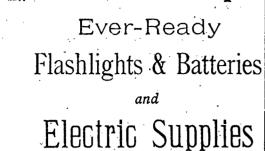
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# First National Bank of Ayer Savings and Thrift Club

Thrift Club starts Tuesday, Dec. 26, 1916, at 8 a.m., when First Payment will be Due

SAVE 25 CENTS PER WEEK FOR SAVE 50 CENTS PER WEEK FOR PER WEEK FOR PER WEEK FOR

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# Early Shopping

GIVES YOU A BETTER SELECTION OF GOODS Our Store is Now Prepared for Those Who Want Smart, Sensible, Up-to-the-Minute Gifts

A Few Practical Suggestions:

FANCY CHINA CUT GLASS SILVERKRAFT WARE TEA WAGONS SMOKER STANDS SEWING TABLES

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BOUDOIR LAMPS CHAFING DISHES CLOCKS VICTROLAS MUSIC CABINETS PIANOS

CHILDREN'S FURNITURE

We invite you to do your Christmas Shopping at our store and get the benefit of our anniversary 10 Percent Discount on all pur chases during the month of December.

Barry Building

AYER, MASS.

At the Store of J. J. Barry, Main Street, Ayer FRIDAY EVENING, DECEMBER 22-5 to 8 o'clock FITCHBURG CO-OPERATIVE BANK Merry Christmas

News Items.

On Christmas day there will be masses at St. Mary's church at 5, 6,30, 9 and 11 o'clock. The eleven o'clock mass will be a high mass, at which will be preached a sermon on "The meaning and spirit of Christmas." The music will be under the direction of the organist. Miss Madeline McCarthy and is to consist of St. Basil's mass B. The soloist will be Mrs. Lillian Moore. Solos will also be given by William Flynn and Miss Frances King at the mass, and at the benediction of the most blessed sacrament which will immediately follow the mass. The children's choir will sing the Adeste Fldelis and Christmas hymns at the nine o'clock mass. On Christmas day and during the octave a beautiful group of figures representing the events connected with the birth of the Saviour will stand for the veneration of all, and as a reminder of the meaning of the coming of the Christ. A mass will be said in Littleton at ten o'clock.

Jenness W. Brown suffered a very secure attack of scatte indivestion of

Jenness W. Brown suffered a very severe attack of acute indigestion at his home Thursday forenoon. He is reported much better this Friday morning.

Dr. B. H. Hopkins is sick at his nome on Pleasant street, but at last reports was improving.

George T. Burns, of Norfolk, Va., is spending the holidays at his home here.

Among the students at home for the Christmas vacation are Edward R. Dwyer of Dartmouth college, Merrill Webb of Wilbraham academy, Mason Williams of Tilton academy, Ralph Brown of Amherst Agricultural college, and Frank Brown of the University of Pennsylvania.

J. J. Barry, a former manager of the Ayer telephone exchange, has been appointed Lynn district manager for the company. Mr. Barry gave up his appointed Lynn district manager for the company. Mr. Barry gave up his position as manager of the local exchange about four years ago to accept a position as manager of the Brockton exchange, which position he held until his appointment to the snn district.

Mrs. Lew, who is living with her daughter, Mrs. Mary I. Hazard, has recovered from her recent sickness. Mrs. Lew, although nearly ninety-six years of age, is remarkably well for one of her extreme age.

Stephen Ryan, who is a student at the University of Maine, is at home for the holidays and is assisting at the postoffice during the holiday rush of business.

business.

Chief Beatty is having his annual trials in endeavoring to have the law relating to the removing of snow from sidewalks compiled with. There are a number of delinquents as usual, who openingly and knowingly disobey the law. Washington street was sadly in need of attention in this respect. Those who strictly attend to the work of clearing their walks naturally feel of clearing their walks naturally feel as though all others should do the same. The dissatisfaction has become so great that there is talk of repealing the law at coming town meeting.

ing the law at coming town meeting.

The marriage of Luther Burbank, the world famous botanist, this week to his secretary, Miss Elizabeth Waters, in San Francisco, recalls to the older people of Ayer the early years of Mr. Burbank when he lived in this town. He lived with his mother in the house on Park street now occupied by Mrs. Bridget Toohey, and attended our schools about 1870. He worked for a time in the Public Spirit office, setting type. Later, he moved with his a time in the Public Spirit office, setting type. Later, he moved with his mother to Lancaster, which is his native town. Previous to coming to Ayer Mr. Burbank lived in Lunenburg. He went to Santa Rosa, Cal., in 1875, where he established a large experimental farm and has been actively engaged in work since. ively engaged in work since.

These officers were chosen at the

neeting in the Congregational church on Wednesday evening: Augustus Lovejoy, moderator; Dr. B. H. Hop-kins, clerk; Ellis B. Harlow, treas.; Miss Mary B. Johnson, auditor; Haron E. Evans, deacon 2 yrs.; Augus-Lovejoy. Dr. B. H. Hopkins, Geo. B. Lovejoy, Mrs. G. G. Osgood, church

Miss Alma Gray, teacher in the eighth grade, concluded her duties this week Friday afternoon and has accepted a similar position in Grand Mere, P. Q. The vacancy caused by Miss Gray's resignation will be filled by Miss May S. Daley, a graduate of Boston university. Miss Daley has been at the school several days, getting in touch with her new work.

The next meeting of the Special Aid society will be held in the lower town hall on Friday afternoon, December 29, at two o'clock. Every member is earnestly asked to be present.

The W. C. T. U. will hold a meeting in the vestry of the Baptist church on Friday afternoon, January 5, at 2.30 o'clock. The union is planning to hold a union temperance meeting in Page hall after the Christmas holi-

Christmas day service at St. Andrew's church will be at nine in the morning. The Sunday school children's Christmas tree will be held on Wednesday afternoon, December 27, at four o'clock.

The heavy snowstorm of last week Friday seriously inconvenienced traffic. More or less delay was experienced by the railroads, both steam and electric, in making regular schedules. The storm caused a bad wreck a few miles west of Worcester on the Boston and Albany railroad, which tied up through traffic over that line to Boston. The trains were all run through Ayer by way of Greenfield, and from here to Boston by way of Worcester. The extra traffic aggravated the inconvenience caused by the storm in disarranging time schedules of the Fitchburg division.

Miss Mildred Sanders, who was The heavy snowstorm of last week

The registrars of voters have arranged those dates for registering for the annual town meeting: Thursday evening, January 18, from 7.30 to 9.30, and Saturday, January 27, from twelve at noon until ten in the even-ing. Town neeting comes on Mon-day, February 5.

day, February 5,
At the last meeting of Harbinger Temple, Pythian Sisters, these officers were elected: Mrs. Alice B. Fleet, m.c.c.; Mrs. Elsie M. Force, e.s.; Mrs. Lucy Morse, e.g.; Mrs. Alice King, m.; Mrs. Mary Howarth, m.f.; Mrs. Evelyn Cunningham, p.; Miss Mabel Davenport, o.g.; Mrs. Alice King, representative to grand lodge; Mrs. Lucy Prescott, alternate; Mrs. Eva Buikeley, trustee 3 yrs. Four candidates were initiated, the work being inspected by Miss Maude Hadley, of Waltham, deputy. Refreshments were served.

Mrs. Leo J. O'Neill has returned.

Mrs. Leo J. O'Neill has returned from the Clinton hospital, where she underwent a strigical operation a short time ago, and is doing well. The schools closed this week Friday

afternoois closed this week Friday afternoon for the annual Christmas vacation. They will re-open on Tuesday morning, January 2, a day later than formerly, owling to the fact that January 1 is this year for the first time a legal holiday.

Joseph E. Donovan has bought the barber shop of Lester Carew on Mer-chants' row. Mr. Donovan has been employed by Mr. Carew for some

It would seem that the town officials would try and have a plow out clear the gutters on an occasion of ciear the gutters on an occasion of a thaw or rainstorm following a heavy snowfall. On this week Friday the crossings at the different streets re-sembled miniature lakes, caused by those who have shoveled off their sidethose who have shoveled off their side-walks and the town plow throwing the snow in the gutter. When a thaw like that of this week comes there is no way for the excess water to run off and at places it requires a person to wear rubber boots to effect a crossing, and then he would not be sure of getting across without getting his feet wet. Other towns and cities do this and why not Ayer, especially at this season of the year when so many people are out doing their Christmas shopping. hopping.

Fires.

A fire in the two-tenement house on Park street, the property of the Stone heirs of Littleton, gave the fire department forty-five minutes of strenuous work last week Friday afternoon before the flames were subdued. The department was prevented from making its usual fast time on account of the raging snowstorm which prevailed. The fire-caught in the kitchen of the wooden ell which is attached to the south side of the majn building, which is of brick construction, the ell forming a part of the tenement occupied by George Boisseau and family. At the time of the fire Mr. Boisseau's family were temporarily absent. The blaze was discovered by Mrs. Delia Forrest, housekeper for James Proffit, who occupied, the other tenement. The alarm was sounded from box 5, at the corner of West and Main streets at 2.15, off the "all out" signal was given at three clock. The fire was prevented from spreading to the main-building by the brick walls of the brick building. The interior of the brick building, however, was somewhat damaged by water. The the brick building however, was somewhat damaged by water. The loss is estimated by tween \$400 and \$500. The curse & the fire is un-

six o'clock last Satuday evening called the fire department to a brisk blazze in the house of Jude George A. Sanderson on East Mail street. The fire caught on the seconi floor in the west, wing of the house all burned through into the attic of the main house. At the time the fire department arrived it appeared as if the house would be destroyed. A well diected and prompt attack on the flams, however, prevented the fire fron doing any great damage to the mainpart of the house. ix o'clock last Satuday evening call damage to the mainbart of the house

damage to the mainpart of the house. The damage by waer was considerable, the lower partof the house and furniture being moe or less affected by the water driping through the ceilings from the flors above.

At the time the re broke out the only person in the house was the housekeeper. Miss Annie Dunleavy. The family, consisting of Judge and Mrs. Sanderson, Boltrt, George A., Jr., and Bennett Sanderon, were in Boston: Bennett Sanderon arrived home some time after the fire department.

some time after the fire department arrived on the seek.

It was at first thight that the fire was caused by the splosion of an oil stove on the secont floor, as a loud

was caused by the splosion of an oil stove on the secon floor, as a loud noise was heard jut previous to the breaking out of the fire. A careful investigation, however, does not agree with that idea, andthe origin of the fire remains a mystry.

An insurance adjster from Boston was in town this wek and went carefully over the building with a representative of Judie Sinderson to defermine the loss. It is bry difficult to arrive at a correct flure at this time, but it may be said that a fair estimate of the total loss willnot exceed \$1500.

During the heigh of the fire, when a line of hose was ding effective work in checking the fimes, the firemen practically having be fire under control, some one shu the water off on that line at the hydant. The minutes lost in getting the line into action again gave the flares a renewed start and they began to reep into the main house. But for the incident the fire engineers are of the opinion that the damage would have been less and the fight to subdue the lames would have been much easier. C. E. Perrin, chief engineer, makes he statement that he will give a mard of twenty-five dollars to anyongwho can furnish him with enough expence to convict the person who did this act during the temporary absoce of the man stationed at the parant at the lower end of the brids on East Main street.





OF EVERY KIND FOR MEN AND BOYS

You will find here a very large stock of handsome and desirable Overcoats. Every man will find here an Overcoat that will be sure to please him. Here is the Dressy Overcoat in Black or Oxford with Velvet Collars and cut 42 inches long. Here is the very attractive Fancy Mixture Overcoat in a variety of styles of fabrics and colorings, all very stylish and well tailored. Here is also the long Storm Coat with the large Storm Collar, cut 52 inches long. We are offering every one of these coats at prices that range from \$2.00 to \$5.00 under the market value today.

Come in and look them over as it is the only way you can be convinced of their superior values.

Men's Fancy Mixture Overcoats Men's Black Kersey Overcoats

Youths' Fancy Mixture Overcoats Boys' Fancy Mixture Overcoats

\$10.00, \$15.00, \$18.00, \$20.00 and \$22.00 \$15.00, \$20.00 and \$22.00

\$8.47, \$10.00, \$15.00, \$18.00 and \$20.00 \$5.00, \$7.47, \$8.47, \$10.00 and \$12.00

### Fur Coats

A good stock of FUR COATS and all at renarkably low prices. We cannot replace them at anything like present prices-Dogskin, Horsehide and Galoway Calf, made with heavy quilted linings and with large storm collars.

Prices-\$25.00, \$30.00, \$35.00 and \$40.00

# Sheep-lined Ulsters

Sheep-lined Ulsters, ankle length, made of Duck Moleskin outside and with large fur collars. An ideal coat for the man who drives an automobile in cold weather. They will interest youbetter step in and have a look

Prices-\$15.00, \$18.00, \$22.00 and \$25.00

#### Sweaters

How about a good Sweater? We have themall kinds and colors.

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Children's Sweaters	50¢	to	\$2.00	
Boys' Sweaters	98¢	to	\$3.00	Ì
Men s Sweaters				

# Winter Caps

Every kind of Winter Caps; also, a good line of Toques and Toques and Scarfs. Remarkably

low blices for the dust	iries onei	ea.		5 TX 19
Men's Warm Caps	*****	50¢	to <b>31</b>	.50
Men's Golf Caps	•••••		to <b>31</b>	
Boys' Golf Caps			and 5	1. 1.
Toques for Boys or Girls			5	
Toques and Scarfs		<b>81.00</b>	to <b>\$2</b>	.00
Toques for Children			and 5	
the first of the contract of the first terms of the contract o	4.0		. W. W. P. C.	

# Rubber Footwear

We have everything you can possibly need in way of Rubber Footwear to keep your feet dry and warm. We carry the very best makes and the very best qualities to be found in the country. You will find here such makes as

GOLD SEAL, RED SEAL and GOODYEAR GLOVE

ber Footwear? You will find that they cost you no more than what you usually pay for the ordi-

# Calendar Week

Next week will be Calendar Week at this store. As per our custom for many years past, during the coming week we shall present to all customers making purchases at our store, a Beautiful Art Calendar for the year 1917. We are sure that you will like our calendar and you will find it well worth having and keeping. Out-oftown customers who cannot get here will receive one by parcel post upon request.

Store Open on Monday, Friday and Saturday Evenings

# Geo. H. Brown

from Durham Agricultural college, Misses Maud Mitchell from Chelsea, Misses Maud Mitchell from Chelsea, Edith Fletcher from Springileld, Es-ther McEnnis from Malden, Abby Mc-Nifi from Cambridge, Hattie Shafter from New Bedford, Evelyn Kimball from Athol, Whitney Caulkins from Boston, and others from school and college are spending the Christmas season with the home people.

engineers are of it opinion that the to Boston. The trains were all run through Ayer by way of Greenfield, and from here to Boston by way of Worcester. The extra traffic agarage vated the inconvenience caused by the storm in dicarranging time schedules of the Pitchbust of the P

n Sharon

Miss Gladys Kimball of Gardner will Grange,

Green will be a Christmas guest at her son, Guy Greens. Allan J. Hathaway spends the holidays with his people in Bryant's Pond, Mc., Mrs. Amelia Wakefield spends the week with friends in Lexington, Miss Mary Mary Gordon family in Newton. L. W. Bristmas guests of the Leeds family J. A. Kimball.

Saturday, December 23, 1916. WESTFORD

Center.

The remains of James L. Moss, who lived in Everett, were brought to town for burial in Fairview cemetery by auto hearse on Tuesday. Mr. Moss auto hearse on Tuesday. Sr. Aloss died after a long illness, aged seventy-six years. At one time he owned and occupied with his family the house now owned by William E. Green, and later lived in Graniteville.

Charles Roby has returned to town after an absence of several months.

Miss Jennie M. Chandler's West-ford friends regret to hear of the ac-cident which she recently met. While going to attend one of the services at the Billy Sunday tabernacle Miss going to attend one of the services at the Billy Sunday tabernacle Miss Chandler fell and badly fractured heright arm. The accident happened at the incline leading from Huntington avenue to the tabernacle. She was removed to the Corey Hill hospital in Procedure for treatment, where an Brookline for treatment, where ar X-ray examination was made to ascertain the extent of her injury, but she will in all likelihood be incapacitated for teaching for some time.

The Ladles' Missionary society of the Congregational church met with Mrs. William C. Roudenbush Wednes-day afternoon. There was a good at-tendance present and Miss Loker reviewed in an interesting way the dra-matic story of Ellen M. Stone. Mrs. Lincoln and Miss Bunce also supple-mented the program with readings. The hestess, Mrs. Roudenbush, served tea at the close of the meeting.

The William E. Frost school is closed for the usual two-weeks' Christmas vacation, and the academy closed this week Friday for one-week's recess.

week Friday for one-week's recess.

On all sides are heard the sincerest expressions of sympathy for the bereaved Abbot family, and the wish that the wide-spread sympathy of the community might help ever so little to alleviate the severity of the great sorrow that has come to them. Fletcher was such a friendly, likeable boy with every promise of a useful career and his untimely death just at the hearing of young manhood, and the beginning of young manhood, and everything to live for, is mourned by

everybody. The committee in charge of the fire The committee in charge of the firemen's dance to be held on January 5 eleventh representative district for the at the town hall are making careful preparations to make it one of the most enjoyed social events of the winter. Poole's orchestra will furnish the apples to Salt Lake City, and some or less by other parties followed a day music for the evening.

The Christmas rush at the local postoffice promises to be unusually heavy this year. The R. F. D. carrier will make his rounds Christmas, but will have the new year holiday

Mrs. Alice M. Lambert has shipped to her daughter, Miss Amelia W. Lambert, this week, 150 yards of evergreen woven ready for festooning. Miss Lambert is dielitiam in the Ohio Valley General hospital in Wheeling, W. Va., and our northern evergreen will be most attractive to the patients in the hospital, said hospital being a large and finely equipped institution.

The heavy storm of last week ridday proved a trouble-maker for the branch line electrics—a lot of snow all along the three miles of track and great drifts in the exposed places. In spite of much hard work schedule time was not resumed until Wednesday. R. F. D. carrier, F. H. Meyer, has managed to cover his route each day with assistance from his substitute carriers. Mr. Meyer hopes to get back to his automobile for the Christmas

ready interesting collection, of valuable objects at the library.

Rev. Howard A. Lincoln preached helpful and practical sermon from a helpful and practical sermon from a New Ttestament character Sunday morning, the subject chosen being "Matthew, the publican," and at the evening service spoke on the Old Testament character of Gideon.

Testament character of Gideon.

The Ladies' Aid society of the Congregational church held a Christmas sale at their vestry on Thursday afternoon of last week with good results. There were sales tables for fancy articles, a Japanese table, aprons, etc. An entertainment of readings and music was given by Misses Elinor Colburn Alice Wright and Mabel Prescott, and social tea and Mabel Prescott, and social tea was served during the afternoon.

The storm on last week Friday eve-The storm on last week rhusy evening interferred with the success of the high school dance given by the junior class. There were about fifty present and Hibbard's orchestra of five pieces, of Lowell, furnished excellent music for the dancing. Refreshments were served at intermis-sion. The young people about cleared their expenses for the affair.

The funeral of the late John Fletch-The funeral of the fate John Freeher Abbot was held from the family residence on last week Friday morning at eleven o'clock. The services were private, only the bereaved family nearest of kin being in attend-Louis H. Buckshorn of ance. Rev. Louis H. Buckshorn of the First Parish church was the of-ficiating clergyman, and burlal was in the family lot in Fairview cemetery.

Tadmuck Club.

The regular meeting of the Tad-muck club took place Tuesday after-noon at the vestry of the Congrega-tional church. The fact of its being tional church. The fact of its being the busy week before Christmas did not affect a good attendance and good interest. Miss Howard, the president, presided, and read with pleasing effect the scriptural account of the National States. tivity; also, the state president's, Mrs. Geurney's Christmas greeting to

Three new members, Mrs. Elbert H. Flagg, Miss Ruth Flagg and Miss May E. Day, were admitted to the club.

The out-of-town speaker for the afternoon was detained and found it impossible to be present, but the resourceful committee in charge gave an informal program that was quite worth while and much enjoyed. A group of Christmas carols were sung with Miss Julia H. Fletcher at the piano, "It came upon the midnight clear," "While shepherds watched their flocks by night" and "Hark! the herald angels sing," after which Rev. L. H. Buckshorn read with sympathetic insight, Charles Dickens' immortal Christmas carol. Miss Howthetic insight, Charles Dickens' immortal Christmas carol. Miss Howard closed the program with Christmas thoughts from Henry Van Dyke. A Christmas club tea, with some very attractive details, was served with Mrs. L. H. Buckshorn as hostess. The club now registers 115 members. About Town.

The Sunday school and friends of the First Parish will hold their Christ-mas exercises this week Saturday af-ternoon at four o'clock. There will be plays, games, singing and Christ-mas tree distributions.

mas tree distributions.

The Farm Bureau for Middlesex county, which is being put into gear, is an attempt on the same lines as in the other counties of the state to give an intelligent lift to farming and the farmer. The committee to report a list of directors for the Farm Bureau, two from each town in this county, and to receive proposals for memberlist of directors for the Farm Burett, two from each town in this county, and to receive proposals for membership, will hold a meeting at the town hall in Concord on Saturday afternoon, December 30, at one o'clock. The meeting to elect directors, which have be revised from the report of the may be revised from the report of the committee, will be held in Concord early in January, notice of which will appear in season in the papers.

Mrs. C. R. P. Decatur will spend Christmas week with her daughter. Miss Luanna B. Decatur, in New Ro-chelle, N. Y.

The Village church fair in West Chelmsford on Wednesday afternoon of last week was patronized to the extent of over \$200. For a small vil-lage this is doing the large village act.

Edward J. Robbins, town clerk of Chelmsford, has announced himself a constitutional candidate from this eleventh representative district for the constitutional convention.

later to the same place.

The Loveless farm folks are beating all town winter records on eggs with fifteen dozen a day with two flocks than where only fifteen eggs a day is the count.

We must remember that we have donated ourselves a holiday on new year's day, and the Christmas spirit must not get all tired out before our newly-voted recreation arrives.

Mrs. Carlos Cushing, of Framing-ham, is visiting her daughter, Mrs. W. R. Taylor, during the Christmas sea-son, preparatory to skipping the rest of our winter and enjoying the non-

and finely equipped institution.

The financial year of the town expires December 31, and the last meeting for the year of the selectmen will be held Thursday evening, December 28, for the payment of bills against the town. Any who have not paid their taxes for 1916 are also reminded that they should be paid by December 31, to avoid appearing in the printed list of unpaid taxes in the town report.

The heavy storm of last week Friday proved a trouble-maker for the

The next meeting of Middlesex-North Pomona Grange will be held on North Pomona Grange will be neld on Friday, January 5, at Odd Fellows' hall, Bridge street, Lowell. In the morning Charles A. Wright will report for the State Grange, and Mr. and Mrs. Frank Haines will report recent trips through various parts of the United States. The public installation of the officers will take place in the afternoon.

to his automobile for the Christmas rush.

The 'children's Christmas at the Congregational church will take place Saturday evening and will be the same as former years—supper for the children, followed by a Christmas tree.

Edward Fisher has sent to the J. V. Fletcher library a mounted moose head. This is a trophy of Mr. Fisher's huntsman skill while in Nova Scotia last autumn. The moose was a fine creature of its kind and the mounting is a fine sample of the taxiderimist art. The antlers measure more than four feet across. The library trustees have not yet decided where to place this new ornament, which adds one more acquisition to the already interesting collection, of valuable objects of the library and in charge of household economics.

Graniteville.

in the snow with some companions. The little girl received a glancing blow

Everett early Sunday morning, after a long illness, aged seventy-six years. He was engaged in the tin business when a resident here, but later took up an insurance agency, with which he was connected before his illness. He leaves two sons, James and Arthur Moss, in Greater Boston, and a daughter, Mrs. Charles E. Eaton of this village. The body was taken over the road on Tuesday to the Fairview cemetery, Westford, where burial took place.

When Harry O. Jones, 16, was being

The Christmas tree exercises in the M. E. church will be held on Saturday

evening. W. Carroll Furbush, of the U. S. Destroyer Tucker, has been visiting with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. F. L. Furbush, here for the past few days. A daughter was born to Mr. and Mrs. Rudolph Richard on Tuesday, December 19.

Mrs. J. A. Healy is in the Carney hospital, Boston, where she recently underwent an operation. The operation was a success and she is now getting along as well as can be expected. Both masses in St. Catherine's church last Sunday morning were celebrated by Rev. Henry L. Scott, who gave interesting sermons. At three o'clock in the afternoon a large delegation of men assembled in the church for the purpose of reorganizing the Holy Name society. The meeting was addressed by the pastor, Rev. Charles P. Heaney, whose instructive talk held the close attention of all present. Over fifty men signified their Mrs. J. A. Healy is in the Carney hospital, Boston, where she recently underwent an operation. The operation was a success and she is now getting along as well as can be expected.

the clubs.

The Federated bazaar, which comes in November, 1917, was brought before the meeting and after discussion it was thought that this club might co-operate with neighboring clubs in assisting with its work. Mrs. Goldsmith H. Conant reported the reciprocity day of the Altrurian club of procity day of the Altrurian club of Shirley, which she, with Miss Howard and Miss Mabel Drew, recently attended.

Ing the Holy Name society. The indeed ward and employees of the road ran back he had disappeared. He was caught Tuesday and taken to the Juvenile court, where the Shirliey sentence was revoked and the sentence to the reformatory imposed. Center.

Mrs. Lodena C. (Ames) Roper, wife of Herbert S. Roper, passed away outlined plans for the full members of the road ran back he had disappeared.

He was caught Tuesday and taken to the Juvenile court, where the Shirliey sentence was revoked and the sentence to the reformatory imposed.

Center.

Mrs. Lodena C. (Ames) Roper, wife of Herbert S. Roper, passed away outlined plans for the full members in respect to the reformatory imposed.

Center.

attend the union meeting of the Holy attend the union meeting of the Holy Name society to be held in the Immaculate Conception church, Lowell, on Sunday, January 14. At the conclusion of the meeting Sunday benediction of the blessed sacrament was given by the pastor. The next regular meeting will be held on the second Sunday in January, after the first mass.

SHIRLEY

News Items. The C. E. society of the Congrega-tional church have elected these of-ficers and committees for the ensuing ficers and committees for the ensuing year: Leonard Hooper, pres.; Lester James, v. p.; Cora James, rec. and cor, sec.; Miss Mary A. Park, treas; Miss Sarah Stevenson, planist; committees.—Mrs. McCoy, Mrs. Holbrook, Mr. McClellan, Raymond Harris, Ken-Mr. McClellan, Raymond Harris, Kenneth Longley, lookout; Nina Holbrook, Leona Lee, Bessie Dadman, Mrs. Phelps, Mrs. Wright, prayer meeting; Mrs. Collyer, Ruth Knowles, Flora Shepard, Gladys Annis, Harry Annis, social; Miss Altie Howe, Mrs. E. H. Conant, Mrs. James, Mrs. Miner, Mrs. Pomfret, Mrs. Marshall, missionary; Miss Gladys Phelps, Lester and Cora James, Sarah Stevenson, Chester Hooper, music; Misses Park, Grace Tewksbury, Kathleen Miner, Myrtle Cole, Ruth Hooper, Ruth Nelson, Howard Knowles, James Doherty, flower; George Hooper, John Grout, Walter Dadman, ushers,

on a special committee for the arrangement of topics of the most benefit for the smaller manufacturers to be considered by the council.

Community Christmas tree exercises will be held in Depot square on Sun-day evening at seven o'clock.

Rev. Douglas H. Corley will com-mence his pastorate at the Congre-gational church on Sunday. His sub-ject will be "The babe of Bethlehem." There will be no moving picture show Christmas night. There will be two first-class shows in Ayer at three and eight o'clock on the holiday. The telephone number of the Shirley Cash Market has been changed to

Mrs. Authler, with daughter Helen, spent the week-end with relatives in

private line 4.

Kenneth Horton is at home for the Christmas holidays. Miss Helena Emerson is ill at her

home on Lancaster road. home on Lancaster road.

Ruth Whitaker, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Thomas E. Whitaker, reached her seventh birthday last Saturday, and in honor of the occasion a party was givin her honor, which lasted from 5.30 to 8.30. About thirty children were present. All kinds of games were played and delicious refreshments were severed. But hereely a many dainty Ruth received many dainty ful gifts. Those present were served. and useful gifts. and useful gifts. Those present were Alice and Myrtle Cole. Moody and Milly Parker, Harriet and Virginia Wheeler, Ernest White, Richard Lilly, Ruth Malonson, Oma Wolff, Dolly and Doris Knowles, Vivian Wheeler, Edward and Marjorie Wheeler, Anna and Barry Fisette, Thomas and William Daly, Irene Gay, Freddie Rivers, Frank Day, Kenneth Clark, Alice McDevitt, Barbara Chisholm.

J. C. Aver lodge, A. O. U. W., will

J. C. Ayer lodge, A. O. U. W., will hold its regular meeting on Tuesday hold its regular meeting on Tuesday evening. The regular meeting falls on Monday, but owing to Christmas, the meeting was postponed until the next

Reginald McDonald, of the University of Maine, arrived at the home of his mother, Mrs. P. H. Authier, of the Brookside, for the holiday vacation.

There will be no dancing class see sions held by Mrs. White in Odd Fellows' hall this Saturday, owing to the holidays.

Brotherhood Meeting.

. The Brotherhood of the Congregational church held its regular monthly meeting on Tuesday evening in the church vestry. Supper was served at-seven o'clock under the direction of Frank E. Park, O. W. Balcom, Ralph S. Wheeler, Lewis W. Parsons and J. Little Felice Oliva was run over by a horse driven by Edward Daley, who works for J. A. Healy, on last Saturday afternoon. The accident happened opposite the old store, about 1.30, while the little Oliva girl was playing in the snow with some companions The report of the treasurer, Eugene N. Lawrence, was read and accepted. Two new members were also admitted to the Brotherhood. At eight o'clock to the Brotherhood. At eight o'clock The little girl received a glancing blow from the horse's hoof, but no bones were broken, and her condition is not serious, as was thought at the time of the accident. Her nervous system, however, received a severe shock.

James L. Moss, a former resident of this village, died at his home in Everett early Sunday morning, after the learny illness, ared seventy-six years.

When Harry O. Jones, 16, was being taken to the Concord Reformatory on Tuesday afternoon he told Inspectors Dorsey and Haggerty of Boston head-quarters that he would soon escape from the penal institution and that he would not be caught again, as he would cover up his tracks successfully

The officers were half inclined to be-lieve his story, for the boy has escaped twice from the clutches of the law. Jones was sentenced to the school for boys at Shirley for stealing from

over the line in Lunenburg, last week Wednesday night. Death was caused by pneumonla.—She was the daughter of Thomas and Sally Ames, and was by pneumonia.—She was the daughter of Thomas and Sally Ames, and was born on September 3, 1848, in Oxford, N. H. Her home had been in Lunenburg for over thirty years past, and she was a member of Lunenburg Grange. Besides her husband, she leaves two sons, Herbert C. Roper, of Lunenburg, and George Roper, and George Rop Lunenburg, and George Roper, of Fitchburg, and three daughters, Mrs. Carl A. Thompson and Mrs. Benjamin F. Merrill, of Lunenburg, and Mrs. Alice Chapman, of Fitchburg.

Miss Vera Bradford, who is teach-ing in Bath, Me., arrived home on last week Friday night for the Christmas vacation.

Arthur R. Holden has taken a posi-ion in West Groton and is boarding here. Mrs. Janette Hewes, who has been

ll with pneumonia, is reported to be gaining. The next meeting of the Girls' Sew-ing Guild will be held with Miss Edith Longley on Saturday afternoon, De-

cember 30. The meeting of the Matrons' Aic society was not held last week or account of the storms. The next meet ing will not be held until after Christ

Rev. Grover Harrison will conduc Cole, Ruth Hooper, Ruth Nelson, Howard Knowles, James Doherty, Hower: George Hooper, John Grout, Walter Dadman, ushers.

Elmer H. Allen is one of the delegates of the American Manufacturer's Export association of New York city to the Foreign Trade Council to be held in Pittsburgh, Pa., January 25 to January 27. Mr. Allen will also serve on a special committee for the ar-

Alliance.

A well attended meeting of the A liance was held at the home of Mrs. Emma S. Horton on Thursday afternoon of last week. The Alliance president, Mrs. Lucy J. Merriman, presided and opened the meeting with the customary exercises. Letters were read thanking the Alliance for Thanksgiving donations and remembrances. A sum of money was voted to the fund for the Clinton hospital, now being raised by the Shirley Hospital Board. Money was also voted for janitor service and coal for the liance was held at the home of Mrs. for janitor service and coal for the First Parish church. Reports of the First Parish church. Reports of the result of the yellow and white contest were given by the respective captains. Mrs. Allen ard Mrs. Farnsworth, showing that a substantial sum of money has been raised by the contest. The white side of the contest George Colburn, of Somerville, spent the week-end and Sunday with his aunt, Mrs. Viola Hodgman.

aunt, Mrs. Viola Hodgman.

Mr. and Mrs. John G. Conant left the last of this week for Florida, for a sight-seeing trip of one month. Encoute they will spend the Christmas holidays with their daughter and family, Mr. and Mrs. Walter M. Manning, at Upper Montelair, N. J.

Miss Celia Authier, of Webster, was a guest this week of her uncle, Mr. and Mrs. Authier, at the Brookside.

Kenneth Horton is at home for the

BROOKLINE, N. H.

News Items.

Campbell.

Mrs. Hiram Stearns recently motored here from her fome in New Boston and spent several lays with her sister, Mrs. Harry Vilkins, whose infant son has been very ill, but is now showing signs of inprovement.

Harry Campbell, accompanied by little Miss Alice Foyler, of Connecticut, who is for the present making her home with Mr. Campbell, took a Fip to Boston last weel Thursday.

Mrs. Clara Russed, Mrs. Edna Hall, Mrs. Jennie Goss and Mrs. Elva Corey attended the Site Grange in Man-chester last weel. Walter Cory vas called to Concord last week to sere on the petite jury. Mrs. William shattuck, who is confined to St. Josech's hospital in Nash

a, following a serious operation, na, rollowing a serious operation, is reported as resting as comfortable as can be expected Miss Mary Ragan is in Fitchburg

for a couple of rocks, assisting at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Morton Klein. Mrs. Grace Compbell went to Bos on last week Ionday to meet Alice owler, of Conncticut, who is at pres-nt making hr home with Mrs.

A cow beloning to Clarence Russell recently gav birth to a calf which is all snow-whiz, with the exception of one small spt near the tail and on

The hunters had better luck las week than the previous week, and some of those the are now indulging in venison are Freeman Wright and son Richard. Scar Eliot. George Rockwood, Frak Austin, Robert Taylor and Rubin Icesy.

Rev. Thomas E. Cramer, of Manchester, distric superintendent of Congregational hurches, preached the sermon here onlast Sunday. On last Saturday evenir a quarterly conference was held t the home of Miss Josephine Seave

Josephine Scave.

Mrs. Sherwoo, of Pepperell, was in town last week hursday, visiting her sister, Mrs. Arthr Brown, who is confined to her beawith a severe illness. Mrs. Minnie Ho ombe is the attending

Mrs. Josie Pyer, of Newport, spending the vnter with her sister, Mrs. Lizzie Heyr.

Mrs. Lizzie Heyr. George Nye-spent Thursday and Friday of last wek at the home of his on, Ernest Ny. of Sandown. John Whitcob was a visitor in

Boston on December.14. Owing to the verity of the weathor the evening ( December 12, there was a scant attedance at the Christ-mas sale and stertainment of the Ladies Aid of the Concregational church. The reasings by Mrs. Blanche Colter, of Marhester, were very pleasing and entetaining, as were the

plane and corne selections by Miss Grace Whitcomland Harland Whitcomb.

The members f Brookline Grange are good patror but poor walkers, when the roads re slippery, and so the meeting on the evening of December 13 was interpreted attended. The programonsisted of a piano solo, Mabel Porteriessay, written by Mrs. Clara Russell and in her absence was read by funche Hall; readings, George Cadyand Mrs. Hattie Plerce; farce, "All'xpenses," Grover Farwell and Fonce Hall. The Grange will have itannual Christmastree on the evening of December 27, and will be confind to the members of their families oy.

of their families ob. Mrs. Blanche Haland Mrs. George Rockwood were visors in Nashua on Monday.

CONSTIPATION CASES BAD SKIN A dull and pimpl skin is due to a sluggish bowel moveent. Correct this condition and cleatyour complexion with Dr. Kings Ne Life Pills. This mild laxative takent bedtime will assure you a full, freeion-griping movement in the morningDrive out the dull, listless feeling resting from overloaded intestines andluggish liver. Get a bottle today. At 4 Druggists, 25c.



Gulch dismissed her pupils with a smiling face. Behind the smiles lurked unshed tears, When the last youngster had vanvery brown hair. down the snow-covered trail. Bernice leaned her head against the window frame and the hot, rebellious tears flooded

How she hated this far western country, with its crude ways, its dowdily dressed women, its unpol ished men, and, above all, its loneliness! It was all so different from New England-and yet she fled from Massachusetts to hide a heartache.

her soft gray eyes.

"There is something wrong with me," she sighed at last, "It can't be the country or the people-they are kind and generous-it's the way I feel! How can I cure the ache and the homesickness for things that may nev er be?"

No answer came to her out of th swiftly falling winter twilight.

Perhaps the knowledge that a wed ding was taking place in Boston at that very hour confused her reasoning powers. The man had ceased to love her and she had offered him his freedom and he had accepted it, and so being without near relatives, Bernice had found a position out here in Montana. This was her first Christmas in Rocky Gulch.

After awhile she locked the school house door, and with the children's Christmas offerings in her lunch bas



"Merry Christmas!" All Three Said

Unison. ket, the lonely little schoolma'am set off down the trail toward the Tucker place, where she boarded.

It was snowing hard now and the trail was rapidly disappearing underthe white blanket. In the deepening gloom dark shapes appeared, approach ing and receding, but they proved to be the pine trees fringing the steep slopes.

Far below, the lights of the town gleamed through the darkness and then vanished, and Bernice, plunging out of the path to avoid a deep drift took a wrong turning and soon ac knowledged to herself with a fright ened sob that she was lost on the mountain in a raging blizzard.

Hours afterward, she sank exhaust ed at the foot of a pine tree and dropped her head on her outstretched arms.

"I will rest for a few minutes," she murmured drowslly.

Down in the town Mrs. Tucket waited supper that Christmas eve un-til nine o'clock. Then little Willie Tucker sleepily announced that Mrs Halliday had invited teacher to spend the night and eat Christmas dinner a the Halliday ranch. Chiding Willie for his tardy information, Mrs. Tucker hastened to the telephone and called the Halliday ranch; but the wires were all down, and so the anxious little woman decided that the teacher had been unable to send word about her change of Christmas plans, and went about the trimming of the Tucker Christmas tree with renewed activity.

Bernice opened her eyes in the live ing room of a warm log cabin. Gay Navajo blankets hung from the walls and covered the broad couch on which hickory logs.

Two men were bending over the fire: one was stirring something in a bright tin saucepan, something hot and steaming which he poured into a tumbler and brought to her bedside. "Hello!" he smiled. "Awake are you?

HE schoolteacher at Rock | Drink this mess and tell us how it all happened."

Bernice smiled back into a hronzed face that inspired instant confidence. He was young, with very blue eyes and

Bernice obediently drank the steaming mixture and snuggled down in the blankets and went to sleep.

"I wonder who she is, Jim," said the last comer. "She came to us out of the storm-

a little snowbird," murmured Jim Butler. Billy Smith smiled shrewdly.

"Little Snowbird will be missed on Christmas eve," he said. "Some one is probably looking for her now, so don't set your heart on her, Jim.' Jim laughed softly.

"Oh, get out, you old idiot!" he "Can't a chap sentimentalgrinned. ize a bit on Christmas eve without your getting silly? I was thinking it will be a sorry Christmas for this little girl and this blizzard looks good for all day tomorrow!"

"Sure thing—so I'm going out to cut Christmas tree for her," said Billy struggling into his heavy coat.

"You're an angel," laughed Jim, get ting out an ax.

He had never seen Bernice Avery before the moment when he had stumbled over her snow-covered form. He had carried her to the cabin three miles up the mountain and given Billy Smith the surprise of his adventurous

James Butler was a timber expert in the employ of the government and Billy was his right-hand man.

Suddenly the door opened and Billy staggered in, powdered with whiteness, carrying a small, symmetrical hemlock tree.

"Our Christmas tree for the kid," e said solemnly. "Good," chuckled Jim, and they se

o work. It was Christmas morning when Bernice awoke again. Dimly she remembered the events of the night and when full realization came upon her

she sat up in bed and looked around. "Dear me, how horrid I feel!" she yawned sleepily, and at that instant she saw the Christmas tree and her

eyes popped wide open. The little tree stood on a table near the fire, propped with heavy stones. Strings of popcorn festooned it and there were puzzling tinseled ornaments-nuts covered with tinfoil. There were a Mexican quirt, a pair of gayly headed Indian moccasins, a roll of Navajo blankets and some apples and

oranges. "I wonder whose Christmas tree this

is" marveled Bernice The sun was streaming through the windows when Jim and Billy knocked at the door and entered in response to

her call. They had arrayed themselves in expectantly from the girl's shyly smiling face to the gay little tree. "Merry Christmas!" all three said

in unison, and then laughed in gay friendliness. "It looks so Christmasy in here," said Bernice: "I'm afraid I've stumbled upon somebody's Christmas tree."

Jim laughed. "Oh, that's your tree! "Mine?" she stammered "Yes-it was Billy's idea-your be ing away from home and everything These are just trifles we had around the house. Please don't cry!" he protested as tears filled the lovely eyes of

"But you don't know how beautiful it is," she sobbed. "I was hating Christmas this year—I was so lonesome—and everything!"

She told them how she had disliked the West, not dreaming it could hold such kindness, and in return both mer became very gruff indeed and Billy sternly insisted upon her coming out and eating her breakfast of cornbread bacon and coffee. Jim said nothing, but his eyes were eloquent.

It was late afternoon when the storm ceased so that they could put on snowshoes and set out down the trail toward the Gulch, Bernice hugging her precious gifts close to her heart. "It's the happiest Christmas I ever

had," she told Jim, with eyes all ashine. "And you don't hate the West and its people?" he smiled.

"No. indeed!" "Then-perhaps-you will like it well enough to stay here always!" he blurted, and then in a panic of bashfulness he dashed away from the Tucker's front gate, leaving Billy sole witness to Bernice's blushes and tell-

tale eyes. "We'll have another Christmas tre next year-we three-and it won't be she reclined before a blazing fire of any accident either," predicted the guide shrewdly.

Billy's prophecy was fulfilled, and Bernice's happy Christmas was follow ed by many more in the country which she learned to love because Love had really sought and found her there. (Copyright.)

#### GOOD BLOOD

"Blood will tell." Blotches and blemishes, like murder, will out, unless the blood is kept pure. Its purity is restored and

### protected by the faithful use of **BEECHAM'S**

Largest Sale of Any Medicine in the World. Sold everywhere. In boxes, 10c., 25c.

Merry Christmas

### Happy New Year

You still have time to get those delayed presents at the

**Open Christmas Morning** 

Telephone Connection

#### NOTICE.

The Annual Meeting of the Shareholders of the First National Bank of Ayer, will be held at the Banking Rooms, in Ayer, Mass., on Monday, January 8, 1917, at one o'clock P. M., for the purpose of acting upon the following business:

To choose a Board of Directors to erve for the ensuing year, and to transact any other business that may come before the meeting.

CHARLES A. NORMAND. Cashier.

Ayer, Mass., December 8, 1916.

TUNING AND REPAIRING PROMPTLY ATTENDED TO

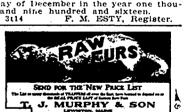
[. F. Chaffin Co. Fitchburg, Mass.

Pianos, Piano Players, Victrolas and

Full-Line of Records, Music and Musical Instruments 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 Pepperell, 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 RAY A. WILLOUGHBY of Pepperell in the County of Middlesex, without giving a surety on his bond. You are hereby cited to appear at a without giving a surety on his bond. You are hereby cited to appear at a Probate Court to be held at Cambridge, in said County of Middlesex, on the second day of January A. D. 1917, at nine o'clock in the forenoon, to show cause if any you have, why the same should not be granted.

And the 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.

Witness, Charles J. Meintire, Esquire, First Judge of said Court, this seventh day of December in the year one thousand nine hundred and sixteen.



For Father and Son 360 PICTURES 360 ARTICLES **EACH MONTH** ON ALL NEWS STANDS 15 Cents **POPULAR MECHANICS** MAGAZINE WRITTEN SO YOU CAN UNDERSTAND IT All the Great Events in Mechanics, Engineering and Invention throughout the World, are described in an interest-ing manner, as they occur. 3,000,000 readers each month. Shep Retes 20 pages each issue tells easy and better ways to do things in the shop, and how to make repairs at home.

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#### TOWNSEND

Center,

Miss Helen Whitcomb, a student from Northfield, is spending her vaca-tion with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. George Whitcomb,

The little daughter recently born to Mr. and Mrs. Robert R. Copeland has been named Ruth Copeland.

At the annual meeting of the Squan-At the annual meeting of the Squannicook Patrol, Boy Scouts, held at the Methodist parsonage on last Saturday the following officers were elected: Albert Cowland, patrol leader; Ralph Marshall, asst.; Urbin Palmer, treas,; Sherrin Stearns, scribe. The following scouts have passed their tests as first-class scouts, Ernest Dow, Albert Cowland, Ralph Marshall and Ralph Wilson; and second-class, Marshall Higgins, Urbin Palmer, Lou Crouch and Ernest Rawkin. The patrol is doing some very practical work this winter as well as having good times.

day evening at the reading-room and a very interesting meeting was enjoyed, the vice president, Mrs. Oscar Lovering, presiding. Mrs. Fred A. Patch road an interesting articles on "Automatic telephone devices"; a new book about Columbus, Mrs. S. J. Lees, death of Prof. Hugo Munsterburg in Cambridge. Miss Alice Seaver; prion Alexanter Tribution of gifts delighted the Small West School the two death of Prof. Hugo Munsterburg in Cambridge, Miss Alice Seaver; prison and reform work, Mrs. Alexander Reed. Miss Alice Seaver then gave a review of "The fruit of the tree," by Edith Wharton. The next meeting will be held at the home of Miss Emma Adams on Monday evening, January 8, and there will be a musical program in charge of Miss Adams and Mrs. I. P. Sherwin.

S. Leroy Shapleigh has been visiting at the home of his grandmother, Mrs. Mary Poster, for a few days, returning to his home in Somerville on Monday. Mrs. Lucy Thompson has returned from a visit to California, and is at present stopping with Mr. and Mrs. Perry W. Sawtelle.

Henry B. Hathaway spent Sunday in Boston, where his wife is undergoing treatment at the hospital.

Alden Sherwin and family are spending a few weeks with Mrs. Sher-Miss Dorothy Peters, daughter of Mrs. Harry Hobart, has gone to the home of her grandmother, near Keene, N. H., for the winter.

Mr. and Mrs. Fred G. Smith have

closed their home for the present and have moved to New Boston, N. H., where Mr. Smith is employed. Mrs. Clarence Elliott, who has been evening.

very ill with pneumonia, is reported to much improved.

The regular fortnightly meeting of the Ladies' Literary and Social circle was held on last week Friday afternoon at the home of Mrs. Harriet Stickney, and in spite of the driving snowsterm there was a good attendance. The topic of the afternoon was Christmas stories, the members present giving various interesting stories. Control of the death of Mrs. Roper were shocked to learn of the death of Mrs. Roper at her home in Lunenburg on Wednesday night of last week with pneumonia, it was not known by many of her neighbors that she was ill until notice came of her death. She was born in Orford, N. H., September 3, 1848, and Rad layed in Lunenburg for these. e:t giving various interesting stories. Refreshments and a social followed. The topic of the next meeting will be new year's stories, the place to be an-

Christmas vacation Thursday morning, and very interesting exercises were held Wednesday afternoon in Seminary hail with about thirty of the parents and freinds in attendance. A program composed of songs by the schools, recitations and dialogues was much enjoyed, and a special feature was a song in the Finnish language given by four of the children. At the close of the program Christmas gifts were exchanged by the children and candy and popporn was given in pretclose of the program Christmas gifts were exchanged by the children and candy and popeorn was given in pretty Christmas boxes made by the children. An exhibition of the school work was held in the room below. The teachers will spend their vacations, Miss Vera Brown at her home in Greenwich; Miss Inez Hill in Stockholm, N. Y., and Miss Lucas in Wolfboro, N. H.

Miss Mond Hedgen of Reading has a substitute of the service, and burial was continuous the south centery. The bearers were her sons and sons-in-law.

William W. Sterlin, a former resident and worthy citizen of this town, died at the Burbank hospital hast Saturday evening of pneumonia after only live days' illness, the result of a severe cold, which easily developed into pneumonia. Mr. Sterlin bought the farm in the northwest part of the

Mrs. Sarah Dubey has closed her-home on Bridge street and will spend the winter with her daughter in Low-

Miss Martha Jones, of Mason, N. H. has arrived at the Squannicook Inn, where she will spend the winter. Edward Morey, of Worcester, is a must of Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Mac-

LUNENBURG

News Items

Mr. and Mrs. Robert R. Copeland has been named Ruth Copeland.

The funeral of Mrs. Augusta Palfreyman aged eighty years, wife of John Palfreyman of this town, who passed away at the home of her son, Fred Palfreyman, Fitchburg, was held on Monday afternoon at two o'clock in the Congregational church, Rev. A. F. Struthers officiating.

The body of Frank H. Wright, aged forty-one, who passed away at the Clinton hospital of tuberculosis, was brought to town and funeral services were held from his sister's home, Mrs. Alice Bowley, at 10.30 o'clock Monday. Dr. Charlton officiated. Mr. Wright was a native of Townsend, the son of the late Charles A. and Louisa J. Wright. He is survived by three sisters, Mrs. Alice Bowley and Mrs. Wallace Arline of this town, and Mrs. Clara Wheeler; also, by four brothers, Charles and Roy Wright, of this town, and William A., of Athol, and Joseph V., of Springfield.

At the annual meeting of the Souan-

Friday evening. There was a concert, beginning at seven o'clock, after which supper was served to the members of the church and school, followed by the distribution of gifts from the Christmas tree.

Monday morning was the coldest of this season so far, the mercury run-ning down to 10 above, and in one or two places as low as 8,

class scouts, Ernest Dow, Albert Cowland, Ralph Marshall and Ralph Wilson; and second-class. Marshall Higgins, Urbin Palmer, Lou Crouch and Ernest Rawkin. The patrol is doing some very practical work this winter as well as having good times.

West.

The Ladies' Study club met Monday evening at the reading-room and a very interesting meeting was enjoyated to president. Mrs. Oscar

We grade to see the state of the country of the roads opened until Tuesday morning.

All the grade schools in town closed

where a Christmas tree and the dis-tribution of gifts delighted the small people. At the West school, the two schools united in Mrs. Bickford's room, where a very pleasing program was presented, consisting of carols, recitations, declamations, dialogues, etc., nicely rendered by each one tak ing part.

ing part.

At the business meeting of the Methodist Sunday school the following officers were elected for the ensuing year: Lewis L. Harrington, supt., in place of Carroll, H. Magoon, who declined re-election; Carl R. Harrington, sec.; Miss Blanche Whitcomb, treas.; Mrs. Herbert C. Eaton and Miss Annie Cameron, wants, increased with Mrs. Mrs. Herbert C. Eaton and Miss Annie Cameron. Supts. Junior dept.; Mrs. James L. Harrington, supt. home dept.; Mrs. George H. Whitcomb, supt. cradle roll; Miss Blanche Whitcomb, organist; Miss Gladys Sanderson, librarian; Miss Minnie Martin, asst. Mrs. Alfred Noon, Mrs. George H. Whitcomb and Mrs. Arthur W. Adams were chosen a committee to revise the library, to issue a catalogue, and to encourage the circulation of the best-books in the library.

Baskethall on Tuesday evening was

:Basketball on Tuesday evening was postponed on account of the prepara-tions for the community Christmas tree and exercises, held on Wednesday

Deaths.

the topic of the next meeting will be new year's stories, the place to be annumed later.

The public schools closed for the Christmas vacation Thursday morning, and very interesting exercises were

moim, N. Y., and Miss Lucas in Wolfboro, N. H.

Miss Maud Hodson, of Reading, has been a recent guest of Mrs. Charles R. Morgan.

The public Christmas tree of the Baptist Sunday school will be held in the vestry on Monday evening at seven o'clock, with appropriate exercises by the children. The tree will be in charge of the All-Ready class, and the program in charge of Miss Alice Seaver and Miss Gladys Rawson, and the candy will be in charge of Mrs. Joseph MacKean. The public is cordially invited to attend and bring gifts for distribution from the tree.

Mrs. Sarah Dubey has closed her home on Bridge street and most condenses and properties of the Grange Statement of the form of the former home. A delegation from Lunenburg, Leominster, their former home. A delegation from Lunenburg Granges attended the funeral in Fitchburg on Tuesday afternoon. Interment was in Westminster.

F. Lee Sheppy, 8th floor—242 we have the former only invited to attend and bring gifts for the former home on Bridge street and former home. A delegation from Lunenburg, Leominster, their former home. A delegation from Lunenburg Granges attended the funeral in Fitchburg on Tuesday afternoon. Interment was in Statement of the town, formerly the home of George E. Jones, in 1905. Mrs. Sterlin bought the farm in the northwest part of the town, formerly the home of George E. Jones, in 1905. Mrs. Sterlin died at this home in 1910, after which Mr. Sterlin bought the farm in the northwest part of the town, formerly the home of George E. Jones, in 1905. Mrs. Sterlin died at this home in 1910, after which Mr. Sterlin bought the farm in the northwest part of the town, formerly the home of George E. Jones, in 1905. Mrs. Sterlin died at this home in 1910, after which Mr. Sterlin bought the farm in the northwest part of the town, formerly the home of George E. Jones, in 1905. Mrs. Sterlin died at this home in 1910, after which Mr. Sterlin bought the farm in the northwest part of the town, formerly the home of George E. Jones, in 1905. Mrs. Sterlin died a

F. Lee Sheppy, 8th floor—243 W. 17th St., New York City, General Sales Manager of the largest concern of its kind in the world, wants three or four men in Middlesex County and several the winter with her daughter in Lowell.

George Hayward of New York, Isahole Hayward of 'Ashburnham, and Russell Hayward of Fitchburg, are at the home of their parents, Mr. and Mrs. George Hayward, of Bayberry Rev. Joseph MacKean will preach Sunday morning an appropriate Christmas sermon upon the topic. "The world's great light." The evening service and Y. P. B. C. E: meeting will be omitted and a Sunday school Christmas concert will be held at six o'clock in the audience room of the church. A collection to defray the expenses of the Christmas exercises of the school will be taken at this service. The regular meeting of the Eclipse engine company will be postponed from Monday evening to Saturday evening, December 30.

Oren Powers was a prominent figure in a runaway on Tuesday evening at about five o'clock when the horse he was driving became frightened at the railway station and ran the length of Main street, past the stable, and Mr. Powers was unable to stop him until he reached the schoolhouse, when he succeeded in turning him into the yard. Fortunately, he met no teams and no damage was done except to the nerves of the on-lookers.

The Ladles' Mission Circle met on Wednesday afternoon at the home of Mrs. Mary Tucker, and an interesting program was closed with remarks by Rev. Joseph MacKean.

Mandager of the world, wand severat men in adjoining counties, to work for him spare time or all the time. He can use only those who have a rig or all the time. He can use only those who have a rig or all the time. He can use only those who have a rig or all the time. He can use only those who have a rig or him to. Work is very pleasant and no previous selling experience is necesary. Work consists of leaving a wonderful new household necessity in the house hold the Government Burcau of Standard the Government Burcau of Standard the Government Burcau of Standards show this new article to be four times as efficient as article now in general use in this section. Article is needed in every rural home and beneral use of the h



Deacon

How He Took Out the Christmas Mail

Sewell Ford OST things Deacon took as was an even-tempered old

tervals he would stretch dulge in a complaining ters and parcels to see if he had any whinny. There was reason for Den-

con's restlessness. More than an hour ago he should have been on the move, but here he was still waiting in the post office shed, and never a sign or still remained half a hundred letters word from his driver. Deacon, you and more than a peck of packages to understand, pulled Uncle Sam's mail be delivered. The new man was hunover Rural Free Delivery Route No. 2, gry and tired, but he was no quitter. Havertown P. O. He had pulled it for So he begged some hay and oats for three years, and he was fairly well Deacon, borrowed a lantern, and toversed in the business. At any rate, he knew that it was past his starting time. Long before had the swayback sorrel on Route No. 1 taken the road. The pert little bay mare on No. 3 had followed a few minutes later. Yet here was Deacon, with the heaviest and longest route of them all, still

standing idly in the shed. Inside, in the Havertown post office were a number of men whose frame of



of them was the postmaster himself. In the first place, the simultaneous arrival of a three-foot snowfall and the bulk of the Christmas mail was bad enough. Next came the disabling of one of his best drivers, and the discovery that two substitute carriers were out of town. Well, the postmaster said things. Dan Sweeney, driver of No. 2 route, was disabled beyond doubt. There he was sitting on a pile of mail sacks, his back against a steam radiator, his face white and drawn out of shape by twinges of rheumatism. He had dragged himself down to the office, but that was all he could do. Now, although he should have been sent back to bed, he was sorting the mail for his route.

"The Christmas mail, too!" groaned Dan. He had a conscience, Dan had, and his heart was in his work.

It was a sight of the great pile of packages which made Danny groan deepest. They were more to him than simply so much fourth-class matter, these string-tied boxes and bundles. They were invested with something besides the statute-guarded sanctity of the United States mail, for which Dan Sweeney had no light respect. He knew that each one of them carried not only merchandise but a subtle freightage of the goodly holiday spirit. the joyful sentiment of Christmastide.

And to think, just because of this them might not be delivered until the his convalescence. holiday was over with, when they would come lagging along, as stale as firecrackers on the 5th of July! So Danny groaned

"There!" said Danny at last, to the office clerk who was to attempt the task, "you stow the packages in just that order and do your best to find where they go. Old Deacon'll take you over the route all right if you give him his head. He knows it like a

book.' So the Christmas mail was finally started out over Route No. 2, Dencon turned an inquiring eye on the naw man, as much as if to ask what was the matter with Danny.

No sooner had they reached Joel's they came, and with great road, where the route began, than culmness of spirit, for he Dencon realized the inexperience of the new man. Why, he was actually horse, whose disposition a going to drive right past the Powers dozen years, filled with place, and the Powers almost always the usual allotment of had mail of some kind, even if it equine adversity, had wasn't more than a poultry magazine thoroughly seasoned. Yet or a seed catalogue, After one or now he was pawing and two such mistakes Deacon took charge stamping as impatiently as of things himself. From house to any four-year-old. At in- house he went, stopping wherever he had been in the habit of calling, waithis neck, thrust forward ing until the new carrier found who his old white nose, and in- lived there and had looked through let-

thing for them.

All the forenoon and all the afternoon this went on, but when the red sun went down in the frosty west there gether they started to finish the route. As for Deacon, his old knees were stiffer than ever, his shoulder muscles ached, his flanks heaved like a pair of blacksmith's bellows, but he plunged on, never skipping a single house, never hesitating at a roundabout halfmile, doing his whole duty quite as thoroughly as if there had been someone behind to urge him on instead of a cold-numbed clerk, who had no longer even touched the reins. At last only one letter was left, a thick, bulky ône in a blue waterproof envelope hearing a foreign postmark. "Josiah Braisted, Esq.," was the address.

"Braisted, eh?" muttered the clerk. Wonder if the old horse knows where he lives?"

Evidently Deacon did, for he was plowing through a big drift, heading straight out on the Boston road into he darkness. Far ahead, on the top of a long hill, the clerk could see the lights of a big house. There were no other lights between. Miles behind he could make out the glow of the city. The clerk wished he could be back there, where one could be warm again and get something hot to eat. With numb fingers he pulled out his watch. Half-past nine! Why, it would take them a good two hours to drive back now! Braisted be hanged! He could get his letter after Christmas.

So he grabbed the reins and indicated to Deacon a desire to turn around. But Deacon would not turn. Pull on the rein as he might, Deacon would only swing his head about, keeping his legs moving straight ahead. By much shouting and sawing the reins Deacon was stopped. Then the new driver waded out to his head, took him by the bits and tried to point the horse the other way. Dea-Those lights on the top of the long hill marked the end of the route, and Deacon knew it. And to those lights they went. "Josiah Braisted?" asked the driver curtly of the young woman who answered his

"Oh, it's come, it's come!" shouted to someone within, as she held out her hand eagerly for the letter.

Never before had he seen so much excitement caused by the delivery of a letter. In a moment there were three or four persons in the front hall, all talking at once.

"Do you think it will save him, doc-tor?" asked the anxious-faced old lady who had followed the girl to the

"It will if anything will, I guess," answered a stout, bearded man. And he mounted the stairs to see the patient in the upper room. Then they insisted that the half-

frozen clerk come inside and have something to eat. Deacon? Oh, they would take care of Deacon. They did all this and more. It seemed that this letter had been long expected, and was sadly needed, for it came from a prodigal son to a very sick father. It had Its effect, too.

Of course the clerk told them of Deacon's heroic stubbornness, of how the old horse had insisted on going to the very end of the route when he had tried to turn him back. Josiah plaguey rheumatism of his, many of Braisted, Esq., heard the story during

"I must tell my son about that when

he comes home," he would repeat as they told him of the part Deacon played in the story. "We ought to do something for that old horse," he said. They did, too. The office clerk, who will first show you a handsome gold watch, tells the story best, always end ing with, "And old Deacon, why, he lives out there on the Braisted place like a thoroughbred. He's in clover,

he is.' "Well," Dan Sweeney will add. "It's kinds of Property placed in good no more'n he deserves. Old Deacon was a mighty good horse in his day, and mighty knowin'."-St. Louis Globe



in goodness and

for it!

### Prince Albert gives smokers such delight, because

-its flavor is so different and so delightfully good;

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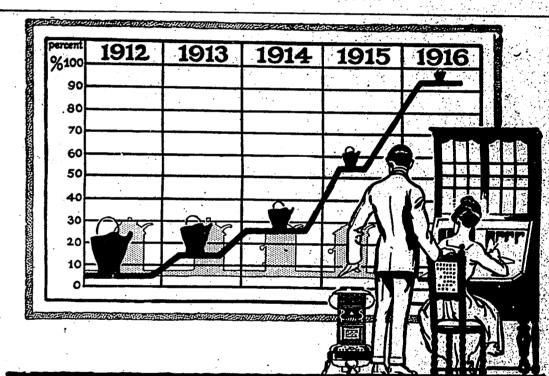
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GRODGE H B TURNER, Publishe JOHN H. TURNER, Editor

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

Subscribers are urged to keep their subscriptions paid in advance.

#### Saturday, December 23, 1916.

#### GROTON

The services at the Congregational church last Sunday were held in the

At the meeting of the Woman's club At the meeting of the Woman's club on next week Friday Rev. Endicott Peabody will tell of his visit abroad during his vacation last summer. The speaker, as announced in the calendar not being able to keep the appointment, Dr. Peabody has kindly consented to fill the place. It will be a privilege to hear Mr. Peabody, always an interesting speaker.

whys an interesting speaker.

Much interest is shown in the community Christmas tree to be held on Sunday afternoon at 5.30 o'clock. The tree will be lighted and a large chorus will sing Christmas carols, the Groton band will render patriotic selections, and the grand finale will be the singing of "America," in which all will join. Come one, come all, and help spread the Christmas spirit! If stormy on Sunday afternoon the tree will be lighted at the same hour on Christmas day.

A queer mistake, which many must have noticed in an obituary in these columns last week, made in one place the names of the parents, Mr. and Mrs. W. H. Fernald, read instead, Mr. and Mrs. W. H. Whitehill. The latter are not even relatives, but were former neighbors of the Fernald family.

A fine black horse for the American-Express team arrived last week in ex-change for the gray which has been the route.

Hon. and Mrs. William F. Wharton went last week to their Beacon street home, Boston, for the winter.

went last week to the winter.

The following is clipped from the Boston Sunday Globe of December 17: Rev. and Mrs. Endicott Peabody of Groton are entertaining at dinner to-morrow night at the Union club before the dance which they are later giving at the Hotel Somerset to present their daughter. Miss Margery Peabody. George Harding will be the head usher and among those who will assist him are Daland Chandler, Hamilton Coolidge, Charles Fuller, William Otis, Quentin, Roosevelt, Alexander Wheeler, Livingston Burrill, Cecil Murray, Samuel Peabody, Harcourt Amory, Harold Amory, Westmore Willcox, Jr., and Paul Pennoyer.

Paul Pennoyer.

The closing feature of a program given last week Wednesday evening at Mrs. Winston Churchill's drawing-room, Boston, for the benefit of French tuberculosis victims, was a comedy by the late Julian Sturgis, entitled "Picking up the pieces." It was acted by Mrs. S. Warren Sturgis, of Groton, and by Mrs. R. Clipston Sturgis, a nephew of the author.

On last week Friday evening which

and by Mrs. R. Chipston Straight and by Mrs. R. Chipston on last week Friday evening, which was a stormy night, an auto with passengers Russell Wright and Frank Sullivan, of Pepperell. The latter driving, ran into the back of a sleigh in which James Cleary was driving his sister, Miss Esther, to the station to take the train to Pepperell. The accident occurred while going over the road near the coal dump. The sleigh was badly damaged and both of the occupants nervously upset and somewhat lamed. The auto was put out of commission and was left by the roadside until the next day. Report does not speak of any injuries to the occupants of the auto.

nary 8.

The service at the Congregational church on Sunday evening is at 7.30 o'clock and will be largely musical, with the following program: "There were shepherds," ladies choolmates. "West Groton. There were shepherds," ladies chorus; responsive reading; Christmas song, ladies chorus; address, Rev. G. M. Howe; hymn. The meeting will be fided in the main auditorium. Every
held in the main auditorium. Every
left towards the expenses of the chuss the ensuing year, either for light or power, who are not already connected, in the community and the expenses of the chuss as the ensuing year, either for light or power, who are not already connected. The Sunday school boys, Martin or hat the ensuing year, either for light or power, who are not already connected. The Sunday school hots, who are not already connected. The Sunday school hots, so they can make their estimates for running the plant during the coming year.

BOXBOROUGH

News Items.

Miss Cora Hartwell is at her brother after serving about two years.

The becember meeting of the Grotos; address, Rev. G. M. Hutcherson, who resigned the summer, has gone south for the summer, has gone south for the winter.

The church on Sunday evening is at 7.30

O'Leary, had come all the way from running the plant during the coming year.

West Groton.

Lee Bixby, who has been gaining the plant during the coming year.

West Groton.

Lee Bixby, who has been gaining after serving about two years.

The telephones of Messrs.

Waitt Hartwell, Poland and Little-wait, Hartwell, Poland and Little-wait Hartwell, Poland and Little-wait Hartwell, Poland and Little-wait, Hartwell, Poland and Little-wait Hartwell, Poland and Little-

body cordially invited to come and this song service.

Dr. Samuel A. Green, former mayor of Boston, vice president and librarian of the Massachusetts Historical society, has returned to Boston after a long summer and fall season in his native town, Groton. This year he occupied his own home here and this influenced his prolonging his stay in the historic town. Dr. Green is in excellent health and remarkably active for a man of eighty-six years. Dr. Samuel A. Green, former mayor

The Alliance will meet with Miss Georgianna Boutwell on next week Thursday afternoon π 2.30 o'clock. Miss Boutwell will read a paper, "The history of the First Parish meetinghouse of Groton."

We believe that the people of Groton should be particularly interested in the plan of systematic savings as afforded by the Savings and Thrift club now forming at the First National Bank of Ayer. Grant W. Shattuck Bank of Ayer. Grant W. Shattuck will be pleased to explain to any inter-ested.

Miss Alma Gray, who has been teaching in Ayer, has resigned and accepted a position in a school at Grand Mere, P. Q. Her school in Grand Mere opens on January 4.

The twenty-ninth annual dinner and roll call of the Congregational church will be held on Wednesday, January 3. Dinner will be served promptly at twelve o'clock, followed by the roll call and that by the annual business

call and that by the annual business meeting.

The program for the concert and dance to be given by the Groton Cornet band on the evening of January 1. will be as follows: March, "On Wisconsin"; overture, "Poet and peasant"; trombone solo, Leroy Shattuck; song, Mr. Robinson; selection, "The only girl"; descriptive, "A hunting scene," with male chorus; march, "Yacht club," Neophyte's band; cornet solo, Mrs. Violet R. Beers; humoreske; march, "A fighting chance"; finale, "Star Spangled Banner." There will be dancing until midnight. The band will be augmented by the following house the soloists: L. Shattuck, trombone; J. J. Piper, alto; Mr. Morse, clarinet; Joseph Kyle, cornet. The following have been enrolled as honorary members of the band: Fred Barrows \$5. Barclay H. Farr \$2, W. V. Bixhy \$1. "A Friend" \$1: previously acknowledged, \$315.50; total, \$324.50.

Mrs. Frank M. Blood returned on Wedgedgey from a visit to her daugh-

Mrs. Frank M. Blood returned on Wednesday from a visit to her daugh-ter, Miss Ruth Blood, teacher in Ar-

Ington.

The Wheelocks are planning to go to Boston for the winter, leaving their hired men and other help at their hicopee row home.

There are to be Christmas festivities for the Sunday school children and others at all the churches.

There was a good attendance at the W. R. C. meeting on Tuesday af-ternoon and there were pleasing exer-cises suitable for the season. Different cises suitable for the season. Michael members gave readings, and "Holy night" was sung as a duet by Mrs. Gleason and Mrs. Gibson. The joint installation of officers of E. S. Clark post and W. R. C. is to be held on

Born in Middleboro on December 9. Born in Middleboro on December 9.
A daughter to Mr. and Mrs. Frank
Mahoney (Miss Isabelle Woods). Announcement cards give the little girl's
name as Anna Barbara Mahoney. Lawrence academy closed Wednes-day for the Christmas holidays.

Mrs. John Bradley will close their house after the Christmas holidays to spend the winter in Boston.

Charles H. Berry has been suffering this week from an attack of asthma. At present he is getting better, but the first of the week was obliged to have a dector.

Same the present in the acceptance of the control of the present of the present in the present in the present in the canary like notes, and the relation to the control of the present of the seek was obliged to the seek of the se

Miss Gerrish reported briefly on the progress of the Junior club. President Ames called attention to several progress of the Junior club. President Ames called attention to several packages of mixed seed which could be purchased after the meeting. Reterring to the present status of the treaty with Great Britain for the protection of migratory birds in Canada, and the United States he stated that its effectiveness depends upon the passage of an emphiling act and an en-

its effectiveness depends upon the passage of an enabling act and an enforcement appropriation, which are to be brought before the present congress. In this connection an inquiry by Mr. Howe as to why it was not fully as important to conclude a similar treaty with Mexico, where so many of our birds winter elicited the information that such a treaty had in fact been contemplated, but that the recent disturbed condition of our Southern neighbor had prevented its recent disturbed condition of our Southern neighbor had prevented its negotiation.

President Ames announced the fol-

lowing program:

lowing program:

January 15. Public meeting with movnig pictures shown by T. Gilbert Pearson., secretary of National Association of Audubon societies.

February 19. Club meeting in charge of master and boys from Groton School. Topic, "Birds introduced from foreign countries; hawks."

March 19. Public meeting. Mr. Gorst, the famous whistler and mimic, will give his remarkable imitation of bird songs.

bird songs. April 16. Winter observations by

Miss-Hill, Miss Hutchins and others.

May 21. "The gull and other seabird colonies of the Maine coast" by
William P. Wharton.

June 18. Outdoor meeting at the Bigelow camp at Baddacook pond Subject, "Warblers and vireos" by Subject, "Wa Miss Gerrish.

Miss Gerrish's paper on "Winter Miss Gerish's paper of white birds" took up the common residents only—of these-the most familiar probably is the chicadee, a sociable little fellow, whose economic value is fully as great as his appeal to our eyes and as great as his appeal to our eyes ane ears. Chicadees are great eaters of insect eggs as well as of worms and caterpillars and individuals are known to have consumed over 5,000 of the former and over 30 of the latter in one day. They disappear usually about the end of April, retreating to the more remote wooded places for nesting.

The white breasted nuthatch with his nasal yank, yank and his upside down on the tree trunk is quite unmistakable. He is said to have got his name from his habit of wedging

his name from his habit of wedging nuts and seeds into crevices in the bark. The more easily to crack them open. The red-breasted nuthatch, seen not infrequently in fall and spring, has a somewhat similar, but much higher, note. The minute kinglets, little more than four inches in length, are with us in the cold weather, though the golden crowned is the only one to remain all winter. The downy and hairy woodpeckers, similar in nearly all respects except size, are important guardians of the forests, because the second of the corests, because the second of the corests, because of the white nine weevil in nearly all respects except size, are important guardians of the forests, be-ing destroyers of the white pine weevil and many other bark and wood boring

beetles.

The northern shrike has a not unmusical song and makes up in part for his killing of useful birds by his destruction of English sparrows and mice. The introduced starling though rather attractive in winter because of his rather pleasing notes, is likely to become a nuisance through his grain and fruit eating propensities, and his appropriation of the nesting sites of other hole nesting birds. An instance of the eviction of a pair of tree swaillows by starling had come to the speaker's attention. The goldfinch, with its canary like notes, and the tree sparrow, with its tinkling call, both primarily seed eaters, are commonly seen in winter, usually wandering gaily in flocks of some size.

Finally the well known junco and the brilliant purple finch occasionally beetles. The northern shrike has a not un

spring. Donald Bixby, also employed in Waban, is doing greenhouse work this winter in which he is greatly in-

Provost Thompson, going on Friday, visited friends in Dorchester, returning on Sunday evening. He attended the Allied Bazaar on England's Churchester.

Mrs. G. H. Bixby is spending some days this week with her daughter, Mrs. Charles Chapman, of Winchester. Mrs. Charles Chapman, of Whenester,
Mrs. Vedder, who has been with her
daughter, Mrs. A. W. Lamb, for the
past eight weeks, returned to New
York on Wednesday.

Mr. and Mrs. John Liacos and their sons. Aristides and Leonidas, will spend the Christmas holidays with Mrs. Liacos' parents in Benninston. N. H. They will be accompanied by Mr. Liacos' brother, William Liacos, and a cousin.

Miss Katherine Spaulding, who has spent the past five weeks at the home of her brother, H. Spaulding, returned to Townsend on Wednesday.

Miss Evadne Harrington is spend-ing the holidays with her aunt, Mrs. Samuel Richards, of Boston. Coming on Thursday, Miss Grace Bixby is spending a few days at home but will leave before Christmas.

Mrs. Charles Bixby and daughter outh are spending Christmas in The Misses Elsic and Olive Tarbell will be at home from Hanover, N. H., over the holidays. Wellesley.

over the noildays.

Going on Tuesday, Homer Harrington visited Mr. and Mrs. William Kimball in Stony Brook, returning on Thursday noon. He was given an opportunity to visit both Boston and Waltham

George Harrington has been de-barred from work this week by a se-vere attack of indigestion.

vere attack of indigestion.

The A. P. Blood house on Main street has been rented by George Fessenden, of Townsend Harbor, who is well-known to many West Groton people. Mr. Fessenden has sold his farm. In Townsend and expects to move here about the first of January. He is now employed here at the leatherboard mill, and his son Charles at the paper mill. at the paper mill.

Christmas shopping has been the all important business during the past week and visits to Fitchburg, Boston and elsewhere have been too numerous to mention.

P. W. Kane has taken charge of the sidewalks for the winter and made his first trips with the plow this week.

An interesting feature of last week's An interesting feature of last week's sale was an apron made and given by Mrs. Elizabeth 'Davis, ninety-five years of age, accompanied by a letter giving various personal items of interest. The apron was purchased for considerably more than its marked price by Mrs. Vedder, of New York, who stipulated that the letter should accompany the purchase, as she wished to show it to her home friends.

The fair supper held on last week Friday evening was of the usual excellence in charge of Mrs. George Harrington, but owing to the storm which raged flercely during the afternoon comparatively few persons attended. However, those present did full justice to the many good things and the remaining food found ready purchasers.

At a business meeting of the L. A.

purchasers.

At a business meeting of the L. A. society on Monday afternoon, about \$50 was reported as the net proceeds of the fair; \$130 was voted to the church for current expenses.

The village Christmas tree will be held at the hall on Saturday evening. A program will be given by the chil-

The regular meeting of the Im The regular meeting of the Improvement society was held on Tuesday evening with a small number present doubtless owing to its being frinstmas week, with everybody busy. The amount of ten dollars was voted for books for the West Groton library to be chosen by the librarian. The entertainment program, in charge of A. F. Cottrell. Jr., consisted of "five hundred," in which sixteen players joined, enjoying the game until 10.30. Mrs. Cottrell won highest score for Il addies while Mr. Cottrell was equally fortunate among the gentlemen.

The History of Groton band will be

in Council Acts on Resignation.

An ecclesiastical council convened here Monday afternoon and was constituted of pastors and delegates from six of the neighboring churches, called to act on the resignation of Rev. J. P. Trowbridge as pastor of the West Groton Christian Union church, to take effect on February 1. Rev. G. M. Howe, of Groton acted as moderator, and Rev. J. B. Lewis, of Pepperell, as scribe. The moderator's endorsement of Mr. Trowbridge is here appended:

An invitation party will be given by the senior of the cachers all going to their respective homes.

An invitation party will be given by the senior of the sen

as scribe. The moderator's endorse-ment of Mr. Trowbridge is here ap-pended:

as scribe. The moderator's endorsement of Mr. Trowbridge is here appended:

Whereas, Lev. John P. Trowbridge has become convinced that in the Province of God, the time has come when the pastoral relation between him and the Christian Union church and society of West Groton had better be dissolved; and whereas, the church and society have, with indiminished respect and love for him acceded to his request, and ask this council to approve their mutual action; therefore,

Resolved, that we approve of the dissolution of the pastoral relation between Rev. John P. Trowbridge and the Christian Union church and society for the reasons named, and at the time suggested, and in doing so, we place upon record our united appreciation of the unblemished character of Mr. Trowbridge as a christian gentleman, our testimony to his faithfulness as a preacher of the truth as it is in Jesus Christ, our admiration of his superior ability and success as a christian passior and his enviable power of personal sympathy with all classes of society,—and regret in losing a christian minister with so clear a head and so warm a heart, and so loyal to the true and the honorable in all the relations of professional, social and public life. We express our sympathy for those in this community who are to lose a faithful teacher, an impartial pastor, and a personal friend, who, during his pastorate in West Groton, has grown in their heart's affection—one who has rejoiced with them in their prosperity, and sympathized with them in their sorrow.

Resolved, that we commend the Rev. John P. Trowbridge to the churches of our Lord Jesus Christ as a minister, who, because of his character, ability and work, is worthy of their confidence in whatever field of christian labor he may be called to occupy.

Resolved, that we sympathize with this church in the loss of a pastor tried and true, whose work of love they will not forget, and that our prayer is that the Holy Spirit may lead them to the choice of a successor true to the gospel of Christ, and worthy to

The Alfred Cobleigh family is enjoy-Mr. and Mrs. Albert Littlefield were among the number who attended the State Grange meeting at Tremont

Temple; they also were at the Allied Bazar on Polish day. Church Notes.

Sunday services—Morning worship at eleven o'clock. Preacher, Rev. G. M. Missirian, the minister. "The song of the angels." Sunday "The song of school at 12.15.

The Baptist church of West Acton has knidly invited our church to join in a community sing service next Sunday night at seven o'clock. Also, a special concert will be given by the choir under the direction of Mrs. Weeks. If we do have fair weather and good roads on that day there will be made an announcement about the plans of going to West Acton on Sunday morning service.

All the children and people in our town are cordially invited by our Sunday school to attend the Christmas tree celebration to be held on Saturday evening, December 23, in the vestry.

ree cereintation of the vestry.

The special meeting of the church to hear and act on the report of the committee appointed to revise the constitution and by-laws of the church, was held last Sunday after the morning service. The report of the committee was accepted and the constitution and the by-laws were adopted in their revised form, with the exception of the question in regard to a change of the name of the church, in article I. The final decision or report about that will be presented later. Charles Waitt was elected the moderator of that special meeting and the members of the committee were: Rev. G. M. Missirian, chairman, Frank W. Dodge and Arthur W. Nelson. Arthur W. Nelson.

#### SHIRLEY

News Item.

News Item.

The Altrurian club held a social Christmas party at the home of Mrs. Mary W. Hazen, in charge of the directors. Each lady brought her work and also a gift which were exchanged with each other. Miss Grace M. Kilburn presided, calling for all reports from committee, and reading of the minutes of the last meeting. At the roll call each lady responded with a Christmas quotation. Notices of meetings of the Federation were given including a conference buffet luncheon for the music department of the Federated clubs to be held at the Art club on Clarendon street. Boston; also, an invitation to a state legislature conference to be held in Allston. The meeting was full of Christmas cheer. The next meeting will be held on January 4, at the Congregational vestry.

#### HARVARD

News Items. Girls are home from school this week for the holidays. Miss Dorothy West, from Framingham Normal; Miss Nancy Harlow, from Ashburnham, and Miss Harriet Mason, from Wheaton, have a ten-days' recess.

Miss Rolena Campbell is home from Fitchburg Normal for a few days' recess with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Charles Campbell.

Arthur Brown is stopping for a few days with his aunt. Miss Helen Bar-nard, from his work in Whitinsville. Mr. and Mrs. Earle Turner, from Brooklyn, are home with Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Turner for the holidays.

Arthur Turner for the holidays.

The inceting of the Grange on Tuesday evening proved to be a very interesting affair. The entertainment was in charge of Miss Vera Willard. The next meeting will be held on January 2, when the officers-elect will be installed. Lunch will be served.

stalled. Lunch will be served.

At the Unitarian church on Sunday, in place of the regular sermon in the motning, the pastor will read Dickens' Christmas carol. Sunday school will be omitted and the children will attend the morning service. A Christmas offering will be received in all Unitarian churches for the war sufferers. In the evening, at seven o'clock, the sermon subject will be "The personality of Jesus—his place in humanity and his relation to God."

The music study class in connection The music study class in connection with the Woman's club held its sec-

building. Mrs. Horace Pattee is a victim of severe cold.

Miss Eleanor Warner intends enter-ing the Clinton hospital to train to be a nurse on January 1.

Harry Mead has gone to Worceste to learn the machinist's trade. Mrs Carlo and family leave this week for New Bedford, where they will make their home with friends for

the present. Miss Anna Blodgett, of Franklin, N. H., has been the guest of Mrs. H. B. Royal this week.

On Friday evening of next week the Woman's Benevolent society of the Congregational church will hold a supper in the lower hall at six and seven o'clock, followed by an entertainment at eight o'clock, Miss Annie Reed in charge.

Mr. and Mrs. Lewis Savage and Mrs. Catherine Fairbank will spend Christmas in Schenectady, N. Y. Mr. and Mrs. Savage will return after the holiday week and Mrs. Fairbank will make an extended visit.

The Pomona Grange meeting on Wednesday was well attended by local and visiting members. A company of twelve were taken to the Still River suppor last week Friday evening by Lewis Savage in his motor truck.

Still River.

On this week Saturday evening there will be a Christmas entertainment for the village people in the Baptist vestry. The children, especially are wanted there, as well as the grown-ups. Edna Flanders, Eleanor Haskell and Vera Willard have the matter in charge and a good time may be expected. The Sunday school Christmas concert will be held in the vestry on Sunday afternoon at three o'clock, instead of in the evening.

A. F. Holland is now the official

# Just an Old-Time Merry Christmas to You and Yours

Just an old-time Merry Christmas to you and yours—we wish, Just a Merry Christmas, the merriest of them all,

Just a Christmas full of joy, for papa, mama, the girl and the boy, Just the Christmas we all like best-A real old-time Merry Christmas—you know the rest.

May the day be a happy one for each of our patrons, friends and employees, and may the cup of health, happiness and prosperity be filled to its utmost for each and everyone of you in the year ahead.

#### PLENTY OF GIFTS FOR THE LAST-MINUTE SHOPPERS

Leather Goods, Jewelry, Stationery, Bath Robes, Toilet Articles, Post Booklets, Handkerchiefs, Aprons, Neckwear



# GEO.B.TURNER & SON -AYER.MASS

Your Pullets must be Roosters if they do not lay when fed on

Town Talk Mash

Red Comb Scratching

Small supply, all sizes, COAL on hand. First come. first served. At the

Old Red Store A. E. Lawrence, Manager Park St. Ayer

# age's Hall Theatre

THE ONLY MOTION PICTURE THEATRE IN AYER A Motion Picture Theatre that shows the BEST in the Motion

Picture World-Ask Those who Attend This Theatre Regularly

SATURDAY EVENING, DECEMBER 23-at 8.15 HAPPINESS or POWER-Which do You Choose? See the

### <u>The</u> Weakness <u>of</u> Strength Starring EDMUND BREESE with Ormi Hawley, Bruce and

Evelyn Brent in the supporting cast A Complete Story in Two Reels will also be shown of Underworld

Beatrice Fairfax Serial

WEDNESDAY EVENING, DECEMBER 27, AT 8 O'CLOCK Two Popular Stars, FRANCIS X. BUSHMAN and BEVERLY BAYNE, in a five-act Metro wonderplay

In the Diplomatic Service The central theme is the unmasking of a foreign official high

in the diplomatic service for his duplicity in plotting against this government, while asking and receiving its confidence and its hospitality Another Lively Episode will be Shown in the Great Serial,

# The Shielding Shadow Christmas Shows

AFTERNOON at THREE O'CLOCK

EVENING at EIGHT O'CLOCK

# The Jockey of Death

A Clean, Wholesome Story of Circus Life, full of thrills and action-in five parts Other Pictures will be shown, making in all two hours of

Pleasing Entertainment SEATS MAY BE RESERVED FOR EITHER SHOW BY PHONE-8050

one wishes to go he would like to know by Sunday, as he wishes to have seats reserved, and to do this must know how many, so as to take the matter up with the proper officials. The plan is to go on the morning train and attend services at the afternoon meeting.

Miss Vera Willard has recently visited her cousin in Winchester. Miss Ruth Willard is at home for the Christmas vacation from her school duties in Lunenburg.

Mrs. Anna Flanders and Miss Haven attended a meeting of the Woman's club in Ayer on Wednesday. Mrs. James M. Read is visiting with friends in Concord, N. H.

New Advertisement.

FOR SALE—Two Cows, one is fresh and the other to calve in two weeks. R. E. SARGENT, Old Ayer Road, Gro-ton, Mass.

INCORPORAED 1869

The New England Trust Company

BOSTON. MASS.

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JAMES R. HOOPER, President

THE OLDEST TRUST COMPANY IN BOSTON

Surplus and Profits over \$3,000,000

Saturday, December 23, 1916.

#### AYER

Miss Hilda Rose has returned to he home in Millbury after a visit her aunt, Mrs. William Leahy.

Mr. and Mrs. H. H. Pillman have been visiting relatives in Fall River.

Those from Ayer who attended the sessions of the State Grange in Boston last week were Mrs. Jennie Leahy, Miss Alice Leahy and Mrs. Ella F. Hovey, all of whom received the sixth degree, and Mr. and Mrs. Augustus Lovejoy, Mrs. Mary Mills and Mrs. Emma M. Wood.

Miss Alice C. Leahy has began her course of study at the New England ('onservatory of Music, Boston, where she has been awarded a scholarship.

Miss Alice Galvin and John F. ynch attended the funeral of John co Galvin in Cambridge last Satur-

In the "Thirty Years Ago" column of the Lowell Courier-Citizen of Monday, December 18, there appeared an item stating that one of the successful candidates for admission to the bar was Charles F. Worcester. The examination was held in Lowell. The item has a local interest as the successful applicant is the well-known associate justice of the First District Court of Northern Middlesex, and a practicing attorney with an office in Ayer for many years. Mr. Worcester and the late Peter Fay, of Lowell, were the only ones who passed the examination out of a good-sized class.

A daughter was born on December A daughter was born on December 15 to Mr. and Mrs. Andrew Legere.

Thomas O'Meara is laid up with an injured right hand which he received in a fall while employed in the yard extension work at the south railroad yard last week. Several small bones were broken in the injured member.

Frank W. Barnes, a former conduc-tor on the Fitchburg division, died at his home in North Cambridge on Tues-Mr. Barnes was a former residay. Mr. Barnes was a former resident of Ayer. He retired four years ago after thirty-three years of valued service on the old Fitchburg railroad and later for the Boston and Maine railroad after the merging of the two railroad after the merging of the two roads had taken place. He had the distinction of having charge of the first train to run out of the North station, Boston, after its completion. He served in the navy during the civil war and as a member of the Frigate Minnesota witnessed the first fight between the Monitor and Merrimack. Mr. Barns was widely known among railroad men among whom he was very popular. He was prominent in Masonic circles. The deceased was over seventy years of age.

Edward J. Lambert moved on Tues-day from the double tenement house of L. W. Phelps on Shirley street to of L. W. Phelps on Shiriey street to the Mechan house on the same street. Christmas tree at the Baptist church on Saturday evening of this week at 7.30. Preaching Sunday morning at 10.45 by the pastor; subject, "The new-horn king." Sunday school at twelve. Praise service at six in the evening, with songs and address appropriate to the Christmas season, closing at 6.50, so as to give all a chance to attend the union service in the Unitarian church, which beice in the Unitarian church, which begins at seven. B. Y.P. U. Tuesday evening at 7.30. Weekly prayer meeting Thursday evening at 7.30.

More than 13,000 employees of the New England Telephone and Tele-graph Company will each participate next week Wednesday in the distribution of an emergency payment to assist them in meeting unusual present expenses. Employees who have been in the service one year or more will receive three weeks' pay. Employees who have been in the service less than one year, but not less than three months, will receive two weeks' pay. No employee will receive more than \$175 and no employee of less than three months' service and no general official will in any way share in the payments. bution of an emergency payment to

show this Saturday evening. "The weakness of strength," a photoplay of five gripping acts of love, ambition and regeneration. Another complete story in two reels in the Beatrice Fairfax serial will also be shown, besides the in two reels in the Beatrice Fairfax serial will also be shown, besides the International, the animated newspaper that is making a hit. On, next Wednesday evening comes the sovereign of the screen, Francis N. Bushman, and the lovely Beverly Bayne in the stirring Metro wonderplay, "In the diplomatic service," a play of five superbacts, presenting a vivid story of love and international politics. Another in that thrilling "The shielding shadow" serial will also be shown; also, the International. On Christmas day there will be two shows of merit, one at three o'clock sharp in the afternoon and at eight in the evening. The feature picture of these two shows will be "The jockey of death," a clean, wholesome story of circus life, full of thrills and action in five parts. Other pictures will be shown, making a two-hour show of real entertainment. hour show of real entertainment.

The Boston and Maine railroad has adopted liquid gas for thawing out adopted liquid gas for thawing our switches and frogs instead of common rock salt, which has been in use for many years. The new substance is being tried in the work about the local railroad tracks and gives so far excellent results. After the severe snowcellent results. After the severe snow-storm of last week it was used and in a very short time the switches and frogs were in perfect working order. A large supply tank is kept in the va-cant lot near the railroad station.

James Bulger went to work on last Monday morning for Wilson & Eng-lish, of New York, the contractors having the south railroad yard extension work in charge. Mr. Bulger runs the gasolene pump which is used to pump water for the use of the large steam shovel which is working on the east end of the yard.

An old lady, thought to be Mrs.
Mary E. Dowling, of Walpole, N. H.,
was found dead by the conductor on
the express train due in Ayer at twelve the express train due in Ayer at twelve o'clock as he was taking up tickets on the way here from the passengers. In her possession was a check signed Helen T. Peak, on the Brookline Trust Company, payable to Miss H. M. Walker, 26 Appleton street. She boarded the train in Boston. Several envelopes with small amounts for presents were also found in her possession. She appeared to be about sixty-five years of age. Chief Beatty got in touch with the police in Boston and at time of going to press her positive time of going to press her positive Robinson's studio in Dicki identification has not been ascertained. body was taken to Wright's un-



With only a short time to do the Christmas shopping our thoughts naturally turn to Christmas Gifts. What is more practical and more appreciated by the men and boys than some article of wearing apparel? Our Christmas Goods are all in, the newest styles and patterns in Men's and Boys' Clothing, Furnishings, Shoes and Slippers. Come in while the variety is good and let us help you make your selections. Here are a few suggestions:

The state of the s	soon and for an incip
Men's and Boys' Suits and Overcoats	\$10.00 to \$22.00
Mackinaw Coats	
Bath Robes	\$3.50 to \$6.00
Men's and Ladies' Sweaters	\$1.00 to \$7.00
Men's and Ladies' Umbrellas	\$1.00 to \$5.00
Men's and Ladies' Slippers and Moccasins	<b>50¢</b> to <b>\$2.00</b>
Bags and Suit Cases	\$1.25 to \$6.00
Neckties of all kinds in Christmas Boxes	25¢ to \$1.00

Arm Bands in Christmas Boxes ..... Gloves in Christmas Boxes ..... Braces in Christmas Boxes ..... Men's Linen Handkerchiefs, with initial ... 15¢, 25¢ and 50¢ Men's Japanette Handkerchiefs, initial . . . . Men's Silk Handkerchiefs, with initial . . . Combination Necktie and Handkerchief. Sets in Christmas Boxes.....

75¢ and \$1.00

25¢ and 50¢

25¢ to \$3.50

All Kinds of Footwear for Every Member of the Family-Rubber Boots, Overshoes, Rubbers, Etc.

# Opposite Depot were broken in the injured member. St. Paul lodge of Masons conferred the first degree on four candidates at its regular meeting Monday afternoon in Masonic hall. Lunch was served. Fletcher Bros.

Store Open Monday, Friday and Saturday Evenings

John I. Haynes died at the home of Mr. and Mrs. William Bartlett on Central avenue, where he had been visiting, last Saturday of phthiss pulmonaris, aged 44 years, 10 months, 17 days. He was a native of Fulton, N. Y., and had been here but two weeks. The funeral was held last Saturday at Mr. Bartlett's home, where Rev. J. W. Thomas, of the Baptist church, performed the services. The interment was in Woodlawn cemetery. Joseph Dugan, a Polish workman

employed as a laborer at the coal ele water in the south railroad yard, re-ceived severe injuries while at work last Sunday. While pushing the soft coal into the chute a large piece of the coal fell from the platform above, striking him on the head, and knocking him headlong to the bottom of the ing him headlong to the bottom of the pit. He was at first thought to be dead, but after a time partially re-covered his senses and was taken to the Groton hospital. A severe gash on the forehead was caused either by the blow from the coal or in falling after being struck.

Several Ayer citizens have been re-cently assessed for stocks, bonds and other evidences of ownership in what is known as intangible property by the ocal assessors, according to current reports. This is the second time that reports. This is the second such a thing has occurred.

The second of a series of card game was held by Division 7, A. O. H., on Tuesday evening.

Work on the south yard extension will be suspended from this week Fri day night to Tuesday morning in order to give the employees a Christmas va

will receive three weeks pay. Employees who have been in the service less than one year, but not less than three months, will receive two weeks' pay. No employee will receive more than \$175 and no employee of less than three months' service- and no general official will in any way share in the payments.

The Ayer Branch Alliance will hold a social afternoon with Mrs. George H. B. Turner, Washington street, on Thursday, December 28, at 2.30.

Edmund Breese, the powerful dramatic actor, will be the star in the feature picture at the motion picture show this Saturday evening. "The At the morning service at the Fed ing year. Mid-week service in the try at 7.30 o'clock on Thursday even

All the public schools closed this week Friday for the Christmas vacation, and all will reopen on Tuesday, January 2. The primary grades and grades three and four held Christmas exercises this Friday afternoon.

The National Express Company have had another team on for their Christ mas business, which is in charge of S. J. Andrew.

Miss Charlotte Sanderson arrived home Wednesday from the Walnut Hill school, Natick, for a vacation of sixteen days. Bennett Sanderson came this week Friday from the Har-vard law school, Cambridge, for a week's vacation.

Monday, January 1, being a legal holiday, all banks will be closed on

that date. Mrs. Howard A. White and son, of Ashby, are guests this week and for over Christmas of Mr. and Mrs. Howard B. White. Mr. White comes from ard B. White. Mr. White comes from Ashby for Sunday and Christmas, and with his family will join Mrs. White's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Elbert H. Flags, of Westford, and family, as dinner guests of Mr. and Mrs. Benjamin Taft on Christmas

Judge Sanderson and family are nend the holiday in West Acton with

he Arthur Blanchard family. the Arthur Blanchard family.

The last meeting of the Unitarian Girls' club for the year 1916 was held in Hardy's hall, Tuesday evening, December 19, with Miss Hardy, Mrs. Cushing and Mrs. Hassam as hostesses. The hall was prettily trimmed with red and green Christmas decorations and a Christmas tree which controlled the controlled th tained mysterious packages that later proved to be both interesting and tained mysterious packages that later proved to be both interesting and amusing. After the business meeting, the girls were surprised by a visit from Santa Claus, himself, who greeted everyone with his usual jolly manner

and distributed the gifts from the tree. A dainty lunch was then served by the hostesses. There will be only three more re-hearsals of the Ayer Musical society before the concert, which will be given about the middle of January, and about the middle of January, and every member is earnestly solicited to be present at all of the work evenings. The study of expression and finish is now only needed and everyone is expected to assist by their attendance. in making a musical success. Now all be present on December 28, in Mr. Robinson's studio in Dickinson's block

George Stone was slightly injured at the engine house in the south railroad yard on Monday. Two fingers were badly bruised.

The following letters remained un-called for at the Ayer postoffice for the week ending December 18: Irine Boulia, Clinton Hastings, J. B. Mc-Kesgue, Pappas & Habbit.

District Court.

Joseph Valcourt, of Townsend, was found guilty last Saturday morning of keeping an unlicensed dog and of Reeping an unlicensed dog and fined six dollars. The alleged offense occurred in Pepperell, where Valcourt lived prior to going to Townsend a few months ago. Valcourt's defense was that he did not own the dog, the animal coming to his place and "hanging around." The court, however, considered that he came within the meaning of the law, which says the owner or keeper of an unlicensed dog is liable.

George Vereino, of Ayer, was found guilty of larceny and ordered to pay a fine of five dollars Monday morning. The crime was committed when the defendant stole a pair of mittens at the store of George B. Turner & at the store of George B. Turner & Son last week Friday, while the senior member of the firm was making change for a pair of gloves that Vereino had already bought. The defendant stated to the court that he considered the amount he gave covered the cost of both the mittens and gloves. Mr. Turner notified Chief Beatty as soon as the theft was noticed and in a very few minutes the defendant was in the hands of the law.

#### Death of Former Resident.

Mrs. Jennie E. (Parsons) Weaver died at her home in Springfield on Monday, December 11, aged sixty-five years, the direct cause of death being pneumonia, although she had suffered for several years with diabetes. Mrs. Weaver was born in Shirley, where she lived until 1865, when she came to this lived until 1865, when she came to this town, then called Groton Junction, with her parents. From here they moved to Clinton. Her father, the late James Carleton Parsons, died in Lancaster on June 2, 1905. For several years he was engaged here in the blacksmithing business. The deceased blacksmithing business. The deceased leaves her husband, Albert H. Weaver; two sons, Henry B. Weaver, of Springfield, and Wilfred Parsons Weaver, of New York; two daughters, Miss Mary A. Weaver, of Springfield, and Mrs. Ruth E. McKinney, of New York; a brother, Wilfred C. Parsons, of Ayer; a half-brother, and three sisters, Mrs. Henry E. Sanderson, of Ayer; Mrs. Grace B. Carter and Mrs. Alice Lang, of Springfield, and Henry B. Parsons, of Springfield, and Henry B. Parsons

The funeral was held in Springfield. The funeral was held in Springheld, where the body was cremated. The ashes were brought to Shirley for interment in the Village cemetery. Wilfred C. Parsons, Mrs. Henry E. Sanderson and Miss Evelyn Sanderson atended the funeral from Ayer.

Lost in the Maze of Boston.

"Mahel I think that silk net tulle that I bought for Helen was a bargain and very pretty don't you?"
Mabel must have answered in the affirmative, and began to talk of their purchases made in Boston in an inpurchases made in Boston in an in-teresting way, for as they were on an elevated train on their way to North station to take a train for Ayer they found themselves viewing the scenery in Charlestown, near Sullivan square, on last Monday. These two ladies well-known in town had been doing some Christmas shopping early and had evidently been in one or two slightly crowded sections of the city and received one or more jolts to their nervous system and was in a relaxed state of mind, for when North station was reached they were entirely ignorant of the fact. Someone had to have the, blame rest on their shoulders and so the buck was passed to the guard, who they claim did not call out the stations on the way. The extra trip did not cost any more for they stayed on the train, made the loop at Sullivan square amid smiles of those who were wise, and kept their eyes open until they reached North station again. In the hurry and excitement of the situation the bundle of silk net tulle must have found another owner, for when the ladies artation was reached they were entirely other owner, for when the ladies arrived home the bundle was missing and Helen will not know the joy of viewing that nice silk net tulle. The "Breezy Heights" section of the hill is mourning for the departed bundle.

Unitarian Church Wins.

In the union church fair the Uni-

The books of the treasurer, George
H. Hill, show a gross earning for the
fair of \$722.36, an increase over the
earnings of last year in spite of closs
mg the fair one day earlier this year.
The total expenses were \$174.00. The
earnings by tables were as follows:

Food tables Unitarian \$25.04 Feder.

Food tables Unitarian \$25.04 Feder.

Food table—Unitarian \$25.04, Feder-cied \$24.63, Baptist \$18.01, Episcopal \$12.45. Fancy work-Episcopal \$\$9.85, Unitarian \$49.50, Baptist \$47.30, Federated \$27.60.

Candy table—Unitarian \$05.64, Baptist \$27.64, Federated \$25.00, Episcopal \$17.91. Apron table—Episcopal \$25.44, Unitarian \$27.14, Baptist \$25.29, Federated \$24.39.

Plant table—Unitarian \$20.59, Episcopal \$8.92, Baptist \$2.32, Federated 58 cents.

Plant table—Unitarian \$20.59, Episcopal \$8.92, Baptist \$2.32, Federated \$8 cents.

The proceeds of the mystery and popcorn tables, of the tea-room, and of the entertainment were divided equally.

The features of the results are the strong showing of the Unitarian church at all the tables, and the big lead of the Episcopal church at the fancy work table.

The union church fair has now stood the test of the second year. It seems established that the net earnings for each society are larger and the expenses less than in separate fairs. The gain in acquaintance and fellowship has been so great that the fair is demanded as a permanent function. With the benefit of experience gained in the last two years, next year's fair is assured even greater success.

Annual Meeting.

An the annual meeting of the Federated church on Monday evening December 11, there were reports of the various departments of church work given. Augustus Lovejoy was chosen moderator of the meeting and John Traquair, secretary pro tem. The reports were given as follows:

chosen moderator of the meeting and John Traquair, secretary pro tem. The reports were given as follows: Church, Rev. J. S. Strong; business commitee, F. C. Johnson; treasurer, John Traquair; collector, Miss Minnie H. Evans; Sunday school, Supt, H. J. Webb; Ladies' Benevolent society, Mrs. Hortense, Stone; C. E. society, Warren A. Winslow. The following officers and committees were chosen: John Traquair, treas; Mrs. Grace Dicker-A. Winslow. The following officers and committees were chosen: John Traquair, treas.; Mrs. Grace Dickerman, clerk; Miss Minnie H. Evans. col.; Charles H. Hardy, aud.; H. J. Webb, supt. Sunday school; Howard W. Stone, asst. supt.; Samuel J. Andrew, Henry G. Turner, Dr. B. H. Hopkins, Frank C. Johnson, business com.; S. Bassett Dickerman. Miss Alice C. Leahy, Mrs. Walter C. Sargent, music com. The matter of choosing an educational committee to work with the pastor and superintendent of the Sunday school along educational lines in the school was taken up and voted. This committee was chosen: Frank C. Johnson 1 yr., Mrs. Jennie M. McLean 2 yrs. Chas. H. Hardy 3 yrs. H. Hardy 3 yrs.

Verdict Rendered.

Doherty Bros.' suits against John M Maloney to recover \$7.636.40 retained by him out of \$30,093.89 collected on executions against the thirteen in-surance companies whose policies car-ried property destroyed in the Chand-ler Machine Company building fire of ler Machine Company building fire of March 25, 1915, was begun in the Superior court at Cambridge Tuesday morning and finished Thursday afternoon. It appeared in evidence that the sum retained by Mr. Maloney was made up of twenty-live percent of the verdicts and interest and a portion of verdicts and interest and a portion of the costs of the suits against the in-lsurance companies (referred to as the lictitious costs and amounting to \$333.97) and that seventy-five per-cent of the verdicts and interest, with the remainder of the costs, amounting all to \$22,205.09. was paid over to

in all to \$22,205.09. was paid over to Doherty Bros.
Mr. Maloney testified that W. C. Doherty made an adjustment with him on June 15, 1916, by which he was to retain twenty-five percent of the verdicts and interest and the fictitious costs and Doherty Bros. were to have the rest of the amount to be collected from the insurance companies; that later in the day he got the money and on the next day went to les; that later in the day he got the money and on the next day went to Lowell with a certified check for Doherty Bros. in accordance with the adjustment; that then for the first time W. C. Doherty objected to the fee saying that he had talked it over with his brother, John F. Doherty, who thought it too large. An adjustment sheet to that effect was admitted in evidence and Mr. Maloney's testimony was corroborated by his stenographer. Mr. Maloney testified that at the Lowell interview W. C. Doherty said that he had been advised by several

Robinson's studio in Dickinson's block promptly at eight o'clock.

Joseph W. Bulkeley is confined to his home by illness the past few days.

| Robinson's studio in Dickinson's block church was a close second with the had been advised by several attorneys that a fee of about \$3000.00 was all that Maloney ought to get; third with \$123.07, and the Federated that on June 29 he told both Doher-church fourth with \$104.84.

er of them since that date.

Mr. Maloney ulso claimed that his services and those of F. J. Maloney were reasonably worth all that he had retained even if no adjustment had been made. He offered, in addition to his own testimony and that of F. J. Maloney, the corroborating evidence of eight distinguished lawyers, to wit: Judge Warren H. Atwood of Ayer, Major Thomas L. Walsh of Clinton, District Attorney William J. Corcoran Major Thomas L. Walsh of Clinton.
District Attorney William J. Corcoran
of Cambridge. H. Huestis Newton of
Everett, Fred J. Daggett of Winthrop.
Walter B. Grant of Boston, John E.
Harrington of Cambridge, and John J. Shaughnessy of Marlboro

compensation for the services rendered by him and F. J. Maioney to the plaintiffs; and that they should bring in a verdict for the plaintiffs for the excess, if any, above such compensations of the services tion, with interest from June 15, 1916.
The jury returned a verdict for the plaintiffs in the sum of \$344.31 (being the amount of the fictitious costs and interest thereon). This verdict shows clearly that while the jury were not satisfied that W. C. Doherty had as-sented to the adjustment of June 15, they were satisfied that the defendant had retained no more than a fair and just compensation for the services rendered to the plaintiffs, and that the small amount found for the plainiffs was due entirely to a misconcep-tion of the judge's charge which caused them to believe that they must sed them to beneve that they must be the fictitious costs to the plain-s unless they were satisfied that C. Doherty had assented to the adjustment.
Albert S. Howard of Lowell tried

the case for Doherty Bros, and Fran-cis P. Garland of Boston for Maloney

Unitarian Church Notes CHRISTMAS SUNDAY

"Lo! the Son of God is come."

10.45 — Regular offices, morning prayer and sermon. Music: Prelude, "The holy virgin," Lange: carol, "I heard the beils on Christmas day," Longfellow: "Seven-fold amen," Stainer; "Festival Venite in G," Solly: "Te deum." Stainer; offertory anthem, "Worship the new-born king," Williams; carols, "O little town of Bethlehem," Brooks; "Today be joy in every heart." Hosmer; postlude, "The heavens are telling," from "The creation," Haydn. Organist, Harold True Shattuck; obligati by U. H. Barrows Fred Barrows and George Barrows. Preacher, Rev. Frank B. Crandall, the minister; subject, "The Christmas star "Lo! the Son of God is come." minister; subject, "The ('hristmas sta 7.00 (union service)—Evening pray

7.00 (union service)—Evening prayer and sermon, Music: Prelude, "Largo," Handel, organ and orchestra; carol, "It came upon the midnight clear," Sears; choir carol, "Silent night," quartet; carol, "Little children, wake and listen," choir and children; sacred choral cantata, "The hope of the world," Schnecker; offertory carol, "The first Nowell," traditional; carols, "O little town of Bethlehem," Brooks; "Today be joy in every heart," Hos-"Today be joy in every heart," Hos-mer; postlude, organ and orchestra. Organist, Harold True Shattuck; Wal-ter Lougee, 'cello; Fred Barrows, clari-net; George Barrows, first violin; Geo. H. B. Turner, second violin. Preacher, Rev. J. Selden Strong; subject, "The Rev. J. Selden Strong; subject, message of Christmastide."

Program of Sacred Cantata, The Hope of the World' Introductory chorus-"Ring forth, yet bells"

Part 1—The Shepherds

a. "There were shepherds abiding in the field"

b. "Fear not"

c. "It rose and fell in the glowing light"

ARTHUR ÁDAMS, Více-President FREDERICK W. ALLEN, Treasurer HENRY N. MARR, Secretary 25¢ and 50¢ ALEXANDER COCHRANE, V.-Pres. PREDERICK P. PISH, V.-Pros. ORRIN C. HART, Trust Officer ARTHUR F. THOMAS. Asst. Trust Officer 10¢ and 15¢

EDWARD B. LADD, Asst. Treasurer

your next trip.

Capital \$1,000,000

d. "Glory to God on high. Allelula" Interlude—"Fragment" from "Fourth plano trio" Rubinstein Organ and 'cello

Organ and 'cello

Part 2—The Wise Men

a. "All is hushed, and calm and still"
b. "From out the jeweled dome of
heaven"
c. "Who are these that move upon
the mountain?"
d. "See, their eyes are fixed on
yonder star"
e. "We have seen his star"
Closing chorus—"Hall, royal babe. All
hall"

Christian Science Society of Ayer.

Service is held every Sunday morning in G. A., R. hall at 10:30. The subject for Sunday December 24, is "Christ Jesus." Wednesday evening meeting, December 27, at 7.30, when testimonials of Christian Science healing will be given.

New Advertisements.

TOWN OF GROTON



Appropriation Committee Will meet in Lower Town Hall or Thursday Evenings

December 28, January 11 and 18

All Boards are requested to meet the Committee as early as possible, ir order that all appropriations may be

carefully investigated. All persons wishing to have articles placed in the Town Warrant must appear before the Committee, or be required to procure the legal number of signers.

The public is invited to attend these meetings and discuss the appropriations, to the end that your Committee may have all available information.

FRANK LAWRENCE BLOOD. M. JOSEPH CLEARY, HARRY P. TAINTER GEORGE S. KNAPP, A. HOWARD THOMPSON. 3t16



A Few of the Many Useful CHRISTMAS GIFTS

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65¢ to \$2.00 Skates 50¢ to \$4.50 Sleds \$1.25 to \$2.50 Snow Skiis 5¢ to 50¢ Hockey Sticks Thermos Bottles

\$1.50 to \$4.50 Thermos Lunch Sets \$2.50 to \$2.75

Coffee Percolators \$1.50 to \$2.75 Casseróles Ever-Ready Flash Lights

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Shop Early

CHRISTMAS CARDS A Big Line—the finest ever shown in town from 1c. to \$5c. PARISIAN IVORY TOILET ARTICLES We have an attractive as rtment at remarkably

low prices And REMEMBER, the Goods are Hard to Get, so SHOP EARLY APOLICO CHIOCOLATES
In the State over
XOMOGRA-All proces
THERESON SOFTIES

#### PEPPERELL

The Shirley Electric Company took on about twenty-five new patrons last month, whose houses were wired for the lights.

Joseph Attridge is out after a week's illness from tonsilitis.

Mrs. M. M. Pond and daughter, Miss Helen, leave for Jewett, N. Y., at the close of school, Friday of this week. They will spend the holidays there with relatives, and it is probable that Mrs. Pond may extend her visit.

The Men's club chose a stormy night The Men's club chose a stormy night for their meeting at Saunders' hall on last week Friday. Stanley E. Qua, of Lowell, gave an informal talk on "Sources of law." This was followed by a social hour and refreshments. The officers of the club are Dr. L. R. Qua, pres.; A. R. Paull, v. p.; Marshall Meriam, sec.; George H. Shattuck, treas.

Mrs. Charles Stinerford and three children go to Brookline this week to spend the holidays with her mother and sister.

and sister.

Mr. and Mrs. E. L. Tarbell and niece, Miss Doris Durant, and Miss Helen Wiley, went into Boston last week to hear Rev. W. A. Sunday. Miss Ellen Miller and O. M. Nash, attending the State Grange session in Boston, also went to one of the meetings in the vast tabernacle.

Telephone workmen have been set-ting new poles on River street this week and installing telephones about town. Among these is one at the resi-dence of Arthur Bartlett, Main street

household economics and various edu-cational lines. The work is already organized in every other county in the state. A committee was appointed at this meeting to bring in a list of two directors from each town. Mrs. Leon Richardson being named from this town. A report on this and other suggestions is to be made at a meet-ing held at the town hall in Concord on Saturday afternoon, December 30, at one o'clock. This organization of farm bureaus is wide-spread, having started in the southern states in 1914. farm bureaus is wice-spread, naving started in the southern states in 1914, where 600 agents were at work, and gradually being adopted north. Mrs. James J. Storrow, of Boston, was present at the meeting and is an active worker for the organization.

worker for the organization.

A letter was recently received from Miss Mabel Burns by friends in town from her distant home in Saskatchewan, Canada, where she is engaged in teaching. She speaks of going to Winnipeg, Manitoba, to spend her two-months' holiday vacation with her sister Margaret, and states that the marriage of Miss Margaret to Dr. Archie Cameron, of Winnipeg, took place the first of this month. Dr. Cameron is house-doctor at the children's hospital Cameron, of Winnipeg, took place the first of this month. Dr. Cameron is house-doctor at the children's hospital of that city. These young ladies went west some few years ago, and Miss Margaret was for some time connected with the millinery department of a large establishment in Winnipeg. It is probable that a regular announcement of the marriage may be received later. In the meantime her many friends here wish her happiness in her new life in the far west.

new life in the far west.

Rev. and Mrs. William H. Beers and two sons went to Manchester, N. H., on Wednesday to make a farewell visit to Mr. and Mrs. Cole, who were former friends in the west, and who are returning to St. Louis, Mo., probably permanently.

new life in the far west.

A. Lawrence place, on the lam intervale toward the river. It had been attracted by some bait used by a hunter
in setting traps, and when frightened
away by the approach of Mr. Tierney
it ren up the pearest tree, where it it ran up the nearest tree, where it was shot. It is believed the older ones may be somewhere in the vicinity, and a lookout will be kept for any signs of them, as the older ones might not be pleasant customers to deal with, if brought to have brought to bay.

Mrs. John O. Bennett returned on Thursday of last week from Boston, where she spent the early part of the week with relatives.

Frederic Wilson, instructor in the Torrington (Conn.) high school, is ex-pected home on Saturday for a twoweeks' holiday.

Acoma Rebekah lodge meets on Tuesday evening of next week for business, including election of of-

Mrs. A. H. Harris suffered an at-tack of acute indigestion, combined with a hard cold, the first of the week, which confined her to her home for

several days. Supt. A. R. Paull attended a teachers' convention in Fitchburg on Wed-

nesday.

The Pepperell troop, Boy Scouts, will meet in the firemen's room at the town house on Wednesday evening.

December 27, at 7.39 o'clock.

Miss Nellie Mayhew, who has been with her cousin, Mrs. D. R. Child, for several months past, has gone to Daytona, Fla., for the winter.

Guy Rouse, a student at Colby university, Waterville, Me., is at home for a week's vacation, coming Wednesday, He will not be able to spend his whole vacation here as he has been elected a member of the University of the Colorador of the University of the Universi sity Glee club, and they are to make a six-days' tour during the holidays.

a six-days tour during the noticity.

The Fitchburg Normal school closed at noon on Thursday. Students from this town, Audrey Burkinshaw, Mollie Frazer, Madeline Sliney and Harriet Haggerty, will have a vacation until January 3.

January 3.

Among the teachers leaving town for their homes at the closing of the public schools, Friday, are Miss Weston, who goes to Bridgewater; Miss Ruth Tucker, to Reading; Miss Dorothy Joslyn, to Worcester, and Miss Willson; to Lunenburg, Vt.

Willson; to Lunenburg, Vt.

The Ladles' Ald society met Wednesday afternoon at the home of Mrs.
William Annis, as the proposed meeting with their president, Mrs. Jerry Annis, was changed when the latter received the sad news of the serious illness of her aged mother. The principal business of the afternoon was the appointment of a nominating committee to act on the coming election of officers, which occurs in January,

The third vesper service, which was to have been held on Sunday evening at the Unitarian church, was indefiat the Unitarian entrein, was independently postponed. The snow was too deep and untrodden to make it easy for auto travel and the speaker, Rev. Mr. Duncán. of Clinton, could not reach here and return by train, as the Sunday schedule is very poor on this

branch: A special train of ten Pullmans passed through here early Tuesday morning conveying the pupils of St. Paul school, Concord, N. H., to their homes for the holidays.

homes for the holidays.

The annual meeting of the United Order of Golden Cross was held on Monday evening at their rooms at the Methodist vestry. There was a general re-election of officers as follows: S. R. Merrill, g. c.; O. M. Nash, k. r.; Miss Helen L. Lawrence, fin. k. r.; George Jenks, treas.; Mrs. O. M. Nash, w. prelate: Mrs. Anna Jenks, herald; Abble G. Lawrence, w. i, g.; I. J. Rowell, w. o. g.; O. M. Nash, ropresentative to grand commundery, past noble grands; S. R. Merrill, alternate.

The deep snow of last week Fri-

The deep snow of last week Friday's storm put an embargo on auto travel generally. It is being gradually lifted this week and a few autos are again in use.

Mr. Brown, the aged relative of Mrs. Maud Chick, Franklin street, was quite seriously ill last week and under the care of a physician. He is convalescing slowly at last reports. J. M. Graham was in Lowell on business last week Friday.

Teiepnone workmen nave been setting new poles on River street this week and installing telephones about town. Among these is one at the residence of Arthur Bartlett, Main street—97-2.

At the meeting held on Tuesday of last week in Concord about 200 people met and organized for the formation of a Farm Bureau in Middlesex country. An agent from the State Agricultural college, Mr. Parker, outlined the object of the work and the benefits received by such an organization. The movement is along the line of the college extension work and includes household economics and various educational lines. The work is already organized in every other country in the state. A committee was appointed at this meeting to bring in a list of two directors from each town, Mrs. Leon Richardson being named from this gown. A report on this and other

Mr. and Mrs. W. D. Withrow will go to Roxbury on Saturday to spend Sunday and the holiday with Mr. and Mrs. William Geltweldt.

Helen Hayes, Marguerite Donnelly and Leslie Parker, students at Dean academy, arrived in town on Thurs-day to spend the holidays at their respective homes.

The entertainment announced for Friday evening at Oak hill hall was indefinitely postponed as the weather was unsuitable for a gathering.

was unsuitable for a gathering.

The Branch Alliance, L. S. C., of the Unitarian society held their monthly all-day meeting on Friday of last week. On account of the stormy day but few attended, and although the business session was held and lunch served, it was voted to give up the afternoon program. ternoon program:

Mr. and Mrs. Allan Parker expect to leave for the south next week, their first destination being Jacksonville, Fla. Mr. Parker feels the effect of the cold weather, after improving during the summer and fall, and he has been advised to seek a warmer climate by his attending physician.

mate by his attending physician.

Benjamin Greenough and his older, son, Allan, were in town on Tuesday to attend to the transfer of his home and entire property on Canal street, which has been purchased by the Nashua River Paper Company. Mr. Greenough and his two sons have good positions in Worcester in a hospital, and expect to remain there indefinitely.

Miss Marie Jordan is recovering from an attack of the prevailing epi-demic cold, pneumonia being feared last week.

Miss Sabina While has gone to Alberene, Va., starting Wednesday. She will spend some weeks at the home of her cousins, Mr. and Mrs. Walter

Maynard Copp and F. B. Simmons occupied the camp of the former at Massapoag over the week-end, on a fishing outing.

Miss Margaret Blood, who has been visiting in New York for some weeks, returned on Thursday with her sister. Miss Annah P. Blood, who will spend her Christmas vacation at

nome.

Frederic Soule, from Wiscasset,
Me., has been visiting at the home of
his brother, Elias Soule, at East Village, and with his sister. Mrs. George
Shaw, Pleasant street. He left here
for Boston on Monday on his way
home.

The date of the meeting when Bea-con lodge entertains the three other lodges of Odd Fellows, is January 30, instead of a week earlier, as errone-ously stated.

Mrs. Rainsford Deware has her two sisters, the Misses Tambs, from Mil-by, Canada, staying with her this win-

Mrs. F. W. Ringdahl entertained her friend, Miss Ethel Towne, of Boson, over the week-end. Miss Mae Meriam came from Mi

Ida school on Wednesday for her Christmas vacation at home. There is an epidemic of hard colds H. S. Wilson and John Fressard being among the victims early this week.

among the victims early this week.

A telephone alarm was sent in to the engineers on Friday evening of last week for a chimney fire on Cross street at the home of Joseph Shepard. Engineer Shattuck was notified at Railroad square and made good time with some extinguishers. The chimney was burning out slowly and would probably have caused no damage, as the woodwork was not ignited, and no damage done beyond giving the occupants a scare.

Miss Anne Hamilton, the district

Miss Anne Hamilton, the district nurse, is to take a vacation of one week, commencing this Saturday. Mrs. Luara Parker has gone to Townsend to care for Mrs. Haynes, who is ill with tonsilitis.

Miss Margaret Boynton, student at Mt. Holyoke college, came Tuesday to spend her Christmas vacation in town. Miss Olive Lewis, student at How-ard seminary, came last Saturday to spend the holidays with her parents, Rev. and Mrs. J. B. Lewis.

In Memoriam.

In Memoriam.

The following memoir of the late Mrs. Helen Wood will be of interest to the many friends whom she met at the time of her visits in the past at the home of her kinswoman, the late Mrs. Helen M. Webber Wood, daughter of Asa and Martha Webber, was born in Mason Village (now Greenville), N. H., November 21, 1841. She married William Henry Harrison

Greenville), N. H., November 21, 1841. She married William Henry Harrison Wood, a resident of the same town, and they went to Boston to reside, where they passed the most of their married life, reciding in Roxbury district for forty years. Mr. Wood's mind became impaired last January and he was, consigned to an asylum. Mrs. Wood gave up her home and went to board, where she was tenderly cared for by Mrs. Charles Stanter, whose kind deeds are well-known. A slight stroke of paralysis several

derly caree for of Mrs. Charles Stanter, whose kind deeds are well-known. A slight stroke of paralysis several years since had made Mrs. Wood a partial invalid, but she had shown christian fortitude and made herself useful, never complaining, and her remarkable faith in religion sustained her to the end. She was a member of the Eliot Congregational Orthodox church, Roxbury, where she was beloved by all the people, and especially by her Sunday school class of young girls, whom she called "my girls." For the past year she has rapidly failed in health and on December 1 her beautiful spirit passed to the Homeland.

Services were held at her late home in Roxbury on Tuesday morning. De-

in Roxbury on Tuesday morning. De-cember 5, and the remains taken to Greenville, N. H., for burial, where a committal service was held. She rested in a beautiful gray casket amid a wealth of rare flowers, sent by loving friends. A large number who knew her so well attended the impressive scrvices which were conducted by her pastor. Rev. Mr. Rhoades. "Just Jesus" and "Beautiful isle of some where" were rendered on her Vic trola, and as the noted voices san her favorites the silence signified the ner favorites the shence signified the peaceful passing of her spirit. Rev. Mr. Black, assistant pastor, accompanied the friends who went with her to Greenville, and with a former pastor of the Congregational church there, conducted the service at the grave.

conducted the service at the grave, which was in the Webber family lot. Mrs. Wood was a cousin to the late Mrs. Henry Blake, who was deeply interested in her, and her daughter. Mrs. N. W. Appleton, has continued her mother's loyal interest since, arranging for funeral and burial, and attending both services.

visit to Mr. and Mrs. Cole, who were former friends in the west, and who are returning to St. Louis. Mo., probably permanently.

Mr. and Mrs. Arthur A. Blood, and Mrs. Arthur Elliot and friend. Miss Parker, from Gardner, are expected here the last of the week to yisit Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Bartlett over Christmas.

A young wildcat was shot by David Tierney, of the Nashua road, on Tuesday of this week. The animal measured 2½ feet and weighed ten pounds. The face was remarkably like a large cat, the markings of the fur being quite distinct, of a mottled gray in color. It was captured near the J. A. Lawrence place, on the farm intervale toward the river. It had been attracted by some bait used by a hunter in setting traps, and when frightened away by the approach of Mr. Tierney. lections by a large choir and the Sun-day school.

day school.

On Saturday evening, December 23, the children of the Sunday school and parents, and all interested, are invited to attend the Christmas celebration in the vestry of this church at seven o'clock. There will be a tree and the Christmas play. "Coming of Santa Claus." will lead up to his real appearance and distribution of gifts.

Buy George R. Dean formerly the

Rev. George B. Dean, formerly the superintendent of the Methodist churches in Worcester district, has resigned that office of the church to take a position in the evangelistic department of home missions and goes

partment of home missions and goes to take charge of their offices in Philadelphia. His successor in Worcester district, and thus incidentally here in this church, is Rev. Charles E. Spaulding. The appointment was made by Bishop Hughes to take effect January 1. Mr. Spaulding has been pastor of the Greenwood Memorial church in Dorchester, where he has held the pastorate for five years. He is a native of Lowell, and a graduate of Boston university divinity school, from ton university divinity school, from which he graduated with the degree of S. T. D. He has preached in Worcester, Springfield, Cambridge and Winchester, and is one of the best known of the younger pastors of the confer-

sisters, the Misses Tambs, from Milby, Canada, staying with her this winter.

Forrest Winch has discontinued his work for E. S. Durant, and gone to work in the Pepperell card shop.

Mrs. Bessle Allen has closed her Elm street home and started for St. Louis, Mo., on Monday.

Miss Hazel Soule arrived home from Bradford, N. H., last Saturday for a two-weeks' vacation from teaching.

Mrs. W. A. Drummey, who recently returned from a visit with relatives in New York city, while there went to the famous winter resort, Atlantic City, N. J., for an outing.

The Shirley Electric Company will have completed their line into Hollis this week, probably. It is understood the company have purchased the franchise for supplying power in Dunstable and Tyngsboro, and are to start on a line from Pepperell to these towns immediately.

F. H. Parker and family are once more cocupying the Vorrowy house on the suddays and supposed a large and appreciation. Smith addressed 2 large and appreciations.

has a quiet, unassuming manner, but in his hour's talk showed his thorough knowledge of and interest in his subject. During his twenty years' residence in London, in his position in literary life in that city, his opportunities were many to bring him into close touch with the English people. Although an American himself, by birth and education, he guined a great admiration for the people of that country.

country.
In the course of his address he In the course of his address he gave a description of several of the English statesmen from his personal knowledge, among them being the newly appointed British prime minister. David 'Lloyd George'. Also, Loid Curzon, formerly Viceroy of India, and Sir Edward Carson. He spoke of the conduct of the English people during the war and of great changes for the better, through the war, saying that whereas formerly the people of England spent much time and money that whereas formerly the people of England spent much time and money on sports, the spirit of unity now was more manifest and all are getting together for the help of the nation.

Mr. Smith made special reference to the recent book by H. G. Wells, entitled "Mr. Brittling sees it through," which he pronounced a finely written description of what English people have gone through in the last two years, showing the spirit of England. The members of the club and the guests fully appreciated the able adguests fully appreciated the able ad-dress to which they were privileged

There was a social hour following the address with refreshments which the ladies assisted in serving.

The following Christmas program has been arranged for the Congregational church. On Saturday December 23, the children are invited to come to the vestry to play games from five to six o'clock. Supper will be served at six o'clock to the primary department and their parents. At department and their parents. At seven o'clock there will be a short en-tertainment, followed by the tree, to which everyone is invited.

At 10.45 Sunday morning the choir will render special music and the pastor will preach a Christmas sermon. At seven o'clock the annual Christmas concert will be held with a carol service, "Star of the east." There will also be recitations and music by the church

choir. All are invited to bring presents for the gift manger. · Plans are being formed to hold. week of special meetings, beginning about January 15, with the assistance of neighboring ministers.

Rev. J. B. Lewis and Rev. F. E. Mills represented the church at a council in West Groton, called to dismiss the pastor.

#### HARVARD

News Items.

News Items.

George W. Carter, of Concord, N. H., and daughter, Miss Mary A. Carter, spent a few hours with Mr. Carter, spent a few hours with Mr. Carter's cousin, Mrs. Cobb, at the Crossways, December 3. They visited in Littleton, accompanied by Mrs. Cobb and Mrs. Cottle, and put flowers on the graves of Mrs. Carter's sister and husband, Prof. and Mrs. Laban Edwards Warren. Mr. Carter and daughter are spending a few weeks in Boston previous to leaving for Los Angeles, Cal., where they are to spend the winter. he winter.

"The love liar," in five acts, featuring Crane Wilbur, is the headliner at the motion picture show this week. A Weekly and a comedy, "The treasure box," will complete a great show. On December 25 will be children's night. December 25 will be children's night, free to all fifteen years and under. The show will consist of "The lonesome heart." in four nets, featuring Margarita Fisher; also, the two-act farce, "The head of a doll." A comedy will also be given "The man with the hod." On January 9 a great show will be given for the benefit of the Clinton hospital

ern to southern waters, making very alluring the gradual change from win-ter to summer skies. The places visit-ed included Havana, Porto Rico, Jawhich disease at her time of life is approximately entered the employ of John Fiske, came from Portland, Me., this week and are residing at present on Cottage street.

The family of C. H. Hall, who has lately entered the employ of John Fiske, came from Portland, Me., this week and are residing at present on Cottage street.

The family of C. H. Hall, who has lately entered the employ of John Fiske, came from Portland, Me., this week and are residing at present on Cottage street.

The family of C. H. Hall, who has level in the church at seven of clock. This program is being arranged by the committee, Miss Gerranged by the committee, Miss Gerranged by the committee, Miss Gerranged by the committee, and Ralph Buck, and will include solos, recitations and service of included Havana, Porto Rico, January and Ralph Buck, and will include solos, recitations and service of included Havana, Porto Bello. Trinidad, Balbadoes, Martinique, St. Pierre, St. Thomas and Bermuda. Pierre, St. Thomas and Bermuda. Each of these she described in turn, bringing out clearly its life and char-acteristic features. In closing she paid

After the assires and water exhibited articles brought back from her trip, which included natural products and the handiwork of the natives, as well as relies from the Battleship Maine. Very interesting was a collection of dolls made by the pupils in a mission school in Caracas and dressed in native costume.

The club is soliciting funds to contribute to the Woman's Supply league, of which Mrs. John Hays Hammond is president, for the purchase of a motorbus to be used in carrying victims of infantile paralysis to the clinic where they will receive electrical treatment. A collection for this purpose will be taken at the next regualr meeting on January 1.

HOLLIS, N H.

The third and fourth degrees were worked on a class of candidates at the meeting of the Grange on Tuesday evening. The harvest feast was in evening. The harvest feast was in charge of Ralph Herrick, David Erskine and George W. Hardy. The program consisted of a reading by Harold Frost and a recitation by Walter Flanders. At the next meeting the officers will be installed by Clarence Russell of Brookline.

Wallace Bascom is at home from Middleborough college for the Christ-New Advertisements

WANTED—A second-hand, one-horse Farm Sled in good repair, and at a second-hand price. L. H. MEAD Bare Hill Road, Harvard, Mass. 1t° USED CARS—One Cadillac, \$75, and ther good bargains. E. O. PROCTOR'S BARAGE, Ayer. 1115\*

# A Merry Christmas

Another year has nearly passed and we have made a very good showing in the business which we have conducted; but this isn't enough, we want to do more, and with the help and co-operation of every farmer and poultry raiser in this vicinity we will be able to do a great deal more for our mutual

WE CARRY IN STOCK A FULL LINE OF

# Paint and Roofing Materials

prices of which will be gladly quoted upon request The EXCHANGE is in communication with Fertilizer, Nursery Stock, nd Spraying Material Houses and would ask you to get in touch with us before placing your orders elsewhere.

We hope to receive a part of the trade of every farmer and will appre date any effort shown to make this EXCHANGE a Success.

### Ayer Farmers' Co-Operative Exchange Flanagan's Crossing, Ayer

G. B. SCHULTZ, Manager.

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THROUGH

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The Turnover Toaster turns the toast at a touch and each piece, erisp and evenly browned, is ready just when it is wanted.

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NOTICE.

The Annual Meeting of the Stock holders of the Townsend National Bank will be held at their Bank Rooms on Monday, January 1, 1917; at ten o'clock A. M., to choose a Board of Directors for the year ensuing, and act upon any other business that may legally come before said meeting.

4t14 C. B. WILLARD, Cashier. Townsend, Mass., Dec. 5, 1916.

### Alice Worcester Weeks

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but practically all the good things for the holidays are in our store, such as Nuts, Dates, Candy, etc. It will be a pleasure to show you our stock of good things for you and yuor guests to partake of at the festive board. We are agents for the celebrated ereson and Gold Medal Flours—the lour that stands second to none-with which to make your bread, cookies, puddings, etc. A trial will convince you that we are up-to-date in every line that we carry in stock.

Our Specialty is the Handling of the Very Best

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with a full line of Beef, Pork, Lamb, Ham, Sausages and Canned Goods of all varieties.

Fresh Vegetables in their Season Cart in Shirley Every Day

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Wish to call your attention to their stock of

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### Ayer, Mass.

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Camembert Pineapple

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Democrat

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assortment and at all prices call and see then

CARRIAGE REPAIRING IN ALL ITS BRANCHES PROMPTLY DONE ALSO, HORSESHOEING AND GEN-ERAL BLACKSMITHING

FREDERICK WHITNEY AYER, MASS.

Union Cash Market

Ayer, Mass. FORES OF LAMB 13c. lb. 17c. lb.

ROAST PORK BEST TOP OF ROUND BEST SIRLOIN STEAK GOOD SIRLOIN STEAK RUMP STEAK 35c, 1b SMALL HAMS POT ROAST FIRST RIB ROAST BEEF SALT SPARE RIBS 13c. lb.

FAT SALT PORK 16c. lb. **CRANBERRIES** 

HIGH-GRADE COCOA 23c. lb., 5 lbs. \$1.00 KELLOGG'S CORN FLAKES, 8c. pk. SHREDDED WHEAT. 10c. pk VAN CAMP'S MILK 10c. car VAN CAMP'S SOUPS RUMFORD'S BAKING POWDER Largo can 23c.

# Union Cash Market

Main Street, Ayer, Mass.

MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE SALE

 ${f REAL}$   ${f ESTATE}$ 

By virtue of the power of sale cor tained in a mortgage given by the Pepperell Shoe Company, a corporation duly established under the laws of the Commonwealth of Massachu setts and having a usual place of busi iess in Pepperell, Middlesex County Massachusetts, to the Tremont Trus Company, a corporation established of Massachusetts, dated July 31, 1916 and recorded in the Middlesex Regis-try of Deeds, South District, Book 4072. Page 295, and duly assigned to the subscriber, and for breach of the conditions of said mortgage, will be sold on Saturday, December 30, 1916, at three o'clock P. M., at public auc-

tion held on the premises, viz:

The land in that part of Pepperel called East Pepperell with the build ings thereon, excepting the bicycle louse, so-called, which is to be treated as personal property and to be re moved by the grantors, situated in the Easterly part of said Pepperell and bounded and described as follows:

Beginning at a point on the Easter-ly and Southerly side of Hollis and Nashua Streets, respectively; thence Easterly on said Nashua Street about three hundred and fifty (350) feet to an iron pipe set in the ground to land of H. A. Parker; thence Southerly in a straight line about one hundred and thirty (130) feet by land of said Park-er to the Nissittissitt River; thence Westerly by said Nissittissitt River to beginning, together with the water power from the dam on the premise of the said grantors, excepting ter (10) horse-power from said dan which is reserved for the use of the grantors, their heirs and assigns for

Terms: Cash. Other terms an nounced at time and place of sale. EVERETT L. TURNER,

Assignee of Mortgage. Boston, Mass., Dec. 5, 1916.

Boston, Mass., Dec. 5, 1916.

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS. Middlesex, ss. Probate Court.
To the heirs-at-law, next of kin and all other persons interseted in the estate of JOHN H. WHITCOMB late of Ayer 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, by ALFREID A. WHITCOMB who prays that letters testamentary may be issued to him, the executor therein named, without giving a surety on his official bond.

You are hereby cited to appear at a Probate Court, to be held at Cambridge in said County of Middlesex, on the twenty-seventh day of December A. D. 1916. 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 postpaid, or delivering 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 fifth day of December in the year one thousand nine hundred and sixteen.

3114

F. M. ESTY, Register.

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHU
SETTS, Middlesex, ss. Probate Court
To the heirs-at-law, next of kin
creditors, and all other persons intersted in the estate of JOSHUA BIXES
late of Groton in said County, deceased

inte 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 GEORGE H. BIXBY of Groton in said County, or to some other suitable person.

You are hereby cited to appear at a Probate Court to be held at Cambridge in said County of Middlesex, on the twenty-seventh day, of December A. D. 1916, at nine o'clock in the forenoon, to show cause, if any you have, why the same should not be granted.

And the petitioner is hereby directed to give public notice thereof, by publishing this citation once in each week, for three successive weeks, in Turner's

GOMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS. Middlesex, ss. Probate Court.
To the heirs-at-law, next of kin, and all other persons interested in the estate of MARY LILLIAN BROWN late of Ayer 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, by FRANKLIN FREEMAN who prays that letters of administration with the will annexed may be issued to him or to some other suitable person, the executrix named in said will having deceased.

ceatrix named in said will having deceased.
You are hereby cited to appear at a Probate Court, to be held at Cambridge in said County of Middlesex, on the twenty-seventh day of December A. D. 1916, 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, postpaid, or delivering 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 fifth day of December in the year one thousand nine hundred and sixteen.

Pepperell, Mass. November 25, 1916. 3t14

#### Ralph H. Wylie DENTIST

Barry Bldg. AYER MASS.

Telephone Connection

LITTLETON

The program for Christmas at the omnon consists of the Christmas et on Saturday evening in the nurch vestry and Christmas services Sunday morning and evening, with special musical selections for both special musical selections for both services, including new anthems for the choir, violin selections and vocal solos. "The cry of a child" will be the topic of the morning sermon to the young people, and in the evening "The story that is more than a story."

Mrs. Henrietta Churchill, of Bro line, is visiting her niece, Mrs. Maud K. Caulkins.

Mrs. Louise B. Caulkins went to Medford this week to spend the re-mainder of the winter with her son, F. J. Caulkins. Mrs. Arthur Wright, of Ailston,

visiting her daughter, Mrs. J. William Dodds, and family, Great road. Clarissa, the young daughter of Mr. and Mrs. John Hutchinson, of Goldsmith street, is recovering from a slight attack of pneumonia.

A two-tenement house on Park street, Ayer, belonging to the Stone heirs of Littleton, was quite badly damaged by fire last week Friday.

The Bennett house on Main street, Ayer, occupied by the Judge Sanderson family, caught fire from an unknown cause last Saturday evening, causing a damage estimated at \$1500. Part of the furniture was removed from the house during the fire and suffered more or less thereby. Mr. Sanderson and his family were in Boston at the time and only the maid was in the house. The year of 1916 seems to have been very eventful in the history of Mr. Sanderson's family. Mrs. Charles A. Kimball has been visiting relatives in Brookline this

said Hollis Street; thence Northerly by said Hollis Street about one hundred and twenty (120) feet to the point of beginning, together with the water-

Rev. and Mrs. Paul Gordon Favor

write very pleasantly of their new home and reception by their parish-ioners in Farmington, Me., where they have found a most congenial society. The date of the Back-Log club dance has been changed since the calendars were printed. On Christmas night, Monday, December 25, the party will be held in the town hall from eight to twelve o'clock. The Colonial orchestra has been engaged to furnish music.

The Allied Bazaar, held under the auspices of the British Social club in Boston, has proved a magnet of at-traction to many Littleton people, who declare it one of the greatest exhibi-tions ever seen. There were between 30,000 and 40,000 people in attendance n last Saturday.

At the morning service of the Congregational church last Sunday Mrs. Susile Smith sang a very acceptable solo, and Miss Myrtle Fletcher pre-sided at the organ.

There will be a tree and Christmas exercises at the Congregational church vestry this Saturday afternoon. The West End people met with Mrs

A. W. Knowlton and showed them A. W. Knowlon and snowed them-selves much in earnest over the dis-cussion of the embargo. The subject of the next meeting will be "Science and invention," and neighbors will meet at the residence of Hon. C. A. Kimball.

At the Sunday morning service of the Congregational society a very at-tractive musical program will be givtractive musical program will be giver a tractive musical program will be giver en under the direction of Mr. and Mrs. A. P. Gardner. A quartet composed of Mesdames Hager and Houghton and Messrs. Gardner and Dodds will sing selections from "The coming of the king" by Dudley Buck. The following order of service will be given: Organ: prelude, Mrs. Gardner; soprano solo, "O Jerusalem, look about thee; selection by the quartet, "Awake, put on thy strength, O Zion"; prayer, by the pastor; responsive reading; hynn; solo, "Anthem celestial," Adams, sung by Mrs. Gardner; prayer; solo, "Sleep, my Jesu," J. C. Barker, sung by Mrs. Hager; sermon; singing, "Adeste stales," Dudley Buck, sung by the quartet; benediction.

An indoor range has been provided

An indoor range has been provided at the old steam mill near the depot for members of the Rifle club and the first match will be shot on Saturday,
December 23. During the winter
matches will be shot under the directo 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. Witness, Charles J. McIntire, Esquire, First Judge of said Court, this sixth day of December in the year one thousand nine hundred and sixteen.

3tl4 F. M. ESTY. Register.

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHU-SETTS. Middlesex, 8s. Probate Court. To the heirs-at-law, next of kin, and all other persons interested in the estate of MARY LILLIAN BROWN late of Ayer in said County, deceased. Whereas, a certain instrument purporting to be the last will and testament of said deceased has been prement of said served in the dining-room of the stown hall.

town hall. Miss Hazel Wainwright returned re-cently from a visit with her sister in Fitchburg. During her week in the Fitchburg. During her week at the city a surprise party was given in her honor at the home of Mrs. W. A Bigelow. Among the guests were Mr and Mrs. Raymond Vanderford, formerly of Littleton, and now of Sturridge.

J. A. Wainwright recently returned from the western part of this state with a carload of Jersey, Durham and Holstein cattle. One of the Holstein Holstein cattle. One of th cows weighs 1450 pounds.

Mrs. Hall, Miss Hazel Straight, Mrs. J. A. Wainwright, Joseph Barber, Ralph Wainwrigth and J. W. Tobin were guests of the Boxborough Grange

The G. M. Lovejoys, from Hartford, Conn., braved the elements and arriv-ed at Mrs. P. S. Whitcomb's at the Center last week Friday.

of December in the year one thousand nine hundred and sixteen.

2114 F. M. ESTY. Register.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the subscriber has been duly appointed exexutor of the will of NOAH PAYSON SMITH late of Peppereli in the County of Middlesex, deceased, testate, and has taken upon himself that trust by giving bond and appointing ANNIE F. SMITH of said Pepperell his agent as the law directs.

All persons having demands upon the estate of said deceased are hereby required to exhibit the same; and all persons having demands upon to make payment to

WALTER T. SMITH, Executor.

Montclair, N. J.

Address of Agent

ANNIE F. SMITH,

Pepperell, Mass.

November 25, 1916.

2114

Attribute of the Christmas festival at the Unitarian church will begin this afternoon with the Christmas frolic in the vestry from three to five. Following the exercises by the Children the decorations will be taken from the tree and it is hoped that Santa Claus will arrive to join, in the good time. At the service of worship on Sunday forenoon there will be specially invited to flev. O. J. Fairfield's Christmas sermon will be "The personality of Jesus—nis place in humanity and his relation to God." As Christmas is preëminently the children's festival the young people are especially invited to this service, as to the Sunday school service which follows it when the lesson of the day will be presented in songs, recitations and

dancing school reception until Monday vive them, John Hayward, of Gardevening, when winds and weather were
more favorable and the drifts had
been ploughed and the snow levelled
through the untiring efforts of road
commissioner and citizens living in the
affected districts. Perry's orchestra
of Ayer gave a touch to the Saturday Mr. Hartwell postponed the dancing school reception until Monday

agent.

The Christmas exercises at the West school called out a large number of visitors of various nationalities last week Friday afternoon and proud parents looked on while happy children took part in a pretty Christmas pageant and entered joyfully into the other features of the entertainment, singing, recitations, folk dancing, etc. There was the most contageous merri-There was the most contageous merriment among the children when the jolliest and best-natured Santa Claus appeared in the person of Principal Greenfield, who after a little social time with them unloaded the tree, which was conground that the tree which was conground that the tree which was conground that the social time with the manufacture which was conground that the social time with the social time wi time with them unloaded the tree, which was generously laden with remembrances for pupils and teachers alike. The other elementary schools had similar entertainments by and for the young people and all began the Christmas vacation with brightest hopes and cheering expectations.

George Durkee, one of our oldest Michael McNiff has been housed be-cause of a severe cold, which develop-ed into bronchitis. His sister, Mrs. Hugh McDonald, joined the shut-ins

last week. A union meeting of much interest was held in the Congregational church vestry last Sunday evening, Hon. C. A. Kimball presiding. There was congregational singing from the new hymn books, two vocal soles. "The plains of peace" and "The holy city," by George A. Cook, accompanied by Mrs. A. P. Gardner, the plaints of the cvening. Rev. O. J. Fairfield gave the scriptural reading and Rev. H. L. Caulknis offered the prayer. Following the responsive readings Mr. Knight introduced the subject of the evening. "National ideals," and himself discuss-A union meeting of much interest 'National ideals," and himself discuss "National ideals," and himself discussed the national ideal of liberty. Continuing the general subject. Mr. Caulkins presented the national ideal of religion; Mr. Alyord, the hational ideal of morals, and Mr. Fairfield, the national ideal of morals, and Mr. Fairfield, the national ideal of morals.

tional ideal of peace. The benedic-tion was pronounced by Rev. J. C. Alvord. Many are the stories heard on all sides of teams and autos stalled in the deep drifts last week, something very unusual for December. Even on the main thoroughfare some vehicles were obliged to remain or be hauled out by neighbors' horses. The Ward cake man had to leave his auto with all its goodies in town over Sunday. The predictions for a severe winter seem to have been well founded.

Congregational Supper.

The Ladies' Benevolent society of the Congregational church served an excellent supper on Thursday evening. December 14, which was sufficiently well patronized so that the committee will clear about twenty-nine dollars

will clear about twenty-nine dollars from supper and entertainment. There were 150 covers and a large percentage were taken. The menu-consisted of cold ham, beans, rolls and a variety of cakes and pies with coffee, which was finely served by an able-corps of fifteen waitresses from among the yeung ladies of the church.

'The entertainment at eight o'clock iticluded a piano duet. Misses Anna Feabody and Dorothy Dennen; an illustrated song, Sybii Stewart, Maude Maxwell, Marian Buss and Jean Campbell; reading, Mrs. Anna Boynton Merrill; violin solo, Howard Shattuck; vocal duet, Mrs. E. H. Bliss and ton Merrill; violin solo, Howard Shat-tuck; vocal duet, Mrs. E. H. Bliss and Miss Anna Peabody; reading, Mrs. Amy Shattuck; reading, Mrs. Merrill; votal duet, E. H. Bliss and O. M. Nash. The committee were Mrs. George H. Shattuck, Mrs. George E. Shattuck, Mrk. J. A. Thibault and Mrs. Gustaf Anderson.

Death.

Charles Ward Houghton entered into rest on Friday, December 15, after an illness that confined him to his room about ten days. His health had long been failing and with advancing age he had weakened perceptibly. Throughout the years of increasing infirmity he was comforted by the gentle ministrations of his devoted daughter in the home and the thoughtful attentions of his other children.

On Monday afternoon funeral obsequies were held over which his pastor, Rev. James C. Alvord, presided. Mrs. L. A. Hager sang "Crossing the bar" and "Nearer my God to thee." Besides the scriptural reading, the prayer and the benediction. Mr. Alvord read two beautiful poems, the second of which, "Going home." was especial-

read two beautiful poems, the second of which, "Going home," was especially consoling and helpful.

Beneath the sunlit skies and the blanket of pure snow the body was consigned to its resting place in Westlawn and the fragrance of many flowers, the final tribute of love and content.

Mr. Houghton was born in Groton on May 27, 1830, and was one of two sons of Jpel and Mary Stone Houch-ton. At the age of four years he was bereft of his father, and early learned bereft of his father, and early learned to assume responsibilities, thus laying the foundation for independence of thought and action in mature years. He attended Groton schools, and as he found opportunity assisted his widowed mother in the support of the family. In young manhood he came to Littleton to help his only brother,

on Sunday forenoon there will be special music by the choir and others, and the subject of Rev. O. J. Fairfield's and the subject of Rev. O. J. Fairfield's Christmas sermon will be "The personality of Jesus—his place in humanity and his relation to God." As Christmas is preëminently the children's festival the young people are especially invited to this service, as to the Sunday school service which follows it when the lesson of the day will be presented in songs, recitations and story—all taking part. The young people of the Guild will meet at 5.30, well wrapped, for a special out-door service, starting at six o'clock. Many of the houses will be decorated with lights on Christmas eve between six and seven.

MASS.

MASS.

MASS.

On account of the severe storm and 3m46

Through the denth of his wife on September 9, 1863, Mr. Houghton was placed in double parental trust of his wo young children. The following year, on September 22, he married Miss Abby Frances Hayward, of Ashop when the love and kindly care of an own mother. For more than fifty years Mr. and Mrs. Houghton shared life's joys and sorrows. Their home was cheered by

sons and daughters, all of whom sur

through the untring efforts of road commissioner and citizens living in the affected districts. Perry's orchestra of Ayer gave a touch to the strings that made the young people enter into the spirit of the occasion. Daintily dressed and neatly slippered the little dancers formed as pretty a picture as one could desire, and when the grand march was announced all were ready to fall in line to the leadership of Lucile Gardner and Willis Stone. From nine o'clock until eleven the less privileged adults were admitted to the floor and seemed as happy as their juniors. During the intermission ice cream and cake were served. The presiding patronesses of the evening were Mrs. Charles A. Kimball, Mrs. George Newcomb, Mrs. J. W. Ames and Mrs. F. B. Priest.

Miss Fannie Mitchell, of Freeport, Me., is visiting with the G. H. Kimball and the F. S. Kimball families in Newtown during her vacation from teaching.

J. H. Remick is driving a new Ford automobile and we assume that he has made another purchase of our local agent.

The Christmas exercises at the West school called out a large number of visitors of various nationalities last week Friday afternoon and proud parents looked on while happy children took part in a pretty Christmas pageant and entered joyfully into the other features of the entertainment, in a protyce of the precision of the entertainment, in a protyce of the precision of the course of the entertainment, in a protyce of the protisions of various nationalities last week Friday afternoon and proud parents looked on while happy children took part in a pretty Christmas pageant and entered joyfully into the other features of the entertainment.

in attendance, material support, and to the cause of religion he gave as the opportunity offered, with faith in God well founded, and hope in cternal life secure.

His interest in the town centered in

its highest welfare, and his place as a citizen he filled with a clean heart and a clear conscience. Truly he has earned the plaudit of the faithful and entered into the joys o fhis reward.

South Street Christmas Tree. The entertainment given by the stu-dents of Groton School, under direc-tion of Sub-master Mr. Vahner, which was announced for last Saturday even-ing, was postponed on account of the on account of the snowstorm and consequent hard traveling until Monday evening of this week. At this time about sixty attended and were well rewarded. The entertainment was free to all. Mr. Vahner and a chorus of the Groton students rendered several selections of Christmas music and several selections of thristmas music and seven of the stu dents gave wonderfully beautiful music on the bells. Mr. Molloy, from the school, assisted the chorus by accompaniment with a French horn. The program was unusual and of high order, and was thoroughly enjoyed by

the audience.

There was also a Christmas tree for the children, well decorated through the efforts of a local committee of Mrs. Ringdahl, Mrs. Maynard, Mrs. R. W. and Walter Sherwood, assisted

R. W. and Walter Sherwood, assisted by others. Fruit and candy bags were brought from the Groton School.

The children also added to the entertainment. Christmas recitations were given by Merle and Lillian Gillespie and Mildred Kemp. Bernard Sherwood rendered selections on his cornet, and there were Christmas carols by Priscilla Dodge and Arthur Cordeau.

Cordeau.
One of the Groton students, Mr. One of the Groton students, air. Frothingham, enacted the role of Santa Claus to the great enjoyment of the children, his costume and very jolly manner carrying out the part to perfection. This rounded out and made complete the program of the first public Christmas celebration held here for some years

here for some years.
The Sunday school is to be continued, we understand, through the holidays, when the students will be ab-

SLOAN'S LINIMENT EASES PAIN SLOAN'S LINIMENT EASES PAIN

Sloan's Liniment is first thought of
mothers for bumps, bruises and sprains
that are continually happening to children. It quickly penetrates and soothes
without rubbing. Cleaner and more effective than mussy plasters or ointments. For rheumatic aches, neuralgia, pain and that grippy soreness after
colds, Sloan's Liniment gives prompt
relief. Have a bottle handy for bruises,
strains, sprains and all external pain.
For the thousands whose work calls
them outdoors, the pains and aches following exposure are relieved by Sloan's
Liniment. At all Druggists, 25c.

New Advertisements

North Middlesex Savings Bank

ANNUAL MEETING The Annual Meeting of the Corporators of this Bank will be held at its Banking House on Tuesday, the second day of January. 1917, at two o'clock P. M., for the election of officers and the transaction of any other business that may legally come before the meeting.

E. A. RICHARDSON, Ayer. Dec. 23, 1916. Secretary.

Teamster Wanted for our factory. Must be strictly temperate; family man preferred. CONANT, HOUGHTON & CO., Inc

Littleton, Mass. Colonial Rugs

I will take orders now for Holiday Gifts of Hand Weaving-Rugs, Por tierts, Pillow and Couch Covers in Fancy and Plain Weaves. Bed-room Sets-Couch and Pillow Cover with two large Rugs, special at \$15, and will be glad to quote prices on work ing up your own material. Small amount of Shaker Linen Warp on hand for Silk Table Covers. Call or address MRS, IDA SMITH DREYER, Shaker Village, Ayer, Mass.

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 ROSETTA
BIODGETT late of Townsend 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 GEORGE W. BLODGETT of Townsend in the County of Middlesex, without giving a surety on his bond.
You are hereby cited to appear at a Probate Court to be held at Cambridge, in said County of Middlesex, on the eighth day of January A. D. 1917, at nine o'clock in the forenoon, to show cause if any you have, why the same should not be granted.
And the petitioner is hereby directed to give public notice thereof, by publishing this cliation 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.
Witness, Charles J. McIntire, Esquire, First Judge of said Court, this sixteenth day of December in the year one thousand nine hundred and sixteen.

### START THE DAY **OFF RIGHT**

Serve breakfast in a warm room and forget about the furnace until real cold weather comes.

Don't burn coal or wood when you don't really need that kind of heat.

# PERFECTION SMOKELESS COIL HEATER

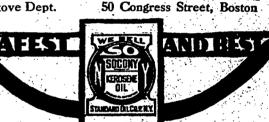
It will keep your whole house warm and make you more comfortable for less money. No fires to build—no coal to carry—no ashes to clean up.

Quick — Clean — Dependable

For sale at department and hardware stores everywhere. Write for free descriptive booklet.

For best results use Socony Kerosene

Standard Oil Company of N. Y. Stove Dept. 50 Congress Street, Boston



# Great Annual Mark Down Sale

Millinery Novelties at One-Half Price

Mrs. E. F. Chandler Ladies' Hatter

Main Street

Telephone 82-3

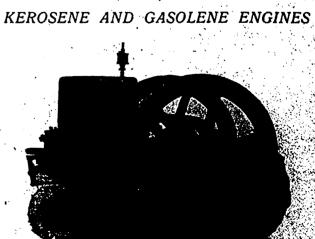
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Call and Look Them Over-Get Prices

CHAS. E. PERRIN

PLUMBER.

ONE DOLLAR AND FIFTY CENTS PER YEAR IN ADVANCE

This Paper is Sold by A. Drummey ..... East Pepperell Kate E. Hazen.....Shirley W. Hildreth......Townsend 

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

Change of Address

Subscribers wishing the postoffice address of the paper changed, must send us both the old and new address and also the name of the paper they

Saturday, December 23, 1916.

#### PEPPERELL

News Items.

Arthur Tower came home from Dartmouth college on Wednesday and Idoyd Tower from Worcester Polytechnic on Friday to pass their Christmas vacation with their parents, Mr. Ind Mrs. H. N. Tower. Sydney Tower, from Readville, is also expected on Saturday and Mr. and Mrs. Albert Everts from Roxbury. Mrs. Dunbar and daughter, Miss Ramona, from Maplewood, are also expected to join the family party over the holiday.

Miss Maynard of Boston, former in-

Miss Maynard of Boston, former instructor of music in our public schools, has been in town at the Homestead the past few days, enjoying a reunion with the teachers of the Main street building, who were associated with her. formerly at the home of Miss Clara M. Shattuck on Friday evening of last week. Mrs. Dort was unavoidably absent, as she was ill from tonsilitis.

sent, as she was ill from tonsilitis.

Little John Bernard Goodwin, son of Mr. and Mrs. Charles Goodwin, celebrated his first birthday on December 17 with a quiet little party. Four of his small playmates were invited to be present. He was presented with a birthday cake by Mrs. Charles Stineford, which was cut by Miss Irene Stineford, as the small host was rather too young. Bernard received a numtoo young. Bernard received a number of presents, including a signet ring from his great aunt, Mrs. McGuire, of

The East Village Social club will hold an all-day Christmas party on Wednesday. December 27, at the home of Mrs. John Martin, George street. Members are requested to be present by 11.20, as dinner will be served at 12.30. It is necessary that each member be prompt with her donation for the dinner. The president of the club kindly requests each member to bring a package containing an article worth not more than five cents. These are to be numbered and placed on a Christmas tree, which is generously provided by the hostess. The articles will be distributed later by number to each one present, a method which is sure to cause much merriment.

Miss Irene Whitcomb, who has been

Miss Irene Whitcomb, who has been teaching in Thompsonville, Conn., is expected home on Saturday to pass the holidays.

Thomas Tarbell came from New York on Friday to spend the holidays

About Town.

W. C. Perry and A. P. Wright attended the annual banquet of the association of the State Assessors at the Quinty house. Boston, December They report an enjoyable occa-

Prudence Wright chapter, D. A. R. met Tuesday afternoon, December 12, with Mrs. Drury. On account of the storm there was not the usual at-tendance, but those who braved the storm report a well spent afternoon. Miss Hamilton, the district nurse es Siturday, December 23, for a

For other Pepperell news see page 6

P. W. C.

The Pepperell Woman's club celebrated its first decade in the vestry of the Congregational church on Tuesday afternoon, December 19. Called together by Piesident Shattuck, after the reading of the minutes of the last meeting by the secretary and the transaction of a small amount of business the afternoon was placed in the

ladies' quartet, Mrs. Bilss, Mrs. Bartlett, Mrs. Copp and Miss Wood, favored the gathering with a quartet and a short recess was declared, after which the members were invited to join in a birthday banquet. Eighty members were seated according to their birth month at appropriately dressed tables. To Mrs. Joseph Attridge, we understand, is due this most tasteful and effective scheme of decoration.

The salads and cake, ice cream and coffee, were all delicious, well served

The salads and cake, ice cream and west Groton band had evidently incoffee, were all delicious, well served town in music, as this is the first recadent, Mrs. George H. Shattuck, as ord we have of a concert by the Grotonsatmistress and proposed the follow-tonstmistress and proposed the follow-ton June 20,-1894, the band played

club.

Second—Our presidents, past and present, may their successful work in the past be an omen for the future.

Response by Mrs. J. L. Boynton, past president. resident.
Third-Our town, its present needs

and its future possibilities. Response by Miss Clara M. Shattuck.
Fourth—Our home talent. The source of our power in the past, the hope of our success in the future. Response by Mrs. H. N. Tower.

Response by Mrs. H. X. Tower.
Listen my friends and you shall hear
of the remarkable talent we have
'round here.
We have writers and readers and players, too.
Singers and actresses not a few.
Perhaps you all don't know it
But our club can boast a poet.
Not a young writer of toolish rhyme.
But a dignified lady of 'Ye olden time."

The notes from our sweet-voiced singers Long in our memory lingers. We've had singers and players of some

We've had singers and players of some renown
But some of the good ones have left our town.
Alas! for the days of the famous octette.
Although we still have a fine quartet.
When it comes to histronic art
Many there are who can take a part.
Some of the ladies have jumped at the

chance
To perform on the stage in their husband's pants!
But there are only a very, very few Who can look like a Chinaman or Jew!

We've had papers on the poets, and the of the good old-time "Colonial days," Also, well-written travel-talks, And papers on Pepperell hills, flowers and walks.

and waiks.

Some can recite poetry by the yard
in monologue and dialogue others hav starred.
We have two nice ladles who seem to know

Just how long to run a vaudeville show We have the dearest cat, and finest bear Their like you'll not find anywhere: Once we went back to kindergarten days And danced and froliced in childish

ways. "Johnnie and Artie" you'll surely not forget—
They were the cutest little boys I ever met.

Last winter we thought we'd better Present a Japanese operetta.
We had just the lady to put it through Who could direct all the music and acting, too.
It was a success in every way—
From the emperor stern and princess

gay. To each bright lady and jolly sprite. The dancers and fairies all in white. From the way this luncheon tastes and

looks
We know all our members are excellent cooks.

Now, methinks, you'll agree, that from first to last "Our home talent" is an all-star cast. This last being given in rhyme re-

This last being given in rhyme received repeated applause.
In gratitude and appreciation of the delightful afternoon given us by the two committees all arose and joined in singing to the tune of "Auld Lang Syne," the following verses written by the chairman of the afternoon, Mrs. Qua:

Twas in the year of 19-six,
When first we gathered near
To form the Pepperell Woman's club,
To us now grown so dear.

Chorus And our allegiance now we p To everything that's right— For loyalty bids us unite, till The good work we win.

We know some work we've surely dor

In those ten years gone by So we'll continue in the work And on success rely. And now before we separate Each her own way pursue, Let's take each other by the hand In friendship kind and true.

At the close of this includy the ra of the president's gavel brought the celebration of the tenth birthday of the Pepperell Woman's club to a happy ending.

#### GROTON

History of Groton Band.

The first engagement that the band had after Mr. Fitch came in was a nad after Mr. Fitch came in was a torchlight campair arade, probably on November 24, 1822. It was a bitter cold night, and mirching down towards the Groton School the instruments froze up and when "Marching through Georgia" was attempted the only man that could play a note for quite a few bars, that is until their breath had thawed the valves and slides of the instruments, was George Blood on his clarinet. He and the drums played alone until the other instruments, the way truments thawed.

struments thawed.

Mr. Fitch has played steadily every year from 1893 to the present day, and besides playing in the Groton band has played in the Waverley band. He has been good at attending re-

hearsals.

In the records of the early spring of 1894, beside the date of each rehearsal, or at least a good many of them, are the letters U. B. and C. A. We assume this to mean that Ulysses Barrows and Charles Allen were present from Aver als we can hearsals. ent from Ayer. As near as we can determine this is the period when they were both in the habit of attending the Groton rehearsals, riding back and forth on bicycles in the summer months, and in the winter going on the train, returning on the "Shoo-fly" which left Groton in those days at the train, returning on the Shoo-ny which left Groton in those days at about nine o'clock at night. One of the things that remained most prominently in Mr. Allen's mind was the recollection of how cold it used to be standing around the station waiting. whenever the train was late.

afternoon, December 19. Called together by President Shattuck, after the reading of the minutes of the last meeting by the secretary and the transaction of a small amount of business the afternoon was placed in the hands of the Program and Hospitality, committees whose plans for the club's entertainment were most successfully carried out. After a fine piano solo and response to a hearty encore, an account of the starting and early life of the club was given by its first president. Mrs. Elizabeth B. Heald, followed by a vocal solo and second selection rendered by Mrs. Florence Hutchinson.

Then Madame Saunders read, after a poetical introduction, a dream of the "Future of our town," which was received with much applause. The Ladies' quartet, Mrs. Bliss, Mrs. Bart-witch, Mrs. Copp and Miss Wood, favored the gathering with a quartet and a short recess was declared, after which the members were invited to

First—Our club; what it has stood for a lawn party at the Unitarian for in the community. Response by church. The Landmark says of this: Mrs. A. E. Maxwell, founder of the club.

Second—Our presidents, past and present, may their successful work in the past be an omen for the future. The successful work in the past be an omen for the future. table June weather, and from far and near, in carriages, on bicycles and on foot, a multitude of people gathered to enjoy a concert of much more than ordinary character." This item is interesting as showing how the people came to the concert. The ubiquitous automobile had not appeared and was not to make its appearance in Groton for five years. We learn that the first automobile passed through Groton on November 2, 1899.

November 2, 1899.

The following clipping from the Landmark explains what the band did July 5: "The Groton Cornet band serenaded Mr. and Mrs. Wright, superintendent of the poor farm, on Thursday evening. The strains of music borne by the soft July air across the meadow were listened to by the village people with pleasurable interest."

On July 21 the band was to play for a lawn party of Mrs. Voorhees' Sunday school class, but as it rained the exercises were held in the church.

There was a catholic lawn party held at John Condon's on July 28. Rev. Patrick J. Sheedy paid for the hired men, and the regular members donated their services.

hired men, and the regular members donated their services.

On August 20, 1894, the band accepted an invitation from the Greenville band to attend a sort of bund tournament to be held in Greenville on August 24. Invitations had been sent to several of the bands in surrounding towns to join the musical gatherto several of the bands in surrounding towns to join the musical gathering. Several bands, we are told, accepted, but when the day came the only one appearing was the Groton band. The Greenville people were so pleased that the Groton organization had held to its agreement that they couldn't do enough for the men. The records say, "Were entertained in first-class shape."

One untoward incident only marred the serenity of the day. A lady lost her watch and Thomas Black, the band's snare drummer, was accused

band's snare drummer, was accused of having found it. William S. Woods

band's snare drummer, was accessed of having found it. William S. Woods says the accusation was based on the fact that while the band was marching Mr. Black was seen to stop playing, stoop down and pick up something from the ground. What he picked up was a piece of music he had dropped. Mr. Woods says that Tom was too near-sighted to have seen a watch if there had been one beneath his feet.

Mr. Black, who was thoroughly honest, denied having the watch, but nevertheless he was taken into the town hall by the authorities and searched. He was righteously indignant at this procedure, as were the rest of the band. Of course, they found nothing, and Mr. Black was released with the most profuse apologies. It is said that the woman found her watch at home the next day.

the woman found her watch at home the next day.

On August 31, 1894, the band played for a picnic at Island pond. On this occasion, according to William Woods, Charles Corey made a speech which caused a good deal of amusement. Mr. Corey went by the nickname of "Donkey" Corey and was very eccentric. One of his eccentrichtes manifested itself in his turning the livingroom of his house into an aviary, where he kept innumerable canary birds. Mr. Corey had a decided propensity for the public platform, and Capt. Palmer tells us that when he was selectman, Mr. Corey wanted to hire the town hall to give a lecture on "Daniel Webster."

In November of 1894 came the usual rallies, and a serenade to Mr. Tobin ended the season. On this last occasion the band seems to have made

sion the band seems to have made away with too much of the host's pro-visions, and to get even he gave then loaded cigars.

This seems as good a place as any to

This seems as good a place as any to Nathan Nutting, which is told us by Norman Shattuck. One night, late in the fall, when the band were rehears-ing in the town hall rooms, Mr. Nut-ting came in. He were his hair and whiskers long and was a strange look-ly and the commenced to dance to ing sight. He commenced to dance to the music, a strangely weird figure. Mr. Shattuck had a book of Irish jigs at hand and he had the band glay several jigs from it. Mr. Nutting, with increasing motion and enthusiasm, danced while the loungers looked on in amusement. Finally, when he had danced up and down the floor until he was so tired he almost dropped, he stopped and said, "Gentlemen, I hope you will excuse me for coming in, but the music was so nice I couldn't help it. Good night." Without another word the strange figure went out into ng sight. He commenced to dance to and the strange figure went out into

the night.

In the summer of 1895 the band began to raise money towards purchasing new uniforms. The popular way of doing this seems to have been to hold ice cream and cake sales in consection with the band cake sales in consection.

picule of the Lawrence engine com-

a picnic of the Lawrence engine com-pany.

A new name appears in the record about this time, Arthur Woods, a well-known carpenter of Groton, has not been mentioned before. He probably joined the band in 1893 or 1894. He played cornet, contenting himself with the second or third part. He played faithfully for about twenty years, only leaving a few years ago, because of other business Besides playing in Groton he played for a time with the band in Harvard under the direction of Hiram Brown. Mr. Woods recol-lects with pleasure the good times the

lects with pleasure the good times the band used to have.

We neglected to mention in his proper place Samuel Williams, brother of Everett Williams, who played cor-net with the band for two or three years, beginning about 1886. N. D. Shattuck tells us that he and "Sam" ised to practice together, and that the used to practice together, and that the latter's favorite piece was "Little fisher-maiden." Mr. Williams went into the drug business and moved to Hartford, Conn., but still kept up his interest in the band and used to come back and play the cattle show engagements just for the fun.

Before commencing the active season of 1896, the band purchased the uniforms they had been working over a year to get. Charles H. Kimball, of Lowell, was given the contract to make

the drug business and moved to Hartford. Conn., but still kept up his interest in the band and used to come back and play the cattle show engagements just for the fun.

Before commencing the active season of 1896, the band purchased the uniforms they had been working over a year to get. Charles H. Kimball, of Lowell, was given the contract to make them. They were paid for in installments, made about a month apart during the spring and summer. We do not know how much they cost, as there is a page lost from the cash account, but \$285 was paid towards them before September, 1896. The Landmark mentions that the band appeared in their same uniformed and stayed with the band, but not without feelings somewhat disgruntled, which were expressed by extraordinary efforts on the percussion instruments while the band were playing at the exercises in the town volume of tone coming from the drum to without feelings somewhat disgruntled, which were expressed by extraordinary efforts on the percussion instruments while the band were playing at the exercises in the town volume of tone coming from the drum of tone coming from the drum of the listeners at the time.

Fred Noble played alto for about two years at this time. His father was a machinist at the mill. He moved to Hoosick Falls in the late nine-ties, and severed connections with the band.

Charles Raddin, son of Joseph Radin. ments, made about a month apart during the spring and summer. We do not know how much they cost, as there is a page lost from the cash account, but \$285 was paid towards them before September, 1896. The Landmark mentions that the band appeared in their new uniforms on July 4.

On April 29 the band furnished music for the Old Sixth Regiment anniversary. Joseph Cleary was mar-

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The Christmas Season is approaching and we wish to call your attention to the fact that in our store you will find an extremely large variety of useful and serviceable articles very appropriate as Christmas Gifts.

We have spared no pains in selecting this Christmas



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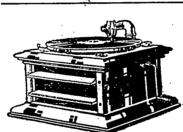
CARD CASES

CIGARETTE CASES CIGAR CASES

FACE POWDERS

HAT BRUSHES

TOILET SOAPS SHAVING BRUSHES



band played "much" in return for the sumptuous treat of Mr. Cleary. The band, as it had the previous year or two, played for the celebration on the Fourth of July, besides giving the usual open-air concerts, and doing some serenading in the fall. Nothing of special interest hap-

the band, saddened by the sudden the band, saddened by the sudden the band, saddened by the sudden death of Mr. Hemenway, called a special meeting, at which a commit-tee, consisting of Frank Blood, Amos special meeting, at which a commercion with the band concerts. We assume that the refreshments were donated by the members or their friends, as the band netted from \$25 to \$35 a night by these sales. At least four of them were held during the summer. The only engagement out of the usual order in the summer of 1895 was.

Three or four new men came into leave the leave between 1894 and 1897, and

Three or four new men came into the band between 1894 and 1897, and t is most convenient to take them up

here. Ernest Fletcher's name first aperrest references name and the appears it. 1824. He was the son of follomon Fletcher, and played cympals intermittently for five or six lears. He was the second member years. He was the second member of the bard to die while in active service. On September 13, 1904, it became the band's sad duty to play for Mr. Fletcher's funeral.

Robert ("Chub") Fletcher played cymbals in the band for one year, about 1894 or 1895, probably one of the year, during which his brother.

about 1834 or 1832, probably the the years during which his brother Ernest did not play. The principal event which stands out in "Chub's" mind is the band's job at Littleton on Decoration day. He and "Billy" mind is the band's job at latticton on Decoration day. He and "Billy" Gale, the bass drummer, wanted to play ball on the afternoon of that day. But in deference to the strenuous objections of the leader, U. H. Barrows, they reluctantly gave up the baseball game and stayed with the band, but not without feelings somewhat discounted without were expressed by

stock-it is the largest we have ever offered. Because of our early and heavy buying we are able to offer Stationery, Ivory Pyralin

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As usual we have a complete line of staple Cigars and Cigarettes in all sized packages. Tobacco in pound and half-pound jars and tins.

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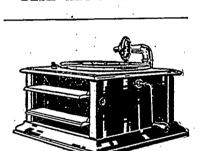
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Mr. Fletcher was married on the previous Tuesday and heard that the band were going to serenade him, and so he sent them word to wait until Saturday, when he could be properly prepared to receive them. They did so and were royally treated.

On September 11, 1897, the band and the Groton Grange held a joint picnic at Lakeland park. The Groton Landmark of August 11 contains the following item in anticipation of this

following item in anticipation of this event: "Henry Adams, the commitfollowing item in event: "Henry Adams, the committee of the Grange to make arrangements with the band for a picnic, reports the picnic at Lakeland park on Saturday, September 11, if fair. If stormy the next fair day, Sunday excepted. This will be the best picnic. t stormy the next fair day, Sunday excepted. This will be the best picnic, of the season and it was a happy thought to have the band and grange unite in this way." It might be added also that it was a happy choice for the grange to select as the committee on one of their members who was also a band man. It is reported that this affair was very successful and that everyone enjoyed themselves to the fullest extent. One of the features of the day was the music for dancing by an orchestra composed of the following persons: Fred Sale, first violinist; Henry Adams, second violinist; and Miss Clemima Blood, pianist (or organist).

Mr. Raddin played steadily and faithfully until two years ago, when his work, occupying his evenings, forced him to drop from the band, when him to return sometime in the future.

During the summer of 1897 the band serenaded Mr. and Mrs. Miller, played for the dedication of Mr. Erving's goaint shop on Champney street and dispensed music at the home of Keenie Fletcher. This last event took place on Saturday. August 28, 1897, Mrs. Fletcher was married on the provious Tuesday and heard that the wondered at that his appetite is at its best and that his appetite is at its best and that his laptetite is at its best and that his laptetite is at its best and that his laptetite is at its best and that he indulges in any related that the land occasions when the strongest assurance that this is the strongest assurance that this is the strongest assurance that this is shot so, but that on occasions when the strongest assurance that this is the strongest assurance that th

best and that he indulges in any re-past which may be provided with very keen relish. The muster in Townsend marks the The muster in Townsend marks the first appearance of two new men in the band, William Gale and Winthrop Chase. Mr. Gale is the son of Bowman Gale. He was a boy at the time of the muster and carried the bass drum. It was but a short time, however, before his post was at the rear instead of the forward end of the drum. Mr. Gale says that he had been to band meetings with his father ever since he could walk, so that his interest in the band was not a sudden one. The first engagement Mr. his interest in the band was not a sudden one. The first engagement Mr.
Gale ever did on the bass drum was
at a picnic held by St. Mary's church
in Ayer, and he did not know of this
job until the night before. Naturally,
he was tremulous concerning the result of his efforts, but they must have
here good because he soon became

suit of his efforts, but they must have been good, because he soon became the regular bass drummer. He has been out for a season or so, at two or three different times, but while an active member never missed a rehearsal.
Winthrop Chase, the present snaredrummer, son of George Chase, a former member of the band, began to play about 1897. The Townsend muster was his first appearance with September, 1896. The Landmark mentions that the band appeared in their new uniforms on July 4.

On April 29 the band furnished music for the Old Sixth Regiment anniversary. Joseph Cleary was married in June of this year and on the twenty-ninth of the month the band collars worth of haying. This showed twenty-ninth of the month the band collars worth of haying. This showed commendable enterprise and pluck for John Donahue, was the most celebrated serenade of the 1881 band. To use his words, "There was a barrel of lemonade, everything was galore, and no one went hungry or dry." The of lemonade, everything was galore, it and no one went hungry or dry." The

Mr. Ames gave him lessons. Later, while E. C. Cary, of Leominster, had a class in Groton, Mr. Raddin studied with him.

Mr. Raddin was in the band at the time the new uniforms were purchashed, and recalls how careful the men were of them. On one torchlight parade, for example, they decided that, as it would be dark, they would wear the old uniforms for fear of solling the new ones from the use of their hat torches. Such care is doubtless responsible for the fact that these uniforms still exist today.

Mr. Raddin played steadily and faithfully until two years ago, when the strongest assurance that this is

The Christmas spirit has entered the different homes here, holly and evergreen being the principal decoraions. A great many are plann naving the usual Christmas tre hildren are all anxiously awaiting for ld Santa to arrive. Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Leclerc have been called to Canada by the death of Mrs. Leclerc's mother.

Miss Carmel E. Rose, of Belmont, s spending her Christmas vacation with her grandmother, Mrs. Elizabeth

Splain.

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