

LOCAL MATTERS.

—Barnum's advanced agent says the only trouble he meets in Vermont is to find a level spot large enough to pitch the mammoth tents upon.

—The fishing rods over the shoulders of many, now-a-days, shows that the bent of the public mind is the bend of a hook, and the line of action is a fish-line.

—The big Metropolitan Pavilion Show didn't show here Thursday, having met, at Laconia, N. H., with an obstacle in the shape of a sheriff from Franklin, who attached the tents, horses, &c., to cover debts contracted at the latter place.

—The promenade concert by the Band, last Saturday evening, was well attended and proved satisfactory to all present. The heat is too great, at this season of the year, to enjoy a concert, let it be never so good, if given in a hall. We are informed that the band will give an open air concert each week if a suitable place is provided. Who will circulate a paper to raise money to pay for building a stand?

THE ladies of the Congregational Society have presented to Chauncey C. Morris, their talented young organist, an elegant writing desk abundantly furnished, as a testimony that his skill and assiduity are appreciated.

Mr. Tibbets is taking special pains to improve the singing in the Sabbath school, and we are pleased to see, has gathered several young members of the school into the choir. The new singing books, the new singers and the increased interest taken in church-music are both gratifying and encouraging. H.

CORNH. Last Sunday morning our respected fellow-townsmen Hon. Thos. Wason, was married to the widow of the late Mansfield Taplin, Esq. The ceremony was performed in church before morning services. Rev. C. M. Winch, officiating. A full congregation witnessed the ceremony and wished the honored couple much happiness. They started for the West Monday, on their wedding trip.

At the annual-communication of Menerva Lodge No. 86, A. F. A. M. Tues. June 24, the following officers were elected for the year ensuing:

- W. M.—Victor Richardson.
S. W.—A. M. Carpenter.
J. W.—B. Blake.
Sec.—B. F. Aiken.
Treas.—R. Richardson.
S. D.—W. G. Kimball.
J. D.—J. T. Wilson.
Tyler.—Wm. Orr.

Our Cookville disciples of the piscatorial art do not seem to meet with very flattering success, if we may judge from the report of two who labored hard all of Saturday P. M. to catch eight trout. Moral—Don't go to West Corinth to fish!

Promenade concert at Academy Hall, Saturday evening, June 6th. The thunder shower on Sunday evening put a cooler on the hot weather for a while. Frosts have been in order every morning this week.

SHERBROOKE, P. Q., June 1, 1874.

Mr. Editor: On Monday night, the 25th ult., L. L. Turgeon, station and express agent at Stanstead Junction, absconded. The next day some of the officials from Lyndonville made an examination into the affairs of the station and found that all was not right; some \$150 or more being gone. He had collected freight bills and given receipts for the same, making no entry of the cash, but leaving duplicate bills as outstanding, as a blind. He also took three tickets to Quebec. The Express Co. found that they were short \$180, which had been taken by him from a package containing \$660, that arrived a short time before he left, for another party at his agency. Wednesday morning Frank Richardson of White River Junction, formerly express messenger on Pass. R. E., engaged the services of a sheriff at Stanstead and started for Quebec, where it was supposed Turgeon had gone, as he formerly resided there, and his household goods had been shipped there. At Point Levi, opposite Quebec, it was intimated that he was secreted among the French population in that vicinity. Engaging two detectives, who satisfied themselves where he was secreted, but not daring to attempt an arrest, as there were several suspicious-looking persons about, they came back and reported to Richardson. Thereupon it was decided to surround the house where he was supposed to be, the next morning at 3 o'clock, which was done, and the object of their search secured. The suspicious characters seen by the detectives at their first visit, were still there but offered no resistance. All he said was "you have caught me." On Friday the prisoner was brought to Stanstead before a magistrate and had a preliminary examination, was ordered to be confined in Sherbrooke jail until otherwise disposed of by the higher courts, to which place he was taken Saturday afternoon. It is a mystery why he didn't take the whole package of \$660, instead of a part, as the punishment could not have been much more in case he was caught, and his family could have had a little something to help them with while he was serving out his time.

Orange County Conference.

The annual meeting of the Orange County Conference of Congregational Churches, held at West Randolph last week, was one of unusual interest. The attendance from that part of the county was large. Rev. E. E. Herrick, of Chelsea, opened the exercises with a very practical sermon, from the text "The kingdom of heaven is like unto leaven which a woman took and hid in three measures of meal till the whole was leavened." After showing how false was the somewhat popular idea that the church was solely for the comfort of its members, rather than for aggressive work, the preacher stated his subject to be "The duty of each local church to strive, up to its ability, to evangelize the community immediately about it." This duty was set forth by reference to general command, and to the example of the apostolic church and the history of modern missions.

So practical was the sermon that it gave the key note to the devotional meetings, and to many of the remarks during the session.

The Sabbath School report, and the discussion of the question "How can the churches carry the Gospel to the unoccupied fields around them," were also practical presentations of church work.

The largest attendance was at the evening session, which was opened by a praise-meeting, followed by an essay on, and a general discussion of "family worship." Several very interesting instances of the influence of this service upon the various members of the family were given from personal experience.

From the report of the churches I gather the following statistics:

Whole number of churches, 20; membership, 1952; added during the year, 87; removed, 83. The church in Corinth received 11 members; the churches in Bradford, Randolph and Stratford, 5 each; and the churches in Chelsea, Newbury and Tunbridge, 4 each.

The Sabbath Schools connected with the churches report 2038 members, a gain of 298 during the year. The average yearly congregations in these churches was 2081. The amount of benevolent contributions, exclusive of the support of the several churches, was \$2726.64. By comparing this report with last year's report for the whole State, I find that only two other counties, Windham and Windsor, have a greater number of churches, while the average for each county is about 14. Only two other counties, Rutland and Windsor, have a greater membership, while the average for each county is 1281. Two other counties, Caledonia and Windsor, have a greater number in the Sabbath school, while the average is 1378. Rutland and Windsor also report a larger average congregation, but the general average, by counties, is about one-third less.

Of seventeen towns in this county, three have no Congregational church; one town has three churches; four towns have two each; and the remainder one each.

The Conference chose as delegates to the State Convention at Northfield, June 16-18, Rev. C. M. Winch, Dea. U. A. Clark and Silas Hall; and Rev. W. S. Palmer and Prof. E. Conant delegates to the National Council at New Haven, Ct., in September.

The following arrangements were made for the next annual meeting to be held the last week of May of the coming year.

Place—Tunbridge.
Moderator—Dea. F. Dearborn.
Scribe—Rev. W. S. Palmer.
Com. of Arrangements—Rev. S. F. Lougee, Col. J. B. Mead, Rev. G. B. Tolman.

Prayer—Rev. S. L. Bates.
Secretary of Sunday Schools—Dea. F. Dearborn. L. H. E.

ORFORD. Our quiet village was aroused to arms last Sunday morning when it was noised around that thieves and assassians were out. One year ago our indignation was at fever heat because we had not evidence sufficient nor power to punish a few rascals. Last Saturday night H. H. Conant's harness and trunk shop was entered and desk broken open and plundered. Loss about thirty dollars. Also Mr. T. J. Fifield's house, where was kept the town liquors, was broken into, but Mrs. Fifield's murderous cry frightened the thieves so that they refrained from what goods they had already taken out of the house. Evidence is so strong it is hoped the rascals will be brought to justice. "God speed the time." COR.

LYME, N. H., June 3, finds us much as usual, the customary house-cleaning, whitewashing, painting, &c., being already completed we hope to pursue the even tenor of our way.

The hot days of last week and the beautiful shower of Sabbath evening were very beneficial to the germinating of the seed sown in our gardens as to-day gives evidence.

Much of the grass on the farms has been winter-killed and the farmers are plowing up and planting corn.

Mr. Hiram Mayo at the north part of the town has a hen, which, for the last few weeks, has laid five eggs, the average weight of which is four ounces, two of the same weighing five ounces each. He had thought her to be of common breed, but says now she must be a "Jeffersonian Democratic hen."

The past and present pupils of Mr. Martin's school are requested to meet at 9 o'clock on Friday, June 12, prepared to spend the day at the Camp Ground.

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1874.

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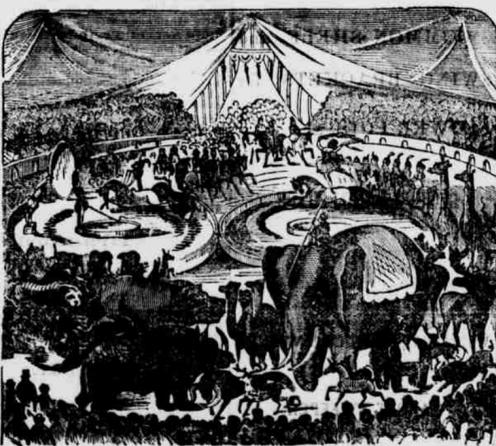
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