The flood and its sequel, mud, have had a very dampening and depressing effect upon things in general, social life included. Tea parties in the name of Washington's better half and Delsartism alone have kept their heads above the water during the past week, with, perchance, a few lectures on subjects that would float.

Delsartism, however, or rather Russellism, is on the wane in this city, and the exponent has actually been the subject of some very pointed though covert criticisms among the more daring of the society ladies. But his theories are not criticised—their age and antiquity protects them—and doubtless their energetic revival here in the past two weeks will inaugurate a new era of cultivated gowns and rooms, gestures and manners, for which Mr. Russell should have due credit.

* * *

Gowns for the Spring.

Speaking of gowns reminds me that it is nearly time for spring openings, and I can give some advance information regarding certain gowns that will be displayed in a Fifth avenue emporium shortly. To commence with, everything fashionable in spring wear will savor of ancient times and departed royalty, the favori es being Henry II., Henry V., Louis XV. and Louis XVI. effects, and one must be well posted in history and the manner of dress of the different periods to correctly pl ce the new suits. They are wonderfully stylish, whether bearing the stamp of the Henry or the Louis reigns especially on the street, to which the first impressions would confine them entirely. But as afternoon and evening toilets they are just as chic and pretty when you become educated up to the idea by glimpses of exquisitely beautiful materials, royal colors and bewitching styles as I was.

* * *

One of the Prettiest.

One was a costume that looked as if it might have been purloined from some of the old portraits of Henry V's time. The skirt and the coat were fashioned of canary colored crystal silk, the skirt with a demi-train and the coat with the graceful hip seam and box pleats, with generous size pocket lapels overhanging. The sleeves and wai-tcoat were of white figured grenadine. Full ruffles of white crepon finished the neck and fell very low over the hands, giving the peculiar court effect.

Gowned in such a manner one would be sure of attracting admiring attention and creating favorable comment, though Russell says the dre-s should be subordinate to the individual at all times and in all places.

Demi-trains excepting for carriage occupants are decidedly bad form and not to be tolerated in a pedestrian. Lace is the favorite material for trimmings on the early spring fancy toilets. As a foundation it is passe, and its place is usurped by figured nets, but as a matter of adornment it is to be used in abundance. Grenadines and China silks are to be very popular. And the designs for outing costumes are simply bewitching, so artistic and varied they are. Pretty little silk waists, reefer jackets and bias skirts in plain, striped, plaid and polka dotted material of all shades and colors constitute the outing costume department and suggest comfort, beauty, and style in a very desirable combination.

* * *

The Mission of a Valentine.

St. Valentine's Day passed without any pronounced observance in the city in the line of sentiment, though one little bit that came to my knowledge is certainly worthy of being chronicled, as it proves the neatness and dispatch with which a Pittsburg girl can handle any subject, even a persistent gentleman whose attentions are not desirable, but whose friendship is. The valentine was a hand-painted plaque. The order was filled by one of the School of Design girls, and the design was a real live-looking heart up in the left-hand corner pierced with an arrow and shedding blood in great drops at a truly alarming rate. About half way down on the right hand side was perched a tiny Cupid upon his favorite seat of clouds, one little foot tucked up under him as only a Cupid can tuck, and his dimpled hands grasping a bow, with which he was aiming a second arrow at the sadly mutilated heart.

A neat way of informing the gentleman in question that her heart was already arrowed, wasn't it? But it was a rather expensive way, the plaque alone costing $2 50 and the painting that much more.

* * *

Fads With the Photographs.

One of the fads agitating the feminine public just at present is rather a provoking one, as money will not make amends for past neglect, and only a limited number of the thoughtful ones can indulge in it. It is the framing together of annual pictures of little Margaret or Donald or Miss Agnes, or Master Arthur, taken through a succession of years on their birthday anniversaries, thus enabling the little ones to look upon themselves as they were, and also reviving memories in the hearts of fond parents.

Apropos of that it is nearly time for a boom in the photographers' business. Easter bonnets and becoming toilets, that make one feel so youthful, after throwing off the heavy clothing and wintry furs, generally result in an intense desire and firm conviction that leads to the photographer's gallery. Baby too, is made a subject of the picture conviction, for the dear little tot can be taken out with perfect impunity and perfect temper in the warm days of spring, to either of which the extreme hot or cold weather do not conduce. Pittsburg is to have some new galleries, too, making the temptation all the greater.

* * *

A Question of Grave Importance.

A letter received at this office and marked by the editor, "Too deep for me—respectfully referred to the society editor," reads: "What should a young man do, if when calling upon a lady without a previous appointment young-man-come-again puts in his appearance under the same circumstances? Should number one retire, or is number two the intruder?"

Never having been a young man, and consequently never having been making a call that was interrupted in that manner, I was at a loss how to make answer.

But, fortunately, during a visit at a suburban home, I met three young gentlemen, who, to my knowledge, were all actively engaged in courting the same girl—an heiress, by the way. To them I propounded the all-important question, and with great feeling was it discussed pro and con. Finally it was decided that the first one on the field was the legitimate holder of the young lady's attention during the evening. And it was wonderful how speedily each of the three donned their top coats and hats and excused themselves, after the decision was reached.

* * *

The Amateur Theatricals.

A great many Pittsburgers will go to Washington the lesser to-morrow evening for the theatrical performances to be given there Monday and Tuesday evenings in the Opera House. Young ladies from this city will assume the characters of the cast complemented by the handsome students of the Washington and Jefferson College. And on the first evening, when "Macbeth" is presented, Byron W. King, under whose management the plays are given, will assume the title role.

A great deal of interest is centered, too, upon the coming presentation of "Bad Advice," by the students of the Western University in the Pittsburg Club Theater next Thursday evening. An orchestra composed of University students will be a novel feature, and the University Glee Club will also appear in several selections. It is to be quite a University affair with the exception of the audience, which will embrace others besides the theological students.

KATHLEEN HUSSEY-WATSON.

THE FIRST WEEK OF LENT.

Social Gatherings Are Not Very Numerous but as Pleasant as Ever.

One of the brilliant and enjoyable events of the week was the birthday reception given by Mr. Christ S. Knaur at New Thrner Hall in honor of his sister and brother, Miss Lottie E. and Mr. Ben Knaur. There were 150 guests present. Mr. Knaur was assisted in receiving by his mother, Mrs. C. J. Knaur, and sister, Mrs. James T. Hopkins. Dancing and music was the programme of the evening. Mr. H. L. Devan and Miss Lottie Knaur led the grand march. Mr. Knaur is quiet and reserved and does not dance, but he likes to play tiddle dy winks, which game was enjoyed by those who did not dance. At midnight, while the Montooth Orchestra played low sweet strains, the guests were escorted to the dining room, where an elegant supper awaited them. The remainder of the evening or morning was spent in dancing. At 2:30 the guests took their departure with reluctance and many congratulations. Prominent among those present were: Mr. and Mrs. C. J. Knaur, Mr. and Mrs. J. T. Hopkins, Mr. and Mrs. W. V. Taylor, Mr. and Mrs. Archie Gibson, Mr. and Mrs. J. J. Bush, Mr. and Mrs. Willis Kearns, Miss Lottie E. and Miss May Knaur, the Misses Wormsley, Miss Ada Carey, Miss Clara Taylor, Miss Sadie and Ada Coovert, Miss Clark, the Misses Bintz, Miss Katie Hopkins, Miss Eva Monath, Miss Blanche Courtney, Miss Carrie and Katie Schlag, the Misses Leech, Miss Retta and Lillie Courtney, Miss Carrie and Rosie Mucker, Miss Hughey, Miss Amelie Fisher, the Misses Robertson, Miss Annie Roeder, Miss Hunter, Miss Miller, Miss Billings, Miss Rosie Lacher, Miss Mary Lynch, Miss Julia O'Connell, Miss Birdie Jacobs and Mr. Ben Knaur, C. S. Knaur, John H. Casker, H. L. Devan, R. C. Canning, F. Buchanan, O. C. Taylor, J. Sipe, W. Tanner, Frank and P. Hopkins, Joe and James Wormsley, John G. Heizer, James and Patterson Sweeney, S. Donaldson, Theo. Eckert, Mr. Steinhauser, Mr. Beaver, Frank Maloy, Charles Schlag, Mr. Dietz, Mr. Sauers, Mr. Kinchler, James Stewart, Mr. Paisley, T. H. Blemming, Harry Schreiber, E. Emmel, Charles and Frank Workmaster.

Master George A. Frazier distinguished himself on St. Valentine's Day as a thoroughly charming host. Little folks abounded in the pretty home of his parents, and all the games that childhood is fond of were indulged in, besides a delicious supper. The party was in honor of the 8th birthday of the lad, as the cunning invitations affirmed. They read as follows:

"The day named for the good old Saint
I also claim as mine,
For eight years ago, my papa got
A comic valentine.
In honor of that glad event
I'm going to give a party,
And, if you come, I'll promise you
A welcome, warm and hearty."

The hours were from 4:30 to 9:00 P. M., and the young folks present were: Ethel Ritchey, Stella Hegner, Myrtle Batman, Ida Sipe, Lizzie White, Emma Lake, Bessie McClelland, Pansy Day, May Day, Bessie Day, Pearl Goodwin, Sophie Merz, Nellie Louden, Bess Johnson, Mary Patterson, Ada Hurd, Roy Adams, Floyd White, Stewart Richardson, Ted Campbell, Fred McGinness, Courtney McKown, Milo Scott, Fletcher White, Edward Hurd, Dave Campbell, Chauncey Hurd, Rob Heber, Eugene McKelvy, Chauncey O'Neil, John Campbell and Frank Stewart.

The soiree musicale held at the residence of Mrs. C. L. Magee Friday evening, was both a financial and artistic success. Over $200 was obtained by the "Willing Hands" for the Southside Hospital. This society is a branch of the King's Daughters, and since its organization has done lasting good for various charitable enterprises. The successes of the evening were Mrs. Maurice Cosser's recitation of "Aux Italiens," and her artistic rendering of Rossini's "Una Voce Poco Fa;" and Mr. Russell's inimitable recitation of "Lady Geraldine's Courtship." Other parts of the programme were: A quartet, "Cornelius Rye," by Mr. Pitts, by the Misses Gillespie, McCallum, Faber and Griffin; a vocal solo, "Patria," from Tito Mattei, by Mr. W. B. Edwards; a piano solo, "Spinning Song," from Wagner, by Miss Sevilla Friend; a violin and piano selection, "Cavatina," from F. Raff, by the Misses Clara and Florence Aiken; a vocal solo, "La Musica Proibita," from Gasialdon, by Mrs. Maurice Coster, and a piano duo, by Mrs. C. L. Magee and Miss Gillespie.

Cards are out announcing the wedding of Cornelia Maude, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Hugh J. Hoyt, of this city, to Rev. James Henry Miller, of Evansville, Ind., on Tuesday evening, February 24, at 8 o'clock, at the Sixth Presbyterian Church, on Franklin street. Rev. J. F. Patterson, the pastor, will be assisted in performing the ceremony by Rev. McKay, of the E. E. C. P. Church. Martha Hoyt Morgan, a small cousin of the bride, will act as maid of honor and Misses Annie Young and Sara Chalmers, friends of the bride, will act as bridemaids. The groom will be as isted by his classmate, Rev. Garvin, of Concord, and Mr. Dewitt Nelson, of this city. The ushers are Messrs. Norman Nolen, George Barnes, Chestre Nelson, Guy Burford. After the ceremony there will be a reception at the bride's residence, 257 Webster avenue.

On Thursday evening, February 12, Mr. William Rattleman gave a reception at his residence, No. 1824 Carson street, in honor of his marriage anniversary one year. Mrs. Rattleman received quite a number of very hand some presents and an elegant supper was served at 8 o'clock. Mr. and Mrs. Rattleman received many congratulations and good wishes for their future. Among those present were: Mr. and Mrs. Henry Rattleman, Mr. and Mrs. Adam Weidman, Mr. and Mrs. Will Kemmler, Mr. and Mrs. Henry Conrad, Mr. and Mrs. Fred Klein, Mr. and Mrs. George Hoffman, Joseph Eng, A. P. Weidman, John Sommerlock, Miss Carrie Weidman, Miss Emma Kraft, Miss Birdie Rattleman, Miss Hilda Hoffman, Miss Ella Klein, Miss Tille Klein, Miss Dora Hoffman, Master Herbert Rattleman and George Hoffman, Jr.

Washington's Birthday was celebrated by St. James' Roman Catholic Church, of Wilkinsburg, last evening in good style. Father Lambing delivered an address on "George Washington" that was different from the average patriotic oration and a great deal more interesting. The Schmertz Orchestra rendered some excellent selections, and there were some vocal and instrumental solos that reflected great credit upon the performers. Among those who took part were Misses Agnes Lambing, Mame Knorr, Rosa Weber, Kate Brennan, Annie Lanigan, H. B. Baxter, Annie and Maggie McCabe, and Messrs. Hooper, C. C. Griffin, F. W. Rohrbaugh, E. A. Schmertz, J. C. Carothers, Fred Evart, Jno., McGill and others. The accompanists were Misses Holloban and Mash and Mr. Theo Hoffman.

Friday evening, February 20, Miss May and Master Tom McCoy, of No. 119 Sheffield street, Allegheny, entertained about 150 little friends. The occasion was the 15th birthday of Master Tom. The house looked like fairyland, the pure white covering of the floors beautifully accentuated the delicate tints of the lovely dresses worn by the little misses. Music, flowers and a supper served by Luther made the occasion one long to be remembered by all who joined in wishing their little friends many happy returns of the day.

The Young Ladies' Aid Society of the M. E. Church of Wilkinsburg realized a neat sum from the entertainment they gave in Academy Hall on Monday evening. There was a well-prepared programme. John G. Stevens, in recitations and impersonations created a decidedly pleasing impression, while the vocal and instrumental music by Miss Clara Chester, Mrs. Robert Russell, Miss Grace Highberger and Miss Mary Scott were very much enjoyed. There was a large audience and every member was loudly applauded.

The charming home of Mrs. C. S. Frisbie, 19 Marion avenue, Allegheny City, was the scene of a delightful afternoon tea on Wednesday last from 3 to 6. Among the guests were: Mrs. Edwin Lare and Miss Lare, Mrs. Walter Muzzy, Miss Eaton and Miss Sadie Eaton, Miss McNeil, Mrs. McCullough, Mrs. Aiken, Mrs. Lewis, Mrs. Locke, Mrs. Hax, Mrs. Laymen, Mrs. Thompson, Mrs. Bailey, Mrs. R. C. Porter, Mrs. William S. Casey, Mrs. Charles Jones and Miss Jones.

The home of Mr. and Mrs. Palmers, of Banksville, presented a brilliant appearance last Tuesday, the event being the marriage of Miss Lizzie Williams to Mr. Reed. Miss Mary Williams acted as bridemaid and Mr. Elliott as groomsman. After the ceremony was performed delicious refreshments were partaken of. The bride and groom departed for their future home in Banksville, followed by the happy congratulations and best wishes of a host of friends.

The Enon Club will give its first select reception Friday, March 6, at Moore's Hall, Hazelwood. A special car has been engaged to take the members to and from the reception. James Merring, Sidney Griffith and William J. McAdams will make their first appearance as floor managers that evening.

The last of the Y. M. C. A. course of lectures in Wilkinsburg was given in Academy Hall Friday eveping. Henry H. Ragan, a noted globe trotter, told an interesting story about his experiences in Northern America, illustrating his remarks with stereopticon dissolving views.

A birthday surprise party was given by Mrs. James G. Mechling, at her residence, Mignonette street, East End, on Tuesday evening, the 17th inst., in honor of Mr. Mechling. A joyous company was the one on hand to make merry the event, which will never be forgotten by those present.

The Martha Washington tea party to be given to-morrow evening at the Monongahela House by the Ladies' Aid Society No. 5, auxiliary to Major Samuel Harper Camp No. 162, Sons of Veterans, will be a splendid affair, judging from the arrangements that have been perfected for the event.

On last Wednesday evening the Misses Joe Venning and Anna Dalzell entertained the Columbia Orchestra at the residence of Miss Venning. The music was excellent. The members of the orchestra are Mr. Baker, Charles Dowdo, John Pinkerton, Jean Snyder and John Dowdo.

The marriage of Miss Ada Williams, daughter of W. D. Williams, of Smith's Ferry, to Andrew M. Maratta, of Sheridan avenue, East End, occurred on the 18th at the residence of the bride's parents. Rev. J. N. Swan being the officiating clergyman.

The Young People's Society of Christ M. E. Church invite all their friends to a sociable which they will give at the church to-morrow evening, February 23. Refreshments will be served and a general good time is anticipated.

A delightful party was given by Miss Laura Howell in honor of her 18th birthday last Monday evening. Miss Annie Palmer and Mr. John Jenkins rendered some very fine musical selections.

The Misses Mollie and Carrie Bingies will entertain the Monday Night Euchre Club tomorrow evening at their residence, No. 425 Carson street, at 8 P. M.

Misses Emma and Lizzie Reed, of Howe street, Shadyside, gave a delightful taffy pull Tuesday evening in honor of their cousin, Miss McDonald.

Miss Cora Gregg, of No. 119 Arch street, had a very pleasant progressive euchre Friday evening, after which lunch was served.

Personal Mention.

Miss Mary D. Watson is visiting in New York.

Mr. and Mrs. D. C. Kuhn, of Collins avenue, are in Jacksonville, Fla.

Mr. and Mrs. Charles Donnelly, of Fifth avenue, are in New York City.

Miss Mary Dobbs, of North Highland avenue, has returned from a visit to Sharon.

Charles Montooth and sister, Miss Mary, departed last evening for a New York visit.

Mr. and Mrs. Emanuel DeRoy and daughter, Bianca, have arrived home from the East.

Miss May Reed, the talented daughter of Colonel Reed, has gone to New York to pursue the study of music and voice culture.

Mrs. Robert P. Duff, of Hawkins' Station, who has been visiting friends in Washington, has returned home.

James Denniston has returned to Chicago after a pleasant visit with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. William H. Denniston, of the East End.

Major and Mrs. Howard Morton, of Marchand street, are spending a few days in Washington City. They are stopping at the Hotel Normandie.

Miss Loloa Lytton, daughter of Robert Lytton, Esq., of East Liverpool, O., has returned home after a pleasant two weeks' sojourn with Miss Case, of Grant avenue, Allegheny.

Miss Mamie E. Nease, of Negley avenue, East End, left last week for East Saginaw, Mich., to visit her sister, Mrs. Benjamin Moore. From there they go to Sault Ste. Marie, Mich.

Sewickley Society Notes.

Mr. F. E. Richardson is in New York.

Mr. and Mrs. Gilbert Hays are home from Cuba.

Miss Bessie Carpenter is visiting friends in Philadelphia.

Mr. and Mrs. James Chaplin, nee Miss Fanny Campbell, are home from their wedding trip.

Mr. Burrows gave an elegant and delicious "stag" dinner at his home yesterday evening.

Mr. and Mrs. Kerr, of Edgeworth, gave a very pleasant reception last Thursday evening, from 8 to 11.

Mrs. Coleman, who has been visiting her aunt, Mrs. A. B. Starr, left for her home in Williamsport last Tuesday.

Mrs. Charles Reisinger, of Laurel station, was the guest of honor at the dainty 4 o'clock tea given by Mrs. George H. Clapp on Friday afternoon.

Mrs. Henry M. Long gave a very pretty reception Thursday afternoon from 2 to 5. Mrs. Long's daughter, Miss Jessie, and Miss Young, of Painesville, received with her.

Mrs. Graff has resumed her Saturday evening church class, which was so much enjoyed by the members last season. The class meets every Saturday evening and calls itself the "Sentinel Club." The name was suggested from the custom of a fine of a sentime being made for tardiness, absence, failure to salute in French a d laughing at mistakes. Among the members of this class are: Mrs. Burrows, Mrs. Reed, the Misses Anderson, Miss Blair, Miss Whitney, Miss McCleery, Miss White; Dr. Collord White, Mr. Robinson, Mr. Porter, Mr. Whitmarsh and Mr. Whitesell.

GOSSIP OF THE GUARDS.

CAPTAIN A. E. HUNT, of Battery B, spent the past week in Boston on a brief pleasure trip.

SURGEON D. G. FOSTER, of the Fourteenth Regiment, arrived home from the South during the week very much improved in health.

THE members of the Washington Infantry are ordered to assemble at the armory at 12:30 o'clock to-morrow. The Veteran corps will assemble at the same place at the same hour.

CORPORAL FLORENCE E. LEE, of Company K, Fourteenth Regiment, has been appointed Sergeant Major by Colonel Perchment, to take the place of Mr. Gray, who was recently discharged at his own request.

THE new leggings for the companies of the Eighteenth Regiment have arrived in the city and will be issued by Quartermaster Davis this week. They were made by the same manufacturer who supplies the regular army, and will add considerably to the appearance and comfort of the men when on duty.

THE adoption of veteran badges to indicate five and ten years' service in the guard and to be worn by both officers and men is being discussed in some of the local companies. The idea is a good one as has been proven in all the prominent military organizations both in this and other States, and should not be allowed to drop. The badges should be regiment al affairs, however, and not confined to companies.

THE members of the Washington Infantry had an enthusiastic meeting last Thursday evening, a large number being present. Several very handsome marksmen's badges were presented to those who had earned them in rifle practice last year. The infantry will turn out to-morrow as escort to the American Mechanics, as will also the Infantry Veteran Corps, the organization of which was announced several weeks ago.

LIEUTENANTS DOAK and Lowrie, who have been acting as instructors at the Non-Commissioned Officers' School of the Eighteenth Regiment for the past two weeks, have been relieved from the work and Lieutenants Bush and Bigonet appointed to take their places. The school, while at times not attended as largely as the occasion warranted, has been productive of considerable good, as will be evidenced at the coming inspections.

THE appointment of a Quartermaster General is the only work Governor Pattison has yet to do in the way of filling up his staff. Major Greenland, the Second Brigade Quartermaster, is still named as the probable successful candidate for the place, and his selection would prove acceptable, at least in this end of the State. The naming of another member of the staff from this brigade, however, is scarcely probable, as Western Pennsylvania has already fared pretty well in that respect.

COLONEL ALEX HAWKINS, of the Tenth Regiment, proposes to celebrate the twelfth anniversary of his election to the Colonelcy of the regiment, and for that purpose has issued invitations to the officers of the Tenth and a number of his friends in the brigade to join him on the occasion. The affair will take place next Friday evening at the headquarters of the regiment in Washington, Pa., and a good time may be looked forward to by those who will be present, as the Colonel has a record in the way of hospitable treatment.

THE action of the Eighteenth Regiment and Battery B in turning out last Friday morning was a fitting tribute to the remains of the last of the great Generals of the late war. While no doubt it was considerable of an inconvenience to many of the militiamen to parade at that hour in the morning, yet both organizations while but doing a sad duty, elevated themselves considerably in the eyes of the world at large. If the National Guard in this vicinity was in the habit of showing itself a little more frequently on proper occasions it would certainly not do it any harm, and possibly the personel of the enlisted men and even the officers might be raised a trifle, something that would undoubtedly be acceptable in some instances.

THE preliminary inspections in the Eighteenth Regiment s art this week, and as a consequence the Diamond street armory will be the scene of considerable bustle and excitement for the next ten days. The companies will be rated on attendance, discipline, school of the soldier, school of the company, care and condition of clothing, and care and condition of books and papers, in fact the showings made will be a pretty good forecast of the standings of the companies at the regular inspection later on in the spring. The schedule of dates for the work is as followst Company C, Wednesday at 8 P. M.; Company F, Wednesday at 9 P. M.; Company D, Thursday at 8 P. M.; Company H, Thursday at 9 P. M.; Company G, Friday at 8 P. M.; Company E, Friday at 9 P. M.; Company I, McKeesport, Saturday at 8:30 P. M.; Company B, Monday, March 2, at 8 P. M., and Company A, the same evening, at 9 o'clock. The field, music and hospital corps will be inspected Saturday, March 7, at 8 P. M.

Most of the representatives to the Department Encampment will leave for Altoona at 4:30 o'clock to-morrow afternoon over the Pennsylvania Railroad. Department headquarters will be established at the Logan House to-morrow afternoon at 4 o'clock. Representatives and alternates have been ordered by Department Commander Denniston to report to the Assistant Adjutant General with their credentials immediately upon arrival.

The Department Encampment will convene in the Opera House Tuesday morning at 9 o'clock. The Council of Administration will meet at the Logan House to-morrow evening at 7 o'clock.

The interest of the Encampment centers on the fight for Department Commander. Comrade George G. Boyer, of Post 58, Harrisburg, who has been endorsed by the representatives from Allegheny county, is believed by the comrades here to be sure of success. The reports from different sections are quite favorable to Comrade Boyer. He is expected to win the contest with a nice majority.

The following sketch of Comrade Boyer was sent out by his post:

In presenting the name of George G. Boyer for the position of Department Commander we recognize both the needs of the department and the superior qualifications of our comrade for the high, important and honorable position. He is in the highest degree deserving. His record of unselfish devotion to the interests of our order is second to no comrade in our ranks. His membership has been continuous since 1868. Commanders in chief and department commanders have at times availed themselves of his counsel and co-operation by appointment as aides-de-camp.

In National and Department Encampments, for the last ten years, he has exhibited an interest and evidenced an earnestness in the welfare of our order that has reflected credit on the department and the organization at large. As a member of the commission in charge of the soldiers' orphans' schools, under the act of 1889, he has rendered valued services to the soldiers' orphans and the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, Giving freely of time and labor, though in private, never more than when the comfort and happiness of the wards of the State and the Grand Army.

Comrade Boyer entered the service of his country in April, 1861, as one of that body of soldiers known as the First Defenders (Pottsville Light Infantry), and re-enlisted as a private in the Ninety-sixth Regiment, Pennsylvania Volunteers, advanced through the various grades until commissioned first lieutenant and adjutant. His record as soldier, comrade and citizen is one of which he may well be proud. His experience as a business man, and his thorough knowledge of the needs and requirements of our order, together with his desire to advance the interests of the soldier and the Grand Army, fit him for the place for which he is named. His business qualifications rates the same state of efficiency and progress that has characterized all previous administrations.

We submit the name of Comrade Boyer for the position of Department Commander in the hope that his comrades may see fit to place not only honor a worthy comrade, but secure to the department a competent, experienced and energetic official.

The other comrades in the race are Captain William Staeffer, of Lancaster, General John P. Taylor of Mifflin county, and Dr. Samuel M. Trinkle of Philadelphia. Comrade Staeffer is indorsed by the seventeen posts of Lancaster county, and is a comrade of George H. Thomas Post, No. 84. His war record is thus briefly given: He was enrolled as a private in Company B, First Regiment Infantry, Pennsylvania Reserve Corps for three years, June 4, 1861. He re-enlisted and was mustered as First Lieutenant of Company G, One Hundred and Ninety-fifth Pennsylvania Volunteers, and served until January 31, 1866, when he was mustered out as Captain of Company C. He is a Past Commander of Post 84, and has received other honors in the Grand Army of the Republic. He was a charter member of his post.

General Taylor is indorsed by his comrades of posts in Mifflin and neighboring counties. He entered the service early in the war as a captain of the First Pennsylvania Cavalry, and was subsequently promoted from one position to another until he became colonel, and also afterward brevetted a brigadier general. He served actively during his term of three years, and received frequent complimentary mentions from his superior officers. He fought in more than 60 engagements. He is President of the Gettysburg Monument Commission, and has been an active Grand Army man.

Comrade Trinkle is a member of Post 8, Philadelphia. He has held many honorable positions in the departments. He twice enlisted during the war in emergency regiments, both times the Twentieth.

The representatives from Pittsburg and Allegheny are as follows: Post 3—John S. Lambie, Post Commander; Henry Schultz, Emil Poerstel, J. F. Schreiber, Jr.; T. J. Hamilton, W. H. Lambert, D. Ashworth and W. F. Speer.

Post 41—George Cassidy, Post Commander; Philip Stackhouse, D. St. Clair Wineland, Joseph Nieth and Ignatus Pflum.

Post 88—Samuel Scott, Post Commander; H. O. Ostmiler, Hugh Morrison, S. J. Brauff and Chas. Fitzgerald.

Post 117—Geo. McCutcheon, Post Commander; Fred Beckert and John Schusler.

Post 128—John Brown, Post Commander; Thomas J. Sample, Thomas D. Holmes, A. P. Dawson, Fred Buechler, Fred Lehman and W. H. Peiffer.

Post 151—A. C. Frank, Post Commander; John C. Sias, D. A. Jones, W. T. Powell, James Sheppard and John Dittis.

Post 155—James Lewis, Post Commander, and C. R. Shepler.

Post 157—H. L. Hoburg, Post Commander; W. J. Patterson, H. H. Bengough, O. S. McIlwaine, James L. Dawson and D. A. Haggerty.

Post 162—R. C. Miller, Post Commander; A. P. Burchfield, W. T. Bradberry, A. F. Scott, James F. Neeley and James Wilson.

Post 206—Charles Gantz, Post Commander; Islam Lafayette and Moses Ditcher.

Post 230—Post Commander Kennedy and I. N. Taylor.

Post 236—D. W. Smyth, Post Commander, and J. C. Thomas.

Sherman-Porter Memorial Service.

The posts of Allegheny county will hold memorial services in honor of General Sherman and Admiral Porter in the Grand Opera House this evening. The regular memorial service will be observed. Department Commander Joseph F. Denniston will preside, Comrade A. P. Burchfield will act as Senior Vice Commander, Comrade W. J. Patterson as Junior Vice Commander, Comrade James Stewart as Chaplain and Comrades H. H. Bengough and Daniel Ashworth as Adjutants.

The service will commence with the regular opening. Vocal music will be rendered by Misses Irene Sample and Carrie Terrant and the quartet of Post 157. Comrade Bengough will read a minute on the death of General Sherman, and Comrade Ashworth will read one on the death of Admiral Porter. Addresses will be delivered by Comrade Judges Slagle, Collier and Ober and Comrades W. D. Moore, Charles F. McKenna and E. A. Montooth. The placing of flowers will be by Comrades Thomas J. Sample, D. A. Jones and W. H. Lambert.

At Sherman's Funeral Train.

About 300 comrades gathered at the Union station on Friday morning to pay their last tribute to General Sherman. All the posts in the county were represented. The floral tribute of the comrades of Allegheny county was a beautiful affair. Comrades X. S. Rees, of Post 257, and Edward Abel, of Post 239, had the honor of depositing it at the head of the casket.

The tribute represented the corps badges of the Army of the Tennessee, which General Sherman commanded, and the Grand Army badge. The corps badges were those of the Fourth, Fourteenth, Fifteenth, Seventeenth, Twentieth and Twenty-third Army Corps, which composed the Army of the Tenne see. These and the Grand Army badge were worked in beautiful flowers. All was surmounted by an arch with the words Allegheny county, and at the foot were the letters G. A. R. The comrades of the county honored the illustrious commander well.

Ladies of the G. A. R.

Mrs. C. E. Hirst, of Louisville, Ky., National President of the Ladies of the G. A. R., with her husband, has arrived in this city. They will be the guests of Department President Mrs. Carrie V. Sherriff till their departure to the encampment at Altoona to-morrow.

A special car for the Ladies of the G. A. R. will be attached to the 8 A. M. train to-morrow for Altoona. Officers and members of Council will take this train, and all delegates or visitors who desire to can do the same.

The members of Post No. 117 will attend religious services at the Ladies of G. A. R. Home to-day at 3 P. M. Owing to a mistake in making out the list of annual visits, the name and number of a very valuable post was omitted. Post 128, therefore, will go out next Sunday, and other posts will be notified according to rank.

The inmates of the Home expressed themselves as very much pleased with the visit from the comrades of Post 88 and their ladies last Sunday.

The Martha Washington Reception.

All arrangements are completed for the grand Martha Washington reception to be given at the Monongahela House to-morrow night by Ladies Aid Society No. 5. The invitations were exhausted some time ago, so great was the demand. It will be one of the finest affairs of the season, and the lucky recipients of invitations are anticipating an evening of great pleasure. The supper will be one of the best. The dance music will be furnished by Guenther's Orchestra.

It has been announced that no tickets will be sold at the door. Tickets can be secured from Mrs. C. E. Stewart, at Hamilton's music store. The dancing programmes have been printed. The ladies will doubtless pronounce them "real sweet." No effort will be spared by the ladies of the society to make the evening a thoroughly enjoyable one to everyone who attends. The affair will doubtless be a perfect social success.

Grand Army Band Concert.

A pleasing programme has been arranged for the concert to be given by the Grand Army band in Carnegie Hall, Allegheny, next Thursday evening. The band will play a number of excellent selections.

The following talented ladies and gentlemen will assist: Mr. Leonard Wales, organist; Miss Irene Sample, Mr. John Greenawald and E. H. Dermitt, vocalists; Misses Bella Long and Jane Honess, pianists; Mrs. Lean Dickinson, whistling artist; Mr. Harry Hetzel, violinist, and Messrs. Griffiths, Yost, Gaston and Haeppel, the saxophone quartette. All the selections are very good. The hall will doubtless be crowded.

Postroom Gatherings.

THE Altoona headquarters of Post 8 will be at the Grant House.

ABOUT 80 comrades of Cadiz, O., with their families went to Cadiz Junction Friday to meet General Sherman's funeral train.

POST 157's firing squad will meet at Devore's undertaking rooms on Grant street at 6:30 o'clock this evening for duty at the Opera House.

COMRADE SAMUEL W. HILL, of Post 3, has been indorsed by his post as a candidate for representative to the National Encampment at Detroit.

BY order of Commander John S. Lambie, Post 3 will assemble at the postroom at 7 o'clock this evening to attend the memorial service in honor of General Sherman and Admiral Porter at the Grand Opera House.

A LARGE delegation of Encampment No. 8, U. V. L., Youngstown, O., will pay a fraternal visit to Encampment No. 1, of this city, tomorrow evening. A good time is expected.

POST 151 is ordered by Commander Frank to meet at the post rooms at 6 o'clock this evening to attend the memorial services in honor of General Sherman and Admiral Porter at the Opera House.

THE representatives and alternates of Post 3 to the Department Encampment are requested to meet in the office of Adjutant Lambert, room 307, Hamilton building, to-morrow morning at 9:30 o'clock.

THE McPherson Woman's Relief Corps auxiliary to Post 117, East End, has about completed arrangements with Prof. Byron W. King for an entertainment on the evening of March 19. A rare treat is in store for the East Enders.

The newly formed ladies' auxiliary to Encampment No. 1, U. V. L., will meet at U. V. L. Hall, Sixth avenue, on Thursday afternoon. Applicants for membership are requested to bring the discharge papers of the veteran upon whose term of service their claim for membership is based.

Two comrades of Post 157 have been buried within three days. Comrade John Goothard was laid to rest in the Homewood cemetery by his comrades last Sunday, and Comrade Thomas H. Lemon was followed to his last resting place in the Allegheny Cemetery on Tuesday. Comrade Lemon served in Company B, Twenty-eighth Pennsylvania Volunteers. He was a brother of Hon. M. B. Lemon, the member of the Legislature.

Sons of Veterans.

CAMP 33 received its usual applications for membership last Monday night.

THE Sons of Veterans of New York and St. Louis had a place in the line of General Sherman's funeral.

AT the last meeting of Camp 4 a committee was appointed to assist Post 151 in the production of a new play at the Bijou Theater in June.

THE brothers of Camp 33 will assist Post 88 in its presentation of the "Fall of Atlanta," at the Grand Opera House in March. They are now preparing.

CAMP 33's meeting to-morrow night will be an important one and all members are expected to be on hand. Among the important matters to be discussed is the new front piece for caps.

CAMP 4 had a large meeting last Thursday night. Brother John Bradley was elected to fill a vacancy caused by resignation. A large delegation of comrades from Post 151 was present and they made it interesting for the boys.

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Fine Flowers

And plant decorations. Novelties for luncheon, dinner and german favors. Loose bunches to carry and corsage bouquets a specialty. C. N. PATTERSON,
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Positively

The last opportunity to visit the National Capital at the very reduced rate of $9 00 for the round trip, the limit being 10 days with the privilege of stop off at Baltimore in either direction, is certainly inducement both to those who have visited the National Capital and those who have not done so it affords an opportunity to avail themselves of this the last chance, at this very reduced rate. A train of Pullman parlor cars and day coaches will leave Union station on March 5, at 8 o'clock A. M., running through to Washington, D. C. Tickets will also be accepted on trains leaving at 4:30 P. M., 7:15 P. M., and 8:10 P. M. on the above date. Seats in the parlor car on day trains and berths in sleeping cars on night trains can now be secured on application at the company's office, 110 Fifth avenue.

ONLY FIVE MORE WEEKS TO CLOSE OUT PRESENT STOCK OF PIANOS AND ORGANS.

Grand Removal Sale at Henricks Music Co., Limited.

In order to close out our immense stock of pianos and organs be ore removal to our to be remodeled warerooms, 101 and 103 Fifth avenue (next to the postoffice), prices will be reduced away down, and persons who have not availed themselves of the extraordinary bargains offered should do so at once. Stock embraces Chickering, Lindeman, Wheelock, Hallet & Davis, Stuyvesant, Hardman, Knabe, and Steinway pianos; Palace, Shoninger, Packard, and Bridgeport organs. Good second-hand pianos from $75 upward; organs, $45 and $60. Easy payments arranged if desired. Remember the place.

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LAWRENCEVILLE, Bloomfield, Millvale and Sharpsburg residents should read our special carpet and lace curtain sale "ad" in another column. Our branch stores are at 4038 and 4100 Butler street (near Arsenal). The same low prices will rule there this week. J. H. KUNKEL & BRO.

IRON CITY beer is uniformly excellent. None but the perfect article is allowed to leave that brewery. Ask for