FRIDAY EVENING, DEC. 24, 1880.

Christmas Tide.

We are glad to feel that a more than usual number of our readers will enjoy to-morrow the merry Christmas which we heartily wish them all. The cry of distress no longer loudly arises in the land, whose people are generally blessed with employment. There must always, shall be able to take care of themselves; but in times such as the present, when the workshop is full and business is brisk, there are always those who are ready to help the needy out of their abundance and who delight, in this Christmas season, to exercise the benevolence which they are so grateful that they

the poor as well as to friends; and the fat turkey goes into many a home as a token of good will and the coal cart stops at many a door with the warm remembrance of a kindly heart. It is the great holiday of the year. None other at all compares with it. To old and young alike it comes with gushing welcome. It appeals to the holiest and tenderest feelings of the heart. It comes in the cold winter season when the earth lies idle and the natural time arrives for man to rest. It comes as the old year closes and the new one dawns and fitly brings the time for retrospection and of hopeful contemplation.

It is the time of remembrance; and he is sad indeed who is not now thought of by others and who does not forget himself. The gift is but the token. To the childish heart it is the thing itself; but not to the man or woman. To him or her we are sure the least of the pleasure of the offering is in its beauty or costliness; all its real value lies in its being the emblem of affection. And it is even more blessed to give than to receive these Christmas offerings; as it is to most persons more grateful to bestow than receive an obligation. A gift at ordinary times brings with it a sense of indebtedness: but in these Christmas days the mutual giving takes away all such feeling; nor does it need that the gifts shall be alike in cost; for the value is in the love that prompted them.

There is no danger that Christmas will ever cease to be the most grateful day in the year. Annually the observance of it increases, and is well nigh universal now in all households and with every creed. It has ceased to have the character chiefly of a church festival, and he of no faith enjoys it with the zest of the most pious Christian. A fellow feeling Bufford Hall, County Lancaster, was cherish and observe a season of friendly handsome country seat, near San Franand of loving testimonials in the family.

Where are the Big Men?

It is very remarkable that the number of candidates for senatorial honors among Pennsylvania Republicans should be so few; and those few, men of so inconsiderable repute. No doubt there are men of ability, commensurate to the high place, among the many Republicans of the state: but the public eye does not easily light upon them. Who are our distinguished Republicans? and where can you point to one whose distinction comes from his conceded ability to adorn the Senate chamber? The melancholy fact is that they hardly exist; and so it comes that such a name as that of Henry W. Oliver can be prominently presented for the senatorial candicacy without exciting any derision. He is of as good quality for the place as the average Republican public man.

His senatorial capacity is up to the mark set by the present senator and the father who preceded him. Grow, the candidate who is to dispute the place with Oliver, is hardly better fitted to reflect honor upon the state. He certainly is not a giant in intellect; and the question comes up as to why the field of choice is thus restricted to these two candidates. The answer is that fitness for effice is not the quality which confers it upon the Pennsylvania Repubcan. Those who nominate or elect do not inquire " is he honest, is he capable?" as some wise or otherwise people think they should do, but they are controlled by the command of bosses, or by their favors to friends, or by the importunity of an industrious and immodest candidate. Mr. Oliver is strong because the Cameron combination of politicians have selected him as their choice, and they impose him upon their dependents. who have secured their own places be cause they were the servants of the bosses. Mr. Grow alone steps out to dispute the prize, because the hope is rather rather forlorn, and no better man has the hardihood and brass required to urge himself for the place. Certainly for so distinguished an office it is unseemly that the candidate should thrust himself upon the attention of the legislature. Modest merit ought to be recognized and rewarded. Undoubtedly it is not. No legislator thinks of looking up the best man for the senatorship; or if, perchance, one or two are so prompted, they speedily abandon the foolish hope of getting any considerable number of their fellow legislators to unite with them to elect a man who has nothing but his fitness to recommend him.

We do confess, however, that any pious Republican legislator who should now be inclined to do his duty and find and vote for a Republican eminently fitted to reflect lustre upon Pennsylvania in the national Senate will have assumed a very arduous task. Where is the man? Perhaps he doe; not exist; perhaps Oliver or Grow is the best the party can do for us. But what a party! Northern railroad between a freight en- to the seene, and a search for bodies reveal- give. And Mrs. Lewes was not the

she demonstrated capacities of the female injured. mind which had hitherto been denied it It is a loss to humanity because she sought, with earnest loyal purpose, to work out social and philosophical proguage.

THE growing tendency of rich men to use their money to elevate themselves into the United States Senate is to be exemplified in the effort of Mr. Oliver to get there from Pennsylvania. Mr. Sharon has been there from Nevada and Mr. Jones from the same state, and Mr. Fair is coming. The rich men of Massachusetts kept Mr. Webster in the Senate for the credit of their state. Nowadays statesmen like Mr. Sherman prefer | yesterday to see him, and finding him gone to get rich in the Senate, while capitalit is true, be many who are in distress ists who want a voice in public affairs and want. It is not written that all men prefer to buy the seat for themselves, except, perhaps, Mr. Vanderbilt, who is said to cherish a design of sending his attorney to the Senate. It is to be remember ed that even that sagacious financier, Wm. H. Kemble, looked toward the Senate once via Lancaster county.

In accordance with the time-honored custom, the employees of the INTELLIare given the means to practice. GENCER office will take a holiday, like And so we hear on every hand of gifts to other Christians, to-morrow, and no paper will be issued from this office.

> MINOR TOPICS. MERRY CHRISTMAS.

CHRISTMAS comes but once a year.

PEACE on earth, to men good will,

A WHITE Christmas and a lean grave OLD KRISS can come in his sleigh to

REMEMBER the poor and that it is more blessed to give than to receive.

This is what Milton says: His place of birth a solemn angel tells To simple shepherds, keeping watch by night. They gladly thither haste, and by a choir Of squadroned angels hear his carol sung."

A PLAY is now running at the Royalty theatre, London, which owes its success mainly to one scene in which three young away with Grow, because the strength of ladies are introduced who bear striking resemblence in forms and features to the Duchess of Edinburgh, Mrs. Cornwallis West, and Mile. Sara Bernhardt. The latter is represented in the eccentric costume she affects in her studio.

Ir Crystmas on the Saterday falle, That wynter ys to be dredden alle, Hyt shalbe so fulle of grete tempestes That hyt shall sie bothe man and beste; Frute and corne shal fayle grete won,
And oide folke dyen many on;
Whate woman that day of chylde trava; le
They shalbe borne in grete perelle;
And chyldren that be borne that day, Within half a yere shall dye par fay. The summer then shall wete ryghte ylie: If thou awght stele, byt shall thee spylle Thou dyest, yt sekenes take thee."

PERSONAL.

Now Dr. Cuyler states over his own signature that he believes BERNHARDT to be the representative of the most infamous code of morals known in civilized society.' Sir Thomas George Fermor Heske'h, of daughter of the mining millionaire. The problem. Coal cannot be found, and the lies in Lancashire, one of his ancestors having been knighted by Henry VIII. for future. For stoves it is superior to any gallant services in France. His mother other substance, hard coal alone excepted was the daughter of the Earl of Pomfret | and it is cheaper than anything that is | doned his wife's clopment ; for her second and an ancestress was a cousin of the poet

Mr. HENRY W. OLIVER, jr., now Senator is a native of Ireland and about forty-five years of age. He was an apprentice at the saddler's trade in early life, but soon afterwards became a shipping clerk in the office of an iron establishment in Pittsburgh. In 1863 he began business for himself with a small interest in a firm. and by the display of tact and enterprise, developed his interests so rapidly that he was soon in the front rank of the iron manufacturers. Mr. Oliver has been very little in public life. He was a member of councils for his city and for some time presiding officer of the select branch. Last fall he was a candidate for elector atlarge on the Republican ticket.

LATEST NEWS BY MAIL. At Chebause, Ill., the Baptist church, a dwelling and a store containing agricul-

tural implements were destroyed by fire. stories in the principal business block in that city. The losses exceed the insurby \$50,000.

Buckshot are still being manufactured for the Irish constabulary. It is thought the military will also be supplied with buckshot.

At Providence, R. I., a fire partially destroyed the fourth and fifth stories of the Dyer land company's block, on Dyer and Peck streets, causing a loss of about \$30,-000. Spontaneous combustion of oily waste probably caused the fire.

In the fourth night's play in the Slosson-Vignaux billiard match in Paris, Vignaux made 857 points and Slosson 600, The total score now stands: Slosson, 2,-400; Vignaux, 2,354. The match will be closed this evening.

The census of the state of Maine shows an aggregate population about 200,000 less than that of Philadelphia city alone. Yet Maine is the largest state in New England; has always cut a large swath in national polities and has two representatives in the

A passenger train on the Charlotte. Columbia & Augusta railroad was thrown lown an embankment by a broken rail. Major G. B. Russel, U. S. A., Conductor Kruga, R. B. Hauch, of Gaston, N. C., and J. B. Johnson, of Lewiston, N. C., were slightly hurt.

In New Orleans on Wednesday morning when the boat, Clara S., was about making a landing four colored roustabouts took position on the swinging stage, which tilted and the men were thrown into the river and drowned, although every effort was made to save them.

Intelligence by way of Panama from Baranquiler reports the explosion of one boller of the steamer Isabella, killing four persons and severely wounding several others, two of whom have since died. On the 11th the French bark Siam, coal laden from Cardiff, struck on the bar at the mouth of the Madelena river. The captain mate and three sailors were drowned. The vessel and eargo were a total loss.

A collision occurred on Wednesday even-THE death of "George Eliot" is the south-bound passenger train, resulting in on the track; John Maher, brakeman, "Maggie Tulliver" and "Dorothea"), to loss to English literature of the strongest female intellect which it has yet developed the freight engine. Engineer Whitman, of the freight engine. oped. It is a loss to womanhood because of the passenger train, was also seriously

Lehigh Valley railroad, Richard Sherry was killed, Jasper Taylor fatally hurt, and blems whose significance and influence outran the limitations of race or lander the land

THE SENATORIAL CONTEST.

Views of Pennsylvania Statesmen. Washington Cor. Philadelphia Evening Bul-letin Senator Cameron left this city Monday for his home to strengthen the lines about the leading anti-Grow candidates, and will hardly return until the senatorial question is settled by the Legislature. Judge S. F. Wilson, of the Fourth judicial district, embracing Tioga, Butler, McKean and Cameron counties, came down from Tioga spent the day at the capitol, working with certain interior members of the Pennsylvania delegation against Grow. The judge says that in the counties named all of the ablest and best Republicans are against Grow, and for anybody to beat him. He would not say who he thought this would be, but said it would be anything to beat the ex-speaker. Niles, one of the Tioga delegates to the Legislature, he says, is rather inclined in Grow's favor, but Tubbs his colleague, is for somebody else. The judge claims that Grow adopted an ingenious device in Tioga at the late election. The election there are held under the Crawford county system, and tickets with Grow for United States senator were polled, and there being no others out, of course, he had a large majority. Now his friends claim that the delegates have virtually, through that means, been instructed for him. In Petter A. G. Olmsted controls the delegates and he is not for Grow. Judge Wilson was one of the conferees in the Twenty-lifth senatorial district, and was for Butler B. Strang for state senator, but with Emery, who received the nomination, as second choice. An effort was made to pledge Emery against Grow, but it did not succeed, as he waived the issue. He, however, represents the oil interests which are not anti-Cameron, and it is thought his vote will go with the field. Just here, it may be said Lieutenant-Governor Stone is setting up the oil interests for himself, but it is conceded that his transfer of them to Governor Hoyt, when he finds they cannot do him any further good, is not by any means beyond the range of probabilities. Judge Wilson thinks that the proponderance of general sentiment in his section is in favor of anyone who can get the latter reposes more especially in a small element of old fogyism, . which still admires his former attitude on the slavery question and the homestead act. All others-whom the judge classes as the best and ablest Republicans-remember full well of Grow's desertion of the Republican party, and have not forgotten his appearance and postures as a Democrat and Reformer. It is believed that he

under the same circumstances. CORN FOR FUEL.

Again the "Last Resort" in the Woodle Northwest-Facts About Its Use. There are localities in the West and lent of the St. Louis Pioneer Press to suggest substitute, and must be the fuel of the a year's supply for feel; and this writer Cameron's candidate for the senatorship, ket, and the proceeds turned into either wood or coal, will not begin to do it. Of course, he speaks of the far northern prairies. Corn may be used in either wood or coal stove without any change of grates, and make a steady, hot fire, which can be regulated as readily as a coal of fire. Two bushels of corn in the ear, it is estimated, will keep a comfortable fire the coldest day. Regarding the squeamishness about burn ing an article that is used for food, the writer says pointedly: "I would sooner have an acre of corn that can be replaced in a single year, than to burn an agre of timber that takes years to replace, even on the score of sentiment." There is common sense in this. If it is cheaper for people on their food, and gave what little timber they have for other purposes, sentimental squeamishness should not deter them from loing so. More cooked food is daily thrown away than would feed the hungry poor, and it is done without compunction. While there can be no exense for this At Corsicana, Texas, a fire burned three wastefulness, there is good reason for burn ing corn, when it is of more value as fuel there. than the proceeds would be if used in the purchase of wood or coal.

The Vital Question. N. W. World. It is not with a Washington steno grapher's version of an extemporaneous speech delivered by Senator Bayard, it is vith the deliberate language used and printed by the New York Tribune in commenting upon the case of Phelps, Dodge c Co., that we advise Senator Conkling, Vice President-elect Arthur, Governor Cornell and State Supreme Judge Noah anxious to ascertain the origin of the widespread popular impression that their connection with that case will bear a much more searching investigation than it has ever yet undergone. On the 28th of March, 1874, the Tribune published a long and careful article on this scandalous case, which we reproduce to day, and in the course of which t said plainly and foreibly: "We are of necessity driven to the conclusion that the motive which induced senators and representatives of the United States, districtuttorneys, independent but influential atfrom what they do when Peter Schmidt or John Jones is accused of defrauding the revenue of many times sixteen hundred dollars, was simply and nakedly the desire for plunder.

A Terrible Boiler Explosion A terrible calamity has thrown the town of Palo Alto in mourning. Engine No.

252, manned by Patrick Donohue, engineer Thomas Kenvin, conductor: John Maher, and William Ash, brakemen, left the round house at half part six last evening to collect loaded trains at Eagle Hill and neighborhood, on the Schulkill Valley railroad. It followed the Tamaqua passenger train, and when it reached Old Belmont station branched off for some purunknown. On returning the main track the engine blew killing all on board. The noise ing on the Burlington, Cedar Rapids and of the explosion brought the inhabitants and his affection both made him long to gine, which was attempting to reach Rock- ed Patrick Donohue, engineer, with his woman, with her tender and yielding ford station against time, and the regular entrals protruding. lying face downward nature (so unconsciously sketched in ound two hundred yards away, on a goal. resist the soothing dirt bank, dead ; William Ash, alive in the voted affection. creek, two hundred yards off, with half of his face blown off, and Thomas Kenvin, mutilated beyond recognition Ash lived three quarters of an hour, and On the Beaver Meadow division of the when brought to the depot died. The bodies were taken to Palo Alto and an inquest was started. Kenvin's body was

the explosion had occurred at 7:28 p. m.

"GEORGE ELIOT."

The Story of Her Social Relations. "Adam Bede" was in due time trans lated into French and German, and has been done into Spanish, Italian, Dutch, Russian and other modern tongues. It brought her the acquaintance of a number of literary men (she had always been shy, and had sedulously avoided society) among them Herbert Spencer, George Hen-ry Lewes, Dickens, Adolphus Trollope, Thackery, Matthew Arnold, Wilkie Collins, Leslie Stephens and Charles Reade. Spencer and Lewes were particularly interested in her, and a close intellectual friendship sprang up between them. Spencer informally instructed her in his

system of philosophy, and Lewes added

largely to her stock of culture by his own diversified attainments. Spencer, albeit a philosophic bachelor, wished to marry her, it is said, but she declined his proposal. Lewes was strongly drawn to her through intellectual sympathy, far more so than he had ever been, or believed he ever could be, to any human being. He said that they needed one another; that he felt he could help her as much as she could help him; that their minds were co-related and mutually responsive Lewes would have been only too happy to make her his wife. But there was an ob stacle in the way of their nuptials then or at any other time. There was a Mrs. Lewes already, and what was worse, although she and Lewes did not live to. gether, she could not legally be set aside. Why? He had married years before a woman who had very little in common with him, and, as he learned too late, with whom he had still less. He, being of stoic mould, bore the misfortune uncomplainingly, trying to soften the unavoidable disharmony as much as he could. He rebelled violently against her indiscreet acceptance. Unable to be fond of him, she was so much repelled that she drove him, by her expression of repugnance, well-nigh distracted, for he, like most men or artistic temperament, was extremely sensitive, and capable of great spiritual suffering. After two or three years of discord she met another man who was very attentive to her; she was then handsome and had an attractive figure, and she was so moved by his attentions that she ran away with him. Lewes was greatly relieved. If he had been orthodox he would have thanked the Lord for his deliverance. As he was a rationalist, he regarded his wife's elopement as a happy coincidence. Mrs. Lewes's lover presently grew tired of her and abandoned her. Then she repented and sought her husband with pathetic contrition and plenteous tears. He was generous, chivalrous, tender-hearted; he had no love for her, was a Democrat while in Texas, and that but fearing that she might go to moral he had hopes while there of being sent to perdition, he nobly, and in the face of United States Senate. Governor Hoyt, he public perjudice, and what he knew says, is well known and would meet with would be a jeering world, took her general favor. Henry W. Oliver, jr., is back-replaced her in his home. He be practically but little known, but his canlieved that he had done. his duty; he was didature would be well received if it was truly one man in ten thousand. He had thought he could beat Grow, and a Philasacrificed himself for what seemed to be delphian would be equally acceptable her good. Before the year had passed, Mrs. Lewes, who had resumed her old attitude of opposition and defiance, repeated ner offeuse. She ran away again. Lewes felt he had enough of wedlock, that henceforth celibacy would be forever alluring; and it would have been, doubtless, under Northwest where searcity of fuel has ordinary circumstances. But meeting forced people to barn corn again this win- George Eliot was not, to his mind, an orof humanity brings all men together to married at Belmont, ex-Senator SHARON'S ter. The frequent recurrence of the fuel dinary circumstance. He had no passion famine in those places leads a correspon- for her, no romantic attachment, no sentimental prejudice. He loved her intellect greeting in the circle of acquaintances, cisco, yesterday, to Miss Flora, second what he calls a practical solution of the he worshipped her genius; he knelt at her shrine. But he could not marry her, and groom belongs to one of the oldest fami- use of wood will soon exhaust the avail- without marriage society and custom forbade them to be close companions. The English law will not grant a divorce

under any circumstances where disloyalty has once been condoned. He had conlikely to be used as fuel. Two or three elopment he had no legal remedy. What acres of corn will afford an ordinary family could, what did be do? He submitted the matter, after due reflection, to their alleges that the same corn sold in the mar- common friends, entirely conscious that George Eliot would, by living with him, place herself under ban; that she would expose herself to misunderstanding, to harsh omment, to cruel criticism; that she could hope for only the recognition and esteem of the few. Their friends were among the best and most intellectual persens in the United Kingdom. They discussed the question in favor of a spiritual union which the law, through a technicality, would not sanction. George Eliot and George Henry Lewes went to reside under the same roof, and until his death, in 1878, they were the best of friends, the most sympathetic of comrades, the most har monious of literary co-workers. They lived in a queit quarter of London, near Regent's Park, in a modest but comfortfertile prairies to raise their fuel as they do able and elegant home, full of books, pic-

tures and objects of taste and art. She never went out socially, but she received Sunday evenings during the season with her friends, as they who called were almost always people of some kind of distinction. It was deemed a privilege to go, and a number of cultured and liberal Americans have passed delightful hours

Lewes's death was a terrible bereavement to George Eliot, and one from which she never recovered. Mrs. Hooper wrote concerning the trouble of the novelist : "Her agony at the time of his death was uncontrollable and unbounded. She broke down as utterly as ever did the weakest woman of us all, and her shricks of irrepressible anguish were heartrending to hear." She lived in strict retirement, and when the news was published in May last that she had married Mr. John Walter Cross, of a vertiable surprise. The marriage notice Davis to concern themselves if they are read "Marian C. Evans, spinster." Mr. Cross is an Englishman of a highly respectable family, who resides at Weybridge, in the county of Surrey, near London, and is the senior partner of the banking firm of Cross, Benson & Co., in that city. His brother, Mr. Richard S. Cross, is a banker of New York. Mr. Cross is a tall, athletic man of about forty-five years, and he was for some years a resident of New York, and one of the firm of Dennistown, Wood & Co., bankers. He was never preand his information extensive, and, although he was about fifteen years the torneys and detectives to manifest such junior of his bride, a long acquaintance unusual energy and to act so differently satisfied him that in no one could he Cross had been an intimate friend of aprons of brilliant hues. Lewes, had charge of his money affairs and afterwards had conducted George Eliot's business. He lived close by the Leweses' country place, and came in and out like an attached relation. He admired Mrs. Lewes profoundly, and always said he would do anything in the world for her. He was not an intellectual companion, like Mr. Lewes, but a strong, solid, reliable man, who gave at once a sense of confidence, a thoroughly reliable, kind, upright, steadfast man-a thorough support; such a man as any woman would be thankful to have near her as a constant and devoted friend. Nothing was more wise and more happy than that such an invaluable friend should be allow ed to supply the daily care and affection ate companionship which his admiration

A Rumored Defeat in Africa.

News of a great disaster to the British troops has just been received from South Africa. It is reported that in an action near Middleburg between the Boers and the colonial forces the latter were completely prisoners in the hands of the enemy. This

report has caused the greatest excitement in | tended to her shoulder and she was pros all circles, but it must be added that it is not official and is generally discredited in the government offices. The forces intended for action against the rebellious Basutos have been hurriedly recalled from that part of the colony and stationed at various points upon which descents by the Boers are auticipated. Tembuland is now comparitively quiet, having been overrun by the troops and for the most part cleared of the rebels.

DR. VAN DYKE TO DR. TALMAGE. A Letter in Which the Writer Said fle Would Wait Three Days for an Answer.

The following is a copy of the letter which the Rev. Dr. Van Dyke sent to the Rev. Dr. Talmage concerning the alleged new evidence against Dr. Talmage re-

cently published: BROOKLYN, Dec. 3, 1880 .- To the Rev. T. De Witt Talmage, D. D.-DEAR SIR: In your testimony before the presbytery of Brooklyn in April, 1879, you swore emphatically, and in varied language, that when you left home on the morning of Monday, Oct. 9, 1876, you had no inten tion nor thought of inserting into the Chris tian at Work for Oct. 12, 1876, any valedictory or announcement for the transfer o your editorial services from the Christian at Work to the Advance. You also swore that the announcement of the transfer of your editorial services which you did insert into the issue of the Christian at Work for October 12, 1896, was suggested by and grew entirely out of the information obtained between 2 and 4 o'clock on the afternoon of October 9, 1876. You a so swore that on the morning of October 1876, you offered special prayer for Divine direction, and that in remembrance of this special prayer you have always been sure that you made no mistake on that day, and when asked why you thus orayed, you swore that you were not expecting any particular action on your part. on also swore that your agreement to become editor of the Advance was not completed or formally consummated until the afternoon of October 9, 1876, (see record of proceedings in the Talmage case, pp. 556, 557, 558, 564, 651, 661, 667.) It has recently come to my knowledge that a formal contract between you and C. H. Howard & Co., mutually signed by you and them on the 4th day of October, 1876, contains the following words:

"The party of the second part will cease his editorial connection with the Christian at Work at the end of one month from October 12th inst., if not before, and will in the next issue i. c., October 12, of said Christian at Work so announce, and state that he is now to become editor of the Advance, I have also learned that on the morning

of Moaday, October 9, 1876, you met, by previous appointment, a gentleman to whom you showed a draft of a valedictory announcement of your transfer to the Advance, and that he remonstrated with you against your avoved purpose to publish it in the next issue of the Christian at Work. These facts seem to involve you in the guilt of false swearing. But I am unwilling to accept this dreadful conclusion and to pursue the course such a conclusion would make obligatory upon me, without first giving you the opportunity, which I now present, to deny the truth of the foregoing statements, to offer any explanation of them which may be consistent with your innocence, or to make any suggestion by which I may be relieved from my painful obligation in the premises. I will await your answer for three days.

Yours, etc., HENRY J. VAN DYKE. No answer has yet been received, and the committee which waited upon the Rev. Dr. Talmage are awaiting his written response to its official visit to him.

Christmas Carols.

In Shakspeare's time carols were sung n the street at night during Christmas by the waits or watches, who expected to receive gifts for their singing. Many a writer of old times and customs refers to "wakeful sketches of Christmas Eve." It was after the Reformation that they ceased to sing Latin hymns in the churches and substituted the sweet Christmas carois. For there were two kinds of carols in vogue-those of a devotional nature, which were sung not only in the churches, but also through the streets from house to house upon Christ mas Eve, and even after that morning and evening, until Twelfth Day. In those times men were able to spare more than one brief day for the celebration of Christmas, and kept up the festival for at least twelve days. Other carols were of a livelier nature, and were especially adapted to the revel and the feast where the lord of misrule had potent sway. These carols were also called wassail-songs, and probably originated among the Anglo-Normans, who were o' a convivial nature. No Christmas entertainment was complete without the joyous singing of carols, and thence came the motto, "No Song, no Supper," for every guest at the table was expected to join in the carol. One of the ru'es laid down by the ancient customs was that 'the ancientest master of the revel is, after dinner and supper, to sing a carol, a song, and to command the other gentlemen present to sing with him and the companies.'

Christmas in Norway. In the mountain districts the day is kept with hearty hospitality. All work is suspended for thirteen days. The entrance of every house is decorated, and the walls London, the world of readers were taken by of the kitchen are roughly adorned with gandy pictures, fantastically painted in water colors. Throughout Christmas eve and Christmas day the merry-making is entirely domestic, restricted to the members of each household. Not even a friendly visit is paid. On the following days the neighbors assemble at each other's house by turns, for carousal. No regular meal is provided, but open house is kept, the tables richly spread for all comers. No stranger is permitted to leave the house until he has partaken of the strong Yule ale, which is served up in true Norwegian fashion, viously married. His tastes are literary cask following cask in rapid succession. On these occasions the servants sit at the same table with the host, his wife and family. All are dressed in their gala attire of rich colored cloth, trimmed with gold and

find a more congenial companion. Mr. silver braid, the women wearing caps and A Crippie's Christmas. Boston's heart is expected to thump re sponsively at the following paragraph in one of the morning journals: "A touching incident was witnessed on a South Boston horse car yesterday morning. A man, evidently in destitute circumstances, was one of the occupants of the car, and had in his arms a little girl who was a cripple but had a beautiful though tearful face A richly dressed lady who sat opposite soon left her seat, and taking her place beside the poor man began a conversation with him. Soon afterward she left the car, but first placed a roll of money in the man's hands, suggesting to him that he buy the child a Christmas present with it. The man was affected to tears by the kind ness, and as the lady was leaving the car he repeatedly expressed his thanks,'

Killed by a Pin.

As Mary Ferguson, aged 61, of 523 the forefinger of her right hand with a brass pin that remained in a garment. The pin penetrated the flesh about a six-teenth of an inch and produced a painful wound, but she went on with her work. The next day her finger swelled and then her arm began to swell. It became fever-

trated by the pain. On Wednesday night she died, and soon after death her body turned black. Dr. Shepherd's post mortem examination showed that she died from blood poisoning.

STATE ITEMS.

Jonathan Moyer, the third of the Snyder county murderers, has been convicted of murder in the first degree.

The Pittsburgh iron manufacturers adopted a resulution to sell no more merchant bar below 21 cents per pound. The nominal eard rate is 21 cents, but many sales have been made at 2 1-10 cents, and the object is to endeavor to bring the selling up to the nominal price.

LOCAL INTELLIGENCE.

THE DAY BEFORE CHRISTMAS. Good Sleighing, Good Trade and Good Cheer.

The soft dropping snow, the fall of which set in about midnight last night has continued long enough to well season. Sleighs and bells command a good premium and the clerks, tradesmen and mechanics, who have been too basy for some days past to engage in pleasures will take advantage of the chances offered by the holiday to-morrow to go sleighing. The town has been very busy to-day and people face the snow quite merrily to do their Christmas shopping. The stores seem to be crowded and business men generally look cheerful and happy. The activity seems to be confined to no special lines of trade, but all share the "boom." The Adams express and postofiice, which are good indicators of the state of business, report their work the fullest ever known at this season. The vast increase in the custom of sending Christmas cards has greatly enhanced the Christmas postal business season, and if it keeps on the Christmas season will rivalSt. Valentine's Day in the amusement afforded to the letter carriers. The express business to and from the city is very heavy on both lines, and one who stands and watches the various packages of many sizes and to many addresses, loaded and unloaded at our depots, might find the basis of many a romantic story in this prosaic business of transportation.

The market people came to town in sleighs this morning, and seemed well satisfied that their chance for marketing and shopping fell on Friday. A general desire is expressed that Christmas next year, when it falls on Sunday, shall be celebrated on Saturday, with the intervening Holy Day of rest before the resumption of worldly business. So let it be Philanthropic people in their rejoicings and festivities will find them greatly intensified if they do not forget the poor. Nearly every person can spare a little from his or her store and basket to-night to make some home happy, where, save for this, sorrow and poverty may be the Christmas The churches will hold the usual ser-

vices, the announcements that have been requested being published elsewhere.

The Market.

The market this morning was much betthen could have been expected on a Friday morning immediately before Christmas All seasonable produce was abundant, at about the usual price. Poultry was a trifle cheaper than on Wednesday morning, and good turkeys, dressed, at the close of the market could be bought at 14@15 cents a pound. Live turkeys sold at 12(a) 15 cents a pound-"gobblers" weighing 25 pounds or upwards being held at still higher prices. Butter was sold at an average of 30, and eggs were scarce at 38(a, 10 Chickens, ducks, beef, veal and pork were very plenty and sold at unchanged prices. Centre square remained all morning well filled with Christmas greens of every variety, all of which were offered at reasonable prices except the holly boughs with their bright berries which were held at high figures. An investment of a dollar n holly made but a poor display.

Never has there been a finer display at the Farmers' Northern market than that which was there to day at noon. In poultry especially, the display was exceptionally fine. Dressed fowls by the hundreds, weighing from 8 pounds to 30, were offered, the prices being from 13 to 16 cents per pound. Live turkeys also by the hundreds, and of all sorts and sizes, were offered at from 10 cents per pound upwards. Geese sold at an average of a dollar each, and ducks at 40@50 cents. Chickens at 30(450 cents. Butter was down to 25 cents and beginning to drag a little. Eggs were firm at 35(a40.

We are apt to brag a little about the 'good markets" of Lancaster, and certainly there are not many markets more abundantly supplied. But when the careful housekeeper comes to compare the prices ruling here with those of other markets, he will ascertain that he pays more for most standard articles than are paid by the citizens of Boston New York, Philadelphia, Baltimore, Pittsburgh, Cincinnati, Chicago or other great cities. Many good people are beginning to think that we pay too dear for our whistle in this garden spot of the world, and that "reform is necessary" in market circles as well as in

Christmas Presentations. We have heretofore mentioned that a number of business men of the city have presented their employees with turkeys or their Christmas dinners. Mr. John A. Shober, has not only remembered his employees, but has kept in mind the editors and reporters of the INTELLIGENCER, to each of whom he has presented a gigantic gobblers. They were selected and dressed by Wm. H. Shober, who must fairly divide the honors with Hector Kautz, is knowing where to find the finest specimen of the great American bird. The Messrs. Shober have distributed among their

friends more than a dozen fine turkeys. Edward Wiley, proprietor of the Spren ger's saloon North Queen street, instead of presenting his employees with turkeys has presented each of them with an American eagle-the genuine eagle-coined in solid gold at the United States mint. Although these "birds" don't weigh as much as the turkey, they are quite as valuable.

This morning Commodore John Hull eigar manufacturer, of West King street, presented each of his employees with : large turkey for Christmas.

Coming Home. A letter from M. M. Fry (of the firm of

Fry & Brothers, tobacco dealers and manufacturers, Lititz), who left this county last July and went to St. Paul, Minnesota for his health, announces that his health s much improved; that he has disposed of his business at St. Paul, and after tak- for the occasion. ing a tour to Omaha, St. Louis, New Orleans and other places in the West and South, will return to Lancaster county within a few months.

Canada: Horses.

The trade in Canada horses has become quite an "institution" in Lancaster, regular sales of these fine animals being made Clinton street, Brooklyn, was washing in our market every three weeks. George some clothes on Sunday last she pricked Grossman has received a car load of fire stock, which he will offer at private sale at the stables of the Merrimac house on Monday next.

Dismissed.

The cross actions for assault and battery between James Leonard and George Wiley

COLUMBIA NEWS.

OUR REGULAR CORRESPONDENCE A prominent citizen asked us this more-"Why could not a track be established on the river to connect the shores and to terminate on this side at a point oppo-site Grubb's bridge at the St. Charles furnace?" The tow-path embankment at that point is rather steep, but, with our friend, we believe such an andertaking could be consummated with but little trouble. Market produce as a consequence would sell at a much cheaper figure than

at present. The freight business on the Pennsylvania railread is still as heavy as anyone about here cares to see it. A dispatcher informed your correspondent this morning that the company did more work here on last Sunday than on any one day since the corporation took the road off the hands of the state. Sixty loaded trains, with an aggregate of 1,916 cars, were sent east on

The telephone people succeeded in their intention of reaching the Shawnee furnaces yesterday. To day they are creeting poles coat the ice shod reads and streets, and on Locust street and on Monday they will start towards the Cordelia furnace. It will take about a week to reach the furnace and as soon as it is reached the exchange office will be established. The Marietta people will be connected with us the following week.

The box sheet for Helen Potter's Plei cles, who appear in the opera house on Christmas night, is rapidly filling up and the prospect is that the company will have large sized audience.

A farmer named Heidler, residing in the country back of town, had the back portion of his sleigh pulled off this morning while in Columbia by a number of boys eatehing hold of it to support themselves while they stood upon the runner. This is a pastime which almost every boy in the borough indulges in from morning until night while the sleighs run. Mr. Heidler is the only unfortunate we have heard of from the custom.

Ex-United States Senator Alexander 'aldwell, of Leavenworth, Kansas, is visiting at Mount Bethel, the residence of his father-in-law, Mr. S. B. Heise. The postoflice officials are just now

worried with a big invoice of Christmas eards, which to day appear to be in general distribution.

Miss Annie Wentz, of Maryland, isiting Miss Sallie Gossler. We beg to wish to the readers of 'Columbia News' a merry Christmas and-well the happy New Year will come in after awhile.

Excursion tickets are being sold at a lively rate at the Pennsylvania railroad ticket office. Shenberger's furniture wagon horse took a short spurt on its own book this morn-

Near the postoffice this morning the shafts of a wagon were broken by coming in contact with a post. Mr. and Mrs. Vernon Ellis left here today on a visit to the former's mother at

Philadelphia, Pa.

Dr. S. A. Bockius will spend his Christmas with an uncle at Philadelphia. Some of the bad boys of the borough make it a point to throw snowballs at the occupants of almost every passing sleigh. This morning Farmer Staman was struck in the face with one of the icy balls with ter attended by both buyers and sellers force sufficient to draw blood. The matter should be attended to.

which makes the sleighing much better. The market people are already coming in from the country for this afternoon

market. · Mr. I. C. Gitt left here this morning for his home, where he will remain until he gets the upper hand of his present illness. The Fifth street Presbyterian Sunday school held its Christmas exercises last exening. After the exercises, which consisted of the singing of Christmas carols, the scholars of the school were presented with a bag of candy and an orange. The attendance was large

The postoffice will be open from 10 to 2 a. m. to-morrow. The Columbia engine was placed in front of the engine house, yesterday on exhibition. It was thoroughly clean and nicely

" BELLS ACROSS THE SNOW."

polished and attracted some attention.

Written by Frances Ridley Havergal O Christmas, merry Christmas! Is it really come again, With its memories and greetings, With its joy and with its pain ? There's a minor in the carol, And a shadow in the light, And a spray of cypress twining With the holly wreath to-night. And the hush is never broken By the laughter light and low, As we listen in the starlight To the "bells across the snow!" O Christmas, merry Christmas! Tis not so very long since other voices blended With the carol and the song. If we could but hear them singing As they are singing now, It we could but see the radiance, Of the crown on each dear brow. There would be no sigh to su No hidden tear to flow, As we listen in the starlight To the " bells across the snow Christmas, merry Christmas,

This never more can be We cannot bring again the days of our unshadowed glee. But Christmas, happy Christmas, Sweet herald of good will; With holy song of glory, Brings holy gladness still. For peace and hope may brighten, And patient love may glow; As we listen in the starlight To the "bells across the snow.

The Holidays at the High School The closing of the boys' high school for he Christmas season is always a pleasant ceasion, but this year the boys rather surpassed themselves. Securing the keys at seven o'clock this morning, by half-past eight they had their beautiful study hall transformed with the display of Christmas decorations. The pictures were ornamented with laurel and spruce; in front of the desk was a large laurel wreath and back of it a horseshoe of green; the pillars were wreathed in laurel rom top to bottom, and over the large forest scene to the rear of the desk was a great branch of holly, giving its appropriate finish to the work of decoration. After the story of the first Christmas as told in one of the opening chapters of Matthew, and singing, the boys interrupted the regular order of work through their class representatives with presentation speeches, which were heartily applauded on all hands. This brought out the teachers. Mr. Mc-Caskey thought his set of table cutlery fit in just where it was needed; Mr. Gable meant to enjoy his easy chair now, and still more hereafter; Mr. Glover thought he could use more time to advantage, and if his ala! aster mantel clock did not supply it, it might still measure it to better purpose for the future. Mr. McCaskey thinking "turn about fair play," then had a general distribution of packages of fruits and candies in bags appropriately printed

Ciristmas at St. James. The morning services at St. James church will be attended by the rendition of some fine music, embracing the following

selections : Processional hymn-Adeste Fidelis. Venite-by Savage. Te Deum-by Dykes. Jubilate-by Danks.

Hymn-"Hush, the herald Angels sing," Kyrie-by Mendelssohn. Gleria Tini—Gounod, Creed—by Gounod,

Hymn-"While Shepherds watched," oronation. Offertory-"Blessed is He who cometh,"

by Whitney. Sanctus—by Warner. Gloria in Excelsis,