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New Tailor-Made Suits, Skirts and Rain Coats.

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You may think it possible to secure this, but I doubt it. I do not claim to give it, but if you are willing to pay a fair price, for any kind of insurance, in first-class legitimate companies that are well known, I can accommodate you.

CHAS. S. HASTINGS, OVER POST OFFICE.

Tuesday Evening

Mirth, Music and Novelty.

Two Hours of Solid Fun. Those Big Little Favorites, THE Liliputian : : Minstrels, Under Direction of FRANK O. FRENCH

Carl H. Turner's Local Favorites

"A TOWN MEETING,"

Music Hall, March 18.

Admission, 10 Cents. This will be held under auspices of the Y. M. C. A.

Business Directory.

S. H. SPARHAWK & CO., St. Johnsbury, Vt. Brokers. High-Grade California Oil Stocks a Specialty.

Physicians. DR. NED C. STILES, Eye, Ear, Nose and Throat. Office Hours: 9:00 a. m. to 12:00 m.; 1:30 to 4:00, 6:30 to 7:30 p. m.

E. W. HITCHCOCK, M. D. Physician and Surgeon. Special Attention given to Nervous Diseases.

J. M. ALLEN, M. D. SPECIALIST Surgical and Gynecological Diseases. Hours, 8-9, 1-2, 7-8, Sundays 12-3.

DR. J. E. HARTSHORN Specialist—Eye, Ear, Nose and Throat. No. 29 Main St., St. Johnsbury, Vt.

E. H. ROSS, M. D., Physician and Surgeon. Office and residence, 84 Main Street Telephone connection.

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MRS. EMMA F. WELLS, Experienced Nurse. 57 Summer Street, St. Johnsbury, Vt. Patients will receive the best of care and attention.

MARGARET E. CORHAM. PIANO, ORGAN AND HARMONY. 9 Belvidere St., St. Johnsbury.

GEO. C. FELCH, Piano and Organ Tuning and Regulating. 5 Cherry Street, St. Johnsbury, Vt.

ANNIE B. DANIELS, Graduate Tuning Department New England Conservatory. Pianos and Organs tuned and repaired.

DR. T. J. WALSH, Dentist. Crown and Bridge Work a Specialty. 59 Railroad Street, St. Johnsbury, Vt.

DR. J. L. PERKINS, Dentist. Corner Main Street and Eastern Avenue.

DR. C. F. CHENEY, Dentist. Pythian Building, St. Johnsbury.

J. E. TINKER, Jeweler, Danville, Vermont.

CRAWFORD RANNEY, Fire, Life, Accident and Plate Glass Insurance, also Real Estate. Pythian Building, St. Johnsbury, Vt.

MOORE & CO., Fire, Life and Accident Insurance. Steam Boiler, Plate Glass, Elevator and Employers' Liability Insurance.

THE VERMONT MUTUAL FIRE INSURANCE CO. The Strongest, Cheapest and Best for Vermonters.

SPENCER SIMONDS, Notary Public, Pension Agent and Life and Accident Insurance. Pythian Building, St. Johnsbury, Vt.

GUY W. HILL, Attorney and Counselor at Law and Solicitor in Chancery. Merchants Bank Block, St. Johnsbury, Vermont.

RAYMOND J. TRAINOR Attorney at Law. Pythian Building, St. Johnsbury.

ROLFE COBLEIGH, Attorney at Law, Bank Block, over Post Office, St. Johnsbury.

MAY & SIMONDS, Attorneys at Law, Eastern Ave., St. Johnsbury.

DUNNETT & SLACK, Attorneys at Law, Bank Block, St. Johnsbury, Vt.

PORTER & THOMPSON, Attorneys at Law. Office, Republican Block, Eastern Ave.

LAMBERT PACKARD, Architect. Plans and Specifications furnished on application. Pythian Building, St. Johnsbury, Vt.

C. F. GIBBS, Cut Flowers and Floral Designs. For sale at all seasons of the year on short notice. For immediate attention order by telegraph, telephone or special delivery.

REAL ESTATE. RICKABY & COMPANY, 95 Eastern Avenue, St. Johnsbury, Vt.

C. A. STANLEY, Undertaker. Howe Opera House Block, Residence 35 Spring St. Telephone at Store 71-3, At Home 99-4.

D. H. UDALL, D. V. M. Veterinarian, 22 Main Street, St. Johnsbury, Vt.

FRATERNITY MEETINGS.

Passumpsic Lodge, No. 27, F. and A. M. Called Communication Wednesday evening, March 12. The F. C. degree will be conferred.

Edwin L. Spencer, W. M. DeLois M. Bacon, Secretary. Haswell Royal Arch Chapter. Stated Convocation Friday evening, Mar. 28.

Harry A. Bartlett, E. H. P. DeLois M. Bacon, Secretary. Palestine Comendatory, No. 5, K. T. Special Convocation, Friday evening, Mar. 14. The R. A. degree will be conferred.

George F. Cheney, E. C. D. M. Bacon, Recorder. Knights of Pythias. Regular convention of Apollo Lodge, No. 2 Tuesday evening, Mar. 18. Work in Rank of Esquire.

J. M. Cushman, Chancellor Commander. L. S. Brock, Keeper of Records and Seals. NEW ADS. THIS WEEK.

Howe Opera House. Sugar Makers—Bingham's, Boys and Girls—C. S. Page. Opening—E. L. Hunt & Co. Hats—Steele, Taplin & Co. Maise Employment Bureau. Umbrellas, Rings, Eyeglasses. Bankruptcy Notice—J. A. Roy. Suits—Lougee Bros. & Smythe. Draughtsmen—Gilbert & Dutton. Washings wanted—Mrs. Massey. Swell Spring Hats—Moore & Jewett. Bank Statement—Caledonia Nat'l Bank.

LOCAL GATHERINGS.

—W. C. Tyler is in New York on a business trip.

—A. B. Stark recently sold a pair of one-year-old steers for \$97.50.

—The Universalist ladies intend to serve a clam chowder supper next week Thursday evening.

—The young people's dancing club will hold a dancing party at Jr. O. U. A. M. hall Friday evening.

—Social at Universalist church Monday evening; musical and literary program, light refreshments will be served.

—Shortly after the announcement of Gen. Estey's death at Brattleboro Saturday, the Army flag was placed at half mast.

—A sighting drill in preparation for target practice will take the place of the regular drill of Co. D at the Armory tonight.

—The St. Johnsbury band has just secured six fine new instruments—namely, four French horns, one tuba and one baritone.

—Miss E. M. Niles and Mrs. Pannie Chapman will return from market this week and the millinery store on Eastern Avenue will be re-opened, Monday.

—An order from the post office department says that on and after March 1 the pay of carriers in the rural free delivery service is increased 20 per cent, making the present salary \$600.

—Chamberlin Post, G. A. R., will give a song service on Saturday evening at 7.30, open to the public. Everybody is invited to come and bring singing books containing old army songs.

—These letters are advertised at the post office: Smith, Mrs. (Box 36); Hood, Julian C.; Killingbeck, W. H.; Miller, C. B.; Mills, Wilfred F.; Norman, J. J.; Reed, W. A. (2); Sims, Allen; Wright, Wm. H.

—Further developments in the canning factory project depend on the response of Goodwin & Co., who have been notified of the town's vote on exemption and the raising of \$500 in their behalf by popular subscription.

—Parents are puzzled by the questions of their children. The Encyclopedia Britannica answers 250,000 questions and should be within reach of every child. Sample volumes can be seen at F. O. Clark's store.

—W. C. Lewis has retired from the Consumers' Ice Co.; that corporation has disappeared, and Marcus J. Hovey will conduct the business on his own individual account, furnishing the community with "cold comfort" at so much per pound, as usual.

—It is of no use for anybody to send personal or any other items to this office with no other signature than "from a subscriber." We must know who sends the item—or it goes into the waste basket. Anonymous communications too often breed trouble.

—Next Monday afternoon, at 3 o'clock, at the Y. M. C. A. parlor, those ladies interested in forming the St. Johnsbury Consumers' League will meet for organization and election of officers. The league will undoubtedly start off with from 30 to 35 members.

—Between Wednesday evening and Thursday morning last, eight inches of snow fell in this section. On Sunday there was an all-day storm of the "sugar" variety. In fact, the weather for the past week has been quite suggestive of an early spring. However, there is a large quantity of March yet to be undergone.

—Wills Bros. Comedy Co., will give two entertainments at Howe Opera House next week. On Monday evening

they will present "In Atlantic City" and on Tuesday evening "Two Old Cronies." The company includes Frank M. Willis, who is known as one of the best all-around comedians ever heard.

—W. M. Gilbert and E. W. Dutton of the Fairbanks Co.'s draughting department have opened an office at 29 Cliff street, and will conduct the business of architectural and mechanical draughting, etc., under the firm name of Gilbert & Dutton. Their business card giving particulars will be found in another column.

—A Barton Landing correspondent has this to say of one of the sweet devices for which St. Johnsbury is responsible: "Atwood Brothers, manufacturers of 'Imperial Kisses,' report that Hildreth's drug store has sold the greatest amount of any store in any town of the same size in New England. And they still sell and the sale is increasing."

—Sunset Home is to reap the benefits of a fish chowder supper to be given by Chamberlin W. R. C. at G. A. R. Hall Friday evening. Supper will be served from 6 to 8, and there will be a promenade from 8 to 10. Mrs. Helen P. Poole will have charge of making the chowder—which is a sufficient guarantee of its excellence. Tickets 20 cents.

—Tickets for the readings by Dr. William H. Drummond, which will be given at Music Hall on Friday evening, are now on sale at Bingham's and Stiles'. These readings in dialect promise to be most entertaining, and St. Johnsbury people will be pleased to be read to by the man whose writings have afforded them so much genuine enjoyment.

—A Waterford farmer who dropped into the sanatorium on Monday and was questioned as to the prospects for a maple sugar season, said: "Guess we are going to have a good one. We have had three poor seasons in succession, but this winter there has been such a series of freezes and thaws that everything points to a reasonably good season."

—George Jones and Sam Hayes were before Judge Worcester's court, Friday, charged with intoxication. Hayes paid the customary \$11.10, but the former's offense being the third he was fined \$26.10, with an alternate sentence of 75 days in the work house. The fine will be paid in the latter way. Both men stated that they procured the liquor at the agency.

—Lyman S. Brock closed his engagements as bookkeeper at the A. H. McLeod Milling Co.'s office last week, and went to Boston Monday night to take a position with Swift Brothers. He will probably be located at Lowell. Monday evening about 20 of Mr. Brock's gentlemanly friends gathered for a farewell send-off, and presented him with a toilet set and case.

—A. L. Farwell will give a talk on Norway in the chapel of Grace M. E. church, on Thursday evening, March 13, at 8 o'clock. The talk will be illustrated by photographs. This program has been arranged by the Epworth League, who also invite their friends to remain for a social hour. Circumstances have necessitated a postponement of this lecture from Monday night as first arranged.

—On the eve of William F. Straub's departure for Chattanooga last week Tuesday evening, quite a company of friends from Algonquin Tribe, I. O. R. M., and Sheridan Council, Knights of Columbus, gathered at the latter's club rooms on Railroad street, and gave him a hearty send-off. As tokens of esteem and good will the Red Men presented him with a valuable fountain pen and the Knights gave him a meerschaum pipe.

—Inasmuch as there has been a report circulated through the town to the effect that the St. Johnsbury Aqueduct Co. is and has been furnishing river water to its customers on account of an alleged break in its main, we are authorized to state most emphatically that river water is not being furnished to any of the customers of the St. Johnsbury Aqueduct Co., and never has been, and furthermore, there has been no break whatever in any of its mains.

Vermonters in Minneapolis.

The Minneapolis Tribune of recent date tells of the annual banquet and reunion of the Vermont association in that city. The decorations and menu cards were in green and white to remind the guests of their native state. Judge J. B. Giffolan, president of the association, presided. He is a native of Barnet and will be remembered as one of the speakers at our "Old Home Week" banquet last summer. Among the speakers were Gay, S. R. Van Sant and Cyrus Northrop. In the list of guests were the following whose names are familiar in this part of Vermont: Mr. and Mrs. Henry C. Belden, Harry Belden, Misses Mary and Agnes Belden, Mrs. Edward J. Brown, Mr. and Mrs. P. D. McMillan, Mrs. Fred B. Wright, Mrs. R. C. Benton, Miss Margaret McMillan and L. A. Grant.

BENJAMIN F. STEVENS.

Interesting Sketch of a Distinguished Native of Barnet.

Benjamin F. Stevens, the eminent biographer, and a native of Barnet, died at his home in London, last Wednesday, March 5.

Mr. Stevens was born in Barnet, Feb. 19, 1833, and was the youngest son of Harry and Candace Salter Stevens. He received his education at Peacham Academy and Newbury Seminary and at the University of Vermont. After leaving college he was at home for a year or longer and superintended the writing that his father did for the state and for the Vermont Antiquarian Society, of which his father was president.

During this sojourn at his old home he was the originator of many of the social gatherings of the young people and was a leading spirit. His fund of anecdotes never failed him, and his rare conversational powers and the charm of his personality made him a welcome guest in every home. He had great love for the ludicrous, and if a story lacked anything his fertile brain would supply the deficiency with a remark that would bring the house down.

It is now nearly forty years since Mr. Stevens went to London, where his older brother, Henry, resided, but he never lost his interest in old Barnet and his early friends whom he left there. During all these years he kept in touch with them through correspondence, and those friends and their children were often remembered by him with gifts at Christmas and at other times. On the occasion of his visits to his old home he always met his friends just where he left them, and the letters which have been referred to were always full of interest and appreciation for the friends of his childhood.

January 28, 1869, Mr. Stevens was married at Holy Trinity, London, to Miss Charlotte Whittingham of Richmond Villas, Barnsbury, Islington. Their home was at Surbiton Hill, where were extensive gardens in which he delighted to grow and cultivate trees, shrubs, ferns and plants from his old home and native hills. On his last visit home he told of having the only butternut tree in London, and this was a native of Barnet. In the midst of his gardens Mr. Stevens built a small building which served as a kind of den and resting place, where he did much of his writing and enjoyed rest from the din of his London office. This he called "La Barnette."

The literary tastes of Mr. Stevens gave him entrance to the best literary circles of London. For many years he was connected with the London book exchange, and for 25 years was the London dispatch agent with an office at 4 Trafalgar square.

Mr. Stevens gained an enviable reputation for his kindness and attention to American travelers, and he once said that the best passport one could bring to him was the fact that they came from Caledonia county, or from Vermont.

Harry Stevens, the father of B. F., was born in Barnet, which was formerly called Stevens' Village in honor of his father, Enos Stevens. Harry Stevens was the owner of a large tract of land in and near the village. For many years he kept the village hotel, called the "Sheavey," which was later owned by W. S. Brock and destroyed by fire in '91; he also owned the saw mill, carried on a large farm and was prominent in holding town offices, and was also popular in the state as president of the Vermont Antiquarian Society. He died in 1857.

Candace Salter Stevens was the mother of B. F. Stevens, and was born and grew up in Bath, N. H. She was a woman of more than ordinary intelligence and untiring industry. She was far-sighted and her great aim in life was to look well to the ways of her household, and to secure for her five sons and one daughter a college education, which she did something to do for her family in the year 1857.

Enos Stevens, the oldest brother, was educated at Peacham and Middlebury College. He taught school in Vermont, and, after many years, then came back to Barnet. Later, through the advice of his brother-in-law Stevens, he received a position in the custom house at New York City, a place which he was admirably fitted to fill. [Continued on 4th page.]

Early Morning Fire.

Fire partially destroyed the building on Eastern avenue, formerly occupied by Grow's variety store, early Thursday morning. An alarm was rung at 1.45 from box 42. Hose 4 and 5 and the Hook and Ladder Co. responded and after a brisk fight extinguished the flames. The upper story and roof of the building are entirely wrecked but none of the adjacent buildings were damaged. The old store was unoccupied, but the tenement on the second floor was occupied by Henry Courcheine, a carpenter, who with his wife and two children had rather a narrow escape, and lost all their household effects and practically all their clothing. There was no insurance on the building, but Mr. Courcheine carried \$500 on household effects and \$200 on tools. The origin of the fire is in doubt. The building with the old wreck just west of it is a part of the estate of C. C. Grow of Barnet, which is now in bankruptcy. The Citizens Savings Bank and Trust Co. hold a mortgage on the property, the outcome of which is uncertain. It is to be hoped, however, that some arrangements will be made during the coming summer to wipe out those blots that have disfigured Eastern avenue long enough.

The Schubert Company Concert.

The Schubert Male Quartette did a finished piece of work in the singing of an "Evening Song," and the audience showed its appreciation thereof by an emphatic encore, the humorous response to which brought down the house and called forth another encore. The "Nottingham Hunt," the first number on the program, was also finely given by the quartette.

Miss Priest handles the bow with considerable skill; her playing was very much enjoyed, and she was given a recall at each appearance.

Mr. Martin received a most cordial welcome, and his rich, deep bass was very satisfying in the Belouin Love Song and Three Fishers (the latter in response to an encore). It is safe to say that never were these two songs more effectively rendered before a St. Johnsbury audience.

The duet by Mr. and Mrs. Martin, the solos by Mrs. Martin, Mr. Deane and Miss LeFavor and the part songs, helped make up a varied program for Thursday evening last.

A Lift in Insurance Rates.

The heavy losses which the fire insurance companies have sustained of late, by reason of the sweeping conflagrations at Waterbury, Conn., Manchester, N. H., Paterson, N. J., and other localities, have brought about an increase of twenty-five per cent in insurance rates.

The increase applies to mercantile and manufacturers' stocks in buildings located within fire protection, but does not apply to the buildings. It does apply, however, to all stocks and buildings located outside of fire protection.

"Pinafore" Soon.

First rehearsal of Pinafore at the Museum on Friday evening of this week. Let every singer who is to take part be on hand if possible, at 7.30 sharp.

Some 40 members of the Choral Union have agreed to sing in the chorus of Pinafore, to be given here in the very near future, so the success of that part of the opera is assured.

Pinafore is a wholesome, bright, captivating opera, and will appeal to all who want to be well entertained. It is to be given for the purpose of securing a fund towards next season's Choral Union work.

The dates will be announced later. The committee now have in mind the third week in April.

A Business Change.

Harry B. Gordon has purchased the drug department of the Stiles Drug Co., in the Avenue House building, and will conduct that portion of the business, while the other half of the store will be occupied by Don C. Stiles, who has retained the ticket, book, stationery and confectionery end of the business. Mr. Gordon is a thorough pharmacist and his experience in the business here has given him a good acquaintance with the local trade. The change will give Mr. Stiles more time to devote to his part of the business, which has increased greatly during the past year. We bespeak success for both.

Judge Ide May Come Home.

It was announced at Washington, Friday, that President Roosevelt has sent a cable message to Manila expressing sympathy for Judge Ide, of the Philippine commission, who is ill at Yokohama, and saying that he must make his health the first consideration in his plans for the future. It is believed that Judge Ide will be compelled to return to his home to recuperate before he will be able to resume his duties at Manila.