo Jenkins will move to Townsend.

Rachael Carpenter, at the North, is spending a few days this week with relatives in Jamaica Plain.

The people of the town were treated to appropriate Christmas music on Sunday evening by a party of young people, who made a tour of the town singing Christmas carols. They were very kindly invited in by Mr. and Mrs. J. C. Ayers, and were served with refreshments by them.

Misses Helen, Harriet and Allison Winslow were guests of Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Hazen, at the village, Christmas.

Deaths.
Mrs. Mary E. Holden, at the North, passed away on Saturday after a long and severe illness. She was aged seventy-five years and was born in Townsend, her mother being Ann (Lewis) Shattuck. On January 1, 1882, she was joined in marriage to Charles Holden, of this town, and has lived since then at the farm at the North, known as the Charles Holden place. Mr. Holden died about four years ago. The cause of her death was a cancer, from which she has suffered for some time. About two months ago her condition became so serious that she was moved to the home of Mr. and Mrs. George Adams, where she died on Saturday.

The funeral was held on Tuesday afternoon at the home of Mr. Adams, Rev. J. W. Thomas, of Ayer, officiating. The body was taken to the Center cemetery for burial in the family lot there. The only surviving relative is a brother, Silas P. Shattuck, of Lowell.

The funeral of Mrs. Mary A. (Eaton) Neat was held on Thursday afternoon from the Sawyer undertaking rooms at Fitchburg. Mrs. Neat was the wife of William F. Neat, of Fitchburg, a former resident of this town, being the son of the late John Neat, at the North. The cause of her death was paralysis, from which she had suffered for eight years. She was thirty-three years of age, and leaves besides her husband, a daughter. She was cared for during her illness by Mrs. Neat's mother and by his sister, Miss Mary Neat.

Word was received on Saturday by relatives, of the death of Mrs. Nellie (Brown) Wood, at the home of her sister, Mrs. Charles Dusten, in Reading. She was the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. William Brown, and was born in the house now occupied by Mr. and Mrs. W. A. L. Crockett. She leaves besides her husband and one daughter, her mother, brothers and sisters. She was the niece of William E. Barnard and Mrs. Hattie P. Holden, of this town.

BROOKLINE, N. H.
News Items.
Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Greeley spent Christmas at Milford, N. H.

Christmas exercises were held at the South primary school on Friday, December 22, and were very interesting. Will Holeman impersonated Santa Claus and distributed gifts from a large Christmas tree.

Miss Julia O'Hern is in Fitchburg for a few days.

Mr. and Mrs. Elmer Wallace, of Townsend, spent Christmas at Mrs. Augusta Smith's.

There was a Christmas tree and exercises at the Congregational church on Friday evening, December 22, and a Christmas concert on Sunday morning.

Among the guests in town for Christmas were Kate O'Hern, of Leominster; Miss Frances Evans, of Boston; Fred Nye and family, of Leominster; Eldo Fessenden, of Newton; Mr. and Mrs. Harry Hall and Miss Grace Whitcomb, of Fitchburg.

Recent guests at the Elmwood are N. E. Rogers, A. C. Bishop, Nashua, N. H.; Mr. Lamonte, Boston; W. H. Mould, Fremont, N. H.; W. H. Richards, Boston.

Mrs. Clinton Gilson and sister entertained Mr. and Mrs. Frank Brown, Mr. and Mrs. Harry Gilson and son, of Townsend, and Charles Shattuck, of Maynard, Mass.

The annual meeting of the Congregational society was held on Thursday, December 28, in the vestries. Dinner was served at the noon hour.

A large number attended the dance at West Townsend on Christmas night.

Sunday night, December 31, a union watch meeting will be held in the vestry of the Congregational church.

HOLLIS, N. H.
News Items.
A church meeting was held on Wednesday evening of last week to act on the resignation of the pastor, Rev. C. H. Davis, and it was voted to accept it. A committee of two were elected, consisting of W. P. Farley and F. W. Dudley, to act with the committee of the society in calling the council to dismiss Mr. Davis and supply the pulpit.

Miss Lillian Lovejoy entertained about twenty of her schoolmates and friends at her home the evening of December 21, in honor of her seventeenth birthday. The evening was passed in games, and refreshments were served. The guests left at a seasonable hour, wishing Miss Lillian many happy returns.

Mr. and Mrs. Andrew Jewett spent Christmas in Pepperell with Mrs. Jewett's mother, Mrs. Kendall.

The little folks of Hollis, attended by their parents, had a merry time at the town hall last Saturday evening

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VACUUM CLEANER

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Wish to call your attention to their stock of

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COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS, Worcester, ss. 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 **WALTER H. WHITNEY** who was executor of the will of said deceased has presented to the court the first and final account of his administration upon the estate of said deceased and also her own first and final account as administratrix 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 thereof to all persons interested in the estate fourteen days at least before said Court, or by publishing the same once in each week, for three successive weeks, in the Harvard Hillside 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.

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. 314 JOHN W. MAWBEY, Register.

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Fire and Life Insurance Agent
Groton, Mass.

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25 Champney Street Groton, Mass.

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS, Worcester, ss. 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 instrument purporting to be the last will and testament of said deceased has been presented to said Court for probate, by **JOHN LEAHY** who prays that letters of administration with the will annexed may be issued to him, or some other suitable person, no executor being named in said will.

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 granted.

And said petitioner is hereby directed to give public notice thereof by publishing this citation once in each week for three successive weeks, in the Harvard Hillside a newspaper published in Ayer, the last publication to be one day at least before said Court, and by mailing post-paid, 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. 314 JOHN W. MAWBEY, Register.

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Turner's Public Spirit, Ayer, Mass.
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The Pepperell Clarion-Advertiser.
The Littleton Gleaner.
The Westford Wardsman.
The Harvard Hillside.
The Shirley Oracle.
The Townsend Tocsin.
The Brookline Beacon.

Items of local interest are solicited, and must always be accompanied by the name of the writer, not for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith, and will always be considered strictly confidential. Kindly mail items soon after the day of occurrence, and do not wait unnecessarily.

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Saturday, December 30, 1911.

PEPPERELL.

Items of News.

Mr. and Mrs. Philo G. Noon and daughter from Saugus are visiting with Mr. and Mrs. W. H. Annis.

The Nashua River Paper Corporation presented each of their employees with an extra day's pay as a Christmas present; also, a card to each wishing them a happy Christmas and new year. This act, considering the large number of employees working for them, was a very generous act, and was much appreciated by the employees.

On Thursday, January 11, in Central hall, Pepperell, there will be served a supper of the usual substantial style, for which the women of this town are noted. This supper will be for the benefit of the Village Aid society to replenish its treasury so that its good work can go on. During the past year it has given aid to many homes in a quiet way and distributed more than a hundred garments, many groceries and other needed articles. The generous patronage of the public is solicited.

Prudence Wright chapter, D. A. R., will meet with Miss Sibley, Main street, Pepperell, on Saturday afternoon, January 6, at 2.30. Meeting of the executive board at two o'clock. Delegates and alternates are to be chosen for the Continental congress held in Washington next April. Annual dues are payable at this meeting. Mrs. H. N. Tower will give a paper on the January events of the war of the revolution. Hostesses, Miss Sibley, Mrs. Meriam, Miss Josephine Lawrence.

Dr. and Mrs. Qua spent Christmas in Lowell.

Little Catherine Blood, daughter of Edmund Blood, of Pepperell Springs, is very sick with measles. Audrey Burkinshaw, Miss McNay and Catherine Hobart are improving.

Sunday evening at the Unitarian church, there was a unique innovation. At all the windows of the church were placed lighted candles, and inside the church, save at the pastor's desk, the only light was the flickering glow of the candles, the Christmas decorations being there. Rev. Dudley R. Child spoke of the "Three wise men." Miss Mildred Morgan sang a solo, and otherwise it was a service of song praise with a subtle influence of all in perfect harmony.

Otis Merrill, of Oak Hill, donated a file of several years of the Outlook, and these are to be bound for the East Pepperell reading-room. The reading-room is being patronized as well, according to its number of books, as any library in this section.

One fact that was reported was that up to this week there had not been a case of measles east of the Boston and Maine railroad.

There was a good company out to the Christmas tree and exercises at the Methodist church on Monday evening. Santa Claus, who was impersonated by Forest Andrews, was very generous with his gifts to old and young. The pastor and family were kindly remembered.

Sunday morning at the M. E. church, the pastor will preach a new year's sermon. Subject, "The good Samaritan." In the evening at seven o'clock, the subject will be "The old year and the new."

The Sunday school board of the M. E. church will elect officers for the coming year on Sunday at the close of the Sunday school.

The official board of the M. E. church will meet on Monday evening at the home of I. J. Rowell, Cross street.

Dr. and Mrs. William S. Foster, of Rowley, spent Christmas at J. A. Saunders'.

Mrs. Freeman Robbins, of Durable, and Miss Lizzie Robbins, of South Boston, dined with L. G. Robbins and family on Christmas day.

Mrs. C. G. Hamlett has returned home from Worcester, after spending Christmas week with her daughters, Mrs. Ida Billings, and Hattie Hildreth, and granddaughters, Ethel and Lottie. She received many useful presents.

Miss Addie G. Gilson, of Gardner, was a guest of Mrs. D. E. Weston on Christmas day.

Brookdale farm, and family, spent Christmas with Mrs. M. M. Richards.

Miss Elizabeth Shattuck, of Cushing academy, is at home for the holidays.

Pepperell Woman's club will meet at Saunders' hall on Tuesday afternoon, January 2, and the meeting will be in charge of Mrs. Elizabeth B. Heald. Subject, "Province of Quebec." Board meeting at 2.15.

The annual meeting of the Ladies Aid society will be held on Wednesday afternoon, January 3, at the parsonage. All interested are invited to be present.

Walter Fuller, of Utica, N. Y., Mrs. Edith Tower, Mrs. Harris and Mr. Spooner, of Petersham, were guests of Mr. and Mrs. H. N. Tower over Christmas.

Thomas Tarbell, of New York city, spent Christmas at the parental home.

Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Jennison, of Milford, N. H., were guests of P. J. Hayes on Monday.

Miss Mildred Lewis, of New Jersey, is home for the holidays.

Mrs. Dunbar, of Clinton, is a guest of Mrs. H. N. Tower.

George Hapgood, of Ashby, who has been ill at Frank Robbins' on Nashua street, is able to be out again.

Stephen Davis and wife, of Milford, were the guests of Mrs. Ann Davis on Nashua street on Christmas.

Mark Shattuck, of Groton, was at Mrs. Sarah Patch's on Christmas day.

Gertrude, youngest daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Alvin Wright, of Brookline street, who has been very ill with pneumonia and measles, is now convalescent.

The family of Ed. Geno, Nashua street, are afflicted with measles.

Word has been received from Augustus Lawrence, of New Haven, Conn., formerly of East Pepperell, that he is in good health.

The many friends of Dr. Frederick R. McGrall will be pleased to learn that he has decided to establish himself in practice in his home town. He is to open his office on new year's day. Dr. McGrall has had a thorough training for his work, having studied for three years at the dental department of the University of Michigan, graduating the past June. He passed a creditable examination for admission to practice in this state in October. He deserves well of his fellow-townpeople and we look for him to take high rank in this now most important field of professional work.

Bessie Farley is at home from Fitchburg for awhile.

Mr. and Mrs. Harrie Tarbell, of Boston, were guests of Henry Lakin on Christmas.

John Tune is suffering from an ulcer on the eyeball. A specialist from Nashua has the care of it.

Henry F. Obermann, manager of the Nashua River Paper Corporation, has resigned his position and will be assistant general manager of the Canada Paper Company's mills at Windsor Mills, P. Q.

Dr. F. H. MacCarthy, of Boston, came on Saturday evening to visit his little daughter Constance, who has been at her aunt's, Mrs. M. A. Fords, over Christmas. His wife, Mrs. Bessie MacCarthy, is ill at the sanitarium at Arlington Heights with pneumonia.

William Dennen and Dr. Davis veterinary, have just purchased a beautiful black draft stallion called Ponto.

Among the young folks back in town for the holidays are Misses Carrie Shattuck, Alice McGrath, Mr. and Mrs. Earl Mention, Fitchburg; Mr. and Mrs. Walter Dodge, Groton; Arthur Bolles, of Hollis theatre, Boston; John Haynes, Watertown; Mr. and Mrs. Jewett, Hollis, N. H.; Mr. William Kendall's; Grover Robbins, Roger Robbins, Brainard Shattuck, of Boston; Winnifred Boynton, at Mrs. Adelbert Boynton's; Mrs. Alice Spencer, Boston, at Mrs. Jewett's; Dr. DeMarr, of Boston.

The furniture is being removed from the house formerly owned by Miss Emma Haynes, and it is reported that Mr. and Mrs. Brownley have rented it.

Lloyd Bancroft made good his word to shoot a rabbit within fifteen minutes on Christmas, and within that time from leaving his house he had the rabbit, having won a bet and sold the rabbit. Good work for an amateur.

John Bartz enjoyed having his family and his children and their families with him on Christmas. It was a happy reunion.

Harold Woodward and family and Miss Kittle Lawrence, of Nashua, N. H., spent Christmas at Addison Woodward's.

The W. C. T. U. will hold its next meeting with Mrs. Nellie W. Appleton on Thursday afternoon, January 4, at three o'clock.

Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Bartlett went last Sunday afternoon to Gardner for over Christmas.

Mrs. A. G. Cady returned to her home in Brookline on last Saturday, after a short visit with friends in town.

Miss C. M. Shattuck, principal of the grammar school, is spending her vacation with her mother, Mrs. Jonas Shattuck, at the Clarence Tucker farm.

The East Village Social Club will meet with Mrs. Swasey on Wednesday afternoon, January 3. Both of them will be "Christmases."

Little's remaining available for the week ending December 23, David Baker, Maude Burton, Mrs. Tom Bartlett, Mrs. Leticia Bartlett, Edward Liberty, Roy Semster, William Simms, Adam Yarsanz, Battra Waycieuski.

Grange.

Friday evening, December 22, seemed to be one of the darkest nights in the year, but that did not deter many from going to Prescott grange, and they were amply repaid in each of four ways—first, a good report of the state grange meeting by Walter Shattuck; then twelve ladies took part in a double hoop drill under the direction of Miss Florence Kemp, and several figures of the drill elicited applause. The Christmas and conundrum tree furnished much amusement and it was a bit laughable to see gray-headed men blowing horns and sedate matrons drawing the toys of the nursery about the floor. The overseer got the end of the pig.

The Groton members certainly had a fine display of presents from their sister grangers, there being eleven members present. The ladies then made up for being beaten in the competitive evening by asking all to an oyster supper, with plenty of fancy pies and cakes. Other visitors were present from Hollis, N. H., and Lunenburg.

A Rare Entertainment.

The appearance of the Tufts College Glee and Mandolin clubs on Tuesday evening, at Prescott hall, furnished the townspeople with rare opportunity and they took advantage

of it. The size of the audience was cut somewhat by the prevalence of severe colds and measles, which are having a run. It was a nice audience that listened to a well-liked program. Mr. Brigham won praise in every way, and Mr. Harris was his equal as the mandolin leader. The program was as follows: Glee and mandolin clubs with Lamont as soloist in "For Tufts burrah"; "Jig-a-boom," by the Glee club was a frog song; and the encore, "The bells," was decidedly fine; "The gypsy prince march," by the Mandolin club, who responded to an encore; C. L. Scott gave two readings "What's in a name," with an encore by the Glee club, "Musical epigrams," both clubs were in "Toreador Holo," with Mr. Wood as soloist, which was followed by a ballad, "The sword of Ferrara." The Mandolin club followed with an operatic selection, "Naughty Marietta," giving as an encore "Happy hayseeds."

Part second was an extravaganza, "The jumbo cantepic," in recognition of the gift of the big elephant, Jumbo, and the encore that followed was, "Aunt you glad you're a Tufts man." Mr. Scott did excellent work as spokesman, and followed with a reading, entitled "Smiles." Mr. Lamont, as soloist, was "tipped in his part in 'Tick-tack-too.'" The Mandolin club gave "The pink lady waltz," and an encore that was original by the leader, Mr. Harris, entitled "The aviation fly." "The Captain's yarns," by the Glee club, with Mr. Page as soloist, scored another hit, this encore was followed by "A long time ago." Before the last number all the Tufts students in the hall were called to the platform by name and they all sang the class song, "Brown and blue."

The hall was then cleared for dancing. It is due Mr. Robbins the credit of having the clubs here and the entertainment was very much enjoyed. Mr. Scott was liked, all of his selections being out of the ordinary line of production. It was a grand success in every way.

D. A. R.

Prudence Wright chapter, D. A. R., held an executive board and chapter meeting at the home of Mrs. Elmer Weston on Saturday, December 16, (Boston Tea Party day of Revolutionary fame). Although the day was very unpleasant, a good number were present who were glad to welcome Mrs. Worcester, of Townsend, and Miss Laura Herring, new members. The regent presided and the meeting was opened by reading from the ritual. Reports of committees were given.

Mrs. Appleton, chapter historian and chairman of D. A. R. bazaar committee for the pillow and cushion table, which was presided over by members from five chapters—Natick, Leominster, Shirley, Fitchburg and Pepperell—reported for the bazaar held in Boston in Converse hall, Tremont Temple, December 7-8, for the benefit of a building fund for a New England genealogical building to be erected on Somerset street and Ashburton place, Boston. Fifteen hundred dollars was netted, and the proceeds of sales at the pillow and cushion table were \$113.16. Eight ladies from Prudence Wright chapter were present each day.

The hall was decorated with blue and white, interspersed with other national colors. The flower tables were bowers of beauty, and the generous contributions from the florists, Thomas F. Galvin Co., of Boston, adding to the collection from their famous stock.

Mrs. William Cummin Story, of New York, was present among other guests of honor. The organ recital, with harp and vocal solos, on Thursday afternoon and evening, was much enjoyed. A large reception was given on Thursday evening, and the Children of the Republic were present Friday afternoon and added much to the entertainment. All the booths were laden with useful and ornamental wares, and the candy table was the center of attraction.

The chapter voted to give the fifty-dollar scholarship to the general fund of the Martha Berry school as Virgil Pruitt has left the school. An invitation was extended the chapter to attend the twenty-fifth wedding reception of Mr. and Mrs. Nelson Tower from three until six o'clock on Monday afternoon, December 25, at their home.

The gift of one dollar from Miss Frances Pierce was acknowledged, and she also contributed a box of small cushions for the bazaar, which sold for one dollar. Mrs. Appleton extended her deep appreciation to all who so generously responded to the call for pillows and cushions, and for the support given her as chairman of the committee which required much time and labor. Mrs. Walter Drury read a most instructive paper on Old Almanacs. Mrs. Herrig, vice-regent, Mrs. Henry Tarbell and Mrs. Weston presided as hostesses, assisted by Miss Herrig, who made and served very delicious sandwiches. The tea, and other refreshments were delectable and much enjoyed.

After the pledge of allegiance to our flag, the meeting was adjourned to meet with Miss Florence Sibley, registrar, at her home on Main street, January 6, when the annual dues will be in order. Hostesses, Miss Sibley, Mrs. Meriam, Miss Josephine Lawrence.

Twenty-fifth Anniversary.

Christmas afternoon and evening, Mr. and Mrs. H. N. Tower, of High street, received their friends in honor of their twenty-fifth wedding anniversary. Seventy or more callers came to congratulate them and many letters and messages of greeting represented absent friends. The house was gay with Christmas greens and bright carnations. The special feature of the decorations was an evergreen tree trimmed with silver coins and tinsel, and lighted by twenty-five candles. Violin music and songs by the young people helped to enliven the occasion. Mr. and Mrs. Tower were well remembered by their friends with gifts of flowers and silver.

Mr. Tower is a member of the well-known firm of Whipple & Tower, and is a successful business man. He is also a member of the school commit-

tee, and the good work he is doing in that line is much appreciated by the parents of the scholars in our schools.

Guests were present from Utica, N. Y., Boston, Fitchburg, Petersham, Clinton, Milford, N. H., and Westminster, Vt.

Concert.

Following is the program of the Sunday school concert last Sunday at the M. E. church:

Voluntary, piano and violin; opening chorus of happy voices; responsive reading; prayer; chorus, "Music everywhere"; recitations, "Our Christmas wish," Roger; Tune, "Watching in Christmas," Eva Shephardson; solo, Mary Butler; chorus, "Take the news"; recitation, "While shepherds watched," Vernon Grant; exercise, "His name shall be called Jesus," six girls; chorus, "From heights of glory," recitation, "The Christ child's story," Mrs. Butler; solo, "Guiding star," Hazel Soule; recitation, "Little town of Bethlehem," John Dwyer; chorus, "On from the east," exercise, "Good news," eight girls; duet, "The hope of aces," Misses Andrews and Marshall; recitation, "A Christmas story," Gertrude Cherry; offering; closing hymn, "All hail the power of Jesus' name"; benediction.

There were a large number present, and all took their parts admirably well. It was one of the most interesting Sunday school concerts ever given in this church.

Christmas Tree and Exercises.

The Christmas exercises of the Congregational church were held on Saturday and Sunday, December 23 and 24. The Christmas tree for the children was held in the vestries on Saturday afternoon with games and refreshments for those present. Santa appeared at four o'clock with a great bag, not full, but empty, and the children formed in line to welcome him. As the music struck into a gay march, they filed around him and as each passed, he or she dropped in the wide mouthed bag, which the jolly saint's representative held open, a gift for some one outside, and then Santa departed, well loaded with the gifts of the children for others. Later he re-appeared and distributed the gifts on the loaded trees to those present. The time flew quickly until six o'clock, when with a good-bye song all said farewell till another year.

The Christmas concert was held in the church on Sunday evening at seven o'clock, with Supt. L. A. Blood presiding. After the organ prelude by Mrs. E. L. Tarbell and an opening chorus, the New Testament story of Christmas was told by Miss Anna and Rette Boynton and Miss Fannie Tower. This part of the program was under the direction of Miss M. L. P. Shattuck. One unique feature of the opening part was the illumination of the Star of Bethlehem.

Wilfred Boynton, assisted by Lester Stevens and Lester Foss, had constructed a large picture of the scene and at the singing of "A little town of Bethlehem," this was electrically illuminated from within while the song went on in the darkened church. It produced a very beautiful effect as the star flashed out over the low roofs of the pictured town, and the alliside with the road winding up toward its summit.

The remainder of the program consisted of songs and recitations by the little folks, interspersed with carols by a choir of thirty voices, under the direction of the pastor.

The church was decorated with laurel and evergreen under the direction of Mrs. Harriet Phelps and her corps of able assistants.

Oak Hill Christmas Tree.

Oak Hill Improvement society held its Christmas tree on Saturday night at its hall on Boynton street. The hall was tastily decorated, and over the stage were the words "Oak Hill," in showy setting, the work having been done by Mr. and Mrs. Gaskell. A good program was provided in recitations and singing by a chorus of eleven voices, and the perfection of the rendering of the pieces by the children was worthy of comment. Doris and Mary McCord gave a "Motion picture," which was warmly applauded, and a doll drill under the charge of Miss Maude Chinn; with five little girls, was very much enjoyed.

After the entertainment, Santa Claus came out of the fireplace in true Christmas spirit, and Mrs. Santa Claus and son John appeared. The son, being small, remained in the background, while the "Mrs." helped also to distribute the many gifts. After refreshments all went home saying it was a success, everyone seeming to have a good time.

BOXBOROUGH.

News Items.

Mrs. Bertha Shattuck and children are visiting in Worcester.

Mr. and Mrs. Albert Littlefield visited in Framingham last Saturday and Sunday.

Oliver Shattuck is home for a ten-days vacation.

Harold Priest and family spent the holiday with Mrs. Priest's mother in Weston.

Misses Helen Ramler and Isabelle Barnes are visiting at Sunshine farm.

The last meeting of the grange was held on December 22. The third and fourth degrees were conferred on the following candidates:

Mr. and Mrs. Libbie M. and Mrs. Edgerly F. D. Maynard, F. B. Maynard, Earl Katham, Mary Smiley, Erna Brown, Lillian Gilmore, Frank Woodard, and Mrs. F. and Robert Poland, Mrs. W. and Mrs. Graves, Elsie Graves, Mrs. Shattuck, Mr. Costello, Oliver Shattuck, Arthur Brown, Chauncey Robbins, Wajdo Livermore, Mr. and Mrs. Clark, Mr. and Mrs. Dickson, Mr. and Mrs. Wythe.

Milton Hager is visiting his father, Simon Hager.

Mr. and Mrs. Moulton, of Watertown, and Mrs. Livermore's sister and husband and three daughters spent Christmas with Mr. and Mrs. Livermore, making a total of thirteen to enjoy the Christmas dinner.

Mrs. Mary Pratt, of South Acton, is visiting her niece, Mrs. John W. Whitcomb.

Charles Lawrence is visiting at A. E. Lawrence's.

Daniel Wetherbee is home from Worcester.

Clearance Sale

-of-

Trimmed and Untrimmed

MILLINERY

Felt Hats from 50c. to \$1.25
Made Velvet Hats from \$2.00 to \$5.00

Miss Ethel Bruce Parlor Millinery

Phelps' Building Ayer, Mass.

To Subscribers

On and after January first, 1912, the subscription price of this paper will be \$1.50 per year.

For the past fifteen years all material in the issuing of a weekly newspaper has advanced from forty to sixty percent.

Fifteen years ago we furnished our subscribers with an average of from ten to twelve columns of news matter a week. For the past two or three years we have jumped to from twenty-five to twenty-seven columns a week and have found a higher subscription rate absolutely imperative.

Many of the leading weekly papers of Massachusetts and many of the leading magazines were forced to raise the prices of their publications the first of January.

All subscriptions received before the first of January, 1912, at the rate of \$1.00 per year.

Send in your subscriptions NOW, for one, two or three years and save from 50¢ to \$1.50.

GEO. H. B. TURNER, Publisher,
JOHN H. TURNER, Editor.

LITTLETON.

News Items.

The Misses Madelin and Rebecca Millet, Edna Hartwell and Master Bonnell of Littleton spent the latter part of the week in Boston and Brookline, visiting their piano teacher, Miss Ida E. Dow.

Mr. and Mrs. S. P. O'Bannon have the sympathy of their friends in the loss of their little son, who died of rickets on Thursday morning.

Mr. and Mrs. James Lawton, of Mansfield, Ohio, are receiving congratulations on the birth of a daughter, Helen Margaret, born on December 11.

Robert Roberts is having a painful experience as a result of blood poisoning in his hand, caused by a scratch.

Mr. and Mrs. David Neagle and three children, of Dorchester, were guests of his mother at Christmas time.

William Crane, wife and baby, of Athol, are spending the week at Joseph Crane's. Mr. and Mrs. Day, of Lynn were holiday guests at Mr. Crane's.

Members of the Unitarian society and other friends were pleased to receive a copy of the thirty-third issue of "The Violet," published by members of the Fairfield family and containing pleasant Christmas greetings with delightful contributions in prose and poetry by the Fairfield family.

Rev. William J. Cloues, of Newton, will occupy his former pulpit at the Baptist church tomorrow.

Mrs. Mary J. Kimball is spending a few days with her brother, Melbourne Hutchins, at the New England hotel in Boston. Mr. Hutchins is not in his usual health.

The new law relating to the granting of marriage licenses goes into effect on January 1. That law provides that all applications for marriage licenses must be made to the town clerk at least five days previous to the date on which the town clerk grants such licenses. Any town clerk who fails to comply with the law is subject to a fine of one hundred dollars. "A wise provision," so says everybody excepting the parties contemplating elopement.

Peter S. Whitcomb continues to improve, but is still in care of a trained nurse.

Miss Myrtle Fletcher is spending the winter with her grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. Warren Fletcher.

Roland Fletcher, of Hyde Park, was at home over Sunday and Monday.

Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Peck, of Brookline, were the guests of her parents, Mr. and Mrs. W. H. Tenney, Christmas.

Mr. and Mrs. N. B. Conant and daughter spent Christmas with Mr. and Mrs. Wallace B. Conant, in Concord.

W. L. Kimball, of Concord, N. H., was in town on Monday. He is superintending the erection of a large hospital in Concord, N. H.

Wallace Flagg was at home from Pennsylvania for Sunday and Monday.

Mrs. Andrew McNiff and little daughter, of Danvers, were Christmas guests at Patrick McNiff's.

Miss Hattie Shaffer spent the holidays at her home.

Mr. and Mrs. A. W. Turner, of Milford, N. H., spent the holiday with Mrs. Hume and the H. F. Proctors.

Rev. and Mrs. H. L. Packard went to Abington for Christmas. The following day they attended the funeral of Mrs. Packard's aunt in Revere.

Members of the high school senior class and junior classes, accompanied by Miss Mitchell and Rev. and Mrs. W. C. Brown, saw Sothorn and Julia Marlowe in "The merchant of Venice," at the Shubert theatre on Wednesday afternoon.

Miss Emma Byam, of Boston, spent Sunday and Monday at her home in town.

Walter H. Boireau, Clark college, 1913, has spent several days this week at A. T. Kimball's.

Burton S. Flagg and family, of Andover, were holiday guests at his parents'.

Mrs. Grace P. Shattuck, of Leominster, has been in town this week helping her brother, Frank, Davis, in his preparations for moving.

Mrs. Austin Kimball received a new upright piano for a Christmas present.

A large family party was entertained at Leslie A. Hager's on Monday—Frank J. Hager and nephew, from Ironwood, Mich., John H. Hager and family from Gardner, Clifford Shedd and family and Mrs. Hager's father were among the guests.

Brothers, sisters and their children—in all sixteen persons—enjoyed the hospitality of E. P. Sheehan's home on Christmas.

Robert Smith and family from Townsend were at James Smith's for the holiday season.

William Griffiths and family were holiday guests of his daughter, Mrs. Polly Griffiths Brower, in Waltham.

Mr. and Mrs. Clifford Smith, of Waltham, came home for Sunday and Monday.

Jesse Dodge entertained his parents and sister from Beverly, and other guests Sunday and Monday.

Mrs. John H. Kimball and children spent Christmas at her brother's in Gardner.

Miss Marion Perkins, of Somerville, and the Misses Gertrude and Evelyn Hamlin, of Westford, were Mrs. Austin Kimball's guests on Thursday and Friday.

Leon Nash, who has been ill for several weeks, makes little, if any, improvement. Rheumatic fever seems to have developed.

Mrs. John Wright, who has been sick for a few weeks, is about the house, apparently in her usual health.

New Advertisements.

CARD OF THANKS.

To all who in any way remembered us in our sickness and sorrow, we wish to extend our heartfelt thanks.

MR. and MRS. HARRY LAWRENCE.
Nashua road, East Pepperell.
December 27, 1911.

DOG LOST—A Tan Colored Collie, 10 months old, wearing leather collar, answer to name of "Jimmy." LOUIS DeSILVIO, Littleton, Mass. 1116