

Home Circle Column

Pleasant Evening Reveries for Every Member of the Family

Not Fruitless.

A man who has spent a busy year sits down for a little retrospect. He falls into a waddy frame, and in a tone of regret says: "I have worked all the year through, but there is hardly anything to show for it; my work has had no permanence." But a good spirit was bending him and she said: "My dear, do you remember those flowers that grew right out there? Those roses, petunias, heliotropes, geraniums, and most of all that beautiful liliun auratum? Well, they are all gone. Not one of them had any permanence, you cannot even find a stem to tell that they existed. And yet they were beautiful while they lasted, filling the air with fragrance, pleasing the eye of all who saw them, and they are remembered still by many persons to whom they were messengers of gentleness." And the moody shadow seemed to break away from his brow, giving place to a smile and an air of satisfaction. But in the time when all the work was done, and she was weary, heaving a sigh, she said, sadly: "My life is just a round of the same duties, and seems to be wholly fruitless." It was his time now, and looking up cheerily he said: "Not so, my dear. Do you see that tree over there, that noble oak? Well, it has stood there these many years, more than you and I can tell, and its life has been almost wholly without variety. Each summer it is crowned with foliage and then each autumn the winds sweep it all away. But the birds sit there and sing, the cattle gather under it on sultry days and children collect about it to picnic on their holidays. There is nothing of all that there now, but what a help has the old tree been, and how many pleasant things could be told about it—how noble an object it is, also, in the wintry landscape." The parable was not without its meaning. The good mother returned the smile of the benignant father, and together they sang at their family worship of the loving kindness of the Lord.

A Cheerful Spirit.

The effect of a cheerful, contented spirit in the mother of a family is not to be estimated. The atmosphere of happiness is the atmosphere of finest development for any child. Look over the families of your acquaintance, my kind reader, and tell me who have been most successful in raising sons and daughters to be ornaments to their family and pillars in the social fabric. Have they not been, in almost every instance, those where hap-

piness has blossomed and borne daily fruit? But give to a household earthly competence, strict morality, and even earnest piety, and let the essential element of home felicity be wanting there, and does that family prove a success? When Solomon said, "Train up a child in the way he should go," he meant something more than enforcing obedience, inculcating principles of honesty and restraining from vice. The young plant must have earth, warmth, moisture and sunshine, or it will never shine in its full beauty; and so the young heart must drink the waters of content and joy or the character will be dwarfed and imperfect.

A Mirror of Yourself.

"If you wish to see a perfect mirror of yourself," said an experienced teacher, "look at your class." And not less faithfully is every mother mirrored in the prevailing tone and attitude of the family she presides over. Let her be critical, impatient, hard to please, and how surely will the same manifestations appear around her, and discord on the music fall and darkness on the glory. The sunny face of childhood will be overcast with clouds and the ringing laughter will be silenced and the pall of gloom and sadness cover the family roof-tree. On the contrary if she is sunny and patient, you will see beaming faces around her; if her voice is ever pleasant and chery no dissonance will grate upon your ear within that charmed home-circle. If perpetually she turns the cloud to find the silver lining, or soars above it to the undimmed sunlight of eternal calm in a loving confiding trust in the great Father of us all, her children, her husband and her friends will, unconsciously, perhaps, but none the less certainly, drink in the same blessed spirit and rejoice in the same divine warmth and brightness.

Faithfulness.

Whatever happens, never forsake a friend. When enemies gather, when sickness falls on the heart, when the world is dark and cheerless, is the time to try true friendship. They who turn from the scenes of distress betray their hypocrisy, and prove that interest only moves them. If you have a friend who loves you, who has studied your interest and happiness, be sure to sustain him in adversity. Let him feel that his love was not thrown away. Real fidelity may be rare but it exists—in the heart. They only deny its worth and power who never loved a friend or labored to make a friend happy.

HEALTH AND BEAUTY HINTS.

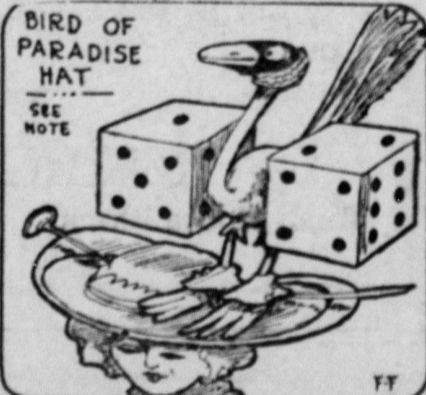
Always be careful about breathing dust, such as house dust, which brings disease. Of course you can breathe good dust, such as gold dust and diamond dust.

WEEKLY PUZZLE.



ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.
(S. O., Bellefonte)—Dog whine comes from the bark of the dogwood tree.
(N. Y., Milesburg)—The holes in swiss cheese are for airing purposes.

FASHION NOTE.



The Bird of Paradise (Pair-o-dice) is the very latest for winter hats. Dark-complexioned women will take to it quickly.

A company of boy scouts were encamped on the bank of a river. A number of them took shovels and started digging into the bank in hopes of finding some money, to buy nuts from the squirrels in the woods. After digging for three days and three nights, one of them dug up a chest. When the chest was opened, out jumped a French maid who said, "If mother was leaving for Europe to-day, would you know for what port Marseilles?"

KRAZY KOLUMN

BIRTHDAYS.

January 14th is considered very lucky for aviators born on that day. Some fall from airships and break only four ribs, when otherwise they would have broken eight.

YOU CAN'T BEAT IT.



PUBLIC SPEAKING CONTEST.

Will Be Held in the Several Districts on February 27.

County Superintendent D. O. Etters announces Friday, February 27th, as the date for holding the public speaking contests among the male pupils of the four districts of Centre county, and March 27 for the county contest at Bellefonte. This announcement is made in compliance with the action taken by the late Teachers' Institute in accepting the offer of the First National Bank of Bellefonte, the Millheim Banking Company of Millheim, the Farmers' Trust Company of State College and the First National Bank of Philipsburg, to establish monetary prizes for the encouragement of public speaking on the part of male pupils in the high schools and the eighth grade of the public schools throughout the county. To carry out the above plan, Supt. Etters has named the following to act as secretaries of the different districts:

For the county—R. U. Wasson, Coburn; District No. 1—D. P. Stapleton, Millheim; District No. 2—E. H. Weik, Bellefonte; District No. 3—F. M. Fletcher, Howard; District No. 4—H. O. Crain, Philipsburg.

As stated above, the date for the district contests is Friday, February 27th, and they will be held at the following named places: 1st district, at Millheim; 2nd district, at Bellefonte;

OVER THE COUNTY.

By the collapse of the roof on a large pig pen due to the weight of the snow Monday of last week at the Millheim creamery, in Millheim, 40 boxes and pigs of all sizes were killed.

The large barn being erected by D. Geiss Wagner on his farm near Centre Hall is near enough to completion to shelter his horses and cattle during the winter. The finishing touches will be made in the spring.

The Nittany Real Estate Company are erecting a handsome new building on Allen street, State College. The face of the building is beautiful terra cotta while the remainder is of light colored Clearfield brick.

An oyster supper will be held at the home of Edward Confer, Romola, next Saturday evening, January 17th, the proceeds to be given to the Christian church for repairs. Everyone is invited to be present and help a good cause.

The State College opened its doors last week to its large body of students. The traffic was unusually heavy, and all trains were ten to two hours late. The Bellefonte Central ran a special after the arrival of the western train at Bellefonte Tuesday night.

Mrs. Elmer Lowder, of Oak Hall, entertained on Saturday evening her sister, Miss Mabel Kline, and a selected load of friends from State College, with Mrs. Roundtree as chaperone. There were also present Mrs. Lowder's brother, George Kline, and the Misses Markie, of Bellefonte, and Verda Korman, of Curtin.

The new borough council at State College organized last Monday with John T. McCormick, pres., S. Slagle, clerk, W. C. Kline, treas., H. B. Shattuck, borough engineer. The new council is composed as follows: J. M. Harvey, J. B. Heberling, Percival Rudy, S. K. Hostetter, John Hamilton, John T. McCormick and S. E. Kimport.

Prof. C. E. Edmunds, of Mazeppa, announces the engagement of his daughter, Miss Tascy Violet, to George F. Rupp, of Hartford, Conn. The wedding will take place some time in June. The prospective groom was formerly of Aaronsburg, a son of the late George Rupp, deceased, and the bride-to-be is one of the teachers in the Millinburg schools.

John McGhee, Esq., of Beech Creek, is the owner of a bound file of the American Patriot, published at Bellefonte 100 years ago. Thursday, January 8th, was the 99th anniversary of the battle of New Orleans, and the Patriot contains a copy of a letter written by General Andrew Jackson to the secretary of war at Washington, giving an account of the battle.

State College Boro has a full fledged case of small pox, the victim being Mrs. Edmiston, wife of Harry Edmiston of that place. The house was quarantined Sunday week. Several weeks ago Mrs. Edmiston visited friends in Altoona, and while she did not knowingly come in contact with the malady, it is probable she contracted the disease while on the streets or in the street cars or trains. The case is fortunately a mild one and every precaution is being taken to prevent its spread.

On Sunday a week ago N. F. Kremer, a farmer living near Millheim, was obliged to go to town on urgent business. In company with Bruce Bowser of Big Rock, Ill., who is east visiting relatives and friends, he started in a sled drawn by two mules. They had not gone far until they stuck in the snow. Returning to the barn they got another span of mules and with the four head they had considerable trouble to get through. It was nearly three hours from the time they left home until they reached Millheim, a distance of one and a half miles.

During the recent heavy snow storm six passengers, including two women on a train of the White Deer and Loganton railroad, were held behind a snow blockade for nearly twenty-four hours and spent the night in cars without heat and with only the food that was carried to them by nearby farmers. The train left Loganton on a Saturday afternoon and was due at White Deer at 4 o'clock. When near Carroll a small hamlet, the engine was unable to make further progress against the snow. Word was sent to White Deer and a relief engine was dispatched, but it only got within five miles of the stalled engines. On the following Monday two engines and a force of men dug out a path and rescued the people.

The store keepers in Millheim decided to close their stores at 8 o'clock in the evening and started the custom the first of the year. This did not meet with the approval of those who liked a place to spend the cold winter evenings, and to emphasize their displeasure the "loafers" borrowed a



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Hartman furnace, placed it on an old-fashioned sled and as soon as the town clock announced the hour of eight, appeared on the public square with the smoke emerging from the pipe of the stove like from a large locomotive. Several violinists furnished music for a time, while a number of men danced and good juicy apples were passed through the crowd, and the "loafers" as well as many on-lookers enjoyed the "roast" given the merchants.

REAL ESTATE TRANSFERS.

Harvey W. Wagner et ux to J. I. DeHaas, tract of land in Liberty twp.; \$425.
C. D. Moore to Jno. A. Gingerich, house and lot in Boalsburg; \$1800.
Andres C. Ike et ux to J. W. Tipton et al, 216 acres of land in Taylor twp.; \$2800.
Mary E. Blerly et bar to F. A. Yearlock, tract of land in Miles twp.; \$250.
Albert S. Brown et ux to Fred D. Brown, tract of land in Rush twp.; \$1.
John D. Gill to R. A. Gill, tract of land in Rush twp.; \$400.
R. A. Gill's heirs to Emma B. Gill, tract of land in Rush twp.; \$1.
G. R. Fink, treat to Wm. Whitmer & Sons Co., tract of land in Walker twp.; \$14.90.
Wm. Whitmer Sons Co. to Charles Steele, tract of land in Walker twp.; \$200.
George L. Williams et ux to George C. Harvey, house and lot in Howard; \$2700.
Simon Nelhart et ux to Ellis H. Blerly, tract of land in Boggs twp.; \$500.
Christian Reed's heirs to Catherine Reese, 7 tracts of land in Worth and Taylor twps.; \$1.

Penn'a Corn in the National Show.

Pennsylvania has won more prizes in the National Corn Show than any other state in the Eastern Division and our corn growers should take pride in keeping up their record. The way to get corn in the National Show is to show it in the State Show held at York, Pa., January 20-23. Write to Prof. C. E. Meyers, State College, Pa., for particulars or just ship ten ears of each variety. Ship to Prof. C. E. Myers, at York, Pa., prepaying charges. The Breeders' Association will entertain the American Berkshire Congress, with its show, this year. Many famous breeders from all over the country will be present. Meetings and shows of State Horticultural Association and State Dairy Union at same time and place—York, January 20-23. All are free and everybody invited.

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