

Country Correspondence
Items of Interest Dished Up for the Delectation of "Watchman" Readers by a Corps of Gifted Correspondents.

PINE GROVE MENTIONS.

To one and all a Merry Christmas and a happy New Year. Mrs. Etta Glenn is quite ill with a complication of diseases. Farmer Emory Johnson has been confined to bed the past week with illness. The I. O. F. annual banquet will be held on Friday evening, December 28th. Mr. and Mrs. James E. Peters spent Sunday with Mr. and Mrs. John Kocher, at Fairbrook. Mr. and Mrs. Fred Randolph and wife, of Huntingdon, were callers at the St. Elmo on Sunday. Mrs. Randall Rossman was taken to the Bellefonte hospital on Wednesday for a surgical operation. Miss Irene Fletcher, of the Branch, has gone to her home at Howard to spend the Christmas season. Mrs. Minnie Hess was called to Selingsgrove, last week, owing to the illness of her mother, Mrs. Pursline. Mrs. F. W. Archey, of Pennsylvania Furnace, was taken to the Altoona hospital on Sunday for an operation. Mr. and Mrs. J. A. Fortney, of Bellwood, will spend the yuletide season among friends and neighbors hereabouts. After an absence of twenty years Frank Thomas, of Dayton, Ohio, is circulating among his old-time friends. John Stover is erecting a big garage at his home, one large enough to accommodate his own car as well as those of visitors. Ralph Ralston will flit in the spring, from the Luther K. Strouse farm to Spring township, and will be succeeded by George Rudy. The ladies of the Lutheran church will hold a social in the lecture room on New Year's evening. Refreshments will be on sale. Farmer N. C. Neidigh sure had a streak of hard luck the past week, losing two of his best cows and a mare which he valued at \$250. Mrs. Florence Kepler Meade came up from Washington, D. C., to spend a week with her mother at the well-known Kepler home in the Glades. Farmer James E. Peters, of the Glades, has purchased the Simon Ward residence on east Main street. The price paid is said to be \$4,800. Our mutual friend, J. B. Goheen, of Baileyville, has returned home from a two week's visit with his son, Dr. George Bailey Goheen, at Coalport. Grover Cleveland Corl has decided to quit farming in the spring and retire to Easy street in our town. Geo. Burwell will tenant his farm next year. Mr. and Mrs. Miles Musser, of Huntingdon, spent Sunday with James McCool and family, and were pleased to find Mr. McCool much improved in health. Alex B. Tanyer, who was stricken with paralysis on the opening day of the hunting season, is not improving as fast as his friends would like to see. Our town has a new barber in the person of G. Dallas Morrison, who will be open Saturday afternoon and evening and Monday afternoon and evening. Mr. and Mrs. J. E. Reed are in charge of the Samuel Everhart home on the Branch while Mrs. Everhart is recuperating her strength in the Bellefonte hospital. Mrs. Etta Corl, with her three manly little sons, Albert, Fred and Robert, spent Sunday at the G. R. Fry home at Rock Springs, Mr. Fry being housed up with the grip. Mr. and Mrs. Jacob Rentchler, of Cleveland, Ohio, who came east to attend the funeral of their aunt, the late Mrs. Mary Ard, remained for a visit among their old-time friends. From the many nice things for Christmas displayed in the show windows of our enterprising merchants Santa Claus will have little trouble laying in a good supply for all the children. Mrs. Sue Peters, grandmother O'Bryan and Miss Nannie Bailey are all improving and their many friends hope they will all be well enough to participate in and enjoy the Christmas season. Foultryman W. R. Dale was robbed of one hundred white leghorn hens on Sunday night. As this is the third raid made on his henery in the past few months he is feeling the loss quite keenly. Mr. and Mrs. Forrest McGirk departed on Saturday evening for Palm Beach, Fla., to visit their parents, Mr. and Mrs. H. F. McGirk, and Miss Anna Dale, who are at present living in that sunny clime for the benefit of their health. The Buckeye club came in with five deer and two foxes. Their sixth deer was wounded unto death but it was claimed and taken by another gang of hunters. An army of day hunters went to the mountain on the last day of the season and those fortunate in getting their buck were Dorsey Corl, Curt Grenoble, Randall Rossman, J. C. Bailey and Fred Rossman. Samuel A. Homan is having erected a 20x40 feet shed and corn crib as an addition to his already extensive farm buildings. J. W. Miller has the job. Mr. Homan holds the record of having the biggest grain crop of any farmer in this section, his total being 2350 bushels, 1420 of which are wheat. Last week he purchased a carload of western feeders to eat up the roughage at his barn. Christmas entertainments will be held in the Baileyville Presbyterian church on Sunday evening; the Lutheran

eran Sunday school at Pine Hall the same evening; the Lutheran Sunday school in Pine Grove Mills on Christmas evening; the Reformed Sunday school at Pine Hall on Monday evening, while a Christmas treat will be given in the Presbyterian Sunday school on Sunday morning.

BOALSBURG.

W. H. Stover transacted business in Watsonstown last week. Mr. and Mrs. John Ishler motored to Altoona on Saturday. Fred Reitz and mother, Mrs. Henry Reitz, and Mrs. Robert Reitz spent Friday in Lewistown. Mrs. Robert Harter and son, of State College, spent several days among friends in town. Mr. and Mrs. Leonidas Mothersbaugh recently visited at the home of their son, C. M. Mothersbaugh, at State College. Mrs. Frank Wieland, of Linden Hall, spent Monday evening with friends in town while Mr. Wieland attended a meeting of township officers. Mr. and Mrs. Ezra Tressler, of State College, and Mr. and Mrs. Lee Brooks and daughter, of Farmers Mills, were visitors at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Jacob Meyer on Sunday. Mrs. Harry Davidson, of Milroy, visited at the home of her brother, D. M. Snyder, last week and on Saturday, accompanied by Miss Flora Snyder, went to Centre Hall to visit friends. Miss Dorothy Lonebarger, Paul Coxey, Frank Hosterman and Paul Derman, of Penn State; Miss Mary Hazel, of Bucknell; Richard Goheen, of Franklin and Marshall, are spending the Christmas vacation at their homes in town. The instructors and pupils of the town schools are having a two week's vacation while an effort is being made to prevent the spread of scarlet rash and fever. The Sabbath schools have also been closed and the Christmas services scheduled recalled.

JACKSONVILLE.

Services will be held in the Reformed church on December 30th, at 1:30 p. m. Clarence Weight, who is employed in Lock Haven, spent Sunday at his home here. Paul Schreckengast, of Centre Hall, was a caller among friends in this vicinity on Sunday. Miss May Orr is expected to spend the Christmas holidays with her parents in this place. Mr. and Mrs. Roy Garbrick, of Centre Hall, were Sunday guests at the J. J. Vonada home. The Sorghum family, of Flemington, were visitors at the W. N. Weaver home on Sunday. Miss Alta Yearick, who has been on the sick list, is now able to be around, greeting her friends. John Hoy Sr., of Howard, was a visitor at the Harry Hoy home on Sunday; partaking of a venison roast. Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Neff expect to spend the Christmas holidays with Mr. Neff's parents, at State College. An entertainment by local talent will be held in the school house this (Friday) night. Everybody is cordially invited to attend. The butchering season is about over in this section; C. N. Yearick butchered four hogs on Saturday which yielded nine cans of lard.

OAK HALL.

Miss Nelle Peters spent the weekend at her home near Pleasant Gap. Mr. and Mrs. Frank and children were callers, Sunday, at Pleasant Gap and Bellefonte. Mrs. James Swabb, of Linden Hall, was a Sunday visitor at the J. J. Tressler home. Mr. and Mrs. George Bohn, of Leont, were recent callers at the Arthur Peters home. Mr. and Mrs. Samuel Reitz and children, of Boalsburg, were recent visitors at the William Bohn home. The Oak Hall school held their Christmas entertainment last evening. A fine entertainment was rendered by the children. Mrs. William Ferree and daughters, Levon and Margaret, motored to Salona Sunday, and spent the day very pleasantly with Mrs. Ferree's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Krape. Mrs. John Kelley, of State College, and Mr. and Mrs. William Martz, of Huntingdon, were among those who assisted with the butchering at the N. B. Martz home, Monday. At this writing the condition of Mrs. Ellen Gingrich is considered serious. Her daughter, Miss Arlene, who has been engaged in nursing at Reading, was called home to care for her.

CENTRE HALL.

Received too late for last week. Mr. and Mrs. T. S. Foss, of Altoona, spent a day with Mrs. Foss' parents, Mr. and Mrs. C. F. Emery. Rain early in the week, and slightly colder later on; a welcome change to those who have butchered. Recent visitors in our town were Mr. and Mrs. Otto Bailey, of Philadelphia, who spent a few days with a brother, Mr. E. E. Bailey, and a sister, Mrs. W. W. Kerlin. The Philippine quartette, filling the second number of our lecture course, furnished a most excellent entertainment lasting two hours, on Tuesday evening. All present could have listened for a longer time. A district Sunday school convention held in the Lutheran church, on Thursday afternoon and evening was fairly well attended, and proved an inspiration to greater effort in Sunday school work on the part of those present. Two of our acquaintances have undergone operations in Philadelphia hospitals recently; Mrs. Florence Rhone Bayard, of Tyrone, and Mrs. Claude K. Stahl, of Philadelphia. Reports are to the effect that they are recovering nicely.

THEY WANT TO OBTAIN RELIGION TOO CHEAPLY.

By L. A. Miller. Religion is a most cheerful and happy thing to practice, but a most sad and melancholy thing to neglect. Religion is the soul of love—it is an intensive light and evidence of what is not to be proved, but what cannot deceive; a light which lights us through a thorny path on earth, and at the close of life lights us to heaven.

It teaches us those ways which will render us balanced and respected, which will contribute to our present comfort as well as our future happiness. Now then: It is estimated that six-tenths of the people who become converted and christianized owe it to their preachers; the devoted, poorly-paid minister who labors incessantly with his flock with a view of christianizing them and eventually saving their souls. We should remember that the offers of religion are boundless; all that man can desire, all that his nature can receive, more than his utmost powers of apprehension can reach. That kind of christians we admire are the kind who are ever ready to come to the financial aid of the poorly paid ministers, those who are always ready to open their purse and assist the distressed needy; the ones who are ever ready to visit the sick, the widow and the fatherless, and keeps himself unspotted from the world; who is never at a loss to speak of their own, when pleasant words are more valuable than gold. God honors such a soul; angels hover about his path, and the devil trembles before them.

Such an one is worth to humanity and religion four score of those long-faced whining hypocrites, who tell what they would do, but are never ready to obey the dictates of common humanity. A genuine, a kind look, an encouraging smile, may save a human being from the abyss of despair. Blessed are they who so improve life's little space, that the autumn of existence and even the hand of death may approach without exciting an emotion of regret or a shade of fear.

The trouble in this unfortunate embarrassing neglect can be partially accounted for when we take into consideration the fact that wages and salaries are not properly equalized. The mechanics seem to be the most highly favored; the bricklayer, the plasterer, the stone-mason and stone-cutter today receive as much remuneration in one day as is allotted to the average minister for an entire week; this is an undeniable fact, the mechanic and laborer receive their pay promptly every two weeks; while the oppressed and neglected minister gets his at the option of his congregation, and in many instances has to earn his second time before he receives his limited stipend in the way of running after it and pleading for his own. The preacher by reason of his position, is placed in an almost impossible dilemma. He must maintain a presentable appearance, must maintain a certain standard of living, must clothe and educate his family as befits the head of a congregation, yet he is, too frequently, not paid as much as a day laborer and is further handicapped by inability to seek outside employment to make ends meet. Those laymen who have found it hard sledding to keep pace with the increasing cost of living, both before and during the late war, as well as at present, can have little idea of what it has meant to the men of the cloth who had neither increased pay nor war bonuses to help out. Struggling to keep their heads above financial water before the war, the marvel must be how they have managed to come through. None but themselves and the members of their families can know the tragedies of sacrifice and actual deprivation of necessities imposed by the pitiable ministerial "salaries" that are unhappily too common. Glad to know that a partial relief has been resurrected. Within recent years there have been campaigns in all the great Protestant churches, for the endowment funds to provide pensions for aged preachers. The Protestant Episcopal church raised \$6,500 to guarantee a pension of \$600 a year. The Presbyterians raised \$10,000; the Methodists, \$15,000; the Southern Baptists, \$4,000, and the Northern Baptists, \$2,000. Capital idea. Very commendable.

But it materialized at a rather late day. There would be less need for these amounts if preachers generally, were paid a living wage while in service. Provisions for pensioning are all very well, but it is no excuse for neglecting the present duty of the men in the pulpits. Each member of a congregation should ask himself whether his religion is not worth more than the paltry sum doled out to the preacher. Religion, like charity, should begin at home, and right within the church would seem the best place to make a start. In these days of universal recognition of altered social viewpoints, of the right of the laborer to his hire, the churches should set the example by getting right in their own organization. A little more charity should be indulged in; St. Paul placed at the head of all the christian virtues, charity, which is the foundation of all the christian graces; without it, religion is like a body without a soul; our friendship a mere shadow; our alms the offerings of pride and hypocrisy. Benevolence runs parallel with religion; it falls like the dew from heaven on the drooping flowers, in the stillness of night. Charity is one of the attributes of Deity, and the actual cause of all the blessings we enjoy. Be wise and put charity into practice. My sentiments may offend some. However, I want it understood that I don't fear the face of man, nor the indignation of woman. I fear only the wrath of God. I want no political office, no job of work, hence I am independent.

What Oils the Meter.

One of the bulletins issued by the Smithsonian Institution of Washington, D. C., gives this as the fundamental conception of gas: "Gas is a fluid composed of a large number of molecules which are vehicles of ener-

gy continually in motion and have an inherent tendency to get farther and farther apart.

AARONSBURG.

Mrs. Annie Detwiler, of Centre Hall, spent several days with her brother, James Roush. Mrs. Walter Orvig did her Christmas shopping in Northumberland, last week, returning home Saturday. Mrs. Barber, of Millifenburg, is the guest of her son-in-law and daughter, Rev. and Mrs. John S. Hollenbach. Rev. and Mrs. M. A. Kennelly, of Newberry, came up and assisted in the butchering at the John P. Condo home. The Misses Stover came down from State College and will spend the Christmas vacation with their parents, Mr. and Mrs. Ammon Stover, on Front street. We are pleased to report improvement in the condition of Franklin Detwiler, who recently met with a painful accident. He is able to walk about the house at this writing. Christmas promises to be very quiet in the village, owing to the fact that there will be no Christmas services in any of the churches. After all, it is the spirit in us which makes or mars the day. Let us, therefore, strive to make it a season of peace on earth good will to men. Mr. and Mrs. Paul Stover and daughter Elizabeth, of Dauphin, Pa., were over Sunday guests at the home

MEDICAL.

A Bellefonte Man Gives Evidence

His Testimony Will Interest Every Bellefonte Reader.

The value of local evidence is indisputable. It is the kind of evidence we accept as true because we know we can prove it for ourselves. There has been plenty of such evidence in the Bellefonte papers lately, and this straightforward testimony has established a confidence in the minds of Bellefonte people that will not be easily shaken. Joseph Alters, carpenter, 310 E. Bishop St., Bellefonte, says: "I suffered for a long time with backache and kidney complaint. My back ached so badly I could hardly keep on my job. It was hard for me to do heavy lifting or sawing. My kidneys acted too often at times and the secretions were scanty and highly colored. I used Doan's Pills from the Parrish Pharmacy and they helped me so much I kept on using them. My back is now well and strong and I am free from the trouble." Price 60c, at all dealers. Don't simply ask for a kidney remedy—get Doan's Pills—the same that Mr. Alters had. Foster-Milburn Co., Mfrs., Buffalo, N. Y. 68-50

of Mr. Stover's parents, 'Squire and Mrs. Stover. Miss Lizzie Yarger is also the guest of her sister, Mrs. Stover, having come down from State College to spend her Christmas vacation with her sisters, Mrs. Stover and Mrs. Carrie Smith, in Millheim. To the "Watchman" and all its readers we wish a merry Christmas and a prosperous and happy New Year. Love, which is sunlight of peace, Till anger and hatred are dead. And sorrow and death shall cease: Peace on earth and good will! Souls that are gentle and still Hear the first music of this Far-off, infinite Bliss!

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