

Fiction lags after truth, invention is unfruitful, and imagination cold and barren.

And the truth is that

The News Item

Ever Charming, Ever New,

is the

Handsomest and Best

Newspaper

in Sullivan County

giving

All the News

or

All the County

All the Time

Read it, Your neighbor does.

Subscribe, Don't borrow.

Pay up-to-date— Or else we can't keep up this gait.

County Seat Indices.

—The weather clerk still remains unsettled in his mind.

—Mrs. Dale Pitts of New York is visiting Mrs. F. W. Meyler.

—Tom Quane left on Tuesday for a few weeks visit in Montrose.

—J. W. Buck of Sonestown was a business visitor in town Saturday.

—Spring fever microbes are beginning to move uneasily in these sleep.

—Michael Wall of Cherry was transacting business in town Wednesday.

—Ulisses Bird was transacting business at the county seat Saturday.

—Thos. E. Kennedy was a business visitor in Jamison City on Saturday.

—Jury Commissioner Henry Swank Muncy Valley was in town Tuesday.

—Harry Paulhamus was a business visitor in town Tuesday.

—A large number of Laporte citizens enjoyed the pleasure of attending the bazaar at Bernice Monday night.

—Atty. Walsh of Dushore was the only attorney from out of town that transacted business at the license court Monday.

—Miss Eva Lawrence who is attending school at Dushore spent a few days with her parents Prothy, and Mrs. Lawrence.

—County Treasurer Ransom Thrasher was in town Monday looking after the affairs of his office.

—Miss Emma Ritter of this place spent the latter part of last week with relatives and friends at Glen Mawr.

—It takes a lot of genuine moral courage to pay for "dead horses" when there are many live needs at one's very elbow.

—Judging by the balmy weather of the last few days, the ground hog must have taken his observation through the wrong end of his field glasses.

—Services at the Baptist church next Sunday as follows. Sunday School at 11 a. m. Christian Endeavor at 6:30 p. m. Preaching at 7:30. All are welcome.

—Mrs. Oscar Lewis of Nordmont and Mrs. Frank Lewis of Fairmount Springs were visiting with Mrs. Wm. Lawrence Saturday.

—J. W. Ballard moved his family to Towanda on Monday where he has been employed in the blacksmith business for several weeks.

—The fall of tracking snow Saturday started Henry Waltie looking for Bear in Cherry Township. He returned late Sunday but had no story to tell.

—M. E. Church Sunday School 10 a. m. Epworth League 6:30 p. m. Preching 7:30 p. m. by the pastor Rev. Wm. S. Skinner.

—In Philadelphia last Saturday a man shot and killed two sisters because one refused to marry him. He evidently wanted misery somehow and failing by her refusal he made sure of it by trying murder.

—Rev. and Mrs. Skinner are this week visiting with her mother at Media Pa. On Monday evening February 28th the Reverend will give an illustrated lecture on "Uncle Tom's Cabin," in the M. E. church at this place. A small Admisson fee will be charged.

—The Rev. Dr. Talmage said that the first Sunday after his recent marriage was one of the most quiet and restful of his life. He found it a relief to have someone else to do the talking perhaps.

—There is an old man in California who is a philosopher, prophet and poet, who claims to have solved the problem of living forever. He lives a hermit's life, eats only three times a week and never expects to die. He should go into the newspaper business.

—Following are the names of those from Muncy Valley seen at Laporte Sunday: T. F. Kernan, Wm. Morin, W. C. Taylor, M. D. Taylor, A. P. Miller, T. J. Whitaker and wife, James Moran, Geo. D. Holler, D. Palmatier and J. E. Gallagher.

—Willis Snyder had a valuable team of horses killed on Tuesday in the woods near his job along the Sock, by falling over a ledge of rocks fifty feet in height.

—Owing to the impaired condition of the Editor's eyes the News Item this week reaches its reader a little late. Watch for new advertisement that should have appeared this week, but owing to the above cause was necessarily layed over another week.

—We were all somewhat agitated on the sorrowful disaster of the Maine last week but it is a pretty rank partisan who cannot feel a pleasure in contemplating the calm demeanor of the government under the trying conditions arising from the accident to the Maine. The President, Congress and the large majority of the army and navy officers who have had the most experience are advising against any rash jump at impossible conclusions and helping to preserve the equilibrium of public opinion. It is not fair to accuse Spain or any body else of wrecking the vessel. There is no more reason to suppose that the destruction was intentional than to suppose that it was accidental. This country cannot afford to assume that Spain is the cause of the trouble, and then proceed to find evidence to prove theory. That is to prejudice all investigation and to stand a chance of defeating the truth. In working up such a feeling we are getting away from the facts.

Truth demands that the nature of the accident be first understood and the cause and responsibility worked up from that. It is just as essential that we know the cause if the ship was blown up from internal sources as if by outward agency.

Theories are plentiful enough, and what might have been is put in print copiously, but the facts indicate nothing that would justify lead to the accusation of intentional destruction. It after all the fuss that has been made about Spain in the affair, the accident is shown to have been the result of conditions within the ship, how can we justify the egotism that would shift the effects of our own oversight to the shoulders of a sister nation? It is fortunate that wise counsels direct the affairs of government, or that mistaken impetuous folly which loves to be called patriotism would lead to complications which might prove humiliating, or even more costly, to retreat from. The man who learns what made the trouble before he gets too noisy about it is just as much of a patriot as the fellow who wants to blow up a town or two before he investigates.

That suspicion is prevalent, it is useless to deny but until the wreck of the noble ship yields up from beneath the water the secret of her destruction or conclusive evidence from some other quarter leaves no reasonable ground for doubt, public judgment will remain in suspense, holding the Spanish government and Spain's agents meanwhile guiltless. If it is found that Maine was the victim of treachery then let the American Eagle scream for vengeance.

THE DEACON'S SERMON.

It Was a Strong Appeal Not to Impute "Degrees" and Turn Away "Latherus."

"Dar wuz a rich man, name Degress, en likewise a po'man, name Latherus. Well, Latherus come 'long 'bout Chris-mus, en bein' all stove up wid de rheumatism, en threaten wid de smallpox, he set down fer ter res' himself 'long-side de rich man's gate; en Latherus, bein' hungry, holler out: 'Chris'mus gift!' But de rich man tell him: 'Go 'way fum heah, man! I ain't got ez much ez a crumb fer you!' En den de dogs come out en chase him off. But, see de prevention er providence! De rich man overeat himself, en wake up stone ded, en hotter den de sun in August! En he look 'roun en say: 'What is it?' En de devil answer: 'My son, you's in de fire department. You j'ined las' night!' Den de rich man say: 'I wish you please, suh, tell Kunnel Latherus ter turn on de hose on me, kase dis heah's hot stuff!' But de devil make answer: 'Yo' fr'en Latherus is up yonder, spendin' Chris'mus wid M.ter Abraham, en he done sen' word dat he ain't got time ter fool wid you. You's my meat now, en I gwine ter br'ile you till you plumb brown!' En all bekase de rich man fall ter come down wid de money when Latherus holler: 'Chris'mus gift!' How many sinners heah is gwine ter do like Degress done? How many is gwine ter drive Latherus fum de gate on Chris'mus day? Brer Williams, pass de hat, en less sen'!"

—I feel best when I eat least."

—The domestic orders of Lord Salisbury's in bed by 11 o'clock and he of the great way of doing everything. To be a Goldstein, insists that there is a never-challenged and like Sir Charles very precise, exact obedience which is to all men. He lives scrupulously, is takes with instructions to be all things expected to attend he sends his secretary to the party receptions which he is early as any citizen on \$1,000 a year. He Lord Salisbury would like to be a Gold-

STOLEN SECRETS.

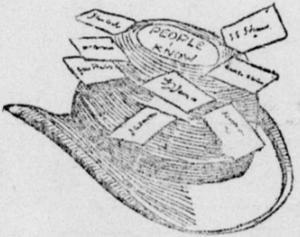
Valuable Manufacturing Processes Taken by Stealth.

In days gone by the proprietor of a chemist's shop close by Temple Bar, in London, enjoyed the monopoly of making citric acid. He employed no workmen; the mysterious operation by which he grew rich was confined to himself. One day, having locked the doors and blinded the windows, the chemist went to dinner. A chimney-sweep, or boy disguised as such, wide awake on chemistry, was on the watch. Following the man to Charing Cross to make sure that he would not return that day, the sooty philosopher hid rapidly back to Temple Bar, ascended the low building, dropped down the flue, saw all he wanted and returned, carrying with him the mystery. The monopoly of the inventor was gone. A few months after the price of the article was reduced four-fifths. The poor man was heartbroken and died shortly afterward, ignorant of the trick by which he had been victimized.

The history of cast steel presents a curious instance of a secret stealthily obtained under the cloak of an appeal to philanthropy. In 1760 there lived at Attercliff a watchmaker named Huntsman. He became dissatisfied with the watch springs in use and set himself to the task of making them homogeneous. He succeeded; his steel became famous, and about 1770 a large manufactory of this peculiar steel was established at Attercliff. The process was wrapped in mystery, faithful men were hired, large wages paid and stringent oaths administered. One midwinter night as the tall chimneys of the Attercliff steel works belched forth their smoke a traveler knocked at the gate. It was bitterly cold and the stranger awakened no suspicion. Moved by motives of humanity, the foreman let him in. Feigning to be worn out with cold, the fellow sank upon the floor and soon appeared to be asleep. That, however, was far from his intention. He saw workmen cut bars of steel into bits, place them in crucibles and thrust the crucibles into the furnace. The fire was urged to its extreme heat until the steel was melted, and then drawn out and poured in liquid form into molds. Mr. Huntsman's factory had nothing more to disclose; the secret of making cast steel had been stolen.

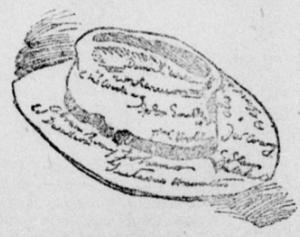
New Use for Old Hats.

Never content with ordinary decorations for their boudoirs, girls are now using the cast-off derby hats of their admirers as card receivers.



HER CARD RECEIVER.

A scheme is a simple and economical one. After getting an old hat, the fair faddist cuts numerous gashes in the crown, into which the cards of her friends are stuck. In the center of the crown she puts a small card containing the words "People I Know." The hat is



THE AUTOGRAPH HAT.

then fastened to a ribbon and hung on the wall. At the university some of the bright young men wear slouch hats, on the brims and crowns of which are written the names of their friends. A blue hat with red autographs is held to be the topmost thing in this line.

Go into Exile for the Sick.

In San Francisco they are talking about the bravery of two young nurses who have volunteered to nurse a patient sick with typhus. The sick man who had been admitted to the hospital in which Miss O'Reilly and Miss MacLean, the nurses, are in training was found to have typhus. He had to be isolated, and there was no place where he could be.

Accordingly, two tents have been erected in the hospital grounds—one for the sick man and one for the young women, who not only brave contagion, but bear privation as well, in attending the sick man.

Women in Germany.

It is officially stated that there are in Germany three women employed as chimney sweeps, thirty-five as slaters, seven as gunsmiths, nineteen as brass and bell founders, fifty as pavers, 147 as coopersmiths, 379 as farriers and nailers, 309 (including girls) as masons, eight as stone cutters and 2,000 in marble, stone and slate quarries.

Longevity and Agriculture.

Roswell Loveland is a centenarian who leads one to believe that there is a connection between longevity and agriculture. He lives at Fulton, N. Y. He has been a lumberman and a farmer. Even yet he chops and piles wood with all the vigor of a youth of seventy-five. He has tilled his garden all the summer and still regards splitting wood as a sort of pastime, to be taken after the serious occupation of digging.

Puny Children

Who would prescribe only tonics and bitters for a weak, puny child? Its muscles and nerves are so thoroughly exhausted that they cannot be whipped into activity. The child needs food; a blood-making, nerve-strengthening and muscle-building food.

Scott's Emulsion

of Cod-Liver Oil is all of this, and you still have a tonic in the hypophosphites of lime and soda to act with the food. For thin and delicate children there is no remedy superior to it in the world. It means growth, strength, plumpness and comfort to them. Be sure you get SCOTT'S Emulsion.

50c. and \$1.00, all druggists. SCOTT & BOWNE, Chemists, New York.

WilliamSPORT & North Branch R.R. TIME TABLE.

Table with columns for In Effect Monday Sept. 6, 1897, Northward, and Southward, listing stations and times.

All trains daily except Sunday; "f" flag stations.

connections with the Philadelphia & Reading at Halls, for all points north and south, and the Fall Brook and Beech Creek railroads. At Satterfield for all points on the Lehigh Valley railroad. At Sonestown with the Eagles Mer. railroad.

R. E. EAVENSON, Gen. Mgr., Hughesville, Pa.

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COURT PROCLAMATION.

WHEREAS, HON. E. M. DUNHAM, President Judge, Honorable John S. Line and Conrad Kraus Associate Judges of the Courts of Oyer and Terminer and General Jail Deliverer, Quarter Sessions of the Peace, Orphans Court and Common Pleas for the County of Sullivan, have issued their precept, bearing date the 27 day of Dec. 1897, to me directed, for holding the several courts in the Borough of Laporte, on Monday the 28th day of Feb. 1898, at 2 o'clock p. m.

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HOTEL PORTER.

Canton Street, SHUNK, PA. W. E. PORTER, Prop'r.

Subscribe for the NEWS ITEM.

Go to J. W. Buck, Sonestown, for rubbers, blankets, carpets, clothing and dressgoods at December low prices. Highest prices paid for butter and eggs.

Subscribe for the NEWS ITEM.

Trial List February Term 1898.

- RETURN DAY, MONDAY, MARCH 7, 1898, AT 2 P. M. 1. Henry McDermott vs Thomas Mahaffey, No. 56, May term, 1895. Trespass. 2. Mitchell Young & Co. vs A. J. Hackley, No. 104 Sept. term, 1895. Scire Facias. 3. Mrs. Alice Andrus vs John K. Bird, No. 79, December term, 1896. Trespass. 4. Stephen Murphy vs Joseph Thall, No. 59, February term, 1897. Pliffs appeal. 5. James McFarlane vs W. C. Mason, No. 92, February term, 1897. Dfts. appeal. 6. Kate Quigley vs Ellis Swank, No. 1, May T, 1897. Dfts. appeal. 7. Russel Karns trustee vs Holmes & Passage, No. 3, May term, 1897. Dfts. appeal. 8. A. C. Haverly vs Benjamin Kaykendall Jr. No. 71, May term, 1897. Trespass. 9. A. L. Smith vs Robert McEwen, No. 139 May term, 1897. Dfts. appeal. 10. Martin Markle vs E. V. Ingham, No. 152 Sept. term 1897. Dfts. appeal. Wm. J. Lawrence, Prothy. Prothy's office, Laporte, Pa., Jan. 22, 1898.

Foreign Attachment.

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Register's Notice.

Notice is hereby given that the following accounts have been filed in my office

First and Final Act of George Wannen, Administrator of John Wanch deed.

First and Final Act of George Fiestler, Guardian of Glen Peterman, minor child of James Peterman deed.

First and final account of Jasper Clark Admr. of Mary Clark deed.

Also the following widows appraisments have been filed.

In the estate of John M. Brown, deed; Chas. S. Hartzig, deed; Allen M. Brown, deed; Patroclus Kline, deed; Richard Lisson, deed. J. C. Robbins, deed.

And the same will be presented to the Orphans Court of Sullivan County on Monday, March 7, 1898, at 3 o'clock p. m. for conformation and allowance.

Wm. J. Lawrence, Register. Reg. Office Laporte Pa. Feby. 5 1898.

C. R. Gumble,

Dealer in and Manufacturer of

CARRIAGES AND WAGONS.

Your Patronage

is solicited on the basis of low prices. Don't let it slip away. We are getting rid of our large stock of hand made wagons. We also deal in factory made platform spring wagons.

Blacksmithing and Repairing.

Factory West Main Street LAFOURTE.

CAMPBELL The Merchant, SHUNK, PENNA.

To My Friends and Customers:—Why has my trade increased 50 per cent. while my competitors are complaining of hard times. I can tell you. There are three reasons: First Class Goods, Lowest Prices, Every thing as Represented.

That is the secret of my success. I save you money and at the same time make some myself.

I am now opening up my new line of Holiday Goods. Presents that will please the old and young, the great and small. Don't fail to see them. Call and inspect my new line of Fall and Winter goods of every description. My stock of Groceries and Provisions are always fresh. No trouble to show you my goods; call and examine them, for I cannot save money for you unless you give me an opportunity.

Yours very respectfully,

A. E. CAMPBELL.

John W. Buck, DEALER IN SONESTOWN, PA. GENERAL MERCHANDISE.

An endless line of canned goods, fancy and staple groceries, as well as high-grade but reasonable-priced table delicacies, may always be found at our store.

A Sensible Wife will Always

Watch the advertisements of responsible merchants especially Grocers.

By this means she will be enabled to save in the course of a year enough money to pay for a good many other household necessities.

OUR GENERAL STORE

Is well stocked with seasonable goods and we intend to dispose of them in a hurry if low prices will carry them off.

All kinds of country produce handled.

J. W. BUCK, SONESTOWN PA.

\$2,000 to \$2,500 Will Build and Equip a

BUTTER and CHEESE FACTORY

Large enough for the product of

600 to 1000 Cows

With Latest and Most Improved Machinery

Hundreds of the most successful Creameries cost less than above amounts. Plans and specifications furnished without cost. Send for full information before signing any contracts.

Vermont Farm Machine Company, BELLOWS FALLS, VERMONT

800 Men's, Boys' and Children's Suits,

200 Overcoats and Ulsters

600 Pair Trousers for Men, Boys and Children

Not sold before Jan. 1, '98

together with cotton and woolen underwear, over-shirts, sweaters, hats, caps, trunks, valises gloves and mittens.

EVERY ARTICLE IS NEW,

not a weakness in them, nor a limp in the styles. Not a piece gathered for the occasion or marked up just to be marked down.

They simply haven't moved as I'd like and now they must. I have marked them at prices that will make you buy.

J. W. CARROLL, DUSHORE, P