

TERMS.

THE DAILY INTELLIGENCER,
PUBLISHED EVERY EVENING,
BY STEINMAN & HENSEL,
Intelligence Building, Southwest Corner of
Centre Square.

THE DAILY INTELLIGENCER is furnished to subscribers in the City of Lancaster and surrounding towns, accessible by Railroad and Daily Stage Lines at Ten Cents Per Week, payable to the Carriers, weekly. By Mail, \$3 a year in advance; otherwise, \$6. Entered at the post office Lancaster, Pa., as second class mail matter.

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FOR Extracts for Flavoring,
FOR Fresh Akron Oat Meal,
FOR Tapioca, Fatima, &c.,
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FOR Dates, Figs, Prunes, &c.,
FOR New Maple Sugar,
FOR Michter's Hams,
FOR The Best Groceries, go to

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to buyers of Clothing in order to make room for a large SPRING STOCK now being manufactured at our new building. We offer well-made and stylish

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LOWER PRICES

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Look at Our Astonishingly Low Price List:

OVERCOATS: OVERCOATS: OVERCOATS:
for \$2.50, for \$3.50, for \$5.50, for \$6.50.

OVERCOATS: OVERCOATS: OVERCOATS:
for \$7.50, for \$8.50, for \$10.50.

OVERCOATS: OVERCOATS: OVERCOATS:
for \$12.00, for \$14.00, for \$16.00.

OVERCOATS: OVERCOATS: OVERCOATS:
for \$18.00, for \$20.00, for \$22.00.

OVERCOATS: OVERCOATS: OVERCOATS:
for \$24.00, for \$26.00, for \$28.00.

OVERCOATS: OVERCOATS: OVERCOATS:
for \$30.00, for \$32.00, for \$34.00.

OVERCOATS: OVERCOATS: OVERCOATS:
for \$36.00, for \$38.00, for \$40.00.

OVERCOATS: OVERCOATS: OVERCOATS:
for \$42.00, for \$44.00, for \$46.00.

OVERCOATS: OVERCOATS: OVERCOATS:
for \$48.00, for \$50.00, for \$52.00.

OVERCOATS: OVERCOATS: OVERCOATS:
for \$54.00, for \$56.00, for \$58.00.

OVERCOATS: OVERCOATS: OVERCOATS:
for \$60.00, for \$62.00, for \$64.00.

OVERCOATS: OVERCOATS: OVERCOATS:
for \$66.00, for \$68.00, for \$70.00.

OVERCOATS: OVERCOATS: OVERCOATS:
for \$72.00, for \$74.00, for \$76.00.

OVERCOATS: OVERCOATS: OVERCOATS:
for \$78.00, for \$80.00, for \$82.00.

OVERCOATS: OVERCOATS: OVERCOATS:
for \$84.00, for \$86.00, for \$88.00.

OVERCOATS: OVERCOATS: OVERCOATS:
for \$90.00, for \$92.00, for \$94.00.

OVERCOATS: OVERCOATS: OVERCOATS:
for \$96.00, for \$98.00, for \$100.00.

OVERCOATS: OVERCOATS: OVERCOATS:
for \$102.00, for \$104.00, for \$106.00.

OVERCOATS: OVERCOATS: OVERCOATS:
for \$108.00, for \$110.00, for \$112.00.

OVERCOATS: OVERCOATS: OVERCOATS:
for \$114.00, for \$116.00, for \$118.00.

OVERCOATS: OVERCOATS: OVERCOATS:
for \$120.00, for \$122.00, for \$124.00.

OVERCOATS: OVERCOATS: OVERCOATS:
for \$126.00, for \$128.00, for \$130.00.

OVERCOATS: OVERCOATS: OVERCOATS:
for \$132.00, for \$134.00, for \$136.00.

OVERCOATS: OVERCOATS: OVERCOATS:
for \$138.00, for \$140.00, for \$142.00.

OVERCOATS: OVERCOATS: OVERCOATS:
for \$144.00, for \$146.00, for \$148.00.

OVERCOATS: OVERCOATS: OVERCOATS:
for \$150.00, for \$152.00, for \$154.00.

OVERCOATS: OVERCOATS: OVERCOATS:
for \$156.00, for \$158.00, for \$160.00.

OVERCOATS: OVERCOATS: OVERCOATS:
for \$162.00, for \$164.00, for \$166.00.

OVERCOATS: OVERCOATS: OVERCOATS:
for \$168.00, for \$170.00, for \$172.00.

OVERCOATS: OVERCOATS: OVERCOATS:
for \$174.00, for \$176.00, for \$178.00.

OVERCOATS: OVERCOATS: OVERCOATS:
for \$180.00, for \$182.00, for \$184.00.

OVERCOATS: OVERCOATS: OVERCOATS:
for \$186.00, for \$188.00, for \$190.00.

OVERCOATS: OVERCOATS: OVERCOATS:
for \$192.00, for \$194.00, for \$196.00.

OVERCOATS: OVERCOATS: OVERCOATS:
for \$198.00, for \$200.00, for \$202.00.

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A RARE CHANCE!

The Greatest Reduction of all in

FINE CLOTHES.

—AT—
H. GERHART'S

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All Heavy Weight Woolens made to order (for cash only) at

COST PRICE.

I have also just received a Large Assortment of the Latest Novelties in

ENGLISH, SCOTCH

—AND—
AMERICAN SUITINGS

Of Medium Weight, for the

EARLY SPRING TRADE.

These goods were all ordered before the rise in Woolens, and will be made to order at remarkably low prices. Also, a Fine Line of

SPRING OVERCOATING,

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Grand Opening of

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London and Parisian Novelties,

THE LARGEST ASSORTMENT,

CHOICE SELECTIONS,

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Having enlarged room, extended facilities and increased staff for displaying the handsomest Stock of

WOOLENS

—FOR—
GENTLEMEN'S WEAR

ever offered to the public, forming a Grand PANORAMA of

Beauty Taste,

Talent and Skill.

The Latest Novelties of the Season.

All are cordially invited to examine our stock. Prices on plain carrels as low as consistent with first-class Work and Trimmings.

J. K. SMALING,

ARTIST TAILOR,

121 North Queen Street.

(mar-18) S W

CENTRE HALL,

24 CENTRE SQUARE.

Closing out our

WINTER STOCK

—AT—
Greatly Reduced Prices,

In order to make room for the

Large Spring Stock,

[Which we are now manufacturing.

Overcoats,

Suits and Suitings,

To be sold at the Lowest Prices.

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REV. JAMES CRAWFORD,
Lancaster, Pa.

Lancaster Intelligencer.

SATURDAY EVENING, MARCH 6, 1880.

The Dunkers.

Of Whom Lancaster County Has the Most.

An Old Story Very Well Re-told.

Lancaster Correspondence of the Philadelphia Ledger.

One of the most peculiar religious sects in this country is that of the Dunkers, or German Baptists. The members are known by the different names of Dunkers, Tunkers and Dunkards, the derivation of each of these names being from the German word *Dunkel*, to dip, the name having originally been given them as a nickname to distinguish them from the Mennonites. They are more numerous in Pennsylvania than in any other State in the Union, and more numerous in Lancaster County than in any other county in Pennsylvania. They are widely scattered, however, and are quite numerous in the Lebanon and Cumberland valleys of this State, in portions of Maryland, in the Shenandoah valley of Virginia, in southwestern Pennsylvania, and in Ohio, Indiana, Illinois and other Western States. Most of the Dunker settlements in the West originated through the emigration of families from Pennsylvania, and this may also be said of the Dunker settlements of Virginia. Being mostly agriculturists, the Dunkers, in emigrating to this country about one hundred and fifty years ago, selected the fine farming lands of southeastern Pennsylvania, where they have maintained a strong foothold, and where the descendants of the first settlers are found to-day, maintaining the same customs and retaining the same religious beliefs as their ancestors. They have contributed largely to the wealth and prosperity of this country, and wherever they have settled have added to the material interests of the section of country in which they have made their homes. Some of the finest farms of Lancaster, Lebanon, Dauphin, York and Cumberland counties are owned and by Dunkard farmers, and where emigration to other States has taken place the members of this sect have invariably chosen the best agricultural sections of those States. One of the finest valleys of southwestern Pennsylvania, lying along the line of West Virginia, is known as Dunkard's valley, and the creek by which this valley is watered bears the name of Dunker Run. This creek rises in West Virginia, and after entering Pennsylvania follows an irregular course through the southern portion of Greene county, and after receiving a number of tributaries, enters into the Monongahela river, which empties into the Ohio, the last century by emigrants from the southeastern portion of this State, who, soon after the Revolutionary war, were induced to cross the Allegheny mountains, and striking this fine valley decided to proceed no further west, but to settle in this beautiful section of country their future abiding place. The only post-office in the United States by the name of Dunkard is in this valley.

Introduction of the Dunkers.

It is well settled that the society of Dunkards, or Dunkers—the latter name being more general than the former—was founded in the year 1708, at Schwarzenau, Germany, by Alexander Mack and several followers, who were led to adopt antipaedobaptist views, through the reading of the Bible, without any knowledge of the opinions of other Baptists. The society had scarcely assumed organized existence in Germany, when its members were compelled, by persecution, to take refuge in Holland, from which country they emigrated to Pennsylvania in small companies, between the years 1730 and 1739. Their first community was established at Germantown, from whence they spread through the counties of Montgomery, Berks, Chester and Lancaster, and when in the year 1739 the emigration of Dunkers became general a large number selected the Poconga and Conestoga valleys of Lancaster county and the fertile lands on both sides of the Susquehanna river, west of Columbia, in Lancaster, Dauphin, and York counties. From here they scattered to form settlements in the Cumberland and Shenandoah valleys, following the continuous limestone valleys south of the Blue Ridge. Their number has of late years considerably declined, in consequence of the tendency of the younger members to forsake the customs and plain manners of their ancestors, just as we find at the present day is the case in regard to the children of the members of the Society of Friends. The number of Dunkers in this country was estimated at about 30,000 in the year 1800, and present estimates place the number of the members in regular standing at about 10,000, although it is claimed by some of the clergymen that the number of souls embraced in the Dunker denomination is 100,000. An article in the "Religious Denomination" states that they testify for themselves at an early day the name of "Brethren," and by this term they still greet each other upon the occasion of their annual gatherings, the terms brethren and sisters being freely used in the church services and daily communications.

The Church System.

Their church government is nearly the same as that of other Baptists, except that every brother is allowed to exhort. When they find a man apt to teach they choose him to be their minister and ordain him by the laying on of hands attended with fasting and prayer, and giving the right of fellowship. They also have deacons and deaconesses. Bishops are chosen from among the teachers of greatest experience. An elder, among them is, in general, the first or oldest chosen teacher of a congregation which has no bishop. Their annual meeting or "love feast," is in May, is attended by the bishops, teachers and other representatives chosen by the different congregations. Important cases brought before these meetings are usually decided by a committee of five of the oldest bishops. Their services are frequently conducted by from three to five ministers, one of whom will preach from a chosen text, and be followed by the others in exhortation, singing and prayer. The ministers often proceed long distances for the purpose of holding services. In the northern portion of Chester county, for instance, there resided for many years a distinguished Dunker preacher by the name of John P. Price, who held periodical pilgrimages to Berks, Montgomery, Lancaster and Lebanon counties, and being an eloquent exhorter, his visits were welcome occasions to the congregations favored, as he invariably aroused a degree of religious enthusiasm and spiritual fervor that was surprising to the oldest members. Rev. John Price was occasionally accompanied by his four sons—Isaac, William, George, John jr.,—who assisted in conducting the services, and were also popular preachers. On the occasion of funerals the aged preacher was in great demand for the conducting of the services, not only among the members of his own sect, but by members of the Methodist, Lutheran, Reformed and other denominations. He died some thirty years ago, but his sons survived him, and are still engaged in preaching, following during the week the occupation of farming, and on the Sabbath

appearing before large congregations, and conducting religious services in accordance with the form and doctrines promulgated by their father and other leading Dunker preachers.

The Dunker lovefeast is an important occasion and is held annually during either the spring or fall, but principally in the month of May, when the roads are in good condition, the weather pleasant and farm work not pressing. Being held in rural districts, the number of vehicles collected together, on any annual occasion is remarkable, the attendance of people being from 1,000 to 1,500, nearly all of whom have come in their own conveyances. Formerly these gatherings were held upon the farm of some wealthy member of the congregation, and the barn has been temporarily converted into a place of worship, where the rites of the church have been conducted. Stacks of hay and large quantities of grain have been required to feed the horses, and the adjoining fields have been crowded with vehicles. A considerable tax was thus put upon the hospitality of the farmer. Of late years, however, large meeting houses have been erected in different Dunker communities, especially providing with every arrangement for the holding of the Dunker lovefeast. The buildings are usually one-story high, with a basement, provided with a large fire-hearth and all the conveniences necessary for the purposes of a kitchen. Here the soup used for "lovefeasts" is prepared, and cooking is also done for some families who have come long distances bringing provisions with them, and who take their meals on the ground. The meeting house is usually located adjoining a grove, in which horses can be tied and the members can partake of their meals in picnic style. The grove on such occasions presents the scenes familiar to all observed at camp meetings. The brethren provide straw and bedding, and the members are invited to sleep after the day's services have ended. The meals are served either in the grove or basement of the meeting house, according to the weather. The men and women sit around long tables, the "brothers" being on one side, and the "sisters" facing them on the other. Bread and butter, pies, pickles, and hot coffee containing no sweetening, are abundantly served. The provisions for these meals are contributed by the members at a previous meeting, whenever possible. The tables are furnished with many leaves of bread or other edibles, while some prefer to give money. To furnish provisions would be natural to a people of whom about 75 per cent. are farmers, as is the case with the Dunkers. As the brethren and sisters desire to participate in the devotional exercises, the men kiss each other on the lips, and not the first day, by the establishment of Jehovah forever as the Sabbath. This created some disturbance in the society, and he retired to a hermitage on the banks of the Coaclico, in the place now known as Ephrata, where there are residing at the present day members of the society of Seventh Day Baptists who have descended from Beissel's followers. The principal settlement of this peculiar sect at present is at Snowhill, on the Antietam creek, in Franklin county, Pa. Within a year or two the Dunkers have been making some noteworthy increases in membership in Berks and Montgomery counties. In Berks the principal settlement of Dunkers is in the extreme northwestern portion of the county, where recently two large meeting-houses were erected, one of them near Reihersburg, and the other near Frystown, at Crosskill mills. There are two flourishing congregations in the vicinity of these places, the members of which are farmers, occupying excellent farms in the valley of the Little Susquehanna creek. During the present week the Dunker congregation of East Coventry, Chester county, have been holding a series of meetings in Keystone hall, Pottstown, Pa., with great success, for the purpose of increasing the interest in their mode of worship. These meetings were addressed by Rev. J. P. Hetrick and other clergymen, and have resulted in additions to the membership of the congregation.

CHINA AND GLASSWARE.

QUEENSWARE! QUEENSWARE!

Housekeepers, now is your time for

BARGAINS.