

TURNER'S PUBLIC SPIRIT.

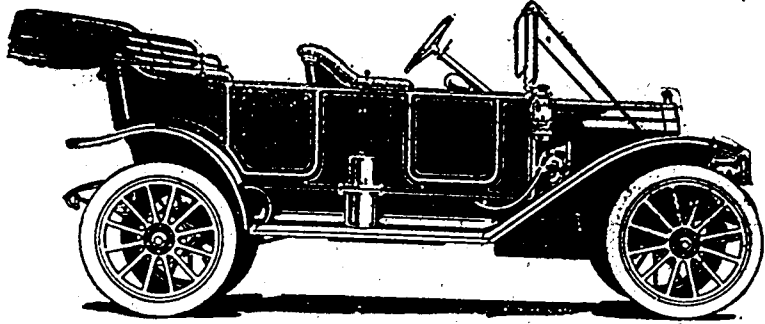
G. B. Tellinghaast
State Librarian
Boston

Forty-Fourth Year

Ayer, Mass., Saturday, February 24, 1912.

No. 24. Price Four Cents

Flanders "20" World's Champion



Flanders "20" Touring Car \$800

FLANDERS "20" holds all world's records up to twenty miles for her class on the Indianapolis Speedway.

NOT ONLY AT RACING but at hill climbing has this light car demonstrated its prowess—its superiority over all competitors in events such as the Dead Horse Hill Climb at Worcester, America's great hill climbing classic—and a score of other events as important.

THEN TAKE ROAD RUNS—such as the gruelling race from Los Angeles, Cal., to Phoenix, Arizona, in which \$1,000 to \$5,000 cars fell by the wayside, this great light car gave a splendid account of herself.

PERHAPS THE GREATEST OF ALL the great feats the Flanders "20" has performed was the "First to Hazelton" run, when this car undertook the task of laying out a road through the wilderness of Northern Washington—a feat no other car had dared attempt during the two years that a trophy had been offered for the accomplishment.

AND IT SELLS FOR \$800, f. o. b. Detroit, and carries with it a full year's guarantee.

Ayer Automobile Station

Robert Murphy & Sons, Props.

Phone 86-3

AYER, MASS.

SHIRLEY.

News Items.

Mrs. Annie Fuller, who has been residing in the house with George Dinsmore, has given up housekeeping, and on Friday of this week was taken to the home of Mr. and Mrs. O. W. Balcom, where she will be cared for. Mrs. Fuller has been cared for the past few weeks during her illness by Mrs. Meserve. Her condition is very serious.

George Pomfret, of Waverley, visited his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Richard Pomfret, recently.

Miss Bertha Love, of Concord, is visiting in town.

Mrs. McCallan, with daughter Cora, of Concord, visited relatives in town on Washington's birthday.

Mr. and Mrs. Amasa Balcom, of Boston, visited his parents, Mr. and Mrs. O. W. Balcom, on Washington's birthday.

Annual C. E. Convention.

The twenty-fifth annual convention of the Middlesex Christian Endeavor Union was held in the Shirley Congregational church on Washington's birthday. An all-day session was held and the day was a notable one in the interest of the great Christian Endeavor movement. Thirteen societies in the Middlesex district were represented by delegates which totaled up to 135, made up as follows: Acton Center 11, Harvard 3, Littleton Congregational 9, Littleton Baptist 14, Maynard 4, Shirley 50, South Acton 4, Stowe 1, Westford 4, Ayer 15, Concord 10, Concord Junction 5, West Acton 5.

The Shirley society has been active for the past few weeks, making preparations. The auditorium and vestry was prettily decorated with flags and evergreen, the C. E. flag and colors predominating. The delegates were met at the various incoming trains by the reception committee and as they were escorted to the church the word "welcome" conspicuously engraved on a flag, which was snatched up and carried across the street from the store of Conant Bros. to the parsonage met the gaze of the delegates, and as they entered the church and observed the preparations made for their entertainment, together with the hospitable atmosphere that invaded every corner of the church edifice, created a feeling of Christian fellowship which seemed to penetrate the very inner recesses of the mind and heart of each and every delegate present, which plainly showed its effect in the spirit of the convention.

The convention opened promptly at ten o'clock in the morning with devotional exercises being led by Rev. H. L. Packard, of Littleton. This was followed with an address of welcome by Rev. Allen A. Bronsdon, pastor of the Shirley church, whose cordial greeting in behalf of the Shirley C. E. society was impressive and sincere. This was followed with reports of various delegates to the several conventions during the past year, the report of the Sagamore convention by Mr. Smith of the Ayer society being particularly good.

At eleven o'clock, Rev. George F. Beecher, of Woonsocket, R. I., gave an address, his subject being "The way-side ministry," which was excellent and gave a view into the many small and seemingly insignificant acts of kindness which counts in the life of the individual as they journey through life.

The convention then adjourned for dinner, which was supplied by the Shirley society in the vestry, the menu consisting of escalloped oysters, cold meats, rolls, coffee and the usual fine assortment of dainties and fruit. At each plate was placed a favor in the form of a card with the symbol of C. E. engraved in white, with a red background, and the following quotation which was offered as grace and sung in concert by all present at the festive board:

Be present at our table, Lord,
Be here as everywhere adored;
Give us thy grace and grant that we
May feast in paradise with thee.

At the afternoon session, which commenced at 1:30, Rev. W. B. D. Grey, superintendent of Congregational Missions, Cheyenne, Wyoming, gave a strong address on "The young people of the frontier in the great northwest," which was the strong feature of the day and was important from the fact that Mr. Grey's address was a review of his own personal experience, and was adventurous and thrilling from start to finish. It also gave a side light on the hardships endured by those endeavoring to carry the gospel message to the people in that locality, but the results were not only golden, but overwhelmingly satisfying to the bearers of the message. Mr. Grey closed his address with an enthusiastic plea for the cultivation of the gospel in the great northwest.

The president, Harold B. Drew, then called for the reports of the secretary, Miss Clara M. Pettigrew, of Concord Junction, but owing to the serious illness of her father, was absent. However, Miss E. R. Butterworth, of Maynard, very ably acted as secretary pro tem.

The report of the treasurer, E. G. Clark, of Concord, was also rendered, and both reports were accepted by the convention.

Mrs. Alice L. Wright, of Shirley, chairman of the nominating committee, then presented to the convention the names of the following to serve as officers for the ensuing year, which were unanimously accepted:

Miss Mary Tewksbury, Concord, pres. vice president to be chosen by the executive committee later; Russell Quimby, South Acton, 2d. dist.; Mrs. Harry Collier, Shirley, 3rd. dist.; Miss Helen Leighton, of Concord Junction, asst. sec.; E. G. Clark, Concord, treas.; Miss Mabel Parker, Littleton, junior supt.; Miss E. R. Butterworth, Littleton, sec.

The committee on resolutions consisting of Miss Dorothy Tewksbury, Mrs. M. W. Packard and Mrs. E. R. Butterworth then presented to the convention the following resolutions, which were unanimously adopted:

First. That we extend our thanks to the outgoing officers for their services, especially to our president, Rev. Harold B. Drew, who has served us so efficiently and we wish him God speed in his new field of labor.

Second. That we extend our most hearty sympathy to Miss Pettigrew, our secretary, in the illness of her father.

Third. That we thank the society of Shirley for its most cordial welcome and entertainment. That a copy of these resolutions be sent to Miss Pettigrew.

The new president, Miss Tewksbury, was then escorted to her new official position as the executive officer of the union and a brief, appropriate address delivered by the retiring president, Rev. Mr. Drew, on the subject, "Looking forward." This closed the convention.

During the day the Alphon Male quartet, of Fitchburg, which consisted of Leon S. Fields, first tenor; E. P. Humphrey, second tenor; F. W. Ed-

monds, baritone, and E. A. Potter, bass, rendered inspiring selections, much to the delight of the visiting delegates.

The various committees of the Shirley C. E. society, announced in last week's issue of the Oracle, together with the decorating committee, consisting of J. Albert Deardon, who had full charge of the decorations, are to be congratulated on the ideal manner with which the convention was handled, which called forth so many words of appreciation from the delegates. That Christian Endeavor is growing in this district is evident from the fact that about one hundred new members have been added to the various societies during the past year, besides a goodly sum expended in missions, and a bright and encouraging outlook for the future.

LITTLETON.

News Items.

The Ayer fire department, which did such efficient service at the W. L. Kimball fire February 1, remained here with the apparatus until evening, instead of returning to Ayer in the afternoon, as reported.

Mr. and Mrs. R. T. Barrows, Mr. and Mrs. George H. Cash, Miss Augusta Smith, Miss Annie Coughlin and Mrs. Calvin Howard attended the Northboro Pomona and state grange meeting last week and report a good time. More than five hundred and sixty members were present and four states were represented.

Miss Louisa Flagg will sail for Greece Monday, March 6, and will travel through most of the countries in Southern Europe. She will be accompanied by a friend and will not join any party. The trip continues through about three months.

Mrs. Albert F. Conant has been visiting her son William and family in Arlington Heights recently. Her grandchildren have whooping cough.

A son was born to Mr. and Mrs. Bates Stover Monday, February 19.

Rev. and Mrs. H. L. Packard were the guests of Mr. and Mrs. Chas. J. Kimball February 23, the birthday of Mrs. Packard and Mr. Kimball. The ladies of the Congregational society presented Mrs. Packard with a Chautauqua table as a birthday gift, which was very thankfully received.

Jonathan H. Whitcomb of Littleton was the conductor of the passenger train that collided with the freight train in Hoosac tunnel last Tuesday night.

All reports of town officers should be in the hands of the selectmen by March 5.

The ladies of the Baptist society prepare the town meeting dinner this year.

Mrs. John Ames of Somerville is the guest of her cousin, Mrs. A. W. Knowlton.

A. T. Kimball, N. H. Whitcomb, F. S. Kimball and W. H. Titcomb attended the sale of cattle at Brighton Wednesday.

Elmer Flagg and family spent Thursday with Mrs. Flagg's niece, Mrs. Stevens, in Hyde Park. Miss Mildred Flagg of Pembroke college met the rest of the family there and together they went later to Danvers for a week-end and over Sunday visit with James Brown.

Edwin Loring, of Worcester, has bought of Leonard Cutler, the small farm at Liberty square, formerly owned by Elmer Flagg, and will take possession the first of March. Mr. Loring's mother, Mrs. Addie Russell Loring, will make her home with him.

Miss Florence Bartlett entertained a party of five Waltham friends on Washington's birthday, and among the guests were Mr. and Mrs. Eichler.

Mrs. Lona Gay Billings, of Hingham, visited her aunt, Mrs. Varnum H. Flagg, on Thursday.

Miss Nina L. Dennison and Miss Beulah L. Atkins spent the week-end at their homes in Milford. While at home they attended the invitation party and ball of the Awps club, which is one of Milford's most prominent annual events of the season. The club is composed of all the popular young business men of Milford.

George A. Cook, auctioneer, will sell by auction a lot of household furniture, carriages, harness, etc., the property of George H. Chandler, at town farm, Saturday, March 2, at one o'clock.

A full report of the Historical society meeting and the Farmers' Institute will be given in full in next week's issue, that were crowded out this week.

Wedding.

Miss Eva Lillian, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Alonzo V. Moore, was married to Daniel Howland Maynard, of Berlin, on Wednesday, February 21, at Worcester, by Rev. Dr. Charles Brown Elder, pastor of the Church of the Unity. The bride was attended by her sister, Miss Bertha Moore.

At the conclusion of a short wedding trip, Mr. and Mrs. Maynard will reside in Boston, where the groom is employed by Pearson & Marsh, Inc., the New England representatives of American and foreign publishers, including Doubleday, Page & Co., Oxford University Press, and the Funk and Wagnell Company, New York and London. Mr. Maynard was a member of Cornell university, class '98.

Miss Moore is a resident of Littleton, where she has received her education. She is one of the highly respected members of the younger social set.

TOWNSEND.

Center.

J. E. Worcester, of Boston, was at Judge C. F. Worcester's over Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. David Goodale and daughter, of Hudson, were the guests of Mr. and Mrs. A. S. Howard last Saturday. Mr. Goodale is Mrs. Howard's twin brother, and the party brought with them a birthday cake. It being the birthday of the twins, and had a little celebration.



Geo. F. Brown
RELIABLE CLOTHING
AYER, MASS.

OUR ANNUAL MID-WINTER

Make Way Sale

It is the well-known policy of this store that goods of one season shall not be carried over to the next season. Hence our regular semi-annual sales.

On Saturday, we shall begin this 1912 sale in order to dispose of the balance of our regular, high-grade Fall and Winter

Clothing, Caps and Furnishings

All small lots, slow sellers, and discontinued lines in every department must now "MAKE WAY" for the incoming stock of Spring Goods. Most of the better grade of Suits and Overcoats come from A. Shuman & Co., Boston, one of the most reliable makers of good clothing in the country.

Look over the following list of goods and prices, and you will be sure to see something that will interest you. Be sure to come early while the assortment is good.

MEN'S SUITS

The sizes are broken, not many suits of a kind, but all sizes in something.

\$10.00 Suits, make way price.....	\$7.47
\$12.00 Suits, make way price.....	\$8.47
\$15.00 Suits, make way price.....	\$10.47
\$18.00 Suits, make way price.....	\$13.47
\$20.00 Suits, make way price.....	\$14.47
\$22.00 Suits, make way price.....	\$16.47

Also One Lot of Odd Suits for Boys, ages 15 to 19, now reduced to.....

15 to 19, now reduced to..... \$2.47

FURNISHING DEPARTMENT

All our 50c. Fleece-lined Underwear in Single or Double-breasted, our regular 50c. goods, price for this sale

All our 50c. Derby-ribbed Underwear in Blue or Ecru Colors, our regular 50c. goods, price for this sale.....

All our regular 25c. Fleece-lined Underwear for Boys, now reduced to.....

Gloves

All our regular 25c. Woolen Gloves and Mittens for Men and Boys now.....

One Lot of Heavy Working Gloves and Mittens, worth 50c., price for this sale

One Lot of Heavy Working Gloves, a regular \$1.00 value, price for this sale.....

One Lot of Jersey Gloves for Women, Boys and Children, reduced to

15c., 2 pairs for 25c.

Sweaters

One Lot of Men's Coat Sweaters, regular 75c. and \$1.00 goods, price for this sale

One Lot of Boys' Plain Gray Coat Sweaters, now for.....

One Lot of Men's Coat Sweaters, Red Trimmed, sizes 34, 36, 38 only, actual value \$3.00 to \$3.50, reduced to \$1.50

Shirts

One Lot of Men's Fancy Shirts in Coat or Negligee Style, the regular \$1.00

Grade, now reduced to.....

One Lot of Men's and Boys' Fancy Shirts, our regular 50c. kind, price now reduced to.....

One Lot of Men's Working Shirts, made of Domet Flannel or Fancy Chevots, our regular 50c. kind, now go for 43c.

SHOE DEPARTMENT

We have many odd pairs and discontinued lines of Shoes for Men, Women and Boys, which we have put upon the Bargain Counter for this sale. Such well-known makes as Queen Quality Shoes for Women, W. L. Douglas and J. O'Donnell are included in this lot.

MEN'S FANCY OVERCOATS

Every overcoat in stock now goes at a cost price. All new, up-to-date styles. Sizes 32 to 40.

\$10.00 Overcoats, make way price.....	\$7.47
\$12.00 Overcoats, make way price.....	\$8.47
\$15.00 Overcoats, make way price.....	\$10.47
\$18.00 Overcoats, make way price.....	\$13.47
\$20.00 Overcoats, make way price.....	\$15.47
\$22.00 Overcoats, make way price.....	\$16.47

Black Kersey Overcoats

\$10.00 Overcoats, make way price.....	\$7.47
\$15.00 Overcoats, make way price.....	\$11.47
\$20.00 Overcoats, make way price.....	\$15.47

MEN'S FUR LINED COATS

Astrakhan Shell, Dog-skin lined, \$30.00 value, now reduced to.....

Kersey Shell, Dog-skin lined, \$35.00 value, now reduced to.....

Kersey Shell, Dog-skin lined, \$40.00 value, now reduced to.....

Kersey Shell, Natural Muskrat lined, blended Muskrat Collar, a coat of \$75.00 value, now reduced to.....

\$50.00

MEN'S FUR COATS

\$20.00 Dog-skin Coats now.....

\$25.00 Fur Coats, now reduced to.....

\$30.00 Fur Coats, now reduced to.....

\$35.00 Fur Coats, now reduced to.....

BOYS' AND CHILDREN'S OVERCOATS

Every coat now at a cut price. Ages 8 to 16.

\$5.00 Overcoats, now reduced to.....

\$7.00 Overcoats, now reduced to.....

\$8.50 Overcoats, now reduced to.....

\$10.00 Overcoats, now reduced to.....

Ages 4 to 10

\$3.50 Overcoats, now reduced to.....

\$5.00 Overcoats, now reduced to.....

\$6.00 Overcoats, now reduced to.....

Also One Lot of Boys' Odd Overcoats and Ulsters, regular \$4.00 to \$6.00 values, now go for.....

\$2.47

CHILDREN'S SUITS

Ages 6 to 16

\$3.50 Knickerbocker Trouser Suits now

\$4.00 Knickerbocker Trouser Suits now

\$5.00 Knickerbocker Trouser Suits now

Straight Pant Suits

Ages 13 to 16 only

\$3.00 Straight Pant Suits now.....

\$4.00 Straight Pant Suits now.....

\$5.00 Straight Pant Suits now.....

Children's Odd Knee Pants

One Lot in Regular Straight Cut Only, ages 5 to 12 only, Regular 75c. and \$1.00 values now.....

23c.

WINTER CAPS

Every Winter Cap at a Cut Price

50c. Caps for Men now.....

\$1.00 Caps for Men now.....

\$1.50 Caps for Men now.....

25c. Caps for Boys now.....

50c. Caps for Boys now.....

Misses' 50c. Angora Tams, now

19c.

A FEW SPECIALS

Men's White Handkerchiefs 3c.

Men's Police Brace..... 15c.

Men's Police Brace, the 50c. kind..... 35c.

Way's Mufflers, with slight imperfection, the 50c. kind, now..... 25c.

NECKWEAR BARGAINS

One Lot of 25c. Bows, now 15c.

One Lot of 25c. Four-in-hands now..... 17c.

One Lot of 50c. Four-in-hands now..... 35c.

One Lot of 25c. Button-on Ties, now..... 15c.

One Lot of 15c. Bows, now 5c.

Also price reductions on the following lines of goods, running from 20% to 30% from the regular price. The original and the cut-price tags on every garment and every article.

MEN'S SHEEP-LINED COATS

MEN'S RAINCOATS

At the D. of V. meeting on Tuesday evening there was a Washington's birthday party in charge of Mrs. Hat-

tie E. Cook. There was a musical and literary program and light refreshments were served. Each person received a badge and hatchet, and a "cherry tree" with cherries on it, added greatly to the decorations.

Town affairs will be discussed at the grange on Monday evening.

Beginning on Monday there will be special meetings during the week at the M. E. and Congregational churches. The meetings will alternate, beginning at the M. E. church on Monday night, with Rev. Samuel Ring-

rose, of West Townsend, in attendance; Tuesday evening, Rev. John Andrews, of the Harbor; Wednesday, Rev. E. L. Eldridge, of Greenville; for young people's night, Thursday, Rev. Owen Hardy, of West Townsend, and Friday night, the presiding elder of this district.

Club Meeting.

The Monday club met this week with Mrs. Evelyn Warren, Miss Ellen Haynes, who was to assist in entertaining, was unable to be present. The roll call was answered by remarks upon "My most paying investment." Miss Eunice P. Bruce read

two most excellent papers upon "Postal savings banks," and "Penny saving system in the public schools." The papers gave a thorough explanation of both subjects and showed that the writer had put in much time and hard work in gathering the materials and statistics for it. During the program Mrs. Warren gave three selections upon the graphophone and read from Dickens' Christmas carol. Refreshments were served and a social time enjoyed.

New Advertisements.

FOR SALE—Pure Bred Burro Rock Roosters. Price reasonable. MRS. S. H. RADDIN, Groton.

ONE DOLLAR AND FIFTY CENTS A YEAR

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

Subscribers are urged to keep their
subscriptions paid in advance.

Publication Office, Ayer, Mass.

Entered as second class matter at the
postoffice at Ayer, Mass.

Saturday, February 24, 1912.

WESTFORD.

Center.

F. W. Brackett, supervisor of drawing in the schools, is giving a series of lectures for the benefit of the teachers and any others who may be interested. The first of these took place on Tuesday afternoon at the Frost school, the theme being consistency and order in what is beautiful. These lectures will take place fortnightly the alternate Tuesday afternoons with the Tadmuck club. The next in the series will be on Tuesday afternoon, March 5, at three o'clock, and will be a continuation of the same general subject.

Dr. and Mrs. C. A. Blaney have welcomed a little daughter into their home.

Rev. H. L. Packard, of Littleton, preached at the Congregational church on Sunday morning in exchange with Rev. David Wallace. There was a large congregation present to listen to Mr. Packard. The mild, pleasant weather after a continuation of cold Sundays made this easily possible. Mr. Packard most appropriately embodied in his sermon a fine tribute to the great Lincoln, the anniversary of whose birth was so recent. A cheerful sight on the platform was a group of very thrifty geraniums.

The Westford Board of Trade held a large gathering at the Cavalry association building on Boston road on Tuesday evening. This took the form of a smoke talk with Thomas Curley, of Waltham, secretary of the Massachusetts Civic league as the speaker. He spoke at some length, holding the close attention of his hearers on "Public parks and playgrounds," and dwelt upon the problem of the growing boy in the community. At the close of his address the members and their guests enjoyed a collation of sandwiches, coffee, ice cream, cake, etc.

One of the pleasant events of the week was the social and luncheon given by Mrs. Fred L. Snow, to the members of the ladies' degree staff of Westford grange on Wednesday afternoon, in the lower town hall. Business was not the order of the hour, but Mrs. Snow and also Mrs. Josie Prescott of the staff presented resignations and the only course open was their respectful acceptance. The luncheon, with its dainty menu and its cheerful sociability, was much enjoyed and many thanks were extended to Mrs. Snow for her gracious hospitality. There were fifteen ladies present.

Warren Baker, the little three-year-old nephew of Mr. and Mrs. John P. Wright, is seriously ill at this writing with diphtheria. A trained nurse is in attendance. During the quarantine of his home Mr. Wright is staying at the home of his cousin, Harwood L. Wright. Much sympathy is felt for Mr. and Mrs. Wright in this latest hard experience.

Miss Dorothy Jaques, of Malden, is visiting with her maternal grandparents.

Miss Edna Ferguson is at home for a week's vacation from her teaching in Beverly.

Between fifteen and twenty from Westford were in attendance at the Farmers' Institute at Littleton on Tuesday and enjoyed its good program and the pleasant hospitality of the Littleton people.

Grange.

Owing to so many other things taking place the same week, the attendance at the regular meeting of the grange last week Thursday evening was not large, but those present had a good time and considerable business was transacted.

State Master Gardner's recent address here on "The grange at work," as exemplified in community service may result in the installing by the grange of a public drinking fountain. At the time the Westford Water Company laid their pipes furnishing water for the three villages, they agreed to furnish water for a fountain. Since the electric car tracks were laid a few years ago, the location of the present town pump has proved most undesirable and a change would be most welcome. The grange treasury has several hundred dollars to its credit to meet such an enterprise. Mrs. Frank C. Wright, David L. Greig and L. W. Wheeler were appointed a committee to take charge of the enterprise.

A. H. Sutherland reported for the Farmers' Institute of the preceding day and gave a tidy result netted for the treasury.

The lecturer's hour took the form of a Valentine social in charge of Misses Beatrice and Lillian Sutherland. Dancing and whist were enjoyed with home-made candies for refreshments.

The next meeting, March 7, will be an open meeting and a speaker from the Du Pont Powder Company will be present and give a talk on the uses of dynamite.

Union Temperance Meeting.

The union temperance meeting last Sunday evening, under the auspices of the W. C. T. U., brought out a large attendance that quite filled the auditorium of the Congregational church. The musical program was well arranged and carried out, being assisted by all the choir with Miss Grace Lambert presiding at the organ.

The quartet from the Granitville M. E. church, consisting of Henry Smith, Rev. Louis H. Havermale, Alvin Nelson and Frank Counter, were in excellent voice and the duet by Gertrude D. Fletcher, soprano, and Mrs. Homer M. Seavey, alto, was much appreciated as well as a solo by John S. Greig. The home choir fully sustained their part in the service.

Rev. Lyman B. Weeks, of the Unitarian church, gave the scripture les-

son, and Rev. Louis Havermale, of the Methodist church, offered the prayer, after which Rev. David Wallace introduced the speaker of the evening, Mrs. Katherine Lente Stevenson, president of the Massachusetts W. C. T. U.

This sweet-faced and able speaker, out of a large experience and with a wide vision presented as her subject, "Temperance all around the world," dwelling particularly on conditions in China, where during an extensive trip in foreign lands in behalf of her work, she had spent much time.

The members of the local organization had charge of all arrangements. Mrs. Stevenson was the guest while in town of Rev. and Mrs. Wallace.

Social.

The monthly social and supper at the Congregational church on Wednesday evening was very successful in spite of bad weather. This was the men's social, and with Mr. Wallace as chairman, they worked hard to make the affair the success it was. Supper was from 6.30 to eight o'clock, and seats at the tables were filled and refilled to accommodate all who came.

The entertainment was by the choir of St. Paul's Methodist Episcopal church, of Lowell, assisted by Mrs. Perley E. Wright, of our own town, as reader. The choir consisted of forty people, with orchestral accompaniment and their orchestral, chorus and solo work, under the direction of Peter Pickens, leader, scored the appreciation it deserved. Mrs. Wright was at her best as an entertaining reader. Her rendering of "Taking an elevator," and "Being admitted to the bar," both dialect selections, were excellent, and she responded gracefully to the demand for encores. Following is the program:

Selection, orchestra: "Awake Aeolian lyre," chorus; reading, Mrs. Perley Wright; song, George Drew; "With sheathed swords," chorus; selection, orchestra; song, Peter Pickens; anvil chorus; chorus; reading, Mrs. Wright; song, Mr. Drew; "Gloria 12th mass," chorus.

The Lowell party came up on the regular last car, and by special arrangement with the management of the Lowell and Fitchburg, were carried to Brookside by special car for 9.45, to connect with the other cars for home.

Granitville.

At the speed trials held at Forge pond on last Saturday afternoon, J. A. Healy's horse, Nakomis, driven by J. Austin Healy, defeated Sister Patch, driven by Mr. Gilmore, of Acton, two out of three heats, thereby winning the race.

Both masses were celebrated in St. Catherine's church on last Sunday morning by Rev. M. E. Doherty. He also delivered a very instructive sermon on "The observance of Lent."

Lenten devotions were held in St. Catherine's church on Wednesday evening and in spite of the inclement weather the services were well attended. The services were conducted by the pastor, Rev. E. T. Schofield, who gave a short Lenten sermon, followed by benediction of the blessed sacrament, after which the blessed ashes were distributed to the members of the congregation.

Miss Catherine Dunn and Miss Eva Carlson, of West Chelmsford, have been recent visitors in this village.

Many people from here attended the smoke talk and lecture given by the Westford Board of Trade at the rooms of the Cavalry association on last week Thursday evening and report a very enjoyable time.

The mills of the Abbot Worsted Co., and C. G. Sargent's machine shop were closed on Thursday. The public schools were also closed.

Many people from here attended the minstrel show in Ayer on Tuesday evening while others took in "The district school," at Forge Village.

Caused Much Inconvenience.

Judging from the weather conditions of the past few days the backbone of winter appears to be broken. The Westford Water Company has taken advantage of the weather and has had men busy at work thawing out pipes, assisted by men from the Lowell Electric Light Company. One of the main pipes burst on Third street on Saturday afternoon and the whole circuit in this vicinity was shut off from water until the necessary repairs were made on Sunday under the supervision of A. H. Sutherland, of the water company. This same line of pipe sprung a leak again a few days later and more extra work had to be done. The extreme cold weather has proven very expensive to the water company this winter owing to the depth the frost has entered the ground.

HARVARD.

News Items.

Invitations to the leap year whist and dancing party by the 1912 club are being sent out this week. Mrs. A. H. Bigelow is president of the club; Mrs. H. C. Maynard, floor director; Mrs. W. H. Fairbank, chairman of the lunch committee; Miss Evelyn Farnsworth, chairman of the decorating committee, and Mrs. A. F. Ripley, chairman of the committee or arrangements.

Mrs. E. P. Watson is visiting friends in Boston this week.

Miss L. F. Sawyer spent Saturday and Sunday in town.

The annual meeting of the Harvard Temperance society will be held at the town hall on Sunday evening, February 25, at 7.30 o'clock. Mr. Wardle, representing the Anti-Saloon league, will address the meeting, putting special emphasis on the work of the league in behalf of temperance legislation and will explain bills now under consideration. The meeting will be of particular interest to voters, and it is hoped a large number will be present. A special musical program has been prepared.

On Friday of last week, Mrs. Edward Sawyer and Mrs. Lucie Richardson, of Ayer, members of the W. R. C., visited the schools of Harvard and with well chosen remarks presented each room in the school with a silk flag in behalf of the W. R. C. of Ayer, Shirley and Harvard. It has been the standing desire of mem-

bers of our G. A. R. post that the American flag should be displayed in the public schools and the children taught to salute. Four years ago a request was sent in through C. J. Clay, superintendent of schools, to the school committee asking that flags be purchased for this purpose, their request being denied at that time.

On Thursday evening, February 29, the members of the 1912 club with their invited guests will hold their regular leap year ball. Complete arrangements are being made by the various committees in charge to make this party second to none of the season. Owing to the fact that this club has acquired a very large membership, it will curtail the invitations and only a limited number can be issued to out-of-town friends. There will be no invitations issued in town. Your membership entitles you to tickets. Names and dues should be left with Miss Mildred Fairbank, secretary.

James Desmond has hired the farm of Fluke Warren, known as the Barnard place, and will move there in the spring.

Schools close on Friday, March 1, for a two-weeks' recess.

Town meeting comes this year on Monday, March 18, instead of on April 1, as usual.

Edgar P. Cleaves has a force of men at work erecting a new house for Henry Veasie on his farm land bought of the Rosa McNiff estate. Mr. Veasie, who has been a very acceptable ward on at the town farm, sees better prospects on a farm of his own and will conclude his services with the overseers of the poor on April 1.

Mr. and Mrs. Ernest Hapenny, of Waltham, were guests over Sunday with Mr. and Mrs. Hanna.

On Tuesday evening of this week Mr. and Mrs. L. E. Morse attended the school drama given at the Fitchburg Normal school. Their son, L. Harlowe Morse, who is a student there took part in the play.

The selectmen have been in session this week settling up town accounts.

Miss W. L. Bryant is home for a recess from school duties at Orfordville, N. H.

Mrs. H. H. Atwood and daughter Ruth are visiting this week with Mr. and Mrs. H. H. Gale.

Misses Edith and Blanche Davis, who have schools in New Hampshire, are at home for the annual March vacation.

Orrin A. Fairbank is working for a few weeks at the McLaughlin Company mill. They have a yard full of logs to worked up into timber and staves.

On Saturday evening, February 17, Frank E. Whitney and Miss Annie E. Haskell, both of this town, were united in marriage. The ceremony took place at the parsonage of the Orthodox church, Rev. H. B. Mason officiating. The young couple will make their home for the present at Milbank, the home of the groom's parents, the health of Mr. Whitney's father making it necessary for him to remain at home for the present.

"Jim Made Good."

The net returns of \$67.10; the large, appreciative audience; the unstinted praise; show clearly "How Jim made good," on Friday evening of last week in the four-act comedy drama given by the principal and pupils of Bromfield school.

The two minor parts were very well taken by Bernard Foss as Jabez Elder, a member of the school board, and Harold W. Whittemore as a tramp, who makes good. The other parts were all strong and of about equal length. Paul H. Sheehan, as Eben Lovejoy, of Hillside farm, and Josephine N. Baker, as Mrs. Lovejoy, his wife, received well deserved praise for their rendition of the parts. Ruth D. Willard, as Cora Harlow, the Lovejoys' help, a born tease, and Elvira E. Royal, as Jim Jones, a farm hand, good as gold, together with Mildred Carman as Lucy Lovejoy, a daughter whom you can't help loving, and A. W. Leonard, principal, as Walter Wayne, the new schoolmaster, made the fun of the evening in their love affairs, both couples doing full justice to their parts.

Herbert F. Dickson, as St. Staples, landlord of Hillside hotel, villain, did well. Cedric F. Webster, in his accustomed role of villain, did remarkably well. In fact all did so well that to make especial mention of any one is to do an injustice to the others.

Between the acts, Madeline H. Parker gave a very pleasing vocal solo. Grace Tewkesbury entertained with a well chosen reading. Helen E. Whitney and Harriet H. Thayer rendered a piano duet which was appreciated. It is to be regretted that the noise of the moving of scenery and of the selling of candy should have detracted from these latter performances.

The members of the cast are expressing their thanks to Josephine Louise Libbie for her very helpful directing and training.

Grange.

Owing to the fact that the entertainment in Still River fell on the same night as the grange there was a somewhat smaller attendance at the latter than is usually the case. Nearly fifty from here attended the Still River affair.

The entertainment at the grange consisted of a rummage sale, conducted, and very successfully, by William J. Kerley. Music was in charge of Miss Grace Morse, violin; Miss Annie Reed, piano; and Mr. West, vocalist. There was quite a large and varied assortment of articles for sale, and Auctioneer Kerley by strenuous work saw that everything was sold, netting the lecturer a very tidy amount of cash to be used as prize money for future entertainment. At this meeting it was voted to accept the invitation of Ayer grange to furnish one-half of an entertainment on neighbors' night in October. The next meeting, March 5, will be in charge of the Graces.

Books Added to the Library.

Allen. Woman's part in government 36891a3
Angell. Reminiscences 36891a3
Bailey. The farm and garden 36891a3
Brown. The one-footed fairy 36891a3

Bryant. Stories to tell to children 36891a3
Burgess. Find the woman 36891a3
Cameron. The pretender person 36891a3
Caruth. Tracks and trails 36891a3
Carter. The religious life of ancient Rome 36891a3
Clarke. The poets' New England 36891a3
Conner. The prospector 36891a3
DeMorgan. A likely story 36891a3
Dimock. The book of the tarpon 36891a3
English. A book of nimble beasts 36891a3
Farnol. The money moon 36891a3
Graves. The farmer boy 36891a3
Greene. The long green road 36891a3
Grenfell. Down north on the Labrador 36891a3
Henderson. George Bernard Shaw 36891a3
Hodges. Saints and heroes 36891a3
Johnston. Famous privateersmen 36891a3
Johnston. Travelers' lives 36891a3
Jacobs. Ships company 36891a3
Lang. The all sorts of stories book 36891a3
Ling. Two years in the forbidden city 36891a3
Masterlinck. Aglavaine and Seysette 36891a3
Meadowcroft. The boy's life of Edison 36891a3
Mills. The spell of the Rockies 36891a3
Molesworth. Fairies afield 36891a3
Moore. The old clock book 36891a3
Osbourne. Robert Louis Stevenson 36891a3
Quirk. Freshman Dorn Pitcher 36891a3
Rolland. Tolstoy 36891a3
Ward. The case of Richard Meynell 36891a3
Washington. My large education 36891a3
Webster. When Patty went to college 36891a3
Webster. Just Patty 36891a3
Wharton. In Chateau land 36891a3
Wheeler. The boy with the U. S. census 36891a3
Wiggin. The talking beasts 36891a3
Wood. Honeymooning in Russia 36891a3
Wright. The love that lives 36891a3

BOXBOROUGH.

News Items.

Mrs. Albert Littlefield spent the week-end in Framingham.

Randall Livermore is home from Cornell college.

Eddie Braman, who was seriously kicked in the leg by a horse two weeks ago, has so far recovered as to be able to resume his duties on the milk team once more.

Mrs. Lena Gartner returned from Cambridge last Sunday after visiting there for several days.

Miss Farnsworth's and Miss Donovan's schools held their sales last week and both displayed many useful things made by their pupils. The parents all did their parts by coming from far and near so that a good sum was netted by both schools.

Daniel Wetherbee, who is working in Worcester, spent Sunday with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. C. T. Wetherbee. C. F. Libbie spent Tuesday in Boston.

Quite a number from here attended the Farmers' Institute at Littleton on Tuesday. Among those who went were Albert Littlefield, Charles Littlefield, Chauncey Robbins and Mrs. Robbins. Mrs. C. T. Wetherbee and Ralph Whitcomb.

We have heard that Bromfield school in Harvard presented "How Jim made good," to quite a large audience there last week Friday evening. We are very much interested in the report because Mrs. Josephine Libbie, our local reader, coached the pupils and took great interest in it so as to have the play a success.

Birthday Party.

The home of Mrs. C. B. Robbins was the scene of a gay party last week Wednesday evening when she gave a sweet sixteen valentine party in honor of the sixteenth birthday of Mabel Wetherbee and Mabel Lawrence. Games were played which were followed by the great event of the evening, that of choosing hearts in which were directions, which if followed, brought each to the hiding place of paper which contained the facts concerning his or her future life. A dainty lunch, consisting of sandwiches, cake, cookies and ice cream was served.

The guests present were Mabel Wetherbee, Robert Poland, Mabel Lawrence, Waldo Livermore, Agnes Greenhalge, Luther Furbush, Annie Donovan, Ralph Furbush, Vera Bradford, Earl Kathon, Izette Farnsworth, Leo Cunningham, Grace Cobleigh, Guy Goodrich, Mabel Livermore and Ralph Whitcomb.

LITTLETON.

News Items.

The address of the Woman's club meeting will be Monday afternoon, February 26, will be given by John Baltzly, D. D. of Hudson. Mr. Baltzly will discuss Browning as a religious poet. A literary treat may well be expected. Miss Emily Smiley will render a piano solo and Mrs. Walter J. Hartwell a vocal solo. Tea will be served by Mrs. Munson and Mrs. Hardy.

The next Alliance meeting will be held on Friday afternoon, March 1, at the home of Mrs. Mary J. Priest. Miss S. F. White will speak upon "Religious news."

The subject of the C. E. tomorrow is "The home missionary whose life has most inspired me."

Mrs. Augustus P. Gardner and little daughter, of Jamaica Plain, were the guests of their cousin, Miss Belle Sawyer, this week.

Misses Annie and Esther Dodge, from Cambridge, are week-end guests of their Dodge relatives in town.

Mrs. James Ireland has an interesting curiosity in perfect laurel blossoms that have developed from a twig kept in a vase of water since Christmas.

The ladies of the Baptist society ask for March 4, on which date they propose to serve an oyster supper, which will be superintended by the primary department of the Sunday school. Mrs. Annie C. Smith has charge of the entertainment for that evening.

The Ladies' Missionary society of the Baptist church will meet with Mrs. Joseph Dodge next Wednesday afternoon. The program is in the hands of Mrs. Smith.

Elmer Flag is serving on the jury at the civil court in Cambridge.

The Ladies' quartet, accompanied by Miss Ruth Prescott, Heywood

Knowlton and Miss Olive Flag go to West Acton next Monday evening to render "Winken, blinken and nod," before the Woman's club.

The United States government will build a house on the quarantine grounds this spring for the use of Supt. Harry Hume and his family, and at an early date will replace the present wooden barns by cement buildings.

Some of our townspeople report the return of robins.

At the Pomona, to be held in Littleton on February 29, Rev. O. J. Fairfield will take for the subject of his address, "Life in the far west as compared with that in the east."

Mrs. Hartwell Whitcomb's brother, Charles Holton, of West Acton, continues to fail. He fell recently on the ice, breaking a rib, which was pushed inward, causing serious internal trouble.

Gardner W. Prouty has been to the McDowell private hospital in Boston for treatment and at last reports was making satisfactory improvement.

Miss Slickman, of Holyoke, who has been traveling in Europe for seven months recently, is visiting her friend, Mrs. Willard A. Munson. Mr. Munson is at Amherst Agricultural college, taking a two-weeks' course in apple packing under instruction of a professional packer from the Hood River district. At the completion of the course Mr. Munson will visit relatives in Holyoke and in the state of Vermont before returning home.

Nathan Hartwell, of Somerville, is visiting his uncle, Nahum H. Whitcomb.

Edwin N. Robinson has purchased of Joseph Dodge, the triangular section of land between Great road and Miss Augusta Nye's place, and expects to put up two houses on the lot, one of them to be occupied by Wallace Robinson.

Mrs. S. Z. Cleaves, of West Rindge, N. H., is the guest of her daughter, Mrs. John H. Kimball.

A large number from the catholic mission attended the sleighride Saturday night. They were conveyed in three of M. W. Leahy's teams and one of Mr. Bartheaux's. Following the ride the party assembled in lower town hall and enjoyed a good supper, later repairing to the upper hall for a social and dance. Miss Esther McEnnis, pianist and Charles Gallagher, cornetist, furnished the music for dancing. Nearly eighty dollars was cleared.

Gardner W. Prouty has bought a new upright piano for his family.

Edwin Loring, of Worcester, has bought of Leonard Cutler the small farm at Liberty square, formerly owned by Elmer Flag, and will take possession on March 1. His mother, Mrs. Addie Russell Loring, will make her home with him.

To Be Presented.

Members of the cast of characters in "The colonel's maid," to be presented by the Backlog club in town hall on February 27 and 28, attended the performance of that play in Stow last Saturday evening. Concord high will put on the same play in Concord during the month of April. The following is the cast of characters: Colonel Robert Rudd, N. H. Whitcomb; Colonel Richard Byrd, F. A. Hosmer; Major Byrd, Mrs. F. B. Priest; Bob Rudd, B. F. Jacobs; Mrs. John Carroll, Colonel Rudd's sister-in-law, Mrs. J. H. D. Whitcomb; Julia Carroll, her daughter, Mrs. H. F. Proctor; Ned Graydon, Harry Barker; James Blacksmith, G. L. Priest; Chin-ah-ling, C. W. Shedd.

Books Loaned.

The Reuben Hoar library has received from the library of the Amherst Agricultural college the following list of books:

Spraying a profitable investment. Our trees, how to know them. Farmer's business hand book. Fungous diseases of plants. Manual of gardening. Fruit growers' guide book. Chapters in rural progress. Law for the American farmer. Farm Beverly, farmer. Farm blacksmithing. Farm and garden rule book. Principles of breeding. Fruit houses and fixtures. Making poultry pay by the Philo system. Ducks and geese.

These books are loaned to the library for an indefinite period and may be taken out for home use.

Suspicious Sympathy.

One of the remarkable results of the Lawrence textile strike is the wonderful outburst of sympathy for the children of the strikers who are being sent to New York, Philadelphia and other points where they can find food and shelter in the homes of friends until the trouble is over. It is a peculiar slant this sympathy taking that makes it wonderful.

According to the Boston American, which sets the matter out in its customary lurid style, great indignation is expressed by leading citizens of Lawrence and Boston at the children of the strikers should be so taken care of by sympathizers of their own class in other cities. But as far as I have been able to gather from the published accounts not one of these wonderfully sympathetic people have proposed any plan for caring for these same children or lifted a finger to keep them from suffering from hunger and cold during the strike. The idea evidently is that they should be allowed to suffer these things with their parents that the strike may the sooner be broken.

It is somewhat strange that the children of these same people have by the force of circumstances been driven into these mills by the hundred to be bound to a machine by the chains of necessity at the age of fourteen and rear out for three or four dollars per week and nobody has thought to sympathize with them.

So long as the parents are willing and the children do not object, and the workers of other cities are glad to help the common cause in this way I see no reason why first or second citizens of Boston or Lawrence or any other places should be so wrought up about the matter—unless they own stock in the Lawrence mills. A bill to prevent the parading of

the children in the streets were filed in the house by Rep. Martin Hays, of Brighton as follows:

"It shall be unlawful to transport or use any children under the age of eighteen years for the purpose of soliciting contributions or of exciting sympathy or of disseminating information or of advertising or calling attention to any matter of public or legal interest." Penalty, \$1000 fine or a year's imprisonment.

As a brutally frank piece of strike-breaking legislation that would Russinize Massachusetts, this certainly "takes the cake."

A law has also been suggested prohibiting the sending of children out of the state in time of strike. If we have a legislature that will pass such legislation as this to help out the Lawrence mill owners we need not wait long before every citizen will have to get a passport to leave the state.

The solons of Beacon Hill have performed some wondrous work in the past but if they pass Rep. Hays' measure, so suggestive of a retainer, they will reach a sublimity of assiduity that I cannot yet think possible.

V. T. E.

About Town.

During vacation, some of the rooms in the Union school building have been fumigated on account of measles.

Rev. O. J. Fairfield went to Ware on Tuesday to speak before the Woman's Alliance, while his wife read a paper here before the Farmers' Institute on "Housekeeping and home-making."

On last week Thursday evening, under the auspices of the older members of the Backlog club, their miscellaneous entertainment seemed to give good satisfaction. Mrs. Munson gave three graphophone selections. Mrs. Dorothy Hardy and Rev. O. J. Fairfield gave some humorous selections, Little George Chandler entertainingly rendered a monologue, being loudly applauded, and Mr. Lawrence read a selection. Pop corn, corn balls and apples helped fill out the social hour.

Washington will be the subject of the Guild, upon which Karlton Needham will speak.

HE WONT LIMP NOW.

No more limping for Tom Moore of Cochran, Ga. "I had a bad sore on my instep that nothing seemed to help till I used Bucklen's Arnica Salve," he writes, "but this wonderful healer soon cured me." Heals old, running sores, ulcers, boils, burns, cuts, bruises, eczema or piles. Try it. Only 25 cents at William Brown's, Ayer.

New Advertisements

Auction

By virtue of power and authority given by Chandler Planer Company, a body corporate having its usual place of business in Ayer, in the County of Middlesex, in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts to E. D. Martell of said Ayer, will be sold at Public Auction in said Ayer, on Thursday the twenty-ninth day of February A. D. 1912, at nine o'clock in the forenoon, the first mortgage bond No. 142 of said Chandler Planer Company for One Thousand Dollars (\$1000.00) with all interest coupons thereto attached. Said sale to be for the purpose of foreclosing the right of said Chandler Planer Company to redeem said bond now held in pledge.

E. D. MARTELL, Pledgee.
Ayer, Mass., February 12th, 1912.

ASK MR. BROWN

Here's Some Important News for Men

Who are Growing Bald

People who have taken our word for it that PARISIAN SAGE is the real hair grower, beautifier and dandruff cure have never been disappointed. Here's the word of a person who took our word.

"I have been using PARISIAN SAGE about a year. When I began to use it I had only a light 'fuzz' on my head. Now I have a good thick growth, and it is growing thicker and longer right along. Many people don't believe it can be done, but I know from my own experience with PARISIAN SAGE that it can; I recommend it in the fullest confidence.—Gaines Brown, 708 North Fillmore St., Maryville, Mo.

The above statement was made to Dr. C. D. Koch of the Koch Pharmacy, Maryville, Mo., April 29, 1911. Large bottle 50 cents at William Brown's, Ayer, and druggists everywhere. It is guaranteed.

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS, Middlesex, Probate Court. To all persons interested in any of the real estate of FIDELIA C. BEHRENS late of Pepperell in said County, deceased, interested:

Whereas, FRANK H. BEHRENS of Pepperell in the County of Middlesex, has presented to said Court a petition, representing that he is the husband of said deceased, is entitled to take five thousand dollars and one half of the remaining personal and one half of the real estate

SHIRLEY.

News Items.

Clifford Felch, son of Mr. and Mrs. Arthur E. Felch, is now employed in a responsible position with the Packard Automobile Company, of Boston. In addition to this, Clifford, in company with a business friend, has purchased a large auto truck and has negotiated a yearly contract with a few large shoe manufacturers of Lynn to convey goods to and from Boston. They have hired a man to operate the auto truck and find the investment is netting a good profit weekly. Mr. Felch's many Shirley friends will be pleased to know of his success.

Mr. and Mrs. Arthur E. Felch, with Miss Ruby and Master Alfred Felch; also, Mr. and Mrs. Felch, of Barre, spent last Saturday in Boston, returning to the Felch homestead on Harvard road where Mr. and Mrs. Felch, of Barre, were entertained over Sunday.

The regular business meeting of the Ladies' Aid society of the Universalist church will be held with Mrs. B. S. Binney on next Wednesday evening at 7.30 o'clock. Following this will be the meeting of the Mission circle with a paper by Mrs. Mary W. Hazen. Watchword, "Unselfishness."

Alex Bolger was arraigned in the Ayer district court on Wednesday morning and was given an indeterminate sentence to the state farm at Bridgewater for non-support of his wife and family.

At the regular meeting of the members of the Société l'Assomption held last Sunday two new members were initiated.

Miss Madeline Cormier has gone to Athol where she has accepted a position in a shoe shop.

Fred Arsenault and Louis Boucher, of Leominster, were visitors at the home of Alex Gionet last Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. Stanislaus Landry, of Lowell, were week-end visitors at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Landry.

Mr. and Mrs. Dana Somes and W. Lloyd Allen, of Boston, were week-end guests at the home of their parents, Mr. and Mrs. Elmer H. Allen.

Mrs. George W. Balch started on Tuesday morning for Franklin, N. H., to visit and care for Mrs. Nancy Wiggins, an aunt, who is seriously ill.

Lenten exercises were observed in St. Anthony's church on Wednesday evening of this week and will also be observed tonight.

Fredonian lodge, I. O. O. F., conferred the initiatory degree on three candidates at its regular meeting last week Thursday evening. The first degree will be conferred on six candidates at the regular meeting next week Thursday evening.

Mrs. Will Love in company with Miss Lillian Kelly attended the funeral of Mrs. Love's grandniece in Everett, the latter part of last week.

J. C. Ayer lodge, A. O. U. W., will hold its regular meeting next Monday evening.

The dancing party at Odd Fellows' hall last week Friday evening, held under the auspices of J. C. Ayer lodge, A. O. U. W., was a delightful social success. Thomas C. Burrill was floor director, assisted by John M. Leopold and Harry O. Bangs, who served as aids. Refreshments were served under the direction of Mrs. Logue, Mrs. Miner, Mrs. Knowles and Miss Nellie Casey. The committee of arrangements consisted of J. H. Logue, J. M. Stevens, P. E. Hocquard and Walter Knowles. Johnson's orchestra furnished music.

Henry W. Brockelman is visiting relatives and friends in Connecticut.

Mrs. Annie Fuller, who is confined to her home with acute pleurisy, seems to remain about the same with no material change in her condition.

Mrs. Frank P. Ruger has been confined to home for a week past with bronchitis.

Seeking Damages.

Charles H. Hewes of Shirley, employed at the State Industrial School for Boys, severely injured his arm a couple of years ago while working in the laundry of the above institution, which has resulted in destroying the use of his arm to such an extent that renders it useless. In consequence he has petitioned the state legislature to give him the sum of ten thousand dollars.

Monday morning a hearing was given him at the state house, Boston, before the committee on public charitable institutions. At that hearing the following were present to testify and give their aid to the committee as was essential and necessary in helping them to obtain the full and correct facts in the case: Charles M. Davenport and James J. Sheehan, trustees of the Industrial school, Dr. T. E. Lilly, school physician, George P. Campbell, superintendent of the school, Dr. William Brooks of Boston, surgeon, and Fred Whitcomb, school probation officer.

The hearing was exhaustive, covering every detail which the committee will take under consideration and in all probability will recommend to the joint committee of the house and senate that a sum of money sufficient to compensate Mr. Hewes be given him for the injury sustained.

Entertained Friends.

Miss Eva Heroux entertained a number of her friends last Saturday evening at her home on Fredonian street. The festivities of the evening commenced with a game of whist, the hostess awarding prizes which were won by the following guests: Miss Celia Conturier, first for ladies; Roderick Cassavoy, first for gentlemen; Miss Blanche Credit and Wilfred Hachi receiving the booby prizes. Following the game, a brief program of entertainment was rendered, consisting of vocal and instrumental music, games of various kinds were indulged in and refreshments served.

During the evening Miss Heroux was presented with a set of gold mounted rosary beads, Miss Mary Chaisson making the presentation, and in behalf of all present read a brief address which very appropriately voiced the good will sentiments of all present. Miss Heroux very aptly re-

sponded in words of gratitude and appreciation.

The evening's enjoyment came to a close shortly before the midnight hour, all departing for their homes with memories of an evening delightfully spent. Those present were:

Misses Elphama l'Eveuer, Christine Gionet, Mary Chaisson, Lucy Chaisson, Mary A. Joyal, Oringa Joyal, Conrana Joyal, Celia Conturier, Blanche Credit, Bertha Credit, also, Miss Eliza Lajoie, of Leominster, Felix Gionet, Joseph Chaisson, Charles Chaisson, Eddie Pelote, Hector Pouthurand, Adolphe Geyer, Roderick Cassavoy, Joseph Harpin, Dorlor Conturier, Henry Burke, Arthur Brodeau, Joseph Ledon, of Leominster, and Wilfred Hachi, of Athol.

Property Changes Hands.

The Davis hotel, so-called, will soon be vacated by the Charles E. Haskins family who have occupied it for the past ten years, having passed out of his hands through a mortgage sale. The hotel will be occupied April 1, by Mr. and Mrs. John Desmond and family, consisting of seven children, who will come here from Waltham, though formerly residents of Harvard. It is the intention of the new occupants to operate a first-class boarding house on a large scale and also cater to transients. With this in view, repairs of a very extensive character are now being made at the hotel, in fact it will be renovated throughout and equipped with electric lights.

It would be difficult to estimate the exact amount of money to be expended at the present time as the repair work will embrace so many details. However, the new occupants expect the sum will reach fully \$2000. Mr. Haskins' family will locate near Shirley Center for the present.

Whist and Entertainment.

Over 250 were present at St. Anthony's hall on Monday evening to enjoy the games of whist and entertainment provided by the parishioners of St. Anthony's church. The full band of the Samson Cordage Works was present and gave selections during the whist hour. Miss Mildred Day won first prize for ladies, and Joseph Cassavoy won first prize for men. Booby prizes were awarded to Mrs. Sylvester Thomas and Joseph Thomas. Other prizes were won by Joseph Gionet, Burt Seymour and Ferdinand Gendron.

At the close of the game of whist a brief farce was given, entitled "Fun in school," by all local talent who were members of the parish and consisted of Felix Gionet, Frank Pelote, Fred Lepage and George Thomas. At the close of the entertainment refreshments was served to the members of the band who were prime factors in the program of entertainment.

The affair as a whole was a pronounced social and financial success.

Broken Into.

The cottage of Frederick W. Holden at Port pond was broken into on Saturday night; also, the Roux cottage, which is located on the island. As the cottages at Port pond are somewhat isolated at this time of the year, Mr. Holden was not immediately informed of the break. However, it appears that the Roux cottage was entered first and as far as can be learned only an axe was taken, and this was utilized to break and enter Mr. Holden's cottage, as upon investigation Mr. Holden discovered that the intruders had gained entrance to his cottage by smashing a window, apparently with the stolen axe.

Once inside the thieves ransacked the cottage from top to bottom, as everything available was either thrown on the floor or found out of its usual place. So far Mr. Holden has only missed a revolver, but it is quite safe to assume that a number of minor articles of more or less value have been taken, but just how many will not be definitely known until Mr. Holden opens up his cottage again and starts housekeeping, will be in position to count his full and complete loss. There is no clue as yet as to who the robbers are.

Birthday Celebration.

It will be interesting for the older residents of Shirley to know that William Dean Howells, the author, will observe his seventy-fifth birthday on March 2, and a dinner in honor of this event will be given in New York city. The special guest at this birthday anniversary will be President Taft, who has promised to attend. William Dean Howells spent a summer in Shirley and wrote a book about thirty-five years ago, boarding at the brick tavern, so-called, which was then a boarding-house and run by a Mrs. Barton. This place is now owned and run by Miss Caroline P. Corder, of Boston, as a summer boarding-house for working girls who reside in the city, and is known as the Holiday house, with Augustus Buckheim as caretaker.

Capacity Overtaxed.

The need of the Shirley Industrial school for boys is evidenced by the fact that during the very brief time since it has opened its capacity has been reached. There are now 125 boys there under the care of the state commission and that body is now asking the legislature for sufficient funds to erect another building. Recent visitors to the institution tell of the really practical work done there to fit the wayward lads, committed to its care, for useful places in life. Under present conditions, court officials have in some instances been compelled to send boys to the Concord reformatory rather than to this school, because its capacity was overtaxed.

Center.

The Girls' Sewing Guild of Trinity chapel will hold their next meeting with Mrs. William E. Barnard on Saturday afternoon, February 24.

Marion L. Holden and Ruth M. Graves, of Fitchburg State Normal school, are enjoying a ten-days' vacation, beginning on Wednesday.

The last regular meeting of the First Parish Branch Alliance was held at the home of Mrs. Ezekiel Wilson at the village. Although the attendance was small, all spent a very enjoyable afternoon. The program for the afternoon consisted of a paper on "Religious Intelligence," by Mrs. La-

vonne Edgarton, and read by Miss Agnes Holden, as Mrs. Edgarton could not be present. At the next meeting, on Thursday, March 7, a good attendance is desired as the new director is expected to be present. The place of meeting will be announced later.

Miss Bessie V. Farnsworth attended the tenth meeting of the Baerman society on Commonwealth avenue, Boston, last week, at the College club. Miss Farnsworth played the following selections: Chopin, Nocturne, E major Op. 9, No. 11, Brahms, Rhapsodie, B minor Op. 79, No. 1.

Dr. Fuller, of Boston, was a guest of Howard Fuller over Saturday and Sunday.

Thomas H. Evans, of Fitchburg high school, is having a ten-days' vacation from his studies.

The next regular meeting of the Matrons' Aid will be held on Tuesday afternoon, February 27, at the home of Mrs. Ardie A. Adams.

Mrs. Henry L. Farnsworth was a guest of Mr. and Mrs. Louis J. Farnsworth, at the North, last week.

The Shirley Center primary and grammar schools united on Tuesday and held the annual valentine box. Each child received two valentines from his teachers in addition to those received from other children.

Mary Groat is confined to her home with the measles. Olive Frary, at the East, is also a sufferer from them.

Mrs. John B. Crowe, at the East, is recovering from a very painful carbuncle.

Frank Farnsworth is suffering from the measles and is confined to his home under the care of Dr. T. E. Lilly.

The next meeting of the Middlesex-Worcester Pomona grange will be held at Littleton on Thursday, February 29.

Miss Helen M. Winslow, of Cambridge, spent Saturday with her sister, Miss Harriet Winslow.

Mrs. Mary Sleeper and son Raymond, who have been spending the winter with relatives in West Groton, have returned to their house in North Shirley.

Mrs. Elizabeth McCormick, of the North, visited friends in Norwood and Boston last week.

Marion and Gertrude Warren, of Worcester, are staying at the home of their grandfather, Charles Longley.

Charles Haskins and son, of the village, moved their goods on Tuesday from the Davis hotel to the house at the North owned by John W. Farrar.

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

Ruth M. Graves attended the five-act play, "The rivals," which was given very successfully on Tuesday evening at Fitchburg, by the members of the junior class of the Fitchburg State Normal school.

A leap year ball will be given in the town hall on Thursday evening, February 23, under the auspices of the young people of Shirley grange. It is expected that Thayer's orchestra, of Pepperell, will furnish the music.

Robert H. J. Holden, of Harvard university, spent Wednesday and Thursday with his mother, Mrs. Hattie P. Holden, at her home on Horsepond road.

Ruth M. Graves started on Thursday for a short visit with Miss Adelaide West, at Townsend Center. Misses Merle and Ruby Crockett, of Lunenburg, spent the week-end with their parents, Mr. and Mrs. William L. Crockett, at the North.

The barge belonging to Daniel Bartlett, used for transporting the school children from the East, tipped over on Monday afternoon on Horsepond road. Fortunately no one was hurt.

Grange Notes.

A good attendance was present at the meeting of Shirley grange on Tuesday evening, when a Washington and Lincoln entertainment was given. The program consisted of a roll-call answered by all the members, with stories or anecdotes of Washington and Lincoln; song, "Battle hymn of the Republic," grange; reading, "Truthful George," Margaret Evans; readings, Mrs. Norman B. Graves; selections, William Jubb.

The next meeting of the Middlesex-Worcester Pomona grange will be held on Thursday, February 29, at Littleton.

At the next meeting of Shirley grange, on Tuesday evening March 3, Prof. Yeaw, of Amherst college, will give a lecture on "The business of market-gardening." Musical selections and readings will complete the program. This meeting will be open to the public. A short business meeting will be held at 7.30.

Death.

Miss Zoë Almira Hewes passed away on Saturday at the Cushing hospital in Brookline from the effects of a tumor. She was born in November, 1880, at the house on Clark road, where she lived until the time of her death. She was the only daughter, her parents being Fred Hewes and Janette (Cummings) Hewes. Miss Hewes had been ill for some time and was removed on Sunday, February 11, to the Cushing hospital, where she underwent an operation the same evening. On Saturday she underwent another operation, from which she did not survive.

Miss Hewes was of a very quiet nature and was well liked by all who knew her. Her sorrowing family have the sincere sympathy of everyone.

The funeral was held at Mr. Hewes' home on Tuesday afternoon, Rev. J. W. Thomas, of Ayer, officiating. Vocal music was rendered by Mrs. Thomas. The body was taken to the village cemetery for burial. The near relatives who survive Miss Hewes are, besides her parents, four brothers—Nelson, Henry, George and Dean.

HOLLIS, N. H.

News Items.

The Hollis Woman's club met with Miss Clara Smith on Wednesday afternoon. The meeting was in charge of Mrs. Bessie McInnes. The first on the program was a Japanese play entitled

"The winning of the friar san." The characters were represented by Miss Mildred Rogers, Mrs. Bessie McInnes, Miss Minnie Bancroft, Mrs. Sallie Sanders, Mrs. Willis C. Hardy. A vocal solo was given by Mrs. Herrig, Mrs. Eliza Hardy and Mrs. Snow. The play was very pretty and the parts were well taken. After the play a social hour was enjoyed.

Mrs. Addie P. Gale went to Worcester on Wednesday for a day's visit.

Miss Mary Childs, of Mason, is spending several weeks with her sister, Mrs. Goodwin.

Willis C. Hardy attended the marriage reception of Governor and Mrs. Robert P. Bass at Concord on February 19.

Harvey Willoughby, who with his wife came to Hollis last fall, suffered a shock of paralysis last week.

Rev. T. C. H. Boynton, of Hudson, supplied the pulpit again last Sunday. The committee of supply have not procured any candidate for the church yet, although they assure the people there is a long list of them.

BROOKLINE, N. H.

News Items.

The Loyal Workers meet at the home of Mrs. S. L. Shuman on February 28.

James Gilson and his mother spent Sunday at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Harry Gilson at Townsend.

Dr. Jones, of Quincy, Mass., was the guest of Miss Olive Shuman over Sunday.

Mrs. Meyer and Mrs. Worthington, from Somerville, Mass., have hired apartments at Mrs. Mary Cox's, and will take possession the last of the week.

Charles Wilkins and family are to move to Nashua in the near future.

Recent guests at the Elmwood have been N. E. Rogers, A. C. Bishop, George Bugbee, Nashua; S. H. Griffin, R. S. Gowne, Boston; Mr. Chadburn, Worcester; John Nash, F. R. Bennett, E. Pepperell; Alfred J. McClure, Jr., Concord; Mr. Nute, Manchester.

BLAMED A GOOD WORKER.
"I blamed my heart for severe distress in my left side for two years," writes W. Evans, Danville, Va., "but I know now it was indigestion, as Dr. King's New Life Pills completely cured me." Best for stomach, liver and kidney troubles, constipation, headache or debility. 25c. at William Brown's, Ayer.

AUCTIONS.

Otis H. Forbush, auctioneer, will sell by auction on Saturday, February 24, at 9.30 a. m., cows, horses, hens, wagons, etc., the property of Frank A. Melvin, North Sudbury.

Otis H. Forbush, auctioneer, will sell by public auction forty choice cows, heifers and one bull, the property of Benjamin Derby, Concord Junction. The sale will be held on Monday, February 26, at 9.45 a. m.

MR. DOOLEY SAYS

That he writes only for the Boston Sunday Globe in New England—A New Series by the Foremost Living Humorist—James Montgomery Flagg's "Kitty Cobb" Series in the Sunday Globe is Making a Popular Hit.

The reading public all through New England has cause to appreciate the wonderful galaxy of writers of National fame whose articles appear in the Boston Sunday Globe. In no other paper in New England appears the timely and philosophical humor of Mr. Dooley. He and his friend, Mr. Hinessey, have a way of hitting the nail on the head every time. Mr. Dooley bids fair to add to his laurels by the new series just begun in the Sunday Globe, by one of the most famous artists in the country, James Montgomery Flagg, is another feature of the Sunday Globe. The large and dramatic drawings tell their own story, and Mr. Flagg's subject is one full of human interest—the story of a simple country girl in the large city. When the series is finished Globe readers will have a book of pictures of great value.

George Ade is another author whose writings hit the popular fancy. His fables of the 1912 model now running in the Sunday Globe are better than any this famous author and playwright has produced.

The Sunday Globe's magazine section is contributed by a long list of capable writers, on subjects of world-wide interest. James B. Morrow's interviews with famous men, Frank G. Carpenter's articles on travels in foreign lands and Mr. C. E. Lewis' column of humor, which tells of the troubles of Mr. Bowser, are alone worth the price of the paper.

Other well-known Sunday Globe contributors are George Alfred Townsend and T. P. O'Connor.

The Boston Sunday Globe, as always, contains all the news, the best illustrations and the cleanest and funniest comic section printed by any Sunday newspaper.

New Advertisements

UNIQUE NAME

Many People Cannot Pronounce Name of World's Most Famous Catarrh Remedy

High-o-me—that's the proper way to pronounce HYOMEI the old reliable remedy, that has rid tens of thousands of people of that vile and disgusting disease. HYOMEI is made of purest Australian eucalyptus combined with thymol and other effective antiseptics and is guaranteed to be free from cocaine or any harmful drug. HYOMEI is guaranteed to end the misery of catarrh, asthma, croup, catarrhal deafness, bronchitis, coughs or colds, or sneezy back. Breathe it that's all, no dosing the stomach. Complete outfit, including indestructible inhaler, \$1.00. Extra bottles of HYOMEI, if needed, 50 cents at William Brown's, Ayer, and druggists everywhere.

STRAND WAGON COMPANY

Saves you money on Farm Wagons and Tip Carts. Have Traverser Runners and Sleds in Stock. We build wheels. 1yr18.

PROTECT YOURSELF AGAINST

— FIRE —

BY INSURING WITH

E. D. STONE, Insurance Agent

Page's Block, Ayer.

STAMPING

I am prepared to do all kinds of stamping at my home. 1yr8.
ANNA SATTELL
Groton Street, East Pepperell, Mass.

Would You think of carrying cold tea or coffee with your lunch if you knew you could

Get It Hot Always Ready When You're Ready



Invest in a VACO BOTTLE. They are warranted to keep liquid hot for 24 hours, and come in pint and quart sizes.

I. G. DWINELL
Ayer, Mass.

Write to Others ON

Right Stationery

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

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

Stationery for every occasion.

BROWN'S

PRESCRIPTION DRUG STORE

Main Street Ayer, Mass.

B. F. Keith's

Theatre

Lowell, Mass.

Vaudeville Attractions

WEEK OF FEBRUARY 26

TEN DARK NIGHTS
A Great Musical Singing and Dancing Novelty

ESTELLE WORDETTE & CO.
A Clever Comedy

WESTON, FIELDS & CARROL
A Big Singing Novelty

STEINART TRIO
European Acrobats

MOTT AND MAYFIELD
One Long Laugh

THE SHILLINGS
Sharpshooters

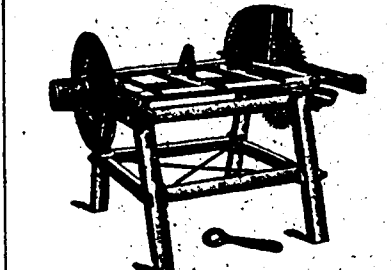
HUGO AND TAYLOR
Worlds of Fun

HELEN NOMO
High-class Singer

BIG SUNDAY CONCERT

Prices 15c. to 50c.—Matinee, best seat 25c.—Phone 25—Box Office Open from 9.30 a. m. to 10 p. m.
Those patrons of the Lowell and Fitchburg St. Ry. attending the evening performances have ample time to take the 10.47 car for Ayer.

IDEAL WOOD SAW



Tilting Frame with 24-in. Blade \$22.60
Sliding Table with 24-in. Blade \$23.80

BENNETT BROS. CO.
41-51 Payne Street Lowell, Mass.



Don't Think OF

erecting a home or having repairs done in your house without having an estimate given on it by me. I am ready at any time, whether in cold or

Hot Weather

to do satisfactory work at moderate prices. I contract for buildings from top to bottom, including Plumbing, Painting, Paper Hanging, Stone Work, Etc.

The Highest grades of Paint and Paper will be found at my shop on Central Avenue.
I also deal in Real Estate, and have a few bargains that are worth while looking at.

C. H. Hardy

Contractor and Builder

AYER, MASS.

Residence, Pleasant Street
Office telephone 74-2.

Ayer
Fruit Store

Mead's Block, Ayer

is the place where you can get goods that will satisfy everybody. Fresh stock of Chocolates received every day.

The best line of

Fancy Boxes

OF

Chocolates

In Town

ALSO

CIGARS, CIGARETTES
AND TOBACCO

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

GEO. S. POULIUS & CO.

Telephone Connection - Ayer, Mass.

Mark-Down Sale of

Millinery

Goods

All Trimmed and Untrimmed Hats

at Half Price

Specials

GROTON.

News Items.

Miss Helen W. Dodge, of Groton Inn, was the guest of Mrs. Harry H. Farnum this week at Winter Hill.

Mrs. Abram Miller is under the doctor's care, being ill with laryngitis.

Henry W. Whiting, though somewhat improved, is still under the doctor's care and in bed with stomach trouble and a bad cough.

The cutting off of telephone wires into the new cable, which has been going on for several days, has caused much disturbance in the telephone service, as many have been out of commission.

Miss Alice Kelley, of Fitchburg, is the name of the operator at the central telephone station.

Clement Cleary, youngest child of M. Joseph Cleary, has the scarlet fever.

Clarence J. Hemenway met with an accident last week Friday morning while at work as brakeman at Ayer. Dr. Kilbourn was summoned and took him to the Groton hospital. One bone in his ankle was broken and another small bone shoved down into the ankle. A plaster cast was put on up to the knee and everything was favorable to recovery. Mr. Hemenway is expected to be able to be taken to his own home this week.

Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Gilson, Miss Hattie Woods and brother, William Woods, Mr. and Mrs. Millard Sawyer and their sons, Howard and Stanley Sawyer, attended the Farmers' Institute at Littleton on Tuesday.

"The last loaf," presented by the Ayer Baracca class in the town hall on Tuesday night, was well staged, all the characters being finely taken. There was a fair sized audience, which would, without doubt, be much larger except for the many different events of the day. The dance as well as the play was enjoyed by those present. The amount realized beyond the expenses goes into the treasury of Groton grange.

The Neighborhood club held the regular fortnightly meeting last week Thursday afternoon with Mrs. J. H. Sargent. The usual reading and social program, followed by refreshments was enjoyed, and St. Valentine was not forgotten. The meeting in all respects was a very pleasant one.

The academy boys, with some of the teachers enjoyed a sleighride last Saturday afternoon.

The senior class of the high school, chaperoned by their teachers, Miss Fannie Woods and Miss Jewett, were taken by J. E. Adams' team on a sleighride to Pepperell on Wednesday night. They went to attend the play given by the senior class of the Pepperell high school.

James Robinson, one of the leading foremen at the Hollingsworth & Vose paper mill, West Groton, is staying at Groton Inn, where his wife is expected soon, if not already arrived. Mr. Robinson comes of a long line of paper makers, the oldest perhaps in the country. His father, years ago, was in the business in Pepperell, and afterward went to Maynard. He married a daughter of Mr. Stuart, who in the 60's was superintendent of the West Groton paper mill. Mr. Stuart is well remembered, and when spoken of, the fatal railroad accident to two of his children is recalled.

James Bywater went to Nashua on Wednesday for an operation on his eyes to be performed on Thursday.

Mrs. Bessie McCarthy, widow of James McCarthy, is at the eye and ear infirmary, Boston, to undergo an operation for a nasal trouble.

Miss Fannie Woods attended the Teachers of English association held at Fitchburg last Saturday.

"The Kentucky belle," is the name of the play to be given this spring by the senior class of the high school. The parts have not yet been assigned. This is a southern play, very different from the college play of last season.

Should the Lawrence strike not be settled by next Monday, Dr. E. B. Branigan expects that he will have to go into service there, as a member of the 1st Corps Boston Cadets.

Some flaps were out for Washington's birthday, and nearly all the schools had programs in observance of the day. Among these was the Chicopee row school, where a number of visitors were present.

At this writing, Thursday afternoon, Everett Johnson, we regret to say, is still very low with but small hope of recovery. He was taken first with whooping cough and soon seized with scarlet fever. He is the son of Maitland Johnson, and was when taken ill a student at Lawrence academy.

Mr. and Mrs. James Lawrence, of Groton, are in New York for a few days and are staying at the Hotel Wolcott.

Mrs. Elvira Ames is in town for a few days this week, and is staying with Mrs. Lizzie Parker on Hollis street. She will return later to be with her son, Rev. C. B. Ames, at Belfast, Me.

Mrs. George W. Lewis, of West Upton were in town this week.

Miss Lucy B. Raddin, teacher at Everett, came home for Washington's birthday, having a vacation for the rest of the week. Her cousin, Miss Effie Finley, from Haverhill, came up with her.

The D. R.'s were entertained last week Thursday afternoon by Mrs. A. J. Clough. The ladies listened with much enjoyment to an exceedingly interesting talk by Rev. J. P. Trowbridge. His subject was the life and letters of Madame Riedesel, the wife of a Hessian commander, who was in Gen. Burgoyne's troops. Mrs. Riedesel lived six years in this country. This paper composed the afternoon's program, except for the usual refreshments and social hour.

Miss Phyllis E. Gay, teacher at Brockton, came home on Tuesday for a week's vacation.

Wedding.

With only members of the two immediate families present, the marriage of Miss Hester Lawrence, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. John Lawrence, of Groton, to Richard Dudley Fay, eldest son of Mr. and Mrs. Dudley Bowditch Fay, of Beacon street, Boston, and Nahant, took place on Saturday at the home of the bride's parents in this town. The officiating clergyman was the bride's uncle, Rev. Endicott Peabody, headmaster of the Groton School. The wedding was so simple in all its arrangements that there were no bridal attendants, and even the customary service of a best man was dispensed with, in the desire to have it a very quiet family affair.

Mr. and Mrs. Fay will reside in Colorado, where they will go as soon as arrangements are completed. This marriage has been unexpectedly hastened to make the change in climate and more recently so by his experience as cavalryman at the Lawrence strike. Friends of the young couple will wish them all happiness as they go west to found a new home.

The engagement of Miss Lawrence to Mr. Fay was announced about the middle of last June. Miss Lawrence is the eldest of four daughters of Mr. and Mrs. Lawrence. Her mother was formerly Miss Martha Endicott Peabody. Other daughters of the family are the Misses Mary, Geraldine and Harriette P. Lawrence. The bride of Saturday was formally presented to society several seasons ago. The relatives include the Peabodys, the Wolcotts, Brooks, Hemenway and other equally prominent families. Mr. Fay's mother was Miss Kate Gray, previous to her marriage. The daughters of the family are the Misses Elizabeth, Alice and Rosamond Fay, as well as Mrs. Robert Wade Williams, of "Bridlemere," Medford, who was Miss Ethel Fay. The Lawrence and Fay families both have summer residences at Nahant, the first-named on Nahant road, while the Fay estate is delightfully situated in Vernon street.

Happy Birthday.

On Friday evening, February 16, the Neighborhood club, including the gentlemen and children who are honorary members, in all a company of twenty-eight people, met for a happy birthday party at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Graves, to celebrate the birthday of their host. Mr. Jewett, one of their number, with his strong span of horses attached to a large sled, conveyed the party to and from the welcoming home. It was a delightful old-fashioned ride—the beginning and close of a delightful evening's pleasure—music, humorous recitations, songs, a game, requiring nimble thought and the social intercourse all combined to make this a thoroughly enjoyable event. All present found themselves wishing in their hearts many happy returns of the day.

The fortnightly meetings of the club and congenial gatherings like the above promote good fellowship, kindly interest and sympathy amongst neighbors, which go a long way towards brightening the passing days.

W. R. C. Meeting.

After the regular meeting of the W. R. C. on Tuesday afternoon, a program in observance of Washington's and Lincoln's birthdays, which was prepared by Mrs. Maria Bowers, patriotic instructor, was successfully carried out as follows:

Piano duet, Mrs. Bessie Sherwin and Miss Alice Dodge; reading, Mrs. Marcia Parkhurst; recitation, Master Malcolm Gibson; vocal solo, Mrs. Grace Gibson; singing, Mrs. Hannah Whitehill; recitation, Blanche Benedict; reading, recitation, Mrs. E. A. Barrows; talk on Lincoln, Mrs. E. A. Barrows; talk on Washington, Rev. G. M. Howe; talk on Lincoln, Maj. M. P. Palmer; piano duet, Mrs. Sherwin and Miss Dodge; singing of "America" by all.

There were a number of visitors present and social greetings were extended and enjoyed by all.

C. E. Meeting.

The fifty-fourth session of the Nashua River Union C. E. societies was held with the First Baptist church, West Townsend, on Thursday, February 22. The general topic was "Deeper spirituality in Christian Endeavor." Those from Groton who had parts in the program were: At eleven o'clock, Rev. George M. Howe gave an address on "Washington"; in the afternoon session, Sidney F. Davis spoke on "Spirituality—its nature and scope," and Sylvia Lawrence, of West Groton, told of "What C. E. had accomplished in satisfying the world's need of spirituality." Others from different towns and societies had parts in the program. Rev. A. F. Newton, of North Leominster, gave the leading address of the afternoon. The meeting adjourned at three o'clock. Herbert W. Taylor is president of the association.

Good Number Present.

The minstrel show and dance given last week by the young men of the village called out a very large attendance—with but one exception the largest audience assembled so far this season in the town hall. There were about twenty in the show. Andrew Blood was interlocutor and Morton Southern and Louis Sheedy were end men. The usual local hits and drives were made, much to the amusement of the audience. A varied program was carried out, Miss Della Haley being the pianist.

Among the numbers were selections by a quartet composed of Harry Bruce, Thomas Donahue, Louis Sheedy and Morton Southern; violin selection by Mr. O'Connell; reading, Charles Shat-

tuck; cornet, George Bywater, accompanied on the piano by Miss Nellie Bywater; solos, Louis Sheedy, Michael Denaby, Harry Bruce; xylophone, Oliver Thayer; clog dance, John Denaby. All the numbers were given finely and received encores.

The dance after the minstrel was also enjoyed by large numbers. The proceeds, after expenses are deducted, go into the treasury of the Groton Farmers' and Mechanics' club. The amount has not yet been given out.

Fires.

One of the most destructive fires that has occurred in Groton for years, reduced to ashes, early last Saturday morning, the house, furniture, household articles, clothing and other personal possessions of the Wheelock family in Chicopee row. H. S. Wheelock was away from home on business, and his son, Howard M. Wheelock, with the hired man and his wife, had attended the show and dance in the town hall on Friday evening of last week. They got home somewhere about one o'clock, made a fire, took coffee and refreshments, and retired for their night's sleep. A little before two o'clock the hired man, whose room was in the ell, was awakened by smoke and the sight of fire fanning past his window.

Rousing Mr. Wheelock, they succeeded in getting out the women folks, who are Mrs. Wheelock, the mother, the grandmother, who is a woman eighty-eight years old, and the hired man's wife. They also rescued some dogs from the burning building.

Owing to the smoke and the fire in the room where their telephone was, it could not be used. Mr. Wheelock rushed on horseback up the street shouting fire. The telephones of his neighbors were out of commission, and when he reached Everett Williams he turned back home, while Mr. Williams hurried to the next neighbor, Walter Dodge, whose telephone was in order and called up central, where at 2:45 the alarm was sent out and a general alarm given.

The fire department responded, but the fire was by that time beyond getting control of and little could be done. Besides the ordinary furnishings and household supplies, there was destroyed many old-fashioned and valuable heirlooms and choice much-valued articles. The family have since occupied the feed and grain house, which had been fitted up in a bungalow style and where they are quite comfortable.

The telephones being out of commission was a most unfortunate handicap. The telephone management claim that when Mr. Wheelock's wires burned out, that all wires on that line were put out of commission, which seems reasonable if they had been working perfectly up to that time and central had been reached as usual.

It is understood that there is an insurance on the house and that they will rebuild in the spring. Mr. Wheelock's family are new-comers in town, having been here about a year. Their fellow citizens express much sympathy for them in this terrible experience.

This house which was burned, was built nearly eighty years ago by Andrew Shattuck, who was a grandson of the revolutionary Job Shattuck, who owned all the land from Badda-cook to Pepperell, taking in the place at Wattle's pond recently bought by A. Willis, often called the Gustin place. The Wheelock farm was a part of this old Shattuck tract of land.

Many different families have occupied this house since it was built, among some of the longest in possession being the Whitneys, Parkhurst Spragues, and until within a few years, the Chapman families.

On Friday morning, February 23, in less than a week from the date of the Wheelock fire, another destructive fire visited our town and wrought havoc with the fine residence of Harry P. Tainter, of Pleasant street. Foreman Raddin was first called to use the extinguisher on what apparently was a chimney fire, but he found something more serious and at one o'clock a general alarm was rung. The firemen at first directed their work along by the kitchen chimney, cutting into the roof. The fire had run along through the attic and the roof and upper story of the main building was in flames. A second alarm for more help was rung out at about three o'clock. Three lines of hose were playing onto the building and the firemen fought well, containing all the while with the cold high winds fanning the flames and opposing their strenuous efforts.

Two of the firemen fell from the roof to the ground, but were not seriously injured. The firemen remained on duty until past six o'clock, when they left, tired and sleepy in their ice-covered clothes.

The barn and ell were not injured, but the main part of the dwelling-house was badly damaged—the roof and upper story being well wrecked, though the main walls are standing.

Some few things were gotten out, but what the flames left, smoke and water injured. There is a prevailing opinion that a change should be made in the fire alarm system now used. Some such method of giving the alarm as is used in our neighboring towns should be substituted or used in addition to the old style ringing of bells. In this last fire the wind blowing so hard hindered the bells from being heard in some parts of the town or village even.

This house was finely constructed, substantial and attractive, one built eight years or so, and had just been re-painted. His fellow citizens regret with him, Mr. Tainter's misfortune.

Lecture.

There is to be a lecture or talk on Charles Dickens by Rev. J. P. Trowbridge, of West Groton, on Monday evening, February 26. This meeting will be held in the public library building, the reading-room and entrance room being made ready for the accommodation of those who come. Chairs will be brought over from the church, the library rooms will be lighted and warm, and everything pleasant and comfortable. Mr. Trow-

bridge is at home on all historical subjects and is an interesting speaker. It is hoped that a large number will avail themselves of the opportunity to hear this talk on Dickens in this, his centennial year.

Annual Birthday Party.

The annual Washington birthday party, arranged this year as a leap year dance, was an enjoyable social event of Thursday evening, February 22. The attendance was very good, although the weather was not altogether desirable. Mrs. George E. Hodgman was floor director, Mrs. F. A. Torrey, Mrs. J. T. Bennett, Miss Ruth T. Rockwood and Miss Ruth Gerrish were the ushers. The patrons present were Frank Lawrence Blood, F. P. Waters and W. A. Lawrence.

This annual affair, while always open to the public, is one of the most select of the season's events, characterized by the courtesy, fine decorum and dress of those in attendance. There were many becoming and pretty and many were handsome and elaborate gowns worn.

Madam Washington, whom Mrs. C. H. Bickford represented, as she dispensed the punch during the evening, wore black lace over white satin cut on train and in the colonial style. Mrs. Bickford's resemblance to the pictures we have of Lady Washington, was very striking. Her charming assistant, who represented her stepdaughter, Miss Nellie Custis, was very sweet and girlish in a blue sprigged dimity gown, trimmed with blue ribbons. Both Madame Washington and Miss Nellie Custis (Miss Evelyn Bancroft), wore white caps. The table on which the punch was placed, was decorated with candles and small red hatchets. Miss Custis also distributed the dance orders, which she carried in a basket decorated with blue ribbons. The dance orders were decorated with Stuart's head of Washington.

The particular leap year feature was that the ladies invited the gentlemen to be their partners in the different dances. Thayer's orchestra, of Pepperell, furnished excellent and satisfactory dance music.

The refreshments, consisting of chicken salad, rolls, coffee, cake and ice cream, served by the Middlesex Rebeccah lodge, was entirely satisfactory and appreciated by the Ladies' Alliance, who gave this party.

Many were present from out-of-town, among whom were Miss Dorothy Taylor, of Brookline; Miss Madeline Porter, of Leominster; Mr. and Mrs. Ebert, of Arlington; Miss Lenore Wingate, of Nashua; Mr. and Mrs. Austin Lawrence, Mr. and Mrs. Percy Lawrence, Mr. and Mrs. E. O. Proctor, Mr. and Mrs. Herbert Farnsworth, of Ayer.

Clipping.

The following is taken from the Santa Cruz Evening News of a recent date:

Edwin A. Shattuck, of Boston, has filed a petition in the superior court in which he asks that the probate of the will of the late William Shattuck, who died in Ben Lomond, Cal., last summer, be not admitted. It is contended by Mr. Shattuck, through his attorney, H. J. Bias, that he is entitled to all the estate left by the deceased, on the ground that he is the sole heir of the estate of Lucy Shattuck, mother of the deceased, who died on June 15, 1911, at Groton, and also that the deceased was incompetent and not of sound and disposing mind when he executed the will; and that no attesting witnesses signed their names to the instrument.

Public administrator, L. H. Wessendorf, on October 22, filed the will of the deceased by the terms of which all the property was bequeathed to James Frazier Lewis, the well-known candy man of Santa Cruz.

The late Mr. Shattuck had lived in this county for a great many years before his death and had known Frazier Lewis ever since he was born. At one time Mr. Shattuck was employed by the father of Mr. Lewis. There was a distant relationship between the Shattuck and Lewis families, and as Mr. Shattuck lived alone for a great many years at Ben Lomond, it is thought that his gift of about \$1500 worth of real estate, all that he did possess, of to Frazier Lewis, was a gift of choice to the boy he had seen grow from babyhood to manhood.

The property that will be contested consists of timber land near Ben Lomond and real property in Tuolumne county, with a few improvements. The will leaving this property to Frazier Lewis was dated in 1894.

Rittenhouse and Johnson, attorneys for Louis Wessendorf, public administrator, will oppose the claims of Edwin A. Shattuck in the contest.

West Groton.

Mrs. Mills, from the far west, formerly Miss Evelyn Lewis, was a guest of Mrs. C. C. Blood, during the early part of the week.

W. B. Flewelling, who has been in West Groton since the first of November, left for his home in New Brunswick on Wednesday.

A good number from this village attended the C. E. convention in West Townsend on Washington's birthday. Miss Sylvia Lawrence represented the West Groton society in the afternoon's program.

A Dickens' exhibit is to be held in Groton library on Monday evening, Rev. J. P. Trowbridge, at the urgent request of Miss Blood, the librarian, will speak at eight o'clock on the life and works of that noted author.

On Tuesday, while operating a saw at the paper mill, F. L. Blood sustained a painful injury to his left hand. A sharp splinter of wood entered the hand between the thumb and forefinger, piercing it to the bone in two directions.

The next meeting of the Ladies' Aid society will be with Mrs. A. W. Lamb on Friday afternoon, March 1, one day later than the usual date.

Mr. Fuller, of Wellesley, engineer for the West Groton Water Supply Company, was in town on Thursday, and a test was made of the hydrants. The trial was entirely satisfactory.

Herbert Brown, of Foxboro, was in town this week, a guest of his daughter, Mrs. Roscoe Ferdin.

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

MARK DOWNS

Men's 50c.
Heavy fleeced
Double breast
Shirts
Drawers to Match
Marked to
37c.

Regular - 50c.
President
Suspenders
Marked to
35c.

Men's and Boys'
Heavy Gray
Sweaters
Regular Price
50c.
Marked to
39c.

Ladies'
Hose
19c. Quality
Double sole and toe
High spliced heel
Sale price - - 15c.
4 Pair, 45c.

Men's 50c.
Camel's Hair
Shirts and
Drawers
Marked to
35c.

Garwood's
Full Pound Cans
Talcum
Powder
Regular 25c. value
Price 15c. per can

Agents for Marlboro Dye House

Death.

Death again entered our village early on Friday morning of last week, removing from our midst Mrs. Harriet (Adams) Bixby, familiarly known to many as Aunt Harriet. She was the widow of Thomas Bixby, and the greater part of her married life was passed in Townsend, in that part of the town known as South Row.

For several years past she has resided with her sister in West Groton. She was at one time nearly blind, but an operation restored the sight of one eye, so that during the last months of her life she was able to take out-door walks and to occupy her time in the making of rugs and patchwork, a work she greatly enjoyed.

A paralytic shock several weeks ago rendered her partially helpless, and there seemed but little change in her condition during the days that followed. On Friday morning at four o'clock she was sleeping quietly, a sleep from which she probably did not awaken as two hours later it was found that death had claimed her.

Mrs. Bixby was seventy-six years of age and is survived by a sister, Mrs. Joshua Bixby of this place, who cared for her during her illness; an adopted daughter, Mrs. Henry Adams of Groton; also, five nephews and one niece, Mrs. U. H. Barrows of Ayer. The nephews living in this vicinity are: George Adams of Needham, Henry Adams of Groton and Arthur Adams of Concord.

Funeral services were held at the home of Joshua Bixby on Sunday afternoon, Rev. J. P. Trowbridge officiating. The songs, "Sometime we'll understand," and "A home on high," were rendered by Miss K. A. Tarbell, Mrs. M. E. Williams and H. Spaulding. The remains were placed in the receiving tomb at Groton.

Old Folks' Concert.

Ye old folks' concert under ye auspices of ye Ladies' Aid society of ye Christian Union church, will be holden in ye hall of West Groton on Thursday ye 29th day of February, 1912, by all ye menne and womanne sinners of ye place. Mrs. F. L. Blood will play ye tunes. Ye musick will be in charge of ye well-known director, Miss Susan P. Hill. Ye two fiddles and ye piano will be played by ye Misses Lawrence, of Groton.

Ye concert will begin at eight o'clock, but ye doors will be open sooner. Ye folks will be seated in ye new-fangled way without extra charge. Ye entrance bit will be reasonable, ye handsome folks at ye same price as ye others. Ye tickets will be on sale at ye first of ye week. Mistress E. K. Harrington will sell ye seats on ye right; Mistress H. Spaulding the same on ye left.

Orders taken in ye up-to-date style on ye telephone, except in ye thunder storms. Ye general public is most cordially invited.

AYER.

Dancing School Reception.

The annual reception to the pupils of Benjamin B. Lovett's dancing class was given in Fago hall last

week Friday evening in the presence of one of the largest audiences that ever assembled for a similar occasion. The matrons were Mrs. John M. Maloney and Mrs. T. Frank Murlin. The ushers were Misses Natalie Bigelow, Margaret Hume, Doris Corner, Pauline Sherwin, Pearl Carley and Evelyn Sanderson.

The program of the evening started when the matrons were escorted to their places at the head of the hall by Paul F. Rynn and Virginia Dudley. The promenade was then started, led by Stanley Livingston and Bertha Phelps, who did their parts in a very fine manner. The various dances then followed and showed the results of excellent training of those who took part.

The sword dance by Little Marguerite Glynn and Grandma's Minuet by Fern Moore were perfect and were much appreciated by the audience for their gracefulness and charm.

After the children's program was finished the hall was opened to all for dancing, which was continued until twelve o'clock. Refreshments were served at intermission. The evening's entertainment was directed by Mr. Lovett, the dancing instructor, and the results were highly creditable to him and his pupils. This reception marks the close of the dancing school season. The program:

Part First
Escort to Matrons
Virginia Dudley, Paul Francis Rynn
Promenade, led by
Christine Maloney, Stanley Livingston
Two-step, Duchess, waltz, Virginia reel, waltz

Part Second
Italian Scarf Dance
Marion Proctor, Orris Chandler, Bertha Seraton, Agnes Moore, Lillian Meehan, Irene Hassam, Elizabeth Sablin, Evelyn Glynn, Edna McMahon, Hazel Murphy, Hilda Quackenbush, Helen Markham, Eva Chandler, Katherine Donahue
Sword Dance
Marguerite Glynn
Farmer's Hoe-down
William Moore, Llewellyn Savage, John Griffin, Philip Livingston, Matthew Anno, George Barrett, Anthony Anno, Irwin Tiltman, William Sargent, Harold Wentworth
Blossoms
Gladys Porter, Pearl McMahon, Doris Wilson, Mildred Pittman, Priscilla Mullin, Beulah Hassam, Ruth Huntington, Carol Pierce, Ruth Griffin, Ethel Robbins, Allen Donahue, Mary Morris, Dorothy Chandler, Avis Chandler, Ruth Race, May Miliken
Grandma's Minuet
Fern Moore

Part Third, Folk Dances
Scotch, Swedish, Dance a little partner, The Shoemakers, four-step, Highland, Grief and Mirth, Polish, Russian
Church Services.
Services will be held on Sunday at the Baptist church with a sermon by the pastor in the morning at 10:45, and a praise service at seven o'clock in the evening. Sunday school will be at twelve o'clock noon.
Sunday services: Morning prayer and sermon at 10:45; Sunday school and confirmation class at twelve.
On Monday night, at the church, litany and an address at 7:30.
The Women's Auxiliary meets on Friday at 2:30 p. m. at the parish room, after which, at four o'clock, there will be evening prayer and an address on the Episcopal church.
St. Andrew's guild are planning an Easter sale and concert the week after Easter.

Subscription, \$1.50 Yearly in Advance
JOHN E. TURNER, Editor.
GEORGE E. B. TURNER, Publisher.
Saturday, February 24, 1912.

AYER.

News Items.

Born on Sunday, February 18, a nine-pound son to Mr. and Mrs. Berkeley T. Larrabee, of Pearl street—James Roger.

Miss Amy M. Covel, of Worcester, returned on Monday after a visit at the home of Rev. and Mrs. J. W. Thomas.

Miss Clara Thomas is visiting her sister, Mrs. L. H. Merchant, in Boston, this week.

James J. O'Brien has received a letter from Gen. Daniel T. Sikes, major general United States army, retired, in which the general returns thanks for the congratulations extended on the occasion of his eighty-sixth anniversary of his birth. In the letter, Gen. Sikes, whose home is in New York city, says that 1600 communications of a similar nature as that sent by Mr. O'Brien had been received.

Robert Burns lodge, I. O. O. F., will work the initiatory degree at the regular meeting on next Tuesday evening.

The annual concert and ball of Division 7, A. O. H., will be held on Friday evening, April 12.

The address by Miss Matilda Brown, of Boston, at the Baptist church last Sunday was intensely interesting. The service of which this important feature was an important part, was in charge of the Ladies' Missionary circle of the church. Miss Brown is one of the Baptist missionaries among the immigrants and the story of her experiences in this good work as told by her gained her the closest attention throughout her address.

Mrs. Sophia Pierce, who was a recent guest of her sister, Mrs. William Mullin, for a few days, returned to her home in Lowell on Sunday evening.

Miss Dora Drew, of Lowell, spent Sunday with her mother, Mrs. Herbert Pillsman, on Grove street.

Timothy Weldon, of Boston, is visiting his mother, Mrs. Ashley Weldon.

Mrs. Maud McMahon visited her son Frank at West Groton a few days recently, where he has accepted a position in the paper mill.

After a two-weeks' siege with boils, Berkeley Larrabee, of Pearl street, resumed his duties at the store of Harlow & Parsons.

John Clark, of Somerville, formerly of Ayer, who has been visiting Flisk Butterfield, returned to his home on Sunday night.

Angus Baldwin and family have moved from the Morrison house to Fitchburg. Herbert Whitney is to occupy the tenement vacated.

Miss Nina Phillips spent Sunday with Mr. and Mrs. T. Worcester Lynch, of Nashua, N. H.

Mrs. Susan Barron, of Manchester, is visiting Mrs. Alice Fleet.

Walter Fletcher is visiting Charles Lyman, formerly of Ayer, now of Greenfield.

Mrs. Irene McMahon, of Groton, who has been visiting her aunt, Mrs. Maud McMahon, returned home on Monday.

Mrs. Julia Baldwin, from West Acton, is visiting at Mr. and Mrs. G. A. Brooks.

Wednesday of this week was Ash Wednesday and marked the beginning of Lent. Services were held at St. Andrew's church at ten o'clock in the morning and at 7.30 in the evening. At St. Mary's church there was mass at eight in the morning and the usual Lenten services in the evening at 7.30 o'clock.

The first automobile show ever held in this vicinity is to take place at Page hall on Thursday afternoon and evening, February 29, under the auspices of the Ayer Automobile Station. W. E. Murphy, manager. Music afternoon and evening. Tickets can be had by applying to the Ayer Automobile Station.

All bills against the town of Ayer must be presented to the selectmen before the first day of March as the financial year ends on the last day of February.

A very interesting meeting was held Sunday evening in the Y. P. R. U. The leader was Miss Gladys Porter with Mrs. Daisy Beckford pianist. The address was a fine paper on Harriet Beecher Stowe, written by Mrs. Lyman Clark and read by her daughter, Mrs. Ruth C. Sherwin.

The Art class of the Woman's club meets this Friday evening with Mrs. Carrie S. Lynds.

Children's day in the Woman's club was observed on Wednesday. The program was in the hands of the magnificent Briganti of Boston. About one hundred and fifty children were present and enough adults to make a good-sized audience in the town hall where the meeting was held. The audience, old and young, were amused and entertained by the display of magic, which was closely watched. At the business meeting Mrs. A. M. Sargent gave a very good report of the Federation conference held at Temple Israel in Boston last Saturday. Mrs. Lois Porter was added to the district nurse committee.

Mr. and Mrs. Daniel Dickinson attended the meeting of Pomona grange in Sterling on Wednesday.

Rev. A. Judson Rich will speak at the Unitarian church next Sunday. His topic will be "The courage of one's convictions."

Twenty people enjoyed a sleighride to Littleton last Saturday and attended the supper and sociable in the town hall.

The remains of Mrs. Hannah Quinlan, of Littleton, were brought here on Tuesday morning. A requiem mass was said at St. Mary's church by Rev. P. J. Sheedy. The interment was in St. Mary's cemetery.

Mrs. Henry L. Farnsworth, of Woods Village, has moved into the upper tenement of Albert B. Downing on Washington street.

The inquest on the death of the unknown man who was found on the railroad tracks near Littleton two weeks ago, will be held in the district courtroom this morning.

A horse belonging to T. F. Ward, while hitched near the residence of U. H. Barrows, last Sunday, became frightened and ran through Pleasant, Main and West Main streets to Shirley before he was stopped. Not the slightest damage was done, although the cushions and robes in the sleigh to which the animal was attached, were thrown along the road. They were later recovered by the owner.

Mrs. Carrie A. Chase and Mrs. Edgar Chase, of Lowell, visited friends in town on Wednesday.

Angus Baldwin, an employee of the telephone company, moved his family to Fitchburg on Wednesday.

It is reported that John Desmond, formerly of Harvard, and well-known here, running a milk route from Harvard to Ayer some years ago, is to run the Davis hotel in Shirley.

The Ministers' Union will hold their next meeting on Tuesday, February 27, at Ayer, lower town hall, commencing at ten o'clock in the morning. All the people of all the region are especially welcome at two o'clock promptly in the afternoon.

Last Saturday, at Littleton, James I. Mills, deputy fish and game warden, found the body of a golden eagle at the house of Louis de Silvio. The bird was captured last fall, having been found wounded and unable to fly. It died afterward and was nailed to the side of the house, where found by Mr. Mills. The bird is a very rare one in this part of the country, as it is almost always found west of the Rocky Mountains. It was a fine specimen and was sent by Mr. Mills to the state fish and game commission, where it will probably be mounted. It was a very large eagle and the spread of the wings was six feet.

A special convocation of Bancroft Royal Arch chapter will be held on Tuesday evening, February 27. Work—Mark Master degree.

The literature committee of the Woman's club will continue the Dickens readings at Mrs. Hill's on Wednesday afternoon, February 28, at three o'clock. Reading from "The chimes." Club members welcome. The executive board will meet at the home of the president, Mrs. Carrie B. Bigelow, at three o'clock on Friday afternoon, March 1.

Walter W. Woods has finished his course at the Boston Y. M. C. A. automobile school and secured a position at Lamb's Garage, Williamstown.

Miss Catherine McCarren, who has been in the employ of Mrs. W. C. Parsons for some time past, left on Tuesday afternoon by way of Boston for her home in Spring Hill Mines, Nova Scotia.

Mr. and Mrs. M. L. Savage leave this Saturday for New York city and nearby places, and expect to return the following Saturday.

Mrs. Frank W. Balcom went last week Wednesday to the Roxbury Woman's Charity hospital and underwent two surgical operations—one for appendicitis. She is doing nicely and will not leave the hospital for three weeks.

Mrs. Charles Webber was operated upon for peritonitis on Thursday evening, February 22. Mrs. Webber was taken from her mother's residence on Park street, on Thursday afternoon to her home on East Main street, where the operation was performed by Dr. Charles Mixer, a specialist, of Boston, who was sent for, and was assisted by Drs. Bulkeley and Cowles. She is a very sick woman, but hopes are entertained of her recovery. It was only a few weeks ago that she underwent a serious surgical operation by the same specialist, from which she had not fully recovered. Mrs. Webber is the daughter of Mrs. John Curran.

The stockholders of the Massachusetts Lighting Companies have authorized the trustees to issue \$785,200 (par value) of additional capital stock, making the total authorized issue \$5,000,000. From the proceeds of this new stock about \$431,000 will be used to take up notes of underlying companies, \$300,000 for the extension of property and plant during the next twenty months, and the balance of \$53,600 for the general purposes of the trust. The Ayer Electric Light Company is one of the plants of the Massachusetts Lighting Companies.

Dr. Hopkins and George H. Hill are expected back from their southern trip on Saturday night or Sunday.

The subjects for the moving picture show on Saturday evening are "Higher toll," "Stage struck Lizzie," "Trip from Colorado Springs to Cripple Creek," "Rangeman's daughter," and "Actor in new role," and many other films well worth seeing and you should not miss them. Joseph Sullivan, of Boston, will be the singer.

Clarence Hemenway, of Groton, a brakeman in the railroad yard, fell from a freight car last week Friday morning and sustained a broken leg. He was taken to the Groton hospital.

Leonard Felch, the veteran conductor of the Greenville branch passenger train, is taking a month's vacation.

A large audience was present in Page hall on Tuesday evening, the occasion being a minstrel show, and dance given by Lowell people. A good sized number came from that city.

The registrars of voters will meet on Saturday evenings, March 9 and 16, from 7.30 to 9.30 o'clock, and on Saturday March 23, from twelve noon until ten at night, continuously, for the purpose of adding names to and correcting the list of voters for the coming town meeting on Monday, April 1.

The fire department was called out to a chimney fire in the house occupied by Samuel Slofsky on West Main street, Wednesday afternoon at about five o'clock. There was no damage.

Judge Warren H. Atwood was operated upon for an intestinal trouble at Dr. Codman's private hospital in Boston, last Saturday. Dr. Codman performed the operation, assisted by Dr. F. S. Bulkeley, of Ayer. The latest

reports say that the judge is doing nicely.

The following rhetorical were given at the high school on Friday afternoon:

Piano solo, Dorothy A. Robbins; "When the frost is on the pumpkin," Paul W. Carrigan; "The ride for life," Marion E. Proctor; "Eulogy of Webster," Warren M. Nixon; "The glove and the lion," Madeline D. O'Neill; "A nation born in a day," Elliott M. Probie; piano solo, Flora I. Cole; "Free for all race," Myrtle James; "How Peggy held the fort," Doris W. Fletcher; "Swinging in the grapevine swing," Albert B. Irwin; "A pair of old boys," Leonard Bowler; "An object of love," Alice R. McCarthy; piano solo, Evelyn Glynn.

Other Ayer news may be found on the opposite page.

Unrewarded for Vigilance.

The stories of three interesting incidents that occurred at the railroad station last week, in which Chief Beatty figured, leaked out a few days ago. The stories had to do with the finding of money and a watch by the chief of passengers who were about to take their trains.

The first loss was that of a pocket-book containing money which was dropped by a lady who was rushing to get the Fitchburg train. A day or two afterward another dropped her watch while trying to catch a train for Boston.

Neither even thanked the finder. The third find was that of a large roll of bills, estimated to contain at least one hundred dollars, which was dropped by a prosperous looking individual who had just purchased a ticket and was about to proceed toward his train. The loss was noted by Chief Beatty, who picked up the roll and handed it to its owner, who seemed much pleased.

ONLY SIX DAYS MORE of our Clearance Sale of MEN'S SUITS AND OVERCOATS

Our Sale has been a grand success, still we have a number of good Bargains left, all sizes and at the following prices:

SUITS		OVERCOATS	
\$20.00 and \$22.00, sale price.....	\$15.47	\$20.00 and \$22.00, sale price.....	\$15.47
\$18.00, sale price.....	13.47	\$18.00, sale price.....	13.47
\$15.00, sale price.....	10.47	\$15.00, sale price.....	10.47
\$12.00, sale price.....	8.47	\$12.00, sale price.....	8.47
\$10.00, sale price.....	7.47	\$10.00, sale price.....	7.47

ONLY SIX DAYS MORE Fletcher Bros. AYER - MASS. Opposite Depot

reports say that the judge is doing nicely.

The following rhetorical were given at the high school on Friday afternoon:

Piano solo, Dorothy A. Robbins; "When the frost is on the pumpkin," Paul W. Carrigan; "The ride for life," Marion E. Proctor; "Eulogy of Webster," Warren M. Nixon; "The glove and the lion," Madeline D. O'Neill; "A nation born in a day," Elliott M. Probie; piano solo, Flora I. Cole; "Free for all race," Myrtle James; "How Peggy held the fort," Doris W. Fletcher; "Swinging in the grapevine swing," Albert B. Irwin; "A pair of old boys," Leonard Bowler; "An object of love," Alice R. McCarthy; piano solo, Evelyn Glynn.

Other Ayer news may be found on the opposite page.

Unrewarded for Vigilance.

The stories of three interesting incidents that occurred at the railroad station last week, in which Chief Beatty figured, leaked out a few days ago. The stories had to do with the finding of money and a watch by the chief of passengers who were about to take their trains.

The first loss was that of a pocket-book containing money which was dropped by a lady who was rushing to get the Fitchburg train. A day or two afterward another dropped her watch while trying to catch a train for Boston.

Neither even thanked the finder. The third find was that of a large roll of bills, estimated to contain at least one hundred dollars, which was dropped by a prosperous looking individual who had just purchased a ticket and was about to proceed toward his train. The loss was noted by Chief Beatty, who picked up the roll and handed it to its owner, who seemed much pleased.

The man with the big roll asked the finder if he ever smoked cigars, to which the chief answered in the affirmative. The stranger looked into his pockets and not finding any there, said he was sorry and gave the officer a nickel to buy one. The proffer of this huge sum was politely refused as the chief told the generous giver that he preferred to buy his own cigars.

Under such circumstances it is not hard to understand that a man's faith in some individuals receives a more or less severe jolt.

Social.

The social given in Page hall on Monday evening under the auspices of St. Mary's church, was largely attended and proved to be a very enjoyable occasion. A program consisting of vocal and instrumental selections, recitations, dances and a farce was started at eight o'clock. The various numbers on the program were liberally applauded and encores were frequent. After the concert there was dancing until a late hour. The program follows:

Piano solo, Miss Madeline McCarthy; grand piano, Fern Moore; vocal solos, Mrs. Lillian R. Moore; sword dance, Marguerite Glynn; recitation, Edith McCarthy; farce, "In want of a servant," songs, William Flynn; of Shirley; piano solo, Ruth Griffin; solo, Mr. Reynolds, of Lowell; vocal duet and recitation, McGuane sisters; recitation, Alice Donahue and Ruth Griffin; songs, Charles Lothrop; recitations, Andrew Burke; songs, Reginald Macdonnell; violin solo, Madeline Carleton; vocal quartet, Antonio and Matthew Anno, William Moore and William Profit.

District Court.

Albert Letendre, of Shirley, pleaded guilty to a charge of cruelty to animals last Saturday morning and the court imposed a fine of ten dollars, which was paid. The particular complaint against the defendant was for cruelty to his horse on Thursday, February 8, at Ayer. According to the evidence given, the horse was left standing in the rear of Phelps' mill for nine hours on that day without food or water and but little covering in the shape of a small blanket to protect the animal from the cold. The owner left the team hitched here and went to Lowell and returned at nine o'clock that evening.

It is hoped that this case will prove a lesson to others who are in the habit of leaving their horses exposed to the cold for hours as has been the case at different times during the winter, according to information received from reliable sources. If they are caught they will be brought into court and punished for their disobedience to the law passed for the protection of "those who cannot speak for themselves."

The case of John Demlet, of Fitchburg, who was arrested for vagrancy, was dismissed.

Charles Lapes, Apostolos Blogouras and Arthur Skanoties, all of Ayer, were found not guilty of lowness and discharged.

The case of the town of Boxborough vs. the town of Pepperell was heard in the civil session of court before Judge Worcester last Saturday morning. The action was one of contract in which the town of Pepperell seeks

to recover the sum of \$330 from the town of Boxborough for aid given to Estelle Palmer, also known as Estelle Haywood, on the ground that she had no legal settlement in the former town, but that she had such a settlement in Boxborough. The court withheld its decision. Francis G. Hayes appeared as counsel for the town of Pepperell and F. H. Stewart, of the firm of Stewart, Rand & Merrick of Boston, for the town of Boxborough.

Alexander Bulger, of Shirley, was sentenced to the state farm at Bridgewater on Wednesday for non-support of his wife and children.

Junior Class Reception.

The annual reception to the pupils of Prof. Benjamin B. Lovett's dancing class on Friday evening, February 16, was a great success. It called out a large and appreciative audience. Mr. Lovett deserves much credit for the wonderful patience and attention he has given to the young people and the interest they have taken in their lessons was manifested by the evening's entertainment, which consisted of a variety of fancy dances. The matrons were Mrs. John M. Maloney and Mrs. Frank T. Mullin.

On the program was the scarf dance, comprised of fifteen young misses, which was well rendered, and one of the prettiest features of the evening. Miss Marion Proctor was the central figure and with ease and grace performed her difficult part. The minuet given by little Fern Moore was exceedingly pretty and with her ease and daintiness in dancing and the dramatic air in relating grandma's story brought down the house. The sword dance was wonderfully and accurately rendered by Marguerite Glynn and called forth an enthusiastic encore.

The farmers' hoe-down by the number of boys was quite amusing. The blossoms, comprised of sixteen girls, was quite attractive. The last part of the program was devoted to folk dancing, which at present is attracting wide spread attention throughout this country.

The towns of the young misses were exceedingly attractive and a number were very striking.

A general invitation was extended to all to participate in dancing the remainder of the evening, which was enjoyed and we sincerely hope Mr. Lovett will decide to form a class in Ayer another season.

His Wanderings End Here.

A clean cut, bright appearing young man walked into the police station last Sunday evening looking for a place to spend the night. He told Chief Beatty that his name was Frank St. Peter and that his home was in Fall River. He said he joined the United States army and reported for duty at Fort Adams, Newport, R. I., on February 1. Last week Friday another soldier induced him to go to Providence, R. I., to see the sights.

After spending a couple of days and about all their money there, they got aboard a freight train which the older man said went back to Newport. Instead they were carried to Worcester and from there to Ayer, where they arrived late last Sunday afternoon. St. Peter said his companion wanted him to go from here to Boston, but the former refused. He also said that both had violated the rules governing enlisted men in going off without leave and that the other fellow had broken the rule several times which meant severe punishment if he was captured. He evidently was afraid of being caught and got out of town as no trace of him could be found here.

St. Peter told Chief Beatty that he would like to get into communication with the commander at the fort at Newport as he was anxious to return and report for duty. The chief called up that officer on the long distance telephone and found that St. Peter's story was true.

The commander asked the chief to hold his charge till he heard from him again. He evidently communicated with the war department in Washington, D. C., as Chief Beatty received a telephone on Tuesday afternoon, from the department at the national capitol, requesting him to send St. Peter back to Newport and that the government would pay all expenses. Accordingly St. Peter left for that city by way of Worcester on Tuesday evening.

Washington's Birthday Dinner.

The Unitarian Social Gathering served a fine dinner Thursday noon to a hundred people. The generous serving of chicken-pie, mashed potatoes, jelly, fancy pies, puddings and many other good things were greatly enjoyed as was the social time in connection with the feast. The room was tastefully and patriotically decorated with flags and portraits. The dinner was in charge of Mrs. Lois Porter, Mrs. Ida C. Perkins, Mrs. Ruth Sherwin, Mrs. Stella Farnsworth and Mrs. Daniel Dickinson; and these were as-

sisted in the serving by the Misses Lilly Baker, Natalie Bigelow, Doris Fletcher, Mona Kittredge, Margaret Hume, Evelyn Sanderson and Pauline Sherwin.

Rev. Dr. Fisk, the pastor, who has been ill so long, was able to be out and enjoy the good dinner and meet his people for the first time for several months.

Deaths.

The funeral of Mrs. George H. Champney was held this Friday afternoon from the home of her daughter, Mrs. Flora L. Carman. Mary Ann Wyman Champney was born in Ashby on July 8, 1836. She was educated at Bradford seminary and Bridgewater Normal school. She taught for some time in the school at Woods Village. She was married in 1861, to George H. Champney, of Ashby, and they came to Ayer where their married life was spent, and where Mr. Champney was one of the substantial citizens. He died in 1908, since which time Mrs. Champney has made her home with her daughters.

Mrs. Champney was, in her younger days, a bright, scholarly woman, but she has been an invalid for many years. Her last illness was quite brief, only a little over a week. She died on Wednesday in Holliston at the home of her daughter, Mrs. Ella J. Bartlett, with whom she had been about a year.

She leaves three daughters—Mrs. Ella J. Bartlett, of Holliston; Mrs. Elizabeth E. Firmin, of Worcester, and Mrs. Flora L. Carman, of Ayer. There are eight grandchildren. Mrs. Firmin is quite ill at present.

Rev. A. L. Bumpus officiated at the funeral, and burial was in Woodlawn cemetery.

Weddings.

George Orrington Fillebrown, of this town, and Miss Ruth Marion Streeter, of Greenfield, were married at the home of the bride's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Edgar J. Streeter, in that town last Saturday afternoon at three o'clock. The ceremony was performed by Rev. Samuel R. Maxwell, of All Souls Unitarian church, of Greenfield, and was a quiet one, only the near relatives of the bride and groom being present.

Mrs. A. A. Fillebrown and Victor L. Fillebrown, mother and brother of the groom, were present from here.

After the ceremony, Mr. and Mrs. Fillebrown left on their wedding journey, which included Troy and other points in New York. Their return to Greenfield was a quite eventful one as they were on the passenger train that figured in the big wreck in the Hoosac tunnel on Tuesday afternoon. They were obliged to go back and go to Greenfield by way of Pittsfield and Springfield, arriving at their destination about two o'clock the following morning.

Mr. and Mrs. Fillebrown will make their home here, where they will occupy the upper tenement of A. E. Lawrence's house on Washington street.

The bride has been active in social circles in Greenfield. A supper was given in her home last week Thursday evening by the Unitarian Girls' club of that town, of which she was a member. She was presented with a half-dozen sterling chocolate spoons in colonial designs, and a large bouquet of daffodils, tied with satin ribbon.

The groom is the cashier at the local freight office and the son of Mr. and Mrs. A. A. Fillebrown. He is prominent in Masonic circles, and a past master of Caleb Butler lodge of this town.

Miss Clara I. Davis, of this town, and Albert Hallett, of Lynn, were united in marriage last Sunday afternoon at 4.30 o'clock at St. Mary's church by Rev. P. J. Sheedy. The maid of honor was Miss Hattie Davis, a sister of the bride, and Harry Davis, a brother of the bride, was groomsmen.

After the ceremony a wedding supper was served at the bride's home. Many useful wedding gifts were received. The newly married couple left on the 6.52 train Sunday evening for Boston, and from there went to New York and Philadelphia on their wedding journey.

They will be at home to their friends after March 1, at their home, 45 East Concord street, Boston.

Basketball.

The fastest bunch of basketball tossers which has appeared here this season, representing the freshmen class of Tufts college, won a victory over our Civic club 45-24 in the town hall on Thursday afternoon. The fact that the day was a holiday drew the largest attendance of the season, and the interest was very noticeable till the final score showed the college boys the winners 35 to 17.

The victors were no doubt the best team, but it should be said in justice to the home side that it played in

rather hard luck. Time after time, the ball would all but go in the basket and roll out again. The injury to Green, the fast halfback, in the final period of play, which caused him to retire from the game, did not help matters any. McGuire did great work for his team, scoring seven baskets from the floor and one from a foul, a total of fifteen. Sullivan scored the most for the home team, with seven points.

The first time period was very interesting and it looked like a pretty close game, with the visitors in the lead by eight points, the score being 17 to 9, in their favor. They came back equally strong in the second period and succeeded in getting a total of thirty-five to their opponents' seventeen. The summary:

TUFTS CIVIC CLUB
Walsh, rf.....rf, Sullivan
McGuire, lf.....lf, Green
Angell, c.....c, J. Donahue, M. Donahue
Richardson, rb.....rb, E. Fowler
Mitchell, lb.....lb, Hurley, J. Donahue
Score—Tufts 35, Civic club 17. Goals from floor, Angell 2, Mitchell, McGuire, Richardson, Walsh 2, Sullivan 2, Green 2, J. Donahue 3. Goals from fouls, Angell 2, McGuire, Sullivan 3. Time 20 and 15m. periods. Referee, Forbes. Timers, Mullin and Allen.

BEARS PICKED TEAM
Downing, rf.....rf, F. Fowler
Brown, lf.....lf, E. Fowler
Hurley, c.....c, Norris
Pender, lb.....lb, MacDonnell
Pierce, rb.....rb, MacDonnell
Score—Bears 30, Picked team 2. Goals from floor, E. Fowler, Hurley, Downing 2, Brown 2. Referee, Forbes. Timers, Mullin and Allen. Time, 10m. halves.

The final basketball game of the season will be played here on next Thursday night between the Central-villes of Lowell and the Civic club.

New Advertisements.

P. DONLON & CO.

Dealers in

Groceries

Hardware

China

Crockery

Paints, Oils

Brushes

Teas, Coffee

and Spices

Enamel Ware

Wooden Ware

Baskets

Skis, Sleds

Skates and

Toboggans

Ayer, Mass.

Agents for Cunard, White Star, Leyland and Anchor Line Steamships.

Pipes!!!

Have you seen my line of

25¢ French Briars?

A full line of 35¢

and 50¢ London made

Briars with Hard Rubber Bits.

Smoke Up!

Genuine Briars with real

Amber Stems

50¢ to \$3.50

Calabash Pipes

75¢ to \$6.50

Block Meerschaum and

Coco Wood for 25¢

DRUG STORE

AYER

TOWNSEND.

Center.

Frank Weston has been confined to his bed this week with an attack of bronchitis. He is somewhat better.

Mrs. Frank Miller and two little sons, from Vancouver, B. C., were at Mrs. George E. Clark's this week. Mr. Miller was formerly saw filer at the Fessenden mills and has now accepted a position in Cuba. They will sail this week Saturday from New York city.

Olive May, seventeen months old, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. George R. Ward, died last week Friday night of bronchial pneumonia. The funeral was held at the home on Monday afternoon, Rev. S. P. Robertson officiating. Mr. and Mrs. Ward have the sympathy of all in their bereavement.

The annual sleighride and dance of the Fitchburg Fusiliers, Co. B, sixth regiment, infantry, M. V. M., was held at Memorial hall last week Friday evening. The public were invited to attend as at any dance and there were six large loads present from Fitchburg, besides an auto and several small teams. A delightful time was enjoyed by all. An escalloped oyster, salad and meat supper was served by their chef with a detachment of the company as waiters. Dancing lasted until two in the morning to the music of the company band.

There will be a special meeting and banquet of the Townsend Board of Trade at Odd Fellows' hall, Tuesday evening, February 27. Topic for discussion, "The town warrant." Banquet at seven o'clock.

Mr. and Mrs. J. T. Crosby and Mr. and Mrs. Charles Morris of Ashburnham enjoyed a sleighride to town on Sunday and spent the day with Mr. and Mrs. John J. Piper.

Death.

Stephen B. Allen, aged eighty-three years, died on Saturday morning, February 17, of old age and bronchitis. He was a veteran of the civil war, serving with the 23rd Regiment, Co. G. He was born in Manchester, and had lived in town for twenty-three years. Seven children survive him—Ernest, of Somersworth, N. H.; Louis, of Biddeford, Me.; Mrs. Butler, of Magnolia; Mrs. Shattuck, of Methuen; Miss Lillian, Walter and Austin Allen, of this town.

The funeral was held at his late home on the Brookline road on Monday afternoon and was in charge of Rev. A. L. Struthers. The G. A. R. service was also used by a delegation from Post 19, Fitchburg. Members from the post, Memorial association, Sons and Daughters of Veterans also attended. Many floral tributes were sent in by loving relatives and friends. The body was taken to Manchester on Tuesday for burial.

Town Meeting.

The warrant for town meeting, which is to be held on March 4, has been posted and contains thirty-one articles. Besides the usual articles for choosing town officers and for appropriating money for roads, snow paths, school affairs, library, moth suppression, etc., and besides the articles for hearing reports of committees and for the suppression of vice and illegal sale of liquors, the following are among the articles.

Article 7. To hear reports of committees chosen at previous town meetings to report at the annual town meeting on sidewalks, tungsten lamps, town water supply, water supply for West Townsend cemetery, and forest fire apparatus.

Art. 8. To see if the town will vote to sell the old steam fire engine.

Art. 10. To raise and appropriate a sum of money to grade the approach and rebuild the platform used for fire purposes in rear of church at West Townsend.

Art. 11. To appoint a committee to petition the legislature for an act to authorize the town of Townsend to supply itself and inhabitants with water.

Art. 12. To appoint a committee to continue the investigation of a water supply and appropriate money therefor.

Art. 13. To see if the town will vote to enter into a contract with a company to be known as the Townsend Water Company for a term of twenty years for water for all municipal purposes, such as water for fire protection, sprinkling streets, flush-sewers, for schoolhouses, all buildings used for town purposes, churches, drinking fountains, etc. The town to pay the Townsend Water Company for the use of water for the above-named purposes the sum of \$1000 per year, and an additional amount equal to whatever taxes may be assessed to water company each year during the term of contract. The water is to be under pressure so that the usual reduction in insurance will be had by all property owners in the village. Said contract to be the usual form adopted and to contain all the minor details.

Art. 14. To see if the town will appoint a committee to have proper contract drawn up between the town and water company to carry out the vote under the foregoing article and sign the same for the inhabitants of the town.

Art. 15. To see if the town will raise and appropriate the sum of six hundred dollars to purchase a power sprayer.

These are among the many important articles which no doubt will bring out much discussion at the meeting.

Surprise Party.

Friday evening, February 16, at a special meeting, members of the Odd Fellows, Rebekahs and Townsend band gathered at Odd Fellows' hall for the purpose of giving Mr. and Mrs. Roswell Lancy a surprise party upon the twenty-fifth anniversary of their marriage. It evidently turned out to be a complete surprise as neither Mr. or Mrs. Lancy decided to go to the "special meeting," which had been called and when the party of four who were detailed to go to the house and bring them forth to the hall, arrived, they found Mrs. Lancy finishing up her day's work and Mr. Lancy, who had been suffering from one of those

numerous afflictions which in bygone times so troubled Job, was preparing to go to bed. However, they were up to the occasion and soon were on their way to the hall.

Miss Florence, their little daughter, also had to be routed from bed and the two sons, Clifford and Rodney, were present at the hall, Rodney having secretly arrived home from Worcester Tech.

First, a reception was held and Noble Grand Frank R. Jeffs and wife and Noble Grand Margaret E. Hiekins and husband of the Odd Fellows and Rebekahs assisted in receiving. A musical program and speeches were then in order, John J. Piper being the toastmaster of the evening, as follows:

Duet, Mr. Seaver and Ica L. Cowdrey; song, Stella Farrar; original poem by H. W. Seaver, read by Emma F. Seaver; selections on the graphophone by T. E. Flarity.

During the program and speeches, Mr. Piper presented Mr. and Mrs. Lancy with a purse of money from the three organizations present with which they are to buy something to remember the occasion with, and Mr. and Mrs. Lancy fittingly responded with thanks.

Refreshments were served during the evening and a social time enjoyed. The evening closed with the singing of "Auld Lang Syne."

Interesting Information.

The following may be of interest to the taxpayers of this town, it being a statement of the overdrafts and unexpended balances for the year:

Overdrafts.	
Assessors' salaries.....	\$34.10
Registrars of voters.....	9.50
Election officers.....	6.00
Tax collectors.....	12.25
Town clerk.....	31.07
Sealer of weights and measures.....	10.55
Fire dept., incidentals.....	30.87
Forest fires.....	25.80
Tree wardens.....	4.51
Inspection of animals.....	44.10
S. M. Farrar, highway account.....	11.90
Almshouse.....	68.72
Interest.....	41.78
Total overdrafts.....	\$350.81

Unexpended Balances.

Tax accounts.....	\$.88
Tax abatements.....	42.28
Office and general expenses.....	212.20
Memorial hall.....	94.06
Insurance.....	1.10
Investigating town water supply.....	48.30
Printing new valuation.....	58.60
Police dept., salaries.....	70.70
Suppression of illegal sale of liquors.....	77.20
Fire dept., salaries.....	67.34
Refrigerator engine houses.....	5.00
Trains.....	9.25
Painting engine houses.....	5.00
Moth suppression.....	68.87
John E. Donovan.....	6.64
Thomas J. Smith.....	15.15
Repairs to highway tools.....	6.25
Breaking snowpaths—sidewalks.....	95.34
Breaking snow roads.....	70.20
Street lighting.....	83.42
Watering troughs.....	5.00
Repairs to Hoyt bridge.....	27.08
Repairs to almshouse.....	13.75
Support of poor, off farm.....	356.92
Soldiers' relief.....	100.00
Teachers' salaries.....	124.23
Transportation.....	57.25
Park commissioners.....	104.88
Total unexpended balances.....	\$1,869.38
Total overdrafts.....	\$350.81
Net unexpended balances for year.....	\$1,518.57
Ad. other surplus revenue for the year.....	491.17
Total surplus revenue for the year.....	\$2,009.74
Ad. surplus revenue of previous years.....	3,306.33
Total surplus revenue December 31, 1911.....	\$5,316.07

West.

A very pleasant meeting of the Sans Souci club was held at the parsonage with Mrs. S. D. Ringrose on Thursday afternoon of last week. Tea was served and music and a social time enjoyed by those present.

Winfield Reed, of Boston, and Miss Nancy Reed, from Cushing academy, Ashburnham, have been spending a few days with their parents, Mr. and Mrs. Alexander Reed.

Ralph Willard, from Boston, was at the home of his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Willard over Sunday.

Miss Lena Thompson, who is teaching in Fitchburg, spent Sunday at her home here, and is now enjoying a few weeks' vacation from her duties.

Kingsbury Morgan is quite seriously ill at his home on the Ashby road, threatened with pneumonia.

Mrs. I. B. Richards is ill at her home, and her housekeeper, Miss Brown, is caring for her.

Una Walker, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. G. E. Walker, is reported a victim of the measles.

Mrs. Lucy A. Lawrence has returned from the home of her brother, D. C. Taylor, on the Ashby road, where she was called by the illness and death of Mr. Stone.

Mrs. J. A. Willard enjoyed a brief visit to her daughter in Dorchester last week.

Mrs. George A. Seaver has been confined to her home this week, suffering from a severe cold.

The Misses Conway, from Salem, are guests of their sister, Mrs. James Dodds, at the home of A. J. Manchester in Josselynville.

Augustus Stevens is quite ill with the grippe at his home on Stevens hill.

Mrs. Edwin Streeter met with a fall in her yard last Monday which shook her quite badly though no bones were broken. Her sister, Miss Emma Olmstead, from Waltham, is caring for her at present.

Carl B. Willard spent the holiday with relatives in Dorchester and Boston.

Mr. and Mrs. Albert E. Wilson spent Sunday with relatives in Lowell.

Mrs. Fred A. Patch has been spending a few days with relatives and friends in Fitchburg and vicinity.

Rev. and Mrs. J. H. Cox, of Dorchester, who are visiting Mr. and Mrs. Fred A. Patch, of Josselynville, have been spending a few days this week with relatives in Sterling.

Seven members of the Brotherhood enjoyed a sleighride to Fitchburg on Monday evening to attend the meeting addressed by Ex-Governor Usher, of Rhode Island, and report a most enjoyable occasion.

Ladies' Study Club.

Eleven were present at the meeting of the Ladies' Study club at the reading-room on Thursday evening of last week, and the last reading of "The

taming of the Shrew," took place under the charge of Mrs. Charles Hodgman. Mrs. G. A. Seaver occupied the president's chair, and in the absence of the secretary, Mrs. R. S. Ely served as secretary pro tem. For current events, Mrs. C. B. Stickney reported for the United States, the making of Arizona a state; Mrs. Lees, for Germany, gave an account of the Lincoln day reception; Miss Seaver, for Russia, gave anecdotes of the help apparent, and Mrs. G. A. Seaver, for China, gave an account of the making of the republic.

At the business meeting it was voted not to observe gentlemen's night, but to omit the meeting of February 29, and also to take up the study of the life and works of Charles Dickens at the next two meetings. The meeting of March 14, will be in charge of Miss Seaver and each member is to contribute all they can find in regard to his life and works and the recent centenary. Each member was also assigned one of his books to be read and a synopsis written, to be given at the last meeting on the afternoon of March 28. Paper on the personal recollections of Dickens' lecture in Boston will be given by Mrs. Josephine Boynton, and on the life and character of Dickens by Mrs. L. O. Barker.

ALMOST LOST HIS LIFE.

S. A. Stid, of Mason, Mich., will never forget his terrible exposure to a merciless storm. "It gave me a dreadful cold," he says, "that caused severe pains in my chest, so it was hard for me to breathe. A neighbor gave me several doses of Dr. King's New Discovery which brought great relief. The doctor said I was on the verge of pneumonia, but to continue with the Discovery. I did so and two bottles completely cured me." Use only this quick, safe, reliable medicine for coughs, colds, or any throat or lung trouble. Price 50c, and \$1.00 trial bottle free. Guaranteed by William Brown, Ayer.

New Advertisements.

Union Cash Market
AYER

LOOK OVER THESE PRICES

ROAST PORK, 13c. lb.
FRESH SHOULDER PORK, 11c. lb.
FRESH LAMB, 10c. lb.
LEGGS LAMB, 15c. lb.
GOOD SIRLOIN STEAK, 20c. lb.
GOOD SIRLOIN ROAST, 10c. lb.
LARGE, SELECTED OYSTERS, 45c. qt.
4 lb OYSTER CRACKERS, 25c.
DILL PICKLES, 10c. qt.
4 lb BEST HEAD RICE, 25c.
BEN HUR BREAD FLOUR, 85c. bag
PASTRY FLOUR, 75c. bag
3 CANS CORN 25c., or 90c. doz.
OOLONG TEA, 30c. lb.
CEYLON TEA, 35c. lb.
½ lb CAN COCOA, 19c.
GOOD COFFEE, 25c. lb.

Remember the Place
UNION CASH MARKET, Main Street
Ayer, Mass.

AT LOWEST PRICES
A FULL LINE OF

BLANKETS AND ROBES

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

WM. E. WHEELER

Central Ave. Ayer, Mass.
Phone, 74-3. Res. 78-4.

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

HORSESHOEING A SPECIALTY

SHIRLEY
CASH MARKET

McCarthy & Markham, Prop.
DEALERS IN

Meat and Provisions

Tel. Con. SHIRLEY, MASS.

Our cart will be in Ayer every Tuesday and Saturday. We will endeavor to give the best quality of goods at reasonable prices. Please give us a trial and be convinced for yourself. Deliveries made in Ayer.

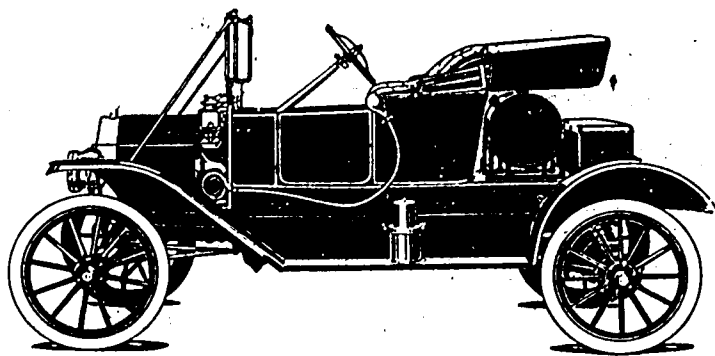
COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS, Middlesex, ss. Probate Court. To the heirs-at-law, next of kin, creditors, and all other persons interested in the estate of REUBEN C. BLANCHFORD late of Ayer in said County, deceased, intestate.

Whereas a petition has been presented to said Court to grant a letter of administration on the estate of said deceased to CARRIE E. BLANCHFORD of Ayer 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-sixth day of February, A. D. 1912, at nine o'clock in the forenoon, to show cause, if any you have, why the same should not be granted.

And 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, and by mailing a copy of this citation to each heir-at-law of said deceased seven days at least before said Court.

Witness, Charles J. McIntire, Esquire, First Judge of said Court, this eighth day of February in the year one thousand nine hundred and twelve.
3122 W. E. ROGERS, Register.



Ford Fore-door Touring Cars, \$690
Ford Fore-door Runabouts, \$590
F. O. B. Detroit

Bargains in Second Hand Cars

R. B. ANDREWS

Tel. 106-2 Leominster, Mass.

Santo Vacuum Cleaner
CLEANS
EVERYTHING—EVERYWHERE
PORTABLE OR STATIONARY
DEMONSTRATION FREE
Cleaning done by the hour. Prompt attention to orders.
Marshall Swallow, Groton, Mass.

CHAS. E. PERRIN
Plumbing and Heating

MAGEE Ranges and Heaters
Windmills Pumps Tanks Towers
Pneumatic Water Supplies

West Street Ayer, Mass.
Telephone Connection

You Could Not
SAVE MONEY

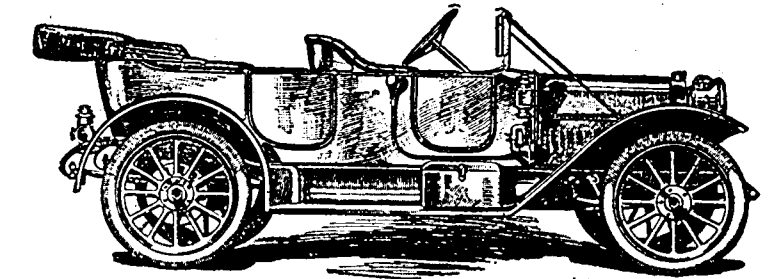
any easier than to come in and investigate my MARK DOWN SALE, for I am selling

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

in order to make room for my New Spring Stock.

Miss Ethel K. Bruce
Up One Flight. Phelps' Bldg. AYER, Mass.

Oakland 1912 Models Out



The Car that speaks for itself—Quiet, Swift and Durable.

Prices, \$1000--\$3000

One of the best line of Cars on the Market
Write or phone for Catalog and list of victories. Demonstrations gladly given.

R. Y. NELSON, Local Agent
Phone, 19-2 West Acton, Mass.

Is Your Farm For Sale?

Let me know if near Ayer where I can show it with auto. No expense to you unless we sell. You reserve privilege of selling if you can when you deal with Bliss or Breck's Agency, which I represent. We have plenty of good customers and want more attractive places, especially for fruit and poultry.

Would You Buy a Farm?
See our list first, all kinds from \$500 to \$30,000. Some we do not urge on you; but we have those we do not hesitate to recommend as worthy of your attention where we know you will not blame us if you buy. This is the kind we enjoy working on. Let us help you find a satisfying place.

3m10 EDWARD H. BLISS, Ayer, Mass.
Phone Connection

Jas. P. Fitch
JEWELER

For Sale

A lot of Good Hay and Pulletts which will be sold at a reasonable price for cash. Full particulars will be given by writing to R. F. D. 58, Harvard, Mass.
4124

SATURDAY
18
Candy Day

AT THE
= Ayer =
Variety Store
WHERE ARE FOUND A LARGE VARIETY OF

Chocolates
40c, better than most 50c.
29c, better than most 40c.
20c, better than most 25c.

Sugar Mints asst., Nonpareils, Butter Scotch, Peach Blossoms, Etc. 20c lb.
Hore Hound Squares, Peanut Butter Kisses, Etc. 15c lb.
Molasses Kisses, Peanut Brittle, Etc. 15c lb.
More than 15 varieties 10c lb.

Special Saturday, Feb. 24
40c. lb. box Chocolates 29c
29c. lb. box Chocolates 23c

THE PARK & POLLARD CO.
DRY-MASH
MAKES THEM
LAY OR BUST

GOLDEN EGGS

Talk about your "Golden Eggs." Your hens and the Park & Pollard DRY-MASH combined beat them a whole block. Every one of your hens will lay "Golden Eggs" if you feed them The Park & Pollard Dry-Mash and Scratch Feed. No side stepping or excuses—LAY or BUST, and they don't bust. Get their Almanac and Yearbook and learn all about the wonderful feed that is on the "money back plan." Feed the maturing pullets GROWN-UP FEED and DRY-MASH mixed, but as soon as they begin to lay, give them the DRY-MASH straight. Don't delay, get them started now and you will have eggs all winter. The "Golden Eggs" as good "feeds" and you have no time to try them—eggs are too high.

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

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS, Middlesex, ss. Probate Court. To all persons interested in any of the real estate of ALBERT D. COOPER late of Townsend in said County, deceased, intestate.

Whereas, ALBERT D. COOPER of Townsend in the County of Middlesex, has presented to said Court a petition, representing that she as the widow of said deceased is entitled to take five thousand dollars and one half of the remaining personal and one half of the remaining real property of said deceased, that the personal estate is sufficient to pay the said five thousand dollars and that the whole amount of the estate of said deceased is not necessary to pay debts and charges of administration; and praying that the whole of the real estate which is described in said petition may be assigned and set out to her by the Court according to law, to provide for said deficiency, at a value of Eighteen Hundred dollars, or at such other value as may be fixed by said Court.

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 February, A. D. 1912, at nine o'clock in the forenoon, to show cause, if any you have, why the same should not be granted.

And said petitioner is ordered to serve this citation by delivering a copy thereof to each person interested who can be found within the County of wealth, fourteen days, at least, before said Court; and, if any one cannot be so found, by publishing the same in Turner's Public Spirit a newspaper published in Ayer once in each week, for three successive weeks, 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 February in the year one thousand nine hundred and twelve.
3122 W. E. ROGERS, Register.

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 MARTHA P. COOPER late of Shirley 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 RICHARD McELLIOTT of Waltham 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 twenty-sixth day of February, A. D. 1912, at nine o'clock in the forenoon, to show cause, if any you have, why the same should not be granted.

And 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. McIntire, Esquire, First Judge of said Court, this thirtieth day of January in the year one thousand nine hundred and twelve.
3122 W. E. ROGERS, Register.

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS, Middlesex, ss. Probate Court. To all persons interested in the estate of MARIA E. BENNETT late of Townsend in said County, deceased.

Whereas RICHARD McELLIOTT special administrator of the estate of said deceased, has presented to said Court a petition for authority to pay out of the personal estate in hand certain debts of the deceased shown by the list of debts filed with said petition.

You are hereby cited to appear at a Probate Court to be held at Cambridge, in said County, on the twenty-sixth day of February, in the year one thousand nine hundred and twelve, to show cause, if any you have, why the same should not be granted.

And said petitioner is ordered to serve this citation by delivering or mailing, postpaid, a copy thereof to all persons interested in the estate fourteen days at least before said Court, and by publishing the same once in each week, for three successive weeks, in Turner's Public Spirit a newspaper published in Ayer the last publication to be one day at least before said Court.

A Nice Assortment of
Democrat Wagons
Concord
Buggies
**Carriages,
Butcher
Carts
Harnesses**
A GOOD ASSORTMENT AND
AT ALL PRICES.
CALL AND SEE THEM

Carriage Repairing in All Its
Branches Promptly
Done

ALSO, HORSESHOEING AND GEN-
ERAL BLACKSMITHING

Frederick Whitney
AYER, MASS.

LYMAN KENNETH CLARK
Counselor-at-Law
417-421

OLD SOUTH BUILDING, BOSTON
Telephone 9-3, Ayer
At Residence, Washington St.,
Evenings

AUGUSTUS LOVEJOY
Insurance Agent and Broker

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

42 East Main Street, Ayer.

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

OVER WHIPPLE & TOWER'S STORE

EAST PEPPERELL.

D. W. FLETCHER

Successor to John L. Boynton

INSURANCE AGENT AND BROKER

Concord Building, Main Street

East Pepperell, Mass.

N. A. SPENCER & SON

Wish to call your at-
tention to their stock of

**GEMETERY
MEMORIALS**

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

Ayer, Mass.

FLOWERS

For Every Occasion

DESIGNS A SPECIALTY
HARDY ORNAMENTAL
PLANTS, TREES, SHRUBS

H. HUEBNER

All Orders Given Prompt Attention

GROTON, MASS.

Greenhouse near Groton School

Telephone Connection

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHU-
SETTS, Middlesex, ss. Probate Court.

To the heirs-at-law and all other
persons interested in the estate of

HARRETT A. LOVEJOY late of Ayer
in said County, deceased.

Whereas AUGUSTUS LOVEJOY ex-
ecutor of the will of said deceased,

has presented to said Court his peti-
tion for license to sell at private sale,

in accordance with the offer named in
said petition, or upon such terms as

may be adjudged best, the whole of a
certain parcel of the real estate of said

deceased for the payment of debts,
legacies the amount of which the hus-

band is entitled under the statute he
having waived the provisions of said

will and charges of administration, and
for other reasons set forth in said peti-

tion, and that the petitioner being the
husband may be the purchaser.

You are hereby cited to appear at a
Probate Court to be held at Cambridge

in said County, on the twenty-seventh
day of February A. D. 1912, at nine

o'clock in the forenoon, to show cause,
if any you have, why the same should

not be granted.

And said petitioner is ordered to
serve this citation by delivering a copy

thereof to each person interested in
the estate fourteen days, at least, be-
fore said Court, or by publishing the

same once in each week for three
successive weeks in Turner's Public Spirit

newspaper published in Ayer the last
publication to be one day, at least, be-
fore said Court.

Witness, Charles J. McIntire, Esquire,
First Judge of said Court, this sixth

day of February in the year one thou-
sand nine hundred and twelve.

3122 W. E. ROGERS, Register.

FRANK S. BENNETT

Successor to ARTHUR FENNER

Insurance Agent and Broker

Main Street, Turner's Building

AYER, MASS.

Miss G. M. Stone, Public Typewriter

R. M. Erving

Foto Portraits

PICTURE FRAMING

25 Champney Street Groton, Mass.

THE HOLDEN FARM ON THE
NASHUA RIVER, AYER, MASS.

THE HISTORY OF A HOUSE IN OLD
GROTON.

By Edward A. Richardson.

(Concluded.)

Four separate houses were standing
upon the farm at the time Nathaniel
Stone's ownership. The original house
stood close to the sand bank just
north of the present house. Another
was near the old shed east of the
present house, and another where the
horse barn now is and there was in-
cluded in this number Daniel's old
house on the other side of the hill.
These were rather rude structures
to which succeeded the present larger
and more modern two-story house.

Nathaniel Stone married Sybil Stone,
a daughter of Joseph Stone, who was
descended from the other Stone family
which traced its ancestry back to the
first settlement of Groton. Her moth-
er was Mary, daughter of Jonas Pres-
cott, Jr., of Groton. Sybil was born
on October 27, 1733, and the children
of Nathaniel and Sybil Stone were:

Nathaniel, born September 1, 1759.
Sybil, born November 24, 1761.
Hannah, born November 10, 1763.
Olive, born January 15, 1766.
Rhoda, born October 22, 1767.
Joseph, born November 20, 1769.
Molly, born December 29, 1771.
Isaac, born January 6, 1774.
Joseph, born February 6, 1776.

By this marriage the brothers of
Sybil Stone were uncles of the chil-
dren of Nathaniel and Sybil Stone,
and one of these, Amos, was the father
of several Stones who lived in this
vicinity, that is Amos, Joseph, Tim-
othy, Nathaniel, and Abraham. Of
these Nathaniel Stone, born in 1787,
about three months before the death
of his aunt's husband, the other Na-
thaniel Stone, lived all his life at
South Groton, where he died on Sep-
tember 17, 1862.

Of the children of Nathaniel and
Sybil Stone, the first Joseph died at
the age of two, and the second Joseph
died when two years and seven months
old. Molly died when a young lady,
June 16, 1789. Sybil, the oldest daugh-
ter, married a Jonathan Carriel, of
Ashby, June 4, 1781. Rhoda Stone,
who married a Simon Stone, died
on April 9, 1801, and Isaac mar-
ried Lucy Daby on November 2, 1795,
and died on April 17, 1803. Na-
thaniel, the oldest son, died in the
service of his country at Dorchester
Heights, October 22, 1776. Hannah
married Elias Chaffin, of Harvard,
October 20, 1785, and died on
October 6, 1790, at the early age of
twenty-six years, ten months, fifteen
days. Their daughter was Abigail,
familiarly known as Nabby. She was
a seamstress and lived for years at
South Groton in a small house which
stood at the forks of the Lunenburg
and Shirley Village roads.

Mr. Stone followed in the work of
clearing the land of great tracts of
timber, which work was interrupted
by the service of his son and himself
in the revolutionary war. The young
man went first and laid down his life
at Dorchester Heights at the early
age of seventeen. In this period the
girls assisted their father in the work
of the farm, since their other brothers
were quite young.

Although bereft of his eldest son in
the war, Mr. Stone in the very next
year departed for Saratoga and Ticon-
deroga for the service, and for months
the wife and children tilled the fields
with no tidings from the soldier. In
their isolated location each night
brought to them no tidings from
friends and in constant fear of the
enemy they brought in axes and pitch-
forks and barricaded the doors.

One day they heard the sound of
firearms in the woods and waited anx-
iously for the appearance of friends
or foe. To their great joy the father,
Nathaniel Stone, emerged from the
forest and affectionately greeted his
family and recounted his experience
in the war. After the war was over
the work of marketing the timber was
resumed and it was then that Mr.
Stone cut off the heavy growth of
white pine which covered the present
trotting park.

In those early days the road used
to reach the farm was, as it exists to-
day, north of the extinct Morgan pond.
The path by the catholic cemetery is
of much more recent date and when
the village at South Groton began, a
short cut was used as a foot path lead-
ing from the farmhouse up a narrow
ravine and over the railroad to the
old Dr. Benjamin Morse house and
the Park house, to the Groton road.

There was also a path used to reach
the neighbors up the river and Shirley
Village. This, as used by Abel L.
Holden and family, when they came
to visit Mrs. Davis, was over a huge
tree which had been felled across
Nonalcoic brook near its mouth,
and had been used as a bridge for
years. The cart path from the farm
through the woods to a point near the
Woods Village bridge, over the Nash-
ua, was used by the Holdens, who at-
tended church at Shirley.

Nathaniel Stone, the elder, was com-
paratively a young man when he died
in 1787, at the age of fifty-six. In
Bond's "Genealogies of Watertown," on
page 539, this Nathaniel Stone is er-
roneously given as the fifth child of
John Stone, of Groton, whereas, with-
out doubt, he was the son of David,
of Beverly and Tewksbury.

In the genealogical tables in Caleb
Butler's history of Groton, the date of
Nathaniel Stone's death is referred to
as September, 1811, a misprint. It
was on September 27, 1811, that Sybil,
his widow, died at the age of seventy-
eight years, and in the table of John
Stone's children, the David Stone given
in two places as dying on October
10, 1758, has been given the wrong
date, for it was the David of this
Beverly family who died on that date
at the river farm. Nathaniel Stone
made his will on March 28, 1787, and
died on July 18, of that year, and his
widow lived on at the farm for a
period of fifty-three years until her
death.

In the inventory of the estate of
Nathaniel Stone, made on August 9,
1787, are found the items usually in
a well to do household of those days.
The list includes pewter, knives and
forks, "Delph" ware, spinning wheels,
books, saddle, saddle bags, pillows,

bowls, mortars, earthenware, great
spinning wheel, firelock, warming
pan, hand iron, fatirons, toasting
iron, tongs, shovels, new cloth (cot-
ton and linen), linen yarn and worsted
yarn.

In passing from a further consid-
eration of Nathaniel Stone, it is
worthy of particular notice that two
revolutionary patriots went from this
farm to the defence of their country.
In the family lot at Groton, in the
old cemetery, are tablets to their
memory wrought by a descendant,
Nathaniel Davis, of Newburyport, who
was born at the homestead. The me-
morial markers of the Massachusetts
society of the Sons of the American
Revolution are in position at their
graves.

Mrs. Stone, by purchase and as heir
of her deceased unmarried children,
secured most of the parts of the es-
tate devised by her late husband, and
at her request her daughter Olive,
who married Abel Davis, came with
her family from Templeton to assume
the care of the farm and its owner-
ship at her death, which occurred in
1811. Thus a new generation was
established here: Abel Davis, born in
Harvard, June 30, 1768; Olive Stone,
born in Groton, January 15, 1766.
They were married on February 26,
1794. Their children were:

Luther, born November 26, 1794.
Abel, born July 27, 1798.
Nathaniel, born March 12, 1801.
Olive, born November 2, 1803.

These children grew up on the farm
and all moved from Groton to other
towns except Luther, who remained
on the place and married, on March
23, 1823, Nancy Lawton, of Shirley.
Their children, born here, were:

Ira Lawton, born October 5, 1824.
Abel Holden, born August 17, 1827.
Mandana, born February 28, 1830.
Roxana, born January 28, 1834.

Ira L. Davis is now living at New-
buryport. Abel Davis, Jr., at an early
age left home looking for adventure
as they would say in those days, and
located in Newburyport, where he set
up the first marble working establish-
ment in the town for the making of
gravestones. Luther Davis died on
December 24, 1836, and the following
spring Abel Davis leased one-half of
the house to the widow, Nancy Davis,
who continued to live here for a while
longer with her children.

A few years later, Olive, a daughter
of Abel Davis, Jr., came from New-
buryport to live with her grandmother
after the death of her father.
Nathaniel Davis was born on the
farm in 1801, and at the time of
his birth the river rose so high that
it forced the water up through the
floor of the lower rooms. At other
times the Davis boys had great sport
paddling about in the cellar in tubs,
and one occasion the bottom of the
tub fell out and swamped the naviga-
tor.

Nathaniel was quite a scholar for
those days and taught school to some
extent. His mathematical ability led
other teachers to frequently consult
him in algebra, trigonometry and kin-
dred subjects during his teaching
days. At the age of twenty-five he
went to Newburyport to work for his
brother, and at Abel's death succeeded
to the business which is conducted
today by descendants of the family.

In 1850, Nathaniel Davis gave up
the marble business at Newburyport
and returned to Groton where he
bought the Amos Farnsworth farm,
near the "Community," so-called.

A daughter of Nathaniel, Jane, mar-
ried first Alfred Pollard, and secondly
Asa Stillman Lawrence, of Groton;
and of other daughters, Mrs. Sarah
M. Powers is living at Leominster,
and Mrs. Mary A. Patch in California
at the present time.

In 1795, certain portions of the Na-
thaniel Stone farm had been set off
to Isaac Stone as his half interest, de-
vised to him by his father. These were
conveyed by him in 1798, to David
Meors, of Groton, subject to the life
estate of Sybil Stone. In 1821, Luther
Davis purchased this interest of the
Meors and by deed dated March 7,
1821, Abel Davis secured whatever
outstanding claims Mrs. Sybil Stone
had not previously obtained from the
heirs of her late husband's estate.
These heirs were living in Groton,
Ware and Gardner, and thus all the
original Stone farm was now in the
possession of Abel Davis and his son
Luther. Some of these portions came
back into the ownership of the Hold-
ens, particularly Brook pasture and
the Lower pasture as they were called.

Up to the year 1851, all household
supplies were bought at Groton, with
possibly a trip to Shirley Center or
the village, there being no stores at
the present location of Ayer, which
up to that time had been only a farm-
ing community.

Nathaniel Stone, the elder, occa-
sionally made journeys on horseback
to Boston, the usual method for long
distances, even in the latter part of
the eighteenth century by those who owned
horses.

Mrs. Davis stated to her grandchil-
dren at one time, that she often rode
to Groton on a pillion behind her
father, Nathaniel Stone.

Among the Hill papers are many in-
teresting items in accounts, showing
prices paid for household supplies in
those days just about one hundred
years ago. The wool and flax raised
on the farm were prepared for home
use. The wool was carded at the Wil-
son mill on the Mulpus brook in Shir-
ley, at seven to nine cents per pound,
and flax was flayed and stripped on
the farm. The small hill at the west
of the house was a favorite drying
ground, being sufficiently elevated
against an ordinary rise in the river.
In a sudden, unusually high freshet
all hands would turn out and gather
up the flax which had been spread
here in fancied security.

Mrs. Davis was accustomed to make
occasional afternoon calls upon her
distant neighbor, Mrs. Morse, taking
along her foot wheel and flax and to
the whirr of her wheel discuss the
affairs which interested womankind
in those days.

The prices paid for some of the
necessaries of life in 1830, will inter-
est consumers of the present day. The
items on a bill of goods bought of
the butcher by Abel Davis were:

18 1/2 lb veal at 5 cents.
7 1/2 tallow at 6 cents.
8 lb beef at 5 cents.
1 "runnet" skin.

The latter was used in the home
manufacture of cheese. In 1817, there
were receipts given by Dr. Benjamin
Hartwell, of Shirley, and Dr. Joseph
Mansfield, who lived at Groton, for
services, and in 1837, Dr. Augustus
Parker was in attendance.

The Davis family resided at the
river, on the Stone farm, as we may
properly call it, for about fifty years,
and Mrs. Davis, born as Olive Stone,
in 1766, died there May 17, 1862, liv-
ing on the place for ninety years, a
much longer term than her mother,
who spent here fifty-three years of
her life.

The long and active life led by Mrs.
Davis and the relation of her experi-
ences of itself form an interesting
chapter in the history of the home-
stead and much that we have learned
about life there was told by her to
the grandchildren who lived with her
at various times.

The products of the farm, besides
the ordinary crops, were walnuts,
cranberries and hops. About two
hundred dollars' worth each of wal-
nuts and cranberries were gathered
yearly and when hops were raised
generally in Groton and Shirley these
interval lands were favorite fields
for the crop.

Levi Dodge, who owned the farm
west of the river directly opposite,
was a large grower and the Davis
and Holden young people used to row
across to pick hops and add to their
spending money.

The old hop house on the Holden
farm is still standing with its huge
stone oven in the basement, where a
fire was placed for drying out the
crop.

The old house, of generous propor-
tions, built by Mr. Davis, faced the
south, irrespective of the passing of
any roadway, and was set by compass
face the cardinal point of the com-
pass. The elder Davis was accus-
tomed to set his clock at noon, at the
time of the equinox, by the shadow
made by the sun on the floor, which
then was at right angles to the win-
dow. Time was also roughly com-
puted by a sundial which was on a
post in front of the house.

The hall extends through from
north to south and from it, by an
easy flight of stairs, the upper rooms
are reached. From all the south
rooms is a delightful view along the
intervale, up the river, and the fire-
places are still in position. In the
two lower west rooms are the usual
cupboards and nooks found around
old fireplace chimneys, and it was
here that Grandmother Davis kept
house by herself several years after
the death of her husband. At the
side door is a round aperture through
which her companion, the cat, could
go in and out at pleasure and which
in the olden times was known as the
"cat hole," a term frequently used at
the present time as applied to any
small opening.

In the cupboard, over the fireplace,
during the Davis occupancy, was kept
the fish hook and line which had been
handed down in the family from
Eleazer Davis, the grandfather of Abel
Davis. This Eleazer was enrolled as
from Concord, in the company of men
who went from Dunstable on an ex-
pedition against the Pequawkets, a
tribe of Indians, near the present
town of Fryeburg, Me., in the year
1725. He was one of the few sur-
vivors who escaped massacre, though
wounded. In 1730, he was a resident
of Groton and was a petitioner for
the new town of Harvard, which in-
cluded his lands when incorporated.

The story of this fish hook and line
has been frequently recited in the
annals of Dunstable and Groton. Abel
Davis used to say he came quite near
never having an ancestor, Caleb
Butler, in his history of Groton, re-
ferring to a list of the participants in
this engagement, prepared by Eleazer
Davis, says:

"A grandson of this Eleazer Davis
informs me that his grandfather and
Mr. Frye were together on their re-
turn and coming to a brook they saw
a fish. One of them having a fish
hook, they cut strips from their
moccasins for a line, and succeeded
in taking the fish. Having kindled a
fire, they cooked and ate of it. It re-
fresed Davis, but proved fatal to Mr.
Frye. This fish hook and line were
preserved till the centennial exhibi-
tion in Fryeburg in 1825, when they
were sent to that place for exhibi-
tion."

Mr. Butler was probably well in-
formed as to the fish hook and line
for Mrs. Davis always declared that
in his earnest solicitation she per-
mitted him to send it to Fryeburg,
and never saw it returned.

In this connection it may be a fitting
place to record the fact that the pa-
rents of Abel Davis were Abel Davis
and Ruhama, who were married on
December 28, 1757. The record of
their family and the preceding gener-
ation will be found on pages 544 and
543 in the published history of Har-
vard.

The kitchen of Mrs. Davis was a
pattern for neatness and she painted it
with her own hands with a mixture of
skim milk and ochre, which her grand-
children living at the present time
declare looked fresh for many years.
At the door on the west end, follow-
ing the old custom, the latch string
of Grandmother Davis hung out even
as late as 1830, when the young chil-
dren of Nathaniel Davis used to come
in a team from Newburyport to visit
her.

She was Hospitality personified and
to this heartstone the distant neigh-
bors would come on winter evenings,
by sled-load and all were regaled
with pound cake, honey and, following
the custom in those days, cider.
One can see in imagination the
gathering about the huge fireplace,
where now hangs the iron crane, with
pot hooks in a row and below only one
old fire dog awaits its mate.

In the northwest chamber the fam-
ily loom used to stand and was used
by the different occupants of the farm
for the weaving of various homespun
cloths used for garments and house-
hold purposes. Some beautiful spec-
imens of linen and woolen goods made

by Mrs. Sybil Stone and Mrs. Abel
Davis are in the possession of Mrs.
Hill, every part of which is a product
of the farm. The loom was probably
the same as mentioned in the in-
ventory of goods of Nathaniel Stone in
1787 as "a loom and all appurtenances
14-8s."

The hatchel and loom were used
by Mrs. Davis as late as 1837. The
attic has a closely laid floor upon
which the annual crop of walnuts was
spread for drying.

The house throughout is built of
hewn timber and its huge chimneys
would make a dozen for our modern
houses. In the cellar at their bases
are immense closets for the keeping of
milk and cheese and beside the stair-
way a swinging cupboard of Abel
Holden's manufacture.

The construction of the cellar wall
shows that it was built at different
times, or in two parts, indicating
that a former house stood here and
that the cellar was extended when the
present house was built. All the stone
used in and about the building must
have been drawn from a distance, for
the farm was never productive of
rocks and stones such as are used for
walls, although a few were ploughed
up between the barn and the river by
Abel Holden, which were undoubtedly
placed in the ground by the Indians
of long ago as hearths for their wig-
wams and were probably taken from
the river bed.

A few arrow heads have also been
found here and Mrs. Davis used to
say that the farm was originally an
Indian plantation and that a certain
formation of the ground in Brook
pasture at the southwest part was
supposed to be an Indian burial
ground.

The character of the river bank has
changed much since 1845, even, and
where once were sloping banks and
gravelly shores are now high alluvial
or sandy bluffs devoid of the fringe of
trees which Mr. Holden, the elder,
permitted to grow as a protection
against the eroding floods.

In some places the river has made
an entirely new channel even in the
memory of Mrs. Hill. The old "eddy"
near the house is now filled with a
great projecting sand bar and "Salmon
rock" can be seen only at low
water. It was here that Mr. Holden
once secured a salmon weighing
twenty pounds and the salmon spear
was preserved for years, but finally
went the way of many obsolete family
utensils, to the junkman.

The large elm tree which overhangs
the house was set out by Mrs. Davis
when a young woman, and is prob-
ably nearly one hundred and twenty-
five years old. It shows the shat-
tering effect of a thunder bolt, which
at the same instant entered the front
of the house and seriously injured
Mrs. Hill, who was sitting in the
front room at the time.

Directly north of the house the
ground rises sharply to the summit
of "Listening Hill," so-called for
many generations, from the fact that
from its top the tinkling sound of the
bell of the flock could be heard and
thus the location of sheep and cat-
tle on the range be determined.

Under this hill, near an ancient
apple tree now standing, the family
of Mr. Davis took shelter in the great
blow of 1815, when the home was un-
roofed, and since the roof was car-
ried bodily to the slope of the hill,
they all took shelter under that for
several days while the proper repairs
could be made to the house.

Abel Davis, sr., died on January 30,
1846, and Mrs. Davis survived him for
a period of sixteen years.

Abel Longley Holden was born in
Shirley on December 21, 1800, the son
of Phineas and Miriam (Longley)
Holden. He married Olive Davis at
this household on April 19, 1825, and
took her to a new house across the
river in Shirley. Mr. Holden erected
the buildings at what is known as
the Eaton place on the road from
Harris Crossing, so-called, to Shirley
Center. Their children, born at that
farm, were Adolphus Longley, born
July 9, 1830; Miriam Olive, born May
8, 1832. Mrs. Holden died on August
2, 1842, and at the earnest solicitation
of Mrs. Davis, the grandmother of his
children, Mr. Holden removed in 1845,
to her home on the side of the river,
and sold his Shirley farm in 1846. It
was also the wish of his wife, Olive,
in her last sickness, that he should
care for her mother; a service that
he performed with every mark of
filial duty, even as though he were
her own son, as long as she lived.

A circumstance in the life of Mr.
Holden here, illustrates his strict
sense of his obligations. He bought
the farm of the Davis heirs under an
agreement to care for the Widow Da-
vis through life. At one time there
was still due, on account of this sale,
a note for \$400 to Nathaniel Davis,
who offered to give it to Mr. Holden,
feeling that he had well earned it in
caring for the old lady in her extreme
age. Mr. Holden would not have it so
and thereupon Mr. Davis threw the
note in the fire and declared it paid
in full.

Of Mr. Holden the late Rev. Seth
Chandler in his genealogical notes
of the family was pleased to say:

"In the character of Mr. Holden
his acquaintances could witness as per-
fect a display of the virtues of hu-
manity and the graces of christian
faith as are usually found on earth.
His good common sense and moral
excellence were happily blended in
all his ways and works, and were
judiciously exhibited in his relations
as son and brother and happily so in
those of husband and father. In his
intercourse as a citizen, he was gen-

PEPPERELL.

Current Events.

The thirteen-year-old pet dog of C. B. Taft, of the East village, caused much anxiety last Monday evening by wandering away from home about his usual supper hour. Diligent search was made, and about nine o'clock, as they were examining the river bank with lanterns, a passer-by saw an object slowly wallowing in the deep snow in the field between the Parker homestead and the river. Mr. Taft was notified and proceeded at once to the place where he found "Duke," as the dog is known, nearly exhausted. The snow was trampled for several rods, as though the dog had wandered in circles. He is nearly blind and so deaf he probably could not hear their repeated calls. It is fortunate it was not during zero weather.

Miss Hazel Soule, oldest daughter of Mr. and Mrs. E. B. Soule, of the East village, is seriously ill with scarlet fever.

Ingalls Kittredge has been in rather poor health recently, and on Tuesday of this week was confined to his home. The severe winter is no doubt largely responsible.

On last Saturday morning between two and three o'clock, many were startled by the bright reflections from a fire somewhere in the southeast. Reports came that forenoon of the burning of the Chapman house on Chicopee row in Groton. It was owned and occupied by H. S. and H. M. Wheelock.

Louis H. Bean safely passed his sixty-fourth milestone on Tuesday, February 20, and was able to celebrate it by sitting up for ten minutes, for the first time during his recovery. He was the recipient of many kind wishes sent by the favorite postcard and otherwise.

Early on Friday morning of last week, Eli Supernault, who now occupies the Varnum homestead, had a rather disagreeable surprise. On going to the barn to feed his horse, he found the door open and the animal gone. If his first thought was horse thieves it was quickly dispelled by the fact that the tracks led into the field, as though the horse had wandered about there for some time. The tracks became indistinct in the highway, and inquiry of those living near by Mr. Supernault failed to reveal his whereabouts. Finally word was received that Winslow Parker had found the horse at the rear of his buildings and had housed him safely in his barn for the owner.

Miss Edna Bean started on her return trip west on Friday noon of last week, after nearly five weeks spent in caring for her father during his recent illness. Her first objective point will be Denver, Col., where she will make a short stay before going back to Gillette, Wyoming.

The Ladies' Aid society will meet with Mrs. E. E. Handley on Main street on Wednesday afternoon, February 23, at three o'clock. A social hour, with refreshments will follow the business session. All are cordially invited.

J. N. Andrews, of River street, has been obliged to give up work for the present on account of rheumatic trouble in his ankles and limbs.

Mrs. Arthur Bartlett returned from Gardner last Saturday. Her health is very much improved.

Mrs. Helen Pike has a telephone installed at her new home on Main street—33-4.

Mrs. H. C. Thurston has been confined to her home since the middle of December with rheumatism. During the past week she has suffered acutely from sciatic pains. Her many friends hope the coming of warmer days will tend to alleviate the condition, which was no doubt induced by the severity of our winter.

John L. Boynton is slowly recovering from an attack of bilious fever which followed the slight attack of rheumatism mentioned about two weeks ago.

Mrs. Alice Blood Bartlett was able to resume her duties as chorister at the Methodist church Sunday morning, much to the gratification of a large audience. The music rendered by the choir of young people showed training and the thought that had been bestowed upon it, and was much appreciated. Miss Laura Herrig still officiates as organist.

We suppose that spring will not be due for another month, but Tuesday was certainly a most spring-like day. The snow and ice disappeared as if by magic, and wheels have the right of way around town in place of sleighs. However, no one seems to feel but that we have had enough cold weather and sleighing to last twelve months, or until 1913.

The Methodist church was tastefully decorated in honor of its guests, the Daughters of the American Revolution and the G. A. R. The portraits of the two great men whose natal days were thus commemorated were used, with the national colors and standard of the D. A. R., by the decorating committee. Mrs. Sutherland, assisted by Mrs. Elmer Weston. An able sermon, appropriate to the occasion, was delivered by the pastor, Rev. J. M. Sutherland. While he eulogized both men, he dwelt more particularly on the honesty and virtues of Lincoln during the great crisis of the civil war. The service was most impressive throughout.

During Tuesday night some unknown party, evidently desiring a warmer resting place than the snow, broke into the small flag station at Primus (Hollingsworth's) on the Fitchburg division. The caretaker on Wednesday morning found a broken pane of glass near the window catch and signs that the room had been occupied during the night, but the occupant evidently left in haste as no recompense for the night's lodging or card of thanks was left behind. This is the second time the station has been claimed for this purpose.

Mrs. Mary Brady (M. E. Gleason) of Natick, formerly of this town, was re-

cently called to Omaha, Neb., by the serious illness of her son, James Brady, who is sick with blood poisoning. Mr. Brady is well known in town, as he is a native of Pepperell and a former resident.

Miss Florence Nevins of Lowell visited at the home of W. W. Gillespie on the South road on Thursday, February 22.

At the Methodist church on Sunday morning the pastor will speak from the text, "Be of good cheer." In the evening at seven o'clock his subject will be "A bad choice."

E. E. Tarbell returned from his Southern trip last week. He speaks of visiting the scene of the Panama canal operations in the course of his travels.

Mrs. George Buck came last week to visit her parents, Mr. and Mrs. David Weston, on Pleasant street. She returned to her home at Winsor Locks, Conn., on Monday.

Miss Mertie Lawrence, daughter of Dudley Lawrence of Hollis, N. H., has been staying in town for awhile, visiting her cousin, Mrs. R. E. Tarbell, and others.

Old Prob seemed to think it the proper thing to usher in the 23d with a good electrical display and sound of heavy artillery. But a thunder shower reflected on icy streets is a weird combination. We ought not to wonder at anything about weather in New England this winter, however.

Miss Beatrice Wallace has returned from a visit in Fitchburg, where she was the guest of Mrs. Eliza W. Lawrence.

Miss Bessie Farley is at home for a short stay, remaining until the spring season opens in the millinery parlors of Frost & Nichols in Fitchburg, where she has been employed.

Accident Resulting in Death.

An accident occurred on Monday afternoon which resulted in the death of Frank Welch, son-in-law of John H. Blood. Mr. Blood's logging teams, driven by Mr. Welch and Harlan Blood, were making their last trip at night from the Boutwell woodlot on Hollis street to Sartelle's mill. As they were passing through the hollow just before reaching the corner where Brookline street intersects Prescott street, the rear team, driven by Mr. Welch, evidently slowed, breaking the trail into Mr. Turner's field, pinning the driver underneath the logs and sleds. The horses were freed by the breaking of the transom bolt, and ran until they reached the team ahead, giving that driver the first intimation of any trouble.

Officer Monteith and Constable Lawrence were summoned by telephone from Mr. Turner's and were quickly on the scene. In the meantime the logs had been removed from the body by the other teamster, assisted by Rufus Merrill and others. Mr. Welch was found imbedded in soft snow and the body was not mangled or disfigured.

Upon the arrival of Coroner F. S. Bulkeley of Ayer, who had been duly notified, an examination showed that death must have been instantaneous, due to dislocation of the neck.

The body was removed to the home of Mrs. Charles Winn on Townsend street, grandmother of Mrs. Welch, with whom the deceased and wife had been living this winter. Services were held there on Wednesday afternoon, Rev. R. W. Drawbridge officiating.

The deceased was about thirty years of age and leaves only a widow.

Birthday Surprise Party.

On Friday evening of last week, twenty-seven of the schoolmates and friends of Miss Dena Graham drove to her home on River Street, the affair being planned as a surprise for her sixteenth birthday. It was well carried out, and when she returned from calling at a neighbor's, they were all assembled. The evening was very quickly passed in games, music and merriment. Refreshments of ice cream, cake and cocoa were served by Mrs. Graham, and it was not until the early morning hours that the happy company wended their way home. Miss Dena was the recipient of a fine gold chain and locket, a cluster of carnations and many good wishes from her friends.

High School Play.

On Tuesday evening Prescott hall was well filled with the friends and relatives of the young amateurs who were to take part in the play, "Mose." The curtain rose rather late, and the intervals between acts were a trifle lengthy, but the time was enlivened by music by the high school orchestra. On the whole the young actors showed excellent drilling and the play reflected credit on those who had the affair in charge. The following was the cast of characters:

Mose.....Raymond Paul
Frank Thornton.....Orin Savage
Thurston Hall.....Gerald Shattuck
Billy Holt.....Donald Jacobs
Harry Barker.....John Leary
A society man.....Earl Parker
Rodney.....William Breen
Summer.....James Chapman
Hayden.....Ray Willoughby
Thomas Edwards.....Edw. O'Toole
Mose's father.....Allen Greenough
Eleanor Thornton.....Lillian Dunton
Anne Schuyler.....Marguerite Dewar
Betty Carew.....Edith Bailey
Sally Middleton.....Ruth Wilson
Katherine Thornton.....Mary Haggerty
Edith Burns-Jones.....Nellie Driscoll
Mrs. Bone.....Hazel Phinney
Mrs. Vanche.....Margaret Boynton
Mrs. Courant.....Julia Attridge
Inga.....Julia Gilhooley

Items of News.

The Ready Workers' circle will hold a social party in the Odd Fellows' banquet hall on Friday evening, February 23. Dancing from eight until twelve o'clock.

The East Village Social club will meet with Mrs. Charles Chapman on Wednesday afternoon, February 23. Subject, "Great men."

The Oak Hill Improvement society held its fifth annual election of officers in their hall at Oak Hill on February 7, and the following were elected to serve in the different offices for the ensuing year: B. Keith, pres.; M. Gaskill, v. p.; A. C. Stewart, sec.; T. Stone, treas.; E. S. Blood and E. Fletcher, dir. 3 yrs.; Lyman Blood, and A. social time after the meeting

was enjoyed and refreshments were served.

A party will be given by the parents for the children of the dancing class in Central hall on Friday evening, March 1.

The Ladies' Social circle of the Unitarian church will have a food sale and leap year dance on Thursday, February 29, in Central hall. Food sale at three o'clock in the afternoon. Dancing will be from eight to twelve. Robbins' orchestra will be in attendance.

A meeting of the Town Conference will be held in the Main Street grammar school building on Friday evening, March 1, at eight o'clock. The special committee will present a plan for permanent organization, and ways and means will be discussed. Organizations are requested to be represented by delegates; but this meeting is for all citizens, and the active participation of all is desired.

The Pepperell Woman's club held their meeting on Tuesday afternoon. It was musical day in charge of Mrs. Fannie E. Bennett, who had a very fine program. The Ellis milk bill was discussed and facts stated which show the need of the bill and how it would meet the demand of today for pure milk.

A son was born to Mr. and Mrs. Frank Ward, of Henniker, N. H., formerly of this town.

The next meeting of Acoma Rebekah lodge will be held on Tuesday evening, February 27. The entertainment will be in charge of Susie W. Dort, Mary Heath Blood and J. G. Willey.

We are pleased to announce that a first-class photograph studio is to be opened here on February 29, by C. Edward Powers, of Milford, N. H. He has hired rooms in the Boutelle block and is making the necessary repairs for an ideal studio. Mr. Powers needs no introduction to the people of Pepperell. His work is of the highest order and his artistic ability has won for him an enviable reputation in Milford and the surrounding towns. The studio will be open every Thursday, Friday and Saturday.

HARVARD.

News Items.

John Haggerty, well-known here, is out in Lawrence with Co. M, 9th regt., Massachusetts State Militia.

S. M. Farnsworth is having some remodeling done at his residence on Oak Hill. He is laying oak flooring and refinishing in cypress his dining-room, and is also making preparations to remodel his barn and build a garage as soon as weather conditions permit.

Fred T. Whitney is busy making apple barrels at Houghton's cooperage and storing them for use this coming season.

R. L. Filibrown attended the sunset party given by the Backlog club at Littleton on Thursday.

Dispute Ends in Court.

On complaint of Mrs. W. J. Hillock, Mrs. Annie Roberts was in court at Clinton on Saturday morning of last week to answer to a charge of assault. Both of the parties are residents of this town, living on what is the so-called East Shaker farm, Mr. and Mrs. Roberts occupying the large dwelling house, and Mr. and Mrs. Hillock have the small cottage. It appears that Mrs. Hillock called on Mrs. Roberts early in the week in regard to money matters, and a dispute arose which resulted in an attack on the plaintiff and ultimate defeat.

The case was originally called for Wednesday, but Mrs. Roberts did not put in an appearance until after court had adjourned. Clerk Stone gave her a very pointed talk and instructed her to be present on Saturday or her arrest would follow. On her appearance on Saturday she told a somewhat conflicting story in regard to the affair, Judge Stone, after hearing both sides, ordered the case discharged.

Still River.

The annual men's supper and social at the vestry on Tuesday evening was fully up to expectations of the participants. About 120 sat down to the bountiful supper of ham, rolls, beans, pies, cake and coffee. After the supper Mrs. Nicola and four others, of South Lancaster, gave a first-class concert. They played violin, cello, cornet, trombone and piano. Mrs. Nicola also gave several readings, all of which were heartily applauded.

Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Mullen, of Lynn, were guests of her mother, Mrs. Bridget Joyce, on Thursday.

Miss Edith Farnsworth, of Springfield came home on Thursday for the balance of the week.

Albert Harrod, of Pepperell, was the guest of his mother, Mrs. Hannah D. Harrod, on Thursday.

Saturday, Mrs. Alfred McIntock entertained several of her former school friends, of Lancaster.

Miss Laura A. Brown, of West Acton, was the guest of her sister, Mrs. Jennie Willard, over Tuesday night.

Warren Field has left the employ of Mr. Hutchinson, and is now working for Chester Willard.

Flora Murchie, who is training for a nurse at the Clinton hospital, was at home on Wednesday afternoon.

Howard Stone has been quite a sufferer this week from a trouble in his ear, but at last reports was better.

Charles Merrifield went to Portland, Me., on Wednesday, for a few days' trip.

Tipped Over.

Chester Willard carried a load of people to Harvard on last week Thursday evening in H. R. Harrod's passenger barge to attend the social at the town hall. On their return they had unloaded quite a number of passengers, and at the parsonage, Mr. and Mrs. Morse got out, and as it happened, they emptied the seat on one side, and as a result the barge tipped over, throwing all the rest out. Herbert Bauskn struck on his shoulder and bruised it some, and Henry Harrod fell on his back and strained it so that it has been very painful since,

but he don't think it is very serious. The others of the party only got a shaking up.

TOWNSEND.

Harbor.

Miss Melora Warner, of Winchendon, is at home for a short vacation.

Mrs. Harry Wright has recovered from a short illness.

James Coughlin has taken bachelor apartments in the house next to the church.

Mrs. Kervin spent Monday at Christiebrook, with Mrs. Mark Leadbetter. Charlie Sapulding is about starting a hennery at Wallace Hill.

Mrs. Aspinwall is assisting in the care of Oren Ball, who still continues on the sick list.

Carlisle Kelley was in town on last Sunday.

Leverett Reddy, of Newross, Lake Ramsey, Nova Scotia, is a guest at his cousin's, Adney Gray.

Harold Gray, who a few weeks ago broke one of the bones of his left ankle, is now able to walk without the aid of crutches.

Mr. and Mrs. Jake Aspinwall and two daughters were guests at Mr. Ball's last Sunday.

Mrs. Lawrence Morgan, accompanied by her daughter, Miss Harriet, returned from New York city the latter part of last week.

On the recent birthday anniversary of her son Stephen, Mrs. Cummings gave him a surprise party in honor of the occasion.

The younger members of the family at the Cape, have formed a junior club. Meetings, the character of which is purely social, are held on Friday evenings at the homes of the various members.

Warren street, the thoroughfare connecting the Harbor and the Cape, continues to mention its prestige as the boulevard of fashion. Already the die has been cast and the incoming spring style in millinery is exemplified on this popular avenue.

The bungalow that is being built at the Cape has been wired for electric lights.

Mrs. Cummings, on February 14, gave a delightful valentine party with extremely pretty favors to which the married people of the village were invited.

Mr. and Mrs. Stephen Keefe lately received among their wedding gifts a beautiful cut glass service from Mr. and Mrs. Josselyn. For several years Mr. Keefe was employed by Mr. Josselyn as his assistant in the store and postoffice.

Four men, with horses and sleds, arrived at the Cape on Wednesday preparatory to drawing railroad ties from the Dutton woodlot in the edge of Lunenburg to the Harbor. The teamsters board at the Old Homestead.

Mrs. Minnie Knight has a thrifty orange tree which recently bloomed, producing five fragrant clusters.

Mr. and Mrs. W. A. Colcord, the latter a cousin of Mrs. George Jones, recently came by auto from Melrose Townsend, stopping overnight at Seven Pines.

On entering the stable one morning last week, R. B. Adams was greatly surprised to find Belle, his driving horse, dead. On the previous evening the horse showed no signs of sickness, and the cause of her death is merely conjectured. Belle was twenty-seven years old and has been owned by Mr. Adams since she was fifteen.

Mr. and Mrs. Fred Taft recently entertained their neighbors at what. The highest score of the evening was made by Mrs. George Jones 57 points. Will Wharf, whose score was the lowest, made but 39.

Underwent An Operation.

Last week Wednesday, William Wharf underwent a severe surgical operation at the St. Elizabeth hospital, Boston. For a year or more, Mr. Wharf has been in ill health, and up to a short time ago when in compliance with medical advice, he had the X-ray applied. His physicians were in doubt regarding the cause of his malady. The trouble was located in the left kidney and the use of the knife deemed imperative. Dr. Stimpson, of Fitchburg, and Dr. Kilbourn, of Groton, were in attendance during the operation. Reports from the hospital state that the patient bore the operation well, and that after two or three weeks of careful nursing, Mr. Wharf will be able to return.

Happily Surprised.

The As You Like It club met last with Mrs. Fannie Adams and Miss Mary Adams. Lincoln's day was observed with appropriate exercises. A vote of thanks was extended by the club to Mrs. Ida Brown and her son Walter for presenting to the individual members printed copies of the new by-laws. As refreshments were served a beautiful birthday cake, handsomely garnished with confections and cut flowers, was placed before Miss Mary Cruickshank. Notwithstanding the cake bore the legend, "M. C." it was not till Miss Cruickshank was asked to cut the cake that she realized that it was in honor of her birthday, which occurred the day before. Her sister members thoroughly enjoyed her surprise.

Birthday Anniversary.

In response to invitations issued by its president, Mrs. Josselyn, the ladies of the Harbor Monday club with their escorts assembled at Pinecroft on Saturday evening last, in observance of the birthday anniversary of past master Josselyn. On his return from the office the surprise of Mr. Josselyn was complete as the guests came forward to tender their hearty congratulations. The reception was followed by music and whilst, after which a course lunch was served. During refreshments a second surprise developed when in addition to the birthday cake presented by the club to their host, a second cake was presented by the hostess to Mrs. Minnie Knight, whose birthday was but a week distant. An interesting feature of the whist was that Mrs. Knight and Mr. Josselyn, who in honor of their birthdays were

placed as partners at the head table, remained there the entire evening. As a prize for the highest score of the ladies Mrs. Knight received a hammered copper paper cutter and tray. Mr. Josselyn received a shaving set. The consolation prizes were a pair of shoe strings in a fancy box and a collapsible aluminum drinking cup received respectively by Mrs. Bagley and Harry Knight.

WESTFORD.

About Town.

At a meeting of the board of registrars held at the town hall last week Friday evening, the following dates for registration prior to the annual town meeting were assigned: Brookside, Friday, March 1, at Moore's mill; Graniteville, Monday, March 4, at Healy's hall; Forge Village, Wednesday, March 6, at Abbot's hall; Westford, Saturday, March 9, from twelve to ten p. m., town hall. This will be the last opportunity to register for the annual town meeting on Monday, March 18.

The value of the Lawton farm at Long Sought pond is still on trial before Judge Fisher at the probate court. George H. Hartford, Oscar R. Spalding, Ernest H. Dane, George E. Gould and Samuel L. Taylor were summoned as witnesses in regard to the value of the farm in 1905.

Peter McGlinchy, living at Westford corner, while alighting from an electric car at Chelmsford center, slipped on a piece of ice and in the fall his leg was broken. He was taken on board the electric car for Lowell. The ambulance was sent for and he was removed to St. John's hospital. Mr. McGlinchy is well-known in this part of the town and West Chelmsford. He is a member of the Graniteville cutters' union, Court Wannalandit M. C. O. F., of North Chelmsford, and Court Middlesex F. of C., of Lowell.

Work at Brookside mills is improving and Samuel Ogley, superintendent, expects soon to start the full capacity of the mill.

Jean Bell, the three-year-old daughter of Mr. and Mrs. John Bell, while playing in the house last week, fell and broke her arm. Dr. Varney was called and all appears to be mending well.

James Ferguson, engineer at the Brookside mills, has accepted a similar position at Brattleboro, Vt., and has vacated the Hamblet cottage at Brookside. Paul Smith, of Brookside, has secured employment at the same place.

George Albert Drew has sold his interest in the Drew-Munson-Frost farm at Littleton. This farm has secured name and fame since these progressive farmers have been managing it.

Henry B. Read, superintendent of Mr. Drew on his Westford farms, is cutting the chestnut lumber on the George Drew farm on the Boston road and sledding it to the Page sawmill at Westford station.

Amos Polly is warming his horse barn with new shingles on the sides of the barn.

John Haley, the proprietor of Sunset farm on Francis hill, near the Stony Brook school, is quite ill with digestive disturbance. Dr. Howard of Chelmsford, is attending the patient and he is beginning to get better. Mr. Haley is one of our old citizens, who always greets his friends with the hearty, vigorous handshake of good health.

The next meeting of Middlesex-North Pomona grange will be held at Tyngsboro on Friday, March 1.

Albert Prescott, of Chamberlin's corner, was operated on for appendicitis at St. John's hospital, Lowell, on Monday by Dr. Leon Gage.

Rev. Seth Walker and little son were in town last week bowing good mornings to the writer and refreshment at the old Walker homestead on Main street.

The first annual banquet of the Westford Board of Trade was held on Tuesday evening at the Cavalry building on the Boston road. It was a friendly meeting, well charged with efforts for stimulating the activities and usefulness of the Board of Trade. Supper under the direction of George E. Gould, as caterer, and an address by Thomas Curley, of Waltham, secretary of the State Playground committee were two enticing features of the evening. The gathering was unexpectedly large, which promises well for the future of the board.

Stony Brook circle held a dance at Marshall's hall on last Saturday evening. The hall was filled clear to the limit of dancing room. Graniteville was there in a sleighride outing.

Mrs. James Rapson is ill with pneumonia at her home on the Lowell road.

Seth Banister and Alister McDougall are home for the holiday recess and will return to Amherst college on Monday.

Rev. Lyman B. Weeks spoke last Sunday on "Youth." Tomorrow he will speak on "Mature life."

The first thunder shower of the season occurred on Wednesday evening. Cold weather take warning.

The first grass-forest fire of the season started last Saturday on land of George C. Moore and S. L. Taylor, about one-quarter of a mile west of Brookside station. The territory burned over was very small on account of unfavorable boundaries, and the unseasonableness of the season for a large spread. The fire was bounded on the south by Stony Brook, north by Stony Brook railroad, east and west by February snow. But for a February grass fire it did very well in showing what it could do when some of these restrictions as removed by the same agency that removes good sleighing.

Death.

Horatio R. Fletcher, who died in Lowell on Tuesday, was a native of Westford, where he was born on August 28, 1835. His father, Horatio Fletcher, owned the farm now in the possession of orance E. Gould, near the Wright schoolhouse. He removed to Lowell in 1839, and the son was educated in the public schools of Lowell,

where he held many important positions with Lowell corporations, a paymaster of the Suffolk mills, and later paymaster of the Indian Orchard mills. For many years he was in the Boston office of the Lowell Bleachery Co. During the civil war he was paymaster in the union army at Nashville, Tenn. Of late he has been employed as auditor for Lowell banks. A recent writer sums up his life in the following tribute:

"A life of never ending toil and never ceasing responsibility, a life of labor demanding exactness and the attributes of reliability. Never was the man found wanting, firm in his integrity as the granite of New England's hills."

Mr. Fletcher leaves a wife and two children—Mrs. W. B. Whittier, of Georgia, and Richmond K. Fletcher, of Lowell, and two sisters—Mrs. William P. Brayer, of Lowell, and Mrs. Luther B. Morse, of Watertown.

Forge Village.

On last week Saturday afternoon the children of Cameron school enjoyed a most delightful sleighride to West Acton.

A speed trial for fast horses was held on Forge pond last Saturday afternoon, with the result that J. A. Healy's horse Nakomis, driven by J. Austin Healy, came out ahead. Sister Patch, of the Gilmore stables Acton, was a close second.

Mrs. John Spinner is ill at her home here.

The members of the Ladies' Sewing circle held a supper and dance in Recreation hall on Saturday evening of last week. Supper was served from 5.30 to 7.30, and was in charge of the following ladies: Mrs. R. D. Prescott, general manager; Mrs. Henry Catchpole, Mrs. Hugh Ferguson, Mrs. William H. Fernald, Mrs. David Lord, Mrs. George Sanborn, Mrs. Nelson Prescott and Mrs. John Carmichael. After supper the floor was cleared and dancing was enjoyed to the music of the Precious orchestra. The proceeds of the affair is to be used for the benefit of St. Andrew's mission.

New Advertisements.

MONUMENTS

Before buying see my new designs which I can furnish from best native or foreign granite or marble. Having been in the business all my life, I guarantee satisfaction.

412-4 T. M. BLODGETT, Littleton, Mass.

FOR SALE—School Barge, fine condition. Also Light Steam Roosters. Autocrat strain \$2.50 each. C. B. ROBBINS, Boxborough, Mass. 1124

FOR SALE—A Second-hand Two-Horse Barge—Corn Planter in good condition. FRANK CHAPMAN, Hollis Depot, N. H. 1124-2

FOR SALE—A Second-hand Cook Stove in good repair—A Crawford. Inquire at Public Spirit Office, Ayer, 24

TRUCK FOR SALE—A Buick Truck, in good condition. Has nice top with curtains, all around two sets of seats for passengers. C. T. SAVAGE, Leominster, Mass. 3122-2

WANTED—APRIL 1st, 1912

A Warden and Matron at the Town Farm, Harvard, Mass. Overseers of the Poor will meet applicants at Town Farm, February 27, at 10.30 o'clock.

Central Ave. 82-2
The Third Floor
The New Store
The Little Store
OPEN MONDAY, MARCH 5

ROOMS TO LET—Corner of Cambridge and Columbia Streets. Mrs. MARY HUME, Ayer, Mass., or Public Spirit Office. 2214

J. W. MURRAY

Merchant Tailor

AYER, MASS. Tel. 106-2

FOR SALE—Cynbers Strain R. I. Reds and Barred Rock. Apply to C. B. GILSON, Box 315, Ayer, Mass. 3124-2

WANTED—A Neat, Experienced Girl to do general housework. Address BOX 50, Ayer, Mass.

TO RENT—A Cottage House, Modern Improvements. Inquire at Public Spirit Office, Ayer, Mass. 2414

LOST—Pass-book No. 2151 North Middlesex Savings Bank. Finder please return to said bank. 3123

Butternut Farm

Pepperell, Mass.

BREEDER OF HIGH-CLASS

Single Comb R. I. Red

Barred and White Plymouth Rock Fowls

AND

Pekin Ducks