

THE CITIZEN.

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E. B. HARDENBERG, - - PRESIDENT
W. W. WOOD, - - MANAGER AND SECY
DIRECTORS:
C. H. DORFLINGER, M. E. ALLEN,
E. B. HARDENBERG,
HENRY WILSON, W. W. WOOD.

"The Marks of a Gentleman."

The discourse of Rev. Dr. Swift, Sunday evening, on this topic, has drawn attention to the conundrum—"What is a Gentleman?"—which has so long agitated those who are given to constructing definitions out of abstractions; and some points in relation to it may be found of interest.

In France and England, the word had for centuries a fixed meaning. It was applied to a well-defined class, and in its use the line between the "well-born" and the "base-born,"—terms denoting merely condition in life, and not personal qualities,—was carefully drawn. In England, after the Norman conquest, the original French *gentilhomme* was in time Anglicised into "gentleman," but with no change in its meaning, or its application only to persons of superior birth. So long as French continued to be the language of the upper classes, a knowledge of this tongue was deemed a necessary qualification; and hence arose a sarcastic saying—"Jack would be a gentleman, but he can speak no French." The title had its place in law, as in legal proceedings each party was designated with the addition of his estate or degree. An amusing instance of this, under the old rules of pleading, is thus reported in one of the law books:

"The plaintiff declared with the addition of gentleman; the defendant pleaded in abatement that the plaintiff was no gentleman; to this the plaintiff demurred, and this was held ill; for, said the court, since it admits the truth of the allegation, it amounts to a confession that the plaintiff is no gentleman. He should have replied that he is a gentleman."

The degree of gentleman, however, was not a high one. In the tables of precedence, given by Blackstone, sixty-six degrees are enumerated. That of gentleman is the sixty-second, and it is preceded by those of esquire, doctor, and serjeant-at-law, and followed only by those of yeoman, tradesman, artificer, and laborer. Sir Thomas Smith, in his "Commonwealth of England," written in the 16th century, says that "Gentlemen be those whom their blood and race doth make noble and known," though no connection with titled family seemed to be thought necessary. His opinion of the degree, however, does not appear to have been very high, for he further says:

"Ordinarily the king doth only make knights and create barons, or higher degree: as for gentlemen, they be made good cheap in this kingdom; for whosoever studieth the laws of the realm, who studieth the liberal sciences, and (to be short) who can live idly, and without manual labor, and will wear the port, charge and countenance of a gentleman, he shall be called master, for that is the title which men give to esquires and other gentlemen, and shall be taken for a gentleman."

Besides those of strictly this degree, all others of higher degree were also gentlemen; it being held that the greater included the less.

In brief, a gentleman was one belonging to a well defined social class, and not one possessing certain personal qualities and habits. So little place had character in the prevailing standard, that George IV, when Prince of Wales, though his morals and habits were detestable, was accounted "The First Gentleman of Europe." The well known dictum of Lord Kenyon, Chief Justice of the King's Bench in the latter part of the 18th century, that "A gentleman, sir, is a man whose father was a gentleman," only embodied a generally recognized fact.

Under the criminal law, a gentleman had certain privileges. In France, capital punishment could be inflicted on a gentleman only by beheading with the sword, while those of lower degree were hanged. In England the headsman's ax was substituted for the sword, as the privilege of the nobility, though examples were rare except in cases of attainder. In England, also, a gentleman could not be whipped at the ear's tail,—a penalty frequently inflicted on the baser herd.

Illustrations of the established view on this subject are frequent in French and English literature.

In one of the elder Dumas's novels of the Regency, a gentleman is described as standing in a public place in Paris, closely observing those who passed, and thus, in substance, accosting one of them: "Pardon me, sir, but permit me to ask if you are a gentleman." "I am, sir," was the reply. The first speaker then explained that he was a stranger in the city, and having received a challenge was looking for a second. Dueling was a practice confined to gentlemen, and only a gentleman could act as a gentleman's second. Hence the inquiry implied nothing offensive, as such a question would in this country, at the present day, but was entirely proper and respectful.

Capt. Marryat, in one of his novels of British naval service, condemns the use of profane and abusive language by commissioned and warrant officers to their subordinates, who cannot reply in kind. On this point he refers specially to the

use of such language by a master to a midshipman; wherein the chief grievance appears to be that while the master (a petty officer) was superior in rank to the midshipman, who was usually a boy in his teens, "the midshipman is a gentleman by birth, and the master, generally speaking, is not."

The English colonists in this country brought with them the English view of the gentleman, though practically it became much relaxed. Several years ago, a descendant of Franklin applied for admission to the Society of Colonial Dames. One of the requisites for membership was that the applicant must be descended from a person who had lived in one of the States when it was a British colony, and who was either a gentleman, or had rendered meritorious services to the public. The Society held that Franklin was not a gentleman, but had performed services that rendered his descendants eligible. The denial that he was a gentleman was probably because his father followed the occupation described by the school-boy as that of a "tallow chandler," and he himself had been for many years a printer; both being below the degree of gentleman.

The Americans have retained the name of "gentleman," but have discarded its original significance, without having as yet evolved a definite and uniform standard by which it is defined. While certain general characteristics are held indispensable, its meaning and application on other points depend largely on the individual view of those who use it, and on the varied standards accepted in different sections of the country. Some definitions are so final as to exclude intelligent, cultured, upright and honorable men who may be lacking in some minor elements. During the civil war, it was declared by a high fashionable authority in New York that Lincoln "could not be considered a gentleman;" Gen. Grant, during his Presidency, fell under the like condemnation; and many others could be named, whom the country has honored, who would have no better standing.

The fact is, the word "gentleman," used as implying all desirable qualities and habits, and excluding everything short of this, is something in the nature of a trade name, and can have but a limited application in the present stage of human development and culture. It is really misleading and unsatisfactory, but thus far no satisfactory substitute has been suggested.

THE TWO-CENT FARE for railroads is here to stay. Some railway officials are frank enough to acknowledge that in public statements. The supreme court of Virginia has upheld the order fixing two cents a mile in that state. It is in force in a number of states now without serious protest from the railroads, and the territory in which it is operative is more likely to expand than contract.

BECAUSE of the foot and mouth disease the federal government has prohibited the shipment of hay from certain states. The result is a hay famine in Pittsburg and some other centers where the supply has been coming from Michigan and other places under the ban. The railroads are refusing to accept packages containing hay and straw, such as bananas in barrels or glassware and crockery packed with such material. Hay in the Pittsburg market has gone up to \$18 a ton.

THE POPULAR VOTE.

With the final popular vote before the country, it is disclosed there was no such apathy among voters as was asserted by the newspapers and political leaders for a couple of months before November 3d. There were cast in the election of 1908 a total of 14,852,239 votes, where the total of 1904 was 13,510,708. The vote of 1900 was about 13,960,000, the vote of 1896 about 14,024,000, the vote of 1892 about 12,000,000, the vote of 1888 about 11,400,000, the vote of 1884 about 10,000,000. In one of the so-called duldest campaigns of the generation the voters were more fully recorded than ever before.

Mr. Bryan polled 1,315,211 more votes than did Mr. Parker in 1904, and Mr. Taft 14,190 more than Mr. Roosevelt in 1904. In other words, Mr. Bryan's increase over the total Democratic vote of four years ago is nearly equal to the total increase in the whole number of votes cast over that of 1904.

Mr. Taft polls the record vote of any presidential candidate. His total of 7,637,676 votes exceeds by 14,000 Mr. Roosevelt's lead of 1904. Mr. Bryan, with 6,363,182 votes, is 1,244,494 behind Mr. Taft.

There were five small parties in the field, and they polled 821,381 as against about 800,000 four years ago. The small increase comes through the presence of the new Independence party, which cast 83,180 votes. The Prohibitionists fell from 258,536 to 241,252, the Populists from 117,183 to 33,871, the Socialist-Labor party from 31,249 to 15,421. Instead of the round million which they anticipated, the Socialists polled 447,651, as against 402,238, a gain of about 45,000.

THE maximum sentence of two years in the penitentiary, \$500 fine and the costs, which latter will mount into hundreds of dollars, was on Friday last, imposed upon John H. Sanderson, contractor for furnishing the State Capitol; former Auditor General William P. Snyder, former State Treasurer W. L. Mathews, and former Superintendent James M. Shumaker, by President Judge

George Kunkel, of the Dauphin county courts, before whom they had been convicted of conspiracy to defraud the State. This was the close of the case involving an alleged fraud of \$19,000 in a bill for furniture. Immediately after sentence had been imposed the four convicted men were placed in charge of the Sheriff to await the result of an application for a supersedeas before the Superior Court in Philadelphia. Attorney William I. Schaeffer, in that city, was notified by telephone of the sentence imposed and at once proceeded to take the necessary steps to institute an appeal to the Superior court. As the four men stood up for sentence, Sanderson was noticeably pale and nervous and Shumaker also showed signs of nervousness. Snyder and Mathews, however, were practically calm. As was anticipated, within six hours after the application for a supersedeas was made, it was granted, and upon bondsmen qualifying in open court to possession of more than \$100,000 the defendants were released from custody in accordance with the order of the higher court. With this sentence hanging over them they must prosecute their appeal with effect or surrender themselves to the officers of justice.

OBITUARY.

Alexander C. Wells died in Liberty, N. Y., on Sunday, Dec. 6, 1908, aged 77 years and 8 months. He was a millwright and carpenter by trade, and erected many mills in this county and Pike. For many years he was a resident of Monticello.

Mrs. Charles Seegner, of 179 Willow Avenue, a blind lady, died at her home on Saturday evening, Dec. 19th, after a long illness, aged 82 years. She is survived by three sons, Charles, of Honesdale; Henry, of Chicago, and John, of Brooklyn; and three daughters, Miss Anna, at home; Mrs. Rheinhart Schwemly, of Honesdale, and Mrs. John Smith, of Brooklyn.

Mrs. Sara E. Arundell, daughter of the late William Gale, and wife of J. Frederick Arundell, died at the Hotel Margaret, Brooklyn, N. Y., on Friday, December 11, 1908. Besides her husband, Mrs. Arundell is survived by one sister, Mrs. William F. Osborn, and two brothers, George E. Gale, of Brooklyn, and Loring R. Gale of New York city. The funeral services were held at Grace Presbyterian church, Stuyvesant and Jefferson avenues, on Monday, Dec. 14th.

John Kirby, son of Richard Kirby, of Cherry Ridge, for some time past a Del. & Hud. employee, running on a coal train between Carbondale and Oneonta, but well-known to many of our townsmen as a salesman in the Hartung meat market, 7th street, was killed at Oneonta on Saturday morning last, at one o'clock. He was run down by a train while switching, and lived only a few hours after the accident. The remains were brought here on Sunday, and taken to Cherry Ridge for interment. Deceased was 33 years of age and leaves a wife.

Thomas Donlin died suddenly at his home in Hawley, at two o'clock Tuesday morning, Dec. 15, 1908. The day before he worked as usual, and retired feeling well, but during the night he was stricken with apoplexy. Deceased was born at Kimbles, Aug. 17, 1852, and settled in Hawley about two years ago, where he secured a position with the Atkinson Box and Lumber Co., in whose factory he has since been employed. He was united in marriage with Miss Mary Gerrity, of Kimbles, two years ago, and is survived by his wife and stepmother, Mrs. Mary Donlin, and the following brothers and sisters: William Donlin, of Port Jervis; Frank, of Bellview, N. J.; Mrs. Mary Sheridan, of Brooklyn, N. Y.; Mrs. Ellen Verden, of Essex, N. J., and Mrs. Elizabeth O'Neill, of Philadelphia.

Mathew O'Brien, who had been suffering from an affection of the lungs for a long time, was seized with an exhausting hemorrhage on Friday last, and died on Saturday morning at his residence on North Main street. He was 39 years and 10 months old, and leaves a wife and two daughters, Margaret and Lillian. Mr. O'Brien came to Honesdale as coachman for John D. Weston, and discharged the duties of that position, both in appearance and manner, with traditional fidelity. In his lingering illness every kindness was shown him by his employer and family, and he had the warm sympathy of all who knew him—a sympathy which is now extended to his bereaved family. The funeral services were held at St. John's Roman Catholic church, on Monday morning last, where a high mass of requiem was sung, after which interment was made in St. John's cemetery, East Honesdale.

Mrs. Mary J. Penwarden, wife of Frederick Penwarden, of Carbondale, died of pneumonia at her home in that city, on Thursday last, December 17, 1908. Mrs. Penwarden, whose maiden name was Mary Mill, was born in Devonshire, England, forty-one years ago, but had long been a resident of this county. She was a woman of many excellent qualities and her kind and genial disposition won for her the high respect and esteem of a wide circle of friends who extend to the bereaved family their sincere and heartfelt sympathy. She was a member of the Ladies' Auxiliary of the Brotherhood of Railway Train-

men, and was prominently identified with all its activities. Besides her husband she is survived by two daughters, Florence and Hazel; one son, Rexford; three brothers, John and George, of Devonshire, England, and David, of Prompton, this county; also one sister in England. The funeral services were held on Sunday last, the remains being brought to Keene for interment.

Jacob Persbacher, an old and prominent resident of Callicoon Depot, Sullivan Co., N. Y., died at his home at that place on Wednesday last, as the result of a paralytic stroke. He was aged about 78 years. Mr. Persbacher was employed on the Delaware Division of the Erie Railroad, until a few years ago, as section mason foreman, and had charge of the building of bridge abutments and all heavy rock work on that division, and served in this capacity for a period of thirty-five years. Mr. Persbacher and John Voight, of Shohola, helped dig the trench in which were deposited the remains of the victims of a terrible railroad disaster on the Erie, at King and Fuller's Cut, on Friday, July 15, 1884, which was caused by the carelessness of a drunken operator at Lackawaxen, four miles west of the disaster. The accident was the colliding of a coal train with the passenger train which contained 833 Confederate prisoners, and 150 Union guards. There were 51 Confederates and 19 Union soldiers killed, and the wounded numbered 123, some of whom died later. The trench dug for the remains was seventy feet long, eight feet wide and six feet deep. It was the common grave of both the blue and the gray.

We are a few steps farther up town, but the difference in the price of our goods and those of our competitors makes it worth your while.
O. G. Weaver, Jeweler.

NOTICE OF ADMINISTRATION.
ESTATE OF JOHN T. BALL, late of Honesdale, Pa. All persons indebted to said estate are notified to make immediate payment to the undersigned; and those having claims against the said estate are notified to present them duly attested, for settlement.
JOSEPH A. RODIE, Exe. cutor

LYRIC THEATRE!
BENI. H. DITTRICH, - - LESSEE AND MANAGER

Christmas DEC. 25
FRIDAY DEC. 25
10:30 - MATINEE AND NIGHT - 8:00
The Dashing Little Comedienne
Sadie Calhoun
And her Superb Company, in the Successful Comedy Drama,

"MY DIXIE GIRL"
A Delightful Story of Dixieland.

During the action of the play SPECIALTIES will be introduced by Miss Calhoun and other members of the company.
PRICES: MAIN FLOOR, 35 and 50c
BALCONY, 25 and 35c
SEAT SALE at the box office, at 9 p. m., Thursday, Dec. 24th.

Escaping Coal Gas.
The danger from escaping coal gas which was mentioned in our last issue, has a nearby illustration in the case of Nelson C. Roberts and his wife, of Montrose. A few nights since the chimney of their residence "burned out" and salt was thrown on the fire to extinguish the blaze. It is supposed that during the night the gas accumulated as a result, and Mr. and Mrs. Roberts were both nearly suffocated while they slept. Mr. Roberts had been an invalid for the past nine years and despite the efforts of physicians, did not regain consciousness. While Mrs. Roberts' condition was serious, with some effort she was revived and has entirely recovered.

"My Dixie Girl."
A play that appeals to all classes of theatre-goers is the beautiful comedy drama, "My Dixie Girl," which will be the attraction at the Lyric on Christmas, Friday, Dec. 25th, matinee and night. Dixie, around whom the interest centers, is a dashing boyish girl, who gains the sympathy of the audience from the start. She makes everybody about her father's plantation subservient to her will, through kindness, and is continually upsetting the dignity of her dear old daddy. The company representing "My Dixie Girl" comprises a number of well-known players and singers who, during the performance, introduce endless musical specialties.
DR. C. R. BRADY, Dentist Honesdale, Pa. Office Hours—8 a. m. to 5 p. m. Any evening by appointment. Citizens' phone, 33. Residence, No. 86 X.

An Attractive CHRISTMAS OFFERING!

Ladies' Suit and Coat Department

Contrary to former usages, we are going to give buyers the benefit of reduced prices BEFORE Christmas instead of waiting until AFTER New Year.

Holiday Gift of Furs

Always a handsome and useful present.

Handkerchiefs For Christmas Gifts.

Ladies' Neckwear and Scarfs

The greatest favorite with everybody.

Christmas Umbrellas

Exclusive creations, expressly made for Christmas gifts.

Gloves

We have them in great assortment for Ladies and Gents, at attractive prices. They make handsome and useful gifts.

Give the Housekeeper Household Linens. Satin Damask Dinner Cloth—Napkins to match—at low prices. Handsome Centre Pieces in many different styles. Linen Scarfs in all sizes, to fit any bureau or stand. Large assortment of Linen towels—hem-stitched or fringed. Doilies—large variety of pretty designs.

Leather Goods

For Christmas gifts. Dress-suit Cases, made of solid sole leather, at popular prices. Bags, complete variety of all new styles.

Rugs

Always a welcome and useful gift.

Gents' Furnishings

Shirts to fit all sizes. Neckwear in all styles. Hosiery—the finest assortment of men's half hose in town. Sweaters make useful Christmas gifts. We carry all the wool sweaters made by the American Knitting Co., Honesdale, in all sizes and grades, to fit men, women and children.

Muslin Underwear

Handsome Gowns, Fine Skirts, will always be appreciated as holiday gifts.

Christmas Gifts in Japanese Wear.

Bearskin Coats and Caps to match. Infants' Short Dresses. Infants' Sacques. Infants' Drawn Leggins. Infants' Carriage Robes.

KATZ BROS.

SUITABLE CHRISTMAS GIFTS

For both YOUNG and OLD

Embroidery Scissors, plain and fancy handles, 25c to 85c	Razors—every Razor carries a full guarantee, \$1 to \$4.	Nickel Pated Ware of the finest quality.
Manicure Scissors, 75 to 85c	Safety Razors:—The Gillette, \$5. The Ever Ready, with 24 blades, \$5. The Ward, \$4. The Razac, \$3.50. The Gem, Jr., \$1.00.	Chafing Dishes, \$4.50 to \$7.
Button-hole Scis., 65 to 75c	Razor Strops, best quality, 25c to \$1.50.	Chafing Dish Trays, \$1.50.
Pocket Scissors, 25 to 65c	Shaving Brushes, 20c to 75c.	Chafing Dish Forks and Spoons, 90c.
Right and left hand Shears 25 to 90c.	Razor Hones, 15c to \$1.	Serving Dishes with enamel insets, \$2 to \$5.
Pocket Knives, a large assortment to select from, 10c to \$4.00.	Lamps to suit every one, at all prices.	Coffee Pots, silver lined, \$1.25 to \$1.85.
Carving Sets, with genuine stag handles, every set guaranteed, \$1.50 to \$8.	Rifles for the boys, \$1.50 to \$14.25.	Tea Pots, silver lined, \$1.25 to \$1.85.
Manicure Files, 10 and 20c.	Air Rifles, 75c and \$1.	Crumb Trays, 35c to \$1.
Bath Thermometers 50c.	Ice Skates, 65c to \$2.25.	Tea Kettles, 85c to \$1.25.
Thermometers, 25c to \$2.	Perfection Oil Heaters, \$4.50 to \$5.	Soup Ladles, \$1.
Buggy Heaters, \$1.25 to \$2.25.		Bread Trays, 90c.
Perfection Self-basting Roasters, both plain and enameled, 90c to \$1.75.		Universal Bread Makers: No. 2—\$1.35 No. 4—\$2.00 No. 8—\$2.50

O. M. Spettigue,

Main Street, HONESDALE, PA.