

County Correspondence.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

To insure publication in the issue following, all correspondence must be mailed so as to reach this office the Saturday previous to publication.

HOPKINTON.

Will Kirkwood and wife of Milwaukee are making a visit of a few days at the home of the former's parents, Mr. and Mrs. A. F. Kirkwood.

Miss Cora Ricketts arrived home Tuesday evening for a visit. She has been teaching for the past few months at Indianapolis.

Mrs. J. F. Bindenberger is ill with an attack of typhoid fever. She is reported as improved today, news that will be received with congratulations by her many friends.

Mr. and Mrs. C. H. Marble of Minneapolis arrived Thursday for a visit at the home of Mrs. Marble's mother, Mrs. Peter Lux. They will remain another week. Warren Lux of Dubuque was also at the home of his mother several days.

A mild case of smallpox is reported from Castle Grove, a daughter of John Gavin being the victim. The young lady has been attending school at Cedar Rapids where she contracted the disease. Every precaution is being taken by the family and physicians and it is not thought others will be affected.

A. F. Kirkwood went to Mason City yesterday morning to consult an eye specialist in regard to the removal of a cataract from his right eye. He was accompanied by J. C. Kirkwood.

John Flanagan is going about with his right eye in a sling, the member having been injured by a piece of steel becoming imbedded in the eyeball. The iron was removed by a physician.

In the annual adjustment of post-office salaries, which takes place each year on July 1st, Postmaster Tibbitts receives notice from the department that he will be given a raise in salary of \$200 for the coming year, making the salary now \$1400. The only other office in the county to receive an increase is Manchester, which gets a raise of \$100. The receipts of the post-office are taken as an accurate gauge of the business of a community. It is apparent that Hopkinton is better than holding her own as a business point, and that while many towns are striving hard to hold up under the stress of the times, this town is increasing in population and business. When you think about it, Hopkinton is one of the best towns in the state and it is up to us to keep her going and growing.—Leader.

EAD'S GROVE.

Mrs. L. G. Clute is numbered among the sick.

Ed Capper, wife and child of Westgate, Ia., visited at Fred Timm's part of last week.

Chas. Hanson is helping Henry Holthaus make hay.

Lorena Marshall of Bedford Co. Va. is visiting at J. M. Retherford's.

Joie Goldsworthy has been quite sick but is now better now.

Tom Parkinson and wife spent the Fourth at their farm here.

Nellie Fowler returned to her sister's near Almaral on Thursday.

Will and Lew Frentruss have been up to the farm this week re-shingling their fathers house.

STRAWBERRY POINT.

Senator Newberry went to Waterloo today to attend the State Bar meeting.

Maud Teesdale, who is teaching near Lamont, visited friends here the first of the week.

Miss Ella Logan of Manchester came here Friday morning and visited till Tuesday night at the home of her sister, Mrs. L. H. Cook.

B. B. Davis and wife, and J. F. Davis and wife, left on Monday evening for six weeks visit with relatives in Belle Plaine, Kansas, Wellington, Kansas, and parts in Oklahoma. Mr. Davis is well deserving of his rest and intends making a lengthy visit out of it.

Clig Main and Miss Ava Porter of Hopkinton spent the Fourth with us and visited till Monday evening.

Mr. Main and the Mail Press man used to be "pals" in the Leader office, where Mr. Main now holds down the reins of the mail press. He is a skilled mechanic and workman and executes his work in a way which is both pleasing to his employer and public. Miss Porter is one of the instructors in Lenox College, in typewriting and shorthand, also assistant to the president.

Frank Nace was in town one day last week and strolled into the Mail-Press office with the intention of swapping lies with us, but as we knew him to be such a truthful liar, we decided to publish his yarn. We overlooked it last week but it's good yet. He had been bothered with crows lately, and as he was going to a field, to do some grubbing he thought it best to take his gun along with him. Jim Grapes was also grubbing in a nearby field, when all at once Frank was attracted to where Jim was by Jim's calling and not far from where they stood was a large rattler. Frank, knowing by the sound of Jim's voice that something was up, and of course grabbed his gun, and soon had unloaded both barrels into the rattler's head. It measured about 6 feet long and 11 inches around, and carried with it eight rattlers and a button.

The base ball boys went to Manchester the Fourth only to be beaten by a score of 6 to 3. The boys played good ball, and deserved the game only owing to a few bad decisions given them by the umpire. They were well treated by the management of the team but the crowd, as is generally the case at Manchester, acted like a pack of hoodlums.

COLESBURG.

Mrs. Joseph Merten of Charles City is the guest of friends in this vicinity.

Charles Bergman has purchased John Brown's farm of eighty acres at Skiptelwe, paying \$80 per acre therefor.

George Klaus is over from Manchester interviewing his many friends in this section.

Henry Werdorff and wife made a trip to Lansing, Iowa, on Tuesday returning Thursday.

The many friends of this estimable woman and her family deeply sympathize with them in their trouble.

W. C. Kirckbeck and wife of Delaware were recent visitors at the Bernard Hartbecke home.

Mrs. Frances Crook, whose home is in Colorado is visiting her sister, Mrs. Otto Hang and family.

Henry Evers has purchased Floyd Mitchell's 80 acre tract of land near Little Turkey.

Miss Manie Riegal, who went with her brother and wife to Denver Colorado, several months ago, has returned here to the home of her sister, Mrs. James Porter.

She is just out of the hospital, having recently undergone an operation for the removal of a portion of her foot, the bone thereof being decayed. She has been troubled with the foot ever since leaving here, hence did not enjoy her visit in Colorado as she had anticipated.

Ezra Cropp has purchased Frank Barnhart's farm at Skiptelwe.

ONEIDA.

Clyde Moody of Chicago and Glen Taber of Cedar Rapids were over Sunday visits at the J. Brecken home.

Mrs. Will Miller and son, Clifford, and Mrs. Henry Richardson of Earlville visited at the Geo. Cox home Monday.

Lela and Charlie Burbridge of Manchester are visiting their grandparents, Mr. Frank Burbridge and wife, this week.

S. T. Knox was a Dubuque visitor Wednesday.

Miss Gladys Adams of Delhi visited at the Napier home Thursday.

Miss Agnes Forrest of Nebraska is visiting at the home of her uncle, Mr. T. Dickson.

Mrs. J. B. Howe and daughter, Lalive, are visiting relatives in West Union this week.

Mr. Geo. Heyer and wife of Earlville visited at the Tom Dickson home Sunday.

Mr. J. B. Dunham and wife visited the Johnson Allen home in Earlville Tuesday.

Ellen Haight returned home from Ryan Tuesday after a week's visit with her cousin, Leona Towne.

EARLVILLE.

Don't forget that Aug. 20 is the date for the Earlville Carnival.

Miss Libbie Robinson and Dean Loomis of Central Junction spent Sunday with Dyersville friends.

Mrs. John Hoerner and children of Dubuque returned to her home Monday after a week's visit with her sister, Mrs. Louis Schiller.

Mrs. Blundell and daughter of Parker, S. D., are visiting at the home of Mrs. Jane Ede.

The juvenile base ball team defeated the Plum Creek team on the local diamond Saturday afternoon. Score 8 to 3.

John Inhelder is quite sick at his home in this city.

Representative of the Inter-State Corn-Belt and Delaware County telephone companies held a meeting in the directors' room of the State Bank last Thursday.

The Misses Anna and Lydia Bullinger of Dyersville visited friends in town Thursday.

Mrs. P. Krispny of Chicago visited at the Wort and Werkmeister homes several days last week.

A quartette of local fishermen spent Sunday at the Quaker Mill at Manchester.

The Missionary tea at Mrs. Arthur Johnson's was well attended, about \$800 was taken in.

W. H. Bell and family of Chicago returned to their home after a two week's visit with Dr. and Mrs. Douglas.

Mr. Geo. White of Delhi passed through on his way to Dubuque Thursday evening.

The Misses Florentine and Dorothy Knowles are spending their summer vacation at the home of Mrs. L. G. Hersey.

DELIH.

Miss Addie Angell of Earlville was at G. R. Angells Saturday.

Mr. R. M. Bondurant and wife were Manchester visitors Wednesday.

Mrs. Chas. Stone was a Delaware visitor Friday.

Mrs. J. W. Swinburne, Deputy President for District 28, installed the Rebekah officers at Manchester Tuesday evening and at Greeley on Wednesday evening.

Pansy Griffin has received word of the death of her grandmother, Mrs. Belle Griffin at Pipestone, Minn. Mrs. Griffin was for many years a resident of Delhi.

John McDonald who has been working at the County Farm in the past year or two, moved his family to Edgewood Wednesday.

Miss Edna Minkler of Chicago is visiting her parents, Mr. and Mrs. F. L. Minkler, during summer vacation.

The Epworth League will serve ice cream and cake at the G. A. R. park on Friday evening, July 17. Everybody is invited.

Miss Genie Minkler entertained

five young lady friends over Sunday a week ago at the County farm.

Mrs. E. R. Stone and Miss Adelaide Harris were Manchester visitors Saturday.

Mr. and Mrs. J. C. Cromwell are visiting his parents in Illinois.

Mr. Bernie Davis and wife of Delaware spent Sunday in town.

Cal Martin was a recent guest of Mr. and Mrs. Minkler at County farm.

Alice McGuire of Marion and Ellen McGuire of Ottumwa are visiting their relatives in Delhi and vicinity. They are daughters of Edward and Bernard McGuire respectively.

THORPE.

Mrs. Spence Harding took the train from Thorpe Thursday morning for Graf for a weeks' visit with Henry Wilkerson and wife.

Will White is enjoying a vacation. Mr. Lyons is working in his place.

Roscoe Conklin and wife and nephew, Jean Robertson, of Maynard are visiting a few days with Grandma Robertson.

Mrs. A. O. Stone called on O. Alice and wife last Thursday.

Will White and family left for Milwaukee for a weeks' visit.

Mrs. D. Sark and daughter, Mrs. Perry McCutcheon, of Byron, Ill., called on Mrs. Bert Bowers last Wednesday afternoon.

George Norris and wife are the proud parents of a baby, born last Wednesday.

Grandma Robertson and daughter, Mrs. Frank Merrill, were recent visitors at Walter Paul's in West Union.

Joe Davis of Strawberry Point drove to Manchester last Wednesday.

Mrs. Retz departed for her home in Lamont Wednesday, after visiting with her daughter, Mrs. A. O. Stone.

Isabelle Daisy came home from Lamont, where she has been staying with her sister, Mr. Spence Harding.

Aden Clark is visiting his grandparents Croyles of Oneida.

Charlie Thorpe is repairing his house and barn.

Mrs. Perry McCutcheon departed for her home in Illinois Thursday, after visiting with her parents, for two weeks.

Mrs. Dick White and children of Thorpe are spending a few days with Mrs. White's parents at Stanley.

Edna Boots spent a few days at Thorpe with D. White and wife.

Frank Schmuck had a lumber bee Friday afternoon.

Chester Stone is spending a few days with his uncle, Fred Retz, at Lamont.

Mrs. Charles Kimber and baby of Oneida are visiting a few days at the C. White home.

DYERSVILLE.

Mrs. J. Jaeger and children left Monday for a visit with relatives at Aurora.

Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Cookeley of North Fork were Dyersville visitors Monday.

Anthony Streit of Dubuque spent Saturday and Sunday with home folks here.

Miss Nellie Binning returned Monday morning from Oneida, where she visited relatives for several days.

Mrs. John Barnds of Manchester is a guest of her home folks, the John Nachtmann family, in this city several days this week.

Mr. George Krappl and daughter of Petersburg were shopping in this city Friday.

Miss Lizzie and May Kennelly of Dubuque spent the Fourth and Sunday with relatives here.

Mr. and Mrs. A. Holbrook of Manchester were among the guests here the Fourth and Sunday.

Joe Kortenkamp went to Aurora last Friday afternoon to visit relatives for a few days.

Frank Barry of this place and brother, R. C. Barry of Minneapolis went to Farley Monday to look after the business interest of their brother, the late John Barry.

Misses Mary and Frances Willenborg of New Vienna departed from this place Wednesday morning for Remsen, Iowa, where they will spend several weeks with relatives.

Mrs. Jos. Steger of Adrian, Minn., who has been visiting relatives here the past few weeks, returned to her home Tuesday night. Tony Reittinger accompanied her and will spend sometime with relatives.

Rev. B. H. Forckenbrock of New Hampton was a visitor here with relatives the fore part of this week.

Mr. and Mrs. George Schneiders and family of Pocahontas are guests of relatives here and at Petersburg.

Mrs. Henry Kirkhoff and children and her sisters, Misses Clara and Margaret Dalhem, arrived here Monday afternoon from Remsen and drove to Cascade, where they will visit at the parental home. Mrs. Kirkhoff will spend some time with relatives and friends here before returning home.

RYAN.

A number of Ryan young people attended the dance at the W. J. McEnany home last evening and report a most enjoyable time.

James Keegan delivered fifty-five fine porkers to Miller & Preston here today.

Miss Jeanette Young, of Chicago, is here on a week's visit with her friend Miss Vina Brazelton.

Wm. Carrothers was shaking hands with friends in Ryan Tuesday.

W. H. Ward is in Dubuque this week attending the annual convention of the Pharmaceutical Association.

Leslie Barker, the young man who was so badly injured last week at the Pat Behan farm by being struck by a hay fork, is getting along nicely.

Joseph McElliot, the three year old son of Mr. and Mrs. P. F. McElliot was taken to Dubuque Sunday for treatment and a slight operation was performed on him Monday.

We are pleased to state that the little fellow is doing well.

Mrs. H. E. Vinton, of Whitman, Neb.; returned the first of the week to her home, after a pleasant visit

with relatives and friends here. She was accompanied by her father, Pat Behan who will swap yarns with the Nebraska farmers for a couple of months.

BASEBALL UMPIRES.

Kicking on Their Decisions is as Old as the Game.

Much has been said and written about the habit that ball players have, and apparently cannot break themselves of entirely, of disputing decisions of the umpire. The practice dates back for many years. As far back as 1859, in an account of a game between the famous Atlantics of Brooklyn and the Excelsiors there appeared the following:

"We hope to see the boys' play of disputing over the decision of umpires entirely done away with."

Many years have passed since that was written, and the players still dispute what in some quarters it is argued should be the sacred decisions of the judges of play. Nowadays the best umpires in the game make allowance for the state of mind a player is in while engaged in a close contest.

The following extract is from a New York paper printed in 1907:

"Kelly says that Peck's dummy has created quite an excitement on Ann street. Dressed in a full baseball rig, he looks quite neat. Scofield of the Haymakers did think about bringing the figure over to the Union grounds to act as umpire in the Haymakers' match yesterday, but a young man named Monell was found who answered nearly as well."—New York Tribune.

MEPHISTO'S RING.

A Jewel That Bears a Deadly Reputation in Spain.

It seems strange to read in these days of a ring which is believed to have an evil influence over its owner and which is known as "Mephisto's ring."

Such a ring exists and until recent years was in possession of the Spanish royal family. The ring is set with a very large emerald, in the center of which is inserted a ruby.

It is first heard of in the sixteenth century, since when the kings and queens have suffered disasters unnumbered, while the whole country has gradually sunk from its former eminent position.

When the late Hispano-American war broke out the ring was presented to the church. The sacred building shortly after was destroyed by fire.

The next resting place of the ring was a museum, which was twice struck by lightning while holding the ill-omened jewel.

It has now, it is said, been packed in a strong box and securely buried. It remains to be seen whether this will finally put an end to its "mystic" power.—Pearson's Weekly.

A Problem in Numbers.

No one is known to have succeeded in finding two integral numbers such that the sum of their cubes would produce the cube of a whole number.

The cubes of the first ten numbers give the following series: 1-8-27-64-125-216-343-512-729-1000. This series may be prolonged indefinitely. The problem would then be to find two members of the series that if added together would equal to another member. Adding 125 and 216, we get 341, which is certainly pretty close to 343. Again, adding 216 and 512, we obtain 728, which is within a slight margin of 729, another member of the series. Another example of being very close, but not exact, is that 729 plus 1000 gives 1729, which is but a single unit more than 1728, the cube of 12. It will thus be seen that the first twenty cubes yield two cases where the approximation is but a unit out of the way. As the possible entries are infinite in number, it may seem worth while to prosecute the search.—Scientific American.

Trapped by its Portrait.

If an old English writer be true in his observations, the pheasant must be a very simple bird, for he declares that it puts its head in the ground and thinks that all its body is then hidden.

The same author says that it was also captured by another curious plan. A picture of the bird was painted on cloth and then placed in a spot where it was sure of being seen. By and by a silly pheasant came along, caught sight of the portrait and goes up to have a close view of the new neighbor. While engaged in inspecting the canvas the fowler draws near from behind and throws his net over the unwary art student.

The Dangers of Riches.

More men have been ruined by affluence and its consequent temptations than have ever been wrecked on the rocks of poverty. To the rich man duty often loses its imperative voice, and he tampers with his claims and neglects his fulfillment, while all the time he is breeding greed and selfishness in his heart, to the detriment of his whole life. Against all this and much more the man of relative poverty is defended and kept.—Strand Magazine.

Practical Sympathy.

A gentleman was one day relating to a Quaker a tale of deep distress and concluded by saying:

"I could not but feel for him."

"Verily, friend," replied the Quaker, "thou didst right in that thou didst feel for thy neighbor, but didst thou feel in the right place? Didst thou feel in thy pocket?"

Terrifying.

"Work never hurts anybody," said the industrious man.

"No," answered Plodding Pete, "but it's most as bad to be scared as hurt."

Washington Star.

Among life's ups and downs the most annoying are keeping expenses down and appearances up.—New Orleans Times-Democrat.

Landseer and the Dog Tax.

On one of Landseer's early visits to Scotland the great painter stopped at a village and took a great deal of notice of the dogs, jotting down rapidly sketches of them on a piece of paper.

Next day on resuming his journey he was horrified to find dogs suspended from trees in all directions or drowning in the rivers, with stones around their necks. He stopped a weeping urchin, who was hurrying off with a rope in his arms, and learned to his dismay that he was supposed to be an excise officer who was taking notes of all the dogs he saw in order to prosecute the owners for unpaid taxes.

His Inference.

Crags—Did you tell Silmpers you thought I was a man without any balance? Butts—Well, I naturally inferred that if you had a balance you would draw on it for the amount you owe me.—Philadelphia North American.

How a Hat is Sized.

C. writes that the size of a hat is calculated on a curious principle. It is the length plus the breadth divided by 2. Thus a head 8 1/2 inches long and 6 1/2 inches broad would require a hat size of 14 1/2 divided by 2, which is 7 1/4—Gladstone's size.

Your correspondent C. is perfectly right in his description of the curious way in which the size of a hat is obtained, writes G., but his sample dimensions are slightly misleading. Such an "oval" as 8 1/2 inches by 6 1/2 inches would scarcely be met with twice in a lifetime. The normal difference between the length and width (technically called the "oval") is invariably through the gannet of sizes 1 1/2 inches.

Thus an ordinary 6 1/2 hat would measure 7 1/4 inches long and 6 inches wide and a 7 1/4 (four sizes bigger) 8 inches long and 6 1/2 inches wide. The longest head I have measured in many thousands was 8 1/2 by 7 1/4, which is the equivalent of a 2 1/2 inch oval. Needless to say, the inside of the hat was the shape of a cannaibot.—Manchester Guardian.

It Did Not Work.

Mrs. Billings was installing the new cook, a maiden from Finland, to whom the kitchen contrivances of America were new and wonderful. "This, Ina," said the lady, indicating a perforated wooden board that hung against the kitchen wall, "is the order list. See, it says 'butter, eggs, sugar, coffee, tea, molasses'—everything that we need to eat. Whenever we are out of any of these things all you need to do is to place one of these little pegs in the hole opposite the name and the things will be ordered."

Mrs. Billings is not a methodical housekeeper. There were several consecutive days when she completely forgot the existence of the order list in the kitchen, but Ina labored with it faithfully.

"News!" pleaded Ina, after struggling with the order board for three days, "I think dose board must be out of order. I push dose peg in just so far as I can, but nothing will come—no egg, no butter, no molasses."—Youth's Companion.

The Voice and the Phonograph.

A vaudeville monologue man met a friend in a Broadway car. After they had talked awhile the friend said:

"I've been conscious ever since we began to talk of some change in you, but I couldn't make out what. I know now, it is your voice. You speak so much more distinctly than you used to."

"That is because I have been talking into a phonograph," said the vaudeville performer. "The surest remedy on earth for stentorian speech is to hear a little lecture of your own rolled off a phonograph record and find that about half the words have been pronounced in direct opposition to what you and all the rest of the authorities. That was my experience. I practiced for two months hard before I could improve a speech that had been good enough for the theater up to the point where it would pass muster in a talking machine."—New York Sun.

His View of It.

A little boy had been sent to the dairy to get some eggs, and on his way back he dropped the basket containing them.

"How many did you break?" asked his mother.

"Oh, I didn't break any," he replied, "but the shells came off some of them."

HIS SERVICES.

What Became of All the Bills He Introduced in Congress.

"Yes, my fellow citizens," said the political candidate, "if you have paid any attention to the work of congress you will have noticed that during the past session I introduced twenty-two bills, each of which was intended to benefit this community. I stand before you today with the proud consciousness of having served you faithfully and to the best of my ability. Those twenty-two bills would, if they had been passed, have made this one of the most favored districts on God's green earth."

"Oh," yelled a man in the gallery, "we know you introduced 'em, all right, but what happened to 'em after that?"

"Gentlemen, I appeal to your sense of honor. Do you consider it fair that I should be interrupted in this manner? Is it right that I should—"

"There ain't no harm in answerin' the question, is there?" asked another of the statesman's hearers.

"Well, sir, I will tell you what became of those bills, my fellow citizens. Every one of them was printed in the Congressional Record, where, if you will look over the files, you may find them today. But to revert to the second question, gentlemen, I do not hesitate to promise that no man living in this, the most splendid district in our grand old state, shall appeal to me in vain if you shall deem it best to send me back to Washington, where I have served you with such signal ability."—Chicago Record-Herald.

The Ticket That Came Back.

A prominent railway man tells of a railway ticket that took a sudden journey of its own account. It appears that as a northbound train on the Colorado and Southern road passed one of the stations a passenger in a forward car raised a window, and in an instant his ticket was blown from his hands. The passenger naturally gave it up for lost and was much surprised when the baggage-master handed it to him a little while later. It appears that when the ticket flew through the window a southbound train was passing. The action of that train, which was moving at a rapid rate, drew the ticket along with it, and as it passed the rear end of the northbound train it blew into the door of the smoking car. There it was found by the baggage-master.—Minneapolis Journal.

Moscow's Beggars.

Of the beggars so characteristic of Russia's ancient capital a writer says: "The old city of Moscow could not easily be dissociated from the 50,000 beggars who haunt its streets. The city belongs to them. If the city rats own the drains, they own the streets. They are part of the city; they are in perfect harmony with it. Take away the beggars and you destroy something vital. Some are so old and weather-battered that they make the Kremlin itself look older, and of those who lie at the monastery doors some are so fearfully pitiable in their decrepitude that they lend power to the churches."

DR. J. J. LINDSAY, M. D., PHYSICIAN AND SURGEON,