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Ayer, Mass., Saturday, February 13, 1915

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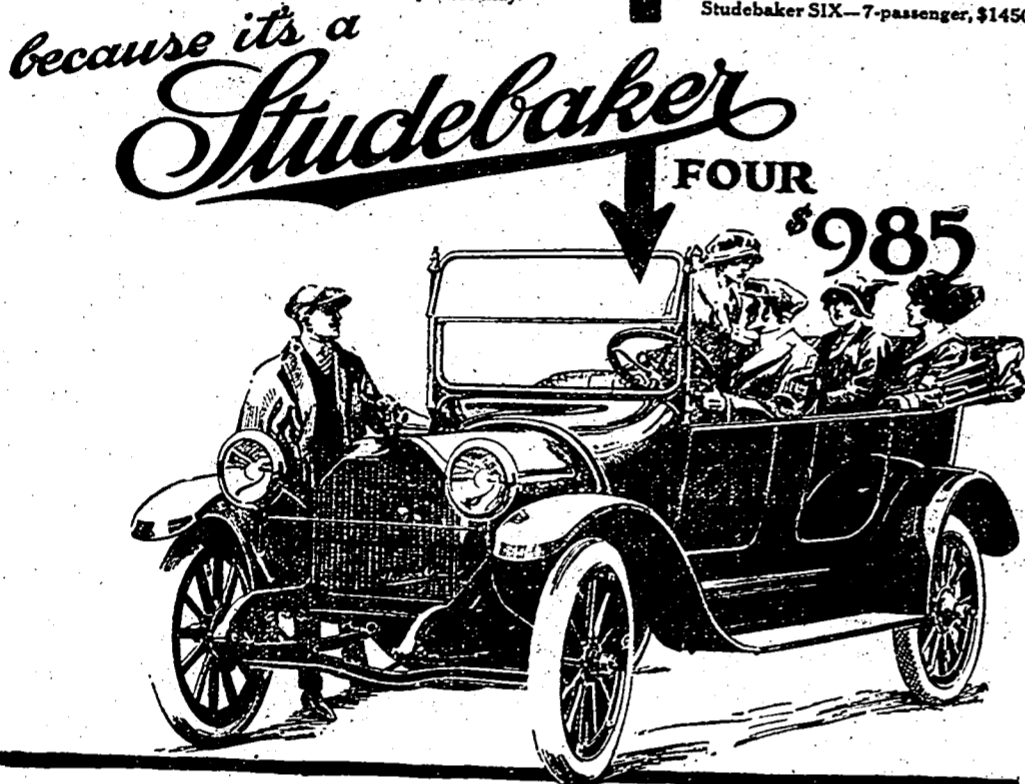
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Three Performances

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 22, WASHINGTON'S BIRTHDAY

Afternoon at Three o'clock

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 22, WASHINGTON'S BIRTHDAY

Evening at Eight o'clock

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 23

Evening at Eight o'clock

Page's Hall, Ayer

Admission 25¢ Reserved Seats 35¢

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AYER, MASS.

On Friday of last week five members of the German II class of L. H. S. gave a German play, entitled "Schulz in restaurant." It was most cleverly acted and will be repeated Home Talent night at the Lyceum, February 23.

"Men, maids and matchmakers" is the title of the play to be presented by the senior class of L. H. S. March 12, to raise money for the long contemplated Washington trip.

The rendering company that applied for a permit to conduct business here has engaged a plant in Concord Junction.

Entertainment.

The lullaby entertainment given under the auspices of the Congregational club in the vestry Wednesday was most unique and highly appreciated. The program was introduced by a piano solo by Mrs. J. D. Christie, one of our talented musicians. Mrs. Weeks of West Acton explained the characterization of different nationalities represented by eighteen girls, dressed in costume, and each carrying a doll, suiting the words of the lullabies to action. Mrs. Weeks, who is a charming soloist, sang the lullabies of the different nations and the misses were as follows:

Hope Fletcher, Hindu; Sally Kimball, English; Elizabeth Hill, Italian; Rosa Hill, French; Francis Hill, Dutch; Leah Kimball, Welsh; Charlotte Pickard, Russian; Elizabeth Pickard, Scotch; Ruth Thacher, American; Florence Hunt, German; Leslie Roe, Spanish; Josephine Ruggles, Bohemian; Marion Ruggles, Polish; Edna Fletcher, Japanese; Myra Dodge, Swede; Margaret Conant, Indian; Caroline Conant, Norwegian; Beagle, Banayan, African.

The closing feature was a tableau with all the nationalities represented. Miss Thacher in the center, holding over the company the United States flag, which she waved gently as all the girls joined with Mrs. Weeks in singing "America." Miss Elmer Weeks played the accompaniments.

Pomona Grange.

The Middlesex-Worcester Pomona Grange held a very successful meeting in Littleton town hall Wednesday. A hundred and possibly more people attended. The morning session opened with a cordial welcome delightfully expressed by Frank H. Hill, master of Littleton-Grange. A happy response was given by Mrs. Lilla King. Mildred Sawyer gave a faithful report of the state-grange proceedings.

A toothsome dinner was served by Joseph and Annie Coughlin, Mrs. V. T. Esten, Hugh McDonald, Mrs. Susie Smith, Mr. and Mrs. A. H. Gregory, Roger Priest, Clifton Ewings and Rupert Sanderson, committee.

In the afternoon Rev. James C. Alvord gave an interesting address on "Afloat in Italy," discussing the language, the difficulty in mastering its peculiar phraseology, four months of leisurely journeying, beginning in June, the very painstaking farming seen all through Italy, the advantage taken of every little piece of ground, grape culture, variety and number of vegetables raised, and stories, concluding with the thrilling experience of an attempted robbery on the part of Mrs. Alvord by the landlord of the hotel where they were making their headquarters.

A very entertaining farce entitled, "Either or ether," in charge of Mrs. Geo. H. Cash, with parts taken by Mrs. Cash, Ivo Russell, Clarence Brown, Catherine Connell, Roger Priest, James Neagle, Ruth Robinson and Nellie Callahan, was loudly applauded.

A violin and cornet selection by Misses Briggs, and accompanied by Alice Leahy, was received with enthusiasm and an encore followed. Kipling's "Mandalay" and Longfellow's "Legend beautiful" were read by Mrs. E. P. Wilcox, a violin solo was rendered by Miss Maude Sears with piano accompaniment by Mr. Prouty, all of which were brilliant contributions to the program.

"Renovating the old orchard" was well discussed by Geo. S. Knapp of Groton and others. Apple barrels and packing were touched upon; also, Mrs. Whiting's "Whistling in heaven" by Mildred Sawyer, a paper on "The egg and its use," reading, "Something wrong" by Mrs. Wallace Brown, paper on "Admiration of nature" by Mrs. Hill and reading entitled, "The first settler's story" by Miss R. Cornwall engaged the most devoted attention of the audience. There was an expression of general satisfaction with the entire program and the meeting together strengthened the bonds of friendship among fellow-grangers and furnished recreation and inspiration to everybody present.

Clipping.

The following is taken from the Boston American of February 11: Mrs. Caroline E. Little, eighty-five, of No. 659 East Fifth street, South Boston, who fractured her hip while shovelling snow from the sidewalk in front of her home, trying to save fifteen cents, had \$2,500, five bankbooks and a \$1,500 diamond cross hidden in the house, a search by the police, while she lay on a City Hospital cot, has revealed.

She once lost thousands of dollars and since the death of her third husband, fifteen years ago, has lived alone, saving every penny possible.

Requests that the house be guarded during Mrs. Little's absence led the police to believe valuables might be stored in the house, and armed with a search warrant, went to the Little home.

With Mrs. Gardner and Mrs. Eisner, neighbors, as witnesses, the search of the house began.

More than \$200 was found in an envelope under a pillow. In vases and other places jewelry was discovered. Under the kitchen sink a valise was located which contained \$2,500 in currency. Five bankbooks also came to light.

together with a diamond cross valued at \$1,500. All these valuables were taken to a safety deposit vault and entered in the name of Mrs. Little. A chest of silverware was taken to the police station.

Mrs. Little lived practically as a recluse. At the death of her husband, she figured in the stealing of his body from the cemetery plot of a daughter-in-law at Littleton.

BOXBOROUGH.

News Items.

Charles Richardson is making quite a record as a fox hunter this season. Thus far he has taken thirteen in this vicinity, also four mink. He says the price of the fur is less than usual on account of the war, but it is still quite a profitable business. The poultry raisers certainly ought to feel grateful as the foxes have been a great trouble to them the past year.

Morris Griffin died Wednesday at the home of his son. He was about ninety years old and had been quite infirm for some time. After the death of his wife a few years ago he sold his farm and has since lived with his children. He is survived by three sons and five daughters.

A clean supper and entertainment was held in the church vestry Thursday evening.

C. B. Robbins, cattle inspector, begins the inspection of barns the first of the month, but on account of an-

other outbreak of the hoof and mouth disease, was ordered to discontinue the inspection until further notice.

The rumor that our popular teacher, Miss Grace Neudeck, is soon to leave is not true. Miss Neudeck received a very flattering offer to teach elsewhere with more pay and fewer hours of work, but thought it would be unjust to the committee here to leave before the end of the year.

Mrs. Bertha Bezanon is quite sick and is staying with her mother, Mrs. Albert Walker.

Mabel Wetherbee has returned to her work in Boston after a short vacation spent at home.

Ann Coffey, with some friends from Maynard, had the pleasure of seeing "Ben Hur" in Boston last Saturday.

Harris Steele, of North Brookfield, was a recent guest at his brother's, Burpee C. Steele.

Andrew Walker is visiting his sister in Spencer.

The attractive new house of Leo Cunningham is nearly completed and a truck load of furniture arrived this week to furnish it.

Former friends of Hattie Knight, who is now Mrs. Harry Thurston, will be interested to hear that she is living in Villa Park, N. J. where her husband has a good position.

Theresa McNamara graduated from a Boston business college last week.

Rev. and Mrs. F. H. Viets, Mr. and Mrs. George Burroughs and the

Littlefield family attended gentlemen's night at the West Acton Woman's club on last Monday evening. "Friend Hannah" was given by Mrs. Elizabeth Potter Rice and all present are most enthusiastic in their praise of it. The entertainment was followed by a banquet.

Robert Poland and Oliver Shattuck attended the junior hop at Concord on Wednesday evening.

Albert Hartwell gave his annual birthday party to his brothers and sisters last Saturday at his home.

ITEMS OF INTEREST

Over the surface of a new pressing iron for tailors there is a band of cloth to prevent the metal touching garments and making them shiny. The successful management of poultry requires systematic work.

FAITH NEEDED

Brown (on fishing trip)—Boys, the boat is sinking. Is there anyone here who knows how to pray?

Jones (eagerly)—I do.
Brown—All right. You pray, and the rest of us will put on life belts. They're one shy.

New Advertisement

FOR SALE—One Bay Work Horse, 1100 pounds; also a young Driving Horse. LESTER F. MOORE, Littleton Depot, Mass. 1123*

FOR SALE—Two new Milch Cows and three Calves. Apply to D. DILBERT, Groton, Mass. 1123*



WE ARE NOW IN THE MIDST OF OUR HALF-YEARLY COUNTER CLEARING

Mark-Down Sale

Hundreds of people have been benefited by our cut prices. Lots of good bargains left. Many lines have received a still deeper cut. No carrying over of goods in this store and we have cut our regular low prices from 20 to 40 percent in order to clear our counters for the coming Spring Goods. If you need a Suit or an Overcoat it will pay you to investigate the values we are now offering.

MEN'S SUITS BARGAINS

Balance of our stock of Men's and Youths' Fancy Mixture Suits. Many Shuman Suits among the lot.

\$10.00 Suits marked down to	\$7.47
\$12.00 Suits marked down to	\$8.47
\$15.00 Suits marked down to	\$10.47
\$18.00 Suits marked down to	\$13.47
\$20.00 Suits marked down to	\$14.47

SHOE DEPARTMENT

We have many broken lines and odd pairs of Shoes for Women, Misses and Children which we have placed upon the bargain counter.

One lot of Queen Quality, Mayfair and Cushion Sole makes, in Kid, Gun Metal and Patents, regular \$2.50, \$3.00 and \$3.50 grades, now	\$1.48
Misses' high cut Storm Boots, in Tan or Black, in Button or Lace, regular \$2.00 and \$2.50 quality, now	\$1.69
One lot of Women's Tan Button Boots, a regular \$3.00 quality, now	\$1.98
One lot of Men's Tan Calf Buttons, our regular \$4.00 and \$5.00 grades	\$3.00
Men's Felt Combinations, with 2-buckle Rubber, our \$3.00 kind, now	\$2.39
Children's Felt Slippers, worth 75c., now marked down for this sale to	45¢

MEN'S HATS AND CAPS

\$3.00 L. & H. Velour Hats now	\$1.98
\$2.00 Plush or Velvet Hats now	\$1.00
Boys' and Men's Yarn Toques, 50c. quality, all colors	25¢
25c. Caps for Boys now	19¢
50c. Caps for Men now	39¢
\$1.00 Caps for Men now	79¢

Fur Caps at Reduced Prices

MEN'S WORKING TROUSERS

One lot Trousers, regular price \$1.75, for	\$1.39
One lot Trousers, regular price \$2.00, for	\$1.69
One lot Trousers, \$2.50 and \$3.00, for	\$1.98
One lot Trousers, \$3.50 and \$4.00, for	\$2.98
One lot Trousers, regular \$5.00 grade, for	\$3.47

MEN'S AND YOUTHS' FANCY OVERCOATS

Every Overcoat now at a reduced price. All new and good style, including the popular Chinchilla.

\$10.00 and \$12.00 Overcoats now	\$7.47
\$15.00 Overcoats—Fancy Mixture Coats small and medium sizes, marked down to	\$8.47
\$15.00 Overcoats marked down to	\$10.47
\$18.00 Overcoats marked down to	\$12.47
\$22.50 Overcoats marked down to	\$16.47

FURNISHING GOODS DEPARTMENT

Underwear Bargains

All our Double Breasted Fleece-lined, High Rock make, a bargain at 50c., now	39¢
Derby Ribbed Shirts and Drawers, our regular 50c. quality, for this sale	39¢
Wright's Health Underwear for Men: The 75c. grade, now for	59¢
The \$1.00 grade, now for	79¢
Men's Double Breasted Camel's Hair Underwear, our regular \$1.00 garments	79¢
Boys' Fleece and Derby-ribbed Underwear, 25c. and 29c. regular price, now	21¢
Boys' Wright's Fleece, 50c. grade, now	39¢

Shirt Bargains

One lot of Fancy Coat Shirts, regular \$1.00 grade, now	79¢
One lot of our regular 50c. Fancy Shirts, now	39¢
One lot of Working Shirts, Domet Flannel, the regular 50c. grade, now	39¢
One lot of Working Shirts, in Chambray and Khaki, the regular 50c. grade, now	39¢

Sweater Bargains

Men's and Boys' Coat Sweaters, a regular 75c. quality, now for	43¢
Men's Coat Sweaters, heavy and with collar, a regular \$3.50 quality, now	\$2.69
Men's Shaker Knit Coat Sweaters, all colors, our regular \$6.00 grade, now	\$5.00
Men's \$1.50 Heavy Coat Sweaters for	\$1.00

Also, you will find reductions on the following lines of goods running from 20% to 25% off from our regular price:

MEN'S SHEEP-LINED COATS
5A HORSE BLANKETS
FUR COATS

MACKINAW COATS FOR MEN
MACKINAW COATS FOR BOYS
CHILDREN'S OVERCOATS

Store Open on Monday, Friday and Saturday Evenings

Geo. H. Brown

N. A. SPENCER & SON

Wish to call your attention to their stock of

CEMETERY MEMORIALS

which they would be pleased to have intending purchasers inspect and obtain prices.

Ayer, Mass.

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Successor to ARTHUR FENNER
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Mullin Bros

They have never shown a larger and better stock of good things for the Holidays.

Nuts

Dates

Oranges

Grapes

A Splendid Assortment of
CANDY AND SUNSHINE COOKIES
That will melt in your mouth.

We will give you a good trade in

China

as we have some that we are going to sell at some price within the next ten days.

Mullin Bros

3 Page's Block AYER, MASS.

Union Cash Market

Ayer, Mass.

LOOK OVER THESE PRICES

- SIRLOIN STEAK 25c. lb.
- FRESH SHOULDERS, 13c. lb.
- SMOKED SHOULDERS 13c. lb.
- SLICED HAM, 25c. lb.
- SKIN BACK HAMS, 15c. lb.

Union Cash Market

Main Street, Ayer, Mass.

A Nice Assortment of

Democrat Wagons

CONCORD
BUGGIES

Carriages, Butcher Carts, Harnesses

A GOOD ASSORTMENT AND AT ALL PRICES
CALL AND SEE THEM

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SHAPING, BELTING, PULLEYS, ETC., FOR SALE—Cheap for cash. All in good condition. Apply to Turner's Public Spirit Office, Ayer, Mass.

LITTLETON.

News Items.

The services at the Unitarian church tomorrow will be in celebration of the centennial of the ratification of the treaty of peace between the United States and Great Britain, February 17, 1815. At the Sunday school hour a special service prepared for use in all the Christian churches of America will be used and appropriate quotations will be given by members of the school. There will be no evening meeting.

A special parish meeting of the first Congregational society, Unitarian, is called for Monday evening to consider an important matter of business.

At the Congregational church on Sunday morning Rev. James C. Alvord, pastor, will speak on "The C. E. pledge" and in the evening on "Peace."

Mrs. J. C. Alvord spoke in the West Grotton Congregational church on Tuesday afternoon, February 9, at a district meeting of the Woman's Board of Missions, taking for her subject, "Alabaster boxes."

The Congregational church choir will select a cantata for Easter, and will probably begin rehearsals for the same very soon.

Frank Davis, of Westford, and formerly of Littleton, died Monday afternoon from the effects of gas poison. Mr. Davis had resided on Goldsmith street, where he made a comfortable home for his aged mother as long as she lived. He was a quiet man, honest, upright, conscientious and industrious. He is survived by his wife, child and one sister, Mrs. Grace Shattuck, of Leominster.

The Forget-not-circle of the King's Daughters have chosen the afternoon and evening of April 9 for their annual Easter sale.

James E. Smith is indulging in a mid-winter vacation which he is spending with friends in Washington, D. C.

Charles Rossi returned last week from a two-months' sojourn in Dayton, Fla. He reports business conditions dull in the south.

Hon. Charles A. Kimball, of the agricultural committee in the senate, accepted an invitation to the Amherst Agricultural alumni banquet held at the American house in Boston last week Friday night.

The Back Log whist party held in the lower town hall last week Thursday evening was a pleasant mid-winter social affair. There were twelve tables and but few of the number present sought amusement outside of whist. Many this annual event in the club calendar is one of the most anticipated.

William L. Kimball, of Somerville, called on former Littleton friends on Wednesday.

Mrs. Everett Kimball and Mrs. A. W. Knowlton were mid-week guests of Mrs. John Ames, of Somerville.

Harry Chaney, employed by Dea. F. S. Kimball, cut his foot while chopping wood on Monday and called in Dr. Christie, who took several stitches in the flesh. The patient is doing well.

Herbert E. Whitney is very sick with pneumonia at his home at the Common. He is in care of Dr. Wells and a trained nurse.

Frank Smith has joined the telephone subscribers and answers to 244.

Happily Mrs. Calvin Howard's fears relative to a return of former troubles have proved to be on a frail foundation and her physician anticipates speedy relief which will make it possible for her to be at home soon.

Sleighrides are the order of the day and night. How many we cannot say, but the air vibrates with the merry peals of laughter and the tinkling of bells daily. Miss Woodbine's school enjoyed one of these outings with E. P. Wilcox on Monday, and Barbara Priest entertained a company of schoolmates similarly on Tuesday.

The James Parker house in Newtown has been opened by relatives of Mr. Rooney, the new possessor.

The competitive entertainment at the Grange next Wednesday evening promises to be a good drawing card and there will be no question as to attendance if conditions beyond human control are favorable.

Thursday evening, February 18, the Alliance invites a renewal of acquaintance with "friends, past and present."

Friday evening, February 19, the Mary Frances sewing class will give an entertainment of a miscellaneous character under the supervision of the director, Miss Henrietta Ewings. A small admission fee will be charged and the proceeds, with exception of a sum necessary to pay for the subscription of a magazine, will be given to the King's Daughters' Place Unitarian vestry. Time, 7.45 in the evening.

The annual sunset party of the Back-log club will be held in the town hall, February 22. Dancing from four until six o'clock for the children and the usual supper served at six o'clock. The evening will be given over to dancing for the older people as usual.

Mrs. Katherine Lent Stevenson, head of the state W. C. T. U., will address a union meeting of the churches in the town hall, Sunday evening, February 21, on "National, constitutional prohibition." Mrs. Stevenson has been fitting herself to speak on the subject for some time and touches on certain phases of the subject not usually discussed. She has spent nearly two years abroad and in the interest of the cause went around the world, visiting all the countries that have a W. C. T. U. organization. She may speak in some of the local churches in the forenoon. Everyone should hear Mrs. Stevenson as she is an unusual speaker and presents a live issue.

Grant Dwinell and family of Ayer spent Sunday with his aunt, Mrs. Hartwell Whitcomb.

Miss Ruth Thatcher attended the mid-winter reunion at Lasell seminary Monday.

Littleton friends and club members were happy to welcome the Rev. K. Priest, of Lynn, who kindly consented to assist in the Women's club program on Monday afternoon.

Mrs. Douglas Whitcomb, Mrs. Chas. K. Houghton and Miss Margaret Thatcher attended the West Ayer Woman's club guest night Monday and heard Mrs. Elizabeth Foster Rice in her presentation of "Friend Hannah."

Miscellaneous.

The Woman's club attended the Monday afternoon musicale in large numbers. A brief period was devoted to business. Announcements of the mid-winter state federation meeting on February 26, civil service reform conference on February 24, and the Littleton Woman's club drama of February 16, afternoon and evening, were made. Request was made that the ladies copy favorite recipes and return cards containing the same to the economics committee by February 15.

Miss Howard turned the meeting of the afternoon over to Mrs. Charlotte A. Tenney, chairman of the music committee. To this committee and all who took part in the entertainment is due unstinted praise for the splendid results. In the absence of Mrs. Hager, Mrs. A. B. Webber, of Stoneham, a former member of the club, consented very kindly to give place and on very short notice rendered several difficult solos with the grace and artistic effect which always please her audiences. Printed programs, containing pictures of Schubert and Schumann, were distributed and the numbers were greatly enjoyed. A lively social concluded the entertainment of the afternoon.

Entertaining West Schools.

For a good illustration of real enterprise we need look no further than the West school. The teachers of the primary and grammar grades, encouraged by pupils and parents, started out last week Wednesday to invite the friends of the schools to subscribe to a twenty-five-dollar, Victoria for the benefit of the children under their instruction. Long before Saturday evening of the same week they had accomplished their purpose and had pledged for an additional sum for records, and never passed the bounds of the village for the same. Contributions ranged from twenty-five cents to \$2.50 and came from American, German, English, Irish and Italian residents, all co-operating happily in a common cause, the teachers themselves heading the subscription list with a generous sum.

Inside of a week from the time these teachers asked for the first subscription the sum of thirty-five dollars had been donated by the villagers and by the time this paper is in circulation the Victoria and its records will be in possession of the West schools.

Woman's Club Play.

The presentation of "A mid-summer night's dream" by the Woman's club in the town hall Tuesday afternoon and evening, February 16, will be the ending of the drama in the entertainment line this season. The tickets went on sale Monday morning and the demand has far surpassed the hopes of the most sanguine. Members of the cast, in general, have devoted themselves unceasingly to preparation for the play, the training has received the most faithful and painstaking attention and every detail has been carefully worked up in order that nothing may be lacking for a first class amateur performance.

All we ask for now is favorable weather. Everything within control of the committee is thus far moving serenely. This is the first attempt of any organization in town at present of a Shakespearean drama and we feel confident that it will please those whose taste inclines to romantic comedy. For cast of characters see issue of February 6.

Death.

Miss Caroline E. Walker died at Coram hospital, Lowell, Wednesday, February 3, aged 74 yrs. 1 mo. 16 days. She had been receiving treatment at the hospital for several weeks, but it was generally understood among her friends that her disease was incurable. Miss Walker bore sickness with characteristic patience, gentle submission, and consideration for those who attended her, and never murmured against conditions which were evidently understood, but not mentioned by her.

A private funeral was held at the home of her sister, Mrs. Evaline M. Leonard, in Lowell, and a public service was afterwards held in Edison cemetery chapel. Although the request had been made that flowers should be omitted, there were several very choice floral tributes, and one, a beautiful wreath, from the Back Log club, with which Miss Walker had been actively identified for many years during her residence in town. Mrs. P. S. Whitcomb, Mrs. George M. Lovejoy, Mrs. Henry A. Robbins and Miss Etta Ewings attended the services Saturday afternoon.

Miss Walker came from Lowell to Littleton to live with her aunt, Mrs. Samuel Smith, and attended the Littleton schools. When she was still a young woman she injured her knee as she was getting off a train at the station, and this rendered her a partial invalid for some time. Mrs. Whitcomb, who had attended school with Miss Walker, now opened her home for her friend and for seventeen or eighteen years shared its comforts with Miss Walker, the latter leaving to return to Lowell when her sister's health became impaired a few years ago.

The deceased was widely known as an artistic and conscientious dressmaker. Her literary taste and ability rendered her membership in the Back Log club and society generally most valuable. She enjoyed the confidence and esteem of a large circle of friends here and elsewhere, and greatly endeared herself to all who knew her.

Miss Walker's nobility of character, delightful personality, cheery temperament, and dignity of bearing, made her a favorite in the society her presence adorned. Everyone who really

know her prized her friendship and felt that the world was much better for her having lived in it. The church, the society, the home, the individual were helped and inspired by her thought, her service and her life.

Clippings.

We give the following digest of what was said in a just view of Germany's position relative to the war, as embodied in a concise article, written by A. F. Conant and published in the Congregationalist of February 4:

When hatred and fury shall have spent themselves and reason returns there will evolve a higher and nobler principle of national and international life among the contending nations.

Germany's peculiar location, the wonderful development in science, arts, manufactures and commerce, with acute competition of other nations, the war with France forty years ago, with its excessive indemnity, the failure of Germany to successfully colonize in many instances, have produced so tense a situation that, to many students of history, war was inevitable. Recent growth of the military spirit in Germany and rapid increase in the size of her army and navy have menaced the peace of Europe. Writings and speeches of German officials and leaders point to the belief that war and conquest are necessary to political life and national growth.

While we may condemn Germany's excessive militarism, her violation of treaties, her disregard for the rights of other people we must be fair to Germany. We recognize her rapid advancement in science, literature and art, her position and limitations, her peculiar position and limitations.

In mediating as to terms of peace, absolute justice must be insisted upon. We cannot wish for the dismemberment or destruction of Germany; what is fittest in her achievements must and will survive; what is best in her civilization is needed in the world. We would welcome to our shores its worthy citizens in large numbers as we should the law-abiding people of all races readily assimilated into our national life.

It seems doubtful if national or international interests would be gained should the Kaiser's boast that he would yet be "the admiral of the Atlantic" be realized. Nor should Canada come within his rule. The writer hopes that whatever conditions may arise all America may remain neutral. He believes that divine guidance of the great moral and peaceful forces in neutral nations may lead to a basis of permanent peace, and expression be given to legitimate aspirations of ambitious people without infringing on the rights of other nations. Thus may the next peace be an advance towards "the parliament of man, the federation of the world" and some day world peace become a fact.

As To Causes.

Continuing a consideration of the subject of unemployment the question of the cause naturally arises. Ask the first ten men on the street the cause of the present lack of employment and probably nine out of the ten will answer promptly the European war.

While that sanguinary conflict with the consequent disorganization of the business of the world undoubtedly aggravates the situation it is also true that it is not the primary cause of the acute distress of the working class.

The problem has been growing worse from year to year, each year adding to the number of people out of a job and the prospect of an unemployment problem worse than that of last year was pretty well developed before the war broke out and concerned not only this country but European countries as well.

They are solving their problem over there by putting the bulk of their task of killing each other while we as yet have done that only on a small scale.

The causes that have led up to the present conditions are too many to be considered fully in the space at hand, only one or two can be touched upon. The multiplication of machinery by the use of which the output of finished goods by the individual worker is increased many fold is one fruitful cause of the lack of jobs. The great improvements in machinery that ought to make things easier for the workers and furnish an abundant supply of the comforts of life for every one willing to work, have, in fact, really diminished the number of jobs available to the masses of the great community.

Paradoxical as it may seem we can produce so much and do it so quickly and easily that thousands of our people are actually suffering for the necessities of life. In a good many trades the year is divided into rush seasons and slack seasons, and these rush orders and work overtime to rush out orders and shut down when the orders are filled.

Then the specialization of industry that compels most workers to do one particular thing and nothing else unfits men for taking up a new job when slack times come.

These are some of the superficial causes of the present condition of things, but the great basic cause that underlies all others is the system of manufacturing for profit instead of use.

The moment a manufacturer finds he cannot manufacture at a profit, or that he must begin to pile up goods and take chances of selling later, he shuts down. In consequence of this his help are soon unable to buy the goods he produces that they may need or those of any other producer. So the goods he market is closed abruptly and help in turn to close down other industries; each one that closes aggravating the situation still further.

Soon we have hundreds of thousands, even millions of people willing and anxious to work and eager to consume the goods the manufacturer would like to produce. This is a queer side of things. Manufacturers with capital and machinery are anxiously seeking a market and right under their noses millions of people suffer for these same goods who would,

if they could, furnish the market; the manufacturers ask "And business is almost at a standstill" because there doesn't seem to be a satisfactory profit in sight. This is a queer world.

V. T. E.
LUNENBURG.

News Items.

On Sunday, February 14, Rev. Robert A. Bryant of the Congregational church will exchange with Rev. Geo. B. Roberts of Ashburnham.

The mid-week service of the Methodist church met at the home of Mrs. George E. Jones on Thursday evening. The Junior Epworth league met at the M. E. chapel Friday afternoon.

The W. C. T. U. met at the home of Mrs. Ellen S. Parker on Friday afternoon to plan for the annual dinner for town meeting.

Mr. and Mrs. George P. Grant, Jr., and daughters attended the wedding of the oldest daughter and sister Miss Constance Westlake, to Samuel Keener Nester, Jr., in New York city January 21. Mr. and Mrs. Nester will make their home in Geneva, N. Y.

William H. Burrage met with quite a painful accident on Monday last. While fitting locks in the new house now building for Alvan T. Shumonds the knife he was using slipped and entered his right hand, inflicting a severe gash and just missing the main artery. Dr. C. E. Woods dressed the wound and it is doing as well as possible, but is quite painful at times.

Quite a large number of new names have been added to the voting list, and it now numbers 329. Others will probably be added before town meeting.

The Methodist society held a chopping bee at the Battles place on Saturday and it is hoped that all abled-bodied men of the parish will turn out, bringing their axes with them and lend a helping hand in cutting and preparing the year's supply of wood for the church.

The annual meeting of the Old Home Week association will be held in the town hall on Saturday evening, February 13, at eight o'clock. It is hoped there will be a large attendance of the citizens of the town, as officers are to be elected for the ensuing year, and it is also to be decided whether or not it is thought advisable to hold the usual mid-winter festival. After the business is concluded Lancelotti's orchestra will furnish music for promenading. Hot coffee and doughnuts will be served.

The Camp-fire Girls, with their leader and teacher, held a very pleasant meeting at the home of Miss Grace Jones, on Tuesday afternoon, on Thursday afternoon. After the business of the meeting songs were sung, games were played, refreshments served and a social hour enjoyed by everyone in attendance.

The sympathy of many friends and neighbors is with Mrs. C. E. Burnap, who is at the Durbank hospital, where she underwent an operation for a very serious throat trouble. Sincere hopes are expressed for her speedy recovery.

Mrs. A. K. Francis and Miss M. Eldora Jones left town on Tuesday for St. Petersburg, Fla., where they expect to spend the remainder of the winter basking in the warm sunshine of the sunny south.

The Goodrichville club met on Tuesday with Mrs. Martin. There were twenty-two present, including a number of guests. Mrs. Leon Page had charge of the program and the following selections were given: Song, "The rosary," Mrs. Barney; story of the composer's life, Miss Barney; vocal duet, Mrs. Barney and Mrs. Strickland; humorous readings, Mrs. Weston and Mrs. A. J. Callum; musical selections, Mrs. Leon Page, Blanche Barney and Hazel Martin. A fine collation was given by the hostesses. The next meeting will be on Tuesday, Mrs. Jones Page on February 23. All who live in this neighborhood are cordially invited to join us without further invitation.

Citizens' Caucus.

What is now considered the largest caucus ever held in town assembled on Monday evening. It was called to order by E. G. Carswell, chairman of the town committee. Sidney H. Francis was elected chairman and A. W. Watson, secretary, and the following officers were nominated for the annual meeting on March 1:

Moderator, James Hildreth; selection, Richard D. Flood 15; Charles L. Allen 70; Ernest G. Carswell 60; Geo. E. Williams 50; Edwin G. H. Whitecomb 25; Waldo H. Lowe 25; G. H. Carr; road commissioner, Augustus Taylor 41; Walter E. Burnap 27; M. B. Pillsbury 16; constable, J. E. Harrington; town warden, James S. Gilchrist; two auditors, N. G. Hildreth 75; Arthur C. Cook 27; A. W. Watson 8; librarians, John Woodbridge 77; J. A. Littlefield 79; electric light commissioner, Warren Lewis.

The vote for citizens' town committee was Sidney H. Francis 75, Ernest G. Proctor 60, Sherman Sanderson 59, Ernest G. Carswell 47, the first three being elected. For nearly all these offices other names were proposed and some of them won the nomination by only one majority, the contest being very close. It is thought some of them may take out nomination papers.

C. E. Week.

This week being appointed as the C. E. week from February 7 to 14, the celebration and proper observance of it began on Sunday morning. Rev. Robert A. Bryant gave a sermon in the Congregational church upon the work and history of the society. A large number of the local society attended the union meeting in C. C. church in Fitchburg and upon their return were accompanied by a company of Endeavorers, who were of great assistance at the local evening meeting. William Forbes, president of the Fitchburg C. E. society, was the leader of the meeting. Miss Esther Cooper from the Rolliston church, president at the piano. Miss Cecil Champe, sang a solo and Miss

Minnie Townsend, gave a violin solo, accompanied by her sister, Miss Hazel Townsend, at the piano.

On Monday evening the whole society was invited to attend a rally at the Rolliston Congregational church, in Fitchburg and listen to an address by Dr. Nell McPherson of Springfield, and all who attended felt well repaid by the able address to which they were privileged to listen.

On Tuesday evening the society held a food and apron sale at the Congregational vestry and also gave an entertainment program. Thursday evening the mid-week service was conducted by the C. E. society and it was the earnest wish of all that it should be an evening for everybody at prayer meeting.

Friday afternoon the Junior C. E. society met in the Congregational vestry and on Saturday afternoon attended a Junior rally at the First Baptist church, Fitchburg.

Death.

A not unexpected event occurred on Sunday noon in the death of Micah M. Boutwell, who had been in feeble health for quite a long time, gradually failing owing to his great age, it was hardly reasonable to suppose that he could ever again be well.

Mr. Boutwell passed the three-score years and ten nearly twenty years ago, having been born on August 7, 1826, on the place now owned and occupied by George H. Whitcomb. He was the youngest son of Sewall and Rebecca (Marshall) Boutwell, and a brother of the late Governor George S. Boutwell. His whole life was spent in this town, much of it on the place now known as Hillcroft, owned by Mrs. Mary E. Ewing. His wife died eight years ago, since which time he has been most faithfully cared for by their only child, Flint H. Boutwell. Everything was done for his comfort and restoration to health that could be done, every want anticipated, every wish gratified. His home was near the Center school building and the scholars having discovered that he loved to hear their school songs, made it their practice to visit his home on Easter, Thanksgiving and Christmas eve, standing upon his piazza would sing for him the songs and carols he loved so much to hear, and for which he always returned sincere thanks.

The funeral was held at his late home on Tuesday afternoon, Rev. Alfred Noon conducting the service. Most beautiful flowers were freely contributed by friends and neighbors, carnations, roses, sweet peas, purple white lilies and a fragrant, beautiful spray of fresh pink roses, and ferns from the Center school.

New Advertisements.

DAY OLD CHICKS
WHITEROCKS, Fishel strains, \$15 per 100.
CUSTOM HATCHING, \$2 per 100 eggs.
Order early.

E. M. YOUNG Littleton, Mass.
Agent for "BUFFALO" INCUBATORS and BROODERS
Write for particulars 1m21

MORTGAGEE'S SALE OF REAL ESTATE

In Townsend, Massachusetts.

By virtue of a power of sale contained in a certain mortgage deed given by William A. Leonard, of Townsend, in the County of Middlesex, in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, to Charles H. Seaver, of said Townsend, dated March 23rd, 1908, and recorded with Middlesex South District Deeds in book 2429, page 151, will be sold at public auction at Memorial Hall, in said Townsend, on Tuesday, the second day of March, 1915, at two o'clock in the afternoon, all and singular the premises conveyed by said mortgage deed, and therein described as follows:

"Two certain tracts of land with buildings thereon, situated in said Townsend on the westerly side of the road from where is now, or formerly was the Daniel Spaulding place to E. Lewis' old place, so-called, and bounded and described as follows: Beginning at a stake and stones on a corner of land now or late of Charles Crowley; thence south-westerly by said Crowley land about thirty-six (36) rods to a stake and stones; thence southerly by said Crowley land about thirty-seven (37) rods to the bound first mentioned.

The second lot being bounded and described as follows: Beginning at a stake and stones at a corner of land now or late of Ann Litchfield; thence northerly by said Litchfield land to land late of James Hildreth; thence westerly by said Hildreth land about one and one-half (1 1/2) rods to a maple tree; thence southerly by land formerly of G. W. Lane to a stake and stones by a pitch pine tree; thence westerly by said Lane land to an apple tree; thence still westerly by land now or late of said Lane to a corner at a maple tree, marked; thence southerly as a fence now stands to a cherry tree marked; and at a corner of land now or late of A. M. Adams; thence southerly by land now or late of said Adams to a corner of land now or late of one Dean; thence easterly by said Dean land sixteen (16) rods and eleven (11) links to a stake and stones; thence southerly twenty-three (23) rods and nine (9) links to a pine tree marked; thence more southerly by said Dean land forty (40) rods to a stake and stones; thence more southerly about twenty-five (25) rods by said Dean land to the point of beginning. Both of said lots containing thirteen (13) acres more or less, and being the same premises conveyed to me by The B. & A. D. Fessenden Company, by deed dated the twenty-first day of March, A. D. 1903, and to be recorded in the Registry of Deeds for Middlesex County South District.

Reserving nevertheless the right of way across said tracts as is now in use."

Said premises will be sold subject to any unpaid taxes. Other terms made known at time and place of sale.

CHARLES H. SEAVER,
Mortgagee.

Townsend, Mass., February 1, 1915.

L. SHERWIN & CO.

AYER, MASS.

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DATES

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Always a Good Supply of Staple Goods on Hand

FOR SALE—A Roger's Jig Saw, equipped with Emery Wheel, 6 dozen Saws and drills. Price \$2.00. Inquire of MRS. M. L. SAVAGE, Washington Street, Ayer.

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
Middlesex, ss. Probate Court.
To all persons interested in any of the real estate of REUBEN C. BLANCHFORD late of Ayer in said County, deceased, intestate.

Whereas, CARRIE E. BLANCHFORD of Ayer in the County of Middlesex, has presented to said Court a petition, representing that she as the widow of said deceased is entitled to take five thousand dollars and one-half of the residue of said estate as a maintenance allowance, and one-half of the remaining real property of said deceased, standing upon his piazza, and would sing for him the songs and carols he loved so much to hear, and for which he always returned sincere thanks.

The funeral was held at his late home on Tuesday afternoon, Rev. Alfred Noon conducting the service. Most beautiful flowers were freely contributed by friends and neighbors, carnations, roses, sweet peas, purple white lilies and a fragrant, beautiful spray of fresh pink roses, and ferns from the Center school.

You are hereby notified to appear at a Probate Court to be held at Cambridge, in said County of Middlesex, on the first day of February, A. D. 1915, 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 ordered to serve this citation by delivering a copy thereof to each person interested who can be found within the Commonwealth fourteen days, at least, before said Court; and if any one cannot be so found, by publishing the same in Turner's Public Spirit, a newspaper published in Ayer, once in each week, for the space of successive weeks, does not exceed in value the sum of five thousand dollars over and above the amount necessary to pay debts and charges of administration; and praying that the whole of the real estate which is described in said petition may be assigned and set out to her by the Court according to law, to provide for said deceased, at a value of seven hundred and fifty dollars, or at such other value as may be fixed by said Court.</

ONE DOLLAR AND FIFTY CENTS PER YEAR IN ADVANCE

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

"The daily labors of the Bee, Awake my soul to industry; Who can observe the careful Art, and not provide for future want?"

Subscribers are urged to keep their subscriptions paid in advance.

Saturday, February 13, 1915.

GROTON.

News Items. Mrs. A. G. Lewis entertained the Neighborhood club on Wednesday afternoon...

The Ladies' Benevolent society of the Congregational church will hold a regular church social on Thursday evening...

While chopping wood on Monday Nathaniel Anderson cut his lip so badly that it was necessary to have several stitches taken.

The remains of Frank Davis, who formerly lived on the Meadow road, and was a son-in-law of Adolphus Gates, were brought to town for burial on Wednesday.

The Brown Loaf club met with Mrs. H. H. Gay on Tuesday afternoon, fifteen members being present.

The Groton Historical society met on Tuesday evening in the lower town hall. After the usual routine business attention was given to Rev. P. H. Cressey's most able and interesting paper, "History and life."

Elizabeth J. Crowley, a graduate of the Groton high school, class of 1913, is now a graduate of Burdett college.

Miss Irene Tyrrell, teacher of English in the high school, took the sophomore class to Boston to the "Merchant of Venice" on Monday.

At the meeting of the school committee last week H. H. Gay was elected chairman. A. H. Cottrell, secretary, and Frederick W. Mansur, the school accountant.

In the Baptist church on Sunday the pastor will preach at 10.30 in the morning on "A royal priesthood"; at seven in the evening, "Christ raising the widow's son," preceded by a praise service.

A number from Groton Grange attended the Pomona Littleton on Thursday. Among those who went over from here were Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Gilson, Mr. and Mrs. E. O. Collier, Millard S. Sawyer, George S. Knapp, Mrs. W. A. Brown and others whose names have not been learned.

The Book and Thimble club met last week with Mrs. Ogilvie.

The tickets for "Under two flags," which are on sale at Bruce's pharmacy, are selling well, 200 being taken by the middle of the week for this Saturday evening, and 235 for Monday evening.

Mrs. Henrietta Chase is better and gaining every day.

The Alliance met with Mrs. Everett Gerrish on Thursday afternoon.

Langdon, the little son of Mr. and Mrs. Walter Powers has been quite ill, pneumonia being feared, but he is now better.

The Groton School Dramatic club will present their play, "The private secretary," in the town hall on Wednesday evening, February 24.

At the next meeting of Groton Grange the first and second degrees will be worked on a class of eight.

There was a recount of votes on Monday evening in the case of the ballot for selectman, assessor and overseer of the poor, but the result showed no change from the vote as first declared.

Robins Sampson returned to his railroad work in the West last week having spent a several weeks' vacation with his relatives here and former schoolmates in Boston, New York and elsewhere.

Charles K. Twiss died Monday, February 8, at the home of his daughter, Mrs. Clara Kemp, of this town. He has been in poor health for the last ten years. The deceased leaves two daughters, Mrs. Clara Kemp and Mrs. E. B. Withington of Manchester, N. H., and one sister, Mrs. Hammond Williams of North Pepperell; also, a number of grandchildren, one being, Miss Elsie Shattuck of this town.

Rev. Sherrard Billings, of Groton School, left the first of the week for a visit to many of the cities of the middle west, going as far as Omaha, and will be absent from Groton for about six weeks. He will address many meetings which have been arranged for the people to hear about the new system of entrance examinations for Groton School for the competitive vacancies, there being hope to secure candidates for these vacancies in greater numbers and from a wider area.

Mr. and Mrs. Clarence Hemenway attended the funeral in Pepperell on Tuesday of Earl Menton, Mrs. Hemenway's cousin, who died of typhoid fever at the Burbank hospital in Fitchburg last week.

Friends of William A. Lawrence and family are receiving postals from them at St. Augustine, Fla.

Mr. and Mrs. William F. Wharton have announced the engagement of their daughter, Constance Wharton,

to Henry St. John Smith, Harvard '15, of Portland, Me. Miss Wharton, who is the sister of William P. Wharton, Harvard '03, and of Philip Wharton, a member of the Vincent club.

Shadrack Evans, who is now quite well, has gone to visit his parents in Jersey City, N. J.

Mrs. Abram Miller had the misfortune to sprain her ankle last Saturday afternoon. She is able to get around some on crutches, but finds it hard work. All the children have been having bad colds. Edward, their youngest child, and only a baby, has been quite sick, but seems now to be much better.

Mrs. Louis Gates, of Pleasant street, has been confined to her bed for the last week and under the doctor's care, and is not able yet to be out.

Mrs. Joseph Hanks, of the same street, has also been ill, having the doctor and is still kept in by her illness.

The Ladies' Benevolent society of the Congregational church will hold a regular church social on Thursday evening, February 18. Mrs. James Bowers is chairman of the supper committee and Mrs. Arthur Sargent of the entertainment committee.

Herbert W. Taylor has been appointed R. F. D. carrier on route one. On page six will be found an article written by Miss Georgianna Burtwell.

Of Historical Interest. Genealogical records and historical facts of much interest that have come to our knowledge recently seem fittingly to find a place in these columns.

These facts concern our townsman, Joseph B. Raddin, who went to visit a cousin the other day, and brought home with him an ancient portfolio containing the day book, daily journal of the occurrences of the day, town papers and other legal happenings of his great-grandfather, Thomas Raddin, who lived in what is now the town of Saugus, which borders the city of Lynn. These records date back two hundred years and are a rare collection.

The grandfather of this Thomas Raddin came over to this country about 1660, and settled in Marblehead. He died in 1690 and his son John settled his estate, of which there is a record. John's son Thomas, the author of these records, and the one first referred to in this sketch, bought a tract of land in Saugus where four generations of the family lived. The old house is still standing, and Thomas Raddin's son Benjamin lived, and from which he and his two hired men went to the Battle of Lexington in 1775.

The women folks of the family melted lead and run bullets, while the men were getting ready. The two hired men were killed in the battle. Benjamin's son John, our townsman, J. B. Raddin's grandfather, was six weeks old at the time of the battle of Lexington; thus our townsman is of the seventh generation and as he has sons and grandsons, it makes nine generations of the same family name who have lived in Massachusetts, either in Groton or within forty miles of it. Benjamin was buried in Saugus and has a revolutionary soldier's marker at his grave.

It was Benjamin's son, Samuel Raddin, who came and settled in Groton in 1842, when his son, Joseph B. Raddin, now ours prosperous and most worthy citizen, was one year old.

Farmers' Institute. The farmers' institute, held in the town hall on Wednesday, was a very instructive and entertaining affair. "Just splendid" is what many say of it, though there were not so many in attendance as was expected. Rev. A. H. Wheelock, state chaplain, told in an attractive and interesting manner of the advantages of farmers. Dr. Twitchell, the afternoon speaker, made a strong point of urging the farmers to carry on their farming in a strictly business manner, and also urged farmers to combine in their efforts. Music was furnished most enjoyably by Oliver Nash, of Pepperell, with Mrs. Nash as accompanist. Miss Margaret Farr, of Lowell, was a reader of fine ability. Her humorous selections were received with hearty laughter. The program closed with her dialect selection of "Roller skates," very laughable. An excellent dinner was served at noon.

Supper and Entertainment. The social, with its supper and entertainment, at the Unitarian church on last week Thursday evening, was an unusual success, even for an annual gentlemen's night. A large crowd was in attendance that the large number who partook of the abundance. The entertainment was excellent. The play was very much liked. While the parts were each finely taken, a most successful manner the crowning success, the most remarkable feature of the play was in the second act, where Mrs. Woolley, alias Mrs. Betty Blood, wife of the farmer Jedediah, was transformed into the fantastic woman of fashion, clothed in gorgeous apparel. At her appearance on the platform she was greeted so vociferously that she was unable to say a word for several moments. It was "the hit" of the evening and well worth in itself the admittance fee. A most satisfactory sum went into the Alliance treasury as the result of the evening's social.

Lawrence Academy Notes. On March 19 comes the public debate. The question is, "Resolved, that immigration to the United States should be further restricted." Principal Clough announced the disputation Monday as Frank D. Gennery and Russell Davey.

The latest arrival at the school is Manuel Palavicini from Mexico. His father is superintendent of public instruction in the large cities of Mexico.

Vesper service next Sunday. Speaker, Rev. Mr. Breckenridge. Mr. Hobbs accompanied by Miss Bradley, will render a violin solo. The public is cordially invited.

Grange.

Groton Grange met in regular session and good numbers Tuesday evening. After the business of the evening was transacted many visitors were admitted to enjoy the literary program, which consisted of a debate on the question, "Resolved, that the present war shows that universal and lasting peace is impossible."

Dieputants, Richard Lawrence, Lee Bixby, Sylvia Lawrence, aff.; John Hough, Earl White, Mary Clarke, neg. The disputants, on both sides did remarkably well. The winning side was decided by a rising vote of the audience. Some of whom did not vote either way. By this decision the affirmatives won.

Words of commendation are heard on every side for these debaters, who are not only acquiring good for their own future use, but are helping in the social and literary life of lively West Groton. John Robinson is the president of this society.

Trying to Kill Amendment. The present situation in the New York legislature on the matter of woman suffrage is rather enlightening to those who have been captivated by the slogan "Suffrage is sure to come."

The outside public has been led to believe the voters of New York are already up in arms and only waiting for a chance to fight for woman suffrage. Now at Albany the suffrage leaders are doing their best to kill their special woman suffrage amendment, because they want the matter to be taken up in the constitutional convention.

They are now confessing that for all their brave claims, "the suffrage amendment goes to the people," this fall it is very certain to be killed. They are hoping, however, that if they can slip it into the new state constitution of the mass of amendments likely to be proposed by the convention, it may escape the attention of the people and be voted for out of hand. This should go a long way towards proving insincerity of the whole movement as a real demand of women for the vote.

Clipping. The following is taken from the Springfield, Vt., Reporter of January 23, 1915.

Emma (Downs) Gilson died on Saturday morning, January 22, after a short illness, and was buried in Sumner Hill cemetery on Monday, after funeral services at the house, conducted by Rev. H. A. Parhurst.

Mrs. Gilson was born in Jacksonville, Fla., November 27, 1851. Her mother died when she was about five years old and she came north to live with an aunt in Groton, Mass. She came to Springfield about fifteen years ago and worked in various stores for several years. On April 17, 1907, she married W. D. Gilson, who survives her with one son, Elliott, seven years old. The only other relative in this vicinity is Merton Gowling, a cousin. Her father and stepmother, Mr. and Mrs. Charles Downs of Bristol, Conn., were here to attend the funeral, as were H. C. Walker and daughter, Phoebe, of Groton, and Miss Florence Kendall of New York, a cousin of Mrs. Gilson. She attended both the high school and Lawrence academy in Groton.

West Groton. On Friday evening of last week a whist party gathered at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Clark of Shattuck farm. The guests were Mr. and Mrs. Dodge and four young people, Mr. and Mrs. W. V. Bixby, also accompanied by four young people of their family, Miss Dorothy Thompson, Prevest Thompson and John Hough of Shirley. After the enjoyment of cards, the hostess served a most appetizing lunch. The remainder of the evening was passed with music and various games. These three families, in all of which young people are not lacking, have styled themselves a Neighborhood club and they quite frequently enjoy an evening together.

The Ladies' Aid society will meet on Thursday afternoon with Mrs. C. L. Roy.

The Improvement society will meet on Tuesday evening at 7.30 a half hour earlier than usual, owing to the later engagement of the hall. The park committee is in charge of the meeting and the question of park improvement will be brought up.

A dance under the direction of Mr. Reuter, a member of the West Groton orchestra, will be held in Squannacook hall on Tuesday evening.

Little John Woolver had a birthday on Thursday and the afternoon brought a birthday cake with other goodies and twenty-two young friends to help him celebrate. John thought it a wonderful fine thing to be five years old.

A part of the sophomore class in the high school say "The Merchant of Venice" at the Boston Opera house on Wednesday. Those going from this village were the Misses Bixby and Mitchell and Donald Bixby.

Mr. and Mrs. R. W. Bliss visited Boston on Wednesday last week, enjoying the presentation of "Ben Hur."

On Saturday the four young people of the family say the same play and later visited friends. Robert and Cadwell returned on Sunday afternoon, the young ladies making a somewhat longer stay.

G. S. Webber has received his appointment as postmaster at the West Groton office. He succeeds G. H. Bixby, who has held the office continuously for thirty-six years.

Miss Sylvia Lawrence was quite ill for a time on Tuesday, being obliged to leave her school. With characteristic determination, however, she did her part in the evening's debate in Groton. Though somewhat weakened by her ill turn she has been able to remain in school.

Mr. John Liacos has been ill this week and in the care of her physician.

Rev. J. P. Trosbridge was taken ill following his church work last Sunday and was for several days confined to his bed with a gripe cold.

He is now somewhat better and hopes to carry out his plans for next Sunday, a special service in commemoration of the treaty of Ghent, the present year and month being the centennial anniversary of that event. Immediately following the morning service the Sunday school will have a Lincoln exercise preceding the regular lesson work.

Miss Anna Robertson, who has been visiting her sister, Miss Jessie Robertson, at the Keno farm, has returned to her home in Hartley, Vt. Miss Jessie is suffering from a severe cold.

On last Saturday Mrs. Clifford Bixby, who has been in West Groton since the Christmas holidays, left with her little daughter for her home in New Jersey.

On Thursday evening Dorothy Thompson was quite ill, necessitating the attendance of her physician.

Mr. and Mrs. A. W. Lamb and daughter Amelia spent Sunday in Watlool.

Herbert Mason, of Groton, and John Hough of Shirley, are to be over Sunday guests of Mr. and Mrs. W. V. Bixby.

Joshua Bixby, owing to continued ill health, has finally given up the milk route which he has served for many years.

Mr. and Mrs. Vedder, of New York, are guests this week of their daughter, Mrs. A. W. Lamb.

Concert. The musical held on last Friday evening in behalf of the Belgians, under the direction of Miss Jessie Robertson, was greatly enjoyed by those in attendance. The hall was fairly well filled and the audience remarkably appreciative. Miss Robertson was assisted by a sister and brother from Boston. Mr. Robertson has a fine baritone voice and though suffering from a cold, good naturedly responded to repeated encores. The Misses Robertson sang solos and duets. Mrs. F. L. Blood, accompanist. Miss Jessie's contralto voice had already been heard with appreciation and pleasure by a West Groton audience and Miss Annie's sweet soprano was no less enjoyed. A piano duet by Misses Shiverette and Duquette with sleighbell accompaniment, captured the listeners' fancy and the young ladies responded to a second encore.

A violin obligato was well rendered by Master William Tracey, Miss Kane accompanist. In the final selection, a piano trio, Master Victor Duquette, assisted the young lady pianists. The amount cleared has not been learned.

TOWNSEND. Mr. Fred Parker, with her daughter Bernice and son Albert spent last week Friday in Lowell.

Born on last Sunday a son to Mr. and Mrs. Bateman.

Thomas Harvey has sufficiently recovered from the whooping cough to be out again.

The parish in this village on last Saturday evening was increased by thirty-four members.

Mr. Cordeau, of Pepperell, is the new beaterman at the leatherboard mill.

Miss Claudia Spaulding, of Newport, Vt., and her friend, Miss Dearborn, were over Sunday guests at Cyrus Lane's.

Mr. Stone, of Winchendon, takes the place of Smith Harriman, who resigned his position last Monday as engineer at the leatherboard mill.

At the semi-annual election at the Social club last Saturday night the following officers were chosen: Ralph C. Blake, pres.; Harold F. Gray, v. p.; Miss Myra Morris, sec.; N. G. Proctor, treas.

Last Tuesday was club day at the Cape. The Monday club was entertained by Mrs. George Jones at her home, Seven Pine.

The members of the As You Like It club were guests of Mrs. Fannie Adams and Miss Mary Adams at Edgewood.

Frank H. Schuler spent the mid-week at his home near this village.

Mrs. John Lawrence returned on Thursday from a visit to her daughter in Gardner.

Mrs. Harry Taylor went to Boston on Wednesday for a slight surgical operation.

Mrs. Minnie Knight attended the Grange in Littleton on Thursday.

Mr. and Mrs. Gray attended a triple birthday celebration in Waltham on Tuesday.

HARVARD. News Items. Mrs. Carrie Hassey has sold her farm on Oak Hill to Mrs. George E. Whitney, of Saratoga, who owns the half interest in the house and barn. This now makes the halves into one estate. Mrs. Hassey is now living in Littleton.

The school committee have organized for the year with M. Alice Marshall, chairman; Alma T. Royal, sec.; A. W. Bryant in charge of transportation.

Miss Elizabeth Pollard returned early this week from Cambridge, where she has been visiting with Mrs. Mary G. Hildreth.

Mr. and Mrs. Allen Bacon, of Albany, N. Y., are guests this week with Dr. and Mrs. Royal.

After a long illness Joseph A. Ellis, for several months a resident here, passed away on February 6 at the age of fifty-six years. Mr. Ellis was born in Canning, Nova Scotia, but has for several years resided in Somerville. He was a carpenter by trade, more beneficial air and climate. He leaves a widow and two sons. Burial was in Westminster on Friday, February 9.

Miss Susan Davis visited with the Misses Emily and Sadie Torrey in Andover over last Sunday.

Another new house is to be erected at Tahanto. Prof. John Harvard college, is to build just beyond Prof. Kennedy's place.

Still River.

We are pleased to report that Miss Katherine Lawrence seems to be steadily improving, although not very rapidly.

Miss Edna Robinson has been visiting her brother, Mr. and Mrs. Herbert Robinson, in Fitchburg this week.

Mrs. Mary Johnson, better known by her maiden name, Mary Morrow, of Clinton, was a visitor in here on Wednesday.

Annual Meeting. The annual meeting of the Ladies' Benevolent society was held at the parsonage on Thursday afternoon and evening, the ladies going in the afternoon and in the evening the gentlemen coming to supper. Rev. and Mrs. Morse certainly did all possible to make all have a good time. After the supper games, music and a social time were in order and at the annual business meeting the former officers were elected for the coming year: Mrs. L. H. Morse, pres.; Miss Edna L. Robinson, v. p.; Miss Helen E. Stone, sec. and treas.; Lewis H. Harwood, col. It was voted that the church committee investigate the advisability and probable cost of putting a raised platform in the church vestry and report at a special meeting to be called after the annual business meeting of the church in March. Voted that the rental of the telephone at the parsonage be paid as in previous years by the society.

SHIRLEY. The Ladies' circle of the Congregational church met last Wednesday afternoon with Mrs. Edwin Conant and it was voted to hold a food sale next Friday, February 19, at four o'clock in the vestry.

The Congregational church will observe "Peace Sunday" tomorrow at 10.45 a. m. in honor of the centennial of the treaty of Ghent. In the evening there will be a stereopticon lecture on the subject of "Africa," which promises to be specially interesting as the pastor, Rev. G. Edwin Woodman, has taken special pains to have a set of good pictures.

Next Thursday evening February 18 Mr. Woodman will give a lecture on "Sir Walter Scott."

Rev. G. Edwin Woodman was the guest and speaker last Saturday afternoon of the Fitchburg chapter, D. A. R. Subject, "Historic setting of the European war."

Mrs. David Goozey has been called to Vermont to visit her father, who has been stricken with a shock.

Mrs. Inez Sawyer, who has been confined to her home with sickness, is no better.

Herbert E. Lawrence is slowly, but steadily, gaining.

Altruism Meeting. A musicale was given by the Altruists at their club room Thursday afternoon. The very pleasing program was in charge of the music committee, Mrs. Althea W. Lindenberg, Mrs. Nellie W. Holbrook and Mrs. Ida H. Wolff. Piano solos were rendered in a very spirited manner by Mrs. Margaret S. Hastings; songs by Mrs. Ruby Felch Smith, "If I was a rose" and "In the land where dreams come true"; duets, Mrs. Smith and Arthur Hersom, "In the cross we glory"; accompanist, Miss Annie Holbrook; songs by Miss Arline Wilbur, "Love's refrain" and "Slave song"; a group of songs by Lester James, "The armorer" and "Entreaty," accompanied by Miss Sarah Stevenson. "America" was sung by all present with Miss Grace M. Kilburn at the piano.

Center. The Matron's Aid society held its regular meeting on Tuesday afternoon at the home of Mrs. David Marsh on Center road. During the winter the meetings are to be held but once a month, instead of twice a month, as is customary. The society is also considering the idea of holding all meetings at the town hall, instead of at the homes of the members.

Hamilton L. Wood, who is well-known in town, and who is a sophomore at M. I. T., took a trip to California during his recent vacation and spent several days in Berkeley at the home of his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Frank Wood.

AYER. Death. Thomas F. Cooney, formerly of Ayer, died suddenly at the home of his brother, Dennis J. Cooney, in Lowell, last Sunday. Mr. Cooney sustained a shock five years ago from which he never entirely recovered, although he was able to perform his daily work. While living here he was employed for years by Alley Bros. & Co. as a leather worker, the firm occupying the plant now used by the Ayer Tanning Company. Later he was employed by the city of Lowell in the street department for years. Mr. Cooney was a quiet, genial man, who made friends wherever he was known.

The deceased leaves a brother, Dennis J. Cooney of Lowell, another brother in Ireland, and one sister, Mrs. Thomas Hillery, of Ayer. The funeral was held from St. Peter's church, Lowell, on Wednesday morning, and was very largely attended. The interment was in that city.

Board of Trade. "Co-operative banks" was the subject of a very interesting and instructive talk given before the members of the Board of Trade and invited guests on Wednesday evening by H. Harding Hale, of Hudson.

The occasion was the regular monthly meeting of the board at which the president, Thomas F. Mullin, presided. After the transaction of the business of the evening, which included the admission of two new members, President Mullin introduced the speaker of the evening.

Mr. Hale briefly outlined the history of the co-operative bank idea from its beginning to the present time. Then going into his subject in detail

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12 1/2c. Percales, first-class quality, perfect cloth, in dark, medium and light colorings Special at 10c per yard
\$2.50 Crepe de Chine Silk Waists, colors blue, pink, white and royal, sizes 36, 38, 40 and 42 Special at \$1.98
19c. and 12 1/2c. Printed Curtain Serims, 36 inches wide, Special at 10c yard
Children's 98c. Gingham Dresses, colors pink, blue and lavender, sizes 6 to 14 years Special at 75c
Children's 50c. Corduroy Bonnets, colors brown and navy, sizes 13, 14, 15 and 16 Special at 39c
Colgate's White Clematis Toilet Soap, regular price 10c per cake Special, 1 box of 3 cakes 20c
79c. Cotton Blankets, colors white and gray, pink and blue borders Special at 65c

Geo. B. Turner & Son

he explained the great benefits to the community in having such an institution. In the first place it furnishes a means whereby people of moderate incomes could save money and gain a higher rate of interest than is presently given in other banks; secondly, it enables the same class of people to borrow money at a lower rate of interest. This is particularly desirable in case persons want to build and have not the necessary money to do so.

The bank loans the desired amount for which it charges a low rate of interest. In this way building of homes is encouraged and where the people own their homes they naturally have a greater interest in the community than those who do not. More interest is taken in town affairs and in raising money at the town meetings. Another good feature is that it encourages people to save, who perhaps otherwise would not. By promoting thrift in the community a better citizenship is attained which is better for the individual as well as the community at large.

In fact there are many ways that such an institution benefits the people the speaker said. While the depositors in such banks are mainly people of moderate means there are quite a number of wealthy people financially interested in them. Mr. Hale said he was not opposed to savings banks, as such institutions had much in common with co-operative banks, but as above pointed out he showed the superiority of the latter over the former.

After the close of his talk those present were invited to ask questions bearing on the subject of the speaker. The enthusiastic manner in which the invitation was accepted showed the deep interest in the subject. The discussion also brought out the fact that there were quite a number who had been for years shareholders in co-operative banks, and who spoke very favorably of them after years of experience. Lunch was served.

Daring Break. One of the most daring robberies that have ever come to the attention of the public occurred early last Saturday morning, when the store of E. W. Carley was broken into and a large number of articles stolen. Entrance was gained by breaking a large pane of glass in the front door and pushing back the spring lock. The burglars evidently made their exit through the rear door. Just what time the break was made cannot be learned, but it was probably about two o'clock. Chief Beatty passed the store at 1.15 o'clock, when he went off duty, and there was no sign of anything wrong then. Officer Mills, who goes on duty at midnight, discovered the break and called up the chief by telephone. Every effort was made to apprehend the robbers, but thus far without success.

The store is occupied by Mr. Carley, James P. Fitch, jeweler, and Robert Murphy's Sons Co., as an electric shop. Mr. Carley lost a fur-lined overcoat. Mr. Fitch's loss consisted

of a French traveling clock, fifteen chateleine watch pins, a nickel watch, two pedometers, one small leather covered clock, a silver mirror and silver comb. From the electric shop there were taken a silver brush, three pairs of shears, jackknives and batteries. The break was made under the care of a large electric light. The inside of the store was also lighted as usual all night.

Red Cross Stamp Sales. A total of eight hundred Red Cross seals were sold through the effects of the Woman's club during the past Christmas season, which netted eight dollars toward the fund being raised for the tuberculosis hospital connected with the hospital at Clinton. The complete returns showing all the amounts sold in the various towns which have just been published, gives the following towns and the number of seals sold in each: Ayer 800, Berlin 1500, Bolton 500, Clinton 18,562, Groton 1000, Harvard 1200, Lancaster 1655, Shirley 2000, Sterling 700.

The total number of stamps sold was 32,948. A total of \$54.36 was also donated and \$56.08 was paid to the National and State Anti-tuberculosis association, leaving a balance of \$318.64 to be used for the tuberculosis hospital at Clinton.

The seals ranged all the way from two seals to one thousand to each person, showing the general interest that has been aroused and the desire of everyone to cooperate according to their means.

The committee in charge of this work thank all whose efforts and generous contributions have helped to make the sale such a success and the largest of any year.

M. E. Church Notes. Mr. Sanford has made a special request to all who regard the First Parish church as their home church to endeavor to be present at the service on Sunday morning. All others will be cordially welcome also.

Sunday school at the M. E. church will be held on Sunday morning at ten o'clock. Preaching at eleven. Evening service at 6.30. Please notice the change of time of this evening service. It is changed for this Sunday evening only. Prayer meeting at 7.30 Friday evening. Following the prayer meeting the files of the church will hold a birthday party to which all are invited. You are asked to leave with them a penny a year according to your age. Small sacks are furnished for this purpose. Charles C. Gorst will give his entertainment in the church on February 18. The entertainment consists of a lecture on birds and imitations of bird songs. Mr. Gorst is an unusual artist along this line and comes recommended by the best critics of the country. He has given his lecture before national and local organizations for bird study in many of our leading cities.

An Illinois inventor's fork-like tool enables a person standing on the rear of a moving train to fasten a signal torpedo to the track.

ONE DOLLAR AND FIFTY CENTS PER YEAR IN ADVANCE

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.

All Advertisements Appear in All the Ten Papers We Publish

'Tis to the Pen and Press we mortals owe. All we believe and almost all we know.'

Saturday, February 13, 1915.

AYER.

New Items. The usual good moving picture shows will be given this Saturday with a special vaudeville attraction for the afternoon and evening. The usual matinee will be at three o'clock and the evening show at eight. The first episode of "The exploits of Elaine" was shown here on Wednesday evening and it is a great serial picture. These pictures will be shown every Wednesday evening. "The Life of our Saviour" in seven parts, will be shown on Washington's birthday, afternoon and evening, and on the evening of February 23. See advertisement in this paper.

Division 7, A. O. H., will give a concert and dance on St. Patrick's night, March 17, and every effort will be made to make the occasion the best ever given by the division. The annual series of lectures of the division will begin soon, with Rev. J. J. Walsh, of Pepperell, the chaplain, as the speaker.

Mrs. M. E. Perham, of Chelmsford, is visiting her brother, Joseph H. Richardson.

Mr. and Mrs. Carl S. Proctor, of Buffalo, N. Y., formerly of this town, are here for an extended stay. Mr. Proctor reports business conditions in that city as very poor with scarcity of employment.

Mrs. Joseph Kyle is confined to her home on Pleasant street by illness.

James Murray, of Acton, who for the last two years has been employed as bookkeeper for Charles E. Perrin, has given up his position.

William J. Charlton moves his family the first of next week from Groton to Joseph C. Anno's house on lower East Main street. Mr. Charlton is a night telegraph operator in the local railroad yard. George W. Luddington, who has occupied Mr. Anno's house, has moved into Alexander Mallou's house on the corner of School and Prospect streets.

John Maloney, Sr., is confined to his home on Grove street by illness. Mrs. Maloney is also quite sick.

W. E. Peasley, an engineer on a freight train running between Lawrence and East Deerfield, by way of Ayer, was fatally injured at North Littleton last week Friday. As the train approached the station in that place Mr. Peasley went up on the tender of the engine to see how much water was in the tank, when his head came in contact with the overhead bridge. His skull was fractured by the force of the blow. Mr. Peasley was taken here, where Dr. Sullivan gave him treatment, after which the injured man was taken to the Massachusetts General hospital, Boston, where he lived but a short time. The dead engineer was widely known among railroad men.

J. Paul Hamel, who was seriously injured last week in the railroad yard, is getting along nicely at St. Joseph's hospital, Nashua, N. H.

Since December 5, when we enlarged this paper from a six-column to a seven-column quarto, the news matter has been on the increase from week to week. In the issue of last week we had thirty-five columns of local news matter. If it had not been for the linotype machine it would have taken three weeks for one compositor to have set this amount of news matter. With the enlargement of this paper we furnish our subscribers with eight columns more of reading matter weekly than heretofore, and for a year it amounts to 416 columns.

The remains of Morris Griffin, of Boylston, were brought here this week Friday for interment in St. Mary's cemetery. Mr. Griffin was an uncle of Thomas H. Griffin, our well-known milkman, and was well known among the older residents of the town.

Miss Eunice Priest, who has been taking the place of Miss Agnes McCarthy as teacher of the third grade, who is absent from her duties by reason of illness, has returned to her studies at the Fitchburg Normal school. Miss Thompson, formerly teacher in the second grade, has been transferred to the third grade. The second grade school has been consolidated with the first grade with forty-nine pupils in all, with Miss Genevieve H. Neylan as teacher. Miss May P. Dooling, teacher in the fifth grade, is absent from duty on account of sickness in her family, and Miss Olive F. Jenness is taking her place during her absence. The first grade pupils under Miss Neylan, by this new arrangement, attend only half the session morning and afternoon for the present.

Harry Brooks left the employe of Joseph C. Anno as a barber last Saturday night. Eddie Letellier of Fitchburg takes his place, beginning work last Monday.

Frank J. Maloney represented John H. McKee of Groton, as counsel at the recount of votes for selectman in that town Monday evening.

Bancroft Royal Arch chapter of Masons will hold a regular convention on Tuesday evening, February 16, at seven o'clock. Work—Royal Arch degree. A lunch will be served.

The Hanev Memorial parsonage, Worcester, was the scene of a quiet wedding on Saturday afternoon, February 6, when Daniel H. Cameron, of Harvard, and Miss Mildred Carman, of this town, were united in marriage. The ceremony was performed by Rev.

A. A. Rideout, Mr. and Mrs. Cameron will make their home in Harvard.

The selectmen organized on last week Wednesday evening with John D. Carney as chairman and Douglas C. Smith as clerk. Mr. Carney was also chosen as town counsel. P. J. Beatty and James I. Mills were re-appointed police officers.

The girls of St. Andrew's church will present a comedy in one act, entitled "A pau of fudge," on Saturday evening, February 13, in Hardy's hall at eight o'clock. The cast is as follows:

Bathina Spencer, a senior; Marion Farnsworth; Elizabeth Bryant, her chum; Helen Savage; Pauline Newman, her room-mate; Rita and Nita Dunbar, junior twins; Gertrude and Jane Briggs; Mlle. Dupre, a french teacher; Helen Barker.

The Ladies' Aid of the Baptist church will serve a baked bean supper in the vestry on Wednesday evening, February 17, from six to 7:30. The Woman's Alliance are invited to a neighborhood meeting in Phillips chapel, Fitchburg, at three o'clock on Tuesday afternoon, February 16, when Mrs. Caroline B. Lawrence, of Auburndale, will speak on happy trip to Palestine.

The annual roll call and supper of the Congregational parish will be held in the church vestry on Friday, February 19. This will include a reception to the new pastor, Rev. Mr. Strong, which will be held from 6:30 to 7:30. Supper will be served at 7:30. A service will be held at 7:30 in the evening in St. Andrew's church on Ash Wednesday, February 17, the first day of Lent. Rev. Edw. Leedy, of Groton School, will preach.

The C. E. of the Congregational church will hold a Valentine social in the church vestry on Saturday evening, February 13, at eight o'clock. There will be no admission fee, but valentines and light refreshments will be on sale for a small sum. Everyone is invited to come.

Sunday services at the Congregational church: In the morning at 10:45, Sunday school at twelve, C. E. meeting at 3:45, evening worship at 6:30. In the morning Mr. Strong will speak on the subject "The modern guest of the Holy Grail." In the evening the subject will be "To the uttermost." C. E. topic "The solid foundation of life."

Mrs. Roderic Otis Blake, of Commonwealth avenue, Alston, and Mrs. T. B. Murphy, of Brookline, were guests this week at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Joseph E. Donovan. Mrs. Murphy formerly lived here and is best known as Miss Lizzie O'Hare, her name before marriage.

Mrs. Thomas Carney is confined to her home by illness.

Charles Gillis, of Somerville, county recording secretary, installed these officers of Division 7, A. O. H., Tuesday evening: Joseph J. Foley, pres.; James J. Horan, v. p.; John F. Ryan, r. s.; David H. Walsh, f. s.; Thomas J. Ryan, treas.; Martin F. McGuane, s. c. John Skerritt, s. a. n. The occasion was honored by the presence of John P. Donnelly, state president. There were present also as guests of the division Rev. Thomas P. McGinn, acting pastor of St. Mary's church, and Rev. Patrick A. Sharkey and Rev. Francis Heuston, of Ayer. After the installation there were remarks by the invited guests appropriate to the occasion which were followed by an informal entertainment which proved very enjoyable. Lunch was served.

The civics class met on Thursday afternoon in the high school building. The speaker was Mr. Solly and the topic "Education in a democracy." There was a large attendance and keen interest in the lecture.

The art section of the Ayer Woman's club meets next Thursday evening with Mrs. Alice Butterfield.

A regular communication of St. Paul lodge of Masons will be held on Monday, February 15, at one o'clock in the afternoon, at which time dinner will be served. Work—Fellow Craft degree.

The Unitarian Girls' club will meet with Miss Marion Proctor on Wednesday evening, February 17, at eight o'clock. There will be free valentines for all the children attending the Valentine party on Saturday afternoon at 3:30 in the Unitarian vestry. Candy, ice cream and cake will be for sale.

A program in behalf of world peace will be presented in Wednesday afternoon, February 17, at 3:30 o'clock in the Woman's club in the Congregational church auditorium. The speaker on the occasion will be Mrs. Lucia Ames Mead, secretary of the recently organized Woman's Peace Party. Mrs. Mead knows the subject very fully and the Woman's club considers itself very fortunate in securing her services at this time to present this all important subject. The club extends an invitation to the school officials, teachers, ministers, doctors, lawyers, and all people interested in the subject to come and hear Mrs. Mead at 3:30 Wednesday afternoon, February 17, a day which chances to be the 100th anniversary of the signing of the treaty of Ghent between England and the United States, which has been followed by a hundred years of peace between the two nations.

The Unitarian Social Gathering met with Mrs. Ida C. Perkins on Tuesday. Plans were made for the supper to be held on February 22, Washington's birthday. The officers were chosen and a committee to have it in charge.

Little Althea Andrew, who has been very ill with scarlet fever, is gaining rapidly. She can sit up a little each day. The nurse is still retained and the quarantine not yet off. It is three weeks Sunday since she was taken ill. She has been a patient little girl through it all.

Archibald Howe of Cambridge gave a talk on Lincoln to the pupils of the eighth grade in the high school building this Friday morning, which was very interesting to all.

An advertisement on the last page by the Ayer Electric Light Company will interest those who intend to install electricity in their homes.

"Willowdale."

On Monday evening, February 15, at eight o'clock in Fane hall, Ayer Grange will present the interesting domestic drama, "Willowdale," in three acts with the following cast of characters:

Joel Bassett, postmaster and store-keeper; Arthur W. Cotton, the accused; Joseph Godfrey, a lawyer—ambitious and unscrupulous; Chester J. Perrin, Clarence Hinmore, the head teacher; Willard G. White, the minister.

Frederic A. Smith, Lem Shacklet, leader of the choir and improptu director; W. A. Budgeett, Simon Pinner, who would rather whittle than work; E. W. Carley, Mlle. Bassett, a child of fate; Fred A. V. Ward, Mlle. Bassett, Joe's wife, inclined to have her own way; Isora M. Kelleher, Rosetta Gates, a bit hazy, but a true friend; Emma Kinney, Mlle. Hazy, who imagines things.

Oleander, the "help" who thinks life is a joke; Frederick T. Auld. This play promises to be fully up to the standard of previous ones given by the Grange and is staged under the direction of U. H. Barrows. There is plenty of comedy and thrilling tableaux throughout the entire performance and will surely please all who attend. Ben Rubin, the Hebrew comedian, of Boston, who made such a hit here last winter in the musical show given by the Boys' Industrial school, will appear between the acts in Hebrew monologue, character songs and clog dancing. Seats went on sale this week Friday at E. W. Carley's store, and there are good locations left for those who wish to buy them.

S. of V. There was an open meeting after the regular business session of Capt. George V. Barrett camp, S. of V., on Thursday evening. A good sized number of the members of George S. Boutwell post, G. A. R., and the W. R. C., as well as others made up the large gathering. The meeting took the form of Lincoln night, the program being appropriate to the memory of the martyr president.

The proclamation for the celebration of Lincoln's birthday issued by Governor Walsh was read by Edward E. Sawyer, post commander of Capt. George V. Barrett camp; Miss Phyllis Poor, deputy; Lincoln's Gettysburg address; Mrs. Daisy Beckford sang "Tenting on the old camp ground," and Ellis B. Harlow gave a vocal solo, the audience joining in the chorus of each selection. Musical numbers were given by an orchestra composed of Miss Virginia McElroy, violinist; Stanley Wells, cornetist, and Miss Gladys Phelps, pianist, of Shirley, which added much to the pleasure of the evening.

Remarks pertinent to the occasion were made by Stephen N. Lougee of George S. Boutwell post, Rev. Mr. Strong of the Congregational church, Edward E. Sawyer, post commander of the local camp, S. of V., Mrs. Ellen G. Sawyer, president, and Mrs. Nina G. Lougee, treasurer of the W. R. C. A fine oyster supper was served.

Through Service. The petition which has found many signatures, regarding the connecting of the Lowell & Fitchburg and Leominster street railway tracks here, has been forwarded to the headquarters of the latter road in Fitchburg. The petition asks permission to cross the Boston and Maine tracks at grade at what is known as the Worcester and Nashua crossing on Main street, thereby making a through line from North Chelmsford to Fitchburg without the present inconvenience of changing cars here under the present conditions. Later, if this permission is granted, the company may run the cars through from Lowell to Fitchburg.

If the necessary permission to connect the two lines is granted and such connection made, people can travel anywhere in the town limits on these roads for one fare, from the Shirley line at Mitchellville to Sandy pond; whereas, under the present conditions two fares are required for such service. The next step is to present the petition to the Ayer selectmen and finally to the state public service commission whose action on the matter is final.

Departments Separated. For the first time, so far as can be learned, since the incorporation of the town, the town this year is confronted with a division of authority in the management of the poor and highway departments. This is due chiefly to two of the present board of selectmen, Messrs. Carney and Smith, calling to take out nomination papers for overseers of the poor. The speaker was that Thomas F. Mullin, the third member of the board of selectmen, and Frank S. Pierce and Lyman K. Clark, the two latter defeated for selectmen, were elected overseers of the poor. The two offices were usually filled by the same officials.

This year, however, the department will be conducted on a separate basis instead of together as formerly. Mr. Smith, as superintendent of streets, will have charge of the streets, while Messrs. Mullin, Pierce and Clark will manage the poor department, which includes, of course, the town farm.

Death. Mrs. Eudora S. Draper, widow of James S. Draper, died at her home on Pleasant street last Sunday of carcinoma, from which she had suffered for a long time. Mrs. Draper was the daughter of Charles L. Whitney and Lusanna E. (Whitney) Reed and was born in Genesee, Ill., June 28, 1857. She was married to James S. Draper in 1881. Mr. Draper dying a few years ago. She was a charter member of the Ayer Woman's club and a member of the Unitarian church.

The funeral was held on Tuesday afternoon from the late home on Pleasant street, the officiating clergyman being Rev. Edward H. Brennan, of Ware, formerly pastor of the Unitarian church here. A trio, consisting of Mrs. Charles K. Houghton, Mrs. J. Melvin Hartwell and Mrs. Mattie B. Priest, of Littleton, sang "Beautiful Isle of Somewhere" and "Nearer My God to thee." They also sang the

responses to the clergyman's prayer. The bearers were Edward A. Whitney, a brother; Herbert C. Whitney, a nephew; Harry R. Draper, a son, and John L. Kennison. The interment was in the family lot in Woodlawn cemetery, where Mr. Brennan performed the committal service.

Results of Recount.

The recount of the votes for selectmen, cast in the annual town election last week Monday, took place in the assessors' room, town hall, Saturday night. John M. Maloney appeared in behalf of Lyman K. Clark, Thomas F. Mullin and Frank S. Pierce, who were also present, and P. H. Ryan and John B. O'Connell for John D. Carney and Douglas C. Smith, respectively. The result showed a gain of one vote each for Carney and Pierce. The recount failed to make any difference in the make-up of the board of selectmen as announced last week, namely, John D. Carney, Douglas C. Smith and Thomas F. Mullin. The votes were counted by the registrars of voters in the close vote.

The recount attracted a great deal of interest, owing to the great deal especially between Clark, Smith and Carney, who received in the official election returns, 273, 275 and 276, respectively. Mullin led with a total of 288, and Pierce had 257. The revised figures give Carney 277 and Pierce 258, but the other figures as before stated, remaining unchanged.

To the Editor:

Now that the annual town meeting is over and another year must elapse before we can renew the contests we have lately been engaged in, a few words touching on and appealing to the same, as Chief Devery would put it, may not be altogether inappropriate.

Encouraged by the fact that the no-license vote of last year was only 241, the smallest since the town changed from wet to dry in 1903, the "wets" made a determined and well organized effort to make the town party active to the thirty strange-er within our gates as well as to save themselves the carriers' re-organizing to places where there is more freedom of choice in selecting drinks. Every voter received circulars and letters on both sides of the question and the result of the vote has made it pretty clear that, under existing conditions, Ayer is a no-license town.

But although the license cause was lost, its leaders succeeded in securing both of their candidates for selectmen. As far as they could control the license vote it was cast for Messrs. Carney and Smith only, with the third vote a blank. The fact that more than fifty "bullets" were cast for Mr. Carney and nearly double that number for him and Mr. Smith without any third choice, shows careful organized work. In the early morning the license leaders offered to abandon Mr. Smith and take up Mr. Pierce if the latter would make an alliance with Mr. Carney. It is unnecessary to say that this offer was promptly refused, as everyone who knows Mr. Pierce also knows that anything like double dealing or treachery to his political associates is entirely foreign to his sturdy, loyal and straight-forward nature.

The no-license leaders worked hard for their cause, but apparently paid no attention to the field for selectmen. Whether this was wise or their party remains to be seen. Of course we all know that the enforcement of the liquor law depends upon the attitude of the police department which in turn reflects the attitude of the selectmen. For six years Chief Beatty has done good work and has been given every assistance he has asked for. Doubtless he will continue the same policy if he gets the same support. And of course, it is not inconsistent for an official who believes in town should vote license to insist on a strict enforcement of the law after the town has voted no-license. Still, it is probably true that most no-license voters prefer to have the enforcement of the law directed by officials of their own party. However, we shall see what we shall see.

During the campaign a good deal of criticism was heard of the action of the selectmen in granting licenses of the sixth class (commonly called druggists' licenses) for the sale of intoxicating liquors, and permits to transport such liquors (commonly called pony express licenses). Two druggists' licenses have been granted for all of the dry years since 1905, as well as during the wet years prior to that time, and two pony express licenses have been granted ever since they were provided for by law.

Of course, much of this criticism was merely an argument for a yes vote. But enough of it came from the no-license side to convince me that the law relating to these licenses is strangely misuderstood by many of our people. There is no provision in the law for allowing the voters to pass upon whether druggists' licenses or pony express licenses shall be granted by the selectmen. If the town votes yes the selectmen may grant (but are not obliged to grant) licenses of the first five classes. If the town votes no such licenses cannot be granted. The law relating to druggists' licenses will be found in Revised Laws, chapter 100, sections 22, et. seq. It provides that one or more licenses of the sixth class shall be granted annually by the selectmen of towns to retail druggists who are registered pharmacists actively engaged in business on their own account, upon presentation to the selectmen of a certificate from the state board of registration in pharmacy (stating that in the judgment of said board he is a proper person to be entrusted with such license and that the public good will be promoted by the granting thereof) if it appears that the applicant is a proper person to receive such license.

In the case of Fitzgerald vs. Hurley (Mayor of Salem) 180 Mass. 15; Judge Knowlton uses these words: "By the statutes of 1887, chapter 431, section 1, the granting of one or more licenses of the sixth class is made compulsory in all cities and towns if the applicant is a fit person to receive such license."

The law relating to pony express licenses will be found in the statutes of 1906, chapter 421, as amended by the statutes of 1911, chapter 423, and provides that the selectmen in towns in which licenses of the first five classes are not granted, shall annually in the month of April grant and issue one or more permits to transport intoxicating liquors, but only to a person, firm or corporation regularly and lawfully conducting a general express business.

Now I hold no brief for the druggists or the expressmen and have no other interest in the matter than an honest desire to see the law obeyed. I confess I have little patience with the man who waits the selectmen to disregard their plain duty under the law because he is a prohibitionist and doesn't believe in the present law, and I have still less with the man who is so sore because the town voted lawfully and brought into town. They ought to try to get the legislature to change the law if they don't like it.

It is apparent from what I have set forth that when our two druggists apply for licenses and present certificates of fitness from the state board there are only two questions to be considered by the selectmen: 1. Are the applicants proper persons to receive such licenses? 2. Shall two licenses be granted instead of one? And it is only justice to our druggists to say that I have never heard anyone contend that they were not fit persons to receive licenses if licenses were to be granted? They are placed between the fire of the prohibitionist on the one hand and the advocate of the saloon on the other, and as they have no political influence, it is popular to hammer them hard because people do not understand the policy of the law in allowing them to sell liquor "for a dollar license," as it is often put.

Last year the aldermen of Everett refused to grant pony express licenses, a majority of the board taking the position that under no circumstances would they vote to grant such a license to anybody. All the expressmen joined in a petition for a writ of mandamus.

Let me quote a few extracts from the opinion of Chief Justice Rugg (see Tea vs. Aldermen of Everett 217 Mass. 47) in construing the pony express law I have before me:

"It is manifest that therefore the legislature had not undertaken, since the repeal of the early prohibitory law and the adoption of the policy of local option for regulating intoxicating liquors, to control such use of intoxicating liquors as falls short of frankness. The object of the liquor law has been to control only the sale and transportation of intoxicants, not their consumption."

"Section two, quoted above is in form mandatory. 'Shall,' although not a word of inflexible significance, in its popular and common meaning is imperative and mandatory. * * * It is the word naturally employed by the legislature to convey its positive and compulsory mandate. We are of opinion that the history of the statute in this commonwealth touching the transportation of intoxicating liquors of which the statute now in question forms a part, does not disclose a legislative purpose to confer upon the officers of no-license municipalities discretionary power to prohibit such transportation for hire by common carriers other than railroad and street railway corporations, but rather to require the issuance of at least one permit for such transportation, provided a reasonably proper person may be found conducting a general express business. If the public welfare requires a further regulation or restriction of such transportation, it is for the matter for the legislative and not for the judicial department of government."

The duty imposed upon the respondents as members of the board of aldermen is to issue a permit. But an inherent part of the conception of granting a license or permit is a certain degree of discrimination. If, upon an impartial investigation of the applicants for permits, undertaken with a purpose to comply with the law, the respondents should be of opinion that no one of the applicants was regularly and lawfully conducting a general express business or was of such character that he could not be trusted to comply with the terms of the statute, he would not be required to issue a permit. But they must undertake such an investigation with a genuine determination to grant a permit provided there is an applicant who conforms to the requirements of the law."

Our law recognizes the value of intoxicating liquors as a medicine not only by the certificate of the state board above-mentioned "that the good will be promoted" by granting druggists' licenses, but also by providing that registered pharmacists holding a certificate of fitness from the state board may sell intoxicating liquors in no-license towns upon the prescription of a registered physician practicing therein without any license. And as the physicians also recognize their medicinal value, the practical effect of the law in such cases is to add the prescription fee to the price of the liquors.

This article is longer than I intended it to be when I began, but I desire to say a word about the delay in counting the ballots before I close.

For the first time since the law permitted the counting of ballots during the process of the voting, the ballot box was not opened until the polls closed. The law provides that in town elections the ballot box may be opened and ballots taken therefrom for counting when both the moderator and the town clerk shall so order. The new moderator announced soon after his election that he was going to have an honest election this time and that he would not agree to open the ballot box before the polls closed. This insulting reflection on the experienced election officers was sharply resented and will not soon be forgotten. The principal result of this fatuous ruling were to keep the tellers sitting around doing nothing until four o'clock and delay

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TOWNSEND.

Center. There was a very interesting meeting at the Grange on Monday evening when T. E. Flarity, past master, gave a talk on the ritual, its most beautiful passage, its most helpful passage and lessons of the different degrees, and Alfred N. Fessenden spoke on the question, "Should not Massachusetts establish a short course training for farm laborers at its agricultural college as well as furnishing technical and industrial schools for training in other lines of industry?"

The many friends here of Mrs. J. Brown, who spends her summers on Townsend hill, will be sorry to learn that she is quite ill at her home in Providence, R. I. Her daughter, Mrs. Samuel Woods, has again returned to Providence to help in caring for her mother.

The many friends of Charles Howard will be pleased to learn that he is making excellent progress at the Worcester Polytechnic institute as the mid-year examinations show. We hope that our high school will soon be on the approved list of the New England Association of Colleges as it is of the Worcester Tech.

David Howard returned to Pittsfield, Pa., on Monday last. David was called home during the illness of his youngest brother Albert and since his brother's death has remained awhile with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. A. S. Howard.

Charles Bartz, of Ayer, is wiring the residence of Frank Warren for electricity.

Rev. C. H. Hannaford of South Lancaster, a former pastor here, occupied the Methodist pulpit last Sunday morning and preached again at the evening service. Although Mr. Hannaford has passed his eightieth milestone, he spoke easily and fluently, giving his words an element of force at the same time many beautiful and helpful lessons were brought out in his sermon. At the close of the service the cordial and generous greeting given him by his old and new time friends showed that the aged pastor still held a tender place in the hearts of his people. Mr. Hannaford was entertained at the Methodist parsonage.

Some of our residents report as having heard the singing of the bluebird this past week.

The board of registrars meet Thursday, February 18, at West Townsend, at 7:45 and Saturday, February 20, at the Center, from twelve to ten p. m. Friends of Mrs. Amos Blood and Mrs. Nellie Gilchrist will be sorry to learn of their illness. Mrs. Blood is very ill at their home in Harvard, while her daughter Nellie is at the St. Joseph's hospital, Boston, where she recently underwent an operation for an abscess on the back of her ear. Mrs. Gilchrist is comfortable at this writing.

Mrs. Blanche Wheeler of Boston visited her mother, Mrs. Charles Hill-dreth, the first of the week.

A party of twenty-two young people from our village, wishing to enjoy a sleighride and general good time, went to an entertainment last week Friday evening given in Mason, N. H.

This being C. E. week thirteen from the Center C. E. and West Townsend C. E. availed themselves of the opportunity of going to Fitchburg on Monday evening to hear the speaker at the Rollstone church. Dr. MacPherson, who took for his topic, "Thy God, Why glory?"

Three new books have been added to the public library during the past week: "Silvia's experiences," presented by John J. Piper, and written by his cousin, Miss Margaret Piper; "Germany and the next war," presented by Rev. Alfred L. Struthers; "Book on woman suffrage—history, arguments and results," presented by the Townsend Equal Suffrage League. The attention of the public is called to these gifts. The last two will be especially valuable as reference books.

Frank M. Warren is having his residence wired this week for electric lights.

John N. Going, who was beginning to gain from his long illness, is now afflicted with the shingles.

Twentieth Anniversary. The many friends of Walter E. Wilder extended heartiest congratulations to him and his estimable wife upon the twentieth anniversary of their marriage, which they celebrated at their home on Main street, February 6. On that date in the year 1895 Walter E. Wilder and Miss Martha Wyeth, Christian Crusaders, were united in marriage at Salisbury, Vt. Seven children blessed this union, five daughters and two sons, Ina, Alice, Lois, Mateline, Amy, Milton and Freddie. About noon last Saturday ten of the former neighbors of Mr. and Mrs. Wilder came from Ashby to dine with them and their family. Other friends called during the afternoon and evening, bringing hearty good wishes and gifts of china, linen and money. The home was prettily decorated with Jonquils, tulips and carnations.

Union Services. There will be a union service Sunday morning, February 14, of the Methodists with the Congregationalists at the Congregational church in observance of "Anniversary of peace of Ghent." The services are to be held at the usual preaching hour. The following addresses will be given: "Peace of Ghent," A. N. Fessenden; "Development of the peace idea," H. C. Ross, high school principal, and "Responsibilities of a republic," H. L. Knight, superintendent of schools. The high school chorus will sing at this service. During the Sunday school hour services will still further be carried out by readings, quotations and lessons from the life of Abraham Lincoln. There will be singing by

three of the Sunday school classes and special solos rendered by Robert Copeland and Harold Gray, with closing song, "America," by all.

Club Meetings. The Birthday club met last week Thursday in the Congregational church vestries. A goodly number were present. The program and entertainment of the social hour was of a valentine nature and was as follows:

Piano selection, Master Albert Cowland; reading, "Six love letters," Mrs. J. E. Clement; recitation, "The very Bucky Miller, go vey," Albert Cowland and little Mabel Clement; songs, Mrs. Brackett with Mrs. Hodgman accompanist; solo and duet, "The romance of the daisy," with chorus, "Put on your auto bonnet," Miss Louise Drake and Master Robert Drake; recitation, "My valentine," Miss Mabel Clement.

During the social hour a hunt for hearts was participated in by the company present. The successful one in finding "cupid" was Mrs. Mary Norris. She was rewarded with a bead necklace with heart pendant, ice cream, cake and candy kisses were served by the hostess. Hostesses of the afternoon were Mrs. Henry Miller, Mrs. Martha J. Hill-dreth and Mrs. Grace Wright.

The Monday club met this week Monday afternoon at the home of Mrs. Thirza Fessenden, Mrs. Fessenden and her sister, Miss Angela Aquilino, hostesses. As the club members and guest arrived they were pleasantly greeted by Mrs. Fessenden's daughters, Mrs. Marion Miller and Mrs. Florence Fessenden. After the business meeting the paper of the afternoon was given by Mrs. Marion Miller, "The subject, 'My trip to California,'" Mrs. Miller has a pleasing personality and her many home friends here are always glad of the opportunity of hearing her exceptionally fine talks.

Her vivid recollection of her trip and the wonders and beauty of California made her audience feel that they had taken the trip with her. Mrs. Miller's appreciative audience gave her a rousing vote of thanks for her most excellent paper. Tea, sandwiches, cake and bon-bons were served during the social hour. The hostesses were prettily aided in serving by Miss Maud Hyde and Mrs. Florence Fessenden, with Mrs. Helen Fessenden as pourer.

The afternoon's program was interspersed with strains of music from the Victrola.

West. At the annual business meeting of the Eclipse Engine company last Saturday evening the following list of officers and committees were elected: G. A. Welch, foreman; G. M. Streeter, C. F. Tenney, asst.; C. L. Webster, clerk and treas. Standing committee, G. M. Streeter, W. W. Webster and A. M. Manchester. Pipe men, F. D. Parsons and Foster Hamilton. Nozzle men, Amos Jodrey, W. W. Webster and Geo. Wyman. Hose men, Geo. Beckwith, Robert Tumber, John King, Warren Elliott, Albert Wyman, Ian Rusk, Wm. Mills and Abbot Hodgman. First call to brush fire, F. D. Parsons, Daniel Coffey, Thos. Smith, Abbot Hodgman, Arthur Bruce, Ian Rusk and H. B. Hathaway.

The regular monthly business meeting of the Y. P. S. C. E. was held at the home of the president, Ian Rusk, on Tuesday evening and nine were present. Beside the regular routine business plans were discussed for a Valentine social at the vestry on Saturday evening.

The meeting of the Ladies' Literary and Social circle, which was to be held Friday afternoon with Mrs. Albert Wilson at the home of her mother, Mrs. Josephine Boynton, has been postponed until further notice.

The homes of C. L. Webster and Elbridge Haggood have been wired for electric lights the past week.

Rev. Joseph McKean will preach on Sunday morning on "West Townsend's greatest need" and in the evening his topic will be "To what extent is God dependent upon human cooperation." The Y. P. S. C. E. will be conducted by the president, Ian Rusk, and the topic is "Solid foundations."

Miss Helen Marr is boarding for the present at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Alexander Reed.

Mr. and Mrs. George Withington have given up their tenement here and are at present at Franklin N. H. Abbot Hodgman took a party of members of the Y. P. S. C. E. of the Center on a sleighride to the rally at Fitchburg on Monday evening, and Miss Bertha Reid, Miss Gladys Rawson and James and Ian Rusk represented this society at that gathering.

Miss Claudia Spaulding of Newport, N. H., is a guest of Mr. and Mrs. Ernest G. Wilson this week.

The L. B. S. held their regular monthly all-day session at the reading room on Wednesday with fifteen present. Dinner was served at noon.

Mrs. Emma J. Lees has been spending the past week with relatives in Boston.

Mrs. R. S. Cook is enjoying a visit from her daughter, Mrs. Cook, from Vermont.

Work on the new postoffice arrangement at Boutwell's store has commenced and James Dadds of Josselynville is also assisting in the store at present.

Miss Emma H. Adams left Saturday for a visit to the home of her sister in Providence, R. I.

Miss Bertha Reid, teacher of the intermediate grade, spent the week-end with friends in Pepperell.

Miss Josephine Lawrence from Fitchburg is visiting her mother, Mrs. Maud Lawrence.

The West Townsend Granite Co. has closed its work at the quarry for the present, on account of the unfavorable weather.

Mr. and Mrs. George Withington are stopping at present with Mrs. Cora Eldredge, where Mrs. Withington is assisting with the work.

Club Meeting. The Ladies' Study club met on Monday evening at the home of Mrs. G. Adams and five members were present

with the president, Mrs. E. J. Lees in charge. Mrs. Fred Patch gave an account of the "Disappearance of Mr. Coe of Boston" and read a poem on the late Seminary hall; Mrs. Alexander gave an account of the "Earthquake survivors in Italy"; Mrs. Adams' "Loyalty of British colonies" and "The new presidential president of Mexico"; Mrs. Hestman's "Anecdotes of school children" and Mrs. Lees, "Sunday's service at Trinity." Mrs. Fred A. Patch then read a very interesting paper on "Local government."

The next meeting will be in charge of Mrs. Herman L. Stickney and the subject will be "The government of cities." It is expected that the meeting will be held at the home of the president, Mrs. E. J. Lees, unless otherwise notified.

GROTON.

Suffragist Meeting. The suffragist meeting of Friday evening, January 29, was one very satisfactory to those who attended and are interested in the cause. The speakers, presented their arguments in a courteous but earnest manner. There was not a large attendance, but those present were men and women of prominence in the town who are willing to hear both sides of the question. Miss Georgianna Boutwell presided and made the following introductory remarks:

The enlargement of the electorate has been in progress in Anglo Saxon, England, and the United States for something over a thousand years—sometimes so slowly that it cannot be consecutively traced, but always in the same direction. There are, however, certain great crises that stand out so prominently that one can measure the progress. In the early days the one-man power was supreme—the head of the clan had no rival and no adviser.

In Saxon, England, we first hear of counselors to the ruler in the meetings of the Wittena Gemote, or Council of Wise Men. The first meeting in history took place in 824. From time to time they were called together, generally at Easter or Christmas. They were apparently selected largely because of ownership of land, and as the serfs at that time were bought and sold with the land, the number of serfs owned may also have been considered. They were the original house of lords continued in the same spirit until today. Henry I, whose reign began in 1100, granted a charter, the first limitation granted by the Normans upon the one-man power.

It was not, however, until the reign of Henry II, which closed in 1189, that that charter was made fully operative, and was promulgated as restoring rights given by Edward, the confessor. In 1215 the great Magna Charta was issued by King John.

In 1293, under Edward I, the two houses of parliament were constituted, the house of commons being elective. From that time in England until recently there has been no act which stands out boldly above all others, but progress has been made from time to time. The short reign of Cromwell, although a failure as regards the overthrow of a hereditary ruler in England, was a success in serving notice that such a ruler could only rule because he considered and followed the wishes of the people.

It was said that Gladstone, in interviewing Queen Victoria and urging a measure which she disapproved, was met by her with this remark: "I am the queen and I will not consent." He replied, "And I am the people who unmake kings and queens," and she yielded. Whether the story is true or not it represents the spirit of the present day, which showed its strength in Cromwell's reign.

From time to time a new class of citizens have been admitted to the electorate. There are still needed changes in England, but the will have full and equal manhood suffrage, notably the custom of one man because of wealth in lands, casting more than one vote.

Recently a very great step has been taken in England. The house of lords has been shorn of power. A vote of the house of commons cannot be vetoed by the lords more than twice; if passed the third time by the commons, which means the people, it becomes law.

When the English people came to this country progress was more rapid. Very early religious liberty was established by law. All through the colonial period we were becoming more and more democratic, insisting upon England granting larger rights to the plain people before Mr. Lincoln said: "The Lord must love most, as he had made so many of them."

This tendency culminated in the declaration of independence. It is probably true that if this measure had been put to the popular vote it might have failed, so many persons were afraid to try so radical a change. Even some of the members of the continental congress who were in favor of the war and were patriots, declined to sign the declaration. After the adoption of the constitution changes were made frequently in the requirements for voting—property and the paying of poll taxes as prerequisites for voting were dropped in most of the states—aliens were admitted to the electorate. In fact, we had come to believe so strongly in the right of a man to vote and hold office that we did not always know of an old statute that abridged that right.

When William E. Russell was elected governor in 1891, probably not fifty persons in the commonwealth knew that he could not qualify unless he owned a certain amount of land, and Mr. Russell, well advanced in the right of taking the oath of office, had to buy that amount. The law was promptly repealed that winter.

From the time of the declaration of independence until 1863, almost ninety years, no great step was taken, but on January 1, 1863, Mr. Lincoln issued his immortal emancipation proclamation—one of three great decrees of the English speaking people—the Magna Charta, the Declaration

of Independence and the Emancipation Proclamation.

This was followed by the Fifteenth amendment of the constitution which reads as follows: "The right of citizens of the United States to vote shall not be denied or abridged by the United States or by any state on account of race, color or previous condition of servitude."

I take pride in the fact that this amendment, with the Fifteenth of the word "by" which was placed by the senate before the words "any state," was written by my father, which when ratified by the states, made, unless forfeited by wrong doing of the individual, full manhood suffrage the law of the land.

One more step and one only has to be taken—the admission of women to the electorate. The progress of the centuries is with our cause. Sooner or later this country will grant to everyone who has to obey the laws, the right to give an opinion by ballot, what those laws should be and I should be false to the spirit of my ancestors if I did not advocate the cause of woman suffrage.

BROOKLINE, N. H.

News Items. Mr. and Mrs. George Stewart have moved from Rockport, Mass., and taken up their residence with Thomas Bartlett.

Mrs. Arthur Brown on last Sunday week entertained her father, William Marshall, of Pepperell.

Mr. and Mrs. Frank Hammond and baby of Groton and Mrs. Stella King of Fitchburg were weekend guests at James Farnsworth's last week.

Mr. and Mrs. Peter Bouchard, Jr. were visitors at Nashua last week.

Ethel Taylor and Mrs. Etta Rockwood have been in Everett, Mass., the past week as guests of George D. Rockwood.

Mrs. William Dodge took a business trip to Milford on last Wednesday.

Rev. Mr. Dockrill went to Manchester on last week Thursday.

Born to Mr. and Mrs. William N. Dinsmore, February 1, a son Edmund Gilkey Dinsmore.

Matilla Betterley is a visitor at the home of George Dodge of Groton for a few days.

Mrs. E. H. Hadley and son Harold were here at their summer home for a few days last week. Last week Friday being her birthday, the Sunbonnets, of which she is a member, called on her at a house to extend congratulations and wish her many happy returns of the day.

Miss Marion Stiles came home on last week Friday to spend a couple of days with her mother, Mrs. Josephine Stiles.

Albert Peirce was a visitor in Manchester on last Saturday.

Dr. Charles Holcombe has been appointed deputy commander of Samaritan commandary, U. O. G. C.

Much sympathy is expressed for Richard Hardy, who formerly resided here, on account of the accident which befell him last week, when he was sulphuric acid. It was at first feared that his eyesight was affected and it is sincerely hoped that such is not the case.

On Monday while standing beside the railroad station, Henry Shattuck's horse became frightened at an approaching train and ran away. Mr. Shattuck was thrown out, but luckily escaped unhurt, except for a severe shaking up. The horse was caught on Main street, after running only a short distance.

HOLLIS, N. H.

News Items.

Mrs. Leighton, from Boston, spent the week-end with her sister, Mrs. Jeremiah Bell.

Jeremiah Bell attended an agricultural meeting in Boston last week and also a banquet at the Quincy house. This week he went to Manchester to attend the Ayer's Association meeting; also the dairymen's meeting held in Manchester.

THE LIVER REGULATES THE BODY A SLEGGISH LIVER NEEDS CARE

Someone has said that people with chronic constipation should be shut away from humanity for they are pestiferous and so through a "class" of people. Why? Because mental states depend upon physical states. Business, health, happiness and success are all dependent upon the liver.

New Advertisements.

Printing THAT IS DISTINCTIVE WE can make your Printing what it should be and ought to be—that is what our experience counts for. With up-to-date presses and material, and facilities for turning out everything in the line of Printing—black or colors—you will get your work when you want it and as you want it. Send your orders to H. S. Turner Phone 105-2 Ayer, Mass.

Printing WITH GOOD SERVICE

WANTED

IT to become generally known that Disc Records are cheap at last. Can be played on Victor or Columbia Machines. All the latest songs and music. A few of the titles:

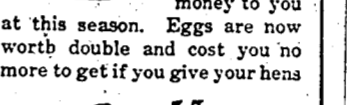
A Long Way to Tipperary Follow the Crowd He's a Bug Picker My Crooney Melody Along Came Ruth Back to the Carolina You Love This is the Life Night Time in Burzandy California Medley Popular Airs

and lots of others—now ones added every day. 5c each, 7 for \$1.00, delivered to your home by mail.

SEND NOW TO The W. J. HANDLEY CO. 101 Albion St. Boston, Mass.

Frozen Up—but plenty of Eggs

Busy hens mean a big money to you at this season. Eggs are now worth double and cost you no more to get if you give your hens



Pratts Poultry Regulator

It is a guaranteed egg producer. It's the one way to make the most from your hens—insures them free from disease—insures poultry success without risk of a cent. Refuse substitutes; insist on Pratts.

Page 500, 50c, \$1.00, 25 lbs. paid \$2.50. Satisfaction Guaranteed or Money Back. 15 Get Pratts 100 page Poultry Book?

Sold by Grain Dealers and General Stores

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS, Middlesex, ss. Probate Court. To the heirs-at-law, next of kin and all other persons interested in the estate of JOEL E. FLETCHER, late of Ayer in said County, deceased. A certain instrument purporting to be the last will and testament of said deceased has been presented to said Court, for Probate, by FRANK A. PATCH, who prays that the same may be admitted to probate. The executor therein named is hereby cited to appear at a Probate Court to be held at Cambridge in said County of Middlesex, on the second day of March A. D. 1915, 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 Turner's Public Spirit, 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, Charles J. McIntire, Esquire, First Judge of said Court, this tenth day of February in the year one thousand nine hundred and fifteen. 3123 W. E. ROGERS, Register.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the subscriber has been duly appointed administrator of the estate of JOHN W. EMMY of Shirley in the County of Middlesex, deceased, testate, and has taken upon himself that trust by giving bond, as the law directs. All persons having demands upon the estate of said deceased are required to exhibit the same, and all persons entitled to said estate are called upon to make payment to GEORGE A. KEARSELEY, Adm., 73 Tremont St., Boston, Mass., February 5, 1915.

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS, Middlesex, ss. Probate Court. To all persons interested in the estate of GEORGE H. HUTCHINSON, late of Littleton in said County, deceased. Whereas JOHN W. HUTCHINSON, the administrator of the estate of said deceased, has presented for allowance the first 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 third day of March A. D. 1915, at nine o'clock in the forenoon, to show cause, if any you have, why the same should not be allowed. And said administrator 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 Turner's Public Spirit, 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, Charles J. McIntire, Esquire, First Judge of said Court, this tenth day of February in the year one thousand nine hundred and fifteen. 3123 W. E. ROGERS, Register.

Engraved Cards

Business and Social Wedding Stationery. Card Showing STYLES and PRICES Willingly Furnished

50 Engraved Cards in Script, \$1.25 Public Spirit Office, Ayer

For the Children When Old Boreas Blows He Makes Ice and Snow.



MISS EDNA BOYT COASTING.

Old Boreas has been asleep for a long time, but now his nap is over. Boreas, you know, is the North Wind, and Jack Frost is his son. When Boreas wakes up he sends Jack out to let people know that cold weather is on the way. Jack Frost is quite gentle when he starts out on his tour. He breathes on the flowers and trees and grass, and soon they go to sleep until spring shall awaken them. Then old Boreas opens his mouth and blows a tremendous blast. That is how winter begins. Snow and ice take the places of flowers and green trees. Little folks, however, are glad when Boreas wakes up, for he makes lots of splendid sport. Without the snow and ice there would be no skating or coasting—about the jolliest kind of fun there is. Here is the picture of a little girl who was coasting down a hillside in Central Park, New York city. Her name is Edna Hoyt, and she is having a glorious time. Snow brings joy to thousands of kiddies all over this country and in others far away, although the war has saddened the winter for many children.

Fortune Telling Game. Write on slips of paper the fortune, of which some samples will be given below, and place them in walnut shells, out of which the nut has been taken. Paste the two half shells together, and when your "party" is seated around the festive board hand them around.

Here are a few fortunes: "You will hold a public position in the community in which you live." "Your lot is to bear other people's burdens. Your helpmate will share your troubles with you." "One year of your life will be spent in poverty. All the others will be prosperous." "You will marry a person of good family, fine appearance and extraordinary ability." "Few sorrows will come to you, but much happiness will be your lot through life." "Your relatives will envy you your fine helpmate and lovely family." "Your life will be a continuous climb. You will have ambition for your watchword."

Game For Boy Scouts. The game of "spot your stars" is played in the same way as an ordinary paper chase, except that the bars are provided with a number of small circular gummed labels, such as are used by shopkeepers for marking the prices on goods.

Every time the trail is dropped not more than two labels should be dropped with it. As soon as the trail is picked up by a hound he blows his whistle. The other hounds immediately proceed to the spot and search for the two labels. When found they should be stuck on to the finder's staff, and at the end of the chase the scout with the most labels wins.

These tend to keep up the interest of the smaller scouts, who otherwise would soon be inclined to lag behind.—Scout.

Conundrums. Why is a list of musical composers like a sauceman? Because it is incomplete without a Handel.

Why is the letter A like 12 o'clock? Because A comes in the middle of day.

When is a newspaper like a delicate child? When it appears weekly.

In what key should a man propose to his girl? Be mine ah. (B minor).

Why does a conductor punch a hole in your transfer? To let you pass through.

If all the big waters were dried up what would Neptune say? I really haven't an ocean (a notion).

Weather Vanes. Our town is full of weather vanes. That glitters in the sun; I've watched them often windy days As round and round they've spun. There's one small eagle; there's a horse; I've counted seven cows, And ships with golden sails all set, And little shining prows. Sometimes they hardly move a bit, All pointing to the west, Or else the east or north or south. Just where the wind thinks best. I imagine when I wake at night And hear a creaking vane, Perhaps it wants to rest and so Am trying to complain. Some day, when there's a splendid sun And wind to blow and blow, I'd like to climb the highest hill And see our town below. —Youth's Companion.

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These machines press and cut off the bits at one operation with the raffia in place, near the top of the bunch ready to be cut off with small knife on top of the box or basket. The bits when cut drop through an opening in the top of table into box or basket. Send stamp for circular and price list to S. H. Houghton

Harvard, Mass. Phone 14-2 P. O. Lock Box 17

Start Right

Start the new year right by using flour that is right for all kinds of cooking. We are the agents for the celebrated Ceresota and Gold Medal Flours—none better. We also carry in stock a full line of Small Groceries which are always fresh. Anything in the line of the National Biscuit Company's products will also be found fresh and nice here as we always have a good stock to select from on hand. Come in and look around and give us a trial order. That is the only real way to get acquainted with us and the line of goods we carry. Our Specialty is the Handling of the Very Best Vermont Butter and Cheese

EAST MAIN STREET GROCERY. JAMES E. GRIFFIN, Proprietor East Main Street Ayer, Mass.

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Scenery and props for amateur dramatics and all legitimate games for church fairs, lodges, etc. Also, Paints, Oils and Glass. Send for samples of Wallpaper. 3m19

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SHIRLEY.

News Items. Thomas Hassett, who is at the Burbank hospital, Fitchburg, recovering from the effects of a broken hip, is getting along finely. Dr. Goodwin, of Clinton, set the hip.

The subject for discussion at the next meeting of the Men's club at the Universalist church will be "Shall we have a Board of Trade in Shirley?"

Stanley F. White returned to Yale college on Wednesday morning.

Rev. I. P. Quimby, of Malden, will occupy the pulpit of the Universalist church on Sunday morning at eleven o'clock.

The King's Daughters held their regular meeting on Wednesday evening with Miss Lena Tewksbury, Center road.

Miss Dora Burnham, of Revere, is spending this week-end and over Sunday as the guest of Mr. and Mrs. Albe Annis.

Francis E. Merriman and Miss Lillian Alice Monroe were united in marriage on February 4 in Louisville, Ky. The bride is the daughter of Mrs. Dora Monroe, of Louisville, and Mr. Merriman is the son of Mrs. Lucy J. Merriman, of this town.

The board of selectmen have organized with Edward J. Stevens as chairman and Charles H. Wear, jr. as clerk.

Mr. and Mrs. Richard Murray are entertaining a son born on Tuesday evening.

The Church Debt society of St. Anthony's church held its regular meeting on Tuesday evening with Mrs. John Desmond at the Shirley Inn. Refreshments were served and the regular order of business transacted.

The C. E. society of the Baptist church will serve an oyster supper in the church vestry on Wednesday evening, February 17, followed by an entertainment. The entertainment will consist of readings by Miss Helen Bell, of Emerson College of Oratory, piano and mandolin selections by the Misses Moore, of West Avon. A good supper and an unusually interesting entertainment has been arranged. Supper served at 5:30. Entertainment at eight.

The ladies of the Universalist church held its regular monthly social, supper and entertainment in the church vestry on Wednesday evening. A beautiful supper was served at seven o'clock, which was followed by a fine entertainment, under the direction of Mrs. Hattie W. Evans and Mrs. David Lindenberg, which was most pleasing. The program follows: Song, Nonsectarian Camp-fire Girls; Camp-fire Girls; songs, Camp-fire Girls; Cora James, Camp-fire Girls; Ruth Woodman; duet, Hazel Ballou and Agnes Lynch; dance, Camp-fire Girls. A large number was present to enjoy the supper and entertainment of the evening.

Mrs. Stella Geary is experiencing considerable trouble with her eyes of late, confining her to home a good portion of the time.

Mr. and Mrs. John G. Conant, in company with Mrs. A. W. Porter, spent a few days the first of the week with their daughter, Mrs. E. C. Fearar, of Swampscott.

John Desmond, of the Shirley Inn, is confined to his bed with illness.

Fred Holden, of Shrewsbury, with son Roger, spent the week-end and Sunday with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Luther Holden.

Mrs. Edward Shaunnnessy, of Marlboro, has been a recent guest of Mrs. John Desmond, of the Shirley Inn.

Ralph Livingstone, employed by Charles McCarty at the Shirley Cash Market, is about to leave Shirley and return to his home town in Greenville, N. H., where he has purchased a meat market, in company with his father, Mr. Livingstone will give up his position in Shirley as soon as a new man is secured to take his place. It is to be regretted that Mr. Livingstone is leaving here as he has been a most successful and square dealing man and has made a large number of friends.

A daughter was born to Mr. and Mrs. Harold W. French, of Fitchburg, last week Friday evening, weighing five pounds. Mrs. French was formerly Miss Elsie Knowles.

The Matrons' Aid society had its regular meeting on Tuesday afternoon with Mrs. David B. Marsh. There was a good attendance. The next meeting will be held on February 23, with Mrs. Alice Farmer at Woods Village.

Successful Minstrel Show. The minstrel show given in Old Fellows hall last week Friday evening, under the auspices of J. C. Ayer lodge, A. O. U. W., was a big success. Every seat in the house was sold before the rise of the curtain and numbers unable to obtain seats were compelled to stand, even the balcony was taxed beyond its limit, over four hundred being present, and judging from the applause the audience enjoyed every minute of the show as encore after encore marked the features of the evening. The production was given under the sole supervision of Mrs. C. R. White, who once more gave unmistakable evidence of artistic ability in catering to the amusement of the general public.

Miss Annie Park Holbrook was the piano accompanist of the evening and to her much credit is also due for the success of the show. Mrs. Ruby Felch Smith and Miss Mary A. Badstuber were also valuable factors in making the evening a grand success.

Earl C. Merriman played the role of interlooper in a most graceful and dignified manner, keeping the program of the evening well in hand. The bones consisted of Walter Knowles, Arthur C. Annis, Harry O. Bangs and John H. Will, and the tambos were Mrs. Ruby Felch Smith, Miss Mary A. Badstuber, Miss Mary G. Connors and Miss Myra Credit, and the general applause they received was marked evidence of their ability to amuse. The jokes were all clean and inoffensive in character.

The vocal soloists of the evening were Mrs. Ruby F. Smith, who rendered "Tip top Tipperary Mary" and "Some one who loves you is lonely"; "After Knowles, whose songs were "In the town where I was born" and "It's a long way to Tipperary"; William J. Flynn, "Somewhere a voice is calling"; Miss Mary G. Connors, "You're here and I'm here"; Arthur C. Annis, "I can't stop loving you now"; Mrs. Bessie Collier, "I want to go to Tokio"; Winifred D. Weeks, "Wonderful garden of dreams"; Miss Mary A. Badstuber, "You are the rose of my heart."

The opening and closing choruses went off like clock work, harmony predominating. Those taking part in the choruses were John E. Adams, Rose H. Brown, Lester A. James, Annie E. Stebbins, Emma L. Adams, William J. Flynn, Eleanor M. Chesbro, Walter P. Desmond, Arline L. Wilbur, Winifred D. Weeks, Bernice Tremblay, Chester W. Phelps, Agnes Lynch, Bessie M. Collier, Alfred Felch, Madeline G. Logue, John Gilmartin, Flora Shephard, G. S. Wells, Rheta G. Lennox, Gertrude I. Day, Sarah S. Stevenson, Doris E. White, Gladys L. Annis, Arthur H. Jubb and Lena E. Allen.

The singers were J. E. Pomfret, Harry Collier, Joseph H. McClellan, Sylvester Chesbrough, and John M. Stevenson was ticket agent.

The committee in charge were Walter Knowles, John M. Stevenson, Charles W. Wolff, John H. Logue, Harry O. Bangs and Thomas C. Burdell.

At the close of the show the bones and tambos met in the kitchen where lunch was served under the direction of Mrs. Lucy J. Merriman, followed by a merry social hour.

Nonsectarian Camp-fire Girls sold home-made candy before the curtain was rung up for their own benefit, realizing a little over twelve dollars net profit. Parties were present from nearly all the surrounding towns and the affair as a whole was a gigantic success from all points of view.

At the close of the show Mrs. C. R. White was the recipient of many compliments and congratulations from large numbers in the audience, and the committee in charge were requested to repeat the show in one or more of the nearby towns. After all expenses were paid the show netted a profit of \$23.31.

Center. At the annual meeting of the proprietors of the Boston Athenaeum on Monday afternoon, opportunity was afforded for a formal inspection of the remodeled building at 10 1/2 Beacon street. Commendation of the building was expressed and praise was bestowed on Charles K. Bolton, librarian, for maintaining the library during the chaotic period of reconstruction.

Mr. LaPrade, whose singing and violin playing have delighted so many of us, Grace Winslow's Sunday evening musicales during the past few months, has accepted a fine position with the United Booking Company, one of the largest in the country. He will sing during the next four months in the leading cities of New England, New York and Pennsylvania, with several weeks in Boston and New York city. His many friends in this vicinity are all glad that he has a position and salary worthy of his exceptional talent.

Miss Vera Bradford, of the Emerson College of Oratory, spent the week-end at the home of her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Charles E. Bradford.

Miss Hazel Cummings is recovering slowly from her attack of inflammatory rheumatism, but has not yet resumed her music lessons at the New England Conservatory of Music.

The Girls' Sewing Guild of Trinity chapel will hold its regular meeting on Saturday afternoon, February 13, at the home of Mrs. Abbie Loggley.

Mrs. William H. Swartz, at Woodsville, is slowly recovering from the effects of her recent operation.

Mr. and Mrs. J. Edward Adams, of Lombuster, spent the week-end at the home of Mrs. Adams' mother, Mrs. David Marsh, on Center road.

The Shirley Branch Alliance has been invited to attend a neighborhood meeting in King's chapel at Fitchburg on Tuesday, February 16.

Miss Harriet Winslow, on Center road, is recovering nicely from her recent operation and is now able to be out again.

C. S. Griswold, of Groton School, conducted the service at Trinity chapel last Sunday afternoon. Rev. Shepard Billings, of Groton School, will occupy the pulpit on Sunday, February 14, at 2:15 in the afternoon.

The January meeting of the Pi Tau Kappa club, which was founded by the pupils of Wesley Wyman, was held at the home of Mrs. Howard Duffield in New York city. The program for the meeting consisted of a piano-forte recital by Mr. Wyman, consisting of six numbers from Schumann and four from Chopin. Following the meeting Mr. Wyman was tendered a reception by the club.

Miss Ruth M. Graves is recovering nicely from the effects of her broken arm, and was able to remove the plaster cast this week.

The next meeting of Shirley Grange, Tuesday evening, February 16, will be "An evening spent with the busy hen." The program will consist of experiences in poultry raising; debate, Resolved, "That poultry produce a larger income than cows." George Farmer and Arthur Holden affirm.

Thomas H. Evans and Norman R. Graves, neg.; reading, Mrs. Mabel Graves, box party, boxes to be sold at auction.

ITEM OF INTEREST. Asiatic Russia contains 188 rivers with a total navigable length of 13,558 miles, and four lakes that can be navigated for 707 miles.

French army surgeons have found that a mixture of freshly slaked lime and phosphorus will remove tattooing so that it cannot be detected.

A South African agricultural society has offered a substantial cash prize for the best, cheapest and most effective means for pulling stumps.

HARVARD.

News Items. On Wednesday evening, February 17, at eight o'clock, there will be a meeting of the apple growers of this town at Hagood Memorial hall. The meeting will be addressed by Prof. Ferguson, government expert on co-operation among apple growers. This should interest all fruit growers, both large and small, as it will no doubt be the means of opening better channels for the distribution of our local fruit products.

The Unitarian Men's club held their regular monthly meeting on Sunday evening in the lower town hall. Supper was served at seven o'clock, after which the men listened to a very instructive stereopticon lecture on milk by Prof. Sanborn.

The result of third period tests again gives Winifred Madden first place in grade eight. Average for five tests 92.2 percent. Leslie Davis is a close second with 92.3 percent. Hazel Hardy is third with 87.4 percent. Marquis Houghton leads grade seven with 84 percent; Susie Priest, second, 74.2 percent; Wynne Cleaves 73.2 percent.

Born at the Clinton hospital, maternity annex, on Thursday, January 28, a baby boy to Mr. and Mrs. James Bulger, of this town.

Friends of Mr. and Mrs. Alpha F. Leonard will be interested to know that Mr. Leonard has been elected by the school committee of Attleboro as teacher of science in the high school at that place.

The last of the season's course under the Warner free lecture fund is to be the musical event of the season, and will be given on Friday evening, February 19. The concert is to be given by the Pilgrim male quartet, with Alida Downell White as reader.

The next meeting of Harvard Grange is to be held on Tuesday evening, February 16, at which time the third and fourth degrees will be conferred on a class of ten candidates, followed by the regular harvest feast.

Visiting over Sunday with Dr. and Mrs. Royal was Ellery E. Royal and his cousin, Newton Bacon.

Mr. and Mrs. Leon W. Hall are taking a few weeks' vacation visiting the winter resorts in Sunny Florida.

Horace West made a flying visit to his brother and family, staying over Monday night this week.

Well drivers have completed the well at George Pollard's, finding water at sixty feet; capacity four gallons per minute.

Charles P. Atherton celebrated his seventy-eighth birthday anniversary on Tuesday, February 9. A family party was arranged by Mrs. Atherton and Mr. and Mrs. Percy Atherton and children, of Boston, came up for the day. Mr. and Mrs. Stephen N. Lougee, of Ayer, came over for a call, and other neighbors and friends left words of congratulations.

In the case of Commonwealth vs. Michael McMahon, of this town, wherein the latter was charged with putting water in milk during July of last year, and which came to a close at the court in Concord last week, the court found for the defendant. After so thorough an investigation in this matter Mr. McMahon is very much pleased to have his innocence proven.

Mrs. Pinkham, of Boston, who with Mrs. Johnson addressed the ladies last summer on suffrage, will speak to the Harvard ladies on Thursday afternoon, February 18, at three o'clock in Hagood Memorial hall. Mrs. Pinkham desires to have the women of Harvard who are interested in suffrage do what they can to help the cause for which she is laboring so hard. All who are interested please be present.

H. W. C. On Monday last there was a large attendance at the meeting of the Woman's club, when a delightful afternoon was spent in listening to a most clever and interesting address on "The essentials of education" given by Ansel S. Richards, principal of Bromfield school.

Mr. Richards spoke of the many conditions in the community, home and school, which so greatly affect the education of the individual. He spoke of the advantages of having a spirit of education in the town. He showed very emphatically the urgent need of cooperation between parent and school as well as between community and school. He told what a great help it would be to teachers and school if instead of ones going to Mrs. Grundy with grievances and adverse criticisms, as is usually the case, each and all would make it a point to go to headquarters, which is the only place where wrongs can be righted and difficulties explained.

Emerson says: "Good criticism is very rare, but always precious—but it would be especially precious perhaps, when taken to headquarters rather than to Mrs. Grundy."

Do we as a community cooperate with the schools to the best of our ability? Do we each and all have interest enough in their welfare to give them the support they so much need? If not, then let us get busy!

The next meeting of the club will be held next Monday at the usual place and the subject for the afternoon will be current events. A meeting of the directors is called at two o'clock on the same afternoon.

Church Notes. The program for the special service at 10:45 on Sunday morning in the Unitarian church, commemorating the one hundred years of peace between Great Britain and the United States is as follows: Hymn, "Hear, O ye nations"; responsive sentences; anthem, "The king of love my shepherd is"; Shelley, mixed chorus, directed by Mr. Thayer; scripture reading and prayer; hymn, "International hymn"; responsive reading; anthem, "Hast thou not known?" by Plueger, chorus; address, "Bloodless victories," pastor; hymn, "These things shall be a lotter race"; benediction. An invitation is extended to all.

At twelve o'clock the session of the

Sunday school will be held. A place for everybody and everybody invited to that place. The lessons studied are modern and interesting. Principal A. S. Richards leads the class in present day problems, and Mrs. Gertrude C. Whitney the ladies' class. The committee for the indoor picnic of the school on March 5, consists of Mrs. Gale, Misses Farwell and Bigelow and Messrs. Fairbank, Pillsbury and Sammoran.

The usual morning service for public worship with preaching will be held at the Congregational church on Sunday. The theme of the pastor's sermon will be "Kicks without straws." The chorus choir which is really doing very good work in anthem and solo work will sing "One sweetly, solemn thought." Mr. Schultz will sing the bass solo and Miss Viola Parker the alto solo.

The bible school meets promptly at twelve o'clock each Sunday. Keen interest in the new series of lessons is indicated by the average attendance for January.

The Y. P. S. C. E. prayer meeting at seven o'clock will be led by Mrs. E. F. Houghton. The subject, "The solid foundations of life." The celebration of C. E. week will begin this meeting and a large attendance is hoped for. There will be special music.

At the morning service on Sunday envelopes will be distributed for a special offering for the work of the Congregational Education society. This offering is usually taken in January, but was unfortunately passed over last month.

Last Sunday was celebrated as the thirty-fourth anniversary of the birthday of the C. E. movement. Mrs. H. H. Royal, president of the local society, was in charge of the prayer meeting and carried out an interesting program. On Wednesday evening C. E. week was further observed by a meeting for the members at the home of Miss M. W. Dean.

At the last meeting of the Sunday class material prepared by Miss S. A. Davis on the subject of current events was read by Miss Houghton. Mr. Hill read an interesting paper on the life of Alexander Hamilton. Other papers were read by Messrs. Miss S. L. Jones and Mrs. Houghton. New week advanced work will cover the administrations of Madison and Monroe. The life, time and work of Washington will be reserved for February 22.

The Makamachewannucks circle of Camp-fire Girls held a regular meeting with the guardian last week Friday afternoon. The meeting was held at the same place for a session in sewing under the direction of Mrs. John B. Harlow, who very kindly offers her services as instructor. Another meeting for the same purpose will be held this Saturday afternoon. New members have been received so that the circle now numbers eleven. The meeting this week February 13, which was the regular camp meeting, was held with Mrs. A. T. West at her home on Lovers Lane. Lunch was served, consisting of baked ice cream and cocoa.

COLDS ARE OFTEN MOST SERIOUS STOP POSSIBLE COMPLICATIONS. The disregard of a cold has often brought many a regret. The fact of a cold coughing, or a fever should be warning enough that you need immediate attention. Certainly a warning of a cold is a warning of a man's duty to himself to assist by doing his part. Dr. King's New Discovery is a cold and cough remedy of colds. Use at first of colds. Use a bottle today.

Whatever Your Cigar Taste We Can Suit it Exactly.

William Brown DRUGGIST

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

34 East Main Street, Ayer

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS, Middlesex, ss. Probate Court. To the heirs-at-law, next of kin, and all other persons interested in the estate of ALICE M. M. HOYNTON, late of Pepperell, in said County, deceased:

Whereas a certain instrument purporting to be the last will and testament of said deceased has been presented to said Court for probate, and CHARLES E. BOYNTON, who prays that letters of administration with the executor named in said will having declined the trust:

You are hereby cited to appear at a Probate Court, to be held at Cambridge in said County, of Middlesex, on the seventeenth day of February, A. D. 1915, 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 Pepperell Clarion-Advertiser, a newspaper published in said County, 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, Charles J. McIntire, Esquire, First Judge of said Court, this ninth day of February in the year one thousand nine hundred and fifteen.

W. B. ROGERS, Register.

PAUL S. MAXWELL, Pepperell, Mass. Tel. 57-2.

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS, Middlesex, ss. Probate Court. To all persons interested in the estate of ANNE HUTCHINSON, late of Littleton in said County, deceased:

Whereas JOHN W. HUTCHINSON the administrator of the estate of said deceased, has presented for allowance, 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 third day of March, A. D. 1915, at nine o'clock in the forenoon, to show cause, if any you have, why the same should not be allowed.

And said administrator is ordered to serve this citation of said deceased in the estate of said deceased, in the manner herein provided, by publishing the same once in each week for three successive weeks, in Turner's Public Spirit, a publication 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, Charles J. McIntire, Esquire, First Judge of said Court, this ninth day of February in the year one thousand nine hundred and fifteen.

W. B. ROGERS, Register.

Mercer Automobile

Will sell my Mercer 5-passenger Touring Car for \$400. Motor is 30 H. P., in good condition; chains, tools, 1 extra shoe, windshield, Truffault Hartford shock absorbers, clock; body in good condition; very comfortable car could be used for light truck; cost \$2,100. Have bought a new car reason for selling. Demonstration gladly given. Telephone 10, Harvard.

Books

Direct from Publishers AT BARGAIN PRICES

These books have never been read, but a few are slightly shop worn. They are now on sale at the following very low prices:

\$1.50, \$1.25, \$1.00 Books 50¢ each 60c, 50c. Books 35¢ each

VALENTINES 1¢ to 25¢

SPECIAL FOR FEBRUARY 13 40c. box Patricia Chocolates 29¢

Ayer Variety Store

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We want you to know that we keep everything for the convenience and comfort of the smoker. Not only the choicest line of Cigars, Cigarettes and Tobacco, but

Briar Wood Pipes Meerschaum Pipes Corn Cob Pipes T. D. Clay Pipes

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Our Cigars are kept in perfect condition and this is what the particular critical smoker requires. We handle all the popular brands of Cigars, including the various "National" brands which have proved themselves so deservedly popular.

Whatever Your Cigar Taste We Can Suit it Exactly.

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34 East Main Street, Ayer

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS, Middlesex, ss. Probate Court. To the heirs-at-law, next of kin, and all other persons interested in the estate of ALICE M. M. HOYNTON, late of Pepperell, in said County, deceased:

Whereas a certain instrument purporting to be the last will and testament of said deceased has been presented to said Court for probate, and CHARLES E. BOYNTON, who prays that letters of administration with the executor named in said will having declined the trust:

You are hereby cited to appear at a Probate Court, to be held at Cambridge in said County, of Middlesex, on the seventeenth day of February, A. D. 1915, 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 Pepperell Clarion-Advertiser, a newspaper published in said County, 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, Charles J. McIntire, Esquire, First Judge of said Court, this ninth day of February in the year one thousand nine hundred and fifteen.

W. B. ROGERS, Register.



A Business Romance

The Story of a Berry and a Brand In Seven Chapters.

Relating How Theories Based on the Foundation-Stone of Right Merchandizing Have Made Good.

CHAPTER SIX

This Bag Guards the Treasure

This picture shows a La Touraine Bag. Yellow paper with heavy parchment inner lining. Printed in red, yellow and black. An original design not easily forgotten which includes the words "La Touraine" and "W. S. Quinby Co."

We will appreciate your insistence upon this bag, and you will be many times repaid by the satisfaction of knowing you have received

La Touraine Perfect Coffee

and enjoyed its rich, delicious and distinctive flavor,

Therefore—Get The Bag

Read chapter seven next week—of great interest to coffee lovers.

W.S. Quinby Co. Boston - - - Chicago

Chapters One, Two, Three, Four and Five of "A Business Romance" will be sent you on request. Address 69 South Market St., Boston.

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to buy a Farm—prices will be higher in the spring. We have them—all sizes, kinds and prices—in the following towns: Littleton, Boxborough, Harvard, Westford, Groton, Ayer, Shirley, Pepperell, Townsend and Lunenburg.

Bliss Farm Agency

R. P. HARRIMAN, Mgr. 69 East Main Street AYER, MASS.

JOB WORK is what we want just now. Doesn't matter how big or how little the job is.

JOB PLUMBING WORK about now keeps us busy. We're patching up many a pipe and fixing plenty bath tubs, water tanks and faucets, that weren't half done and need repairing.

When we're through with them they'll be good as new and cost of work won't be much. For plumbing get us.

CHAS. E. PERRIN West Street Telephone 96-4 AYER, MASS.

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To advertise, the advertisements appearing in all the Town Papers, is to essentially cover the whole territory. To use another paper in addition is but to duplicate a small portion of the work already done. To omit these papers is to utterly fail to reach the people of this territory because they read these papers.

ONE DOLLAR AND FIFTY CENTS A YEAR IN ADVANCE

This Paper is Sold by W. A. Drummer, East Pepperell Kate E. Hassen, Shirley H. P. Salter, Groton Conant & Co., Littleton Common C. W. Hildreth, Townsend Q. S. Sherwin & Co., Ayer

Watch the Date on Your Paper The date with your name is stamped on the margin shows to which time your subscription is paid, and also 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 and also the name of the paper they receive.

Saturday, February 13, 1915.

PEPPERELL.

About Town.

Rev. Harry Shattuck, now at Loudon Ridge, N. H., spent a part of two days last week with his mother, Mrs. H. O. Shattuck, in town. He was on his way to attend the mid-winter convention of the Advent church held in Boston.

William Brown, of Lowell, president of the Brooks Wool Scouring Co., of North Chelmsford, has been in town for the past two weeks at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Paul Maxwell, recuperating from an attack of fever.

Mrs. George Shaw returned from a two-weeks' visit with her daughter, Mrs. Martin, in Worcester, Thursday of last week. Mrs. Martin is not so strong and the care of her infant daughter is proving quite a strain on the nervous system.

Mrs. Clyde Woods, of Fitchburg, has been the guest of Mrs. William Withrow a part of this week, coming on Tuesday.

Mrs. E. H. Spaulding entertained many of her neighbors and friends on the afternoon and evening of February 4, the occasion being her sixty-fourth birthday anniversary. Her relatives and friends in New York, Worcester and other places remembered her by many gifts and greetings, chief among these being a shining gold piece from a relative in Worcester. In the evening a very handsome birthday cake, presented by Mrs. Kimball, was served to the guests assembled; also, other cakes and coffee, and a very pleasant social evening was passed. Owing to the storm of the preceding day, guests from out-of-town, who were expected, failed to appear in person, but sent greetings.

Mrs. Percy (Ruth Behrens) O'Neal came from West, Hopkinton, N. H., on Saturday, where she spent shortly after her marriage. She has been at the home of her grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. John Bartz, and will visit with other relatives in town, probably extending her visit here until spring.

J. M. Graham is in Boston on business on Thursday and Friday of last week, making a visit also with his brother in Stoneham.

Miss Edith Hatherly recently entertained as a week-end guest Irving Stensen, of Chelsea, at the home of her mother, Mrs. W. D. Withrow. They enjoyed the good sleighing by driving to Nashua, coming back by the way of Hollis, N. H., where Mr. Stensen's mother has a summer residence.

Miss Doris Hartwell was a week-end guest at her home in town, returning to Barre to resume her school work on Sunday afternoon.

The Epworth league held a very fine entertainment at their regular meeting on Friday evening, February 5, the program being well arranged and very bright and pleasing. Miss Bernice Adams favored the audience with a fine violin solo, and Miss Ruth Harrington rendered a vocal selection, responding to an encore. Mrs. Elsie Copp also gave a solo, and Miss Gertrude Cherry a fine piano solo. In the face, "The minister's wife," all the characters were exceedingly well taken, so it would be hard to discriminate. The dialogue was very good, being crisp and amusing. The whole entertainment was much enjoyed by a good sized audience. Miss Helen Marshall was in charge of a fine line of home-made candies which were well patronized. A fairly good sum was netted.

The meeting of the Oak Hill Woman's club, which was appointed at the home of Mrs. M. E. Gaskill on February 4, was attended by only a few members owing to the condition of the roads after the storm. No business was transacted, although a pleasant social afternoon was passed. The next meeting will be held on Wednesday afternoon, February 17, at the home of Mrs. Otis Merrill. As the meetings have been so interrupted by storms it is hoped there will be a good attendance.

Mrs. L. T. Wilson entertained a small party of dinner guests on last Sunday in a quiet observance of her birthday. Mrs. E. F. Harnon, a guest, presented a fine birthday cake, ornamented with many candies which was admired, and then served. Mrs. Wilson was also the recipient of many greetings and gifts from absent friends, making the day one to remember.

Origin Kimball, the fifteen-year-old son of W. W. Kimball, met with an accident on last Saturday while working on a small motor in the little workshop which he has built for himself near the residence. He is quite a successful young mechanic and has some ideas which he means to carry out if he meets with success. But on this occasion his hand slipped and a sharp part of the machine severed an artery in his left hand, requiring the services of a physician.

Mrs. Charles Bird is very ill with the grippe and neuritis. Her daughter, Mrs. George Maynard, is caring for her. Georgianna Maynard spent the week-end with her friend, Jennette Newhall.

A sleighing party to Nashua had been arranged by Miss O'Rourke for the older pupils of the Groton street school sometime during the winter. It had been postponed twice, when the sleighing left us, but was carried out on Monday evening of this week. It was a most hilarious little crowd of young folks that left town early in the evening in Warren Blood's big moving van. Voices and tin horns vied with each other in announcing their approval. The moving pictures at Nashua were enjoyed and the return safely accomplished, arriving here toward the small hours of the morning.

Ethel Belyea, who has been in Shirley for some time past, is at present assisting in a household where there is sickness. On Monday evening of this week a party of nine members of Beacon lodge drove to Brookline, N. H., to pay their respects to Nathaniel Hobart in a fraternal call. Mr. Hobart is one of the oldest, if not the oldest, Oddfellow hereabouts, being ninety-three years of age and sixty-eight years a member of that organization. He is a member of the North Star lodge of Townsend. Mr. Hobart is in very good health, considering his extreme age and both appreciated and enjoyed the occasion. The guests were entertained by his daughter, Mrs. L. S. Powers, with whom he resides.

Mrs. Fred Buss has been entertaining as guests, Mrs. Mack and her daughter, from Brookline. Spurgeon Cuthbertson, telegraph operator at the Fitchburg station, spent Sunday at Stafford, Conn., where his wife and son have been for some time attending her mother, who has been ill. The reports of her condition are more encouraging.

Mr. and Mrs. Myron Murphy and little son Cletus, from Worcester, spent Sunday and Monday with Mrs. Edward Fitzpatrick, Cottage street. Misses Susie and Lena Thompson were called to East Boston again on Monday by news of the more serious illness of their aged relative.

Mrs. F. M. McCausland, of Nashua, a former resident here, visited friends in town on Wednesday. Mr. and Mrs. Albert Truffaut, of Hudson, were Sunday guests at the home of Mr. and Mrs. A. H. Harris. The popcorn social which is to be held on Thursday evening, February 18, by the L. A. S. in the Methodist vestry, being an innovation, may prove all the more interesting. Everyone is invited to come and find out all about it for themselves. Mrs. J. N. Andrews and Miss H. L. Lawrence are the committee.

Mrs. Georgianna Kimball is confined to her home with the prevailing cold. Mrs. Earl Mention returned to her home in Fitchburg on the same afternoon after services were held here for her husband. She was accompanied by her husband's mother, Mrs. Stella Mention, who will remain with her for awhile. She will probably break up housekeeping and return here to her old home, although her plans are not definite. Both the young widow and the now childless mother have the deep sympathy of the community.

The members of the Ready Workers' Circle are to serve the supper at the alumni banquet to be held at I. O. O. F. banquet hall on Saturday evening, February 13. Mrs. Levi Sartelle is recovering from the effects of her recent fall. She missed the top step of the head of a flight of steps and fell the entire distance, spraining both wrists, and receiving a cut on the forehead requiring three stitches by Dr. Heald. Miss Ruth Tucker, one of the teachers who are trying co-operative house-keeping, entertained a friend, Miss Reed, from Townsend, over Sunday. Mrs. Frank Bennett substituted for Miss Eliza O'Rourke at the Groton street school building on Monday. Mrs. Louise Dunton has been quite critically ill the past week, as the rheumatism has affected various parts of the body and caused some heart trouble at times. Her sisters, Mrs. Jordan and Mrs. Copp, are with her most of the time. A sewing club was formed on Monday evening at the home of Mrs. Frank Bennett, composed of eight members. The club is to be known as the "Jolly Eight," the members being Mrs. Frank Bennett, Lydia Waite, Helen Pond, Marguerite Donnelly, Mrs. F. W. Buss, Gladys Morton, Mrs. Elizabeth Attridge and Gladys Williams. The hostess served refreshments on the first evening, and the members brought their own work. They are to meet once a week, the next meeting being with Mrs. Attridge on Monday evening, February 15. Mrs. Frank Bennett, Mrs. Joseph Attridge and Mrs. F. W. Buss spent Tuesday afternoon in Nashua. Miss Edna Kittredge attended the dance and entertainment held in Westford on Wednesday evening. The latest reports of the condition of E. A. Gilson, who is at the Lowell General hospital, are somewhat more encouraging, showing that he is gaining. He was able to sit up about five minutes on Tuesday. Mrs. Gilson was in Lowell a part of Wednesday and Thursday and found him fairly comfortable. Marguerite Deware came from Smith college last week, accompanied by two of her girl friends, to spend the week-end with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Rainsford Deware. A meeting of the committee of the Pepperell high school alumni was held with the president, G. H. Tower, Monday evening. Reports were discussed and from the number of answers

already received from invitations about 150 are expected to be present. The program committee were not yet ready to report. Fred W. Buss and family will plan to occupy his new purchase, the Joseph Donnelly house on River street, as soon as arrangements are perfected. It is understood that Dr. and Mrs. Wood, the present occupants, will remove into the Shattuck house vacated by Mr. Buss, as Dr. Wood prefers to be nearer his office.

Mrs. C. H. Miller entertained her Sunday school class of girls at her home on Park street Tuesday afternoon. The class was organized recently into the cheerful club. At this meeting it was voted to change its name to the Alpha club. An interesting story was read during the afternoon and refreshments were served.

Mr. and Mrs. Emory Darling visited friends in Fitchburg last Saturday. Rev. George B. Dean, of Worcester, superintendent of the Methodist Episcopal churches in the Worcester district, held the fourth quarterly conference in this place on Thursday evening of last week. According to his statements it is probable another pastor will be appointed to this charge at the time of the annual conference in April, as the present pastor has already been five years in the pastorate. Mr. Stratton and his wife have been faithful workers during these years and would be much missed in all the branches of the church work.

H. Wesley Legg and wife, who came on from New York last week, have taken rooms at the New Prescott and will probably not open their summer residence until spring. Miss Mary Reade, of Detroit, Mich., who has been at the Homestead this winter, has recently gone to Boston to visit friends. Miss Reade claimed to have been connected with the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals and was quite active while in town in distributing tracts and personal advice concerning the treatment of animals being driven on the street. She was also something of a philanthropist as many of the poorer people in town can testify.

The L. A. S. will be entertained at the home of Mrs. S. J. Richardson, High street, on Wednesday afternoon, February 17. A letter was received from James Starr, Florida, his friend last week, showing he is sufficiently improved to write, although he spoke of having taken several days before he could finish it. Although it has been about two months since the incident of the poisoning he is only just able to walk from his room out to his piazza, with the aid of a cane. He still suffers many disagreeable sensations and has a continuous dull headache which has never left him, night or day, since the day he received the poisonous bite. That his life was saved and he has gained some degree of strength, however, he is thankful.

Mr. and Mrs. Earl Farnsworth and child, from Ayer, are visiting Mr. and Mrs. J. E. Andrews, River street, this week. The meeting of the East Village Social club at the home of Mrs. Charles Goff, Wednesday afternoon, was well attended, eleven members being present to enjoy the social occasion. In the absence of the president the vice president, Mrs. Swazey, presided. The selections read by various members were unusually interesting and instructive. At the close of the program the hostess served very dainty refreshments.

Anniversary Observance. The observance of the 168th anniversary of the First Parish (Unitarian) church was held on the evening of February 9, a very large gathering being present. The vestry of the church was fittingly decorated for the occasion with the Alliance color, yellow. The supper tables presented a fine appearance with their decorations of jonquills, lighted by candles with soft yellow shades. The napkins also carried out the color scheme. About 125 adults gathered around the board to do ample justice to the fine chicken-pie supper furnished and served by the ladies. Mrs. Harry Hobart was the efficient chairman of this supper committee, with many able assistants. In addition to the number of adults, one supper table was devoted to the juveniles, presided over by Mrs. N. W. Appleton.

The after-dinner speaker, Rev. Chas. F. Dele, D. D., of Boston, was introduced by the pastor, Rev. D. R. Child, in a brief address, the subject being "The chief business of life." The audience were privileged then to listen to a speaker of rare excellence, who was able to hold the attention of all by his eloquence and earnest uplift. His address was surely an uplift and inspiration to all his hearers.

Forward Club. The Forward club met at the Congregational vestry on last week Friday evening, quite a large number being present. The first part of the evening was spent in a social manner. During this time Mrs. Albert Parker gave a reading which was heartily enjoyed, and James Greene gave an exhibition of ventriloquism, although suffering from a bad cold, and unable to do his best. A business meeting followed and officers for the next six months were chosen as follows: Guy Rouse, pres.; Douglas Deware, v. p.; Dorothy Dennen, clerk; Lloyd Tower, treas.; Miss Tucker, social leader; Rev. J. B. Lewis, Ellen Miller and Gertrude Carter, advisory board. The course of the evening Anna Peabody, Olive Lewis, Marguerite Carter, Howard Shattuck and Edward Durant were presented with the engraved pins, signifying that they had attended church and Sunday school for four months without missing a service.

Men's Supper. At the men's supper held at Central hall on Thursday evening of last week the arrangements for supper and evening were nicely carried out by the committee in charge. L. C. Robbins acted as chairman with eleven other gentlemen as able assistants. Plates

were laid for about one hundred, and the tables were well filled, the supper consisting of cold meats and baked beans in abundance, supplemented by cakes, pies and fancy dishes. None of the ladies were called upon either in serving or waiting upon tables, although they were probably allowed to assist with the cooking at their homes. Everyone pronounced it a fine, bountiful supper. Whist was enjoyed from eight until ten o'clock, and dancing from ten until twelve, with Miss Helen M. Robbins, pianist.

Death. The message announcing the death of Earl Mention on Saturday, February 6, at Fitchburg, was received with sincere sorrow by his many friends and relatives in this town. His death occurred at the Burbank hospital of that city, the cause being typhoid fever.

Earl Hemlinway Mention was born in this town September 7, 1839, or a little over twenty-five years ago. He was the only son of Henry E. and Estella (Winn) Mention, who were residing at that time in the cottage near the home of the late Newton Blood. His father died about the time of his birth and the boy and his mother went back to live with her parents. Mr. and Mrs. Abel Winn, on Oak Hill. They continued to live there after the death of Mr. Winn, until about five years ago, when the young man entered the employ of the Boston and Maine railroad. He worked at first on this branch, as fireman, and was later promoted, going to Fitchburg. He was united in marriage with Florence G. Shattuck, September 27, 1911. The daughter of a neighbor, they had been schoolmates together and always friends and companions. They went to Fitchburg to live immediately following their marriage and have since resided there. At the time of his sickness, which commenced about three weeks ago, they were living at No. 14 East street, but as the type of disease became apparent and the symptoms more alarming, he was carried to the hospital, where everything could be done that was possible to thwart the dread disease, but without avail.

Services were held at his late home on Tuesday forenoon, the Brotherhood of Firemen attending in a body. A delegation of the brotherhood also accompanied the remains here, arriving on the one o'clock train. They proceeded to the Congregational church, where services were conducted by the pastor, Rev. J. B. Lewis, assisted by Rev. W. Drawbridge of Belmont, the latter being the clergyman who officiated at the marriage of Mr. and Mrs. Mention. The remarks of both pastors were full of comfort and compassion for the afflicted ones.

Mr. and Mrs. O. M. Nash rendered the two selections, "Some day the silver cord will break" and "Some time we'll understand," in a most sympathizing manner. The number of friends attending the service from Groton, Ayer, Fitchburg and Nashua and Brookline, N. H., as well as from this town, testified to their friendship for the young man whom they mourn as cut down in the beginning of his life's journey.

The profusion of beautiful floral offerings which covered and surrounded the casket, were also a testimonial. Among these was a pillow from his young wife and his mother; a large star and crescent from the Brotherhood; a large floral piece from the Warren Engine Co., and many hand-drawn wreaths and sprays from the Oak Hill society, the Oak Hill Woman's club, and relatives and friends.

Many of these fragrant roses and carnations were grouped in clusters, after the service, and distributed to the sick and shut-ins. Some sprays were also sent to the Fitchburg hospital.

A short service of a part of their ritual was conducted and conducted by the Brotherhood at the tomb.

News Items. For the benefit of the Village Aid an entertainment will be given in Central hall, Friday evening, February 19, at 7:30 o'clock. The entertainment will be given by the various schools in town, followed by a chaffing dish lunch. This society ought to be well patronized for the proceeds are to be used for a worthy cause.

The Ladies' Aid will meet with Mrs. N. M. Gentry and Mrs. S. J. Richardson Wednesday afternoon, February 17. All members and those interested in the society are invited to be present.

The Prudenz Wright chapter will attend church in a body at the Methodist church Sunday, February 14. The G. A. R. post is invited to attend with them.

The Women's club met at the Congregational vestry Tuesday afternoon, February 9. Mrs. Hattie W. Richardson gave a very interesting paper on "From mayflowers to poppies," in which she vividly described both her trip to and from California as well as her stay there. The next meeting will be held at Saunders' hall Tuesday afternoon, February 16. It will be a Valentine vaudeville, in charge of Mrs. Minnie E. Qua and Mrs. Elizabeth B. Taft.

The telephone operators at the Pepperell exchange have completed arrangements for their annual dancing party to be given in Tarbell's Opera house, Monday evening, April 12, with Dyer's orchestra of Worcester, nine pieces.

Plans are being made for a second May party in Prescott hall on Saturday, May 1, by the committee of the Ladies' Social circle of the Unitarian church.

Methodist Church Notes. Next Sunday morning the D. A. R. will attend divine service at this church and the pastor will preach an appropriate sermon. The service for prayer and worship will be held on Tuesday evening at 7:30 o'clock. The bright hour service of the Epworth league will be held at six o'clock. Subject, "The challenge of the changing East." Leader, the pastor.

At seven in the evening there will be a praise service and preaching upon the subject, "His banner over me was love."

Congregational Church Notes. Next Sunday morning Rev. John E. Lewis, pastor of the Congregational church, will preach upon "A hundred years of peace," it being the centennial anniversary of declaration of peace between Great Britain and America.

The teachers and officers of the Sunday school met at the parsonage Wednesday night of this week. Rev. Robert W. Drawbridge, formerly of this town, now in Belmont, on a recent visit here, reported that the temporary chapel in which their services are held is so overcrowded that serious steps must soon be taken to provide larger accommodations. They hope soon to build a new church.

Twenty-three boys met at the parsonage Monday evening and showed considerable interest in the organization of a troop of Boys' Scouts. Some fifteen have already qualified by learning the scout oath, sign, salute and law, by being able to give the history of the American flag and tie at least four kinds of knots. A troop committee of representative citizens is yet to be chosen, but soon it is expected the organization will be well underway. The movement has done great good among the boys in this and other countries and may well have the hearty co-operation of officials, teachers and parents.

Next Tuesday evening at 8.15 at the close of the mid-week service the boys will meet in the vestry for drill work under the direction of Rev. D. R. Child.

HOLLIS, N. H. About Town. Lewis S. Rideout is confined to the house with an abscess on his arm. A few days ago he scratched the arm, caught cold in it and blood poison set in and the abscess then formed.

The selectmen will be in their office on Saturday to transact all business in regard to the town. Francis Cave visited his mother in Ponemah on last Sunday at the home of his sister, Mrs. Bert Farley.

Mrs. William E. Land received word of the death of her brother, Clarence Hodgman, in Lemperter, the past week. It is supposed that he shot himself by accident, but as he was alone at the time and there were no witnesses it is not known just how it happened. He leaves a wife and three children.

The Bluebirds met on last Saturday afternoon with Mrs. Flora C. Hardy. The junior class of the high school are going to give a play and supper on the evening of February 22. Food is solicited and the supper is to be much different than the suppers usually are.

Ralph Bascom, youngest son of Mr. and Mrs. Samuel A. Bascom, sprained his leg quite badly this week and was attended by the family physician. The accident occurred while he was riding.

Hollis Grange met on Tuesday evening. This was an adjourned meeting from the week previous on account of the storm. There were fifty-two members present and a lively meeting was held. At the next regular meeting, Tuesday evening, February 16, the first degree will be conferred on a class of at least eight candidates. There are to be four papers read on "Farm life" by some of the members, each paper to take up a different topic in regard to the subject. There will also be music and recitations in the literary part of the program. A special meeting is to be called on Saturday evening, February 20, to receive applications and for the officers to perform the ritualistic work of the order.

Sidney Wentworth has been in town having a vacation from his school work. Richard Hardy is recovering nicely from the burns which he recently received and is able to walk to the doctor's every day to have the burns dressed.

Mr. and Mrs. Robert T. Babson, of Gloucester, Mass., came to town on Tuesday and they, with W. W. Worcester, took the remains of their aunt, Miss Lucy Elizabeth Worcester, to her home on Wednesday afternoon, where the remains were cremated as was her wish.

The nature club were entertained at the home of Mrs. Robert French on last week Friday evening and a most enjoyable evening was spent. Mrs. Samuel A. Worcester was a little indisposed during the week with an attack of indigestion.

Wilbur L. Marshall is able to be on the mail route again. He does not drive all the time as yet, but is assisted on some of the trips by his daughter Hazel.

The Community club, which was formed among the Hollis ladies at the suggestion of Miss Bates, who addressed the attendants of the orchard school recently held here on the subject of "Home economics," will meet monthly with Miss Bates, and the first meeting will be held about March 1. Several have joined and it is hoped many more will become members. The object of the club is to study and discuss household topics.

The Ladies' Reading and Charitable society met on Thursday afternoon of last week at the home of Mrs. William J. Gates. The meeting was well attended, about fifty being present.

Miss Annie B. Newton has returned to Arvilla Hardy's, where she was boarding until Miss Hardy was taken sick with the grippe, and then she went to William J. Gates' for a short time.

Wandered Off Road in Dark. Cyrus F. Burge, an elderly and well-known citizen of the town, left home on his week Friday afternoon and when he did not return to supper his wife became alarmed. Several places were telephoned to where he sometimes calls, but he could not be located. A search was started and

he was found about 9:30 on the evening near the pond back of the residence of Mrs. Mabel Guething. It seemed he had been at the home of Robert Leslie in the afternoon, and returning after dark he wandered from the road. His eyesight is very poor and he was unable to find his way back in the darkness of the evening. He was leaning against a stone wall when found and it was very fortunate that he was found and that it was not one of the bitter cold evenings which we have sometimes had.

W. R. C. The W. R. C. held its regular monthly meeting on Tuesday afternoon. There were quite a few in attendance. It being the meeting previous to Lincoln's birthday anecdotes were read by Mrs. Nellie H. Hale; Mrs. Nellie Hardy read an account of one of the battles in the war fifty years ago. The ladies gathered around the piano and sang a few patriotic pieces. The following committees were appointed by the president: Eldora L. Wheeler, Angeline M. Muzzey, Flora C. Hardy, ex. com.; Nellie H. S. Hale, Nellie Hardy, Kate C. Hurd, relief com.; Elsie Y. Hayden, Ellen Wetmore, Susie Morrill, conference com.; Mabel L. Hinckley, Hattie B. Hayden, Florence C. Ladd, auditing com.; Mabel L. Hinckley and Ellen Wetmore have charge of the program for the good of the order for the next meeting, which comes on town meeting day. The meeting was a very pleasant one and was called to order by the president, Bessie W. McEnnis, at three o'clock, and closed at 4:30.

Obituary. Miss Lucy Elizabeth Worcester, an elderly and respected lady of this town, passed away very suddenly at Worcester Place early Monday morning. She had been in quite poor health since about Christmas time, but had slept about most of the time. She was taken quite ill on Sunday forenoon and Dr. Hazard was called and found her heart working badly, but the direct cause of her death was Bright's disease.

Miss Worcester was born in the house in which she died and had always lived there except for a time in her earlier life when she taught in the high school in Nashua. Her health was broken in the prime of life and on this account she was obliged to give up teaching and remained at home with her parents until death called them from her. She had lived alone in the home the greater part of her life and preferred to live a quiet, inconspicuous life. She was one who always thought of others in the hour of trouble and was always willing to give generously for those who were in need.

Nearly four years ago William T. MacMaster and family moved into the home and took general care of the place, much to the pleasure of Miss Worcester. She was the daughter of Rev. Taylor Gilman and Lucy Spooner (Bell) Worcester, and was born on February 21, 1839. Out of a family of seven children only two survive—Mrs. Harriet Jordan, of Gloucester, Mass., and Miss Sarah Alice Worcester, who is in very poor health at the home of her sister in Gloucester. The other deceased are Mrs. Mary Worcester, Miss Lucy Elizabeth, William, Henry and Francis Jesse Worcester. Miss Worcester's niece, who survives her, are Mrs. Alice Babson of Gloucester, Mass., Miss Bertha Worcester of Ashland, Mrs. Lucy Adelle Timlin of Long Island; her nephews are Dr. Philip Bill of Bridgeport, Conn., and William W. Worcester of this town.

It was her wish to be cremated at Mt. Auburn and that there should be no services held until the ashes were interred either in the grave of her father or mother, and that the Episcopal minister of Nashua should offer prayer at the cemetery at that time. Several of her friends, who viewed the body at her late home on Wednesday morning between nine and ten o'clock, and Mr. and Mrs. Robert Babson and William W. Worcester left shortly after with the body for Mt. Auburn. A cousin, Rev. William Worcester, of Cambridge, Mass., offered prayer in the chapel at the crematory where some of the relatives had come to meet the body. The ashes will be brought to town for burial as soon as the weather permits.

Miss Worcester will be missed by many who came frequently to call upon her. A very dear friend, Mrs. Cyrus F. Burge, had for years spent some part of the day with her on February 22, as it was the anniversary of both of their births.

New Advertisements. 140 EGG INCUBATOR FOR SALE—In good condition, \$400. Apply at Public Spirit office. HIGH GRADE GREEN MOUNTAIN POTATOES FOR SALE—Apply to C. A. HARRIS at Pepperell, Mass. Tel. 2123.

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS. Middlesex ss. Probate Court. To the heirs-at-law, next of kin, creditors, and all other persons interested in the estate of MORTIMER HUGHES EARLE late of Groton in said County, deceased, Intestate. Whereas a petition has been presented to said Court to grant a letter of administration on the estate of said deceased to CHARLES H. EARLE of Groton in the County of Middlesex, without giving a surety on his bond, and the petition is to appear at a Probate Court to be held at Cambridge, in said County of Middlesex, on the second day of March A. D. 1915, at nine o'clock in the forenoon, to show cause if any you have why the same should not be granted.

And the petitioner do hereby directed to give public notice thereof, by publishing this citation once in each week for three successive weeks, in the Groton Landmark, a newspaper published in said County, the last publication to be one day, at least, before said Court. Witness, Charles J. McEntire, Esquire, First Judge of said Court, this eleventh day of February in the year one thousand nine hundred and fifteen. 2123 W. E. ROGERS, Register.

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS. State House, Boston, Feb. 10, 1915. The Committee on Fisheries and Game will give a hearing to parties interested in H. 1484, that the Governor be authorized to proclaim close season for three successive weeks, in the Groton House, on Friday, Feb. 19th, at 10.30 A. M. Charles W. Eldridge, Chairman. John C. Churchill, Clerk of the Committee.

Prices for your consideration Women's House Dresses and Wrappers, former prices, \$1.83, \$1.49 and \$1.00 now 49c. Men's \$1.00 Shirts, 69c. Men's 50c. Shirts, 39c. Fleece-lined Underwear and good Sweaters at a low price

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