

The Saturday Post Hits Home when it Says "Some People can't put their Whole Trust in Religion Because the Contribution Box does not give Trading Stamps."

Weather Forecast.

Fair tonight and Saturday much colder with a cold wave tonight. Continued colder.

Notice Advertisers

All advertisements for the Evening Banner and notices of change must be at the office the day before they are to be used.

Advertisements for the weekly Banner and Reformer and changes of copy must be in the office not later than Tuesday noon of each week and earlier is desirable during the holiday season.

Frank E. Howe.

Bennington County NATIONAL BANK

Capital \$100,000.

JOHN S. HOLDEN, President. A. K. RITCHIE, Vice President. CLEMENT H. CONE, Cashier.

Bennington, Vt.

Transact a general banking business, pays interest on certificates of deposit at the rate of 3 per cent if allowed to remain three months.

DIRECTORS

I. E. Gibson, J. S. Holden, Wm. E. Hawks, N. M. Puffer, A. K. Ritchie, J. T. Shurtleff, C. W. Thatcher.

FIRST NAT'L BANK

OF

NO BENNINGTON

CAPITAL \$150,000

SURPLUS and

PROFITS \$75,000

RESOURCES \$500,000

Most centrally located for country business and is always ready to receive new accounts.

It is one of the oldest and strongest Banks in Vermont, and transacts a general banking business.

J. G. McCULLOUGH, President.

S. B. HALL, Cashier.

BUSINESS EXCHANGE

TO RENT—Warm furnished single rooms or rooms for light housekeeping. C. E. BYER, 12 Bank St., No. Bennington, Vt.

TO RENT—Right room tenement on South St. with all modern improvements. A good house in the rear. Elmer F. Beckwood, 28 E. Hawks, 206 North St.

TO RENT—Desirable tenement, offices and stores. Possession given immediately. W. E. Hawks, 206 North St.

TO RENT—Five rooms on first floor, modern improvements, also a furnished room for lady or school girl. Apply to Miss M. N. Moore, 21 Park St.

TO RENT—House, Willow St., now occupied by W. W. Burke, bathroom, modern conveniences. Inquire Mrs. Edw. Norton.

TO RENT—Seven room tenement on Union St. Single house, possession given at once. Also six room tenement with all modern improvements, electric lights on Main St. now occupied by Miss H. J. Morgan, the milliner; possession given Sept. 1. S. H. Beckwood, 27

TO RENT—Two very desirable tenements, two and six dollars. Apply to B. G. Aldrich, 42 Main St.

WANTED—Orders for fruit trees, ornamental trees and shrubbery for spring delivery. Alton Nursery, Rochester, N. Y. G. Alonzo, Agent, 314 West Main St., 442

WANTED—Familiar person to call on retail trade and agents for manufacturing house having well established business, local territory; straight salary \$20 paid weekly and expense money advanced; previous experience unnecessary; position permanent; business successful. Enclose self-addressed envelope. Superintendent Travelers, 605 Monon Bldg., Chicago, Ill.

WANTED—Position by an experienced woman nurse. Best of references given. Inquire 442 Main St.

FOR SALE—40 wagons of all descriptions, 50 sets of harness, single and double, 20 horses, good drivers and work horses. Inquire at W. J. Plaster's Livery.

FOUND—A pocketbook containing a small sum of money and a few Home Trading stamps. Holder can have the same by calling at the Banner office, proving property and paying for this advertisement.

CHRISTMAS IN TOWN

Day was Generally Observed in Bennington.

SERVICES AT CHURCHES

Good Game of Basket Ball at Library Hall and Several Enjoyable Dances.

There was a general observance of Christmas here. At midnight there were services at St. Francis de Sales, where Dachauer's mass in E minor was sung here for the first time to a large attendance. There was also high mass at the church of the Sacred Heart at the same time. The services were repeated at ten a. m. At the St. Peter's church there were services at 7 and 10 a. m. with special music.

At noon the inmates of the jail were served with a Christmas dinner, Mrs. Mary Rogers and Leon Perham appearing to enjoy it as much as anyone. An elaborate menu was also provided at the Soldiers Home. It embraced all of the Christmas luxuries. Following the dinner was a distribution of presents to every man in the home. Boxes of gifts were received from several of the W. R. C. in the state, and gifts of money from the corps in Brattleboro, St. Johnsbury, Springfield, and East Concord.

The people connected with the estate of J. C. Colgate, about 75 in number, with their children were given a Christmas gathering and entertainment Christmas. The large carriage barn on the premises was put in perfect order for the gathering. There were presents, mostly of a useful kind, for every one, there was music, and the gathering was one of the many pleasant ones of the Christmas time.

The Twilight hop at Armory Hall Christmas night was attended by nearly 100 couple, many coming from out of town. All seemed to enjoy themselves and there was nothing to mar the pleasure of the event. Miss McGurk furnished the music.

The social of the Methodist Sunday School, held in the church parlors, was well attended. One of the features was an elephant named "Stark" who was put through some very entertaining stunts by his trainer, Lawrence Griswold.

The Christmas tree for the primary department will be Saturday afternoon, Wm. A. Austin will entertain with stereoscopic views and will also act as Santa Claus.

The exercises for the Kindergarten department will be held Tuesday afternoon in charge of Mrs. Frank Lasher. Fifty-five couples attended the dance at S. of V. Hall Christmas night. Lever and Dunn furnished the music. Miss Bessie Moon was voted the most popular lady present and Fred W. Spear the most popular gentleman. Another dance will be given on New Years night.

BASKET BALL VICTORY.

B. B. B. Defeats Strong Team of Lansingburgh, N. Y.

Bennington Basket Ball team won from Lansingburgh in a well played game Christmas afternoon. It was a close and exciting game, as the teams were evenly matched.

The playing was clean and fast from start to finish, only one foul being called on either team. B. B. B. was weak on throwing baskets. This is in part accounted for by their having had no practice in the hall since the sixth of December. The lineup was as follows:

- B. B. B. Lansingburgh. Burt Warnock. Casey L. F. Kepner. Plumb R. F. Inskip. Gokay L. G. Bussey. Ayres R. G. Carrol. Score, B. B. B. 12; Lansingburgh, 9; referee, Fauley.

The preliminary game between the Mt. Anthony and the Junior Y. M. C. A. teams furnished a good deal of amusement for the crowd. It was won by the Mount Anthony team. Score, 2 to 0.

NOW A PRIEST.

A Former Prominent Vermont Democrat Ordained To The Priesthood.

Ex-Consul David N. Burke, a former resident of Middlebury, was ordained a priest at the St. Bonaventure's church in Alleghany, N. Y., Tuesday, by Bishop Colton, of Buffalo, N. Y.

"PARSIFAL"

The First Performance of the Great Musical Drama Outside Baireuth.

NEW YORK, Dec. 26.—For the first time since it was first produced in Baireuth in 1882 Wagner's "Parsifal" has been performed outside of the festival playhouse for which the master composed it. A vast assemblage was gathered at the Metropolitan Opera House to witness it, an assemblage most brilliant in appearance and in quality, following the drama with the keenest attention, with breathless silence, and submitting eagerly to its spell.

"Parsifal" was presented in a manner wholly befitting its distinctive character as a work of art, a manner that recognized and gave a full exposition of the solemnity and dignity of its theme, the lofty eloquence of its treatment, the overpowering impressiveness of the drama. The interpreters of the chief personages of the drama were singers who have drawn knowledge and understanding of its requirements from the fountainhead at Baireuth and who have been among the most distinguished participants in the festival performances there—Mme. Ternina, Mr. Burgstaller and Mr. Van Rooy.

Never in its long history of famous musical events has New York seen the crowd that turned out to witness this gala performance. Wagner's masterpiece has never before been seen except at Baireuth, and the popularity of the opera, combined with the vigorous protests of the composer's wife and the opposition on religious grounds against its production in this country, brought out the largest audience that the Metropolitan Opera House has ever seen.

Blizzard Strikes Chicago.

CHICAGO, Dec. 26.—Chicago is in the grip of the fiercest blizzard of the winter, and the few bright rays the glad Christmas holiday brought to the city's poor and destitute have been turned into clouds of distress and suffering. Hundreds of families who had arranged Christmas fetes for the evening had to give them up. Appeals for aid are pouring in on the police from all sections of the city, and they and the various charitable institutions are doing what they can to relieve immediate distress. Scores of victims with badly frozen hands and feet have been taken to hospitals and homes by the police.

St. Lawrence Valley Shakes.

OGDENSBURG, N. Y., Dec. 26.—A distinct earthquake shock was felt throughout this city yesterday. Telephone reports show that it was noticed all through northern St. Lawrence county, being severest along the St. Lawrence valley. Buildings trembled violently at Madrid, sixteen miles east of here, and bottles were thrown from store shelves. The earthquake was accompanied by a noise resembling thunder, which was sufficiently loud to awake people.

Fatal Quarrel Over Christmas Gifts.

CHICAGO, Dec. 26.—William Kaufman, nephew of George Kaufman, shot and fatally injured his cousin, Rosa Kaufman, and wounded his aunt, Mrs. Rega Kaufman, in the shoulder in a quarrel over Christmas presents. Kaufman declared that his uncle had not given him a proper number of Christmas presents and attempted to shoot him. The women endeavored to act as peacemakers, and Kaufman shot them both. He made his escape and has not been arrested.

Fatal Train Crash in Chicago.

CHICAGO, Dec. 26.—During a heavy snowstorm a suburban train on the Pennsylvania road crashed into the rear of a freight train of the Chicago, Milwaukee and St. Paul road at Fifty-fourth street. James Dooley, a brakeman on the Pennsylvania train, was fatally hurt, and four railroad men sustained trifling injuries. Three cars of the Chicago, Milwaukee and St. Paul train and the engine of the Pennsylvania train were demolished.

Late Mrs. Fair's Brother Missing.

NEWMARKET, N. J., Dec. 26.—William B. Smith, a brother of Mrs. Charles L. Fair, who was killed in an automobile accident two years ago, and one of the heirs to the Fair estate, left his home here last Monday night under circumstances which lead his wife and friends to fear that robbery and death may have been the sequel to his mysterious disappearance.

Two Killed by Train While Asleep.

GLADWIN, Mich., Dec. 26.—Emery Sheldon and Elch Kemp of Highwood were run over by a train and instantly killed while driving across the track four miles east of this place.

ROWELL IS IN JAIL

Bennington Insurance Man Arrested at Burlington.

CASE SET FOR JAN. 26

Will be Re-arrested by Bennington Authorities as Soon as He is at Large.

As he was already in jail there Deputy Nash could not secure him. It is understood that as soon as he is through with his cases in Burlington, he will be arrested on the Bennington charges.

A warrant for the arrest of Bernard Eskine who claimed to be general agent of the company, for the state, and his companion H. A. Seeley, both of whom were with Mr. Rowell when he operated here has been issued. Both of the latter have left the state and their whereabouts are now unknown.

Letters are on file in the office of the state insurance commissioner at Montpelier stating that the policies of the International company are issued by a St. Louis insurance company. Rowell had no license to do business for this concern, although he was licensed to act for several other companies.

George M. Rowell, whose troubles in the insurance business, have recently been made public, was arrested Wednesday afternoon in Burlington.

The charge against him was that he illegally represented himself to be an insurance agent to Charles Lee, and Edward Plank and collected \$6 from each of them.

At the request of Mr. Rowell the hearings in the cases were continued until January 26, by which time Mr. Rowell hoped to fix matters up. Thursday the men who bailed Mr. Rowell surrendered him to the officials and he was locked up in jail.

The same day Deputy Sheriff John Nash, with a warrant issued by states attorney Shakhshober went to Burlington to arrest Rowell, for like offenses said to have been committed here.

SOCIAL DANCE.

Second Annual Dance Given by the Pi-Alpha Club.

The second annual dance given by the Pi-Alpha club was held in Foresters hall Christmas night. A goodly number attended and all report a good time.

The patronesses were Mrs. Edward W. Bradford, Mrs. George F. Graves, Mrs. Inman S. Norton, and Mrs. C. Walling Thatcher.

The committee in charge consisted of the following gentlemen: T. Sibley, C. S. Holden, R. Holt, C. Burt, J. Martin, C. P. Sibley, P. V. Perkins, J. Harry Jubb, Henry Mattison, Carl White, Harry Sharpe, O. P. Gokay. Thompson's Orchestra of Hoosick Falls furnished the music. Refreshments were served, and dancing was enjoyed until a late hour.

ARRIVED TODAY

Fresh Holly and Laurel

You Should See Our Leader In—

BOSTON FERNS

At 75 cents each, worth more money. We give the S. & H. Trading Stamps.

HOLTON, The Florist,

331 School Street, Bennington, Vt.

Call And Give Your Orders For

Nursery Stocks, Garden and Farm Seeds. Ornamental Shrubbery, etc. Spring delivery.

C. Ainsworth, 311 W Main St., Bennington, Vt.

NEW POSITION FOR THORPE.

Former Editor of Middlebury Register Permanently Located at New York.

Washington, Dec. 26.—Ervin H. Thorne of Vermont, who has been in charge of the eastern division of post-office inspectors with headquarters at New York City, has been permanently appointed superintendent of the city delivery division of the postoffice department, succeeding Charles Hedges, who was removed some months ago.

Mr. Thorpe was for several years editor and publisher of the Middlebury Register.

MARCHING ON SANTO DOMINGO.

Insurgents Under Arms in Favor of Late President Jimenez.

SANTO DOMINGO, Dec. 26.—It is rumored that the greater part of the republic now under arms is in favor of General Jimenez, the former president, who is said to be marching on this city at the head of a large body of insurgents. The provisional government is making active preparations for defense. San Pedro de Macoris has declared in favor of the insurgents. The situation here is becoming extremely critical, though the city is quiet in expectation of events.

There is great depression in business circles as the results of the constant disturbances of the financial situation. The financial condition of the government is very bad owing to the fact that the duties were mortgaged in advance by the government of President Wos y Gil. The United States cruiser Panther and gunboat Newport, and the German cruisers Vineta and Gazelle and the Dutch warship De Ruyter have arrived in the harbor.

YULETIDE AT WHITE HOUSE.

President and Mrs. Roosevelt Entertain Personal Friends.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 26.—Christmas at the White House was a quiet day. President Roosevelt's morning ride was abandoned that he might attend the funeral services of Mrs. Hoar. Prior to this he spent an hour at his desk.

Santa Claus met with an accident just as he drove his reindeer over the White House. His pack burst open, and the contents fell pell-mell down the chimneys.

Theodore Junior always receives a large number of guns, and this year was no exception, while Kermit, the bookworm, was made happy by generous additions to his library. Ethel had dolls galore, one especially interesting from the fact that it was one of the dolls at the recent charity doll show and the gift of Miss Wilson, daughter of the secretary of agriculture.

The president and Mrs. Roosevelt had a few personal friends with them at dinner at the White House.

Pugilist Shot For Theft of \$135.

SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 26.—Muldoo McDonald, a well known colored heavyweight pugilist, has been shot and killed here by W. H. Atkins, another colored man. The shooting was the result of an attempt upon the part of McDonald, his slayer declared, to steal the sum of \$135 from a card table at a hotel. Atkins admits the killing and says he was moved to the deed by the refusal of McDonald to surrender the money he had taken.

Authentic Portrait of Dante.

ROME, Dec. 26.—Professor Giovanni Livì, director of the state archives at Bologna, which town is the principal center of Dante's fame, has found a parchment dated 1323, on which are two pen sketches representing Dante crowned by Bologna. This discovery will prove of great interest to those who are searching for an authentic portrait of the poet.

This Lady Has No Spleen.

IOWA CITY, Ia., Dec. 26.—Alive and healthy, although without a spleen, is the remarkable lot of Miss Olive Smith of Minross, Ia., who has visited the University of Iowa hospital and reported to Dr. William Jepson of the chair of surgery. Some months ago Dr. Jepson removed Miss Smith's spleen.

Croker May Be Reinstated.

ALBANY, N. Y., Dec. 26.—A report here says that the court of appeals has resolved upon a decision favorable to the reinstatement of Edward F. Croker, removed as chief of the New York fire department by Fire Commissioner Sturgis.

Zanardelli Will Die of Tumor.

ROME, Dec. 26.—The condition of former Premier Zanardelli is extremely grave. His doctors announce the existence of a tumor in the stomach and add that they have given up all hope of their patient's recovery.

Morgan Gets a Christmas Box.

NEW YORK, Dec. 26.—Commander J. Pierpont Morgan has been presented with an oil painting of the yacht Columbia by members of the New York Yacht club.

COUNTRY TOO SLOW

Mrs. Wilson Wouldn't Live on a Hoosick Farm.

RETURNED TO THE WEST

Obtained a Divorce and Became the Wife of a Standard Oil Magnate.

Attorney William A. Cahill of Hoosick Falls Wednesday filed an interlocutory judgment of divorce granted his client, George W. Wilson of Hoosick, from his wife, Fannie Wilson, who is now Mrs. Poole of Rockford, Ill. The decree was granted by Justice Howard on the default of the defendant to make answer to the complaint.

Mr. Wilson is a well-to-do farmer in Hoosick. While on a visit in the West he met the young woman who became his wife. She was a society belle and on coming to Hoosick and finding the life of a farmer's wife very different from that of the fashionable one she was accustomed to, she remained but a short time, returning to her friends in the West.

After remaining in the state of Illinois long enough to warrant divorce proceedings, she began them against Mr. Wilson, who made no answer, and she obtained a decree and remarried, her second husband being connected with the Standard Oil company. Then Mr. Wilson began an action in his state, setting up that as he had never put himself within the jurisdiction of the Illinois courts, the decree obtained by his wife was of no force in this state. Justice Howard of New York holds that the position of the plaintiff's counsel is correct and that the Illinois decree does not stand here. Therefore a decree is granted Mr. Wilson.

The latter, while a farmer, has prospects of being a very rich man some day, as he has relatives of great wealth in the West, one of them, an aunt, showing her regard for him just now by sending him a Christmas present of \$2,500 in gold, the same reaching here by express this week, the money being in \$20 gold pieces, and being counted on receipt in the presence of Attorney Cahill.

Mr. Wilson is a brother of Moses Wilson of this town, and by the recent death of an uncle in California, becomes one of the heirs to a large estate.

THE GREEN MORAYS.

Very Able Contortionists—Their Tank One of the New York Aquarium's Attractions.

"Them fellers must have India rubber backbones," said a visitor at the Aquarium, gazing in as he spoke at the tank of the green morays, which were twisting and contorting and tying themselves up into knots, in a manner that would have made the India rubber man want to quit the business entirely, says the New York Sun.

Seven feet long, the biggest of the three here, and five and six feet, respectively, the other two, the big green morays always attract the visitors, even when they are quiescent; but when, as at feeding time, they begin to squirm, then so many people gather around the tank that those at the back can get only occasional glimpses of the giant eel contortionists as they rise high in the tank, to be seen then over the heads of the people in front.

They are doing well, the green moray, oil of them feeding well, and they are probably as comfortable here, in their spacious tank at the Aquarium, as they could be anywhere away from the coral caverns they were accustomed to frequent, in the waters of the Isles of Bermuda. They are certainly a great attraction.

A large stock of holiday goods at Goldsmith's, 600 Main St. Toys, books, games, dolls, etc.

\$10 REWARD

For the return of a small yellow Mexican leather wrist bag, lost Thursday, Dec. 24. Contained between \$40 and \$50. Finder please leave it at the Banner and Reformer office.

BENNINGTON BRIEFS.

News of the Town and Village Told Briefly For Easy Reading.

Clarence Holden is home from school.

H. L. Stillson is in New York for a few days.

Miss Daisy Ritchie is home for the holidays.

Mrs. Alden of New York is a guest of her daughter, Mrs. L. A. Graves.

Miss Mabel Hennessey, of the telephone exchange, is at her home in Dalton, Mass.

Joseph Napoleon, infant son of Mr. and Mrs. John Legasse of Mill street, died Thursday morning. The funeral was held Christmas day.

Mr. and Mrs. B. N. Estabrook, Mrs. Emerson Estabrook and Miss Mary Estabrook spent Christmas day with friends in Hoosick Falls.

Mr. and Mrs. Moses Wilson and son Fred went to Hoosick Falls and spent Christmas with his brothers and a sister at the old homestead.

Charles H. Willard, formerly of the Putnam house, will soon assume the management of a hotel at Hot Springs, Ark.

Bernie B. Sheldon of the high school is spending vacation at his home in Dorset.

Mrs. Frank Gaudette and daughter of Greenfield are visiting her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Charles Kennon.

Mr. and Mrs. J. M. Ayres entertained relatives at a dinner on Christmas day.

Mr. and Mrs. George H. Bickford and son of Hardwick are with her parents, J. S. Holden and wife.

Capt. Russell C. Graves and his mother are here from New York for a few days.

Professor James P. Taylor of Colgate Academy, is spending his vacation with Mr. and Mrs. Frank R. Morris.

The Royal Purple degree will be worked by Manchester encampment I. O. O. F. on candidates Monday evening, December 28th.

At the First Baptist church the Christmas anniversary will be celebrated tomorrow morning and evening, special music and appropriate sermons. The Bible school will have a novel program. Strangers are cordially invited to these services.

Mr. and Mrs. J. Elmer Ayres of Oneida are here for Christmas, and Miss Mary Root from Smith college.

William Bogert Walker, Lusher Nichols from Brown University, Valentine Perkins from Boston, Harry Sharpe from Orange, Mass., Carl White from Concord, N. H., Harold Larrabee from Schenectady were home for Christmas. The latter was accompanied by his friend Mr. Anderson and Miss Vanderpool.

Marcus Cutler has taken a lumber job in the Adirondacks and started for there Thursday. He drives 100 miles or more, and goes by rail the rest of the way. He secured his team harness at Burt's, and most of his winter furnishings from different merchants here. He will be gone several months.

Mrs. Harriett Gifford died Christmas morning at 9 o'clock. Her husband, Andrew Gifford, died about a year ago. She was 62 years of age, and her health had been poor for some time. Her funeral will be observed Sunday afternoon from the residence of Rollin Turner. Rev. W. H. Washburne will officiate.

The remains of John Joy who died at San Jose, Calif., arrived at Hoosick Tuesday, the funeral being held there Thursday. Mr. Joy who was an uncle of Moses Wilson was born in Hoosick 60 years ago. He went west when a young man, finally located in San Jose. He had been east several times since leaving home. He was unmarried and for a number of years had lived with his sister, Mrs. Mary J. Wilson who accompanied the remains to Hoosick. Mr. Wilson and son attended the funeral which was attended from the Wilson homestead. Mr. Joy leaves quite a large estate.

Henry's Red Gum.

beats all remedies for a COUGH or COLD. We refund the price if it is not satisfactory. Large bottles 25 cents. B. A. Quinlan.

NOTICE!

The Annual Meeting of the Bennington Patriotic Monument and Historical Association will be held at the Law Office of Stenfelder & Bates in Bennington on the second Wednesday in January, the 13th day, at 10 o'clock in the forenoon for the election of officers of the Association for the year ensuing and the transaction of all other business proper to be done when met. EDWARD L. BATES, Recording Secretary. Bennington, Vt., Dec. 25, 1903.