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ACCEPT THE TRUTH WHEREVER FOUND. DO RIGHT FOR THE SAKE OF RIGHT

Volume 23.

Collegeville, Pa., Thursday, June 2, 1898

Whole Number: 1196

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.; 6 to 8 p. m.

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

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NOTICE TO TAXPAYERS. In pursuance to an order of Assembly approved March 17, 1898, and supplementary acts thereto, the Treasurer of Montgomery County will meet the taxpayers of said county at the following named time and places, for the purpose of receiving the State and county taxes for the year 1898, assessed in their respective districts.

At a regular meeting of the Historical Society of Montgomery County, in Norristown, on Wednesday, May 25, December 19th was announced as Local History Day for the public schools of the county. This is the anniversary of Washington's encampment at Valley Forge. A committee will be appointed to arrange a program for the first Local History Day.

"Puritanism in Fiction" is the theme chosen by William Dean Howells for his initial "American Letter" in the current Literature. He says: "The other day I heard of something which amusingly, which pathetically, illustrated the sense of reality imparted by the work of one of our writers, whose art is of the kind I mean. A lady was driving with a young girl of the lighter-minded civilization of New York through one of those little towns of the North Shore in Massachusetts, where the small wooden houses along the edges of the shallow bay, and the schooners slip in and out on the hidden channels of the salt meadows as if they were blown about through the tall grass. She tried to make her feel the shy charm of the place, that almost subjective beauty, which those to the manner born are so keenly aware of in old-fashioned New England villages; but she found that the girl was not only not looking at the sad-colored cottages, with their weather-worn shingle walls, their grassy dooryards lit by patches of summer bloom, and their shutterless windows with their close-drawn shades, but she was resolutely averting her eyes from them and staring straight forward until she should be out of sight of them altogether. She said that they were terrible, and she knew that in each of them was one of those dreary old women, or disappointed girls, or unhappy wives, or bereaved mothers, she had read of in Miss Wilkins' stories.

"She had been too little sensible of the honor which forms the relief of these stories, as it forms the relief of the bare, dutiful, conscientious, deeply individualized lives portrayed in them; and no doubt this cannot make its full appeal to the heart of youth aching for their stoical sorrows. Without being very young, I, too, have found the humor hardly enough at times, and if one had not the habit of experiencing support in tragedy itself, one gets through a remote New England village, at nightfall, say, rather limp than otherwise, and in quite the mood that Miss Wilkins' bleaker studies leave one in. At midday, or in the bright sunshine of the morning, it is quite possible to fling off the melancholy which breathes the same note in the fact and the fiction; and I have even had some pleasure at such times in identifying with its lean-to a Mary

Wilkins house and in placing one of her muted dramas in it. One cannot know the people of such places without recognizing her types in them, and one cannot know New England without owing the fidelity of her stories to New England character, though, as I have already suggested, quite another sort of stories could be written which should as faithfully represent other phases of New England village life."

Marie Corelli's next romance has already been christened as "The Sins of Christ." This is, indeed, an even more striking title than "The Sorrows of Satan," but it recalls Le Gallienne's recent title, "If I Were God."—Phila. Record.

WANTED AT THE CROSS ROADS. I was in a hurry to get home. No wonder, for it was the wildest night I had ever known in all my life, and the country road over which I took my way as bad and as dark as country roads in general. Consequently, I was walking at a great rate, over the collar of a rough coat over my ears, and a comforter tied over my soft hat, and under my chin, to keep it on, and to protect my ears, when, suddenly, a man stood full in my path, and caught me by the arm.

"Hullo!" said he. "You are just in time; you are wanted at the Cross Roads to-night!" I fancied myself attacked by a highwayman. I stood quite still, and strove to show him by my manner that I was able to protect myself.

"What the deuce am I wanted at the Cross Roads for?" said I. "Unless I choose, it would be hard to get me there."

But, instead of producing a pistol and demanding my money or my life, the man answered in an altered tone: "Beg pardon. I made a mistake. I thought it was my brother, and wanted to frighten him. Bad night, sir!"

"Very!" said I. "You don't know the time?" he asked. "It was seven when I left the train at D—," I said. "Thank ye," said the man. "Good night."

If his object had been robbery, probably he had decided, from my rough mufflers, that I was too poor a man to be worth the trouble.

"But, after all," I said, "probably he spoke the truth. A man may have such a voice without being a highwayman, no doubt?"

"So I went on homeward, and soon found myself under shelter, and partaking of a warm and savory supper.

My mother was there, and my brother Ben. Ben was a great strapping fellow, who could beat any other youth of his age for miles around, if it came to wrestling or boxing, and as good-humored a boy as ever lived.

"When supper was over, and we had chatted for an hour, we went up stairs together, we shared one room.

The moment Ben's head touched the pillow, he always went to sleep. That night I followed his example. But I did not sleep long without a dream—a dream in which I felt a rough grip on my arm, and was roused by a rough voice crying in my ear: "Wake up! You're wanted at the Cross Roads."

It was real—so palpable, that when I started, broad awake, I actually believed that some one was in the room; the man who had met me on the road, perhaps, and who intended robbery or violence. But when I had arisen, and lit a lamp, the room was empty, except myself, and Ben, lying snoring on his pillow.

I went to the door; it was locked. I went to the window; the rush of rain against the panes was all I heard.

Only a dream born of my meeting with the strange man upon the road, I felt sure, had awakened me. I went to bed and fell asleep again. Again I was awakened by the same words; this time shrieked in my ear by an unearthly voice. "Wake up, wake up, wake up. You are wanted at the Cross Roads."

I was on my feet once more, and caught Ben's hand as he came toward my bed.

"What ails you?" he cried. "Nothing," said I. "Did you hear a voice?"

"Yours," said Ben, "yelling 'wake up! You fairly frightened me.'" "Ben," said I, "wait until I light

the lamp. I heard another voice. There must be some one in the house or outside."

So I lit the lamp and we searched in vain.

"Nightmare," said Ben, when I told my story.

"Ben," said I, "what is there at the Cross Roads?"

"A house," said Ben. He had lived in the neighborhood a long while, and I not long.

"One little house, besides two oak trees and a fence. An old man lives there; a rich old fellow, and a bit of a miser, they say. His granddaughter keeps house for him."

"Ben," said I, "that fellow may have meant harm to me. I may be wanted at the Cross Roads."

"Neither," said Ben, "go to sleep. You had a nightmare," and Ben plunged in between the blankets and was soon snoring again.

I also in ten minutes slept as soundly as before, but the awakening came again.

I opened my eyes to see a girl standing at the foot of my bed. A girl in white robes, with golden hair all about her shoulders, who wrung her hands and cried:

"Oh, wake up, wake up; you are wanted at the Cross Roads!"

This time I started out of bed, bathed in cold perspiration. I trembled like a leaf. I had no doubt that I had received supernatural warning.

"Ben," I cried, "Ben, for the third time I have been told that I am wanted at the Cross Roads, and I am going."

And I began to dress myself as speedily as possible, listening the while to the storm.

Ben remonstrated with me in vain. At last he began to huddle on his clothes.

"If you have gone mad I must go with you and take care of you," he said. "But fancy another man going in a storm like this to the Cross Roads, because a nightmare advised him to do so, and what would you think of him?"

In ten minutes we were splashing through mud and rain along the road. It was perfectly dark; now and then a biased red star in the distance told us that a lamp was gleaming through the rain in some cottage window; but otherwise we would not have been conscious of our proximity to any habitation whatever. At last, nearing the spot where the road from S— crossed the road to P—, we were indeed in as solitary a place as could be well imagined.

The house, which abutted on the very angle of the roads, called in familiar parlance, the Cross Roads, was the only one for some distance in either direction, and certainly on such a night we were not likely to meet with many travelers.

All was silent as the grave. We stood quite still. In a moment more Ben broke out in one of his merriest laughs.

"Well," he said, "how now? Will you go home and have another nightmare?"

But hardly had the words escaped his lips when a shriek broke on the air, and a woman's voice plainly coming from the interior of the cottage cried:

"Help! help! help!"

"Ben," said I, "we are wanted at the Cross Roads;" then understanding each other, without more words we made our way to a window, through which a light shone. A muslin curtain draped the panes, but through it we saw an awful sight.

An old man lay upon the floor, and over him bent a ruffian clutching his throat, and holding a pistol to his ear; while another man grasped a shrieking girl by the arm—a girl in a floating night dress, with such long, golden hair as belonged to the woman in my vision.

Not a moment was to be wasted. Ben flung his weight against the slender lattice and crushed it in, and we had grappled with the ruffians before they knew whence the attack came, or how many foes were upon them.

I do not intend to describe the struggle; indeed, I could not if I would. But we were both strong men, and inspired by the cries of the helpless old man and the terrified girl, soon had one of the villains bound and the other lying hors de combat.

Then Ben started for assistance, and before morning both were confined in jail. Ben admitting, as we were "wanted at the Cross Roads."

The old man was not a miser, but had saved some few thousands for his old age, and, living more plainly than he need have done, had given rise to the rumor, and so brought the burglars to the Cross Roads, in the hope of booty.

The girl, a beautiful creature of seventeen, was his granddaughter; and, as no story is acceptable to the lady ready without a flavor of romance, I will tell you then she became, in after years, not my wife, as the vision seems to indicate, but the wife of my brother Ben.

WHERE DID THE INDIAN COME FROM? Though similarity in religious rites and ceremonies, relics of civilization, and numerous traditions would seem to indicate relationship with Asiatic peoples, still there are features in Indian physiognomy and physiological structure, as well as mental and moral characteristics, that essentially distinguish him from every other race.

The fact that in their physical character, in color, form and features, the aborigines throughout the whole continent present remarkable uniformity seems to be sufficient evidence that they had never intermingled with other varieties of the human family. Some, indeed, think the Indian but a mixture of Polynesian, Mongolian and Caucasian types, or possibly the grafting of other races upon an original American race.

Bancroft, in his "History of the United States" (volume 2), expresses his opinion on the Indian. He discovers a striking resemblance between the Mongolian of Asia and the native of North America, yet he says: "Nothing is so indelible as speech. Sounds that in ages of unknown antiquity were spoken among the natives of Hindustan still live with unchanged meaning in the language which we daily utter. The winged word cleaves its way through time, as well as through space. If the Chinese came to civilization and came so recently, the shreds of their civilization would be still clinging to their words."

So we conclude that if the aborigines did really emigrate from the east, and if there ever existed any vital connection between them and the people of Asia, it was certainly in the far distant past, into which neither the memory, tradition nor history of man can penetrate.—Spain's Power 300 Years Ago.

Macauley drew this picture of the power of Spain 300 years ago. The empire of Philip the Second was undoubtedly one of the most powerful and splendid that ever existed in the world. It is no exaggeration to say that during several years his power over Europe was greater than even that of Napoleon. In America his dominions extended on both sides of the equator into the temperate zone. There is reason to believe that his annual revenues amounted, in the season of his greatest power, to a sum ten times as large as that which England yielded to Elizabeth. He had a standing army of 50,000 troops, when England did not have a single battalion in constant pay. He held, what no other prince in modern times has held, the dominion both of the land and the sea. During the greater part of his reign he was supreme on both elements. His soldiers marched up to the Capital of France; his ships menaced the shores of England. Spain had what Napoleon desired in vain—ships, colonies and commerce. She long monopolized the trade of America and of the Indian Ocean. All the gold of the West and all the spices of the East were received and distributed by her. Even after the defeat of the Armada, English statesmen continued to look with great dread on the maritime power of Philip. * * * Whoever wishes to be well acquainted with the morbid anatomy of governments, whoever wishes to know how great States may be made feeble and wretched, should study the history of Spain.

CLEAN PARIS KITCHENS. What becomes of the ashes and garbage in Paris was a question raised and partially answered by Clarence Cook in an address delivered at the regular meeting of the League for Political Education on "Little Housekeeping in Paris."

The Paris which Mr. Cook talked about was that of some 25 years ago, when the differences in domestic life in that city and this were much greater than at present. Since then New York has adopted the flat system in all its details, but there were still differences, chief among which was the handling of garbage and ashes. In the apartments which Mr. Cook occupied in Paris, and which he described as being delightfully situated, though "on the wrong side of the Seine," according to the ideas of a fashionable friend of his in the American colony, there were no ashes that he could see. The stove consisted of an iron top, with six circular holes in it. Whenever anything was to be cooked an iron basket of charcoal was put into one of these holes, and the food placed over it. When the charcoal was burned, what was left fell through the basket and disappeared.

In the way of food everything came to the apartment fully prepared for cooking. In a mutton chop there was nothing but meat and bone, and when the meat had been eaten the bone was deposited on the charcoal fire. Potatoes were brought already peeled, carrots without their green tops and all green vegetables without any of the superfluous outer leaves or husks or skins which would go to make up garbage. All of this cleaning and peeling was done at the markets, and the resulting material was saved in a clean container. Even coffee grounds, Mr. Cook said, were used after leaving the flat.

No one in Paris ever bought enough of anything to be left over, and no one was ashamed to ask the dealer for a single mutton chop or a small portion of any article of food. If there were any garbage or ashes in Paris, Mr. Cook said, no one ever saw either of them, which was certainly different from the experience of a New York woman he told of who after a year's residence in this city wrote to a friend that life in the metropolis meant the taking care of an ash barrel.

WOMEN PHYSICIANS. A curious feature of pagan and semi-civilized life that some evangelists have declared to be a special dispensation of Providence in the strict observance of customs which in the course of years necessitate introduction of methods of the most civilized nations. An extraordinary illustration of this fact is being made manifest in Southeastern Europe. In the Mohammedan countries, such as the Balkan States and Turkey, women are not allowed to see any men excepting husbands, fathers, brothers or sons, and even when sick cannot be seen by native physicians. In cases of illness the husband or a slave tells the symptoms to the medical practitioner, who gives the remedies and directions to the go-between. In the next country, Austro-Hungary, where a Christian civilization is supposed to obtain, the ideas of the last century are still largely in evidence. In Austria proper a woman cannot attend a college, study medicine or obtain a degree as physician. In Hungary, which is far more liberal and progressive, a different order prevails, and women attend college, become doctors and practice the same as in the United States. The new Balkan States, which no longer stagger beneath the weight of Turkish misrule, are advancing rapidly and now demand the services of Christian physicians. The old Mohammedan prejudice remains, however, resulting in a large demand for women physicians to attend the Mohammedan women of those States. Already several medical missionaries have taken advantage of this condition of affairs, and have each built up an extensive practice in the Balkan cities. In Bosnia, under the Austrian rule, the Austrian Government has been forced by public opinion to appoint a woman physician, Dr. Theodore Krayewski, to practice in one of the most populous districts. As the law stands, she has to be appointed as an army surgeon, with the rank, uniform, and pay of a captain. So by one stroke of the pen Austria has recognized the higher education of woman, her rights to follow a profession, and her capability to be a member of the army, an officer and to wear male attire.—N. Y. Mail and Express.

NEW PAPER PRODUCTS. It is now almost universally conceded that anything can be made out of paper and used to advantage excepting those articles that have to come directly in contact with fire. Among the various things made of paper, a German paper-maker has recently obtained letters patent on bottles made of this material. They are destined to be used on board of ships particularly. Steamer lines have suffered considerable damage by having large numbers of bottles of wine and other liquors broken in their state-rooms in spite of every precaution. The new bottles are made of a composition which is the inventor's secret. They are perfectly water-tight, and can be handled roughly without the

least danger. Neither the pitching nor rolling of a steamer, or the breaking down of a truck on which they are loaded, will be apt to damage one of them. Another new use for paper is the making of cupolas for buildings. From twenty-four to thirty separate pieces are formed over a wooden model by pasting numerous layers, one over the other, of suitable paper, and then putting them together in the shape of a round cupola. They are made weather proof by oiling, polishing with hot irons, asphaltum and varnishing. They are hard and durable, and are remarkable for their lightness.

LIFE AT VASSAR. WHERE THE GIRLS ARE SUPPOSED TO DO NOTHING BUT STUDY. "A great deal of studying is done at Vassar, doubtless. But a part of the daily program, which is never neglected in the least no matter what else suffers, is the table. The motto of the college girl who is not a 'dig' is 'Eat, drink and be merry, for to-morrow we work.' And there are no 'digs' at Vassar."

The Poughkeepsie student home on "furlough" paused and looked thoughtful for a moment.

"The sum total of table destruction during the year is appalling," she continued. "The Vassar farm comprises nearly 300 acres. The asparagus beds cover an acre of ground, and in the season yield from seventy-five to eighty-five bunches daily. Thousands of bunches of celery are devoured by ethereal freshman, sophomores, seniors and juniors every year; hundreds of bushels of tomatoes, onions and potatoes are required to enable physical forces to keep pace with mental progress, and quantities of milk, eggs and bread that would make the delicate young lady of the bonbon-eating period of thirty years ago faint with horror are yearly consumed by these voracious demsels who can read Latin and jump five-barred gates with equal facility. About fifty cows are owned by the college, and they supply the girls with about 100,000 quarts of milk annually. The Vassar girl is fond of an egg for her breakfast. That is about 100,000 eggs disappear every year.

"If there is one thing more than Latin and Greek and psychology and geometry and trigonometry that the Vassar girl likes it is pancakes. The quantity of pancakes consumed at the college is enormous. The griddle is ten feet long and three feet wide. The Vassar pancake has a turn and a brown that are peculiarly its own. In spite of the girls' fondness for cakes, however, only about 3,200 are consumed at breakfast."—Kansas City Journal.

LIFE IN THE DESERT. "In the Desert With the Bedouin" is the title of an article in The Century, written and illustrated by the English artist, R. Talbot Kelly. Mr. Kelly says in his article: Desert life induces habits of abstemiousness. Rising with the sun, a dish of curries, or mare's milk, and a small cup of black coffee are the only refreshments generally partaken of. The day is spent following one's pursuits, and, with the exception of an occasional cup of coffee and some very light "snack," one has no meal of any kind till after sundown. Salt is seldom seen—a distant privation—except on the first day of your visit, and drinking water is often scarce. After dinner a huge fire of corncocks or sticks and camel dung, is lighted in the tent, about which we gather and enjoy the after dinner cup of coffee and a smoke, and should we be in the mood, talk.

The Arabs have one excellent point of etiquette. Talk for talk's sake is not expected. Ever ready for a yarn, they eagerly respond should you wish to converse, but the luxury of silence is not denied if one's mood is thoughtful.

The idea of a fire in one's tent may strike some of my readers as a superfluity, but the nights are often intensely cold, and after bathing in the sun all day, with the thermometer at 95 to 100 degrees in the shade, the sudden fall of temperature to little above freezing point is very trying, and, in spite of fire, blankets and a thick ulster, I have frequently been obliged to go outside and run about to restore circulation to my frozen extremities.



The war news, elsewhere in this issue, if reliable, is very assuring. The information comes from indirect sources, though there is some reason to believe that it is substantially correct.

THE Republican State Convention is being held at Harrisburg today. Who'll be nominated for Governor? That's the question.

A GREAT flood on Little Elk Creek, Md., Friday, washed away five county bridges, two railroad bridges, and other property. Miles of fencing and outbuildings were carried away by the large volume of water.

WEDNESDAY of last week the President issued a proclamation calling for 75,000 more volunteers. This will make the total army strength, regulars and volunteers, 278,000—enough to fight the war with Spain in Cuba to a finish.

AND it has come to pass in these war times, in these days of excitement in the Republican party of Pennsylvania, that the leading anti-Quayites in Montgomery and Bucks have decided to withdraw their opposition to the nomination of Congressman Wanger.

FROM the Doylestown Intelligencer: "General Davis" name has been mentioned as a strong one for the Democratic Congressional nomination in the 17th District. Our neighbors might go much further and do much worse than to put forward the veteran soldier-editor. The present time is rather a favorable one for soldier strength and soldier interest to be manifested.

RUSSIA has ordered several warships of the Crumps and seventy-seven locomotives for its Trans-Siberian Railway of the Baldwin Locomotive Works. What a compliment to American skill, what a source of benefit to American employers and employes! This purchase is also in evidence as indicating that Russia is becoming one of the progressive nations of the earth.

THE women of Coffeyville, Kan., made up a package of useful articles for each member of the local company of volunteers, and sent the whole to the camp at San Francisco. A copy of the New Testament went with each package, and one of the recipients objected to the gift. He said he wanted the Old Testament, because there was so much more war in it, brave fellow!

INVESTIGATION by crop experts uniformly point to a big and probably a record breaking wheat production in this country during the present season. The only section from which unfavorable reports have been received is in California, where on a considerable percentage of the seeded area the crop will be a failure, owing to the protracted drought. The decrease in the California yield, however, promises to be in great part made good by gains in Washington and Oregon which will probably bring the Pacific coast production very close to that of last year.

FROM Dun's Review, May 28:—The nation faces war with reviving volume of business. The West is eating its part and more, but at the East also the volume of business is now expanding. Without abatement in any important line, the great outgo of wheat and corn continues to stimulate business at the West, and railroad earnings show an increase over last year of 15.1 per cent, in trunk lines 8.8 per cent, in Granger roads 22.5 per cent, and in other western roads 14.6 per cent, while eastbound shipments from Chicago in three weeks have been 388,808 tons, against 150,812 last year, and 164,923 tons in 1897. This is largely because of the enormous movement of bread-stuffs. Atlantic exports of wheat, flour included, have been 3,726,442 bushels for the week, against 1,536,607 last year.

WASHINGTON LETTER. From our Regular Correspondent. WASHINGTON, D. C., May 27, 1898.—That Spanish fleet dodged once to often when it dodged into the harbor at Santiago, Cuba. It found getting into that harbor easy enough, but the ships composing the fleet will never get out again,

WAR NEWS IN BRIEF:

COMMODORE SCHLEY ATTACKS SANTIAGO—THE PORTS IN THE HARBOR SILENCED—THE SPANISH FLEET DRIVEN BACK AND THE SPANISH SHIP, OQUENDO, DESTROYED.

MOLE ST. NICHOLAS, May 31.—The American squadron, under Commodore Schley, and the Spanish squadron, under Admiral Cervera, are engaged in battle in the harbor of Santiago. This fact was made known here through the agency of private dispatches from Santiago by way of Cape Haytien, the only cable communication out of Santiago being with Cape Haytien.

According to these dispatches the American fleet began bombarding Morro Castle at sunrise this morning. The batteries of La Zapota responded to the fire of the Americans, and lively cannonading ensued. After about three hundred shots had been exchanged another factor entered into the combat. Admiral Cervera, knowing that if the batteries at the mouth of the harbor should be silenced the American vessels would enter the harbor, went to the aid of the forts.

The cannonading was terrific. Small fires were seen to start up on board two of the American vessels, but they were evidently soon extinguished, for the vessels continued in action. A later dispatch stated that the Oquendo was burning and that her crew had abandoned her. All the dispatches seem to indicate that up to 7 o'clock to-night the American squadron had the better of the engagement. The cannonading still continued, however, at a lively rate, and the outcome of the engagement can only be conjectured.

Advices just received from Havana say that since 2 o'clock this afternoon the American fleet at Santiago de Cuba has been cannonading the batteries of Morro Castle, La Zepca and Punta Carda.

At the same time, it is added, the American ships have been engaged with the Spanish warships. The firing was extremely heavy.

At 3.45 p. m. the cannonading became less heavy against the fortifications, but was more accentuated in the locality where the fleets were engaged.

unless they are brought out under the American flag. That harbor is shaped like a very large bottle with a very small mouth. Our warships are outside that mouth and will not have the slightest trouble in destroying the Spanish ships as fast as they attempt to come out. It is possible that our ships may decide to go in after them, but it is not at all necessary that they should, as a comparatively small force can keep them where they are until they are starved out, and may be considered good policy to follow the latter course and use our feet for work elsewhere, that promises better results with less risk to our men and ships. The long and narrow channel to Santiago harbor is known to be heavily mined and for our ships to go in there would be extremely hazardous. The same results can be obtained by keeping the Spanish fleet shut up there; therefore, it is more probable that the latter plan will be followed.

The government still maintains secrecy in regard to all intended movements, but the events of the week speak for themselves and require no official explanation. Gen. Miles, with his staff, is preparing to go to Florida to take personal command of the army, and the President has issued a call for 75,000 additional volunteers. This means business, and immediate business, and there are good reasons for saying that the army is going to move upon Porto Rico as well as upon Cuba. It has been the opinion of some of the President's ablest advisers from the first that Porto Rico should be captured before the general invasion of Cuba was put into effect. Both are now to be done in short order.

Nothing could more strongly emphasize the scarcity of bread-stuff in Europe than the action of the French government in temporarily removing the duty on wheat—\$1.35 for 220.46 pounds—carried into that country. As a special inducement to hurry shipments notice is given that the usual tariff will be collected on and after July 1, by France. Some persons are disposed to regard this move as a step in preparing for war, but at the French Embassy, in Washington, it is stated to be merely an attempt on the part of the government to increase the stock of wheat, hoping thus to decrease the cost of living in France.

The only reply that General Miles has made to the numerous publications alleging him to be trying to get the invasion of Cuba put off until fall was to say: "The United States will in due time bring Cuba under its control, by judicious methods and without useless waste of life. The United States is too great, too strong, and too powerful to commit any foolish act in connection with the invasion. As for myself, I have only to say that no officer is fit to command the troops who, for any motive whatever, would needlessly risk the life of a single soldier, either from disease or the bullets of the enemy. I have never sacrificed the lives of men under my command, and I do not propose to subject them to any unnecessary risks in the present campaign."

There was no pretence of competition in the bids submitted by the Carnegie Company and the Bethlehem Steel Company, for making the armor for the battleships Alabama, Illinois and Wisconsin, now under construction. The bids were for the full limit authorized by Congress to be paid—\$400 a ton. The Carnegie Company bid for the armor of the Wisconsin; the Bethlehem Company put in an exact du-

uplicate for the armor of the Alabama, and they put in bids for equal portions of the armor of the Illinois. The bids of both stipulate that delivery shall begin next December and be completed within one year. That will make it well into 1900 before the ships can be finished.

That Congressional legislation is a complicated machine composed of wheels within wheels, all of which must work in unison to bring success, is very well known to those who have had experience. It was not, therefore, so surprising as outsiders might suppose when it was learned that the joint resolution for the annexation of Hawaii, which the House would gladly adopt by a vote upon it, was somewhat tangled up with the War Revenue bill, which is still before the Senate. Speaker Reed, whose vote in the Committee on Rules would get the resolution before the House by means of a special rule, although personally opposed to annexation, when he was informed by leading Senators that it might endanger the War Revenue bill for the House to adopt the annexation resolution. Consequently the present understanding is that nothing will be done about the resolution until the Senate has passed the War Revenue bill.

OUR MINERAL WEALTH.

From the Philadelphia Times. What is the most important and most valuable of the products of the mines of this or any country? Is it gold? By no means. It is coal. Coal is the essential force of industry and commerce; as well as of naval warfare, and no other one thing measures a nation's wealth-producing capacity so well as its production of coal.

This is one of the foundations of the wealth and power of Great Britain, which has long been the foremost coal-producing country of the world. The second is the United States, and last year our coal production came so close to that of Great Britain that it is reasonably sure to soon surpass it. The latter has averaged, for several years, about 218,000,000 tons. The coal production of the United States in 1897 was over 200,000,000 tons.

This was an increase of about twelve millions over 1896, though the gain in value was but \$6,250,000, the average value of bituminous coal at the mines being only 31 cents a ton. Next to coal comes iron, our production last year being 2,052,680 tons of pig iron valued at \$92,677,812. After these two great staples of industry, and at a considerable distance, comes gold, of which the United States produced \$59,210,795 in 1897, or six and a half millions more than the previous year.

Close to gold in the total value is copper, of which we produced 510,000,000 pounds, or sixty per cent of the whole copper supply of the world. Petroleum also is reckoned among our mineral products, the year's output having a value of \$44,804,962, and sixth in order is silver, of which 56,457,292 ounces were produced, or about two million ounces less than the previous year, with a commercial value of \$33,555,815. There was a considerable increase in the lead product, which was valued at \$11,784,093, and the official compilation includes also \$30,000,000 worth of building stone and \$60,000,000 of clay products.

The total value of the mineral and metal production of the United States in 1897 is calculated at \$678,966,644, of which \$264,538,485 represents the metals and the balance the non-metallic substances. This total is more than twice that of the United Kingdom for the same year, which was about \$340,000,000, chiefly in coal and iron, and more than that of all the other European countries combined. When we consider the important part that coal has already been

shown to play in naval warfare, and compare the two hundred million tons produced in the United States with Spain's annual product of less than four million tons, we have an index of relative strength more significant than population or area. The coal production of the United States is equal to that of Germany, Austria-Hungary, France and Russia all together, and it would be a discredit to us if we failed to make good use of such advantages.

2000 MEN MADE HAPPY.

READING, May 28.—Two thousand men and many families in the Schuylkill Valley were made happy to-day by notices posted in all the car repair shops of the Philadelphia and Reading Railway Company that, beginning Wednesday, June 1, the men will work ten and one-fourth hours a day, except on Saturday, when they will work eight and three-fourth hours, making sixty hours for the week.

For some time they have been making but forty-two hours a week. There are many cars to be repaired, and it is thought that the employees will have steady work for some time to come. The order affects several thousand men in Reading, Schuylkill Haven, Tamaqua, Catawissa and other points on the Reading system.

AN APPRECIATIVE WIFE.

HOW ONE MAN FOUND HER TO BE HIS BEST FRIEND. From the Cleveland Leader.

Wimbledon had been enjoying himself at the club, and was in a talkative and confidential mood. "I tell you," he said to the boys, who helped him fill up the front end of a car, "my man's wife is his best friend after all."

Somebody nodded encouragingly, after a brief pause, and Wimbledon continued: "Boys, you can say what you please about marriage being a failure, but sometimes a wife's a good thing."

Several of his companions thought that was the place to begin, and did so, but Wimbledon had not finished. He looked hard at an advertisement for somebody's leather dressing, and then went on: "As I said before, a wife's a good thing. Did any of you fellows ever hear me say that I was dyin' to go to war?"

They unanimously admitted that they never had. "That's what I thought," said Wimbledon. "That's why I say a wife's a good thing."

Here the humor of what he had in mind overpowered him and he laughed—laughed until his face took on a purple hue and symptoms of apoplexy began to make themselves manifest. He slapped his own legs and the legs of his companions, who were within reaching distance, and swayed to and fro and roared. After while he became thoughtful again, and then proceeded to reveal the nature of his happiness. "The reason why I say a wife's a good thing," he exclaimed, "is this: Now, you boys know I never said I was dead anxious to go to war, but my wife's tellin' everybody she meets that she has to plead with me every day to keep me from enlisting, and that I'd go anyway, if it wasn't for our baby. And the joke of it is that the folks believe it, and think I'm a hero! Say, ain't it the best thing you ever heard of? That's why I claim a wife's a good thing."

Then he nearly died laughing again. "A CHAMPION SNEEZER. THIS KENTUCKY MAN COULD BREAK UP A CAMP MEETING. From the Louisville Post. "Did you ever know a man who could sneeze loud enough to break up a camp meeting, to stop the taking of testimony in court and cause a bellowing cow to stop in disgust and wonder who man's voice?" said an old fisherman last night. On being informed that his sneezer was entitled to cake and all the accessories necessary to conduct an up-to-date bakery, the gentleman consented to tell more of his sneezing friend. He said: "While fishing in a mountain town in Eastern Kentucky last fall I went to the village near by one rainy morning to attend Circuit Court. The judge was delivering an impressive charge to the grand jury, and every ear was listening to

catch each word, when the stillness of the court was broken by an unearthly ker-chew, ker-chew, ker-chew, etc., etc. The judge was thunderstruck, and instantly every eye was turned toward the rear of the room, where a little, obtrusive-looking old farmer sat sneezing as if his head were coming off. The judge ordered the Sheriff to bring the intruder before the bench. The offender came forward, and the judge had a fine entered against the innocent cause of the disturbance. "Two of the sneezer's friends were called, who testified to the man's good character and high standing, but said they could hear him sneeze three miles any day in the year. One said that the sneezer once broke up a camp meeting with a sneezing spell and that he saw an enraged bovine stop a thunderous bellowing fit to look at and wonder at the human who could make more noise than a mad bull. But the old fellow couldn't help it, and the fine was remitted."

Graduating Presents!

Commencement only comes once a year, and now is the time to commence to prepare for it.

The industry and scholarly attainments of graduates should be recognized by suitable gifts. We are ready to show you the finest display of watches, rings, and sterling silver novelties ever seen in Norristown; suitable presents for the graduates.

Gold filled cases, Elgin movements, \$8.00 to \$15.00. 14 K. solid gold cases, "heavy," Elgin movements, \$16.00. Solid gold rings, \$1.00 to \$100.00. Sterling silver novelties, 25c. apiece.

J. D. SALLADE, JEWELER AND OPTICIAN, 16 East Main St., NORRISTOWN, PA.

WE HAVE PLACED On display in the Cloak Room what we consider the

GRANDEST ARRAY OF SHIRT WAISTS Ever Shown in This Town.

Shirt Waists with detachable collars are there in profusion. Every article of the latest style and with-out blouse effects. The materials are chitz, percales, and ginghams.

There will be some in this lot certain to capture your fancy. As big as the stock is, it won't last long for catchy designs and prices ranging from 31 cents, unite to make these quick sales.

MORGAN WRIGHT: Keystone Dry Goods Store, Main St., Opposite Public Square, NORRISTOWN, PA.

THE ALBERTSON Trust and Safe Deposit Co. NORRISTOWN, PA.

This Company Executes Trusts and becomes surety for persons acting as Administrators, Trustees, Guardians, etc. Allows 3 Per Cent. Interest on Deposits. Subject to check, ten days notice, or Certificate of Deposit.

Loans made upon Approved Security. Real Estate or Collaterals. Trust Department for the Acceptance of Trusts under any will or instrument creating a Trust, and the care and management of property and estates. Absolutely Burglar Proof and Fire Proof Safe Deposit Vault.

We cheerfully furnish information as to our methods of business. Business and Correspondence Invited. GEO. W. ROGERS, President. SAM'L E. NYCE, Vice Pres., Trust Officer. CLEMENT J. CRAFT, Sec. and Treas.

W. P. Fenton —Has the Agency for— PRATTS POULTRY FOOD

25 and 50 Cent Packages. Horse and Cattle Food. 6c. a lb. in 42 1/2 Pound Bags.

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. Very large stock of Oil Cloths, 2 yds. wide, 60, 60 and 75 cents a yard. Remnants of Oil Cloth and Linoleum, yd. wide, 30, 35 and 35c. a yd.

Remnants of extra heavy Canton Flannel, 3c. a yd., worth 12c. Extra quality Quilting Cotton, 10 and 12 1/2c. lb. Remnants of Calico, 3, 4, and 5c. a yd.

Very nice brooms, 2 for 25c. Two Hoop Buckets, 2 for 50c. Full line of Freed's Shoes and Boots for \$1, \$1.25 and \$1.50.

Sellers' Hand Knit Jackets, \$2.50 & \$3.00, other styles for \$1.35. All kinds of Horse Blankets, 75c to \$3.00.

The Very Finest Groceries, —Syrups 20, 30, 50 and 40c. a gallon. Best Rice, 4c. lb. for 25c. Granulated Sugar, 5 1/2c. N. O. Gran. Sugar, 5c. Two nice Fat Mackerel for 25c. Ginger Snaps, 5c. Cornmeal, Buckwheat Flour.

Fresh Cement always on hand. The best Tar Rope, 50c. lb. Car-load Salt just in. Other styles for \$1.35.

W. P. FENTON, COLLEGEVILLE, PA.

Brendlinger's BARGAIN SALE

LADIES' Muslin Underwear

How Is It Possible?

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 free gift at the price. Plain but good garments of LADIES' SKIRTS CHILD'S UNDERWEAR 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, 20 and 82 Main Street, 813 and 215 DeKalb Street.

Refrigerators — AND — Ice Chests — AT — ELSTON'S

Some of the bargains from Sheriff's sale left yet. They are 40 per cent. under price, cork lined and the best goods offered to-day. There is a limited number, so come and get a bargain. The price starts at \$5.50 for the \$7.50 kind.

WINDOW SCREENS for 10c. They keep out the flies and are worth 25c. SCREEN DOORS, all ready to hang, large assortment.

LAWN MOWERS, some few of the guaranteed goods for \$2.50 left. Do you need one? BLUE FLAME OIL COOK STOVES for \$5.25, regular price \$6.50.

CARPETS and MATTINGS. Why do we sell so many? Because cheaper than any other store in town.

WALL PAPER and PAPER HANGINGS are on hand here. Lowest prices and largest assortment.

H. E. ELSTON'S, Hardware, Carpets, Oil Cloths, Toys, Etc., 58 E. Main St., Norristown, Pa.

W. P. Fenton —Has the Agency for— PRATTS POULTRY FOOD

25 and 50 Cent Packages. Horse and Cattle Food. 6c. a lb. in 42 1/2 Pound Bags.

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. Very large stock of Oil Cloths, 2 yds. wide, 60, 60 and 75 cents a yard. Remnants of Oil Cloth and Linoleum, yd. wide, 30, 35 and 35c. a yd.

Remnants of extra heavy Canton Flannel, 3c. a yd., worth 12c. Extra quality Quilting Cotton, 10 and 12 1/2c. lb. Remnants of Calico, 3, 4, and 5c. a yd.

Very nice brooms, 2 for 25c. Two Hoop Buckets, 2 for 50c. Full line of Freed's Shoes and Boots for \$1, \$1.25 and \$1.50.

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The Very Finest Groceries, —Syrups 20, 30, 50 and 40c. a gallon. Best Rice, 4c. lb. for 25c. Granulated Sugar, 5 1/2c. N. O. Gran. Sugar, 5c. Two nice Fat Mackerel for 25c. Ginger Snaps, 5c. Cornmeal, Buckwheat Flour.

Fresh Cement always on hand. The best Tar Rope, 50c. lb. Car-load Salt just in. Other styles for \$1.35.

W. P. FENTON, COLLEGEVILLE, PA.

Brendlinger's ANTI-GAP MIXTURE For Preventative and Cure

For Gaps in Poultry, 25c. Per Bottle.

SURE CORN CURE, 10 CENTS PER BOTTLE.

SOLD AT Culbert's Drug Store, COLLEGEVILLE, PA.

MONEY GETS ITS FULL VALUE AT THE Old Reliable Clothing Store.

We are no Calamity Howlers or Fakers. We do our Business strictly upon Merit. OUR \$5.00 SUITS are made from beautifully finished Cashmeres, guaranteed to give extraordinary wear. Of course we have better, \$6, \$7, \$10, and up to \$15, and all the prices between them. Fabric and styles up to date. If you know what good clothes are, look around—come to us first, or go around first, it's immaterial; we know our superior values and low prices will lead you to our store. Furthermore, our well-earned reputation goes with every garment we sell. Mothers will find a good assortment for Big and Little Boys. Prices for Suits from \$3 to \$10. And we do not forget the LITTLE FOLKS. Nobby Vestee Suits are the rage from 3 to 8 years of age. Come and look at them before you buy.

Our Made-to-Measure Department comprises all the latest novelties of the season. Suits and Trowers made up at short notice at moderate prices and fit guaranteed.

HERMAN WETZEL, MERCHANT TAILOR AND CLOTHIER, 66 and 68 Main St., Norristown, Opp. Post Office.

Take a Look and see if our hats are not pictures of correctness. We are in the glass. Facts can't be doubted and our statements are based on facts. We watch the market just as Admiral Sampson and Commodore Schley keep their eyes on the Spaniards and nothing wrong looking at escapes our attention. Our Pearl Soft Hat with Navy Blue Band at \$2.00 and Little Boys. Prices for Suits from \$3 to \$10. And we do not forget the LITTLE FOLKS. Nobby Vestee Suits are the rage from 3 to 8 years of age. Come and look at them before you buy.

TRACEY, THE HATTER, 236 High St., Pottstown. 38 Main St., Norristown.

The Norristown Title, Trust and Safe Deposit Co.—Capital: \$250,000 Main and DeKalb Sts., Norristown, Pa.

JOHN W. LOCH, Pres't. F. G. HOBSON, Treasurer and Trust Officer.

PAYS 4 PER CENT. Interest on Time Deposits. PAYS 3 PER CENT. Interest on Active Accounts. Acts as Executor, Trustee, Guardian, Assignee, Committee, Receiver, Agent, and in all trust capacities. Becomes Surety for those acting in fiduciary relations. Insures Title to Real Estate and mortgages. Insures certified general searches. Bonds. Boxes in burglar proof vaults. Send for book with full explanations.

BEECHERS Cater to the Retail Trade and do it right because we've had the Experience.

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, POTTSWOWN.

IT COSTS NOTHING TO HAVE YOUR EYES EXAMINED. By W. H. PODESTA & Co., Optical Specialists, 103 NORTH NINTH ST. ABOVE ARCH, PHILA., PA.

They have had over fifteen years experience in eye examinations. If you consult with Eye-Strain, which may be readily relieved, if you consult their Specialist and have your eyes examined by him FREE. He will correctly advise you without cost, whether your glasses will give you relief, or if the prices quoted are not equalled for Solid Gold Spectacles \$2.00; elsewhere \$5.00 (the same grade of goods.) Steel Spectacles 50c.; elsewhere \$1.00

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.

BARGAINS — IN — SPRING COMFORT FOR The Feet!

Light weight SHOES permit of better foot comfort. Our SPRING STYLE made from VICI KID are much in demand For both MEN and WOMEN in Russet and Black.

Men's Makay Sewed, \$2.00. Men's Hand Sewed, \$2.50, \$3.00. Women's Very Flexible Shoes and Bright Kid, 6 Styles, at \$2.00. Vesting Top at \$1.50 and \$2.00.

A great variety of Oxford Ties. H. L. NYCE, NORRISTOWN, PA.

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

N. H. Benjamin & Co. 207 Bridge Street, Phoenixville, Pa.

GET YOUR Posters Printed at the Independent Office.

NOTICE.—John H. Burtman is authorized to collect amounts due the "Independent" for subscription, advertising, etc., and to receive the names of new subscribers.

HOME AND ABROAD.

—After a season —Of floods, —Of clouds and dreary weather, —Old Sol is doing business in the usual way at the old stand, —After a slightly interrupted vacation of twenty-six days!

—The new office at Landers' Brothers' flour mills, Yerkes, is both attractive and convenient. It is finished in hard wood, and is an improvement worthy of special mention.

—Winfred, the ten-year-old son of Mr. and Mrs. J. C. Landers, of this borough, is seriously ill with typhoid fever. At this writing his condition is somewhat improved.

—Strawberry and ice cream festival at the M. E. Church, Evansburg, next Saturday afternoon and evening, June 4.

—The bi-centennial celebration of the settlement of Gwynedd township, at the Friends' Meeting House, Tuesday, was a very largely attended affair. Ellwood Roberts, of the Norristown Herald, read an original poem.

—Landers Bros., Yerkes, are paying from 95 cents to \$1.05 per bushel for wheat, this week.

—The Home News, of Bryn Mawr, entered upon its twenty-second year last week. Continued success to the News.

—The Sellersville Herald issued an attractive double-sheet Memorial number last week.

—The chairman in charge of the coming Firemen's Festival, June 11, requests a meeting of all the members of the committee in the hall next Monday evening.

—L. H. Ingram, auctioneer, sold at public sale for D. L. Swartz, at Perkiomen Bridge last Thursday, 20 fresh cows in 55 minutes.

—Boards and shingles were torn by lightning from the lower sheds of the Lower Providence Presbyterian Church last week.

—G. F. Clamer has opened a general hardware store in one of Burgess Clamer's store rooms on Main street. See ad ver. next week.

—Notice is given in the INDEPENDENT this week of the times and places when County Treasurer Godshall will meet taxpayers to receive their State and county taxes.

—Benjamin Swartley, a prominent farmer of Limerick township, died Thursday, aged 56 years.

—District Attorney Strassburger has started a vigorous crusade against speak easies in the vicinity of Norristown.

—Nineteen properties were sold by Sheriff Johnson, at Norristown, Wednesday last week.

—The Bethlehem Iron Company has made and shipped to Watervliet Arsenal the largest forging ever turned out in America. It is the first one of the 16-inch group ordered for Sandy Hook. The bare cost of forging is over \$70,000.

—"Yes, love, I really must go." "But you don't have to go. Lots of men will stay at home. That very handsome Mr. Masher, who lives just opposite, told me he was not going."

—He isn't eh? Well, then, by George! I'll stay home, too!" —Cleveland Plain Dealer.

RELIGIOUS.

Evansburg M. E. church, Rev. J. S. Tomlinson, pastor. Sunday school at 9:30 a. m. Preaching, Sunday, at 10:30 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 is extended to all to attend these services.

Episcopal service at St. James', Evansburg, every Sunday at 10:30 a. m., Sunday school, 2 p. m. Also a service at Boyersford at 8 p. m. Rev. A. J. Barrow, rector.

On and after the first Sunday in June divine service will be held at Union Church, Wetherill Corner, near Shannonville, in the morning at 10:30. Service throughout the year in the afternoon at St. Paul's Memorial, near Oaks, at 3:30. Benj. J. Douglass, rector.

Trappe United Evangelical church. Services on Sunday at 2:30 p. m. Sunday school at 1:30 p. m. The temperance rally will be held on Thursday evening, June 2, at 7:45 o'clock.

Ironbridge: Preaching next Sabbath evening at 7:45; Sabbath School at 2 o'clock p. m.; Christian Endeavor 7 p. m. All are invited to these services.

Trinity church: Wednesday evening, prayer service, 8:00 o'clock. Sunday: Sunday School, at 8:45 o'clock a. m.; preaching, at 10 a. m. and 8 p. m.; J. C. E. prayer service, at 2 p. m., and the Y. P. S. C. E. prayer service at 7 o'clock. The pastor will conduct services in the Skippackville church, Sunday, at 2:30 p. m.

On account of meeting of Synod there will be no service at Augustus Lutheran church next Sunday.

St. Luke's Reformed Church, Trappe, Rev. S. L. Messenger, pastor. Preaching every Sunday, at 10 a. m. and 8 p. m. Sunday school at 8:45 a. m. Y. P. S. C. E. prayer-meeting on Sunday evening at 7 o'clock. Congregational prayer-meeting on Wednesday evening at 7:30. Junior C. E. prayer-meeting at 3 p. m., on Saturday. All are cordially invited to attend the services.

Goods Shipped to Camp Alger.

Last Friday a number of large boxes filled with provisions donated by citizens of Norristown were sent to Company F at Camp Alger, Va.

W. C. T. U.

The W. C. T. U., of Collegeville, will hold its regular monthly meeting at the home of Mrs. E. A. Krusen on Tuesday, June 7, at 2:30 p. m.

Will Deliver Addresses.

Rev. J. H. Hendricks, D. D., of this borough, and Judge A. S. Swartz, of Norristown, will deliver addresses at the sixth annual commencement of the Lower Salford public schools, next Saturday evening.

Ministerium Association.

The Reformed Ministerium Association will hold its next regular meeting in the Church of the Ascension, Norristown, the members of the Association in attendance will be the guests of Rev. D. U. Wolff, of Blue Bell.

New Cemetery Syndicate.

A syndicate composed of A. W. Geiger, George W. March, F. G. Hobson, Esq., A. H. March, E. G. Shoemaker, Mathias Marz, and B. Lawson, Jr., have purchased a large tract of land near Harrisburg, Pa., which they will lay out for a cemetery.

Instantly Killed.

A large wooden pulley broke Saturday in the chemical works at Ambler. It flew from the shaft and struck James Knapper, a colored workman, on the head, killing him instantly. Knapper was trying to adjust a belt when the fatal accident occurred.

A Success.

The entertainment given by the Crescent Literary Society in Menonite school house, near Yerkes, last Saturday evening, was a decided success. The program was of a most pleasing nature, and was well presented and heartily enjoyed. The total sum realized was about \$85.

A Bridge Wanted.

Residents of Lower Salford are aroused to the necessity of a bridge over Skippack creek at the point where Mrs. David G. Heebner and child lost their lives a couple of weeks ago. A petition is being circulated and universally signed in that vicinity, the same to be presented to the court asking for a county bridge.

Members of Benevolent Council. Visited a Pottstown Council.

Twenty-eight members of Benevolent Council, No. 25, Jr. O. U. A. M., of Evansburg, visited U. S. Grant Council, Pottstown, Tuesday evening, where they were well entertained. The visit proved to be a delightful one. The trip was made in Burgess Clamer's band wagon driven by five horses belonging to Messrs. John and Frank Fuhrman.

Historical Society Meeting. A regular meeting of the Montgomery County Historical Society was held at Norristown, Wednesday last week. A number of new members were elected and other business transacted. Hon. Henry K. Kratz was named to take charge of the arrangements for the Society's reunion at Collegeville in September, he to name those whom he wishes to assist in making the event a success.

A Pioneer Iron Maker Dead. John Wood, an old and prominent iron manufacturer, died at his residence in Conshohocken on Saturday, May 28, aged 82 years. He was probably the oldest iron maker in this section at the time of his death. The history of his life may be said to be almost contemporaneous with the history of iron manufacturing in Eastern Pennsylvania, from its infancy to the present time.

Found Dead in a Well. Mrs. Albert G. Rile, wife of a well known citizen of Whitpain township, residing near Franklinville, fell into a well in the cellar of her home on Friday, the approach to which is used for keeping meats, butter and other food. The only other occupant of the house at the time was a servant girl, who made investigation for nearly an hour. Mrs. Rile's absence not causing any alarm at first. When a search was instituted it resulted in the finding of Mrs. Rile's body in twelve feet of water, life being extinct.

Eleventh Annual Commencement. The eleventh annual commencement of the public schools of Perkiomen township, will be held in Union Chapel, Ironbridge, on Saturday evening, June 4. The exercises will be delivered by Elias W. Fagley; the valedictory by Bertha K. Yergler. The other graduates who will participate in the exercises are: Lizzie S. Koons, Manie M. Miller, Martha B. Grater, Ira Krug, G. Washington Gotschalk, Fred. E. Storm, Mattie Schwenk and Harvey W. Kline. Prof. Charles S. Kriebel will deliver an address.

Methacton Literary Society. A special meeting of the Methacton Literary Society, Lower Providence, will be held Friday evening, June 3. Program: Readings—Mary Sawyer, Harry Clark, Chester Kratz, L. R. Kramer. Recitations—John Kratz, Mary Fry, J. Howard Johnson, Mame Davis, Gazettee. Mr. Courson, Vocal duet—Misses Warren. Dialogue—"Grandma's Prophecy"—six scenes, eight characters. Debate—Resolved, "That an educational restriction, in addition to the present restrictions, should be imposed on foreign immigration to the United States." Affirm—H. D. Johnson, Joseph S. Kratz, C. A. Kratz, Neg.—Joseph C. Courson, Ralph L. Johnson, Mr. Longaker. National songs by the Society. All invited.

America's greatest medicine is Hood's Sarsaparilla, which cures when other preparations fail to do any good whatever.

Harness Stolen.

Thursday evening several sets of driving harness were stolen from the barn of William Taggart in Norristown township.

Criminal Court.

District Attorney Strassburger has sixty-nine criminal cases marked for trial at the June term of court. It is understood that Clemens' case will be called on Monday, June 13.

Music and Dancing.

There was music and dancing on the pavilion at Shepard's Perkiomen Bridge Hotel, Monday afternoon. A number of persons from abroad were present. The music was furnished by the Royersford orchestra.

Matrimony in Royersford.

John H. Kulp and Miss Nellie Mattis were married Wednesday evening of last week, at the residence of the bride in Royersford. The ceremony was performed by Rev. J. E. String, of Conshohocken.

Philadelphia Markets.

Winter bran, \$16.00@17.00; flour, \$4.50 to \$7.10; rye flour, \$4.00; wheat, \$1.20 to \$1.25; corn, 41¢; oats, 35¢; butter, 18 to 22¢; poultry, live, 8¢@9¢, dressed, 9¢@10¢; timothy hay, 60¢@62¢, mixed, 41¢@46¢; straw, 30¢@32¢; beef cattle @5¢; sheep, 3¢@4¢; lambs, 3¢@5¢; hogs, western, 5¢@6¢.

The Recent Rainy Season.

The recent rainy season doubtless puts May 1898 upon the list as a record breaker. Out of 26 days last month it rained 21, with three of the remaining six days cloudy and threatening, and only three clear. If there has been in past years a May equal to May '98 in abominable disagreeableness, will somebody tell us to what year such a May belongs; we'd like to know.

Festival on the Campus.

The strawberry and ice cream festival on the campus, under the direction of the ladies of Ursinus College, Monday evening, was an entirely successful enterprise. The attendance was good, the grounds were extensively illuminated with Japanese lanterns, and from 8 to about 10 o'clock the ladies did quite an amount of business. Good music was furnished by the Ursinus College Orchestra.

Commencement of the High School of the Borough of Collegeville.

The exercises of the first commencement of the High School of this borough, in Bomberger Memorial Hall, this (Thursday) evening at 8 o'clock, will doubtless prove to be of quite an entertaining character. The program will be as follows: Invocation, Rev. J. H. Hendricks, D. D.; Music, Greeting Song, Class of '98; Salutatory, "There is Room at the Top," Ella May Riegner; Music, Duett, Lizzie Lachman, Freddie Riegner; Class Oration, "The Men of the 19th Century," Ralph E. Wismer; Music, Song, Junior Class; Class Poem, Anna Wismer; Mantle Oration, "Application and Success," Stella Elizabeth Faringer; Response, Sue Moser; Music, Class Song, Class of '98; Farewell Address to the Graduates, Mary Wismer; Music, Song, Intermediate Class (under the direction of J. H. Burtman); Prophecy, "The Story of the Roses," Matilda Eva Gristock; Valedictory, "Moral Wisdom," Stella Gristock; Bolton; Music, Parting Ode, Class of '98; Presentation of Diplomas, F. G. Hobson, Esq., President of Board of Directors; Address, Rev. A. W. Lamar, D. D.; Benediction, Rev. H. T. Spangler, D. D.

PERSONAL. Miss Emma Fry, of Philadelphia, visited friends in this borough and Trappe last week.

H. H. Markley, of Philadelphia, visited his parents, Mr. and Mrs. B. Markley, this borough, Sunday.

A. D. Fetterolf, Esq., is at Harrisburg, and will take considerable interest in the Republican State Convention to-day.

Our townsman, F. G. Hobson, Esq., is in demand as an orator at commencements and at flag raisings. He is on the program for an address at the commencement of the public schools of Towamencin, in the hall at Kulpsville, next Saturday evening.

H. Steinruck, of Manayunk, visited W. M. Godshall and family, this borough, Sunday.

Mrs. E. Crater, of Parkersford, Chester county, visited Mrs. and Miss Grubb, this borough, Sunday.

Mrs. Walter A. King, nee Miss Mattie Landis, of Meriden, Conn., is visiting her parents, Mr. and Mrs. A. Landis, near Perkiomen Bridge.

Joseph and Willie Howard, aged 12 and 8 years, and their little sister, children of George Howard, of Upper Providence, drove to Joseph Steary's place Monday, to bring a lot wagon, which their father had traded for, home. They went in the vehicle that was to be exchanged. On their way home in going down the hill below the Quaker meeting house, the wagon ran against the horse and the animal started to run. Near home the animal jumped into a fence and threw the children out of the wagon. Willie's right leg was broken by his fall, the other children escaped unhurt. Dr. E. A. Krusen is attending the injured boy.

A terrible runaway and smash-up occurred in Norristown, Tuesday. James Slotterer, of Limerick, was on his way home from market and was driving two horses. At Main and Buttonwood streets the horses became frightened at the sound of a bicycle bell and at once became uncontrollable. They upset the wagon and demolished it, its contents being strewn along the road. Mr. Slotterer was severely injured. His nose was broken and lacerated, and he was otherwise painfully injured.

Special Rates to Philadelphia Account of Sequi-Centennial of Evangelical Lutheran Ministerium in Pennsylvania.

The Philadelphia & Reading Railway, on account of above celebration, has arranged to sell at all their stations in Penna. round trip tickets to Philadelphia and return at the rate of single fare, with a minimum of 25c. These tickets to be sold only June 2, and good to return until June 6, 1898, inclusive.

At the Almshouse.

The Montgomery County Directors of the Poor met at the Almshouse Thursday and granted orders amounting to \$3076.07. The receipts during the past month were \$84.45 and the expenditures were \$84.09. Steward Alderfer reported 176 inmates, 142 males and 34 female. Stock on farm: 10 horses, 54 cows, 1 bull, 63 hogs. During the month 977 pounds of butter was made and 113 dozens of eggs gathered.

Scientific American Navy Supplement.

That reliable and complete periodical, *The Scientific American*, has issued a Naval Supplement that is attractive, instructive, and therefore valuable. The illustrations are excellent and the explanatory paragraphs all that is to be desired. The description of the ships are thorough and contain a vast amount of desirable information. A handsome colored map of Cuba and the West Indies is furnished with the supplement. This work is published by Munn & Co., 361 Broadway, New York, for 25 cents.

Demorest Contest.

A Demorest Silver Medal Contest will be held in Masonic Hall, Trappe, on Tuesday evening, June 7, at 8 o'clock, under the auspices of St. Luke's Y. P. S. C. E. The program is one of high merit and deserves a crowded house. It is as follows: Organ Voluntary, Miss Elma B. Rambo, Linfield, Pa.; Treble, chairman of committee, Royersford; Song, My Country 'Tis of Thee; 1st contestant, Mr. Arthur C. Ohl, Bloomsburg, Pa.; 2nd contestant, Mr. Nevin Gutschalk, Blain, Pa.; Vocal Duet, the Misses Minerva and Marion Grater, Norristown, Pa.; 3rd contestant, Miss Eva E. Bowman, Phila., Pa.; 4th contestant, Miss Bertha Grater, Collegeville, Pa.; Vocal Duet, the Misses Stella and Grace User, Royersford, Pa.; 5th contestant, Miss Anna Reigner, Collegeville, Pa.; 6th contestant, Miss Alma Young, Easton, Pa.; Mandolin Solo, Miss Frances G. Moser, Collegeville, Pa.; Decision of Judges. The judges will be: J. H. Burtman, who have had the advantage of full collegiate training. The general admission will be 15 cents.

Memorial Day Observances.

GRAVES OF SOLDIERS DECORATED.—EXERCISES IN BOMBERGER MEMORIAL HALL.—FLAG RAISING AT THE COLLEGEVILLE HIGH SCHOOL.

Memorial Day, Monday, June 30, was fittingly observed in the various and interesting exercises participated in and appreciated by the citizens of this borough and vicinity.

Messrs. John G. Fetterolf, Jacob Williams, S. S. Ange, L. H. Ingram, and Jesse Miller, members of Josiah White Post, No. 45, G. A. R., of Phoenixville, decorated the graves of the soldier dead at the cemeteries of the Lower Providence Baptist church, Episcopal church, Evansburg, Mennonite church at Yerkes, and Trinity church, this borough. Permanent markers, which serve as flag holders, were placed on each grave.

NATIONAL DAY AT URSINUS. The song "We're tenting to-night on the Old Camp Ground," admirably rendered by the Ursinus Glee Club, opened the exercises in Bomberger Memorial Hall at 10:30 a. m. Then followed "The Star Spangled Banner" by the Club, and the reading of the Scriptures and a patriotic prayer by Rev. J. H. Hendricks, D. D. The sweet singers of Ursinus then gave "Hail Columbia" and "Come, Ye Sea and Land and Air Forces of the Lord," and Dr. H. T. Spangler, President of the College, introduced Hon. Geo. D. McCree, ex-city treasurer of Philadelphia. Dr. Spangler said in part, "We meet here to honor the memory of the dead heroes of our nation, to honor our living heroes of to-day, and to honor, and vow our allegiance to, the patriotism of good citizenship." Mr. McCree followed in a brief address which was attentively listened to. He spoke in general upon the subject of patriotism, the basis of which he defined to be the love of home and country. He cited a number of illustrations furnished by American patriots to show the strength and power of the love of country and native land. "My Country 'Tis of Thee" was sung by the Club and the audience, in conclusion.

FLAG RAISING AT THE HIGH SCHOOL. A very fitting finale to a most successful day of public school work, was the flag raising at the new school building, this borough, Monday afternoon. Previous to the flag raising exercises, the schools assembled and after chapel exercises, the principal A. B. Hess announced the promotions. At the appointed time a large and appreciative audience assembled in the High School room and listened to a few addresses sufficient, one would think, to waken the sleeping heroes. The exercises opened with prayer by Rev. H. T. Spangler, D. D. "America" was sung by the schools led by the members of the Senior Class. Miss Lizzie Lachman recited with much effect a soul-stirring recitation entitled "Our Flag." Rev. Dr. Hess, in one of his characteristic speeches, then presented the flag on behalf of the Y. P. S. C. E., giving the history of the organization and portraying its future. His speech overflowed with patriotic sentiments and historical facts. The flag was accepted by F. G. Hobson, Esq., President of the Board of Directors, in a forcible speech, in which he forecasted the future of our beloved emblem of liberty, referred to the high duty of Christian citizenship, and made a brief but strong argument against the union of Church and State. In referring to the territorial growth of the United States, he spoke against the acquisition of new territory and observed: "The present war is not a war of conquest but of humanity." At the conclusion of his much appreciated address, the High School led in singing the "Red, White and Blue," after which the audience assembled on the school ground to witness the unfurling of the flag, while the schools sang the "Star Spangled Banner." Three cheers were then given for Old Glory floated proudly from the dome of the High School building.

Festival at Port Providence. The senior grade of the Loyal Temperance Legion of Port Providence will hold a strawberry and ice cream festival in the Port Providence club house on Saturday evening, June 4. Come and have a good time and help along the temperance work.

OLD PERKIOMEN BRIDGE.

THE PROPERTY OF CELEBRATING THE ONE HUNDRETH ANNIVERSARY OF THE ANCIENT STRUCTURE.

About one hundred years have been linked to the forever past since the work of planning and constructing Old Perkiomen Bridge was commenced. As a monument of the most substantial masonry in the line of bridge building in America, it has withstood the wear of burden carrying and the disintegrating influences of passing time, with but comparatively little repair, during all the years since 1798-'99. We venture the statement that no structure of the kind in the United States is as well or so widely known as old Perkiomen Bridge, and that there is not another bridge in America to-day that will match it in beauty, symmetry of form, and solidarity of masonry, age considered. The grandfathers and grandmothers of the present generation of men and women for miles about made use of and admired the grand structure spanning the usually placid Perkiomen stream, and were charmed by its inviting environments. Long, long ere the shrieks of the locomotive resounded throughout the ever beautiful Perkiomen Valley the bridge, now venerable with age, yielded yeoman service to the traveling public. Who can question the propriety of celebrating the one hundredth anniversary of Perkiomen Bridge, of punctuating and eventuating the centennial of its construction in song and story? No one, of course. The INDEPENDENT is ready to do its part and serve those who will take the matter suggested in hand.

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Mabel Vaughan Moore, daughter of Thomas L. and Adelaide L. Moore, died of consumption at the home of her parents, Saturday morning, aged 30 years. During her last illness over 400 friends called to see her.

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RAILROADS.
Philadelphia & Reading Railway
 Engines Burn Hard Coal—No Smoke

IN EFFECT MAY 15, 1898.
Trains Leave Collegeville.
 FOR PERKINSON JUNCTION, BRIDGEPORT AND PHILADELPHIA—Week days—6.30, 8.31 a. m.; 12.45, 2.30 p. m. Sundays—8.30 a. m.; 7.45 p. m.
 FOR ALLENTOWN—Week days—9.03, 10.34 a. m.; 3.23, 6.34, 9.45 p. m. Sundays—8.30 a. m.; 7.45 p. m.
Trains For Collegeville.
 LEAVE PHILADELPHIA—Week days—7.45, 9.08 a. m.; 1.42, 4.01, p. m. Sundays—7.00 a. m.; 7.04 p. m.
 LEAVE BRIDGEPORT—Week days—8.30, 9.50 a. m.; 2.30, 4.44, p. m. Sundays—7.47 a. m.; 7.04 p. m.
 LEAVE PERKINSON JUNCTION—Week days—8.50, 10.05 a. m.; 3.00, 5.00, p. m. Sundays—8.15 a. m.; 7.32 p. m.
 LEAVE ALLENTOWN—Week days—4.35, 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 Atlantic City, Week days—Express, 9.00 a. m.; (1.30 Saturdays only), 2.00, 4.00, 4.30 and 5.00 p. m. Accom., 6.15 a. m. and 6.15, 6.30 p. m. Sundays—Express, 8.00, 9.00, 10.00 a. m. Accom., 6.15 a. m., 4.45 p. m.
 Leave Atlantic City Depot: Week days—Express, 7.00, 7.45, 9.00, a. m., 3.00, 5.30, p. m. Accom., 4.35, 8.05 a. m., 4.05 p. m. Sundays—Express, 4.00, 5.30, 8.00 p. m. Accom., 7.15 a. m., 4.15 p. m.
 For Cape May and Ocean City 8.45 a. m., 2.30, 4.15 p. m. Saturdays, South Street, 9.00, Chestnut Street, 9.15 a. m.
 For Sea Isle City: 8.45 a. m., 4.15 p. m. Sundays—South Street 9.00, Chestnut Street 9.15 a. m.
 Parlor cars on all express trains.
 L. A. SWIGARD, General Agent, Reading Terminal, Philadelphia.

John L. Burkert,
 PROPRIETOR OF
HARTRANFT HOUSE,
 NORRISTOWN, PA.
 Old and new patrons cordially received. Ample accommodations for man and beast. Terms reasonable. Make the Hartranft House your headquarters when in town. 12ma.

Furniture
 Fresh From the Factories, now on Exhibition at the
COLLEGEVILLE Furniture Warerooms!
 We are now prepared to offer our customers goods at prices never before heard of.
 Our line of Chamber Suits, at prices ranging from \$12 to \$50, are the best in the market, and are well worth inspection.
 Parlor Suits in Hair Cloth, Brocade and Silk Tapestry, from \$35 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, Dinners and Bed Sets.
 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 35 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.
 Repairing and upholstering attended to promptly.
 All goods delivered free.
John L. Bechtel,
 COLLEGEVILLE, PA.
 COLLEGEVILLE

Carriage Works!
 I am building only what has been ordered at prices as low as possible. It will be to your interest to order if in need of anything in my line.
 All kinds of Carriages and Business Wagons.
 First-class PAINTING and VARNISHING at Reasonable Rates.
 LETTERING and SIGN PAINTING.
 Repairing of all kinds will receive prompt and careful attention.
JOHN S. KEPLER,
Undertaker & Embalmer
 TRAPPE, PA.

JOHN L. BECHTEL,
Undertaker & Embalmer
 COLLEGEVILLE, PA.
FURNISHING
Undertaker & Embalmer
 COLLEGEVILLE, PA.
PRICES REDUCED
Davis' Blacksmith Shop:
 COLLEGEVILLE, PA.
 Four new shoes, any style or shape, put on for 90 cents.
J. E. DAVIS.
DEAD ANIMALS
 Removed Free of Charge.
 Send word either by phone or mail. Key-stone Phone No. 824 at my residence, or Bell Phone at Shepherd's Perkinson Bridge Hotel.
 All animals killed in most humane manner possible.
 Address postal cards or letters to
G. W. SCHWEIKER,
 831. SKIPPAOK, PA.
NORRISTOWN HERALD BOOK BINDERY. Printing, Binding, Job Blanking, Perforating, Fagging, Numbering, Rubbing Books for Banks and Business Houses, given special attention. Magazines bound and repaired done quickly and cheaply. Estimates cheerfully furnished. Address, MORGAN B. WILLS, Proprietor.

When in Norristown, Pa., STOP AT THE RAMBO HOUSE,
 (Opposite Court House).
 First-class Accommodations for Man and Beast.
 Stabling for 100 horses. Rates reasonable. Both English and German spoken.
P. K. Gable, Proprietor.
WM. H. GRISTOCK'S SONS,
 (SUCCESSORS TO GRISTOCK & VANDERLICE).
Collegeville, Pa.,
 DEALERS IN
White and Yellow Pine, and Hemlock LUMBER,
 Various grades, dressed and undressed.
SHINGLES, split and sawed.
PICKETS, CEDAR AND CHESTNUT RAILS.
Lehigh and Schuylkill
 L. A. SWIGARD, General Agent, Reading Terminal, Philadelphia.

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 It is practically impossible for any one to forecast what will be the price of certain crops at selling time. General well established principles should be followed. For any one to attempt to give advice as to what has been or what will be is presumptuous folly. The old paths well followed are the safest, although it must be admitted that occasionally a short cut reaches a competency in a short time.
 Plants in midsummer suffer more from want of moisture than from lack of plant food. Filling the soil with vegetable matter will greatly assist in conserving moisture, for if there be a large amount of humus the water will be given off by evaporation more slowly. A well-worked soil contains much less moisture than one which is new.
 Where hens are fed large amounts of corn newly husked, and not thoroughly dried, their digestive apparatus becomes disordered. This is often remedied by heating the corn to the point of scorching. Hens will eat this scorched corn quite readily, and they will be the better for it. But partly burned oats, where the hulls are burned off and only the blackened grain are left, are even better than scorched corn. This is really the best way to feed oats to hens. The hulls make the food more bulky than is best for them, as their crops are limited, and the light, chaffy grain does not give sufficient nutrition for the best egg production.
 Placing fresh water before cows in the stable, so that they can drink a little whenever wanted, increases the yield of milk sufficiently to repay cost of pipes and appliances in a very short time. The addition of gluten meal to the ration of cornmeal will also make a perceptible increase in the daily flow of milk. The animal is a machine for the conversion of raw material into a desired product, and methods must be studied.
 It is a somewhat unfortunate fact that our trading firms feel impelled to offer in their catalogues each season some more or less sensational novelties in order to keep their names before the public. The purchasing part of the community is not unanimous in accepting the glowing statements put forth, and further, it is time for the seedsmen and others concerned to call a halt and see whether the practice is leading—**American Gardening.**

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REGISTER'S NOTICE
 MONTGOMERY COUNTY, NORRISTOWN, May 7, 1898.
 All persons concerned either as heirs, creditors or otherwise, are hereby notified that the accounts of the following named persons have been allowed and filed in my office on the date to each separately advised, and the same will be presented to the Orphans' Court of said county, on MONDAY, the 6th day of June, at 10 o'clock a. m., for confirmation, at which time and place they may attend if they think proper.
ALDERFER—April 4—First and final account of James R. Weikel, adm'r of the estate of John D. Alderfer, late of Perkinson township, deceased.
ALDERFER—May 7—First and final account of Abram B. Alderfer, ex'or of the estate of John D. Alderfer, late of Lower Saliford township, deceased.
ALDERFER—April 27—First and final account of George Metz, guardian of Mary Jane Lamb, late minor child of Mary Ann Dora Bard, deceased, said minor having now attained her majority.
BRANT—April 30—First and final account of John Brant, ex'or of the estate of Rachel Brant, late of Pottsgrove township, deceased.
BURKE—May 6—First and final account of Samuel W. Burke, adm'r of the estate of Samuel H. Burke, late of Whitmarsh township, deceased.
BAUM—May 7—First account of William S. Baum, ex'or of the estate of Henry Baum, late of Ambler, deceased.
BALENT—May 7—First and final account of Henry K. Bale, adm'r of the estate of Robert H. Bale, late of Upper Saliford township, deceased.
BOYAN—see LOBB—April 14—First and final account of the Albertson Trust and Safe Deposit Company, guardian of Ellen Lobb (now Boyan), now deceased, said minor child of Benjamin Lobb, Jr., late of Norristown, deceased.
BEAN—April 28—First and final account of Mary Bean and Isaac I. Funk, adm'r of the estate of Harrison Bean, late of Upper Providence township, deceased.
BRUNER—April 29—First and final account of Charles S. Bruner, adm'r of the estate of Solomon Bruner, late of Franconia township, deceased.
BYERLY—April 27—First account of Mary A. Runney, ex'trix of the estate of John Byerly, late of Whitmarsh township, deceased.
CHRISTMAN—February 11—First and final account of Peter Christian and James H. H. Christian, ex'tors of the estate of Eliza Christian, late of Lower Pottsgrove township, deceased.
LAWTON—March 17—Final account of the Provident Life and Trust Company, of Philadelphia, guardian of Annie Elizabeth Crawford, late of the estate of John W. Crawford, late minor child of John W. Crawford, late of Lower Providence township, deceased.
CHARLES—May 7—First and final account of Henry P. Charles and William F. Charles, adm'tors of the estate of Samuel M. Charles, late of Norristown, deceased.
COYNE—May 7—Third and final account of John Q. Coyne, ex'or of the estate of Mary A. Coyne, late of Whitmarsh township, deceased.
CAMPBELL—April 13—First and final account of Patrick Campbell, ex'or of the estate of Patrick Campbell, late of Bridgeport, deceased.
CAMPBELL—April 16—Final account of Mary Ann Campbell, and John S. Campbell, adm'tors of the estate of Henry T. Campbell, late of Springfield township, deceased.
CAMPBELL—April 21—Account of Aaron Welke, adm'r of the estate of Robert W. Campbell, late of Lower Providence township, deceased.
CUSTER—April 27—First and partial account of Jacob D. Custer, Ursus D. Custer and David D. Custer, ex'tors of the estate of David Custer, late of Worcester township, deceased.
DOTTREY—April 30—First and final account of Elam G. Dottrey, adm'r of the estate of Elam G. Dottrey, late of Pottsgrove, deceased.
DILLMAN—May 2—Second and partial account of A. S. Hallman, adm'r of the estate of John Dillman, deceased.
DEWELTER—May 3—First and final account of William Dewel, guardian of Addie H. Dewel, a minor child of Abraham Z. Dewel, late of Worcester township, deceased; said minor having now arrived at the age of twenty-one years.
DAGER—May 6—First account of Mary P. Dager, ex'trix of the estate of Irwin Dager, late of the borough of Ambler, deceased.
EVANS—May 6—Account of George Evans, one of the ex'tors of Elizabeth M. Evans, late of Pottsgrove, deceased.
EVANS—May 6—Estate of Josiah W. Evans, late of Norristown, deceased. Final account filed by Montgomery Evans and Andora E. Tarrence, ex'tors of Anna Evans, late of Norristown, deceased, and by Montgomery Evans, adm'r of d. b. n. c. t. a. of said Josiah W. Evans, deceased.
EVANS—May 7—First and final account of Lewis B. Evans, adm'r of the estate of Rebecca Evans, late of Limerick township, deceased.
FRAS—April 1—First and final account of Amos Walton, guardian of Mary J. Fras, a minor child of Andrew Fras, late of Whitmarsh township, deceased; said minor having arrived at full age.
FRYER—March 3—First and final account of Samuel B. Shallop, ex'or of the estate of Barnet Fryer, late of Royersford, deceased.
FRICK—April 16—Final account of the Norristown Trust and Safe Deposit Company, guardian of Henry Elmer Frick, grandchild of Frederick Saper, deceased.
FRICK—April 15—First and final account of Henry W. Frick, ex'or of the estate of Catharine Fore, late of Lower Providence township, deceased.
FOX—May 5—First and final account of A. L. Bauman, guardian of Ellen L. Fox, a minor child of John H. Fox, late of Douglas township, deceased; said minor being now deceased.
FRIZZ—April 8—First and final account of Willis W. Wilgus, adm'r of the estate of Julian Fluice, late of Hatboro, deceased.
FRIZZ—April 8—First and final account of E. L. Hallman, trustee intestate of Aaron H. Frantz, deceased.
FRANTZ—May 7—First and final account of George W. Frantz, adm'r of the estate of Samuel E. Frantz, late of Whitpain township, deceased.
GODHALK—April 15—Second and final account of John G. Godshalk, adm'r of the estate of Jonas D. Godshalk, late of Lansdale, deceased.
GETZ—April 23—First and final account of Henry A. Cole, trustee of estate of Michael Getz, late of Upper Providence township, deceased.
GOULDIE—April 23—First and final account of Charles Thompson Gouldie, ex'or of David W. Gouldie, late of Worcester township, deceased.
GAUGLER—April 26—First and final account of David H. Gaugler, Daniel L. Gaugler and William L. Gaugler, ex'tors of the estate of Jesse Gaugler, late of Frederick township, deceased.
GRAVES—March 31—First account of Sophia H. Graves, adm'r of the estate of John H. Graves, late of Horsham township, deceased.
GEYER—April 4—First and final account of Joseph Geiger, ex'or of the estate of George Geiger, late of Frederick township, deceased.
GODHALL—May 7—First and final account of Abraham C. Godshall, trustee of estate of H. Ault (now Godshall), late of Ambler, adm' of John H. Godshall, deceased.
HILTEBERT—February 24—First and final account of John H. Hiltebert, adm'r of the estate of William H. Hiltebert, deceased.
HANSEL—March 16—First and final account of Henry Hansel, adm'r of the estate of Dorothea C. Hansel, late of Abington township, deceased.
HOBART—April 6—First and final account of Robert H. Hobart, ex'or of the estate of Eliza H. Hobart, late of Pottsgrove, deceased.
HEYDRICK—April 30—First and final account of Anthony A. Heben, adm'r of the estate of Robert K. Heydrick, late of Upper Gwynedd township, deceased.
HOBART—April 6—First and final account of Robert H. Hobart, adm'r of the estate of Anna S. Hobart, late of Pottsgrove, deceased.
HOUPT—May 3—First and final account of Charles S. Mann and Sallie H. Houpt, ex'tors of the estate of Charles Houpt, late of Upper Dublin township, deceased.
HILBORN—May 6—First and final account of Enoch C. Hilborn and R. Brooke Evans, trustees for Ann Hilborn, under the will of Jonathan Hilborn, late of Limerick township, deceased.
HIMMELWRIGHT—May 7—First and final account of William K. Himmelwright and William E. Bechtel, adm'tors of the estate of John Himmelwright, late of Douglas township, deceased.
JACKSON—February 21—First and final account of Henry A. Stevens, ex'or of the estate of Robert Jackson, late of Norristown, deceased.
JARDINE—April 11—First account of Helen B. Gordon, ex'or of the estate of Helen B. Gordon, late of Upper Providence township, deceased.
KEELEY—February 10—First and final account of E. P. Keeley, late of Royersford, deceased.
KNEZEL—March 7—First and partial account of Alfred D. Barnett, adm'r of the

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