

SANDYVILLE.

Pleasant Grove Mite Society will hold a social on Thursday night, December 30, at the home of Mr. Ullyses Shipley.

Pleasant Grove will treat the Sunday school Wednesday afternoon, December 23. If inclement on Thursday afternoon.

Rev. Fields preached a splendid Christmas sermon Sunday morning, December 19.

Rev. Maddox will preach at Sandy Mount this Sunday morning at 10.30. Sandy Mount sent Rev. Maddox a turkey for Christmas dinner.

Christian Endeavor was led Sunday night, December 12, by Mrs. William Westaway. Topic, "The Reasonableness and Value of the Christian Endeavor Pledge." Sunday night, December 19, "The Angels Song." It was a very interesting service. The meeting was well attended. As it was "Peace Sunday" the addresses, readings, prayers and songs were principally on that subject.

Sandy Mount Mite Society will meet at the home of Mr. Emory Zepp, Friday night, New Year's Eve. After the business a social will be held. The male members will be entertained at this meeting. The treasurer will give a report of the past year's work.

Our people are very busy shopping in Westminster and Baltimore. Getting ready for the Christmas holidays. A number of dinners will be given.

Your correspondent wishes all a very Pleasant and Happy Christmas.

Weather is very cold and cloudy at this time, looks very much like we will have snow.

LOCUST HILL.

Washington Camp, No. 53, P. O. S. of A. will hold a fair and bazaar in the Hall at Grand Valley, beginning New Year's evening and will be continued January 4, 6 and 8. Music will be furnished by the Carroll County Reed Band.

Wisner's School held its Christmas entertainment, Thursday evening, December 23rd, at the school house.

Black's Sunday school held its entertainment Wednesday evening, December 22nd.

Wisner's Union Sunday school will treat its pupils, Sunday morning at 9.30 a. m.

St. Bartholomew's Union Sunday school will treat its pupils Sunday afternoon, December 26th, at 1 p. m.

The revival meetings which have been in progress at Bart's U. B. church, for four weeks, came to a close, last Sunday night.

Born to Mr. and Mrs. Charles Newman, near Mt. Pleasant, a daughter, Tuesday, December 14th.

Luther Shely, of near Black's School house, left Sunday for Lancaster, where he has accepted a position as clerk in one of the large stores.

Albert Leppo and sons, John and Jacob, attended the funeral of Mrs. Robert Feeser, of Littlestown, which was held at Silver Run, last Sunday afternoon.

Mr. and Mrs. Clarence Warner and children, of the Pigeon Hills, and Mr. and Mrs. Horatio Wertz and children, of Pleasant Hill, visited at the home of M. H. Warner, Sunday.

TAYLORSVILLE.

Everybody is preparing for Christmas. For some it will have joy. For others it will have sorrow.

Mr. A. T. Porter is very sick at this writing.

Rev. C. H. Corkran visited relatives near Washington, during the week.

The Ladies' Aid will hold its December meeting Thursday afternoon, December 30th, in the basement of the church. You are cordially invited.

Santa Claus, from A. J. Stem's, Winfield, paid our school a visit, presenting each pupil a toy. Come again, you are a welcome visitor.

Rev. C. H. Corkran will give an illustrated sermon Sunday evening, January 2nd, 1916.

The members of the Band wish to thank each and every one, who in any way helped to make their oyster supper a success. Again we thank you.

The funeral of David Cover, held at this place Saturday morning, (owing to the inclement weather,) was largely attended. We extend our sympathies to the bereaved ones.

The funeral of Levere Farver was preached Sunday afternoon and was well attended. We extend our sympathies to the bereaved family.

Robert Farver, of Winfield, purchased the Pickett farm, Saturday. The price being \$53.00 per acre. We wish him success.

Merry Xmas and Happy New Year, to all.

BARE BRANCH.

Mr. and Mrs. Theodore Yingling, of Hanover, spent Sunday with their daughter, Mrs. Claud Myers.

Mr. and Mrs. Elmer Wantz and three children, Ralph, David and Robert, and Miss Grace Dudner, of Sent's Grove, spent Sunday evening with Mr. and Mrs. Jeremiah Kooztz.

Mr. Horace Kooztz and little Miss Georgia Bixler, of Mahogany Farm, spent Sunday and Monday in Littlestown, Pa.

Mr. Charles Kemper is suffering with a sprained ankle.

Miss Bertha Brown, of Canada Hill, spent Sunday with her parents, Mr. John Brown and family.

Born to Mr. and Mrs. Howard Marker, on December 19, a baby girl.

LINEBORO.

Christmas entertainments will be held as follows: Lineboro, Sunday, December 26, Miller's, Friday, December 24, Greenmount U. B., Saturday, December 25, Hampstead M. E., Monday, December 27, St. Paul's, Sunday, December 26. There will be no Christian Endeavor services Sunday, owing to the Christmas services which will be held Sunday evening.

Rev. Land, the Reformed pastor of the Manchester Charge, is confined to his bed with pneumonia.

Maurice Wentz, a student at the University of Maryland, is spending his Christmas vacation with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. O. B. Wentz.

CHRISTMAS.

Githa Paul Miller, Westminster, Md. Nearly two thousand years ago Jesus Christ was born in the city of David, and there were in the same country shepherds abiding in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night.

"Glorious God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men; should be kept in our hearts all the time. Let us know no man after the flesh, but as brothers and sisters. Let us help those in distress; raise them from the depths of disappointment up to the glory of the cross.

God so loved the world that He gave to us His only begotten son that we might have eternal life. Jesus Christ humbled himself unto death; even the death of the cross that we might be saved. What is life? Life is thought; yet it is more than living in this world—it is the childhood of our immortality.

The greatest longing of the human soul is for life and light, and the greatest dread is of death and darkness. The Great Physician comes as the destroyer of death, the dispenser of darkness and the giver of life, light and immortality. Why not become a Christian that you may enjoy life in abundance and light in all its effulgence and glory? God's gift of salvation is free to all of every nation.

Today in love we bow before Him, Saviour, Lord and King. Today while Christmas bells so sweetly ring we lift our hearts above to God and He will smile upon us all. I hope, that the shining stars of the midnight sky will gleam and glow as they did one night when the wisemen from afar were led by the beautiful star of Bethlehem to the manger where they found the Messiah and those who do not know Him will see the Stars of Hope and be brought into fellowship of the heart of the Eternal God is love and love is the bridge that unites heaven and earth.

Christmas is the presence of God in the humanity of humanity, bridging love in the human breast and bringing us back to that lost Eden and the old paradise. I am glad we are marching on beneath the light of Bethlehem's guiding star and will be heirs together of an eternal kingdom of glory.

It sounds false when we utter, "Peace on earth, good will to men" for we know there is neither peace nor good will abroad in the world today. For almost two thousand years we have been preaching the word of Him who died on the cross to save us and yet most of the nations of the world are now contestants in the greatest, most needless and cruel war in history. It would seem that civilization and even Christianity itself is before the bar for trial and might be proven a failure.

The nations at war are fast approaching the most terrible crisis of their national existence. In a great time of unparalleled trouble, which is even now imminent, they are about to reap what they have sown. They have sown to the wind the seeds of selfishness, greed and jealousy and now will reap the whirlwind of terror and the destruction of all law and order and of national and social organization. They have poured the sweet milk of concord into hell, thereby creating war. War is a dread and awful calamity and sucks at the hearts of the nations like a vampire. What can we think—of do?

Humanity in general are questioning in exactly the same way. There is a fearful unrest among the people who seem to be beset by doubt and fears. This war has staggered humanity for the conditions are unparalleled in the annals of the very darkest ages. Most all nations are divided—the chasm seems endless in its immensity.

Last Christmas we had hoped that another year would see the end of murder—today there are more nations engaged than when it began. The present hour is dark and the future more menacing still. Millions of homes are in mourning for fathers, husbands and sons, who have been called to give their lives in battle-fighting their fellowmen. This horrible conflict is not their making but they are the sufferers, they and those dear ones at home.

This war seems to be shaking our faith in Him whose birth we celebrate today. We ask, "If God is king of kings why does He allow this war? Why all the suffering and grief? Many feel forsaken in the hour of peril. From the human point of view Christianity does seem a failure.

But the human point of view is not the right one. Wars and sin are of man's own making. The greater the assault on Christianity the greater in the end will the triumph be. Let us keep faith in Jesus; when that is gone what have we left? There is no guess work about God. Faith in God will carry us over the bridge of Doubt and unbelief to the solid foundation of certain conviction. Faith is absolutely supreme.

Let us thank God that we are at peace with the world and ask His blessing and guidance for our President, Cabinet and Congress in "Peaceful watching and waiting. Think of the blood soaked battle fields, wounded and dying soldiers, family ties broken, which course is the best? If we had engaged in war there would be many vacant chairs today as many parents and bleeding hearts; instead we have peace which is above all earthly dignities. President Wilson is certainly one of the most nobly useful men in the world. I have the greatest admiration for him and the most profound confidence in his extraordinary handling of such an immense question.

Let us celebrate the holiday by carrying sunshins in all the darkened

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TANETOWN. The following were guests of Chas. H. Crebbs and family on Sunday last: Joseph Dayhoff and family and Miss Edith Dayhoff, of Linwood; Thomas Smith, of New Windsor, and Robert Myerly, of Westminster.

Miss Mary Slagenhaupt died at Springfield Hospital on Thursday last and her remains were brought to C. O. Fuss and sons on Friday about noon and prepared for burial. Miss Slagenhaupt had been an inmate of Springfield about two years. She was in her 73rd year. Funeral on Sunday afternoon at Harney U. B. Church of which she was a life long member. She is survived by two sisters, Mrs. Ellen Angell, and Mrs. Miranda Bishop, of Harney, and two brothers, William and Samuel, also of near Harney.

D. W. Garner and wife will leave this Thursday for New York City, to spend Christmas with their daughter, Mrs. J. M. Hoagland, and family. Mrs. Garner intends remaining until after New Year.

On December 15th, at the home of the bride, at Evans City, Pa., Miss Minnie E. Stratton and Mr. Edgar H. Essig, son of D. H. Essig, of this place, were united in marriage. Mr. Essig is employed as agent for the B. & O. R. R. at Foxburg, Pa. Mrs. Essig was chief operator and manager for the Central District Telephone Company, of Zellenople, Pa. The bride and groom spent from Saturday until Wednesday with the parents of the groom, D. H. Essig and wife, where they were tendered a reception on Sunday afternoon. About fifty-two relatives and friends were present. They left on Wednesday evening on an extended trip to Kissimmee, Fla., after which they will be at home at Foxburg, Pa.

William Witherow and wife left this Wednesday evening on a visit to their son, Charles, and daughter, Mrs. Elmer Bercau, of Ohio.

Mrs. Guy P. Bready spent from Thursday until Saturday in Frederick and Walkersville.

The students of the various colleges have arrived home for the Christmas holidays.

Merry Christmas and Prosperous New Year to the editor and staff and readers of the Advocate.

Misses Marion Claybaugh and Lela Frock, of near Bruceville, visited at the home of Thomas Fox, on Sunday. Mrs. Elizabeth Baumgardner, Reuben Alexander and wife, and son, Andrew, and Mabel and Silas Barnes visited at Peter Baumgardner's on Sunday.

Charlie Clutz and wife called at W. E. Ritter's on Tuesday evening. Roy Baumgardner spent Thursday at Blue Ridge College, New Windsor.

KEYSVILLE. O. R. Koontz and wife, and T. C. Fox and wife visited their brother, Edward Fox, in Hanover, who is very ill, on Sunday.

Mr. William Devillias spent several days last week at Loys Station.

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BENNEERSVILLE. A Merry Xmas and a Happy New Year to all. Mr. Edward Kauffman, of Baltimore, and Mr. Dan Kauffman, of Westminster, spent Sunday with their uncle, Mr. John H. Benner.

Mr. John H. Benner, who has been quite sick, is better at this writing. Mr. Homer M. Warehime, of Westminster, spent Sunday with Samuel Miller and family.

Mr. Samuel O. Miller and family spent Saturday evening with Edward Gilbert and family, of Medford.

In Spitzbergen the longest day lasts for three and a half months.

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