

Lancaster Intelligencer.

WEDNESDAY EVENING, DEC. 26, 1883.

The House Committee.

Mr. Carlisle seems to have given general satisfaction in the House with his committee, and has certainly made them up without regard to the antagonisms of his election contest.

Mr. Cox is one of the prominent Democrats who is not satisfied that he did not get the chairmanship of foreign affairs, but he has a very honorable place at the head of naval affairs, where he will have an equal opportunity for distinction and usefulness.

Neither of these high class committees has a great deal of work to do; but work in itself is probably not what Mr. Cox is especially anxious for. Mr. Springer seems to be the Democrat of prominence who has most to complain of, as he has a small chairmanship and no place on an important committee.

Mr. Springer is not a very strong man, but he is one of the oldest members and occupies a large share of public attention on the floor. He very naturally looked for a more important assignment than he received, and probably should have received it. He attributes his discomfiture to his colleague Morrison, who is credited with having the speaker's confidence, as he has that of the country. He is a strong and rugged man, and may have been tempted to sit down too heavily on his colleague in the Illinois delegation, without due regard to the confidence the constituents of his associate have shown in his ability by their frequent return of him to Congress.

Large Land Holdings.

Mr. Hopkins proposes in Congress to forbid the holding by individuals or corporations of great tracts of public land. He would require the railroad companies holding grants to dispose of them within three years and forbid the purchase by any person of more than a thousand acres in one county. It is well known that foreigners have bought immense tracts of land, in the Mississippi region, intending to hold them until they advance in value. These acquisitions by aliens Mr. Hopkins proposes to make unlawful. It is certainly contrary to public policy that very large quantities of land should be held in single hands just as it is not well that great masses of wealth should be under single control.

But the question is one very difficult to deal with, and perhaps the time is not yet for its treatment. Congress, however, may very well now determine to put a stop to the growth of the evil, so far at least as the disposition of the public lands is concerned. It is just that the railroad corporations shall be compelled to dispose of their lands within a short period, and that no citizen should be permitted to purchase from them or the government more than a limited acreage. Whether any further steps in limiting the ownership of lands may be well taken now is a question for mature consideration.

Stokely has entered the political field in Philadelphia as a candidate for mayor, and his candidacy tends to still further complicate the condition of things on the Republican side. He served two terms in the office and was defeated in his aspirations to be his own successor. He would have been elected had he given certain non-partisan pledges to the Committee of One Hundred, which he now seems willing to make. But his concessions of that sort come too late to fully satisfy the independent element of his party which defeated him three years ago, and the individual members of it who express an opinion show no readiness to take him; while his manifestations of independence cause his old associates to withhold their support from him. It looks as if he had entered this race just in time to suffer defeat. The truth about him is that he is a man of great executive ability and under some circumstances, notably as the head of the police department in an emergency, he appears to good advantage; but he is wholly unscrupulous in his methods and seeks his ends regardless of the means to be employed. He has excited bitter antagonisms in his own party and these, operating in secret, contributed largely to his last defeat and should be nominated again, will render his election well nigh impossible. The Democrats of Philadelphia still hold the winning card in the probable re-nomination of King and Hunter.

The tender of a public reception to Speaker Carlisle, by the Commonwealth club of Philadelphia, is no altogether, induced by the fair and even generous treatment which that distinguished gentleman has accorded to the Pennsylvania Democratic members in the make-up of the committees of the House. This courtesy, from a representative Democratic organization in the city and state of Mr. Carlisle's chief competitor, was devised by gentlemen who believe in the future of the party of Carlisle and Randall—and it met with Mr. Randall's warm approval—and who do not see in the election of Mr. Carlisle any reason for believing that there is no future for the Democracy. It will, no doubt, be made the happy occasion for demonstrating that no such serious differences exist between the different sections and elements of the party as engender its integrity; and as a social event, designed to bring into closer communication and better understanding distinguished Democrats from this and other states, it is most fittingly designed and will serve a felicitous purpose.

THE Philadelphia courts have amended their rules in divorce proceedings and made them more stringent. The Lancaster county court should do the same. The ease with which divorces, for trifling cause, have been obtained here in the past has been the cause of scandal. It has offered an invitation for those less

favorably situated to come here and live long enough to get "a Lancaster county divorce"—and some have availed themselves of it. Reform is necessary.

It was a right merry Christmas and gave no promise of a fat graveyard.

BELMONT and COX are miffed, but the country will worry through it.

YESTERDAY one hundred years ago was the first Christmas that Washington had enjoyed as a private citizen at his own home for nine years.

THE rage for Christmas cards seems to be abating, as the postal authorities report less handling of matter of this kind during the holiday season than for several years past.

CALIFORNIA, it is thought, will be the France of the future, so far as the wine production of the world is concerned. Although wheat is largely grown in that state at present, it is predicted that its reign will soon come to an end, as did that of gold, of hides and tallow and of fur hunting, and that the near future will see California a land of fruit trees and vines. Its climate and soil preeminently fit it for wine production.

"CHRISTMAS comes but once a year" everybody knows, but who put the fact into this phrase has been involved in some obscurity. It seems that the man who wrote it was the author of the first didactic poem in the English language. His name was Thomas Tusser. He was born in Rye, England, about 1545, and died when Shakespeare was but sixteen years old. While a farmer and poet he wrote the poem "The Farmer's Duty," and the sentiment runs thus: "At Christmas pray, and make good cheer. For Christmas comes but once a year."

A half score other familiar aphorisms are coinage from his mind.

WHEN it is considered that 300 crosses a year are required to keep a mile of railroad in repair; that the railroads pay \$6,000,000 a year for cross ties; and that it takes from 12,000,000 to 15,000,000 ties per annum to keep the established roads of the country in operation, an idea is obtained of the way in which the forests of the country are denuded to meet the demand. Pike county, this state, furnishes the bulk of the ties used by the eastern roads, and the amount of timber shipped from there every year is said to be some thing fabulous. New York has recently become very much alarmed over forest denudation, and it would seem that it is high time for Pennsylvania to profit by her sister state's solicitude.

PRESIDENT PARKER, of Bowdoin college is 84 and was never sick a day in his life.

GENERAL ROBERTS' wife died in Washington of paralysis on Tuesday.

SPEAKER CARLISLE is to have a reception from the Commonwealth club, of Philadelphia, on Jan. 12.

CHARLES BAKER's interest in the San Francisco mortgage has been disposed of to another party on account of losses in stocks.

MR. PARSELL is said to have declared that the Irish people regard any system of Irish emigration as "a murderous blow against the life of the nation."

L. RICHARD VON STERNBERG, son of a pretty German nobleman, committed suicide in New York because he could not marry the woman of his choice.

WILLIAM H. VANDERBILT, J. P. Morgan, Miss C. L. Wolf, John Jacob Astor and William Astor have each subscribed \$10,000 to the Bishop Potter fund.

REVEREND R. SPRINGER, of Cincinnati, has been elected to the Cincinnati art museum his valuable art collection, and pictures willed him by his niece, Mrs. Mills. It is also stated that he has given \$10,000 to the college of music for a new building.

BRADFORD MILLER, in favor of prohibition and "a strict administration of the law," is the business basis, and has been elected mayor of Topeka, Kansas, over Allen Sills, who was in favor of the city deriving a revenue from the saloons. Both were non-partisan candidates.

HON. JOSEPH ALLISON, president judge of common pleas court No. 1, of Philadelphia, is to give the school-boys of the city a Christmas dinner. There will be 75 of the ladies present ranging from boys in their "teens" to the veriest mite that wields a brush.

PRESIDENT ARTHUR attended Christmas service at St. John's Church in Washington. He spent the day at the White House, and entertained Secretary Frelinghuysen at dinner in the evening. He received many presents, mostly cases and umbrellas and gave the White House domestics \$15 each.

RAILROAD DISASTERS.

A train dived into a Seven Persons Killed. The bridge over Blue river, on the Louisville, New Albany and Chicago railroad, about 12 miles south of Salem, Indiana, was washed away, and a train ran into the washout, killing Charles Sanford, baggage master, Dora Edgington, of Lafayette, Jacob Helfrich, of Louisville, and four other passengers. Ten persons were injured.

A freight train was wrecked at the east end of the railroad bridge at Minneapolis, Minnesota, by a wild engine running into it. Three men were seriously injured, and one of them, named Patterson, of Big Lake, will probably die. The men were caught in the shatters, and in such a way that they had to be chopped out from the burning car.

An Erie mail train ran off the track at Snubury, Pa., and dashed through several freight cars as a siding. Several box cars and two passenger coaches were wrecked, and the engine was disabled. James Wheeler, fireman, leaped from the train and was dangerously injured. The passengers were severely shaken up.

The wrecking of a passenger train in the Grand Rapids and Indiana railroad was struck by a switch engine near Fort Wayne. Eight persons were dangerously injured among them the wife of Judge Ellison.

The removal of a rail by track hands caused a Passumpsit railroad freight train to run off the track near Barton Landing, Vermont. The engine and four cars were wrecked, but no person was injured.

A Philadelphia's Suicide. News was received in Philadelphia that Christian Hays, formerly in Baldwin's locomotive works, had shot himself in the Washington street tunnel, near Chicago, Ill. Martin Hase, of 1229 Germantown avenue, a brother of the suicide, said last night for the suicide. When the suicide left that city he had \$3,000 in cash, and being a man of temperate habits he had either lost the money by speculation or been swindled out of it, if the story of the suicide was true. Another brother had fled from the suicide a month ago, at 2430 Mascher street, but no person of that name was known.

Send for Mrs. George R. Clarke, who was all she said. Then she turned over on her

FATAL FLAMES.

FOUR ST. LOUIS FIREMEN PERISH.

Loss of Life and Property in the West—Arresting a Fire Train in a New Special Dispatch to the Times.

The St. Louis fire department boys say that Tuesday was the saddest Christmas they have ever known. During 1883 not a death by violence has been recorded among members of the fire department up to last night, since which time four poor fellows have perished. During the night the fire department was summoned to fight a great fire which destroyed several stores and consumed property to the amount of \$400,000. The cause was a company, the Murphy varnish company and other firms were the sufferers. The fire burned steadily. An explosion in the Bush building shattered the walls and John Conway and Michael Kelly, said to be the cause of the explosion, were killed. The Bush building yesterday morning. Their bodies were charred and disfigured.

Conway met with a terrible fate. He was in the Bush building at a time for which there was no alarm. No danger was apprehended when the men entered the warehouses, for the fire had barely taken hold of the building. But while the brave fellows, six in number, were at work, the rear wall fell, burying them beneath the debris and could not extricate themselves were Conway and Kelly. A heavy weight of lumber and iron beams fell on them and held them near the door at the time the wall fell and immediately endeavored to relieve the imprisoned men. He and a party of rescuers entered the building and got near the door. They were way to bear him to "Fred" in burning to death. Get water; get these timber off me."

No trace of Kelly could be found until morning, when his body was found in the street. He was taken to the morgue by Patrick Powers, T. W. Williams and J. H. Hanley were all seriously injured by the falling wall.

Just about the moment their bodies were brought to the surface, the death of Patrick Conway, a member of the department, was reported. He was the Southern hotel here, who was fatally injured at the Occidental hotel five weeks ago, and he was a brother to John Conway.

Just after the extinguishing of the fire, the bodies of Kelly and Conway were taken to the morgue. The department was called to the Bush street and Franklin avenue, where the H. L. Neudringhaus store and ware rooms were found in flames. Johnny Coogan, one of the firemen, tried to gain an entrance to the building, but was overcome by the smoke and fell to the doorway. The fire was so hot that Coogan's comrades could not rescue him at once and when his body was taken out it was terribly burned and life seemed nearly extinct.

By the first fire the Samuel C. Galloway building, owned by J. E. Lagget, \$75,000. The Hoyle building, corner of Fourth and Elm streets, was damaged \$25,000. The Isador Bush warehouse company's stock in the basement was valued at \$50,000. The company's loss cannot yet be estimated. A Knights of Honor lodge, Frank Blair post, G. A. R., lost \$10,000 on furniture and paraphernalia. The Murphy varnish company, adjoining the Hoyle colliery, lost \$12,000 on stock. The United States army paymaster's and quartermaster's army loss \$20,000.

By the second fire H. L. Neudringhaus loses \$90,000 on his stock and furniture. The house furnishing store of Charles Neudringhaus, corner of Third and Elm streets, was burned out, at a loss of \$30,000. The loss on the building is \$20,000.

A CHURCH ON FIRE.

A Flucky Priest Averts a Panic.

St. Paul's Catholic church, in New York, was discovered to be on fire Christmas morning. The fire was extinguished by the fire department. The church was damaged to the extent of \$10,000. The priest, Father McLaughlin, was in the church at the time of the fire. He was not injured. The fire was caused by a gas lamp which had been overturned. The fire spread rapidly, and the church was almost completely destroyed. The fire department arrived in time to prevent a panic among the congregation. The priest, Father McLaughlin, was in the church at the time of the fire. He was not injured. The fire was caused by a gas lamp which had been overturned. The fire spread rapidly, and the church was almost completely destroyed.

The large flouring mill of George C. Thelen, at Cape Girardeau, Mo., was burned Monday. The loss is \$60,000.

A fire at Chippewa Falls, Wis., Tuesday morning destroyed the Lafayette mill, a warehouse and other buildings. Loss about \$35,000.

Fire Tuesday evening destroyed a building owned by Buckhart, Miller & Hatter at Red Wing, Minn. Loss, \$25,000.

A GIRL'S DEATH.

The Daughter of a Wealthy Banker Attempts to Take Her Own Life.

A little girl, figure stout before the clerk in Brown's hotel in Chicago, on Saturday evening. The clerk looked up and met the gaze of a pair of dark brown eyes which peered at him from a pebble bonnet.

"You will please show me to a room," she said.

With great coolness she inscribed upon the register, "Nellie West, New York city." She paid for a room and a retiring requested, in case any one inquired for her, that she should not be called. After she had been in the room a short time she sent to the office for pen and ink. No more was heard from the girl in the lodge, and the clerk, dressed in big blue eyes, chestnut hair and baby face, was looking for her.

At ten o'clock a man entered and inquired whether a girl named "Maud" had been there that evening. He was young, well dressed, and had a mustache. He was very attentive to a small, dark moustache. His air of extreme nervousness, coupled with the request of the girl that no one be allowed to see her, led the clerk to deny that any young girl had been there. The man left. In the morning the different occupants of the house arose, but no one thought of Nellie West, asleep in room 36.

About 3:30 o'clock in the afternoon a strong odor of gas was perceptible in the neighborhood of room 36. The door was finally opened. The gas, which had rushed out was suffocating. On the bed lay the little girl. A tranquil smile seemed to hover about the well-shaven mouth and the chestnut hair in a tangled mass formed a halo about the little head. The eyes were closed. Her face was white and still, and on the table a half ounce bottle of laudanum was found, with only a little of the deadly drug left in the bottle.

Dr. Tuntz was called. At first he thought the girl was dead and he gravely shook his head when he saw the amount of poison taken from the bottle and the realization that a young girl of gas had flowed into the room. He was promptly to work, however, and within an hour she was able to talk.

Send for Mrs. George R. Clarke, who was all she said. Then she turned over on her

CHRISTMAS DAY.

DETAILS OF ITS LOCAL OBSERVANCE.

Early Morning Services Followed by Snow-Crowded Churches and Interesting Celebrations.

Lancaster has had an old-fashioned "white Christmas," and its celebration was observed by the old-fashioned style. As early as 5 o'clock the Catholics were hastening to their respective churches, and later the streets were filled with people in holiday attire, sauntering along in the enjoyment of a cessation from toil, or bending their footsteps to the city churches, at all of which interesting Christmas services were held. The morning was pleasant enough abroad, but towards noon a driving snow storm began falling which lasted a few hours and eventually succeeded in driving pleasure seekers to their homes. But little sleighing was indulged in owing to the unbroken condition of the roads. Little disorder was noticeable anywhere, and the streets were kept in a driving business in the morning and many closed later in the day. Below is given in detail the events of the day's celebration.

THE CATHOLIC CHURCHES.

The observance of the day at St. Mary's. In the early hours of the morning long before the sun began to brighten in the East, devout worshippers might have been seen on the streets hurrying by twos and threes to the three Catholic churches of the city, all of which held the first service of the day at 5 o'clock. St. Mary's was thronged with an immense gathering, and the scene on evening the parking of the bleak morning air was well calculated to arouse emotion in the beholder. The altar was ablaze with wax candles artistically arranged and myriads of the white flowers which adorned the altars of the scene. High over the altar, suspended in mid-air, hung a floral star, emblematic of the bright luminary that appeared in the Bethlehem sky when the Saviour was born. The side altars were elaborately decorated and festoons of evergreens hung in graceful folds over the sanctuary.

The choir rendered Daehauer's mass in excellent style, Miss Marie Malone singing Lambillotte's Christmas hymn "Adeste Fideles" with fine effect. Large numbers of the congregation were present, and Dr. McCalligh preached an effective sermon appropriate to the day. A second mass was celebrated at 8 a. m., and a third, a high mass, at 10 o'clock, at the latter of which the services of the day were closed with solemn benediction.

St. Anthony's.

The interior of St. Anthony's church was decorated as never before. A handsome evergreen arch was over the altar with the floral legend "Gloria in Excelsis Deo," and beautiful flowers and greens were everywhere visible. The 5 a. m. mass was crowded. The choir at this mass sang in the form Weber's mass in G. Services were also held at 8 and 10 a. m. At the latter Mercantini's Te Deum mass was sung. The solos were taken by Messrs. Wm. Kaul, the pastor, preached at 10 a. m., followed by benediction, after which the Sunday school children were given their presents from a huge Christmas tree in the basement. The decorations reflect much credit on the young men of the church who had the charge.

St. Joseph's.

The services in St. Joseph's church were at 5, 8 and 10 a. m., and were all largely attended. The usual Christmas decorations were observable and large numbers received holy communion.

St. James' Episcopal.

St. James' church, as usual, was prettily trimmed; there were masses of greens about the pulpit, a large tree near the organ, and boughs of evergreen on the memorial tablets and between each of the windows. The Christmas service at 10 o'clock was opened with a professional hymn, "O, come all ye faithful," by a large surpliced choir. The Te Deum, the Jubilate and several Christmas hymns were admirably rendered. The pastor, Rev. Dr. C. F. Knight, preached a sermon appropriate to the occasion, an offering being held in aid of worn out clergymen. The holy communion was partaken of by a large number of communicants. The attendance at the service was large considering the stormy weather. The service at St. John's Episcopal church, owing to the illness of the rector.

St. Peter's.

St. Peter's church was very prettily trimmed; there were masses of greens about the pulpit, a large tree near the organ, and boughs of evergreen on the memorial tablets and between each of the windows. The Christmas service at 10 o'clock was opened with a professional hymn, "O, come all ye faithful," by a large surpliced choir. The Te Deum, the Jubilate and several Christmas hymns were admirably rendered. The pastor, Rev. Dr. C. F. Knight, preached a sermon appropriate to the occasion, an offering being held in aid of worn out clergymen. The holy communion was partaken of by a large number of communicants. The attendance at the service was large considering the stormy weather. The service at St. John's Episcopal church, owing to the illness of the rector.

St. Paul's.

St. Paul's church was very prettily trimmed; there were masses of greens about the pulpit, a large tree near the organ, and boughs of evergreen on the memorial tablets and between each of the windows. The Christmas service at 10 o'clock was opened with a professional hymn, "O, come all ye faithful," by a large surpliced choir. The Te Deum, the Jubilate and several Christmas hymns were admirably rendered. The pastor, Rev. Dr. C. F. Knight, preached a sermon appropriate to the occasion, an offering being held in aid of worn out clergymen. The holy communion was partaken of by a large number of communicants. The attendance at the service was large considering the stormy weather. The service at St. John's Episcopal church, owing to the illness of the rector.

St. George's.

St. George's church was very prettily trimmed; there were masses of greens about the pulpit, a large tree near the organ, and boughs of evergreen on the memorial tablets and between each of the windows. The Christmas service at 10 o'clock was opened with a professional hymn, "O, come all ye faithful," by a large surpliced choir. The Te Deum, the Jubilate and several Christmas hymns were admirably rendered. The pastor, Rev. Dr. C. F. Knight, preached a sermon appropriate to the occasion, an offering being held in aid of worn out clergymen. The holy communion was partaken of by a large number of communicants. The attendance at the service was large considering the stormy weather. The service at St. John's Episcopal church, owing to the illness of the rector.

St. Andrew's.

St. Andrew's church was very prettily trimmed; there were masses of greens about the pulpit, a large tree near the organ, and boughs of evergreen on the memorial tablets and between each of the windows. The Christmas service at 10 o'clock was opened with a professional hymn, "O, come all ye faithful," by a large surpliced choir. The Te Deum, the Jubilate and several Christmas hymns were admirably rendered. The pastor, Rev. Dr. C. F. Knight, preached a sermon appropriate to the occasion, an offering being held in aid of worn out clergymen. The holy communion was partaken of by a large number of communicants. The attendance at the service was large considering the stormy weather. The service at St. John's Episcopal church, owing to the illness of the rector.

St. Nicholas.

St. Nicholas church was very prettily trimmed; there were masses of greens about the pulpit, a large tree near the organ, and boughs of evergreen on the memorial tablets and between each of the windows. The Christmas service at 10 o'clock was opened with a professional hymn, "O, come all ye faithful," by a large surpliced choir. The Te Deum, the Jubilate and several Christmas hymns were admirably rendered. The pastor, Rev. Dr. C. F. Knight, preached a sermon appropriate to the occasion, an offering being held in aid of worn out clergymen. The holy communion was partaken of by a large number of communicants. The attendance at the service was large considering the stormy weather. The service at St. John's Episcopal church, owing to the illness of the rector.

St. Elizabeth's.

St. Elizabeth's church was very prettily trimmed; there were masses of greens about the pulpit, a large tree near the organ, and boughs of evergreen on the memorial tablets and between each of the windows. The Christmas service at 10 o'clock was opened with a professional hymn, "O, come all ye faithful," by a large surpliced choir. The Te Deum, the Jubilate and several Christmas hymns were admirably rendered. The pastor, Rev. Dr. C. F. Knight, preached a sermon appropriate to the occasion, an offering being held in aid of worn out clergymen. The holy communion was partaken of by a large number of communicants. The attendance at the service was large considering the stormy weather. The service at St. John's Episcopal church, owing to the illness of the rector.

St. Ann's.

St. Ann's church was very prettily trimmed; there were masses of greens about the pulpit, a large tree near the organ, and boughs of evergreen on the memorial tablets and between each of the windows. The Christmas service at 10 o'clock was opened with a professional hymn, "O, come all ye faithful," by a large surpliced choir. The Te Deum, the Jubilate and several Christmas hymns were admirably rendered. The pastor, Rev. Dr. C. F. Knight, preached a sermon appropriate to the occasion, an offering being held in aid of worn out clergymen. The holy communion was partaken of by a large number of communicants. The attendance at the service was large considering the stormy weather. The service at St. John's Episcopal church, owing to the illness of the rector.

St. Michael's.

St. Michael's church was very prettily trimmed; there were masses of greens about the pulpit, a large tree near the organ, and boughs of evergreen on the memorial tablets and between each of the windows. The Christmas service at 10 o'clock was opened with a professional hymn, "O, come all ye faithful," by a large surpliced choir. The Te Deum, the Jubilate and several Christmas hymns were admirably rendered. The pastor, Rev. Dr. C. F. Knight, preached a sermon appropriate to the occasion, an offering being held in aid of worn out clergymen. The holy communion was partaken of by a large number of communicants. The attendance at the service was large considering the stormy weather. The service at St. John's Episcopal church, owing to the illness of the rector.

St. Raphael's.

St. Raphael's church was very prettily trimmed; there were masses of greens about the pulpit, a large tree near the organ, and boughs of evergreen on the memorial tablets and between each of the windows. The Christmas service at 10 o'clock was opened with a professional hymn, "O, come all ye faithful," by a large surpliced choir. The Te Deum, the Jubilate and several Christmas hymns were admirably rendered. The pastor, Rev. Dr. C. F. Knight, preached a sermon appropriate to the occasion, an offering being held in aid of worn out clergymen. The holy communion was partaken of by a large number of communicants. The attendance at the service was large considering the stormy weather. The service at St. John's Episcopal church, owing to the illness of the rector.

St. Ignace's.

St. Ignace's church was very prettily trimmed; there were masses of greens about the pulpit, a large tree near the organ, and boughs of evergreen on the memorial tablets and between each of the windows. The Christmas service at 10 o'clock was opened with a professional hymn, "O, come all ye faithful," by a large surpliced choir. The Te Deum, the Jubilate and several Christmas hymns were admirably rendered. The pastor, Rev. Dr. C. F. Knight, preached a sermon appropriate to the occasion, an offering being held in aid of worn out clergymen. The holy communion was partaken of by a large number of communicants. The attendance at the service was large considering the stormy weather. The service at St. John's Episcopal church, owing to the illness of the rector.

St. Francis's.

St. Francis's church was very prettily trimmed; there were masses of greens about the pulpit, a large tree near the organ, and boughs of evergreen on the memorial tablets and between each of the windows. The Christmas service at 10 o'clock was opened with a professional hymn, "O, come all ye faithful," by a large surpliced choir. The Te Deum, the Jubilate and several Christmas hymns were admirably rendered. The pastor, Rev. Dr. C. F. Knight, preached a sermon appropriate to the occasion, an offering being held in aid of worn out clergymen. The holy communion was partaken of by a large number of communicants. The attendance at the service was large considering the stormy weather. The service at St. John's Episcopal church, owing to the illness of the rector.

St. Vincent's.

St. Vincent's church was very prettily trimmed; there were masses of greens about the pulpit, a large tree near the organ, and boughs of evergreen on the memorial tablets and between each of the windows. The Christmas service at 10 o'clock was opened with a professional hymn, "O, come all ye faithful," by a large surpliced choir. The Te Deum, the Jubilate and several Christmas hymns were admirably rendered. The pastor, Rev. Dr. C. F. Knight, preached a sermon appropriate to the occasion, an offering being held in aid of worn out clergymen. The holy communion was partaken of by a large number of communicants. The attendance at the service was large considering the stormy weather. The service at St. John's Episcopal church, owing to the illness of the rector.

CHRISTMAS DAY.

DETAILS OF ITS LOCAL OBSERVANCE.

Early Morning Services Followed by Snow-Crowded Churches and Interesting Celebrations.

Lancaster has had an old-fashioned "white Christmas," and its celebration was observed by the old-fashioned style. As early as 5 o'clock the Catholics were hastening to their respective churches, and later the streets were filled with people in holiday attire, sauntering along in the enjoyment of a cessation from toil, or bending their footsteps to the city churches, at all of which interesting Christmas services were held. The morning was pleasant enough abroad, but towards noon a driving snow storm began falling which lasted a few hours and eventually succeeded in driving pleasure seekers to their homes. But little sleighing was indulged in owing to the unbroken condition of the roads. Little disorder was noticeable anywhere, and the streets were kept in a driving business in the morning and many closed later in the day. Below is given in detail the events of the day's celebration.

THE CATHOLIC CHURCHES.

The observance of the day at St. Mary's. In the early hours of the morning long before the sun began to brighten in the East, devout worshippers might have been seen on the streets hurrying by twos and threes to the three Catholic churches of the city, all of which held the first service of the day at 5 o'clock. St. Mary's was thronged with an immense gathering, and the scene on evening the parking of the bleak morning air was well calculated to arouse emotion in the beholder. The altar was ablaze with wax candles artistically arranged and myriads of the white flowers which adorned the altars of the scene. High over the altar, suspended in mid-air, hung a floral star, emblematic of the bright luminary that appeared in the Bethlehem sky when the Saviour was born. The side altars were elaborately decorated and festoons of evergreens hung in graceful folds over the sanctuary.

The choir rendered Daehauer's mass in excellent style, Miss Marie Malone singing Lambillotte's Christmas hymn "Adeste Fideles" with fine effect. Large numbers of the congregation were present, and Dr. McCalligh preached an effective sermon appropriate to the day. A second mass was celebrated at 8 a. m., and a third, a high mass, at 10 o'clock, at the latter of which the services of the day were closed with solemn benediction.

St. Anthony's.

The interior of St. Anthony's church was decorated as never before. A handsome evergreen arch was over the altar with the floral legend "Gloria in Excelsis Deo," and beautiful flowers and greens were everywhere visible. The 5 a. m. mass was crowded. The choir at this mass sang in the form Weber's mass in G. Services were also held at 8 and 10 a. m. At the latter Mercantini's Te Deum mass was sung. The solos were taken by Messrs. Wm. Kaul, the pastor, preached at 10 a. m., followed by benediction, after which the Sunday school children were given their presents from a huge Christmas tree in the basement. The decorations reflect much credit on the young men of the church who had the charge.

St. Joseph's.

The services in St. Joseph's church were at 5, 8 and 10 a. m., and were all largely attended. The usual Christmas decorations were observable and large numbers received holy communion.

St. James' Episcopal.

St. James' church, as usual, was prettily trimmed; there were masses of greens about the pulpit, a large tree near the organ, and boughs of evergreen on the memorial tablets and between each of the windows. The Christmas service at 10 o'clock was opened with a professional hymn, "O, come all ye faithful," by a large surpliced choir. The Te Deum, the Jubilate and several Christmas hymns were admirably rendered. The pastor, Rev. Dr. C. F. Knight, preached a sermon appropriate to the occasion, an offering being held in aid of worn out clergymen. The holy communion was partaken of by a large number of communicants. The attendance at the service was large considering the stormy weather. The service at St. John's Episcopal church, owing to the illness of the rector.

St. Peter's.

St. Peter's church was very prettily trimmed; there were masses of greens about the pulpit, a large tree near the organ, and boughs of evergreen on the memorial tablets and between each of the windows. The Christmas service at 10 o'clock was opened with a professional hymn, "O, come all ye faithful," by a large surpliced choir. The Te Deum, the Jubilate and several Christmas hymns were admirably rendered. The pastor, Rev. Dr. C. F. Knight, preached a sermon appropriate to the occasion, an offering being held in aid of worn out clergymen. The holy communion was partaken of by a large number of communicants. The attendance at the service was large considering the stormy weather. The service at St. John's Episcopal church, owing to the illness of the rector.