Lancaster Intelligencer.

TUESDAY EVENING, DEC. 26, 1882.

Redress of Domestic Wrongs.

Two gentlemen of social and political prominence in this state have had a difficulty, in which one shot and killed the other. The facts are not yet sufficiently developed to determine whether the killing was justifiable or otherwise in the law; nor are they sufficiently known to show which party was in the wrong in the judgment of their fellows. Probably when they are known as fully as possible, public opinion will still be unsettled. It seems to be one of those cases wherein the judgment of the law and of the people is apt to be uncertain. A father finds his daughter betrayed and seeks reparation from the man upon whom she charges her trouble. Sometimes the man is not guilty, and when guilty there are all sorts of variation in the possible degree of his guilt. Sometimes he deserves to be shot and sometimes not. There is a corresponding difference in the guilt of the woman; sometimes she should be the party shot. That St. Louis husband who the other day shot the paramour of his wife as they left the door of an assignation house would have exhibited a better idea of the situation if he had made her his target. In the tragedy which now excites a [illegible], the father evidently believed in the comparative innocence of his daughter, as fathers are wont to do. He conceived it to be his duty to protect her honor or avenge his wrong. He sought the man she accused in the retirement of his apartment in a hotel and had a struggle with him in which he lost his life. Upon this state of facts the law will not be apt to find that a crime was committed. When a man is sought in his home with hostile intent he is justified in forcibly repelling his assailant, although only with the use of sufficient force. There may still be circumstances attending this affray which will make it a case of murder; but it is clear, at least, that Captain Nutt was not justified under the law in entering the apartment of Mr. Dukes with the hostile purpose which he manifestly entertained. He was first in fault, the law will say; and yet society will say, what else could he do? In these cases society and the law contemplate the situation differently, although the law is supposed to represent the sentiment of the people it governs and by whom it is made. It does not do so by a great deal. The law says to the father who complains of the seduction of his daughter, bring the action against her betrayer that has been prepared for just such a case. But the general sentiment of the community is that this is the very last thing a father should do. It certainly ought to be the right thing to pursue the remedy laid down by the law; and as it is just as certainly the wrong thing, in the general judgment, to adopt that remedy, what is clearer than that the remedy is inadequate to the occasion; and that the lawmakers need to put on their thinking caps to supplant it with another. The injured parent requires a speedy remedy. He demands immediate punishment; and the people say he should have it. Instead the law gives him a jury trial after the lapse of months in which his sore spirit is further harrowed by demoniacal lawyers and prejudiced witnesses. It does not meet the case; go and make him marry your daughter or shoot him is the advice most people would give him.

It is not good advice, and one reason is because there is danger of being shot, as Captain Nutt was, and then the afflicted family was a still further affliction, while the guilty man may not be made to suffer after all. But it is not good advice in the interest of justice; the aggrieved parent ought not to be made the judge and executioner of his wrong. He is just as likely to avenge himself upon the wrong man as the right one, and it would not do to subject every man in the community to the mercy of its fathers and the veracity of its daughters. Evidently the law must come in to restrain the natural propensity of men to be their own avengers. This is just the state of affairs in which law is needed, and it certainly ought to be possible to make it adequate to the occasion. If summary jurisdiction over seduction cases was given to the judges without publicity to the proceedings, probably an adequate remedy would be had. In such cases the publications of the newspapers are a nuisance to the public and the parties, and they should be suppressed. Then if the lawyers could be gagged and the judgment of a few cool-headed old laymen be taken to assist the determination of the court, possibly equal and exact justice might be done all around without the uncertain aid of a revolver.

THERE is no force in the suggestion that Grant ought to be put on the roll of retired officers of the army, because "it is not altogether a pleasant thought that the man who came out of the war conspicuous above all others for his military skill, for his services and renown, should be left in the afternoon and evening of his life unrecognized on the rolls of the army he did so much to immortalize." Whatever place Grant merits for his military services, he forfeited his rank and station in the army when he quit it for civil life. He was amply paid for his military achievements. No soldier of his country ever had as great honors showered upon. Political ambition and the emoluments of office tempted him to seek the presidency, and to gratify his lust of office with a shamelessness of persistence that has no parallel in the history of the republic. If the eagles of his military renown were tarnished by his political associations it was his own fault. He merits no commiseration nor consideration. If he will sink into obscurity without governmental aid let him find his level.

WHILE the local Christmas celebration was quiet and uneventful, mellowed down somewhat by the religious aspects of the day before and pervaded generally by that regard for the home and family celebration, which is characteristic of the occasion, abroad it seems to have been a season of crime and calamity. Beginning with the terrible tragedy, happy of an infrequent kind, which has shocked our commonwealth, involving two of its officials, the prevalence of disorder and bloodshed has been universal throughout the country. There is nothing in a proper celebration of the anniversary of peace and good will to invoke such ugly features as these which make up the budget of the day's doings reported by the associated press. Nor does it appear that they were wholly due to the intemperance of revelry which in many places marks the keeping of the Christmastide.

THE Philadelphia *Record*, which started out "agin Mr. Cassidy's appointment as attorney general, is now "fur 'im."

AN inmate of the Philadelphia almshouse, wandering around town yesterday in search of a square meal, was fed on turkey and choked to death.

PRESIDENTIAL predictions for 1884 centre in the Republican circle about Gen. Sherman, Gen. Sheridan, Senator Harrison, Senator Hawley and Robert T. Lincoln, with a good deal to be said for Senators Allison and Windom.

A CONVENTION of the tobacco growers of Connecticut and adjoining states will meet in Hartford to-day. The tariff on Sumatra tobacco, and possibly the internal revenue tax on tobacco will be discussed.

EVEN Mosby repudiates him and writes from Hong Kong to a friend in Virginia: "I regard Mahone as the most vindictive, unscrupulous and meanest tyrant that ever figured in American politics." It is said that Colonel Mosby will return to America to take the stump against Mahone next year.

THE BOSLER WAGNER senatorial contest in Cumberland county has taken a strange turn in the application of Bosler's counsel to have some other judge than Herman sit in the case because he is Bosler's cousin. Such a motion might naturally have been expected from the other side, but Wagner's friends are satisfied because of Herman's repute as a fair man.

IT is a most shocking and mysterious tragedy that has stained the Christmastide celebration in one of the smaller towns of Pennsylvania, the report of which will re-echo to every corner of the state. That the cashier of the state treasury should be shot down on a quiet Sunday morning, by a member-elect of the Legislature, in a community where both men were on terms of social intimacy and were alike highly respected, seems almost incredible. Such things rarely occur in our state among men of this class even in the excitement of bar-room brawls or over the gambling table, and the cause of the Dukes Nutt homicide is veiled in painful mystery, the explanations of which as thus far related only make the affair more distressing. These leave little doubt that Nutt's daughter had received attention from Dukes, that she had been wronged, that Nutt insisted on marriage as the proper reparation, that Dukes evaded the responsibility of such a step by alleging that Miss Nutt had been somewhat promiscuous in her receipt of attentions, and that her father, suffering under what he believed to be the double wrong thus done her, sought Dukes in a frame of mind calculated to provoke the altercation which has ended so sadly, and the sequel of which promises to bring a long train of painful revelations and bitter feelings.

PERSONAL.

DONALD A. SMITH has been chosen a director of the Canada Pacific railroad, to succeed J. J. Hill, resigned

J. H. ILJAMS, president of the Tennessee asylum for the deaf and dumb at Knoxville, has died.

SENOR ZALDUA, president of the United States of Columbia, died on the 22d inst. The vice president succeeds him.

REV. Dr. Kerfoot, of Baltimore, has received a call to the Strong Place Baptist church of Brooklyn.

COL. W. H. COFFIN, land commissioner of the St. Louis & San Francisco railroad, died Monday at Bluffdale, Ill.

MR. T. B. CONNERY, of the New York *Herald*, has had his leave of absence extended from six to twelve months, because of failing health.

MME. MODJESKA gave a merry Christmas dinner to about forty children on Sunday. Judge Allison dined the Philadelphia bootblacks yesterday.

REV. D. O'BRIEN, of Charlottetown, Prince Edward's Island, has been notified from Rome of his appointment as archbishop of Halifax.

DR. TANNER's wife is now living in Paris, having obtained a divorce from her husband because he compelled her to adopt a vegetarian diet.

KWONG KI CHIN, for several years an attache of the Chinese Educational commission, leaves Hartford to-day for his native country. He is the author of a Chinese and English dictionary and school books.

E. W. H. ESMER, a clerk at the Jones house, in Harrisburg, has been separated from his wife for some time. She arrived in that city on Sunday from Chicago, and abducted Esmer's daughter, a miss of 15 years.

WILLIAM G. LAMBERT, an old merchant of New York, one of the founders of the Equitable life assurance association and a director of the Manhattan bank, died on Sunday evening, in the 83d year of his age.

SALLY STONE COLWELL died Monday in Lowell, Mass., aged 74 years. She was the daughter of Rev. William Stone, of Morgantown, Va., who was 55 years in the ministry, and six of her sons are settled as Baptist pastors in different parts of the country.

DR. ELIPHALET NOTT, president of Union college, Schenectady, has been invited to become president of Trinity college at Hartford, to succeed Dr. Pynchon, resigned. Dr. Pynchon will remain at Trinity college as professor of moral philosophy.

WILLIAM P. SNYDER, of Allentown, has been commissioned as acting assistant attorney general of the United States and will be assigned to duty in a few days. It is not yet known whether he will be employed in the prosecution of the Star Route cases or in connection with the plans of the government as to the suppression of Mormonism.

MARK TWAIN failed to answer a letter written to him by Serjeant Ballantine. After waiting a reasonable time the latter was so exasperated at not receiving an answer that he mailed Twain a sheet of paper and a postage stamp as a gentle reminder. Mr. Clemens wrote back on a postal: "Paper and stamp received; please send an envelope."

A BLOODY BUDGET.

CHRISTMAS CRIMES AND CALAMITIES.

A Blood-Stained Holiday—Brutalities and Fatalities—Accidents and Suicide—Some Gory Pages of Current History.

Councilman Louis Meyers was stabbed and perhaps fatally wounded by William Kuntz, at a ball, in Scranton.—Thomas Lamb was shot and killed by James Chumley, in a drunken quarrel, in Cincinnati. Chumley gave himself up.—Two brothers, named Boone, grandsons of the famous Daniel Boone, of Kentucky, were shot and mortally wounded by William Vaughan, in a trifling quarrel at Ladonia, Texas.—At La Salle, Illinois, a notorious rough named "Patsy" Donnelly entered a saloon, and fired three times into a crowd of men at the bar. One of the shots struck Michael McDormett, causing a fatal wound. Donnelly then stepped out and fired at Policeman Patrick Scott, but missed his aim. Scott then sent a bullet through the ruffian's brain, and he fell dead.—Patrick McNulty was fatally stabbed by a young man named Matthew Ryan, in Williamsburg, N. Y.—Ezra Concord, formerly a resident of Exeter, N. H., has been found murdered in a village in Georgia, and it is supposed he was killed by colored rioters.—While hunting near Rockingham, N. C., William Morse deliberately shot and killed Preston W. Baldwin as the latter was walking away from a camp fire.—Parker Adams, recently a legislative candidate, was shot dead by Union Fillis in Lake City, Florida. Fillis was drunk at the time.—C. A. Newton, a railway agent, was shot dead in a police court at Wapeton, Dakota, by a man named Nash, whose daughter he had betrayed.—At Covington, Ga., Will Smith, eighteen years old, shot and killed James Banks and Alexander Hendricks, and also shot and killed a negro who attempted to arrest him. He is in jail and intense excitement prevails. Whisky was the cause.—Two young men named Tillery and Prentiss left Bremond, Texas, intoxicated. Two miles from town they alighted from their horses to get a drink and became involved in an altercation. Tillery seized a billet of wood and struck Prentiss, killing him instantly.—Henry Daniels was fatally stabbed by Bert Elam in a drunken brawl at Dallas, Texas. The murderer escaped——The body of Mrs. William Barrett was found lying in a field three miles from home, near Scranton. A dog was watching by it. It is suspected that she was murdered.—In Chicago there is a general complaint of sand bagging and robbery in the streets at night. The Lumbermen's exchange, aroused by the fact that one of their members had been robbed and left senseless on the street, offer five hundred dollars reward for the perpetrator of the crime.—Samuel and William Hamilton, brothers, were attacked by a gang of colored men in Harrisburg, and dangerously stabbed.

Some Startling Suicides.

Dr. F. B. Ayres, a wealthy inmate of the inebriate house at Fort Hamilton, New York, committed suicide by cutting his throat with a razor. He had recently been cured of the opium habit, but a victim of hypochodria.—Edmund Rush, cut his throat and then hanged himself in the Lutheran church at Wilkesboro, North Carolina No cause is assigned for the deed. William H. Clark, of New Haven, Connecticut, committed suicide by shooting himself with a pistol on the steamship Knickerbocker, below New Orleans. Manuel Whitham, a farmer, hanged himself near Binghamton, New York. It is believed he was insane.—Henry Johnson and Hugh Mathias, both colored, quarrelled in Atlanta, yesterday morning, and the latter was shot dead by the former.—Lindsey Weaver was shot and killed by John Thomas in a drunken quarrel at Palmetto, Georgia.—Frank Anderson and Charles Smith, both colored, quarreled in Peoria, Ill., and Smith stabbed Anderson to death.—Charles Roe was shot dead by an unknown person in a low resort at Lafayette, Indiana.—Michael Lane fatally stabbed John McLaughlin in Wheeling, West Virginia. "They were friends out on a drunk."—Jerry Griffin, a colored farmer, was shot dead by H. F. Robinson, in a saloon quarrel, in Little Rock, yesterday.—City Marshal Way shot and killed John Franklin, colored, in the jail at South Charleston, Ohio, last night, because Franklin made a "vicious" attack upon him.—John Flynn, a prominent contractor, of Williamsport, committed suicide by taking Paris green. "Dispondency" is assigned as the cause.—Englebert Hartman, a watchmaker, attempted suicide by throwing himself in front of an engine at Scranton; his injuries are believed to be fatal.—Alexander Jefferson, the Brooklyn murderer, was captured on Saturday, after receiving a shot in the head, from the effects of which, the physicians say, he is not likely to recover. He expressed surprise that Anna Jackson was still living. He said he "did not intend to kill Mrs. Jackson or Hicks, but as they were there he could not help it."——Miss Maggie Haggerty, a beautiful young girl of fifteen, daughter of ex Policeman Haggerty, of Reading, fell in love with a man employed in a public works. Several weeks ago the young man left town, and the girl became tired of waiting for his return. Finally she heard that he had concluded not to return at all, and then Miss Haggerty quietly informed several of her young lady friends that she was going to kill herself and then bade them good-bye. She went to a drug store, bought "Rough on rats," an arsenical poison, took a dose and then returned home, where she awaited her mother. It was some time before the girl admitted the cause of her terrible illness and vomiting, and before medical aid could be summoned she dropped over in a dying condition, and after lingering a few hours in considerable pain she died.—Emma Inhoff, sixty three years old, was found dead in her rooms at No. 500 Ninth avenue, New York. She had two idiot sons, twenty-three and thirty years of age. One was dancing around her dead body, while the other crouched sullenly in the corner when her death was discovered. She supported both by hard work.—During the absence from home of Mr. and Mrs. Barker, at Estelline, Dakota, their three children, aged six months and three and five years, respectively, set fire to their clothes. Two of them were burned to death, and in rescuing the baby, which afterwards died, the mother was fatally burned.—Mary Timothy, sixty one years of age, was burned to death in an attic in St. Louis. She sat down by an open fire and fell asleep and her dress was ignited by sparks from the fire.

Lorenzo White, a small boy, was accidentally shot by a drunken man who was playing with a revolver on one of the streets of Lebanon.

Joseph S. Strichell, a student at the Greenwich academy, broke through the ice while skating at Providence, Monday, and was drowned. For three quarters of an hour he struggled for his life in sight of persons whose efforts failed to aid him.

Riot in a Refuge

Serious disturbances have occurred at Vienna in an old prison used as a refuge for the destitute. One man who had behaved badly to some of the others, on being led away to a separate cell, threw himself upon a policeman and cut his throat. This was the signal for general riot. The inmates attacked the policemen knocking them down and wounding many. One attendant was taken up by two men and pitched out of a second floor window. The rioters then threw the petroleum lamps upon the straw mattresses and very soon part of the house was in flames. To escape the fire they ran into the courtyard, when a fight ensued, in which the policemen were victorious. When order was restored it was found that the majority of the 250 inmates were all more or less hurt. A great many policemen were also injured severely. Thirty-five men were arrested, among them being the incendiary, who was found concealed in a cellar.

A Riot on the Streets.

A street fight between whites and negroes took place in Petersburg, Virginia, yesterday afternoon. Pistols and clubs were flourished and one or two shots fired. John S. Cook, a well known citizen, who happened to be passing, was shot and painfully wounded in the thigh. Several policemen, trying to quell the riot, were knocked down and clubbed. Other street fights occurred last night, and the mayor and police were on the streets to prevent further breaches of the peace.

Railroad Fatalities.

A west-bound express train on the Chesapeake & Ohio railroad was run into near Millboro station, Va., soon after midnight on Sunday by a freight train which was running passenger time. Both engines and the passenger and combination cars were wrecked. Five men were killed: Charles E. Leach, engineer; John W. Alsop, baggage master; L. L. Loring and J. E. O'Neill, firemen, and George E. Netherland, brakeman. Two men, one of them a passenger, were slightly injured.

A Clever Woman's Ruse.

At Bedford, Ind., Monday, the wife of the jailer, Owens, gave permission to Mrs. Bell to talk in the corridor with her husband, imprisoned on a charge of murder. Mrs. Owens being temporarily called away, Mrs. Bell gave her husband a revolver, and also the keys of the prison, which she found in an adjoining room. Mrs Owens returned and tried to prevent Bell's escape, but was held by the latter's wife until he had got away.

A Despondent Mother.

Mrs. Myra J. Osborne and her son Oliver, aged 17, were found dead in bed at Greencastle, Indiana, yesterday morning. It is supposed that the mother, who had been despondent for some time, poisoned her son and then committed suicide. She was in good circumstances.

Shot Through the Heart.

A young man named Hazel, residing in Jackson township, Perry county, went turkey hunting on Tuesday last. Not coming home when expected search was made until Saturday, when he was found dead about three miles from home. His gun was leaning against a tree still loaded, but Hazel had been shot in the back, the ball passing through the heart.

MARRYING FOUR WIVES.

A Strange Story of New York Life.

Some thirty years ago a young Greek came to New York and entered into business. He had rooms in a business block and was supposed to be unmarried. A few months since he died, leaving property to the amount of $1,200,000. His lawyer found an informal will written by himself, whereby he gave his property to his family in equal parts. Attached to the will was an explanatory paper to the effect that desiring vigorous and healthy offspring, and being in doubt as to the national blood which would form the best admixture with his own, he had married four wives—English, French, German and Spanish, and was raising a family by each wife. He requested the lawyer to call these wives together after his death, and tell them the true story of his life and divide the property equally between them.

Upon looking into the matter it was found that the four marriages were informal and by contract, and that each contract bore the same date, to wit, 8 p. m., Nov. 16, 1870. Each wife told the same story of her marriage. Each said that she was engaged to the Greek, and one evening when he was about leaving the city for a few weeks he sent for her to come to the hotel where he then lived. She went. He came into the room where she was with the written contract in his hand and both signed it, after which he hastily left for the train, as she supposed. When he returned to the city they commenced housekeeping, and he spent such time with her as his business would permit. He wrote four marriage contracts of the same date. Then he had the four girls come to his hotel at the same hour. He hastily stepped into the room of each girl and signed the contract with each, so that in the coming years neither wife could claim priority of marriage. It was also found that in naming these wives in his will and the explanatory paper he wrote them alphabetically, and called attention to the fact that he did so.

After the husband's death, when the four wives met in the lawyer's office and heard the true story of their one common husband, and examined each other's marriage contract, their astonishment can be imagined. Neither could claim priority of marriage. Neither could claim to be the one legal wife. Fortunately all were sensible women, and they readily agreed to divide the property equally and avoid all publicity. Each took her $300,000 and went her way quietly.

The Bummer Brigade.

Doylestown Democrat.

For years the two Houses have supported a little army of bummers, who get good pay without rendering service. In truth, the Legislature has been turned into a sort of political hospital, where the blind, and the lame, and the halt are cared for. The pasters and folders are a jolly brigade of themselves, who dress in fine linen, and fare sumptuously every day, but the majority of them do nary a day's work. The work they are paid to do, but do not do, can be done, and well done too, for less than one-fourth of the money paid them. As the House is in the hands of the Democrats, if these bummers be not dismissed the service, the newspapers will be heard from. The Senate, with one fourth the members of the House, has as many clerks, less two, another swindle on the tax payers. "Gentlemen, of the upper House," dismiss the bummers and loafers who hang around your chamber, who do no work, but draw their pay with extraordinary regularity. Get rid of part of your brigade of scrub women, which cost the state $2,473.25 in 1879, and lop off other extravagant expenditures which are seen on every side. If these abuses be not corrected, there will be trouble in the camp. The verdict of November covers all these points.

Unclaimed Letters.

List of unclaimed letters remaining in the postoffice at Lancaster for the week ending Dec. 25th, 1882

Ladies' List—Mrs. Wm. Beatty, Mrs. Mary Baronen, Anna Bassler, Mrs. Jane Busher, Sadie A. Clayman, Mrs. Wm. C. Card. M. M. Colcreek, M. A. Doyle, Mary C. Ernle, Annie Fenton, Lizzie H. Kreider, Minnie Loochinbick, Maggie Lutz, H. McConell, D. McCullough, Emma Moyer. Emma Rahl, Lizzie Shank, Clara Whitman.

Gent's List: P. S. Aylward, Z. T. Anderson, Lewis Bayabs, Franz Boxleitner (for.) Chrn. Bader, (for.) Chrn. Burgholder, Wm. J. Calhoun, J. L. Culp, Geo. Green, Jos. Henrich. E. H. Kohler, Rev. H. Lassard, L. W. May, Wm. McManemin, Sam'l Miller. J. R. Musselman, Jacob Mullen, J. M. Pina. W. C. Runfried, Hiram Wike, Fred. Weaver.

In the Far West.

Council Bluffs, Iowa, Globe.

Levi Hoffman, one of Lancaster county's, Pa., best farmer boys, arrived in the city this morning, and was taking in the sights to-day.

CHRISTMAS TIDE.

THE LOCAL CELEBRATION OF IT.

Prayer and Praise in the Churches—Feasting and Merry Making at Home—Disorder and Brawls on the Street.

The two days devoted specially to the religious and domestic celebration of Christmas have come and gone. As early as Saturday night the fun began in this city with bands of merry maskers parading the streets and the secular observance of Christmas eve took place that night. On Sunday the churches generally had services which bore reference to the season, and these were continued yesterday and will be prolonged through the week as noted in detail below. Yesterday was a quiet day in the city, there being a notable return of many old residents to their homes and families in this city and a general domestic observance of the day. But there was, withal, a good deal of drinking, the consequences of which can be found in the police report. A detailed account of the church services and some of the private and public amusements will be found below.

LUTHERAN.

Festal Times at Old Mother Trinity.

Trinity Lutheran church is handsomely trimmed with laurel and other seasonable greens and ornamental plants, the decorations extending to the body of the church as well as around the pulpit. A large arch of evergreens is erected, while blazing gas jets in the form of a cross and star are a notable feature of the decoration. The inscription "Glory be to God on High, and on Earth Peace, Good will to Men," is on the arch. The morning service at 10:15 opened with the "Gloria" from Mozart's Twelfth Mass, rendered with great spirit by the choir led by Mr. John Albright, and the regular liturgical service together with the gloria were conducted. A sermon appropriate to the day was preached by Rev. Chas. L. Fry, assistant pastor. In the afternoon the children of the infant department of the Sunday school held their celebration in the chapel, which consisted of Christmas hymns, an address by Mr. Fry, and the presentation of gifts to the children. To night the main deparment of the Sunday school will hold their exercises, which will comprise a novel entertainment, the music to consist of a cantata in which there are one hundred and twenty five distinct parts which will be performed by members of the school. The entertainment will begin at half-past seven.

Grace Church.

The Christmas observance by this vigorous young daughter of the parent congregation was on a very elaborate scale. As long ago as last Friday evening the church school gave an entertainment in the Sunday school room which is prettily trimmed with dried grasses, autumn leaves, ferns and winter flowers, with a beautiful picture, suitable to the season upon the blackboard. There were recitations, dialogues, songs, hymns, scripture readings, all having a bearing on the season. On Sunday morning the regular services were held and a class of young persons were confirmed; in the evening a children's service took place, when the pastor, Rev. C. E. Houpt preached a sermon specially intended for the young folks, from Hosea xi, 1. On Christmas morning the full liturgical service was performed and the sermon was based on the gospel Matthew i., 21. The evening exercises were varied and interesting. They opened with a processional hymn, and there were responsive scriptural readings, led by the pastor and Sunday school superintendent, Christmas carols, the "Gloria in Excelsis," the singing being accompanied by a cornet and steel chime of bells; an address by Mr. Lewis L. Houpt, of Philadelphia, father of the pastor; reading of the report of the superintendent of the Sunday school, which shows this department of the congregation to be making satisfactory progress in every respect; the reception of the children's offerings for the orphan home at Germantown, which comprised, besides a sum of money, some provisions, clothing, toys, books and other gifts for the little unfortunates. Each pupil was presented with a fine Christmas card, and the exercises terminated with a recessional hymn.

The decoration of this church is on an unusually elaborate scale. Three arches of evergreen span the chancel and above them there is a green screen, embellished with the representation of a silver bell, within which there are four smaller bells, the idea being to illustrate joyous melody. Between the top of the arches and the screen, the words "Merry Christmas" are inscribed, while the letters "I. H. S." are seen in the apex of the respective arches. The pulpit has been moved to the middle of the chancel and is spanned by the central arch; on the altar which is at the south side of the chancel there are a beautiful floral cross and anchor and on the baptismal font which stands at the front there is a stand of elegant calla lilies. The body of the church shares in the beautiful decoration, the brackets around the sides being set off with polished horns, filled with dried grasses, winter flowers and the like, the whole effect being at once artistic in design and pleasing to the eye.

St Stephen's.

At St. Stephen's Evangelical Lutheran church, very extensive arrangements had been made to greet the nativity of our Lord by a Christmas decoration. A great Gothic arch spanned the chancel, and other parts of the church were also handsomely decorated with evergreens. In the evergreens composing the arch were the words: "Glory to God in the Highest;" full Christmas service was rendered with sermon by the pastor, Rev. E. Meister, from the text—Ies. 9, 6

In the evening the children's meeting was held in the church, and this was more than ordinarily interesting. The attendance was quite large; the body of the church was nearly filled with the pupils and teachers of the Sunday school; the members of the congregation occupied the side seats and the galleries. Two beautiful trees stood at the sides on the pulpit which were filled from top to bottom with handsome toys, etc. The exercises consisted of prophecy, reading of the scripture on the events of the birth of Christ and the jubalant commemoration of the fact by chants. hymns and responses. An address by the pastor Rev. E. Meister was delivered. The basket collection in the evening resulted in $80.47.

On Saturday evening Rev. E. Melster was the recipient of a very handsome silver ice pitcher, presented by the Bible class of the congregation, finely engraved with the following: "To Rev. E. Meister from Bible class 1882." The presentation speech was made by Miss Georgeanna Wall.

Zion's.

The church is heavily festooned and the decoration of the chancel extremely beautiful and appropriate. There are two Christmas trees tastefully decked, and the motto "Glory to God in the Highest" is stretched across the chancel. The pastor, Rev. F. P. Mayser, preached to a very large congregation in the morning, the music by the choir included two fine anthems. The children's service in the evening was of the usual order, including an address by the pastor, distribution of gifts, and the reading of the annual report by the superintendent, Mr. Henry Gerhart.

EPISCOPAL.

St. John's Free Church.

At St. John's Free church the full Christmas service with holy communion was held at 10:30, and the discourse by the rector, Mr. Spalding, was appropriate to the occasion. The music was of a high order, and the decoration of the church very tasteful, the altar being set off with designs of varied descriptions and a profusion of greens artistically arranged. The children's celebration will take place to morrow evening at 7, when there will be a choral service, carols, hymns, readings and an address. Each pupil will be given a present from off a Christmas tree.

The Observance at Old St. James.

The decoration of St. James' church is as usual tasteful and appropriate, including a rood screen across the chancel, large evergreen bosses along the side of the church and in the corners; beside the font and pulpit there are large evergreen trees. The altar is trimmed with holly and natural flowers. On Sunday afternoon there was a special service for the children, and in the evening at 9 a choral service conducted by Rev. Dr. Knight, when the music was very fine. The full service was had on Christmas morning and was of the customary solemn and impressive character. The annual children's service will take place Thursday afternoon (Holy innocents' day) at half-past four.

THE CATHOLIC CHURCHES.

A Large Congregation at St. Mary's.

The glad tidings of great joy which the angel announced in the birth of the Messiah found no warmer welcome than that accorded by the immense congregation that thronged St. Mary's Catholic church at the 5.00 a. m. mass. The handsome altars were ablaze with the lights of myriads of wax candles, and the floral decoration of fanciful and appropriate design showed the work of loving and tasteful hands. Festoons of evergreen fell in graceful folds from the rool in front of the three altars, and lent to the effectiveness of the scene. The sweet strains of the "Adeste Fideles" beautifully rendered by the choir and heard only at this gracious season, fell upon the listening ear a more stirring invocation to prayer than the most finished pulpit oratory. After the reading of the Gospel Bishop Shanahan delivered an admirable discourse on the lessons of poverty, humility and obedience to be drawn from the conduct of the Saviour while in the world, and spoke of the peace and good will to man that should every where prevail at such a time. At the Offertory Lambilliotte's beautiful hymn was exquisitely rendered. Large numbers received holy communion. At the conclusion of the communion service Dr. McCullagh, the pastor, spoke briefly of his pleasure in witnessing the edifying spectacle presented by so large an assemblage gathered together at so early an hour in celebrating the praises of the new born Christ. The services though lasting more than two hours were very impressive throughout, and it was long after daybreak when the large congregation wended its way homeward. Masses were also celebrated at 8 and 10:30.

St. Anthony's.

This church is elegantly decorated. At 5 a. m. Mozart's Twelfth Mass was sung, and at 10 Mercadente'r, Father Kaul being celebrant on both occasions, and delivering a few appropriate remarks at the second mass. The music was exceptionally fine. After vespers in the afternoon there was distribution of candy to the children.

St. Joseph's.

Full congregations were present at the masses, the church decorations were elaborate and handsome, and the observance throughout solemn and beautiful.

REFORMED.

Christmas Morning in the First Church.

The customary services at six o'clock in in the morning attracted an immense congregation to the First Reformed church. They did not vary materially from the annual observance, the music comprising, in addition to appropriate hymns by choir and congregation, the "Adeste Fideles" and Lambilotti's Christmas anthem, all of which were admirably rendered under the able leadership of Mr. Hiram Stamm, and with full orchestral accompaniments. The reading of St. Luke's account of the Incarnation was by Rev. J. Max Hark, of the Moravian church, and the choral interludes were rendered with fine effect. The decoration of the church was very handsome, a conspicuous feature being a large star which shone brilliantly under the pulpit arch and the inscription. "The Word Became Flesh And Dwelt Among Us," in gilt letters upon a crimson back ground. There was no other service during the day, the Sunday school celebration being reserved until next Sunday evening.

St. Luke's Reformed Chapel.

The decorations at St. Luke's chapel were of an elaborate nature, consisting of extensive festooning and wreathing of laurel from the exposed rafters. The pulpit recess contained the inscription "Christ Is Born In Bethlehem," surrounded by an arch of laurel. The chancel furniture was prettily trimmed with holly and crowfoot. Over the door of the chapel was a tasteful arrangement of the inscription: "Glory to God In the Highest, and on Earth Peace, Good Will Toward Men."

Though the Christmas services began on Sunday morning when Rev. W. F. Lichliter, pastor, preached an able sermon on "The Birth of Christ," the event of chief interest centered in the Christmas festival of the Sunday school. At 6 o'clock on Sunday evening a full house assembled when hymns and carols were sung, recitations were given and scripture selections read. Rev. Theo. Appel, D. D., and W. F. Lichliter made brief addresses. A Christmas tree was prettily adorned and illuminated and gifts cheered the hearts of all the scholars. At the conclusion of these services the pastor received a valuable selection of books as his gift from his members.

St. Paul's Reformed.

The services in this church were at 10:15 Dr. Shumaker preaching an able and appropriate sermon. The chancel and body of the church were beautifully adorned with flowers and evergreens. The Sunday school anniversary was held on Christmas eve, and consisted of scriptural reading by the pastor, with responses by the pupils, recitations, dialogues, carols, &c.

Moravian.

The children's service was held on Christmas eve, Sunday night, the church being crowded to its full capacity. The choir, under the able leadership of Mr. Al. M. Zahm, sang Dank's "Jubilate" and "Calm on the Listening Ear of Night," and other features of the celebration were the presentation of gifts to the pupils of the Sunday school, which took place in the Sunday school room prior to the opening of the service in the church, and afterwards each child was furnished with a lighted taper; the presentation by the classes of their missionary offerings for the year; the report of the operations of the school by the assistant superintendent, Dr. M. W. Raub, which showed a very favorable condition of affairs; an address by the pastor, Rev. J. Max Hark, and a prayer by Rev. John A. Peters, of the First Reformed church. There was also a "love-feast," every person in the congregation being given a cup of coffee and a hot roll. On Christmas morning at 10:15 the litany for the day was said and Mr. Hark preached an eloquent and appropriate sermon. The anthem by the choir, "When Shepherds Watched Their Flocks by Night," was finely rendered, especial praise being due to Misses Maggie Potts, and Edith Johnston and Mr. John Warfel, for the admirable manner in which they sang their respective parts The church was very neatly but not elaborately trimmed with evergreen, the pulpit recess presenting the appearance of a forest. The Christmas tree in the Sunday school room is beautifully decked.

Presbyterian.

There was a choral service by the children of the Sunday school, Christmas eve, the attendance being large and the exercises highly interesting. They consisted of Christmas carols by the Sunday school pupils, reading by the pastor, Dr. Mitchell, with responses by the children, prayer, and other appropriate features. A wreath of greens around the altar is the only attempt at decoration. There were no services on Christmas day.

To-morrow Christmas exercises will be held in the Memorial Mission chapel, Rev. J. C. Hume pastor, when there will be a presentation of gifts, prizes, &c., and on Sunday next the dedication of the recent addition to the chapel will take place.

Union Bethel.

The exercises pertaining to Christmas were observed at the Union Bethel Church of God on Sunday. The programme opened with music by the choir, followed by reading of Scripture by the superintendent and a prayer by the pastor, after which the choir rendered in good style another beautiful hymn. It became evident to the superintendent that the programme could not be carried out in its entire length, hence remarks to the effect so abridged the exercises that the following was the order of the day:

A few weeks ago a friend of the school proposed that a contribution of books be made for the Sunday school library, which found favor among most of the congregation and the result was that quite a respectable sum was realized within the stated period. Consequently Sunday was the day when the school should receive their books, and to Brother, Fraily was accorded the responsibility of stating the fact, which he did in very good style. Another beautiful song by the choir, Brother Philips at the organ, and Prof. J. P. Abraham, superintendent of the school, in a neat little speech in behalf of the school, formally accepted the gift. Then followed a distribution of candies from a Christmas tree. Rev W. H. H. Criswell was presented with a Berkshire pig by an unknown donor.

At the Almshouse.

There was a good Christmas dinner at the almshouse, and a remembrance for each of the 200 inmates; 93 chickens were served up with relished side dishes. The hospital patients had oyster soup and other delicacies. Mr. A C. Leonard conducted an afternoon service in the almshouse chapel, and Chaplain Swank held similar service at the jail. The alushouse inmates also were treated to oranges.

ON THE STREETS.

Drunkenness, Fighting, Brawls and Arrests—In the Police Courts.

There was considerable drunkenness on the streets on Saturday night and it was but little better last night. Several fights occurred in different parts of the city and in police circles it was a rather noisy Christmas.

When the police net, which had been set since Saturday morning, was emptied before the mayor yesterday morning, it was found to contain twenty three persons. Two of this number were lodgers and were discharged. The others were drunks and most of them paid their costs. Those who had no money were sent to jail.

Last night's catch was bigger than that of the previous night, and this morning twenty-seven customers answered to their names at the station-house. There were men of all kinds, many of whom had taken too much whisky and become disorderly on the street. Ten of this class were sent to jail for terms ranging from five to fifteen days. This list included James Hart and Charles Brooks, who were were arrested by Officer Burns on Prince street, at a house where they had demanded money of a woman and became noisy when it was refused. Four of the drunks were arrested on East King street by Officer Leaman at 11 o'clock last night. They belonged to a gang of over a dozen tramps, but the remaining ones fled at the approach of the officer. Five drunks were discharged, two paid costs and one case was continued. Nine tramps were discharged.

Mary Wise was let out of jail yesterday morning. She at once got drunk, and Alderman Samson sent her out for thirty days. Thomas Green for the same offense got 10 days from the same alderman.

A Disorderly Gang.

About 10:30 o'clock a party of about twenty young men, attired as serenaders and playing musical instruments, went into the saloon of J. J. Doesch, No. 113 North Queen street, and asked permission to play. Doesch told them he would not allow it. They began playing, however, telling Doesch that they would remain but five minutes. They were a very noisy crowd, and in a short time one of the number started a row by hitting a young man, who was standing with his back to him, several times. When the fight began Doesch came out from behind the bar to preserve order. The brave serenaders turned on him and promptly knocked him down As he was going to the bar he was again knocked down and one of the gang even struck him after he was behind the bar John Smith, butcher, went to the assistance of Doesch, but he was knocked out of time in a short time. The crowd finally began throwing beer glasses and broke a window, knocked the plastering off the walls and did other damage to the room. It was some time before quiet was restored, and no business could be done while the row was in progress. Suits have been entered against at least a dozen of the young men before Alderman McConomy where they will be heard. The young fellows are all members of a gang who travel together in this city. Some of them have been in worse scrapes than this before. They are of the "fresh" kind, and the height of their ambition is to have the public think they are "toughs." They are nearly all under age and travel together so that when