



3-3-1898

Providence Independent, V. 23, Thursday, March 3, 1898, [Whole Number: 1183]

Providence Independent

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Recommended Citation

Independent, Providence, "Providence Independent, V. 23, Thursday, March 3, 1898, [Whole Number: 1183]" (1898). *Providence Independent Newspaper, 1875-1898*. 963.
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ACCEPT THE TRUTH WHEREVER FOUND. DO RIGHT FOR THE SAKE OF RIGHT

Collegeville, Pa., Thursday, March 3, 1898

Whole Number: 1183

Volume 23.

J. W. ROYER, M. D., Practising Physician, TRAPPE, Pa. Office at his residence, nearly opposite Masonic Hall.

M. Y. WEBER, M. D., Practising Physician, EVANSBURG, Pa. Office Hours: Until 9 a. m.; 7 to 9 p. m.

E. A. KRUSEN, M. D., Homeopathic Physician, COLLEGEVILLE, Pa. Office Hours: Until 9 a. m.; 4 to 8 p. m.

S. B. MORNING, M. D., Practising Physician, EVANSBURG, Pa. Telephone in office. Office hours until 9 a. m.

D. R. E. F. PLACE, Dentist, COB. MAIN AND DEKALB STREETS, NORRISTOWN, Pa.

Cheap and Reliable Dentistry. DR. N. S. BORNEMAN, 209 SWEDDE ST., NORRISTOWN, Pa.

DR. FRANK BRANDRETH, DENTIST, ROYERSFORD, Pa. Practical Dentistry at lowest prices.

F. G. HOBSON, Attorney-at-Law, NORRISTOWN AND COLLEGEVILLE. All legal business attended to promptly.

EDWARD E. LONG, Attorney-at-Law, and Notary Public. Settlement of Estates a Specialty.

MAYNE R. LONGSTRETH, Attorney-at-Law, Building Office, 202 Chestnut St., Philadelphia, Pa.

HARVEY L. SHOMO, Attorney at Law, No. 225 MAIN STREET, ROYERSFORD, Pa. All legal business promptly attended to.

GEORGE N. CORSON, Attorney at Law, TIMES BUILDING, NORRISTOWN, Pa. All legal business promptly attended to.

JOHN T. WAGNER, I. C. WILLIAMS, WAGNER & WILLIAMS, Attorneys and Counsellors at Law, 8 E. AIRY STREET, NORRISTOWN, Pa.

J. M. ZIMMERMAN, Justice of the Peace, COLLEGEVILLE, Pa. Legal Papers, Bonds, Deeds, etc., executed and acknowledged.

JOHN S. HUNSICKER, Justice of the Peace, RAHN STATION, Pa. Conveyancer and General Business Agent.

B. W. WEIKEL, Justice of the Peace, TRAPPE, Pa. Conveyancer and General Business Agent.

EDWARD DAVID, Paper-Hanger, COLLEGEVILLE, Pa. Samples of paper always on hand.

I. P. LATHAW, Painter and Paper Hanger, COLLEGEVILLE, Pa. Estimates furnished and contracts taken.

J. P. KOONS, Practical Slater, RAHN STATION, Pa. Dealer in every variety of Roofing, Flagging, and Ornamental Slates.

DANIEL SHULER, Contractor and Builder, TRAPPE, Pa. Contracts for the construction of all kinds of buildings executed.

A. J. TRUCKESS, VOCAL AND INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC, PROVIDENCE SQUARE, Pa. Organs tuned and repaired.

JOHN H. CASSELBERRY, Surveyor & Conveyancer, All kinds of legal papers drawn.

SUNDAY PAPERS. Different Philadelphia papers delivered to those wishing to purchase Agent, TRAPPE every Sunday morning.

F. W. WALTERS, Contractor and Builder, TRAPPE, Pa. Contracts for all kinds of buildings executed.

PASSENGERS AND BAGGAGE. Conveyed to and from Collegeville Station. Charges reasonable.

J. VINCENT POLEY, ARCHITECT, 420-422 SECOND AVENUE, ROYERSFORD, Pa. Plans and Specifications prepared on short notice.

ANNIE BARTMAN, DRESSMAKER, COLLEGEVILLE, Pa. Will do sewing at home, or can be engaged by the week.

After the Fever. Little Girl Was Weak and Could Not Eat—Hood's Sarsaparilla Gave Her Appetite and Strength—Eczema Disappearing.

Hood's Sarsaparilla. Is the best—in fact the One True Blood Purifier. Sold by all druggists.

LITERARY. EDITED BY FRANCES G. MOSER. "What is good in Music" is the title of a new book by W. J. Henderson.

Herbert Spencer, who is reported to be in very feeble health, is living at Brighton, England.

Within the last few years there has been renewed interest in the "Rubaiyat" of Omar Khayyam.

Over five thousand copies of "Lyrics of Lowly Life," by the young negro poet, Paul Laurence Dunbar, it is said, have been sold.

THE BETH BOOK. In influencing their daughter's choice of a husband, parents are apt to consider a man's means, manner and position rather than his principles or ideals.

Many men of excellent manners in public are men of most corrupt mind, whose conversation in private is a continual source of suffering to their wives.

The critics have almost all missed this, the one purpose of the book, and pounced upon something quite incidental, and merely introduced by way of illustration.

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County, Alabama, lost what she deemed her last tooth 27 years ago. She is now 87, and has a new set of natural teeth "as white and strong as a maiden's."

An Albany, (N. Y.) special says: Harman Coons, of this city, although in his ninety-seventh year, is cutting his teeth like an infant of a year old, and the new teeth promise to be excellent ones.

THE INN AT BIRNLEY. BY CHARLES B. LEWIS. In every city and town in the land you will find a mill, store or factory which seems to be hoodooed.

The location is apparently all right, but whoever buys, leases or rents makes a failure. When George Walters of the town of Birnley decided to build an inn and become a landlord, he selected what was called the best location in the corporation.

He was a man liked by all, had a fair amount of money, and everybody wished him luck and predicted that he would do well.

It was strange what a turn of luck came to the man. He had been successful in everything, but on the day he broke ground for the new enterprise he fell over some timbers and broke his leg.

Before the framework was up a workman had been killed. While the building was being completed a painter fell from a ladder and was fatally injured.

The inn was opened with a housewarming. Some of the guests drank too heavily, a quarrel occurred, and the postmaster of the town was stabbed to death.

The people advised Walters to get out of it. He looked upon it merely as a run of ill luck and remained until his wife died of typhoid fever.

Then he sold the inn to a stranger named Grafton and moved away. Grafton had a wife and three children, and he had not been in the house a month when two of the children were drowned in the river near by.

Fifteen days later the tavern stables were burned to the ground. The man realized that the place was hoodooed and got out of it, and it was taken by another stranger named Eldridge.

This owner made a low place of it, but for six months nothing happened to create much gossip. Then Eldridge was killed in a quarrel over cards, and that was the last of the Red Rose inn as an inn.

It was offered for sale at almost any price, but the story of its ill luck had gone aboard, and no one would take it. It was finally put to use as a warehouse, but after a fire, which destroyed a portion of the structure, it was left an unoccupied ruin.

It had stood thus for a year or so, an eyesore to all strangers, when a man named Cummings came along and made certain inquiries, which at once revived all the gossip.

He had a sister married to a man named Drayton. On a certain date the pair had set out from Columbus, Ohio, to drive to a town in Illinois. They had their own carriage, and that they passed through the town of Birnley was proved by the fact that the sister mailed him a letter that letter nothing further was heard from her, though the husband had been seen in one of the territories alone.

I was only a boy then, and I cannot remember all the details. I recollect, however, of Cummings explaining that it was not a happy marriage, that the woman had a large amount of money with her and that he was sure the husband had made away with her at some point on the journey.

No one in Birnley recollects the arrival of the couple or anything connected with them—no one but me. It so happened that I was able to furnish information. They arrived at eight o'clock one evening while there was a circus in town.

I had helped the hostler to put out the team and had seen the man and woman at supper. Just at daylight—I having remained with the hostler all night after we had taken in the circus—we were called upon to bring around the team. I saw only the man get into the carriage.

I was sure the woman did not depart. When I spoke to the hostler, he took no interest in the matter. When I asked Mr. Eldridge, the second landlord, about it, he replied that of course she went with her husband, though he was stumbling about and half asleep, and I am sure he did not see her.

Eldridge had gone, the hostler had gone and I was the only one who could give any details. I remembered and described the two people and the horses and carriage, and Cummings had no doubt that they stopped at the inn.

From Birnley he proceeded on his journey west, seeking to pick up the trail. He got trace of the man a dozen times, but the woman had not been seen. After three or four weeks he came back to Birnley with the firm belief that the wife had been murdered there.

There was a river flowing through the town and a millpond below. The first move made was to drag this pond. The work was thoroughly done, and though all anticipated that a skeleton would be found, nothing of that nature was discovered.

There was found, however, a satchel containing female apparel. This had been weighted with bricks and was lying at the bottom of the pond. When the satchel was found, Cummings felt sure he was on the right track, and the rear yard of the inn was explored.

Men dug into the ground in fifty different spots, but after a long day's work it became certain that nobody had been buried there. The barns had never been rebuilt after the fire. Cummings hired a dozen men and had the debris removed, but still the search was unsuccessful.

He had previously gone over the house, which was little better than a ruin, but now he entered upon a closer investigation. The windows had been broken, doors carried away, and the leaky roof had let in the storms until the floors were rotten.

Now and then half a dozen boys entered the house and clamored about, but as a rule it was avoided as an uncanny place. Up to this time no one had hinted at a ghost or strange things, but that was to come.

Mr. Cummings, a constable and myself entered the old inn one evening after supper to make a thorough search. What the brother expected to find he did not say, but he made up his mind that his sister never left Birnley alive.

"Gentlemen, murder has been done in this house. Let no one go away. We will get a ladder and take a look into the garret."

The constable fetched a ladder, and Cummings was first through the scuttle. The garret was forty feet long by twenty-five wide, with the end windows broken out and daylight and sunshine streaming in.

There were loose boards over the joists, and the garret was the roosting place of scores of pigeons. For two or three minutes nothing was to be seen. Then Cummings, who had made his way to the west end of the garret, beckoned to us and pointed to an object lying on the laths between the two end joists.

It was a bundle of black mold and bones—the skeleton of the missing woman. She had been murdered in the room below and carried up there, and one might have looked into the garret a hundred times without discovering the body.

It had been there so long that there was only dust and bones to be gathered up and taken down for identification and burial. The murderer had stripped the body of all her clothing, but on one finger had been left a ring, which the brother had given her as a bridal present.

There was not the shadow of a doubt as to who the victim was, and so great was the popular excitement over the ghastly noises and the dreadful find that one hundred men turned to and pulled the ruins apart and made a big bonfire of the last board. Steps were taken at once to apprehend the murderer, and his trail was followed for many months, but to this day his crime is unpunished.

Europeans cultivate willow alongside of wheat, France leads, and Germany and Holland stand high in willow culture. In Germany there are 40,000 persons engaged in making willow baskets, and 50,000 acres of land are used in growing the willow for them.

The culture of the willow is the simplest thing in the way of cropping. A twig stuck into the moist ground is all that is required. Nature does the rest. For fine basket work Salix amygdalina is the queen of willows, although Salix purpurea and viminalis are also extensively used.

In France the willow grower does not hesitate to plant good wheat lands in willow. In regions where lumber is scarce baskets replace cases, boxes and trunks. In the region of La Tremblade and Arcahon there are large plantations of willows and factories for the manufacture of rough baskets in which to ship their famous oysters.

It is in the low countries the willow is used most. It serves for baskets of all kinds, fences, cattle racks, wagon tops, trunks, boxes, and even the signals along the river are painted willow wickerwork. From its wood they make their indispensable sabots, or wooden shoes.

It serves still another purpose; when planted alongside their many dikes, it holds them in place and it constantly catches the sediment, increasing the depth and fertility of the soil. The beneficial effects of willows along the banks of streams and rivers cannot be overestimated.

The fertile soils washed down from the farm lands, instead of flowing into the sea, are caught by the willows along the shore. In that way streams are narrowed and consequently deepened. Away up in the mountains in France, where, owing to deforestation, the streams rush with much destructiveness down the steep mountain sides, they wind willow twigs in the shape of a hammock and throw it across the stream. These twigs soon sprout, take hold of the soil and force the stream to move in a zigzag way.

PROFESSOR MARSH'S GIFT TO YALE. No gift for natural science which Yale, or perhaps any other American university, has received equals in value the collection that Prof. Marsh has just presented to Yale University.

It represents not only the untiring labors of a lifetime of a great specialist, but a large expenditure of money by Professor Marsh, especially in the organization and work of the expedition which he led with fruitful results in the Rocky Mountain region of the far West.

The collection includes, first, the collection of vertebrate fossils. This is most important and valuable, as it is very extensive and contains a large number of type specimens, many of them unique and widely known from the description already published. In extinct mammals, birds and reptiles of North America

this series stands pre-eminent. It was pronounced by Prof. Huxley to be surpassed by no other in the world, and as far back as 1878 Darwin expressed a strong desire to visit America for the purpose of seeing the collection.

Since that time it has been more than doubled in size and value. The second collection is of fossil footprints, which form one of the most extensive and complete collections of the kind in the country, if not most valuable. Third, the collection of the invertebrates, which is very large. Fourth, the collection of osteology. Fifth, the collection of American archaeology and ethnology. Sixth, the collection of minerals. Besides the six main collections, several others of less value were also presented.

Prof. Marsh, in his letter, says that these scientific collections should eventually become the property of Yale University. The deed of gift which he enclosed bears the date of January 1, 1898. The resolution of the corporation of Yale University gratefully acknowledged the magnificent gift which represents the unselfish devotion of the time, talents, energies and money of Prof. Marsh for more than thirty years.

TAUGHT BY TOUCH. A LITTLE BLIND GIRL'S WONDERFUL ABILITY TO DO MANY THINGS. Deprived of her sight, hearing and ability to speak, little Ruby Rice is able to do many things that other children do, and she extracts much enjoyment out of life.

She is ten years old, and lives with her mother in the village of Wyatt, Ellis county, Texas. She owes her unfortunate condition to an attack of cerebro-spinal meningitis, complicated with spotted fever, which nearly took her life when she was two years old. The same epidemic of fever made her mother a widow and carried away one of her brothers.

As is usual with blind people, the child has a wonderful sense of touch. She also seems to have a sixth sense which enables her to know a stranger is in the house, or when any one is about to depart. She can find things readily and moves about the premises with ease.

Ruby can thread a needle almost as rapidly as a seamstress whose sight is good. She is fond of children and dolls, and makes her own doll clothes. She not only cuts them and stitches them together, but she sews on the buttons and makes the buttonholes. She will examine the clothing and trimmings of lady visitors, and shows a wonderful faculty of copying the style when making apparel for her family of dolls.

Ruby can also run a sewing machine with skill, and she delights in thus helping her mother. She can pick cotton in the field, and though she works slowly, she picks the cotton clean. She takes care of her own clothes, and quickly discovers if anyone else disarranges them or places anything in her trunk that does not belong there.

She is very fond of chickens and can catch them without any trouble.—New York World.

GIANT LOCOMOTIVES. THE GREAT NORTHERN RAILROAD NOW OPERATES THE BIGGEST ENGINES IN THE WORLD. The largest locomotives in the world have just been made for the Great Northern Railway.

The cylinders of these twelve-wheeled monsters are twenty-one inches by thirty-four, making the stroke the longest ever used in locomotive practice. The boiler is 87½ inches largest diameter and 78 inches smallest diameter, and working pressure 225 pounds absolute or 210 pounds above atmosphere.

The fire box is 124 inches long, 40½ inches wide and has 376 tubes of 2½ inches diameter, and 13 feet 10½ inches long, making the total heating surface 3,280 square feet.

The boiler, dome, cylinders, steam chests and cylinder saddles are lagged with asbestos, in order to reduce radiation and densation to a minimum, as these engines are especially built to be operated in the high altitude and low temperature of Montana.

The wheel base is as follows: Rigid and driving, 15 feet 10 inches; total engine length, 26 feet 8 inches; total engine and tender, 54 feet 3½ inches.

The height of the stack from the top of rail is 15 feet 6 inches. The height of the centre of boiler from top of rail is 9 feet 6 inches, and height of the top of the shell from

top of rail 14 feet 3 inches. The length over all is 64 feet 1½ inches.

The big boiler gets its heating power from a firebox containing 225 square feet, with tubes that measure in area 3,045 square feet and a grate area of 34 square feet.

The enormous wheels are fitted with eight drivers 55 inches in diameter with centres of cast steel. The diameter of truck wheels is 30 feet, the centres being cast steel spoke.

The driving axle of the journal measures 9x11 inches, and of the truck 5½x12 inches.

The size of main rod bearing is 6½x6½ inches; coupling rod bearing is 7½x5 inches; wheel fit, 7-8 diameter x 7 13.16 cylinders.

The diameter of the cylinders is 21 inches. The piston stroke is 34 inches, diameter of piston rod, 4½ inches. The main rod's length from centre to centre is 8 feet 10 inches. Length of steam ports is 18 inches and width 1½ inches. The exhaust ports are 50 inches in length and 9 inches in width. The bridge is 6½ inches in width.

The outside lap of the valve is 1½ inches clearance.

The powerful boiler has a steam working pressure of 210 pounds. The length of the firebox is 10 feet 4 inches, the width 3 feet 4½ inches, the depth 86½ inches and back 79 inches.

The number of tubes in the internal arrangements of the giant is 376. Diameter of the smoke box is 81 inches.

The great tank holds 4,670 gallons of water and the tender can carry ten tons of coal. The length of tender frame over bumpers is 21 feet 10½ inches; length of tank, 19 feet 6 inches; width of tank, 8 feet 8 inches.

The valves are of improved piston type and absolutely balanced. The piston rods are hollow throughout and extended at front end. The weight of each engine in working order is 172,750 pounds, weight of drivers, 172,000 pounds, weight of truck 40,750 pounds, weight of tender, loaded, 96,000 pounds. The total weight of engine and tender is 308,750 pounds.

Notwithstanding the great size of these locomotives they are strikingly symmetrical in design and give the observer a full sense of their extraordinary size and power. Their work on the Great Northern Railway will be watched with much interest by railroad men.

POLITENESS IN ANIMALS. THEY GIVE US MANY LESSONS THAT WE SHOULD LEARN. Anyone that has observed the ways of animals, must have noticed how many even insignificant little creatures have very good manners.

You may think it strange that an animal can give lessons in politeness; but, after all, politeness is necessary in a community, and the animals that live and labor together, that lead any sort of social life, have to be considerate of one another's feelings. You cannot be sociable and selfish, both.

Have you never seen a number of ants working to move a large morsel of food to their larder? It would be perfectly absurd for one ant to try to lug away the delicacy by himself, and he has sense enough not to attempt it. Instead, he calls as many of his friends as he can, and they all work with a will. There is no disorderly jostling or quarreling, because that would interfere with the accomplishment of their purpose. They politely help one another for the common good.

Of course, ants, we may say, belong to one family, and it is only natural that they should be polite. Many animals are polite to others that are not of their species. A little girl friend of ours was lately much distressed by the loss of her pet cat. For several weeks nothing was heard of the cat. Then, one morning, he appeared on the doorstep of his home, and seemed so thankful to be taken in and petted that it was supposed he had been stolen and kept a prisoner.

After he had been warmly welcomed by his human friends, the fox terrier of the family rushed into the room, showing that he had only just learned of the cat's return. The scene that followed was the funniest you can imagine. With every demonstration of joy, the little dog ran to the cat, and began licking his face, as he might have licked his master's hand. All that day he never wearied of showing the cat attention. He was indefatigably polite.

Very likely the two animals talked to each other in their language, which we are not clever enough to understand, and the dog sympathized with the trying experience that his poor friend had been through. We dull human beings never found out where that cat had been, or what he had suffered, but whether or not the dog understood, he was kind, and loving, and polite, to the cat, and, in a few days, pussy seemed as happy as if he had not a care in the world. All his cares were forgotten under the influence of kind treatment.—Our Animal Friends.

A TALE OF HARD LUCK. THE TROUBLES OF A MORTAL WITH A GRUDGE AGAINST THE WORLD. "Yes," said a tall, sallow-faced, melancholy looking man, attired in a thin pair of trousers, a fall overcoat, a pair of dilapidated shoes, and a last year's derby hat. "I've never had anything but bad luck, I've worked hard all my life and only made a bare living. My health broke down years ago; most of my friends have died off or moved West. I've got literary and artistic tastes and can't gratify them. Everything I undertake to do is a failure, and I don't seem to be of any use in this world.

"Have you no friends with political influence enough to get some kind of an easy job for you?" inquired a well-dressed and prosperous-looking man. "I've tried 'em both, my friends. Got burnt out in the first business and a partner ran off with the profits in the other. No use."

"Ever try canvassing?" inquired another sympathetic acquaintance. "Yes; often. Had a good suit of clothes like yours ruined in that business by a vicious dog. Thrown down stairs once or twice. No use, man—I'm not in it. Last week my pet parrot died, yesterday morning I lost a quarter, and to-day I've got an earache. That's the way it always goes. If it isn't one trouble it's another. There's only one thing that keeps me from committing suicide and ending the whole wretched business."

"What's that?" "Curiously to know what blamed misfortune is going to happen to me next."

WOMEN AND THE BALLOT. BY IRON. B. W. MARSTON, OF LOUISIANA. I am an advocate of full suffrage for woman on an equality with man. This is no sudden or recent hobby with me. I have reached my conclusions after deep, thorough, and earnest investigations. In many of the States of the Union partial suffrage has been conferred upon women. In Colorado, Wyoming, Utah, and Idaho, the rights of a woman are equal to those of a man, under the law. Gentlemen say they would not degenerate women with the ballot. Nor would I, but I would raise the disgraced ballot to the level of our women! Gentlemen say, "the hand that rocks the cradle rules the world!" I deny it! The ballot rules the land; at least the law says so. Then you would outlaw our women! Have they souls? Have they eyes and ears and brains? Are they people or are they brutes? It is a crying shame—the way we treat our women! But gentlemen say women have protectors. I deny it! Your wife and mine may now be well protected, but who will protect them when we are gone? Who protects the millions of working women in this land?

Do you think the ballot, handled by women, would consign the little boys and little girls to the miserable influences now degrading our boys to the level of brutes? Is there a woman in this audience who would not use her ballot to elevate her boys to the level of her girls in intelligence and morality? Are the boys on a level with the girls now? Go into almost any family in Louisiana, and compare the morality of the boys with that of the girls. Our women have been given to us from heaven, and the palladium of our liberties can only be preserved through their talismanic touch. Let us preserve these "goddesses of liberty," because in their keeping the safety of this Republic lies.

On Tuesday Hon. Henry W. Corbett was denied admission to the U. S. Senate as a Senator from Oregon, on the appointment by the Governor, by the decisive vote of 50 to 19.

The annual report of the Pennsylvania Railroad Company has been issued. Gross earnings: \$64,213,113.13. Expenses: \$43,257,626.59. Net earning: Nearly \$21,000,000.

HENRY K. BOYER, ex-Speaker of the State House of Representatives, was on Monday sworn in as Superintendent of the United States Mint at Philadelphia. There is now about \$100,000,000 worth of bullion and 55,000,000 silver dollars stored in the Mint building, 72,000,000 pieces have been coined at the Mint during the past eight months.

PENNSYLVANIA is still in the lead in the manufacture of all forms of iron, and in the line of steel ingots produces more than all the rest of the country combined. The total output of Bessemer steel ingots last year was 5,475,315 gross tons, of which Pennsylvania furnished 3,060,049, Ohio 1,041,541 and the rest of the country 1,373,725 tons.

The editor of the National Defender observes: "Beauty is all right in its place, but generally it doesn't avail much in dishing up a table." Let's see: This editor was not present at the recent banquet at Harleysville. No. He should get out into the world for a week or two. A tour among the farmers of the upper end of Montgomery county might do him a heap of good, even though he has 'em bad!

result shows that ninety-six quarter acre farms produced an average of \$63 each, the land being planted with potatoes and other vegetables. The total return of the experiment was \$5,955, from a money outlay of \$1,825, nearly half of which went for the superintendent and office expenses, the outlay for plowing, tools, seeds and fertilizers being less than \$600, or about one-tenth of the value of the produce raised. And most of this produce was raised by those almost unskilled in agriculture. Assuredly the plan which comprehends the utilization of vacant lots in Philadelphia is an excellent one, and it should by all means be applied on a much larger scale this year.

A COLORED preacher of Lancaster is under bail on the charge of accepting an election bribe, and he has been formally expelled from the Lancaster Ministerial Association. He contracted with the friends of the Republican candidate for Mayor to deliver some thirty votes of his congregation for that candidate. Here is an object lesson in relation to "money in politics." The preacher is reaping what he has sown; he is also reaping what the hoodlums in practical politics—not under arrest as is the preacher—have sown. Where are the tempters? Presumably, they are still perambulating about Lancaster without fear of receiving what is to be meted out to the parson. They feel themselves to be "on the safe side of Jordan" so far as the law goes, and so far as the previous religious efforts of the preacher are concerned, the way to reach heaven and the way to escape hell he erstwhile pointed out, will give them but little concern. If those who tempted the parson to fall from grace and violate the statutes were under bail to appear at court there would be much more eternal fitness exhibited in the matter of meting out punishment to hoodlums in politics up in Lancaster city.

WASHINGTON LETTER.

From our Regular Correspondent.

WASHINGTON, D. C., February 25, 1898.—There is much less outward excitement in Washington than there was a week ago. This is largely because nearly everybody has settled down into the belief that war is almost inevitable with Spain, no matter what may be the nature of the report made by the Naval court of inquiry that is investigating the wreck of the Maine. Of course, if that report should be that the Maine was blown up by a torpedo or mine, war would be precipitated almost immediately; but even if that report should show conclusively that the Maine was wrecked by an accidental explosion in her own interior, the probability of an early war would not be removed. This fact is fully recognized by Spain, which is concentrating its entire navy in Cuban waters, and the preparations being made by this government are not to be mistaken.

The yellow journal guesses that are daily being made as to the progress of the investigation now being made of the wreck of the Maine, in Havana harbor, receive no serious attention in Washington, where the impossibility of getting such information in advance of the report of the court is fully known, but constant inquiries received show that they are deluding many elsewhere.

If the Maine had not been wrecked at all there would be still grave danger of a war with Spain. It will be remembered that President McKinley in his annual message to Congress notified Spain in plain words of his intention to interfere to bring about peace in Cuba, if the conditions then existing were not soon bettered. Well, reports of United States Consuls in Cuba sent to the State Department, which have been asked for by both branches of Congress and which are now being held back by the President for a time, show that the conditions in Cuba have steadily grown worse, instead of better, which means that the time for the President to keep his word is now at hand. There may have been a time when this government could have peacefully intervened in Cuba, but it is believed to have gone by long ago, and intervention must now be accompanied by force.

Congress as a body is backing the administration policy of dealing with Cuban matters, but Senator Allen has been insisting upon taking a hand. He renewed his effort to put an amendment recognizing the belligerency of the Cubans on the Diplomatic and Consular appropriation bill, and sprung a new scheme by offering a resolution on an investigation of the whole Cuban question by a select committee of five Senators, but the Senate showed its belief in the adage that, "too many cooks spoil the broth."

Senator Morgan's resolution instructing the Senate committee on Naval Affairs to ascertain and report whether a man-of-war equal to any war ship in the world, to be named the George Washington, can be built and put into commission within a year, which was adopted without debate or a division, is a bit of buncombe, pure and simple. To build such a vessel in twelve

months is a possibility, but to do so would probably double the six or seven million dollars that it would cost. In case the present somewhat strained relations with Spain should lead to war, the Morgan resolution would probably be made the basis of a bill authorizing such a warship to be built, although the necessity would not be apparent, as such a war could hardly last more than ninety days; otherwise, it will not be again heard from.

Representative H. U. Johnson, of Indiana, sprung a little surprise on the House while the Sundry Civil Appropriation bill was under discussion, by getting the floor and delivering a speech against the annexation of Hawaii, which is regarded as the strongest presentation of reasons why this country should refuse to change its policy in regard to the annexation of territory separated from it by thousands of miles yet presented. Mr. Johnson said that his reasons for making the speech was that he believed the treaty, now before the Senate, would fail, and that the Senate would adopt a joint resolution providing for annexation and send it over to the House. Mr. Johnson made it very clear that he was a peace man, when he said: "Let us not be known and execrated as the boisterous bullies of the western hemisphere. Our country is all powerful. The world concedes our strength. While I am proud of our navy, I sometimes think that the powerful battleships we have built have bred a feeling of intolerance and insolence. It is not more true that a plethoric treasury breeds public plunder than that a well equipped army and navy rashly leads to friction and war. Let our equipment insure peace rather than provoke war."

While the passage by the Senate with only four dissenting votes—Bate, Clay, Chilton, and Vest—of the bill authorizing the enlistment of two additional regiments of artillery in the army was not caused by any new demand brought about by the probability of trouble with Spain, there is little doubt that the existing critical condition of affairs made the Senate act so promptly. These men have been needed, annually asked for by the Secretary of War, because they have been needed to man the new batteries established at various points for protection to our harbors, but the request had been annually ignored, although it was well known that batteries of heavy guns which cost thousands of dollars to establish could not be utilized in case of need for lack of men to work them.

The Situation Correctly and Clearly Presented. From the Philadelphia Times. In the bewildering floodtide of sensational and false rumors of war given by utterly reckless journals, it would be well for all considerate citizens to give sober reflection to the following facts: 1. That neither the government at Washington, nor the newspaper press, nor any other individuals, have knowledge of the testimony taken before the Board of Inquiry now investigating the cause of the disaster to the war vessel Maine, outside of the members of the board themselves.

2. That the public have had from the administration each day all information on the subject that the government has received. Every important item of information that has been received by the Navy Department from Havana has been properly furnished to the public through the press.

3. That until the Board of Inquiry shall have made known its judgment, neither the President nor the public will have any knowledge of the character of the report that is to be made.

4. That the report of the Board of Inquiry will certainly not be concluded for several days and not be furnished to the Secretary of the Navy for a week or more.

5. That naval boards are governed by laws which make them entirely independent even of the appointing power, as to the communication of any information received before final judgment is reached.

6. That all newspaper dispatches assuming to give information as to evidence presented to the Board of Inquiry, or as to the views of any member of the board relating to the destruction of the Maine, are either wholly false inventions or reckless assumptions without any substantial basis of truth whatever.

7. That the government is exhaustively preparing for war, not because war is expected, but as the surest method of preserving peace between the nations.

CAPTURED A Wild Man. LANCASTER, Pa., February 28.—For some time past people on the Welsh Mountain and in the country near have been excited over the appearance of a wild man on the mountain. He would come down into the valley during the day, to be heard, although the necessity would not be apparent, as such a war could hardly last more than ninety days; otherwise, it will not be again heard from.

How It Was Settled. Apropos of meteorites, the following amusing story is told by Sir Robert Ball respecting one of the celestial visitors. A meteorite which fell on a farm in America was claimed by the ground landlord, as his lease reserved all minerals and metals. The tenant objected on the score that the article was not on the property when the lease was executed. The landlord then claimed it as flying game, but the lessee pleaded that the thing had neither feathers nor wings, and claimed it as ground game. But while the dispute was going on the customs officers seized the meteorite, on the ground that the revenue had been defrauded by its introduction into the country without payment of duty.

ONE OF TWO WAYS. The bladder was created for one purpose, namely, a receptacle for the urine, and as such it is not liable to any form of disease except by one of two ways. The first way is from imperfect action of the kidney. The second way is from careless local treatment of other diseases.

CHIEF CAUSE. Unhealthy urine from unhealthy kidneys is the chief cause of bladder troubles. So the womb, like the bladder, was created for one purpose, and if not doctored too much is not liable to weakness or disease, except in rare cases. It is situated back of and very close to the bladder, therefore any pain, disease or inconvenience manifested in the kidneys, back, bladder or urinary passage is often, by mistake, attributed to female weakness or womb trouble of some sort. The error is easily made and may be as easily avoided. To find out correctly, set your urine aside for twenty-four hours; a sediment or settling indicates kidney or bladder trouble. The mild and extraordinary effect of Dr. Kilmer's Swamp Root, the great kidney and bladder remedy, is soon realized. If you need a medicine you should have the best. At druggists fifty cents and one dollar. You may have sample bottle and pamphlet, both sent free by mail, upon receipt of three two-cent stamps to cover cost of postage on the bottle. Mention the PROVIDENCE INDEPENDENT and send your address to Dr. Kilmer & Co., Binghamton, N. Y. The proprietor of this paper guarantees the genuineness of this offer.

ESTATE NOTICE. Estate of Henry W. Super, D. D., late of the borough of Collegeville, Montgomery county, deceased. Letters testamentary on the above estate having been granted the undersigned, all persons indebted to the estate are requested to make immediate payment, and those having claims to present the same without delay to SARAH H. SUPER, Executrix, Collegeville, Pa. F. G. Hobson, Attorney. 30Jan.

Run Himself to Death. PHILADELPHIA, February 28.—James O. Caldwell, said to have been a wealthy iron master of Fortyfort, Luzerne county, Pa., died suddenly yesterday while running for a train at the Baltimore and Ohio railroad station. He arrived at the Reading Terminal from Wilkesbarre, and had 25 minutes to get a train for Washington, where he purportedly visiting his two sons. Mr. Caldwell was accompanied by a friend named William Baché. When the station was reached the train was about to start, and the men had to run. Mr. B. reached the cars in time, and turning around saw that Mr. Caldwell had fallen. He ran back and found him unconscious. A physician was sent for, but in a few minutes Mr. Caldwell was dead. He was 55 years old.

This May Be True. There's nothing like a woman at an auction, excepting another woman. This was most strikingly verified a day or two ago. The auctioneer put up a silver-plated bakin' dish. "Now, look at that, ladies. Just scan it carefully. There isn't a jeweler in this town that ever sold a duplicate of it for less than \$12, and if you were to buy them by the gross from the manufacturer they would cost \$8 each; bid spry, now."

"Two dollars," said a meek woman, who was new in the business. You could tell that by her timidity. "Two dollars. Two I'm bid. Who says a half? Thank you. Do I hear three? There it is."

It was the timid woman who bid the three. "Three I'm bid," said the auctioneer. "I can't let it go at that. Make it three and a half. You're a good one. And the timid woman said, in her subdued way, "Three and a half." "Three and a half. It's a shame to stand here asking for bids on a piece of ware like this. Give a bid of \$4. I won't sleep to-night if I sell this less than \$5."

The timid woman felt in deep sympathy for the poor auctioneer, and she showed it in a practical way by bidding \$4. "Four dollars I hear. Four dollars for this magnificent silver baker. If you don't want it you can leave it. It's worth a ten dollar bid any where. Four dollars. Make it \$4.50."

This remark was made in a pleading way to the timid and she kindly bid \$4.50. "Four and a half. If I get another bid I'll sell the article. Make it \$5 and we're done. Do I hear five dollars?" He did, and the bid was from the timid woman, who was generously bidding against herself all the time. "Sold," said the auctioneer, "to the woman near me for \$5."

A cablegram from Paris dated February 12 states M. Bouchard has discovered a new movement of the heart by means of the Roentgen rays. It is a rhythmic dilatation during respiration and is not connected with the ordinary movements of the heart. "It appears to arise," says The Sun, "from a diminution of pressure in the interior of the thoracic cage during inspiration."

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She had run the baker up on herself, but she will know more the next time she goes.

Brendlingers' JANUARY SALE LADIES' Muslin Underwear

How Is It Possible? The most remarkable in the history of cheap selling. See the reduction prices. The manufacturers tell us that orders have been slow. They are overstocked—invited us to help them. This is the way we do it. You had better call soon and take your choice while you can.

Lot No. 1—10 Cents. The price covers materials only, the work on it is a free gift at the price. Plain but good garments of LADIES' SKIRTS CHILD'S UNDERWAISTS CORSET COVERS INFANT SLIPS CHILD'S DRAWERS

Lot No. 2—15 Cents LADIES' DRAWERS CHILD'S DRESS CHEMISES MISSES' DRAWERS CORSET COVERS

Lot No. 3—25 Cents At this price we can only afford one gown to each buyer. Of the others take as many as you wish. LADIES' NIGHT GOWNS LADIES' AND MISSES' DRESS SLIPS, CORSET COVERS, CHEMISES, DRAWERS.

Lot No. 4—50 Cents The added value is in the elaboration of trimming and how great the value is best shown by seeing the work, material and trimmings. LADIES' SKIRTS CHILD'S DRESSES NIGHT DRESSES CORSET COVERS CHEMISES.

Lot No. 5—75 Cents Here are goods worth \$1.00 and \$1.25 and as to trimming are most tastefully adorned. CORSET COVERS, MISSES' DRAWERS, DRAWERS, CHILD'S DRESSES, NIGHT DRESSES.

Lot No. 6—\$1.00 The usual price would be twice this, for quality, style and trimmings are very fine. FLOUNCED SKIRTS, RIBBONED CHEMISES, RUFFLED GOWNS, YOKED SLIPS.

Sizes and varied styles are all complete and the best value in selection will come to the early buyers. You are specially invited to this LOW PRICED HIGH QUALITY Muslin Underwear Sale.

I. H. Brendlinger, NORRISTOWN, PA. Leading dealer in Dry Goods, Carpets, Trimmings, Ladies' Coats, Shirt Waists, 80 and 82 Main Street, 213 and 215 DeKalb Street.

Overcoats! We are offering the best as usual, and at the lowest prices. A lot of Men's Coats at \$6.00, were \$10. Boys' Blue and Brown Overcoats at \$4.00, were \$8.00. A small lot of Boys' fine Reefers at \$2.00, were \$6.00. Men's Storm Coats at \$5.00, worth double that amount.

Hats and Caps. Underwear. Our reputation of keeping the largest and best assortment in this line is so well known that it is only necessary to say this line is complete as usual. Ladies' Furs in Capes, Collerets, Head Scarfs, Boas, and Muffs. Men's Fur Collars, Gloves, and Robes.

SURE CORN CURE 10 CENTS PER BOTTLE. —SOLD AT— Culbert's : Drug : Store, COLLEGEVILLE, PA.

ALMOST AT HALF PRICE Storm Coats, - Overcoats, Heavy Suits

Reduced Way Down in Price. Now is Your Time to Get Bargains. HERMAN WETZEL'S, 66 and 68 Main St., Norristown, Opp. Post Office.

BEECHERS OUR PRICES Beat the World!—Our Qualities are All Right, and that makes Selling Easy. Are you one of the many who have their wants supplied with SEASONABLE GOODS? If not, come and be convinced that BEECHERS give you Bigger Bargains than you get elsewhere. L. BEECHER & SON, 223 to 227 HIGH STREET, POTTSTOWN.

IT COSTS NOTHING TO HAVE YOUR EYES EXAMINED. By W. H. PODESTA & CO., Optical Specialists, 113 NORTH NINTH ST. ABOVE ARCH, PHILA., PA.

COLLEGEVILLE MARBLE WORKS H. L. SAYLOR, PROPRIETOR. CEMETERY WORK IN MARBLE OR GRANITE IN PLAIN AND ARTISTIC DESIGNS. Full stock of GRAY STONE FLAGGING. All work guaranteed. The Lowest Prices.

Enterprise - Marble - Works. H. E. BRANDT, Proprietor. (Successor to D. T. Buckwalter.) Monuments, Tombstones, OF ITALIAN OR AMERICAN MARBLE OR GRANITE.

In the Finest and Latest Designs, at Low Figures. Every description of CEMETERY WORK, COPING, GALVANIZED RAILING, &c., promptly executed. All stock on hand, including Fine Monuments and Tombstones, will be sold at a sacrifice to make room for new work. H. E. BRANDT, - - - ROYERSFORD, PA.

W. P. Fenton Seasonable Goods -Has the Agency for- PRATT'S POULTRY FOOD

Lowest Price I am ready to supply my patrons with reasonable goods at prices as low as the lowest. A full line of latest Prints, Plaids, Outing Flannels, Canton Flannels, etc. Canton Flannels from 5c. per yd., up.

25 and 50 Cent Packages. Horse and Cattle Food. The very best Washing Machines for \$2.50 and \$3.00. Guaranteed to give entire satisfaction. Also Demorest Sewing Machines, in oak or walnut; three drawers, only \$19.50.

W. P. FENTON, COLLEGEVILLE, PA. For Sale or For Rent. On Main Street, Collegeville, several elegant new 7 and 9 room 2-story brick and stone houses with porches, front and back. Deep lots, cement-ed cellars, ranges, hot and cold water in bath room. Heated by steam throughout. Hardwood finish, gold-leafed trolley cars. Inquire of E. S. OSER, Collegeville, Pa. Or F. J. CLAMBER, Owner, 4No. 416 Richmond St., Phila.; Pa.

HOME AND ABROAD.

March first, From sunrise to sunset, An ideal day; And the moonlight night That followed was perfect!

Field Secretary at Work.

Rev. H. E. Jones, Field Secretary, is canvassing the church members of Skippackville, this week, in the interests of Ursinus College.

Matrimonial Business Booming.

Within two hours after the court house at Norristown opened Wednesday morning of last week no less than eight couples, on matrimonial business bent, procured marriage licenses.

Carpet-Rag Party.

Last Thursday afternoon a number of the ladies of this borough met at Mrs. M. Zimmerman's home to sew carpet rags, discuss the weather and other subjects, and to have a pleasant time.

Death.

Mrs. Harriet S. A. Smith died of pneumonia at her residence in Philadelphia, Monday morning, aged 44 years. The funeral will be held this (Thursday) at St. James' Episcopal church, Evansburg, at 9.30 a. m., undertaker J. L. Bechtel in charge.

Y. W. C. T. U.

The Y. W. C. T. U., of Yerkess, will hold a meeting at the residence of Mrs. D. S. Bausch, Upper Providence, on Monday evening, March 7. A good representation of members is requested and friends are cordially invited.

Damages for a Fractured Leg.

The administrators of Louisa A. Wagner, recently of Quakertown, who had her leg fractured in alighting from a train at that place, on March 8, 1895, was on Monday awarded \$915 damages against the receivers of the Philadelphia and Reading Company.

Death of Mrs. Zieber.

Mrs. H. Zieber, wife of the proprietor of Zieber's park near West Point, died on Tuesday, Feb. 22, after a lingering illness. A husband and one daughter, Mrs. Benjamin Kriebel, survive her. The funeral was held last Monday.

Injured by a Fall.

Wm. B. Logan, Sr., the well-known blacksmith of Yerkess, had the misfortune to fall from a mow in John G. Gotwals' barn, one day last week, and to sustain the fracture of two ribs and injury to his spine. We are glad to hear that he is gradually recovering.

A Carriage Wrecked.

John Gaudy, a young man of Skippack, was driving up south Skippack hill on his way to fill a Sunday evening engagement, in the vicinity of Eagleview, when his horse frightened at a moving trolley car. The animal plunged and turned right-about in the road, but did not escape from the driver. The young man's carriage was considerably damaged.

From Limerick.

The concert given by the Eureka Concert Company in Kline's ball last Saturday evening was a complete success in every particular. The hall was packed, and many persons were turned away. Everybody was highly pleased with the entertainment given by our boys. They will give a similar concert in Eagle hall, Ironbridge, next Saturday evening, March 5. Admission, 10 cents.

The Ladies' Aid Society.

The next monthly meeting of the Ladies' Aid Society of the church of this borough, on this coming Monday evening, March 7, at the residence of Mr. and Mrs. James L. Paist. The usual interesting literary and musical program will be expected, in addition to routine business and general sociability. Members and friends of the Society cordially invited to be present.

Crescent Literary Society.

Next meeting of the Crescent Literary Society in Mennonite school house, near Yerkess, on Saturday evening, March 5. Program: Recitations—Abram Reiner, Amy Ashenfelter, Harry Detwiler, Sara Gennaria. Readings—Lizzie Detwiler, Hettie Gotwals, John Ashenfelter. Vocal Solo—Mary Horton. Instrumental Solo—Kathryn Raudenbush. Question for debate—Resolved: That foot ball is brutal and unmanly. Affirmative chief, Eva R. Horton; negative chief, Oscar W. Hunsicker. All invited.

A Narrow Escape.

Robert Morrow, of Philadelphia, had a narrow escape from accidental drowning Sunday afternoon, while on a visit to his grandson, John Gilder, of Bridgeport, he took a walk along the canal, and was seized by an attack of vertigo, and fell into the canal. William McAnany, who was fishing in the vicinity, heard the splash and made a heroic effort at life-saving, landing him on the bank. Mr. Morrow, who is 80 years old, is prostrated by shock, and is unlikely to recover.

Died Suddenly.

Patrick Conway, a well-known resident of Valley Forge, died very suddenly on Saturday at that place. Mr. Conway, who is seventy years of age, was employed as janitor at the Hall of Valley Forge Camp, Patriotic Sons of America, located in the second story of a building in that village. He went upstairs on Saturday morning as usual to attend to his usual duties. Failing to return at the accustomed time, Mrs. Conway went to the hall and was horrified to find him dead. Deceased leaves a widow and a family of grown-up children.

Died at the Almshouse.

Michael Delp, of Hatfield, died at the Montgomery almshouse last Thursday, aged 73 years. In his earlier days he followed the carpenter trade. He had been an inmate of the almshouse for several years. His remains were taken in charge by several of his relatives.

Henry Smith, German, died of consumption at the Almshouse, Tuesday afternoon. He has no relatives in this county, as far as is known.

A Conundrum Tea.

The young ladies of the Lutheran church of Schwenksville will give a Conundrum Tea in Bean's Hall to-morrow (Friday) evening. The event promises to be a very interesting one. Music will be furnished by an Italian harpist and violinist. Admission free. All invited.

Will Ask for a Pardon for the Conshohocken Policeman.

After failing to secure a new trial for Officer John Greer, of Conshohocken, the policeman who was convicted of shooting William Ganser at the last term of court, his attorneys Holland and Dettra have resolved to place the case before the Board of Pardons, and it will be heard on March 16.

A Numerously Legged Rooster.

Samuel Poley, of near Port Providence, has a rooster that is equipped with four well developed legs and feet, a rooster that is naturally attracting considerable attention. The extra leg development of this particular rooster is referred to as an omen of war with Spain by the Philadelphia Inquirer should come in possession of the rooster at once.

Surprise Party.

About fifty of the young friends of Edward Latsch, clerk at Hartman's store, Fairview Village, tendered him a surprise at the home of his parents, this borough, Saturday evening. Those who had charge of the pleasant affair saw to it that Edward was at home, and not at his post of duty, when the party surrounded him. The young folks met at Mrs. M. Zimmerman's home before proceeding to Edward's home.

A Young Man Shot.

Philip Sands, a colored youth, residing on Haws avenue, Norristown, shot a young man named Harry Howard, who lives near Elm street and Stony Creek railroad, Saturday morning. Howard came out of the barn on his parents' property when Sands, who had a shot gun and was walking along the railroad, asked him to give him a hand. Howard answered yes in vain. Sands pulled the trigger and a number of shot penetrated Howard's face. His face is badly swollen, though the injury is not regarded as serious.

Historical Society Officials.

At the recent annual meeting of the Montgomery County Historical Society the following officers were elected for this year: President, Joseph Fornace; Vice-Presidents, Rev. Thomas R. Beeber, Hon. H. W. Kraz, and Rev. A. A. Harple; Treasurer, W. H. Reed; Librarian, Elwood Roberts; Recording Secretary, Miss Frances Fox; Corresponding Secretary, Mrs. A. Jones; Trustees, Jonas Detwiler, Samuel F. Jarrett, Mary K. Cressman, W. W. Potts and S. Gordon Smythe. The Society is in a flourishing condition.

Improper Conduct.

A lady residing in the lower section of this borough has reason to believe that certain young men who doubtless presume to be gentlemen should not be guilty of stopping on the sidewalk for the purpose of gazing into windows to see who may or may not be within doors, or what might be going on. Such conduct is very bad manners and will invite, if continued, such action as may cause the persons alleged to do such a thing to regret their peeping into houses is very small business, and those who engage in it will sooner or later be dealt with as they deserve.

A Decided Success.

The concert given by the Ursinus College Glee and Mandolin Clubs on Saturday evening, in Bomberger Memorial Hall, was very largely attended and was a decided success in every way. Prof. J. L. Barnard, musical director of the glee club, deserves credit for the showing the boys made that evening, and Mr. C. G. Petri, as leader of the mandolin club, proved himself efficient. Mr. Petri is a first-class guitarist, and plays with great ease and smoothness of touch. The quartette music of the glee was very much appreciated, and the selection "Romeo and Juliet," by the whole club, literally "brought down the house."

PERSONAL.

Mrs. Sarah Cressinger, of Fifth avenue, this borough, is seriously ill.

Misses Florence and Emma Paist, of Cornwall, Bucks county; B. F. Paist, of Philadelphia; and Mrs. B. D. Weaver, of Leesport, N. J., and B. F. Paist, of Selinsgrove, Pa., were the guests of Mr. and Mrs. J. L. Paist, of this borough, Sunday.

Mrs. A. Hartrant, of Philadelphia; Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Todd, of Norristown; Mr. and Mrs. John D. Saylor and Mr. and Mrs. C. Keller, of Trappe, were present at the celebration of the 60th birthday anniversary of B. F. Saylor, of Lancaster, last week.

Mr. and Mrs. W. H. Moser, and daughters, of Port Kennedy, visited the scribe and his family, Sunday.

David Bowers, of Fairview Village, informs the scribe that he intends to play the role of farmer on Tyson's farm, near Oaks, this year.

Mrs. J. Randallson Challen, Jr., daughter of A. A. Landis, left Monday for six weeks tour in the South. Most of the time will be spent in Florida, where she has hosts of friends.

\$100 REWARD.

The readers of this paper will be pleased to learn that there is at least one disease that science has been able to cure in all its stages, and that is Catarrh Hall's Catarrh Cure. Catarrh is the medical term for a disease of the urinary tract, which, if not cured, requires a constitutional treatment. Hall's Catarrh Cure is taken internally, acting directly upon the blood and mucous surfaces of the system, thereby destroying the foundation of the disease, and giving the patient strength by building up the constitution and assisting nature in doing its work. The proprietors have so much faith in its curative powers that they offer One Hundred Dollars for any case that fails to cure. Send for testimonials. Address F. J. CENEY & CO., Toledo, O. Price 75 cents per bottle. Sold by all druggists. Testimonials free. Sold by J. W. Culbert, Druggist, Collegeville, Pa., 75 cents.

DEATH OF GRANDMOTHER HUNSICKER.



Our borough has lost its oldest inhabitant, its most interesting figure in point of extraordinary human longevity. Grandmother Hunsicker, who looked upon the world and shared in the activities of life for almost a century, a scope of time allotted to the existence of but few individuals, has departed.

Mrs. Elizabeth Hunsicker, widow of the late Rev. Abraham Hunsicker, passed away peacefully Friday the 25th ult., at Collegeville, Pa., in her 100th year. She was the daughter of Benjamin and Elizabeth (Shoemaker) Aklerfer, born in Salford township, Montgomery county, Pa., November 16th, 1798, and was married May 30th, 1816. She resided almost 82 years within quarter of a mile from the farm where her five sons and five daughters were born. Of her ten children seven survive: her mother—three sons, Henry A. Hunsicker, of Coopersburg, Pa., in his 83rd year; Elias A., in his 64th year and Horace M., 55 years old, both of Philadelphia; and four daughters: Esther, widow of the late Gideon Peteroff, Collegeville, in her 77th year; Elizabeth, wife of Rev. F. R. S. Hunsicker, of Carversville, Pa., in her 66th year; Mary Ann, wife of the late Rev. J. S. Preston, Collegeville, in her 62d year, and Catharine, wife of Rev. J. H. Hendricks, Collegeville, in her 57th year. The three children who died before their mother were Benjamin A., Collegeville, who died in 1855 in his 36th year; Abraham, of Collegeville, died in 1860 in his 61st year; and Anna, widow of John B. Landis, Gratersford, Pa., died in December last, in her 81st year.

Rev. Abraham Hunsicker, who was the founder of Freeland Seminary—now Ursinus College, and joint founder with Dr. Sunderland of Pennsylvania Female College, and founder of Trinity Christian Church (now Germantown College), was born in the town of Skippack, died January 12, 1872, aged 79 years. Rev. Abraham Hunsicker was ordained a Mennonite preacher in 1847 but owing to his advanced ideas in education and religion soon outgrew his connection with the slower and more conservative elements of his denomination, and favoring higher standards both in school and church became an active leader in reform movements, resulting in the improved condition of the community in which he lived, labored, and died, honored and respected, as one who gave up his life and substance for the good of others.

The descendants of grandmother Hunsicker besides her children are forty-five grandchildren, 81 great-grandchildren and 14 great-great-grandchildren. She died in the full possession of vigorous mental faculties, her mind going out in eager activity to know the news of the day, and which she remembered and conversed about. Her love was strong for her sympathies active for the poor and suffering around her; and many unfortunate will attest to her charities and broad benevolence toward them. Her life was truly one of usefulness and labor, filled up with active duties and responsibilities conscientiously discharged. She was pre-eminently self-sacrificing, loving for the good of others, and striving consistently the truth of the Divine doctrine that it "is more blessed to give than to receive."

The funeral will be held to-day (Thursday) at 10 a. m. Services at Trinity Reformed church and cemetery. Undertaker J. L. Bechtel will have charge of the remains.

REV. DR. C. Z. WEISER DEAD.

HE WAS ONE OF THE BEST KNOWN MINISTERS IN THE STATE.

Rev. Dr. C. Z. Weiser, aged 67 years, one of the best known German Reformed ministers in the State, died at 2 o'clock Tuesday afternoon at his residence at East Greenville, near Boyertown. Dr. Weiser was the great-grandson of Conrad Weiser, who took the most important part in the early history of Berks county. He was born at Selinsgrove, and was graduated from Marshall College at Mercersburg in 1850 and from the seminary there two years later. Dr. Weiser was ordained to the ministry in 1855, and his first pastoral charge was at Selinsgrove and vicinity. He was in active service for thirty years and he frequently preached three times a Sunday. His last charge was situated at the junction of four counties and his members resided in Montgomery, Bucks, Lehigh and Berks counties. He was a literary man of considerable ability and wrote a great deal for German church papers and was the author of several books. He served as trustee of Franklin and Marshall College.

Dedication of a New Mennonite Temple.

The new Mennonite Brethren in Christ Temple, in Royersford, was dedicated on Sunday, with impressive ceremony. Rev. W. Gehman, Sr., of Vera Cruz, Pa., preached in the morning, after a children's service. Rev. L. B. Taylor, of Gratersford, preached in the afternoon. The dedication occurred in the evening, when Rev. W. B. Musselman, Presiding Elder, of Bethlehem, officiated. Large congregations were present. The Temple is free of debt, in accordance with the rule at Mennonite dedications. The cost of the building was \$1900, exclusive of the stone, which was donated, and the furniture cost \$300. Rev. W. G. Gehman is the pastor.

Speedy Horses to be Sold.

The executors of the estate of the late Andrew M. Moore, the millionaire distiller, have decided to sell at auction the widely known "Clover-dell Farm" and all the horses thereon, about 195 in number. The farm is situated at Colmar, on the Doylestown branch of the North Penn road, just above Lansdale. Though maintained with many advanced improvements, it has been directly controlled by his son, Albert H. Moore. This establishment, it is said, represents an investment of more than \$1,000,000, nearly all of the noted horses in the Cloverdell stud having been purchased when the boom in trotters was at its height. Director, 217, who with Red Wilkes, is at the head of the stud, was sold to Moore by Monroe Salisbury in 1892 for the reported price of \$75,000.

The Home of the Poor.

The Directors of the Poor held their regular monthly meeting at the Almshouse Thursday. Orders amounting to \$3,045.94 were granted. The receipts during the past month were \$343.97; expenditures, \$51.13. Steward Alderfer presented the following report: Number of inmates in Almshouse at last report, 175 males, 35 females, total 210; admitted since last report, 1 male; 1 female to children; discharged since last report, 4 males; number of inmates in Almshouse, 181 males, 36 females, total 217; troops assisted, 13; hours worked none; meals provided, 24; lodging furnished, 11; number of quart of milk during month, 110; number of pounds of butter, 1145; number of eggs, 88 gathered, 45 sold and 42 consumed. The stock upon the farm is as follows: 10 horses, 50 cows, 1 bull, 7 fat hogs and 60 shoats.

DEATH OF H. B. BRENDLINGER.

Irwin H. Brendlinger, the leading dry goods merchant of Norristown, died of pneumonia, Wednesday of last week. Mr. Brendlinger went into the dry goods business with Colonel Daniel M. Yost, of Norristown, in 1861, the firm, Brendlinger & Yost, at the south corner of DeKalb and Main streets, continuing until 1869. When the partnership was dissolved Mr. Brendlinger bought out Neilman Brothers, and in 1876, the present site of the extensive business. He enlarged his establishment several times by the purchase of adjoining property on Main and DeKalb streets, it being for many years the largest store in Norristown. Mr. Brendlinger served two terms in Council from the Fourth ward, a number of years ago, taking an active interest in borough affairs. A Democrat in politics, he was by no means a partisan. He was a director in the Albertson Safe Deposit Company. Prior to the absorption by the Norristown Gas Company, he was president of the Norristown Electric Light and Power Company, and he took a prominent part in the work of local development generally. His first wife was Andora, daughter of Sheriff Philip S. Gerbard. She died on January 17, 1873. On September 1, 1875, he married Sallie H. Lukens, daughter of the late Benjamin Lukens, of Plymouth, who survives. Mr. Brendlinger was born April 1st, 1837. Before going to Norristown in 1861, he attended Freeland Seminary, now Ursinus College, Collegeville.

RELIGIOUS.

Episcopal service at St. James', Evansburg, every Sunday, at 10.30 a. m., Sunday School, 2 p. m. Also a service at Royersford at 3 p. m. Rev. A. J. Barrow, rector.

Evansburg M. E. church, Rev. J. S. Tomlinson, pastor. Sunday school at 9.45 a. m. Preaching, Sunday, at 10.45 a. m. and 8 p. m. Epworth League service Sunday evening at 7.30 o'clock. Prayer and class meeting on Thursday evening at 7.45 o'clock. A cordial invitation extended to all to attend these services.

Ironbridge: Preaching next Sabbath evening at 7.45. Sabbath School at 2 o'clock p. m.; Christian Endeavor at 7 p. m. All are invited to every meeting. Strangers welcomed.

Morning prayer and sermon Ash Wednesday, February 23d, at St. Paul's Memorial near Oaks at 10.45. Evening prayer and sermon on the same day following through Lent at 7.30. Good Friday at 10.45 a. m. A cordial welcome extended to all. Benjamin J. Douglass, rector.

Trappe United Evangelical church: Preaching next Sunday afternoon at 2.30 o'clock. Sunday School at 1.30 p. m. All are cordially invited to attend. Rev. J. Max Longsdorf, pastor.

Augustus Lutheran Church, Trappe. Services next Sunday at 10 a. m. and 7.30 p. m. Luther League at 6.30 p. m.; Joseph Shuler leader. The pastor Rev. W. O. Fegley will conduct the services. All welcome.

St. Luke's Reformed Church, Trappe, Rev. S. L. Messenger, pastor. Preaching every Sunday at 10.30 a. m. and 7.30 p. m. Sunday School at 9 a. m. Y. P. S. C. E. prayer-meeting on Sunday evening at 6.30 o'clock. Congregational prayer-meeting on Wednesday evening at 7.30. Gate-keeping at 2 p. m. and Junior C. E. prayer-meeting at 3 p. m., on Saturday. All are cordially invited to attend the services.

Trinity church: Wednesday evening prayer service, 7.30 o'clock, and the monthly Christian Endeavor business meeting, at 8 o'clock, p. m. Sunday: Sunday School, at 9 o'clock, a. m., preaching at 10 a. m.; the Junior C. E. prayer service, at 2 p. m., the Y. P. S. C. E. prayer service, at 7 o'clock p. m.; Mr. D. E. Hottenstein, leader; the usual monthly missionary meeting, at 8 o'clock. The pastor will preach at Skippackville Sunday evening, 7.30 o'clock.

The statements of those who have been cured by Hood's Sarsaparilla prove the great merit of this medicine. Get only Hood's.

A Financial Failure at Royersford.

The real estate and personal property of A. R. Saylor, postmaster, and a prominent business man of Royersford, is in the hands of the Sheriff. The claims of creditors will exceed \$30,000. The Saylor cigar factory, of which Mr. Saylor was proprietor, is said to be stocked with 350,000 cigars. His real estate holdings represent considerable property in Royersford. The judgment claims of the Peoples National Bank of Norristown amount to \$8,100.

FROM OAKS.

Stormy days down here. Regular chip war. Getting our hand in to knock the chip of the Spanish head gear. War clouds obscure the glowing golden boom in the Klondike. War fought in the columns of the daily papers. War, grim visaged war, the subject with about every one. Less blow, more fight. We do not hear of anyone organizing a company of dragoons, infantry or battery-men. For outside we have not made an effort to interview any of our monied men whether they would be willing to subscribe a few million or so towards a war, for the reason they are sager than Sage, and will await the stroke of the tocsin, or the peal of the Slogo bell, in a sense of unselfishness felt since the chaplain dropped his razor overboard; but we are not the least rattled, and saw wood and pick chips the same as ever. "Woe to thee, O land, when thy king is a child and thy princes eat in the morning," says the preacher.

An entertainment was given in the chapel at Shannonsville on Saturday night, which was well attended. The admittance, which was only ten cents, brought a fine crowd, and a snug little sum was realized. The proceeds are to be invested in an organ for the chapel.

The young child of Sylvanus Tyson, which died of a complication of diseases, was buried on Saturday last at Limerick. Master John S. Radcliff, Dolph Keyser, Peter McBride and John Henry acted as pall-bearers.

John U. Francis, Jr., has traded a lot on the east side of Brower's lane for one on the west side, land owned by Joseph C. Brower.

During Lent, services will be held every Wednesday evening at St. Paul's Memorial.

The roads are drying off very fast by the high winds that have prevailed for the last few days.

The news of the sudden death of Mr. Singery was a shock to his many friends here in our community; the result of trouble, worry and anxiety of mind.

Painters have been touching up the buildings at the Pennsylvania station, the tool house and signal tower, and they present an attractive appearance. The work was done by contract.

Our neighbor Shull was besieged with visitors from a distance on Sunday. Mrs. Carr and Irwin with their children, Miss Ida Hill of Norristown, visited Mr. Shull's family.

There is a probability a store and dwelling will be erected on Strawberry Hill shortly. With a cigar manufactory, two stores, a printing office, and a machine shop, which we are gradually moving forward towards that prosperous boom, which was to be inaugurated if we voted right in the days that are past and gone.

Your correspondent will have to change his location if he wants to keep posted in the war news which is floating through the ambient air. Already Geistburg is floating ahead and an arsenal may be established there. A gun of Battery C, Phoenixville, was brought over there to be repaired, which goes to prove Mr. Geist is a first-class mechanic and understands his business. If war is declared, Geistburg will have a boom, if it is only a Spanish boom, in repairing cannon.

Aaron Overdorf moved to his lot back of Spring City, Thursday last.

It is reported Joseph Griffin will take up his residence in Phila.

Frank Rees will give up the coal and feed business here at Oaks the first of April.

John B. Dettra was out and around on Saturday last. He had quite a serious sickness.

Charley Taylor has the grip. Yoder and Carlin, from near Bridgeport, have rented the Shearer farm and have already moved on the place.

James Harvey is on the sick list. Has a very bad cold.

David Harvey said he suffered more with cold on Saturday than he did for many years.

Rev. Jay Francis preached at Royersford on Sunday.

Willie Higginbotham has been spending some time with his grandparents in Chester county.

The scholars of the St. Paul's Memorial Sunday School will offer in any pennies as an Easter offering to be given to Mission work.

The Public Debt.

WASHINGTON, March 1.—The monthly Treasury statement of the public debt shows that the debt, less cash in the Treasury at the close of business yesterday, amounted to \$1,010,104,216, a decrease for the month of \$1,597,132. This decrease is accounted for by a corresponding increase in the cash. The debt is recapitulated as follows: Interest-bearing debt, \$847,366,680; debt on which interest has ceased since maturity, \$1,327,670; debt bearing no interest, \$386,974,069; total, \$1,255,668,418. This amount, however, does not include \$585,262,933 in certificates and Treasury notes outstanding, which are offset by an equal amount of cash in the Treasury.

The cash in the Treasury is classified as follows: Gold, \$204,063,971; silver, \$511,858,834; paper, \$107,564,959; bonds, disbursing officers' balances, etc., \$338,085,002, making a total of \$865,571,767, against which there are demand liabilities outstanding amounting to \$651,007,533, leaving a net cash balance of \$214,564,234.

Terribly Mangled.

While little Scott Carrier was playing around his father's grist mill, at Summerville, Clearfield county, Pa., Friday, his clothes caught in a shaft, and before the machinery could be stopped by the frantic parent the child was a mass of broken bones and bruised flesh.

Twins Buried in One Coffin.

CARLEISLE, March 1.—The funeral of Andrew and Walter Dick, twin sons of P. A. Dick, of Wertzville, near this city, who died together last Friday of a malignant type of measles, took place yesterday from the Old Stone Church on the State road. About a thousand people viewed the bodies as they lay side by side in one coffin, a scene never before witnessed in this county. There were 405 carriages in the funeral cortege.

Epidemic of Meningitis.

FRANKLIN, Feb. 26.—The epidemic of spinal meningitis which has been prevalent in this county for the past two weeks continues unabated, eleven deaths having resulted from the disease in the county during the past week. The latest victim was Howard Myers, aged 23 years, son of Councilman N. B. Myers, and a leading young business man, whose death occurred after an illness of six hours' duration. At least two dozen people in the county are suffering from the disease, and the alarm at the condition of affairs has become so great that a consultation of the leading physicians of the county will be held on Monday.

A Needle in His Body.

READING, March 1.—Sixteen years ago Daniel Egely, of Lyons, Berks county, while in Ohio, swallowed a needle. Recently he has been suffering excruciating pains in his back and left side, and the doctors were of the opinion that he was afflicted with cancer of the liver, and Mr. Egely finally decided to go to Philadelphia and have an operation performed. Just before leaving, however, he once more carefully examined his side and something sharp pricked his fingers. Instead of a doctor, he went to a watchmaker, and the latter to-day extracted with a small pair of pinners the needle swallowed sixteen years ago.

A Serious Mistake.

Deacon Jackson was a very pious, but very determined old colored citizen of Owl Creek Valley. He had a young mule which his boys were unable to ride, and his failure to break the animal so exasperated the old man that he determined to ride it himself. He was, however, no sooner located on its back than he was thrown into an adjoining lot, where he was picked up with both legs broken and his neck badly sprained.

What on earth did such an old man as you mean by trying to ride a wild young mule like that?

asked the doctor. "Waal, suh," said Deacon Jackson, "I never does undertake to do nuttin' widout fust consultin' de old Lawd, an' seein' what he dun thunke about it, I axed him if I order ride dat mule what my triffin' no errount boys couldn't ride, an' de Lawd, he sed yessah, jes' ez plain ez I can talk to you, suh, dat mule, but he seems to have given you bad advice."

"No, doctor, his judgment was all right, fer de Lawd knows dis ole nigger never seed de day when he was affered to straddle anything from a circular saw up to de electric chair, an' I never seed de Lawd jes' mistaken in de mule."

REWARD OF \$100.

A reward of \$100 is offered for the apprehension of negroes or persons guilty of administering poison to several dogs in Evansburg. Information will be received at THIS OFFICE.

WANTED.

A young man to learn the stock business. Apply to E. G. BROWNBACK, Trappe, Pa.

FOR RENT.

A farm of 41 acres near Providence Square. Apply to MARGARET HALLMAN, Harmonville, Plymouth, Pa.

FOR RENT.

A part of a dwelling house—7 rooms and bathroom. Apply to MRS. SARAH FENSTERMACHER, Collegeville, Pa.

FOR RENT.

A new wheelwright shop; first-class cash business stand for the right man. Apply at once to NATHAN E. DAVIS, Blacksmith, 20 Jan. Collegeville, Pa.

FOR RENT.

A desirable FARM of 101 1/2 acres, 2 1/2 miles from Royersford and 1 1/2 miles from Trappe. Terms moderate to a good tenant. S. B. LATSHA W. Real Estate and Insurance Agent, 210. Royersford, Pa.

RAILROADS.

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Engines Burn Hard Coal—No Smoke

IN EFFECT NOVEMBER 14, 1907.

Trains Leave Collegeville.
For PERKIOMEN JUNCTION, Bridgeport and Philadelphia—Week days—8:20, 8:36 a. m.; 12:43, 5:01 p. m. Sundays—6:39 a. m.; 6:13 p. m.

For ALLENTOWN—Week days—9:06, 10:17 a. m.; 3:22, 5:11 p. m. Sundays—8:30 a. m.; 7:43 p. m.

Trains For Collegeville.
From PHILADELPHIA—Week days—7:45, 9:08 a. m.; 1:42, 4:01 p. m. Sundays—7:00 a. m.; 6:15 p. m.

From BRIDGEPORT—Week days—8:30, 9:50 a. m.; 3:30, 4:44 p. m. Sundays—7:47 a. m.; 7:04 p. m.

From PERKIOMEN JUNCTION—Week days—8:50, 10:05 a. m.; 3:00, 5:00 p. m. Sundays—8:15 a. m.; 7:33 p. m.

From ALLENTOWN—Week days—4:25, 7:15, 10:50 a. m.; 3:38 p. m. Sunday—4:35 a. m.; 4:35 p. m.

ATLANTIC CITY DIVISION.
Leave Philadelphia, Chestnut Street Wharf and South Street Wharf for Atlantic City.
Week days—Express, 9:00 a. m., 2:00, 4:00, 5:00 p. m. Accom., 8:00 a. m., 6:30 p. m. Sundays—Express, 9:00, 10:00 a. m. Accom., 8:00 a. m., 4:45 p. m.

Leave Atlantic City Depot: Week days—Express 7:35, 9:00, 4:30, 5:30, 6:30 p. m. Accom., 8:15 a. m., 4:05 p. m. Sundays—Express, 4:00, 7:30 p. m. Accom., 7:15 a. m., 4:15 p. m.

Parlor cars on all express trains.
For further information apply to nearest Philadelphia & Reading Railway ticket agent or address
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Fur Suits in Hair Cloth, Brocade and Silk Tapestry, from \$15 to \$50, are hard to be equalled.

Sideboards, from \$8.50 to \$30, in Solid Oak, fancy tops and plate glasses, are the finest.

Dining Room Chairs, Fancy Rockers, Lounges, Couches, Hall Racks and Fancy Book Cases, that cannot fail to attract your attention, both in quality and price.

We carry a full line of Rugs, Carpet Sweepers, Toilet Sets, Fancy Lamps, Dinner and Tea Sets.

Bed Springs, Mattresses, Pillows, Bolsters, Feathers, and Bedding of all kinds.

Our line of Carpets is complete. Best Ingrain at 50 cents; good at 40 cents; fair at 32 cents.

Picture Frames made to order.

Window Shades of all kinds. We are selling a good Spring Roller Shade at 25 cents.

Make your selections early, while stock is complete.

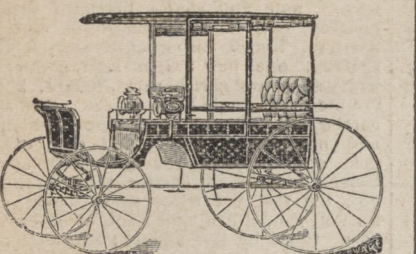
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FARM NOTES.

A row of asparagus a hundred feet long will afford an abundant supply for an ordinary family. The best way to make a bed is to dig a trench two feet deep and two feet wide. Fill in with ten inches of clean horse manure, and on this sow a mixture of 25 pounds bone dust and 40 pounds of sulphate of potash. Cover with six inches of rich dirt and then place on this

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE.

STRAWBERRIES IN GARDENS

Early in the spring is when the new strawberry beds should be made, and those who contemplate having them cannot prepare the ground too soon. It is a fact that but few farmers, comparatively, know how to grow strawberries. It was for a long time believed that it was difficult and laborious to grow them, when, in fact, there is no crop grown in a garden that can be produced so easily, or which gives such valuable results in proportion to costs. They can be had on every farm and abundantly. Growers who make their land produce maximum crops have secured 10,000 quarts per acre, but 5,000 quarts may be considered an excellent yield. To give some idea of how many quarts may be grown on a small garden patch of 25 by 100 feet, which is less than one-sixteenth of an acre, 300 quarts on such a space is at the rate of about 5000 quarts per acre. Considering also that the quality of the berries will be superior to any that can be purchased in market (as they will be fully ripe and not injured by transportation), they will be worth at least 10 cents per quart, or \$30 for the crop of a small patch 25 by 100 feet—smaller than a city lot. As more berries can be grown proportionately on a small plot than on an acre, there is no reason why 500 quarts should not be picked the first bearing season. The strawberry bed, if kept clean and free from grass and weeds, should continue to produce crops for three successive seasons or more.

Plow or spade the ground as deep as possible, and then spread over the surface manure to the depth of two or three inches, working it well into the soil, but before working the ground apply also, for an acre, a mixture of 100 pounds nitrate of soda, 100 pounds bone meal and 150 pounds muriate of potash. Let it be done the first warm day; be sure and work the manure and fertilizer well into the soil, and make the soil as fine as possible. Then leave it until April, when the ground should be worked over again. For a small patch the labor will not be costly, and, as the first preparation is the most important, the work should be well done. After the plants are set out very little work will be entailed on the farmer. As there are new and better varieties introduced every year, get from some reliable nurseryman two kinds—staminate and pistillate (male and female) plants, as the selection of varieties depends on whether the soil is heavy or light. If for a garden make the rows three feet apart, placing the plants one foot apart in the row. Every fourth row should consist of the staminate variety and the others of the pistillate kind. A patch 25 by 100 feet would require about 900 plants. Use only young plants—runners from last spring's growth—which may be known by their roots being nearly white, those of old plants being dark. Set them in straight rows, pressing the earth well around the roots, using water, if necessary, being careful not to cover the crowns of the plants.

After the plants begin to grow use the hoe and work between the plants well. A hand-wheel hoe may be used between the rows, and it will work very close to the plants without injuring them. If the plants are "checked" in the rows—that is, placed in lines both lengthwise and crosswise—the ordinary hoe need not be used, as the wheel hoe will enable one to do the work of several men with hoes. In that manner a small patch can be hoed in 15 minutes or even in less time. Do not wait for grass and weeds to appear, but keep the soil loose. During the summer each plant will throw out runners, and soon the bed will be thickly matted. It will be an advantage then to cut the stem which connect the runners with the parent plants. Should weeds or grass appear in the matted rows pull them out by hand. If the matted rows are a foot wide it will leave but a small space between the rows to cultivate. If water can be applied on a small patch during a dry spell it will be beneficial. Along in the fall, just as winter approaches, cover the rows with fine manure, and over the manure use a light mulch of salt hay or straw. Early in the spring rake the bed over, so as to remove the mulch and rake the manure fine, leaving the mulch between the rows, and after the plants are well up use straw or salt hay under them, so as to have the berries clean. These details are not as laborious as they seem for a small plot, and if choice varieties are used the experiment will be very satisfactory. The instructions apply to larger areas also if heavy yields of choice fruit are desired.

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