A Thriving "Mountain Village"-Ita Population and Various Business Interests-Its Churches and Schools-Its Mammoth Hotel, Etc.

EVENING TELEGRAPH SPECIAL CORRESPONDENCE WILLIAMSPORT, Pa., June 24, 1867. Arriving in this town on Saturday evening, I found some of the good people here residing in a frame of mind that bordered on indignation. their grievance being the fact that one of the journals of Philadelphia has recently seen fit to denominate Williamsport a "Mountain Village!" As the great political conclave was not to assemble until Wednesday, and the time hung heavily on my hands, I determined to look into the matter, and your readers can judge for themselves whether the good people of Williamsport have any cause to feel ag,

grieved. THE CITY OF WILLIAMSPORT was transferred from the list of boronghs by an act of the State Legislature passed early in 1866, and at the recent session of the Legislature a neighboring township was added to the municipality as originally established. The precise date of its settlement is one of those historical facts which are not readily arrived at. But there are now living here persons who are quite certain that their grandfathers and grandmothers had established themselves on the spot as early as the year 1790. In 1795 Lycoming county was set apart from the rest of the world

mothers had established themselves on the spot as early as the year 1790. In 1795 Lycoming county was set apart from the rest of the world by metes and bounds, and at that date Williamsport had so far progressed that its claims to the dislinction of being made the seat of justice could not be ignored. Nevertheless, there were then but few houses on the site of the present city; but this was probably the case with every other locality in the county at that time, and so Williamsport became the county town, and as such was duly organized by Michael Ross, who owned all the country hereabouts.

The early history of the town could not have been very exciting, except when the settlers got themselves into difficulty with their redskinned neighbors, for we find that its progress was so very, very slow, that in the year 1840 it numbered only 1800 inhabitants. And during these early days in its history, the only notable event to be encountered is the fact that Mr. John Winter was at one time Sheriff of the county of which it was the chief town. Now, this John Winter was not a remarkable man, save in one respect; and had it not been for this one thing the early history of Williamsport might have been of no moment whatever. John Winter was the happy and prosperous father of a family which numbered no less than twenty-two children—for which sufficient reason his name is remembered after the lapse of half a century. It is, indeed, a matter of surprise that the population of the town increased so slowly, with the example of John Winter in the mind of every father. But it is possible for a good example to counteract itself, and come to naught, and such may have Winter in the mind of every father. But it is possible for a good example to counteract itself, and come to naught, and such may have been the case in this instance. Be that as it may, Williamsport dragged itself slowly and leisurely along until 1850, when the censustance could find but 1615 souls within the limits of the borough. At that time, however, the growth of the town received a sudden impetus, and by 1860 its population had increased to 5664, being surpassed in rapidity of increase by no interior town in the State save Scranton. Since then its increase has been even more rapid than during the previous decade, and now the popuduring the previous decade, and now the population is said to be not less than 15,000, while some place the figure as high as 18,000. The causes of this almost wonderful Increase, and the prospects of the future, will appear when I come to speak of the character and extent of the business by which its inhabitants are en-

As Williamsport was literally nothing but a As Williamsport was literally nothing but a "mountain village" as late as 1850, it has all the aspect of a new town, and much resembles those marvellous congregations of busy people which spring up like musbrooms upon the prairies of the West, almost within the compass of a single night. There are but few old buildings to be seen in the two; there is about the place a freshness which bespeaks a recent and a rapid growth. Many of the dwellings, particu-larly those of the laboring people, are small, and built of wood; but the houses of the wealthy capitalists, and the stores and public buildings, are all build of brick or stone, and are as attrac-tive in appearance as they are substantial in are all build of brick or stone, and are as attractive in appearance as they are substantial in construction. The streets, likewise, are those of a new town, for they are in the main wide and airy; and, with the exception of a wicked turn in the principal thoroughfare, they are all as straight as a bee-line. Moreover, one is reminded of the dear old Quaker City by the names which they have received, although by some unintentional mistake they have been turned half way about, and Market, Mulberry, and Pine are made to run north and south, while Fourth street, the great highway, extends from east to west.

from east to west.

The location of Williamsport is certainly one of the most beautiful in the State. It is situated on the left bank of the West Branch of the river on the left bank of the West Branch of the river Susquehanna, at a distance of forty miles from the point where the West and the North Branch run together. Elmira, N. Y., is the nearest city of size and importance, being seventy-eight miles north. Harrisburg lies directly to the south, at a distance of ninety miles, and Philadelphia to the southeast, at the distance of one hundred and ninety-eight miles. It has considerable importance as a railway centre, as the Philadelphia and Erie, the Northern Central, the Catawissa, and the Williamsport and Elmira Railroads run into it, and cross each other in a manner that cannot be thoroughly understood by a stranger. The West Branch Canal likewise runs through the town, and as this has recently passed under the control of the can likewise runs through the town, and as this has recently passed under the control of the Pennsylvania Railroad Company, by whom it is to be both widened and deepened, even greater facilities than it now possesses for access to the best markets in the country will soon be accorded it.

But this favorable location is not the only part to which it can lay claim. The surround

But this favorable location is not the only ment to which it can lay claim. The surrounding scenery is exceedingly romantic and beautiful. Hemming in the city on the north is a span of the Alieghenies, which can be seen at the distance of about ten miles to the northwest, by ascending one of the higher rises. On the other side of the river, and pressing hard upon it, is the Bald Eagle range of hills, and in the graceful valley thus formed lies the "mountain village" of Williamsport. These hills do not rise very high into the air, but they run several miles back from the river on either side, and extend up and down the sides of the stream as far as the eye can reach. The summits of and extend up and down the sides of the stream as far as the eye can reach. The summits of most of them are covered with a thick and heavy growth of trees, but now and then one is to be seen entirely bare, while the cultivated fields which line their slopes frequently run up to the very top in a narrow corner, leaving the growth of timber unimpaired on either side. So much for the city in general; and now I come to

The churches take precedence, as a matter of course and courtesy. But this pracedence is not of herwise inappropriate, for Williamsport has now thirteen places of Divine worship, either entirely completed or in process of crection.

Most prominent among these stands the new and beautiful edifice of the Second Presbyterian congregation (N. S.), which was dedicated during the month of January last. It was two are in building, and cost \$6,000, the last dolyed of which was freely given on the day of lar ation. The building is of cut grey stone, dedice ornate Gothic style, and boasts of a spire in the first is feet into the air. The interior of the building is in all respects worthy of its imposing exterior. The ceiling is divided into neat panels, and pending from it in the centre, running lengthwise of the building, is a novel contrivance for lighting the audience room. When its two hundred gus jets are turned on to a full head, the effect is peculiarly brilliant. The organ was manuactured in Boston, at an expense of over \$2000, and this, with the aid of one of the best cultivated choirs in the State, gives the church-going people of Williamsport an envisable opportunity to listen to sacred music. The main room will accommodate about eight hundred persons; and below there is a large lecture-room and apartments for Bible classes and other purposes. The Rev. William Sterling, who is the present pastor, has been associated with the congregation for more than twenty years past.

The First Presbyterian Church (O. S.), Rev. William Simonton pastor, is a handsome brick edifice only five years old, and will seat about 700 persons. But the congregation is increasing so rapidly that they also contemplate the erection of a new edifice.

The Methodist Episcopal churches are three in number, the principal one being that on wall THE PUBLIC BUILDINGS.

repidly that they also contemplate the erection of a new edifice.

The Methodist Episcopal churches are three in number, the principal one being that on Mulberry street, with Rev. B. B. Hamin as pastor. This is a new and handsome brick building, and will accommo late 600 persons. The Pine Street M. E. Church, Rev. Thomas M. Reese pastor, will seat about 500: in addition to which there is another called the Price Chapsiof which the Rev. W. W. Evans is the present pastor. There are two Protestant Episcopal Churches.

The eldest, Christ Church, Rev. A. Wadleigh rector, has become too restricted in its limits, and a new stone edifice, which will cost \$40,000, has already been commenced. The formal laying of the corner-stone will take place on Thursday of this week, in the presence of the Right Rev. Bishop Stevens. The other congregation of this denomination worship in Trinity Chapel, where they enjoy the ministrations of the Rev. H. S. Spackman, recently of Philadelphia.

tions of the Rev. H. S. Spackman, recently of Philadelphia.

The Baptist Church is a large and fine brick building, and is presided over by the Rev. T. O. Lincoln, D. D. Another but smaller church of this denomination has just been dedicated, and is yet without a pastor.

The Methodist Protestant Church, of which the Rev. Dr. Kilgore is pastor, has a new edifice in the course of erection. There are, in addition to the above, two Lutheran churches the Rev. A. E. Horn and the Rev. J. Young being their respective pastors. The Catholic congregation, Rev. Father Stack, now worship in the County Court House, but have had a church building in course of erection for some time past, although the work upon it is at present interrupted by an unhappy misunderstanding among those more immediately interested.

So much for the churches.

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So much for the churches.

The Court House is certainly one of the largest, most attractive, and most substantial in the entire State. It is built of pressed brick, set off with facings of Picton stone, there being alight projections, one of which is surmounted by a clock. The building was completed in 1860, at a cost of \$60,000, and affords all the accommodadations that would be required of such a structure. A new County Prison is also under way, and when completed will cost fully \$150,000, and excel the Court House without and within, Moreover, work will soon be commenced on a handsome new building for the use of the Government as a Post Office, and for certain business purposes, including a large hall.

With botels, Williamsport is quite well supplied, as, indeed, is usually the case, But the prominent one is so very prominent that it

plied, as, indeed, is usually the case. But the prominent one is so very prominent that it deserves a special notice. It is situated in the centre of a beautiful grove of five acres, immediately opposite the depot, and is known as the Herdic House, after its proprietor. The building is of brick, 156 feet square, and contains 200 rooms, with comfortable accommodations for full three hundred guests. The dining-hall is even more spacious, and will seat 500 persons. A year and a half have elapsed since the building, which cost \$200,000, was completed, and it has already grown into such favor that the services of seventy persons are constantly required vices o: seventy persons are constantly required to keep it in running order. The proprietor Mr. Peter Herdic, in addition to the ground building, and furniture, owns a large amount of real estate in the vicinity, as well as the gas works which furnish the hotel and the buildings in the neighborhood with gas. The establishment is now under the management of Mr. E. A. Upson, who has made it popular even as a summer resort. But this is not a matter of surprise, as the delightful scenery of the vicinity, the refreshing coolness of the nights (blankets are required even in this sultry results). weather, and the placing of summer board at from \$12 to \$15 per week, will clearly show. This rare combination of advantages has resulted in the engagement of numerous suites of rooms by families who intend to pass the summer in the country, and it is extremely doubtful if they could have chosen a pleasanter

doubtful if they could have chosen a pleasanter or healthier place of sojourn.

The lack of time will prevent me from noticing at length many of the institutions of the city, prominent among which are the public schools, which contain about one thousand scholar, and two private seminaries. scholars, and two private seminaries. One of these—the Dickinson Seminary—is under the control of the Methodist Church, and has fine and large buildings, and about three hundred scholars in attendance.

THE BUSINESS of Williamsport can best be summed up by figures, which shows that there are five weekly and one daily newsparer, three national banks, one savings bank, three foundries, three machine shops, one boller manufactory, one machine shops, one boller manufactory, one blast furnace, one woollen factory, two steam tanneries, one steam bakery, and thirty steam saw-mills. Nearly all of the latter are of the first-class in size and many of them have a capacity for turning out 100,000 feet of lumber per day. They are kept running day and night, and even then councid that is required of them at present, while good judges assert that the timber resources of the West Branch cannot be exhausted for many, many years. Yesterday 534,500 feet of lumber were cleared eastward by the canal, and 572,200 feet by rallway, and these figures will give some idea of the importance of the lumber trade at this point.

So much for the "mountain village" of Williamsport.

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printing.

Fine Lawn Robes, just one-third their value.
30 pieces printed Piques, in oil-painted colors.

For beauty of design and coloring they have no equal. Tourists and others in want of such goods would do well to call.

Just opened another case of those fine white Piques, handsome goods, only 50 cents.

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All the leading makes of
SHIRTING, and
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At the lowest market prices.
Yard Wide Brown Heavy, only 12% cents.
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S. W. Corner of Fourth and Arch Sts.

LARGE STOCK OF SUMMER QUILTS. 10-4 AND 11-4 LANCASTER QUILTS.
11-4 HONEY COMB QUILTS.
PINK AND BLUE MARSEILL, PROUTED,
FINEST WHITE QUILTS IMPOUTED,
HOTELS SUPPLIED WITH QUILTS,
NAPHINS, TOWELS, TABLE LINENS,
SHEETINGS, ETC. ETC.
HAVE JUST OPENED ANOTHER CASE
SILVER POPLINS, FOR LADIES' SUITS.
DARK LAWNS, PRENCES AND ENGLISH.
THIN GOODS, FULL VARIETY,
NUMMER NILKS, HEDUCED. P. S.-WHITE SHAWLS, WHOLESALE AND BETAIL.

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N. W. CORNER EIGHTH AND FILRERT.

HAVE JUST OPENED

A new lot of Cambric Edgings, very cheap. Dimity Bands, 15, 16, 22, 25, and 28c Ladies' and Gents' Hosiery and Gloves, Summer Under-Vests and Pants. Gents' Shirt Feonts and Suspenders. Fancy Soaps, Perfumery, etc. etc. Tooth Brushes, Hair Brushes, and Nail Brushes. Buffalo and India-rubber Dressing Combs. Linen and Slik Fans, very cheap. Ladies' and Gents' Linen Hokfs. Ladies' Hemstitched and Tucked Hdkfs.

WHITE GOODS! WHITE GOODS! White Piques, 50, 60, 75, 85 cents, and \$1 per yard. Plaid and Stripe Muslins, Soft Finish Cambrics, Jaconets, and Nainsooks, Victoria Lawns and Swiss Muslins, etc. Best makes Bleached and Unbleached Muslins, Pillow-case and Sheeting Muslins, etc. French Lawns, 25 cents a yard. Freuch Percales.

Fine colored Mohair Aloscas. Mixed Poplins for Travelling Dresses. Cheap Plaid Goods, 75 cents a yard, CHEAP BLACK SILES.

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5000 YARDS BEST FRENCH LAWNS, IN SMALL DESIGNS, REDUCED TO 25 CENTS.

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BLACK SILKS OF SUPERIOR QUALITY, VERY CHEAP. WHITE GOODS IN GREAT VARIETY, AT LOW PRICES.

SALES FROM NOW UNTIL 27th DAY OF JUNE WILL BE MADE AT GREATLY REDUCED RATES, IN ORDER TO CLOSE OUT STOCK. ONE PRICE ONLY.

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GREAT REDUCTION IN

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GEORGE FRYER,

No. 916 CHESNUT STREET,

Informs his customers that he is selling his entire SILKS, SHAWLS, AND DRESS GOODS

Regardless of cost, to close them out by July 1.

NOTICE

ENTIRE STOCK OF SUMMER DRESS GOODS

TO BE CLOSED OUT,

JOHN W. THOMAS,

Nos. 405 and 407 North SECOND St.

OFFERS THE BALANCE OF HIS STOCK 中国 医精液性多点

GRENADINES, BEBNANIS, ORGANDIES, LAWNS,

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AT GREATLY REDUCED PRICES. CHAMBERS, NO. 816 ARCH STREET Noveities Opening Dally;

Real Cluny Laces.

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Thread Veils from \$250.

WHITE GOODS, -Marsellles for Dresses-Bargaina,
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BALANCE OF STOCK AT COST. - IN order to close out the balance of our Summer ck of Cloth, Silk, and Lace Mantillas, we have MRS, E. HENRY. Ko, 14 N. EIGHTH Street,

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FAST COLORS, 121/5C.

FRENCH CAMBRIC LAWNS, Choice styles, at 25, 28, and Mc. PRENCH JACONET LAWNS, Choice styles. 25. M. and Wic. SATIN PLAID ORGANDY LAWNS, New choice styles, 31 and 40c.

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Fin quality, fast colors, at 40c.
Cloice styles French Percales at 40c

FIGURED SILK GRENADINES, Black grounds, choice styles, at 62c to \$1.
FIGURED SILK HERNANIS,
Black grounds, \$1.25, cost nearly \$2.
SEASONARLE DRESS GOODS
In great variety, closing out at 16, 29, 25 to 75c.
200 WHITE SHETLAND SHAWLS,

FINE QUALITY, TWO YARDS SQUARE, CLOSING OUT AT 43. These are the best \$3 Shawls in the market, Shetland Shawls at \$550, \$4, \$4.50. New styles fine Shetland Shawls, \$6.50, \$7, \$8. White Berege and Likma Shawls, \$6.50, \$7, \$8. White Berege and Likma Shawls.

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3 Camel's Hair Shawis, \$1000 each...

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the purposes stated. PHILADELPHIA, Pa., May 20, 1867. PHILADELPHIA, Pa., May 20, 1867.

To the Officers and Members of the Washington Library Company, N. S. EEAD, Secretary.

Gentlemen:—On receipt of your favor of the 18th instant, notifying us of our appointment as Receivers for your Company, we took the liberty to submit a copy of your Charter, with a plan of your enterprise, to the highest legal authority of the State, and having received his favorable opinion in regard to its legality, and sympathixing with the benevolent object of your Annoclation, viz., the education and maintenance of the orphan children of our soldiers and sallors at the Riverside Institute, we have concluded to acceptrust, and to use our best efforts to promote so worth an object.

Respectfully, yours, etc.,

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The geographical position of Cape Island is in itself a popular feature, when properly understood. Sistenated at the extreme southern portion of the State, an occupying a neck of and at the confluence of its belaware Bay with the Atlantic Ocean, it become entirely surrounded by sait water, hence favored b continuis breezes from the sea.

The bind intraishes a beautiful view of the Oceas Delaware Bay, and phituresque back country, taking in Cape Henlopen distinctly at a distance of aixteed nites. The beach is acknowledged to surpass an other point upon the Atlantic count, being of asmeoth compact sand, which declines so gently to the sur that even a child can bathe with security.

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The distance from Phinadelphia to Cape Island is Similes by rail, and about the same di tance by steamer down the Bay, and by either route the facilities for travel promise to be of the most satisfactory character. The Island has Hotel and Boarding-house accommodations for about ten thousand persons. The leading Hotels are tre Columbia House, with George J. Bolton as proprietor; all under the managument of gentlemen who have well-established reputations as hotel men.

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ATLANTIC CITY, N. J., WILL OPEN ON WEDNESDAY, JUNE 26.

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