

AT THE STATION.

A tiny tot in a torn blue dress. With tear-stained face and eyes of brown. A doll which receives an odd caress. A little stocking that's fallen down; Shyly looks but with wistful air. At the regiment slowly passing by. But she doesn't recognize any one there. And she drops her doll and begins to cry.

Polly's Papa's Home-Coming.

A War Episode. By Wilson McAllister. "Are you a soldier?" The old man who sat facing the little girl looked at his wife and smiled encouragingly. "Yes, I am a soldier."

"My papa can. He is a beautiful painter. Uncle John says that if he wanted to he could make money enough to pay off the mortgage in no time. But he doesn't like to paint. Once he painted a picture of me and a man gave him a hundred dollars for it. Aunt Mary wanted to keep the picture but papa sold it. He said it reminded him. What does reminded mean?"

A CUBAN SQUIRREL HUNT.

How the Colored Regulars Tread the Spanish Sharpshooters. "It was after the fight at Caney," said the colonel between long pulls at his short-stemmed black briar pipe.

one prominent railroad man declares that it is peculiarly favored by fortune. "I had the curiosity to look into the subject recently," he said, "and in eight years, which was as far back as my data went, I found that the accident record of Friday was the second lowest of any day of the week. Of course, one may take any day of either the week or the month and discover all manner of horrible things that have happened in the past, but I have never been able to find a reason why Friday should be marked for special stigma. It is an absurd fact, however, that railroad people were formerly obliged to take account of the superstition in making a forecast of business. A new Orleans jeweler had something interesting to tell along the same line. "The Friday idea is about extinct," he said, "but the jewelry trade was certainly affected by it in the past. I have known lots of people who wouldn't think of buying anything intended as a gift on Friday, especially if it was to be engraved, but nowadays one seldom hears anything of the kind. I suppose the world is getting more practical."—New Orleans Times-Democrat.

NOTES AND COMMENTS.

The aristocracy of China and Spain will agree that it has been a very hard year for boy monarchs. A medical writer in India declares that segregation of patients, the only effective way of dealing with the plague, is so repugnant to the Hindus that they prefer to die by the million rather than submit to it.

ture, that we have lost Spenser as popular literature, that we are losing Milton as popular literature, how shall we ultimately escape losing Shakespeare? Where does the real peril come in? There has been a new and magnificent edition of Chaucer brought out recently. Critical works about Shakespeare are as plentiful as ever. It is true that there are not so many performances of Shakespeare in our theatres as formerly. But may this not be owing to the fact that we have not a great Shakespearean actor or actress? asks the New York Sun.

THE KEYSTONE STATE.

Latest News Gleaned from Various Parts. FARM SCHOOL OPENS. Founder of the Unique Institution Reviews First Year's Work—Splendid Results Achieved in Face of Great Difficulties—Other Interesting News Items.

The friends of the National Farm School gathered at Doylestown by the hundred from Philadelphia to attend the second annual meeting that marks the close of the holidays and opening of another school year. This unique institution was opened about a year ago, and has enjoyed a most successful term under the presidency of Dr. Joseph Krauskopf, its founder. At the business session Dr. Krauskopf was re-elected president. The other newly elected officers are: Vice-president, M. H. Lychten; treasurer, M. M. Newman; directors, Harry E. Kohn, Adolph Eichholz, Herman Jonas, Isaac Silverman, Ralph Blum, Herman Blumenthal, Sam D. Lit, Howard A. Loeb, Benjamin F. Heller, Mann Kaufman, Ely K. Solig and Arthur Rosenberg. The total income for the year was \$252,500 and the expenses \$246,775, leaving a balance of \$5,725 to be added to the capital. These figures do not include the \$1000 expended for the erection of the Rose Krauskopf memorial green-house, which were fittingly dedicated in the afternoon. The memorial address was made by Rev. Dr. Henry Berkowitz. Adolph Eichholz accepted the building on behalf of the farm school. Dr. Krauskopf said in part: "Though this is called the second annual meeting of the National Farm School, it must be remembered that the 'second' applies to the association and not to the school. By right, this ought to be designated as the first annual meeting of the National Farm School, for it is only a year since the institution threw its doors open to its pupils. What has been accomplished in the one-half year in field work you will hear from the head master of the school. Our fields themselves, as well as our barns, will likewise report to you what has been achieved during the past spring and summer. There has been an additional work accomplished, which we cannot show, but which, in importance, possibly outweighs all other harvests, garnered in during the past six months. I refer to the improvements made on the land itself. Old fences had to be repaired, and new ones had to be built, tons of stones had to be removed, stumps had to be dug out, underbrush had to be cleared, roads had to be built, trenches had to be dug, the orchards had to be cleaned out, the dairy and stable buildings had to be repaired, a water reservoir with a capacity of 7,000 gallons had to be built, there was grading, digging, building to be done, all requiring much hard work and exacting a great amount of time, that might have been otherwise expended. But it was a pioneering experience which will stand some of our boys in good stead, some day when required to do pioneer work for themselves, either on farms of their own or as heads of agricultural settlements. Our farm today is, by reason of these improvements, worth several thousand dollars more this year than it was a year ago. People are forever advocating the necessity of relieving the congested city centers by scattering some of that overcrowded and unemployed population over the country, and by encouraging them in the pursuit of agriculture. It is generally acknowledged that herein lies one of the most practical and beneficial solutions of the vexing slum and sweat shop problem. Here a practical attempt in that direction is made. If the support given it is an indication of the sincerity of the people's belief in the advocacy of the pursuit of agriculture as one of the solutions of one of the social problems, then we fear their belief is not very sincere. The good to be achieved by this institution is to serve the benefit of all. It ought, therefore, to command the support of all."

Stricken With Small-Pox.

The small-pox brought to Phoenixville from Porto Rico, by John and Samuel Wand, members of Battery C, is spreading to an alarming extent in that vicinity and a general epidemic is now feared. Besides four members of the Wand family, half a dozen others are down with small-pox. When the Wand brothers were first taken sick the family physician pronounced the disease to be chicken-pox. Scores of neighbors visited the Wands, never realizing the danger they were in, and now many of them are sick with the disease. All the churches and schools of the neighborhood have been closed, and the health officers at Phoenixville, Spring City and Poyersford are doing their utmost to keep the small-pox from spreading.

Little Girl's Awful Fate.

A fatal accident occurred at the flour mill of William H. Smale, of Derbytown. Mr. Smale had gone into the mill for some purpose and his 11-year-old daughter Maud followed him. She was looking at some machinery when in some manner her dress became entangled in some shafting, which was making about 400 revolutions a minute. In the twinkling of an eye she was hurled round and round with great force. Before assistance could be given her body was frightfully mangled. Her neck was broken and both her feet and one hand were torn from her body.

Train Fatally Injures a Babe.

While Alice Kemper, the 6-year-old daughter of D. G. Kemper, was playing on Lemon Street crossing of the Pennsylvania Railroad, at Lancaster, she became bewildered and ran into the milk train which was passing at the time. She received injuries that will prove fatal.

Costly Minekin Fire.

William F. David's minekins and sheds in Upper Merion Township, near Bridgeport, were entirely destroyed by fire. Several freight cars on a siding were burned. The total loss was about \$5,000.

Brothers Meet After Many Years.

F. A. Dodson, of Nicktown, and his brother, Richard Dodson, of Chicago, met at Cresson for the first time in thirty-eight years. In 1860 Richard enlisted in the Union Army, and nothing was heard of him until F. A. Dodson learned a few weeks ago that he was in Chicago.

John H. Shugar.

John H. Shugar, a leading merchant of Lebanon, died after an illness of fifteen months. He was president of the Lebanon Valley Fair Association and a large land holder. He leaves a wife and ten children.

The Use of a Hairpin.

When a Lewiston (Me.) motorist found his trolley car stalled two miles from the city, as the result of a fuse burning out, and no copper wire at hand to repair the damage, he borrowed a hairpin from one of the female passengers, and by its use got his carload of fifty passengers to their destination. And so another of the manifold uses of the hairpin was revealed.