

Pike County Press.

VOL. IX.

MILFORD, PIKE COUNTY, PA., FRIDAY, DECEMBER 25, 1903.

NO. 8.

THE WASHINGTON LETTER.

The Chinese Commercial Treaty was ratified by the senate without opposition. Mr. Nelson of Minnesota criticized it for not giving the United States sufficient concessions in the way of open ports and placed the blame for this on Russia, whose attitude in Manchuria might, he said, lead to trouble with this country. Other senators agreed with Mr. Nelson, but it was argued that the treaty was the best China could give under the circumstances. Senator Lodge urged that it be ratified immediately as such action was held by the state department to be essential. He added that the ratification of the treaty would have a good effect in the settlement of the far Eastern question.

By a bitter attack on the administration, which reminded one of the days when he hailed Aguinaldo as a second Washington, Senator Hoar caused a sharp party debate on the Panama question. The senator read his speech from a carefully prepared manuscript, and this fact made his violent statements all the more remarkable. The following citation gives an idea of the character of his speech: "I want to know—and I think the American people want to know, and have a right to know—whether this mighty policeman, instructed to keep the peace on that isthmus, seeing a man about to attack another, before he had struck his blow manacled the arms of the attacked so he could not defend himself, leaving his assailant free, and then instantly proceeded to secure from the assailant the pocketbook of the victim on the ground that he was the de facto owner." This speech caused delight among the democrats, who would like to attack the administration, but many of whom fear that opposition to the treaty would be a boomerang to the party. Mr. Bailey congratulated the Massachusetts senator on being with the democrats on the question, and Mr. Gorman aided in the attack on the administration by calling the President a second Napoleon. "A second Napoleon indeed. Has it come to this that the United States must have a Napoleon to shape its destinies and to distort the presidential office from its proper function." Senator Foraker made a serious, able and dignified reply to these oratorical attacks on the president. His remarks much annoyed Senator Hoar, who then attempted to tone down his written speech before it went into the Congressional Record. Mr. Foraker demanded of Senator Hoar what right he had to call upon the president to prove that he had spoken the truth in his message to congress. Congress has now adjourned until after the holidays, when further debate on the Panama question is expected. There is no doubt that the treaty will be ratified.

By reaching an agreement by which the land of Philippine friars can be purchased by our government, Governor Taft has solved one of the most irritating problems in the island. The terms of the agreement are that all the land of the friars shall be bought by the United States for seven million two hundred and fifty thousand. The Pope's approval of the agreement has been obtained and that of the war department is now awaited. The friars first asked \$15,000,000. As the money for the purchase of the lands will not be paid by the people of the United States as the purchase will meet the approval of the natives, President Roosevelt and Secretary Root will no doubt ratify the action of Governor Taft.

The House Committee on Post Office and Post Roads decided to make public the entire Bristol report, and that document has now been printed and every member of congress supplied with several copies. The report of Special Attorneys Charles J. Bonaparte and Homer Conrad has also been published. It declares that Perry S. Heath was directly responsible for the abuses in the Washington Office, and blames former Postmaster General Charles Henry Smith for indifference to the warning given him of abuse in the department under his administration. Post Office Affairs are much debated in the house and there is still a possibility of a Congressional investigation.

President Roosevelt has signed the Cuban reciprocity bill, which passed the senate by a vote of 87 to 15. Many democrats voted for the bill

and but one republican opposed it. Just before a vote was taken Senator Bailey of Texas made a long speech in which he tried to show that the action of the president and senate in negotiating a treaty, which called for a reduction of the tariff, was a violation of that part of the constitution which declares that all revenue legislation shall originate in the house. Mr. Spooner answered Mr. Bailey in an able speech, but the entire discussion had no effect upon the vote, on the measure. Enemies of the bill may take the question to the Supreme Court, but the decision will doubtless be against them.

Speaker Cannon, President pro tem Frye and President Roosevelt all signed the bill with an elaborately decorated gold pen which was supplied for the occasion by Minister Quesada, of Cuba, and which will be put on exhibition in Havana. The treaty goes into effect ten days after it was signed.

The Senate Committee on Military Affairs will vote on January 4 on the nomination of General Wood to be Major General. A favorable report by the committee is assured and it is equally certain that the senate will confirm it. Friends of the general are pleased with the decision that all the testimony in the case will be printed, as they know that it will show how false the reports of such testimony have been, that it will give them an opportunity to refute that which is hostile to the general, and that it will vindicate General Wood in the eyes of the public. One of the most important of recent developments in the case was that Secretary of War Root appeared before the Senate Committee and made a strong witness in the general's behalf, successfully refuting all charges against his military and civil record in Cuba.

An emissary from Abyssinia is on his way to Washington bearing a letter from the negro Emperor Menelik, welcoming Americans to Abyssinia "in peace and with fear." Most satisfactory reports are constantly received of the progress of Consul General Skinner's mission and it is believed that he will have no difficulty in negotiating a commercial treaty with Menelik. The Abyssinians are a progressive people and are willing to adapt Western materials and dress if they can obtain them.

The snow falls pure and gentle
O'er the earth
The Christmas bells chime out their
Joy and mirth
Proclaim the story of that
Wood-runs birth
If we would have him for our
Savior, Friend
And have him keep us safely
To the end,
We'll o'er the earth the blessed
News unmet send.
Then shout the tidings far o'er
All the land
Proclaim them clear as long as the
World shall stand
This forever has been our
King's command
The tidings of peace, love and
Joy proclaim
Only trust and believe in his
Precious name
Yesterday, today, forever
The same

A Steam Motor Car
An experiment is being made in England with steam motor cars. The engine is placed in the forward compartment of the car, which is large enough to carry about fifty persons. The idea is to accommodate the people in a thickly settled section of the country, and the car stops not only at scheduled stations but also at crossings, or wherever signaled. These cars are operated on the regular lines of railroad and it is thought can be operated more cheaply than an electric road.

A Monster Ship
The White Star Line of steamships has added another to its fleet of vessels, the "Baltic." This monster is 725 feet 9 inches long, 75 feet broad and 49 feet in depth with a gross tonnage of 24,950. She can 3000 passengers besides her crew of about 500, and can also carry 28,000 tons of cargo.

A Frightened Horse
Retiring like mad down the street dashing the occupants or a hundred other accidents, are every day occurrences. It behooves everybody to have a reliable safe and steady horse. There's none as good as Buckle's Arabian Sable. Buses, cabs, crows, omnibuses and public conveyances quickly under its soothing effect. 25¢ at all druggists.

LOCAL AND PERSONAL NOTES

James Malins is on a visit with his son in Philadelphia.
Almer Terwilliger of Sag Harbor is a guest with his family.
E. P. Crisman of New York is a guest with his family in town.
D. A. Unsworth is on a visit with his family on Harford street.
Cashier John C. Warner was confined to his home part of the week by illness.
Mrs. Berthoud and daughter, Julia, of Philadelphia is visiting friends here.
Dr. Walter L. Angle of Mercy Hospital, Pittsburgh, Pa., is here for a few days visit.
George Slavson and wife have gone to Attleboro, Mass., for a month's visit with their daughter.
Fred Klair of the U. P., who expects to add M. D. to his name after next spring, is home visiting his family.

Harold Armstrong and Henry and Edna Klair, students at Blair Hall, and Richard P. Nills of Owego are visiting their families.
Miss Bessie Armstrong, a student at Dickinson College, Carlisle, Pa., is spending the holiday vacation with her parents here.
John de C. Van Ethen and Miss Bessie Van Ethen of New York and X. P. Hudry, Esq., and wife of Northport, L. I., spent Christmas with their family here.
Mr. and Mrs. William Hamilton Armstrong left town this week to spend Christmas in New York. They expect to pass the winter between Washington, St. Augustine and Asheville, N. C.

County Commissioners Beck and Vandermark and clerk Baker went to Rowland's Wednesday to look after the bridge at that place two tents of the supports of which are reported carried away by the ice in the recent freshet.

HYMENEAL

SHEPHERD-EMERY
A pretty wedding occurred at the home of Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Emery of Coles, Dec. 17, when their daughter, Cora R., was united in marriage to Thomas Shepherd of Long Meadow. Rev. G. S. Garretson of Dingman's Ferry officiated. The ceremony was performed at 8 o'clock p. m. under an artistically arranged arch of evergreens. The wedding march from Lohengrin was played by Miss Nellie Shephard. The bride was handsomely attired in a suit of white silk trimmed with lace and ribbons. The groom wore the customary black. The maid of honor was Miss Margaret Shepherd, a sister of the groom. Fred Huggie of Port Jervis acted as best man. After the ceremony the guests, about fifty in number, enjoyed an elegant wedding supper. The bride is one of Delaware township's progressive young ladies, while the groom is an enterprising young blacksmith and wheelwright. The esteem in which Mr. and Mrs. Shepherd are held by their friends was partially manifested in a large variety of handsome and useful wedding gifts.

Real Estate Transfers
G. Frank Rowland to Edward S. Jones, 206 acres, Lackawaxen, \$1600.
Charles W. P. Swartwout to Francis Mercier, lot in Dingmans, \$5.
William N. Lawrence to Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, lot 54, warrants, Thomas Mason, 400 acres, Westfall, \$400.95.
George Gregory, sheriff, to Helen Lanchantin, for lands in Milford borough, sold as the property of Helen E. Heller, \$500.

Annual Election
The annual election for Managers of the Milford Cemetery Association will be held at the office of C. W. Bell in the Borough of Milford on Monday, Jan. 4, 1904, between the hours of 2 and 3 p. m.
WILLIAM MITCHELL, Secretary.

Right Will Be Righter
Those who will persist in closing their eyes against the continual recommendation of Dr. King's New Discovery for consumption, will have a long and bitter fight with their troubles, if not ended earlier by fatal pneumonia. Read what T. R. Beal of Beal, Miss., has to say: "Last fall my wife had every symptom of consumption. She took Dr. King's New Discovery after everything else had failed. Improvement came at once and four bottles entirely cured her." Guaranteed by all druggists. Price 50¢ and \$1. Trial bottles free.

To Cure a Cold in One Day
Take Laxative Bromo Quinine Tablets. All druggists refund the money if it fails to cure. E. W. Grove's signature is on each box. 75¢.

ASSESSMENT EXTRACTS

Showing Disparity in the River Townships While the Back Townships Remain as Formerly
In order that our readers may have some idea of the manner in which assessments have been made along the Valley, we present random specimens from several townships. No attempt is made to embrace bill lands or houses as they have generally, except as shown below, been left as formerly. No barns or outbuildings are given because the same proportion exists. Only some of the more prominent and well known properties are given for comparison, and in doing this it has not been with any idea of making the comparisons invidious or of singling out any particular property. It is only to show the disparity which exists.

LEHMAN TOWNSHIP

Name	Acres	Value
M. L. Bach	30	\$750
M. V. Brisco	70	1,575
R. P. Broadhead	11	2,467
21	210	
Peters Estate	48	1,099
George Nyce Est.	155	2,812
Scotts Mills Club	14	1,100
A. Ledford	12	1,175
Hill lands are generally \$10 an acre, cows \$10, horses \$10 to \$25, occupations \$50.		

DELAWARE TOWNSHIP

Name	Acres	Value
P. F. Fulmer Est.	5	\$75
M. V. Dingman est	142	3,355
Sol. Dingman Est.	48	1,140
L. W. Quick	52	1,475
H. M. Corright	80	1,620
M. Hutton	30	300
Isiah Hornbeck	78	2,385
W. P. Hornbeck	78	2,115
R. R. Van Ethen est	35	700
R. Van Gordon Est	5	100
W. Kilby	56	1,356
Hill lands generally \$10 an acre, cows \$20, horses \$10 to \$25, occupations \$50.		

DINGMAN TOWNSHIP

Name	Acres	Value
E. Bollotat	32	\$600
J. A. Fisher	40	1,500
W. Metz	7	145
L. Dullahan's H	11	350
E. Quinn	95	1,500
J. E. Schanno	15	300
F. Selts	3	1,048
G. & J. C. Warner	50	6,000
Occupations, farmers \$50, hotel keepers \$75, cows \$20, horses \$20 to \$100.		

MILFORD BOROUGH

Name	Value
H. B. Wells: Bluff House, 40,000; Nyce, \$2,500; Ryman, \$1,500; Gumbie, \$1,500; Anglo, \$1,700; Shotwell, \$1,000.	
Bertha Beal: 2 lots, 1,500; Kenworthy house, 2,500.	
J. C. Warner: 1 1/2 \$ 800 to \$ 1,000	
Adelta Kipp	1 750 to 1,800
F. Jordan	2 500 to 1,800
Mary Klair	2 700 to 2,000
H. T. Baker	2 1,100 to 3,800
C. W. Bell	1 600 to 3,500
J. H. Van Ethen	2 850 to 3,000
R. Pinchot Est.	4 1,800 to 7,000
Hoberts Est.	10 2,500 to 4,900
Geo. W. Billinger	5 1,800
W. Mitchell	1 500 to 6,000
A. D. & R. E. Brown	2 1,800 to 6,000
Gifford Pinchot	1 500 to 7,000
J. W. Pinchot	1 Library 1,900
P. M. Nills	6 3,100 to 6,000
J. B. Thornton	2 3,000 to 4,000
Faucher Est.	2 800 to 6,000
Occupations range from \$50 up to \$1,000, horses \$25 to \$50, laborers \$250, carpenters and mechanics \$400, merchants, lawyers and physicians \$1,000, hotel keepers	

MILFORD TOWNSHIP

Name	Value
L. W. Armstrong	40 2,000 to \$ 1,000
J. C. Bell	40 2,000 to 2,000
77	955
M. Caddback	30 1,500 to 1,800
J. W. Pinchot	35 500
E. Marquart	12 300 to 700
J. C. Beak	7 125 to 1,000
Bertha Beal	12 600 to 4,000
S. M. Craft	10 250 to 1,800
J. H. Dauman	25 400 to 1,000
Lucy P. King, 25 acres, \$625, house on top of hill, \$600.	
Occupations, farmers \$50, horses \$20 to \$75, cows \$15.	

WESTFALL TOWNSHIP

Name	Value
J. M. Aldrich	35 2,400 to \$ 300
Jacob Klair	77 3,000 to 1 75
194	4,500 to 1 100
C. Morrison	70 2,800 to 3 800
J. C. Buse	80 2,300 to 700
E. A. Bell	70 2,150 to 500
F. Wehinger	75 3,375
D. H. Allen	105 125 to 1 325
Goldschmidt	1 200 to 1,200
A. W. Balch	11 940 to 3,000
Occupations \$50, horses \$20 to \$75, cows \$10.	

Unclaimed Letters
List of unclaimed letters remaining in the post office at Milford for the week ending Dec. 20, 1903:
Miss Lizette Hanagan, David Doles, Chas. G. Piel.
Persons claiming the above will please call "Advertised" and give date of this list.
CHARLES LATTMORE, P. M.

Dividend Notice
THE FIRST NATIONAL BANK
Milford, Pa., Dec. 1, 1903.
The Board of Directors has this day declared a dividend of 2% payable on and after Jan. 2, 1904, to Stockholders of record. The Transfer Books will be closed on Dec. 24th at 3 p. m. and reopened Jan. 2nd at 10 a. m.
JOHN C. WARNER, Cashier.

A Usualy Mistake
Blunders are sometimes very expensive. Occasionally life itself is the price of a mistake, but you'll never be wrong if you take Dr. King's New Life Pills for dyspepsia, indigestion, headache, liver or bowel troubles. They are gentle, yet thorough. 25¢ at all druggists.

INTERESTING NEWS ITEMS

Frederick H. Conard, the well-known lawyer, died at his home in Washington, D. C., Sunday of heart trouble aged about 71 years.
Milford Lodge, No. 344, F. & A. M., will hold a communication Monday evening, December 28th, and the stated meeting will be held Wednesday evening, December 30th.

There seems to be a hoodoo on the Homedale Branch. Twenty coal cars were derailed and two went down the bank near Glen Eyre early Tuesday morning, the cause was a broken flange. Some one may get their winter coal cheap there.

Of the 663 patents granted this week by the United States patent office, C. A. Snow & Co., of Washington, D. C., were the attorneys for procuring 47 of them, or more than 7% per cent. There are five thousand patent attorneys in the United States.

Disturbed by an unusual noise early last Monday morning, Edward Blood went out to investigate and saw two men run away from the barn of T. R. J. Klein. He found the horse, which he had driven down from Cuddebackville, harnessed ready to be taken away. His timely appearance probably prevented a theft of his horse and vehicle.

By a head on collision between a coal and passenger train on the Homedale branch near Rowland's Saturday, Conductor Knapp and Fireman Lynch of the passenger train were injured and Conductor Kelley of the coal train had his hip fractured. It is said the engineer of the coal train could not stop it to go on the siding at that point.

Dingman's is headquarters for Lowmy's confections.
THE TIME DRAWS NEAR THE BIRTH OF CHRIST
The time draws near the birth of Christ: The moon is hid, the night is still; The Christmas bells from hill to hill Answer each other in the mist.
Four voices of four hainlets round, From far and near, on mead and moor, Swell out and fall, as if a door Were shut between me and the sound.
Each voice four changes on the wind, That now dilate, and now increase, Peace and good-will, good-will and peace, Peace and good-will to all mankind.
Rise, happy morn! rise, holy morn! Draw forth the cheerful day from night: O Father! touch the east, and light The light that shone when hope was born.—(Alfred Tennyson.)

Fishermen Beware
Since Attorney General Carson gave his opinion that one fisherman could only legally use one line to which were attached three hooks, and that it was illegal for one person to have several lines set with ice intervening between the hooks.

Fish Commissioner Meahan has directed his attention to this section where it is said fishing with tip-ups is persistent. It will be wise therefore for fishermen, if there are any such here, who use one more than one tip-up, to be on the lookout for fish warden's. This is not an idle warning but one which, if observed, may save some one more money than all the fish they can take with tip-ups are worth.

Cannot Know It All
In a recent dissertation President Eliot, of Harvard, states that "the whole store of knowledge now available is too vast for any man to master, though he had a hundred lives instead of one, and its growth in the nineteenth century was greater than in all the thirty preceding centuries put together. . . . Culture, therefore, can no longer imply a knowledge of everything—not even a little knowledge of everything. It must be content with general knowledge of some things, and a real mastery of some small portion of the human store."

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COURT PROCEEDINGS

Not a Long or Busy Session, but Some Important Business Transacted—New Roads Granted
This regular term of December courts met last Monday with President Judge W. A. Erdman and Associates Brown and Eglehart on the bench.

Constables making returns were: Delaware—Chas. Person. Dingman—J. W. Kiesel. Greene—O. E. Simons. Lackawaxen—Ross Rosencrans. Lehman—W. S. Van Auker. Milford borough—S. W. Fuller. Milford township—C. Herman. Palmyra—J. N. DeGroat. Porter—Geo. Bargar. Westfall—B. C. Totten.

Estate P. A. L. Quick, dec'd, in partition. Heirs called and none bidding the court orders, Lena A. Talmage, executrix, to make sale of lands. J. C. Westbrook, Jr., appointed guardian ad litem of minors.
Petition of Harry Ost for change of name to Harry Dewitt granted.
M. A. Reidy appointed judge of election in Greene to fill vacancy caused by removal of B. F. Kipp.
Osterhout vs. Cook. Order for sheriff to pay balance of funds to Harriet Koch.
Crowell vs. Crowell. Divorce. Geo. B. Bull appointed to take testimony.
McConnell vs. McConnell. Divorce. Geo. R. Bull appointed to take testimony.
Estate J. H. Bosier, dec'd. Return to order of sale of real estate filed.

Harwin Land Co. vs. Joseph Shields. Rule to substitute defendants in place of Joseph Shields, dec'd, granted.
Cook vs. Cook. Divorce. Publication of notice ordered.
Estate C. M. Leidel, dec'd. Geo. R. Bull, Esq., appointed auditor.
Estate C. Ott, dec'd. Hy. T. Baker, Esq., appointed auditor.
Estate Wentall Kreiter, dec'd. J. H. Van Ethen, Esq., appointed auditor.

Estate Charles Ott, deceased. Partition of real estate awarded.
Falmer vs. Bergstresser. Certificate. Proceedings reversed and judgment for defendant.
Bridge in Westfall near Frank Drillers. Viewers continued.
Frank Schorr appointed to audit accounts of prothonotary, recorder, etc.

Estate P. F. Fulmer, dec'd. Account of executors confirmed n. st.
Estate Bradner Wood, dec'd. Appraisement to widow confirmed.
Commonwealth vs. James Beck. Recognizance forfeited and respited to next term.
Reports of viewers on bridge at Mott street, Milford, and on bridge over Sugar Hill creek, Greene, confirmed n. st.

Accounts confirmed absolutely: Estates Wentall Kreiter, Charles Ott, C. M. Leidel and Elizabeth Shephard.
Estate P. A. L. Quick. Report of auditor confirmed n. st.
Viewers of bridge over Meadow brook creek in Palmyra continued.
Road in Westfall at Hickory Grove Hotel confirmed absolutely.
Private road in Schobola from detralps to Webers confirmed.
Sheriff acknowledges deeds to G. F. Rowland for land in Lackawaxen, sold as property of Bertha Richter, \$810; to Helen Lanchantin for land in Milford borough, sold as property of Helen E. Heller, \$500; to Henry Teahady for lots in Matamoras, sold as property of Martha Johnson, \$300.

Accounts confirmed n. st.: Estate Webb W. Cortright, Geo. A. Hill and J. F. Pinchot.
Court directed that 250 names be placed in wheel and issued a venire for 36 traverse jurors and 24 grand jurors for March term.
Adjourned to Jan. 14, 1904, 2 p. m.

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THE RAMBLER'S PICKINGS

A Merry Christmas to all Press readers.
Was not last Sunday a beautiful day, as far as the weather and the walking were concerned?
When boys make noise in the fireless room in the Borough building when the town council meets they violate Rule 4. But the fine of one dollar each imposed on four offenders is a little high. A public reprimand might have answered.

Fred Ellenberger, Andrew Yetter and Frank Rowland were visitors in town this week.
A Star chamber? Holy Moses, can such a thing exist?
Can a person's mind wander to such an extent as to take for a fact a thing which has never happened?
Petty thieving seems to be going on of late. Is some one full of bug juice trying to have fun, or are they itching for free board?

LaForge Caskey, formerly the proprietor of the Hickory Grove Hotel but lately located at the Port Jervis Driving Park, was in town Monday. He has disposed of his interest in the driving park hotel, and is looking for a new stand.
The regular holiday break up came on time. An early freeze up will always bring a break about Christmas.
Well, the M. E. Church Calendar has been issued. I think cake baked after some of the receipts published would draw a crowd even to a S. S. picnic.

The Press devil got soaked for something he was not guilty of. But he can remember the old saying: Little given, etc.
Mrs. James Lauer, who has been seriously ill for several weeks at her home on Seventh street, is slowly recovering.
Miss Lily Wacker went to the city Tuesday to spend Christmas.

Shortly after midnight, Wednesday morning, the fire bell broke the slumbers of our residents. The boys with their apparatus went to the fire, which was the green-house of Dr. H. B. Reed. Scarcity of hose made it impossible to put out the fire, so the building with its contents was consumed.

To Tell a Sheep's Age
Incisor teeth in the sheep are in the lower jaw. When a lamb is dropped it generally has one pair, and the whole number, eight, appear in a few weeks. These are temporary and drop out. They are narrower and smaller than the permanent ones which come in the same order, from the center of the mouth outward, and the first pair of permanent teeth appears in about one year, the second in two years and so on until the fourth year, when the sheep is full mouthed or has 8 permanent broad, well shaped incisor teeth. Then decay begins and it is hard to tell the age of a sheep after four years, so much depends on the care and kind of pasture. After four years the center teeth show their age by becoming narrower, and by spaces showing between them, particularly towards the roots. It is difficult to guess a sheep's age after this, and only by close observation and comparison is it possible to say whether the animal is nearer to four than to eight years. Generally, however, before a sheep has reached eight years one or both the incisor teeth are missing and sometimes the whole of them.

NOTICE TO BRIDGE BUILDERS
The Commissioners of Pike county will receive sealed bids at their office in the Court House, Milford, Pa., Saturday, January 9th, 1904, at 2 o'clock, p. m., for the erection of a steel bridge across the Lackawaxen Creek, at Rowland, Pa.
Bidders to submit plan and specifications.
The Commissioners reserve the right to reject any or all bids.
By order of the Board.
THEO. H. BAKER, Commissioners' Clerk.
Commissioners' Office, Milford, Pa., Dec. 23, 1903.

Bilious Colic Prevented
Take a double dose of Chamberlain's Colic, Cholera and Diarrhoea Remedy as soon as the first indication of the disease appears and a threatened attack may be warded off. Hundreds of people who are subject to attacks of bilious colic use the remedy in this way with perfect success. For sale by Balch & Son, Matamoras, all general stores in Pike county.