—Who ever thought to see this Presbyterian town go mad over teas, functions, the "the dansant," etc., as it has been for the past week? The exclusive set opened the Pittsburg Club theater last Monday evening, and since social duties have crowded the society dame fast and faster. It is strange enough that Pittsburg always must have a reason for its social stir. In New York and London the people are perfectly satisfied to invite one another to one another's houses, to stare at one another's gowns, furniture, servants, or to tear one another's reputations in one-quarter-inch strips, but in Pittsburg there always needs to be a very good reason for a function.

The raison d'etre must be very plain, indeed. It may be a new house, a new wife, a new daughter-in-law, but some reason, like the caterer, must always be present. We seem particularly to have cultivated a taste for the pretty girls from other towns, as the careful reader of social events will notice. Excepting the debutantes—God bless them!—none other than the strangers within these gates have received so much attention.

### Christmas Advice for Bachelors.

I should advise a man to pause
Before he takes a wife;
In fact, I see no earthly cause
He should not pause for life.

Why should a bookseller take advantage of having the public confidence to permit such verses being disseminated as those already quoted. And in a holiday book of all books, and at Christmas of all times in the year! Yet this is being done by a Pittsburg merchant of the gentle book persuasion. He puts on his counter a book bearing on its cover all the glittering allurements of the illustrator, just as a cook sometimes tries to kill her bad cooking by drowning it in good sauce.

A man (we know his fatal love for color just as we know he has a nose for sauce) picks up this bomb loaded to blow up one of the most sacred institutions, that of matrimony, to which ever a woman has pinned her faith. He turns over the pages and his eye lights on the fatal stanza. Perhaps a moment before he had been making up his mind to ask some dear girl to give herself to him for a Xmas present. At once he is in doubt. He reads again. Then he dips further, and here's what he is told not to do if he should be unfortunate enough either to discard the advice in the stanza or not to be in a position to profit by it. The cloven-footed and horned author next says as advice for married men:

Don't give petit soupers.
Don't bet on horse racing.
Don't frequent stage doors.
Don't have a friend of the family.
Don't think your wife an angel because she looks like one.

Is it any wonder that girls are going about unmarried, when such literature is scattered broadcast! But what can one expect better of a bookseller who permits Ward McAllister's "Society as I Have Found It" to lie covered with dust in a neglected corner of his shop, this blessed Christmas of 1891?

### Some Sewickley Society Events.

—There will be no lack of social merry-making in Sewickley at this season, but a great many of the dances, receptions and card parties will be informal and more or less family affairs. The return of a good many of the younger and livelier set of men from college for the brief Xmas vacation is appreciated duly by their friends.

Invitations for a dancing and card party at the Park Place Hotel, Sewickley, have been sent out by Mrs D. Reynolds Kerr and Miss Pearson for December 29.

A leap year party will be given by Mrs. Fred S. Burroughs, at her pretty Sewickley house on New Year's Eve, and it is expected that the lucky gentlemen who have been invited to the number of a hundred or so will find it an auspicious introduction to 1892.

It is not exactly a society event, but the proposal to locate a Keeley institute in Sewickley is being talked about a good deal just now. It does not seem to be settled yet where the new institution is to be, but Mrs. Warden's residence on Beaver street is under consideration.

The rehearsals of "The Cricket on the Hearth" are proceeding, and those who have seen the company's work predict that the next entertainment of the Valley Club will be a very bright performance.

Since Miss Parloa visited the valley three years ago Sewickley's cooking has gone ahead without professional coaching, and dyspepsia has not increased to any extent. Now it is proposed to let loose some new ideas upon valley kitchens, and society is taking up Prof. H. I. Blits' lectures on scientific fruit canning and preserving. Mr. Blits is going to lecture and exhibit results of his system at Choral Hall on January 8 next, and a representative gathering of Sewickley housekeepers will be there to see him.

### Hide the Hand of Charity.

—I don't wish to appear as a croaker over the really good work that some people in town are doing for the cause of education, and particularly for that field of it represented by Vassar College. I don't even know that the Vassar Students' Aid Society in Pittsburg had the privilege of choosing its own name. It seems to me, though, that no woman of pride or of self-respect would care to accept a scholarship from an organization bearing such a title. Who ever heard of men being the beneficiaries of aid societies in connection with Harvard, Yale, Cornell, etc., and yet men are encouraged in the most practical manner is endeavoring to obtain a college education. And why can't women help their own sex in a gloriously, a generous manner, and sugar-coat for them the eleemosynary pill? A young girl declared last week "that I would go to my grave Greekless and Latinless rather than be pointed out as a poor student sent to Vassar by its Aid Society."

### In the City's Beau Monde.

It is said that Judge McKennan, of Washington, Pa., and his daughter, Miss Gertrude McKennan, will come to Pittsburg to live with the family of the widowed George M. Laughlin. The late Mrs Laughlin was a daughter of the Judge.

The coming-out ball of Miss Nina King, Dr. King's daughter, is set for Tuesday evening at the Duquesne Club.

The date of Mrs. C. L. Magee's ball is January 5, having been deferred from the holiday week, the time she at first intended.

The Yale Glee and Banjo Club, in its tour of the large cities, comes to Pittsburg to-morrow, when it will be welcomed by the Alumni Association, and be given the best that Pittsburg affords. The concert takes place in Carnegie Hall at 8 o'clock under the patronage of a number of society women, who, with their friends, will occupy seats in the audience. As these concerts are always society events it is needless to specifically state that Carnegie Hall will be a brilliant scene on this occasion.

MARION CRAWFORD GALLAHER.

## JUST BEFORE THE HOLIDAYS.

### How the Social Whirligig Went Around in the Two Cities Last Week.

A very enjoyable birthday surprise party was given Mr. John H. Weaver at his father's residence, No. 918 Wylie avenue, on Wednesday evening. Guests as well as host were surprised during the evening by the arrival of the Grand Army band of Post 157 G. A. R., of which Mr. Weaver is a member, which rendered several very fine selections. Music was furnished by the Utopian Orchestra. Among those present were Mr. and Mrs. J. F. Roser, Mr. and Mrs. J. Elwell, Mr. and Mrs. B. C. Taylor, Mrs. Frank Hutchinson, Mrs. M. Gibson, and the Misses B. Weaver, Cobb, H. Bruner, L. Bruner, A. Niles, E. Klein, S. Vernon, L. O'Brine, M. Rudolph, H. Johnson, H. Siemon, J. Donelly, M. Roser, B. Hawk, L. Hutchinson, M. Michaels, R. Wasserman, and Messrs. Ed. Hughes, W. F. G. Weaver, B. Cobb, J. Kennedy, C. Hutchinson, L. Klein, A. Klein, G. Davis, G. Rudolph, C. Fisher, G. Fisher, W. Vernon, P. O'Brien, A. Bream, E. Bream, G. Hutchinson.

The Independent Literary Society held its regular meeting on Thursday evening, December 17, at the residence of Miss Madie Swint, No. 27 Brighton Place. The programme was dispensed with on account of the election of officers for the ensuing quarter, which resulted as follows: President, J. Warren Shirley; Vice President, Miss Madie Swint; Secretary, Miss Stacia O'Loughlin; Assistant Secretary, Miss Grace Cunningham; Treasurer, Frank Connolly; Editor, William Merker. The next meeting will be held at the residence of Miss Grace Cunningham, No. 23 Kingston block, Charles street, on Thursday evening, January 7, at which time the officers-elect will be installed. Friends of the society are requested to be present.

Messrs. John and Reed Evans, of Wilkinsburg, were hosts at a pleasant party given to their friends at their handsome home last Monday evening. Several hours were whiled away in music, dancing and other social amusements, and when the young people left in the early morn, it was with the conviction their hosts were the best entertainers in the world. Among the guests were: The Misses Sadie Keller, Mamie Fiatkowski, Nellie Collins, Allie Howels, Mary, Bessie and Nellie McKelvey, Maggie Martin, of Allegheny, and Maud Adams, of Irwin; the Messrs. Guy F. Batchelor, Harry W. Keller, Edward Faitkowski, R. C. Ferguson, W. E. Alter, Harry Evans, Milton Hamilton, W. Clark, C. H. Silvey and Samuel Martin.

The twenty-fifth anniversary of their marriage was fittingly celebrated by Mr. and Mrs. Samuel I. Osmond at their home at No. 7 Pride street, on last Thursday afternoon and evening. A large number of friends and acquaintances graced the occasion with their presence Many handsome and appropriate tokens were received and numerous congratulations were sent from distant towns and cities of several States. Mr. Osmond's gift was a guard ring set with five fine diamonds. The Rev. G. A. Wenzel, of Washington, Pa., who was the officiating minister 25 years ago, was present.

A surprise party was held by Miss Annie Hasley in honor of Mr. Charles Haas at his home, on Murray avenue. A pleasant evening was spent by all, and an elegant lunch was served at 10 o'clock. Dancing and other amusements were indulged in until an early hour. Among those present were Misses Bessie Laon, Katie Laon, Susie Longeay, Miss Sadie Wrighter, Miss Nettie Pfarr, Ella Shaddrick, Annie Lanner, Ida Hasley, Bertha and Clara Haas, Mr. Harry Laon, Mr. Henry McKea, Will Bisel, Robert Bruce, Will Cable, Samuel and Fred Hasley, George Whitten and Mr. Samuel McKee.

One of the most delightful events of the past week in Wilkinsburg was the fancy work party given by Mrs. Charles D. Armstrong at her beautiful home on North street, Wednesday afternoon. About 70 ladies from the city and suburbs were present and entertained each other for three hours with new ideas in fancy stitches and artistic needle work generally. Mrs. Armstrong was assisted in receiving by her mother, Mrs. Levi Ludden. A delicious luncheon was served by a caterer, and altogether the ladies spent a very enjoyable afternoon.

An event of the past week was the meeting of the Sans Souci Progressive Euchre Club last Friday evening at the home of Miss Mary McKelvy. After a very exciting contest the chief prizes were drawn by Miss Gertrude Piaget and Mr J. C. Porter, and the boobies by Miss Anna Gardner and C. W. Bushfield. Refreshments were served and the rest of the evening spent in dancing. The next meeting of the club will be at the home of Miss Gussie Young, No. 193 Chartiers street, Friday evening, January 15, 1892.

Little Hazel Irene Cloud celebrated the fourth anniversary of her birth by a supper on December 13 to her friends. Those present were the Misses Carrie, Annie, Lydia and Mabel Prebe, Leah Cloud, Lillie Fludean, Bella Bush, Mollie Watkins, Maggie Thomas, Sue and Luella Roseman, Masters Raymond Smith, Willie Watkins and John Bush Mr. Evan Lloyd. Mr. and Mrs. Allen Smith. Mr. and Mrs. Watkins and Mr. and Mrs. H. Cloud. The little hostess was the recipient of many beautiful presents.

A musical and elocutionary entertainment was given Friday and last evenings in the Copeland United Brethren Church by the lady members of that congregation for the benefit of the church and Sunday school. The church was crowded both evenings, and the ladies realized handsomely from their first venture of this kind. Mrs. Charles Mills, Miss H. Etta Zuerner, Mrs. W. S. Cummings, Miss Ella Rankin, Mr. Fred W. Edwards and Mr. Floyd St. Clair were among those who took part.

The Belle Vale Social Club, of Allegheny, has completed arrangements for its second entertainment and at home on Wednesday, December 23, at Tower's Hall. To avoid overcrowding but 50 invitations have been sent out. Vocal and instrumental music, speeches and recitations will be the programme in the early part of the evening, after which dancing will be taken up. The concert will start at 7:30 P. M.

The Wilkinsburg Chautauqua Circle was entertained Monday evening at the residence of Rev John R. Burnett, on South street, that borough. A splendid programme was presented Mr. Burnett reviewed the "Leading Facts of American History." Mr. Harry Carmack spoke on "Social Institutions." Other papers were read on "Physical Life" and "The Social Life of the Early Colonists."

Slamaber Q. Berlin, of North Braddock, and Miss Annie E. Scott, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. George Wise, of Duquesne, were on Thursday morning, at 8:30 o'clock, joined in marriage at the residence of Rev. J. Welfley, on High avenue, North Braddock. The affair was a quiet one, and was a surprise to their many friends. A reception was held in the evening, and a wedding trip followed.

A happy union was that of Miss Annie M. Johnston and Mr. R. C. Harrison which took place last Wednesday at the home of the bride's mother, Mrs. Sarah Johnston, near Turtle Creek Rev. W. W. Ralston performed the ceremony in the presence of only a few near relatives and friends. The bride is a very pretty and popular young lady.

A pleasant affair will be the treat to the Sunday school scholars of Trinity Reformed Church, Wilkinsburg, next Thursday evening. In addition to a Christmas tree there will be songs and recitations and instrumental music by the church orchestra. An address by the pastor, Rev. Mr. Freeman, will add much to the enjoyment of the young folks.

Monongahela Council, Jr. O. U. A. M., No. 122, of Braddock, is making elaborate preparations for its annual entertainment to be given in Leighton's Hall, Braddock, New Year's night. A reception and supper will follow. Only 500 invitations will be sent out this year. Some of the best known vocalists and elocutionary artists in the vicinity have been engaged to take part.

One of the gayest evening receptions held in Sharpsburg for some time was that given by the members of the private dancing class on Tuesday evening last at Patterson Hall, Lawrenceville. This class is composed of 18 couples of young people representing the best families of town, and, as a social success, was a success.

The ladies of the congregation of the Second Presbyterian Church, Wilkinsburg, gave a well-served supper in Lohr's Hall, that borough, last Thursday evening. The attendance was very satisfactory and a large sum of money was gathered for the building fund of the new church that will be erected in the spring.

Mr. Henry Diston, son of Henry Diston, the celebrated cornet manufacturer of Williamsport, Pa., was in the city yesterday, the guest of Messrs. Dickson and Doan. In spite of the exigencies of business, Mr. Diston found time to enjoy the hospitality of the friends of his hosts by prolonging his stay a little.

Invitations are out for a cotillion to be given by the Paragon Club, of Allegheny, on Thursday, January 7, 1892. The patronesses are Mrs. M. Haslett, Mrs. D. C. Harrison, Mrs. John L. Brown, Mrs. John M. Reynolds, Mrs. C. F. Shoemaker and Mrs. William Craig.

The Social Club, of Coraopolis, gave the first of the series of receptions to be held at the homes of its members, on Friday evening, at the home of Alfred McCabe. The spacious parlors were beautifully crashed and prepared with flowers. The music was furnished by Gernert's Orchestra. A number of guests were present from Pittsburg, among them being: Dr. W. A. Kessler, J. B. Hill, Jr., Messrs. Saunders, Fulton, Matchet, Clefford, Ferree, Misses Mollie Scott, Helen Cooper, Jessie and Maggie Timms, Miss Sheridan, Ella Matchett, Nellie Seip and others. Among the members of the club present were Messrs. Sam Reiter, of Lehigh University; Ed Cornelius, H. W. Ferree, W. T. Tredway, Howard Burns, Charlie Watson, Misses Cora, Annie and Ollie Watson, Sadie and Lillie Ferree, Lyda Stoddard, Maggie McCallister, Mrs. Jewett, Mr. and Mrs. Gracey, Mr. and Mrs Will Ferree, Mr. and Mrs. W. F. Boss, Harry A Reed, Misses Ferguson, Eva Ferree and Lyons.

The wedding of Miss Margueretta B. Matthews and Edward O. Sawyer was celebrated Tuesday evening last, at the Buena Vista Street M. E. Church, which was prettily decorated with seasonable flowers. The bride wore an exquisite costume of cream white silk en train, cut square, and trimmed with chiffon and white ostrich tips. A beautiful bridal veil hid the face, and she carried a magnificent bouquet of white roses, tied with ribbon, to match her costume. The attendants were: Mr. Will B. Sawyer, groomsman, and ushers, Messrs. Eugene Stewart, Albert Raeder and Edward Smith.

A reception followed at the residence of the bride's parents. The happy pair will shortly begin housekeeping.

The following programme has been arranged for the reunion and banquet of the Alumni Association, to be held at the Monongahela House Tuesday evening, December 29:

Toastmaster.................Dr. W. T. Burleigh, '81
"Where McGregor sits, there is the head of the table."
Our First and Last.
"Preceptor, Father Time"....George Davison, '74
"For Time will teach thee soon the truth."
"Consanguinity and Affinity"..........John S. Lambie, '82
"Our Daily Avocations"....William L. Mourt, '85
"Hear ye not the hum of mighty workings?"
"The Tree Is Known by His Fruit"..E. F. Hays, '77
"Age cannot wither nor custom stale her infinite variety."
"Alma Mater"......................W. D. Evans, '80
"Thou wast my guide, philosopher and friend."
"Farewell! a word that must be and hath been, a sound which makes us linger; yet—farewell."

Monday evening last the annual meeting of the Oakland Square Club was held at the home of Mr. W. T. Todd, North Oakland square, when these officers were elected for a term of one year: President, John H. Robertson; Vice President, E. C. Godfrey; Treasurer, Charles L. Schaum; Secretary, W. H. Smith. Mrs. Todd entertained the club with dinner after business was over. There was an adjournment until the second Monday in January.

The many friends of Dr. and Mrs. L. DePuy enjoyed the hospitality of their home, 399 Wylie avenue, Friday evening. Euchre and music were the features of the evening, and handsome prizes were awarded to the most successful players, and the less fortunate were not forgotten. A dainty repast was served at 12 o'clock and partaken of by an appreciative party.

The Crescent Club, of Ingram, Pa., and its friends, were entertained by Mr. and Mrs. Walter Morris, at their residence, Thursday evening last. A most enjoyable evening was spent, dancing and euchre being the prominent features.

The Epworth League, of the Wilkinsburg Methodist Church, held an interesting meeting in Ralston's Hall last Tuesday evening. An excellent programme of musical and literary selections were rendered by the members.

Mr. Charles Donnelly, treasurer of the Rosella Foundling Asylum and Maternity Hospital, acknowledges generous contributions from Frank J. Totten, J. W. Arrott, Mrs. Fownes, Jas. Smith and Emma C. Cain.

Friday last Miss Bianca DeRoy, of Sheffield street, was hostess at a 5 o'clock pink tea, in honor of Miss Bertha Cohen of Columbus. The table was most artistically decorated with pink satin and pink flowers.

A select reception will be given at Mrs. Barto's Private and Kindergarten School at the Bible House, No. 60 Arch street, second floor, Allegheny, on Wednesday, December 23, at 1:30 P. M.

Braddock Lodge, Independent Order of Good Templars, gave a very successful "cap box social" and entertainment in G. A. R. Hall, Braddock, Thursday evening.

The Odd Fellows' Hall Association, of Wilkinsburg, gave a reception and ball in Borough Opera House Friday evening. It was a well-managed and enjoyable affair.

The Ideal Euchre Club, of the East End, was very pleasantly entertained by Miss Stella Kevan, of Negley avenue, on last Thursday evening.

On December 13 Charles L. Eberhart, of Pittsburg, and Miss Mary Baker, of Marion, Ind., were united in marriage.

The engagement of Hannah L. Gelder to A. L. DeRoy is announced.

### December Guests and Hosts.

Mr. Will Becker, of Edgewoodville, is home after a tour of four months through the West.

Miss Nellie Black, of Edgewoodville, has returned home after a pleasant visit of several weeks to friends in Chicago.

D. H. Robertson, of Minnesota, was a guest Saturday of Ed J. Small, of West Braddock, a one time college chum.

Harry Stewart, a son of Colonel Robert E. Stewart, of North Braddock, returned home Friday from Center county for the holidays.

Miss Searles, of Homedale, Pa., has accepted a position as oral teacher at the Institute for the Deaf and Dumb, at Edgewoodville.

Mr. Frank Saupp, a young draughtsman at the Edgar Thomson Steel Works, left yesterday to spend the holiday season at home in Altoona.

Mr. and Mrs. James Christman and son, of St. Louis, were visitors at the home of Mr. V. B. McCarthy, Penn avenue, Wilkinsburg, the past week.

Mrs. Horace Lowry, of Indiana, sister of Mr. John W. Beatty, the artist, is at Wilkinsburg, her former home, where she will spend the holidays.

Mr. Edward Nugent, of Braddock, celebrated his 22d birthday Monday evening at his home, with about a dozen couples of his most intimate friends.

Mr. and Mrs. J. R. Pearson have returned from an extensive and highly enjoyable European tour. Mr. Pearson's health is greatly benefited by the trip.

Miss Annie S. Hunter, of 4105 Penn avenue, is expected home from college on Saturday to spend the holidays, and will be at home to her friends till New Years.

Will A. Clementson, son of Justice George H. Clementson, of Braddock, arrived home Friday from Philadelphia. He is a student at the Jefferson Medical College.

Mrs. William L. Lapsley, of West Braddock, last week received her commission as a member of the Pennsylvania Ladies' Committee of the Columbian Exposition.

Miss Mollie C. Wilson, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. John Wilson, of this city, is home from St. Joseph's Academy, Seton Hill, Greensburg, Pa., for a two weeks' vacation.

Rev. John Hickey, rector of St. Thomas' P. C. Church, at Braddock and the best known priest in the Pittsburg diocese, is critically ill of consumption at his parochial residence.

Mrs. Wilson, of the East End, will give a theater box party at the Alvin next week in honor of Miss May Anderson, of Highland avenue, on the return of the latter from Steubenville, O.


### A Solid Present.

Anything you buy in the way of clothing is a solid and substantial gift. There is nothing you can give a friend that will be as satisfactory or as eagerly received as clothing. Those elegant men's overcoats we sell now at $10, $12 and $15, would be just the nicest present for father or brother. Silk lined ones at $18 and $20 just as good as tailors charge $35 and $40 for. Elegant smoking jackets at $5 and $7 50, reduced in price for our special Christmas sale. Men's business suits $10 and $12. Men's dress suits and cutaway cuits only $12, $15 and $18. Nice suits and cape overcoats for the boys at $2 50, $3 50 and $4. Elegant presents for the boys with each sale free. A splendid line of Christmas novelties in our men's furnishing goods department.

P. C. C. C., Pittsburg Combination Clothing Company, corner Grant and Diamond streets, opposite the Court House.

There is no doubt whatever that the Pension Office will be removed to the new Government building before January 1 notwithstanding statements to the contrary. Pension Agent Bengough expects to commence work in the new location next Saturday. None of the special furniture, such as casing, counters, etc., can be placed in the offices till February, but temporary arrangements will be made to conduct the business.

At the January pay a new feature will be introduced that will afford great satisfaction to all concerned. Agent Bengough has arranged with the Tradesmen's National Bank to have all pensioners' checks paid at the Pension Office instead of as heretofore at the bank. On the first and second days a paying teller from the bank will be stationed in one of the rooms of the Pension Department with funds sufficient to pay all checks that may be presented. This will be as great a benefit to the bank as to the pensioners, as the large increase in the number of pensioners receiving their money from the Pittsburg agency has caused much annoyance to the bank officials. On the first day of the pay the bank's customers were nearly barred out by the host of pensioners.

The new offices are located on the Cherry alley side of the building. The elevator will not be in running order by January 4 but the stairs are easy of ascent. A watchman will be stationed on the first floor to direct pensioners to the Pension Office. If there be any pensioners so maimed that they are unable to walk upstairs, Agent Bengough will send a clerk downstairs to pay them upon receiving notification through the watchman. Agent Bengough is not at all satisfied with the assignment of rooms for the pension business. There is neither sufficient floor room nor wall space for the casing, safes, etc. He has, however, been assured by the custodian of the building, Postmaster McKean, that more room will be assigned to the Pension Department as soon as the official in charge of the matter can make a visit from Washington.

Comrade Bengough has many kind words for Mr. McKean for his courtesy and energy in doing all he can to get the pension rooms ready for occupancy at the time stated. The Postmaster has cheerfully put himself out very much to do this.

### For the McKeesport Monument.

The benevolent ladies of McKeesport, being desirous of assisting in every way the boys who wore the blue, have decided to materially increase the fund now being subscribed for the erection of a monument in memory of the soldiers and sailors of the Rebellion which is to be placed in the center of a plot dedicated by the Versailles Cemetery of that city. These loyal women will have a bazaar and festival in Blue Ribbon Hall on Thursday, Friday and Saturday of this week. They will have on display and for sale innumerable articles for sale suitable for holiday presents. It is hoped that all who are inclined to assist in this laudable object will not only contribute articles or cash, but will attend this bazaar and purchase such gifts as they may want for presents. A number of Pittsburg firms, including Gusky's, Kaufmanns', Horne & Co., and James W. Grove, have contributed articles. Bedicheimer, the Philadelphia jeweler, will have a large display of valuable jewelry which will be disposed of in the interests of the old soldiers. Refreshments will be a special feature and inviting tables will be supplied with delicacies to tempt patrons

To date, over $1,700 of the $3,500 required, has been subscribed, and it is expected that the proceeds of this effort will materially increase the amount on hand.

### Post 151's Annual Christmas Treat.

It has been the custom of Post 151 for several years to give to the soldiers' orphans in their immediate vicinity a treat on Christmas day. This year will be no exception. The treat will take place in the hall, 1923 Carson street, at 2 o'clock Christmas day.

The orphans this year number about 75 boys and girls. To the boys will be given a cap, coat, pants and shoes and stockings; to the girls a dress pattern, shoes and stockings, and in addition each one will receive a box of candy, an orange and banana. The post is very ably assisted in this worthy undertaking by the ladies of Colonel J. W. Patterson Women's Relief Corps No. 1. A short entertainment will be given at the above time, to which the friends of the post and corps are cordially invited.

### Along the Line.

INSTALLING officers will soon be announced.

POST 3 will have an open installation on the first meeting night in January.

A MUSTER is on the programme of Post 151's meeting next Tuesday evening.

COMRADE CHRIS WILBERT, of Post 155, has been very ill but is now improving slowly.

Two more propositions for membership were read at Post 88's meeting last Tuesday evening.

THE banquet to Department Commander Boyer at the Seventh Avenue Hotel was a most enjoyable affair.

POST 88 and the ladies' auxiliary will as usual make happy the widows, orphans and others in its province on Christmas.

A LARGE delegation from Post 157 after the meeting attended the concert given under the auspices of the band at the Soho school house on Thursday evening.

COMRADE HENRY STAUDE, Chairman of the Widows and Orphans' Committee of Post 151, is happy, now that he has everything in readiness for the Christmas treat.

ALL the circles of the Ladies of the G. A. R. in Pittsburg and vicinity are busy making preparations for the coming convention to be held at Union Veteran Legion Hall, Sixth avenue, in February next.

To secure something with which to make glad the hearts of the old ladies on Christmas the managers of the Ladies of the G. A. R. Home has requested penny collections from all the circles, posts and camps.

POST 3's meeting last Monday evening was a large and interesting one. Two applicants, Messrs. Holman and Daly, were elected to membership. The post voted a handsome sum toward the colored soldiers' monument.

THE circular announcing the candidacy of Comrade W. O. Russell for Senior Vice Department Commander was sent out to all posts in the Department by Post 151 last week. Comrade Russell is the man for the position and he will get it.

DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT of the Ladies of the G. A. R., Mrs. Rachel Doran, desires all department officers, circle presidents and ladies of the G. A. R. to meet at the hall, 81 Fourth avenue, Tuesday at 2 P. M. sharp. Business of importance is to be disposed of.

THE Department Encampment is now the chief event before us in the near future. From now on the Executive Committee will lend all its energies to make the February meeting the greatest in the history of the Pennsylvania Department. A meeting of the committee will soon be called.

POST 236 lost a comrade by death last week. Comrade John Metz, who has been a member almost since the post's organization, died on Wednesday. He was a glassblower and well known throughout the city. The post attended in uniform the funeral on Friday at St. George's Catholic Church.

COMRADE DR. BRYANT, the colored orator and ex-slave, has been in the city for some time soliciting subscriptions toward the monument to the colored soldiers and commemorating the emancipation of the colored race, to be erected on the World's Fair grounds at Chicago. A number of posts have assisted in the matter. About $60,000 has already been raised.

POST 41 is making a great success of its fair. The booths present a nice display. There is dancing every night but Saturday, when a grand stage performance is given. The official programme is issued every Monday. It is quiet a feature. A penny collection box for the benefit of the Ladies of the G. A. R. Home at Hawkins station is prominently displayed. Great credit is due the General Committee for its faithful attendance and good management.

POST 155 reveled in theatricals Friday evening. The post met early, rushed through the business, adjourned and in a body attended the presentation of "Ingomar," given in the Library Hall auditorium on Mt. Washington, now managed by the post. The house was packed, and fully half the audience was from this side of the river. Miss Edith Smithson, who is a tried and true friend of the Grand Army, appeared as *Parthenia*, and Mr. J. C. Kober as *Ingomar*. Comrade C. R. Shepler, of Post 155, appeared as *Myron*. All in the cast did very well, and the production was a success in every way. The lease of the hall will prove very profitable to Post 155.

THE Board of Managers, of the Ladies of the G. A. R. Home, Hawkins Station, desire to acknowledge donations by Edmundson & Perrine, Meyers, Arnold & Co., Demmler & Schenck, A. Bradley, Joseph Horne, Mr. Craighead, James Greer, Charles Lockhart, C. F. Holdship, Mr. Horrock, F. R. Smith, Mrs. Fred Beckert, Mrs. Fred Beckert, Sr., Mrs. Friz, Mrs. A. Kennedy, Dr. Easton, Mrs. Samuel Crow and Mrs. Christ. Beckert. Five thousand dollars has been paid on the Home, besides paying the interest and keeping up the general running expenses.

### Union Veteran Legion.

No. 6 will not meet on its next regular night, as that will be New Year's. The new officers will be installed on the third Friday night in January.

COMRADE HUGH MORRISON, of No. 6, makes a No. 1 Adjutant. In the absence of Comrade Fulmer Comrade M. handled the pen and minutes at the last meeting.

COMRADE WILLIAM H. GRAHAM, of No. 6, got a boost from his old comrades at their last meeting in the form of a resolution indorsing him for internal revenue collector.

THREE men tried to rob the grocery store of Comrade Francis Gemmil last Monday morning. Two got away, but Francis "snailed" one of them as a relic of the fight.

COMRADE C. W. GREEN, surgeon of No. 6, was on hand at the last meeting with his quinine and pills. He advises the boys not to take the grip, for he is not familiar with the correct remedies for the disease yet, but he can knock the spring fever every time.

GEORGE N. WILSON, an old member of Company K, One Hundredth Pennsylvania Volunteers, died at New Castle last Friday, and will be buried in that city to-day. Word of his death was received in this city by J. H. Stevenson, also a member of the same company.

GENERAL order No. 2 from National Commander Palmer was read in No. 6 at their last meeting, and it contained some unlooked for information relating to per capita tax. It had been reported by Delegates Wheeler, Fulmer and Stevenson that this tax was reduced to 5 cents per quarter, but it seems this failed in some way.

## GOSSIP OF THE GUARD.

MAJOR J. C. KAY, of the Eighteenth Regiment, spent a portion of the past week in Washington, D. C.

MR. E. J. POCOCK, of Columbus, will be Ohio's Adjutant General under the McKinley administration. He was appointed by the new Governor to the position last Friday, the selection being made from a host of applicants.

QUARTERMASTER GENERAL WALTER W. GREENLAND, of the Governor's staff, dropped in on his Pittsburg friends last week to spend a few days. The Colonel is always a welcome guest, as his good-fellowship is known throughout the guard.

AMONG the first bills introduced in Congress this season, was one providing for the three battalion formation in the United States Infantry, and increasing the number of enlisted men in the regular service to 30,000. The present number is about 25,000.

CAPTAIN A. J. LOAR, of the Tenth Regiment, spent a few days in the city last week. Captain Loar is the gentleman who won so much notoriety in connection with the recent coke troubles at Mt. Pleasant, by reason of having shot a half-dozen or so Hungarians. At the time of the shooting it was asserted that the Captain would be compelled to leave the town in order to save his life, but like many other cases of similar character, he still lives in Mt. Pleasant, and is more popular with his fellow townsmen than ever.

THE court of inquiry appointed by General Snowden to inquire into the conduct of Lieutenant Charles Reese, of the Eighteenth Regiment, which was to have convened last Friday afternoon, was postponed to January 4. Colonel Case, of the Fourth Regiment, at Allentown, who is to constitute the court, found it impossible to be present at the time originally appointed, and a postponement was made until after the holidays. The meeting and findings of the court are looked forward to with interest, inasmuch as lively developments may follow.

THE headquarters of the Fourteenth Regiment in the Central Armory are rapidly being furnished anew, and the officers will soon have a meeting place equal to any regiment in this end of the State. Considerable more activity is shown at the weekly drill meetings of the companies than has been experienced for several months, and Colonel Perchment has decided to make the company commandants get a decidedly lively "move on." There is some discussion in the regiment relative to a parade on Washington's Birthday, but no decisive action has yet been taken.

COLONEL WILLIAM B. SMITH, of the Third Regiment, has appealed from the finding of the court recently held in Philadelphia, which sentenced him to be dishonorably discharged from the service. His appeal is now in the hands of Governor Pattison, and the statement is made that should the Governor refuse to recognize the appeal the case will be taken into the civil courts and fought out there. Should such a result follow, the chances are strong that the military code, that wonderful piece of judicial mechanism, might come out of the scrimmage considerably the worse for wear.

THE lease of the Fifth Avenue Market House, now occupied by Battery B, for a period of 50 years to the Eighteenth Regiment and the Battery, was brought up in Council last week by Mr. Keating. There is no doubt that the lease will be ratified, and it is proposed that the Eighteenth Regiment follow the example of the battery and take permanent occupancy in the building next spring, as the building now occupied by the regiment on Diamond street is needed by the city for other purposes. No attempt will be made to make any changes in the market building for the present, as no funds worth speaking of are available for the purpose.

AN important meeting of the officers of the Eighteenth Regiment was held Saturday night, December 12, at the Diamond street armory. Almost all the officers of the regiment were present, and a large number of reforms and changes were outlined for the coming year. A certain amount of spirit and enterprise has been lacking in the regiment for some time past, the result being that in several of the companies the affairs have gotten in remarkably poor shape. Colonel Smith has decided to institute a series of inspections and reports and a general division of the labor of the organization, which will compel strict attention to duty and a corresponding increase in interest. An order will be issued shortly outlining the policy in detail, and it is to be hoped that it will be carried out to the letter.


### CHRISTMAS MUSIC BOXES

**At H. Kleber & Bro.'s.**

Cheer up your home by buying one of Kleber Bros.' beautiful music boxes. You cannot find a present which will produce half the delight and pleasure for both old and young as will the charming music of these boxes. Kleber Bros. are the exclusive agents for the old and well-known Mermod Freres make, and they are selling them at lower prices than such fine goods can usually be bought for. Prices range from $3 50 to $175. Store, No. 506 Wood street, now open every evening.

**Our Holiday Offering.**

"The Home Guard" at all the stores of the A. & P. Tea Co.; don't fail to get one. Given out from now until Christmas with one pound of tea, one pound of baking powder, or two pounds of coffee. See list of stores in another column.

**Kennedy's Ladies' Lunch Room**

Is the popular place among the ladies. Prompt service and reasonable prices.
SIXTH STREET AND DUQUESNE WAY.

**Are You in Search**

Of a piano or organ? Come and see us. We have elegant new pianos, fully warranted, for $250. Beautiful new organs at $65. Easy payments. Store open till 9 o'clock.
LECHNER & SCHOENBERGER,
69 Fifth avenue.

A TEA set is a nice present to make on Christmas. Have you bought yours yet? We have them. K. SMIT,
Smithfield and Liberty and 311 Smithfield street.


## CHRISTMAS IN THE SCHOOLS.

### Pleasant Closing Exercises, in Which the Poor Are Not Forgotten.

—From now till Thursday, the closing day, the prospective cheer of Christmas will pervade the atmosphere of the school room, and the tasks of the school will be much slighted. The principals yesterday were all interested in the preliminary examination for admission to the High School, which begins to-morrow with the studies writing and drawing, and which closes Tuesday with geography and reading. Over 600 will enter on the list from the ward schools. This number will be supplemented by several candidates from a private school.

A great number of the schools will close quietly for the holidays, while others will have special exercises. At the Bedford school Thursday, from 1 to 3, will be reception day, when an exhibition of the school work will be presented. Later Santa Claus will personally visit all the rooms with a treat, and has organges, candy, popcorn and nuts laid in for this date. At the Grant school, the pupils Wednesday afternoon will give one of their old-fashioned, but very popular entertainments. In the general rejoicing sweet charity is not forgotten. Tuesday the Forbes School will take up donations for the Improvement of the Poor Society. Last Thursday the St. Clair and Mt. Washington schools contributed a large supply for the benefit of the poor.

### The Teachers of Braddock Talk.

—Almost 100 teachers of Braddock and Braddock township held a local institute Friday evening in the First M. E. Church at Braddock. Papers were read by Miss Jennie Bennett on "How to Make a Schoolroom Pleasant;" Miss Canan, on "The Power of Observation;" Miss Jessie Fredericks, on "Teachers' Other Work,—Making Character;" Miss Annie Thomas, on "Benefits of Form Study," and Prof. J. S. Keefer, Principal Braddock High School, on "Repetition in School—Change Needed in Yearly Courses." A discussion on "Is Compulsory Education Necessary, Practicable and Feasible?" was the leading feature of the evening. Prof. J. M. Eaken, Principal of the First ward, Braddock, school, and Miss Edna Chester were in the affirmative, and Prof. Seward Haymaker, Principal of the Third ward school, and Miss Emily Munson were in the negative. The judges awarded honors to the negative.

### Gossip of the Schoolroom.

MR. MARK LEWIS, of the Central Board rooms, and wife will take a trip to Washington during the holidays.

MRS. VAN WAGGONER, supervisor of drawing, and her little neice Jessica will depart Wednesday for New York, and afterward visit her home in Kingston.

THURSDAY Miss Anna Bamford severs her connection with the Park School. Miss Beck succeeds Miss Bamford. Miss Julia D. Armit was elected to Miss Beck's position, but will not accept it, so Miss H. Johnston was elected.

AT the Teachers' Institute, at Knoxville, yesterday Dr. T. B. Noss, of the California Normal School, made an address. Principals J. D. Henderson, T. T. Taylor, C. J. Fisher, J. C. Kendall, C. B. Cook, Rev. N. M. Crowe, Mark Andrews and J. H. Eisenrath each treated a live topic on the school questions of the day.

AN entertainment consisting of music and recitations marked the closing of the Soho night school last Wednesday evening. As in the past, the night school was noted for the good work done. It was in charge of Miss M. J. Louden, assisted by Miss C. A. McClaren, Alice Kelly, Annie Dickson and Maggie Small.

PROF. W. A. JOHNSTON, an alumnus of the Western University, has been added to the faculty of East Liberty Academy and will begin his work with the opening of the next term, January 5. Prof. Daniel has been compelled to retire on account of ill health. Prof. Mitchell will pass the holiday vacation in Washington.

PROF. M. H. ROWE, President of Curry University, has accepted the challenge of Prof. Edwin W. Moore, Superintendent of the Braddock schools, to make the attempt to teach a class of 6-year-old pupils in the Braddock schools the "muscular" movement in writing. Prof. Rowe will get $5 per lesson for five lessons of one hour each, and the contest will begin the first Monday in January.

MISS BALLOU, head of the Public Cooking School, left yesterday morning for Philadelphia, on a tour of inspection of the cooking schools of the Quaker City, and she may possibly visit her home in Boston. The Public Cooking School has taken such a popular hold on the people, and has been so well attended, that it is only a question of time before another cooking school is established for the city.

## A FIRE ON THE MONONGAHELA.

### Two Towboats Burned in the Early Hours of the Morning.

Early yesterday morning fire was discovered on the towboat Coal Valley, lying at the Monongahela wharf. An alarm was sounded, but before the engines reached the river bank the boat was a mass of flames. The Coal Valley lay just below the Annie Roberts, and the flames soon communicated with this boat. The Coal Valley was cut loose and drifted out into the middle of the river, when it burned to the water's edge and sunk.

The Coal Valley is a complete loss. The wreck of it is lying crosswise about the middle of the river and will interfere somewhat with navigation until the remains are cleared away. The boat was owned by Captain Holmes Horker and J. H. Musgroye. It was one of the best on the river. It was valued at $15,000, although Mr. Musgrave says it could not be rebuilt for less than $20,000. It had double 20-inch cylinders with 7-foot stroke, and was a very strong boat. On its last trip it took out eight coal boats and ten barges, with a total of 24,000 bushels of coal. It only got back last week. It was insured for $1,500. The Annie Roberts was owned by the Horner & Roberts Coal Company. Captain Barrows said yesterday morning that they could not tell what their loss would be, but it will probably reach $5,000. The boat was valued at $15,000, with no insurance, as the company carry no insurance on any of their property.


**Christmas Cards Given Away.**

A very handsome Christmas panel, entitled "Listening," will be given away to all purchasers of 50c worth of tea, coffee, spice or baking powder, at the store of the Grand Union Tea Company, 307 Market street, during Christmas week. Our tea, coffee, spice and baking powder will please you. Handsome presents given to those holding our tea tickets.
GRAND UNION TEA COMPANY,
Opposite Gusky's. 307 Market street.

**Schenley Spoons**

Can be found only at
GRAF & NIEMANN'S,
6011 Penn ave., East End, Pittsburg.

**Everybody**

Is looking for something nice to purchase for a friend, and the place to find it is at the jewelry house of Henry Terheyden, 530 Smithfield street.

Look at this partial list:

Watches— Gents' gold, $35 to $250. Ladies' gold, $20 to $100. Silver, $4 to $25.
Diamonds— In rings, $5 to $250. Stickpins, $5 to $50. Studs, $15 to $200. Earrings, $25 to $600. Lockets, $10 to $50.
Onyx Clocks—$16 to $100.
Fine Jewelry— Chain bracelets, Hairpins, Lockets, lace pins, Stickpins, bib pins, Children's buttons.

Open every night.

**CHRISTMAS COMING!**

Refer to the Following for Assortment of Gifts:

| | |
|---|---|
| Book cases, | Easels, |
| Blacking cases, | Euchre tables, |
| Butler's trays, | Easy chairs, |
| China closets, | Fancy chairs, |
| Curtain cases, | Gold divans, |
| Card tables, | Gold chairs, |
| Cheffoniers, | Hat racks, |
| Chevals, | Hall glasses, |
| Cabinets, | Hall chests, |
| Chairs, | Hanging cabinets, |
| Dressing tables, | Mantel cabinets, |
| Dining tables, | Music cabinets, |
| Divans, | Music portfolios, |
| Desks, rockers, | Reed chairs. |

For further particulars call at warerooms. Respectfully,
P. C. SCHOENECK & SON,
FSu 711 Liberty street.


NEW ADVERTISEMENTS.


Biscuit, Muffins, Cornbread, Griddlecakes, Dumplings, pot pies, Puddings, Cakes.

Will be light, flaky and delicious if made with
CLEVELAND'S BAKING POWDER
Absolutely the Best.


## THE SAND DIGGERS TALK.

### Reasons They Give for the Formation of the Local Trust.

The announcement of the consolidation of the river sand companies, exclusively given in yesterday's DISPATCH, created considerable comment in the circles most directly interested. Mr. T. M. Jenkins, the well-known coal operator, and a member of the Vigilant Company, said: "Lately the river sand dealers have had considerable to contend with in the way of new rulings by the Government and the opposition of the Coal Exchange. Down at the Point we formerly secured most of the sand, there being 40 feet to dredge. The Government forced the boats to vacate, owing to the complaints that the humps left in the channel after the boat was through dredging was an impediment to navigation. We were also ordered to dredge humps, and you know this has proven quite an expense. Then, again, the combination has been considered the proper thing by reason of the fact that the business can be operated upon in a more economic basis."

Mr. Charles Holmes, Treasurer of the Monongahela Sand Company, when spoken to regarding the proposed trust, said: "The preliminary negotiations have been completed and only a few legal formalities, such as dissolving the firms who propose entering the new combine, is yet to be arranged. The charter members have been named and application for a charter for the new company will shortly be made. It will be known as the Iron City Sand Company, and will embrace practically all the river sand firms."


THE place to buy diamonds, watches, jewelry, silverware, clocks, bronzes, etc., is at M. G. Cohen's, 36 Fifth avenue. You will find the largest and best selected stock in the city. All first-class goods and no fancy prices. Call and examine our stock and prices. Don't forget the place is at M. G. Cohen's, 36 Fifth avenue.

**This Will Help You Out.**

Do you want to buy someone a Christmas present? You do, of course, but don't know just what to buy. If you want diamonds and want novel designs in rings, bracelets, necklaces, lockets, pendants, brooches, lace pins, earrings and so on, why don't you go to George W. Biggs & Co.'s store at the corner of Smithfield street and Sixth avenue? Don't you know that they lead in this line? If you want silver novelties, bric-a-brac or anything in that line visit Biggs' store also. You surely must have heard the people talk about the great display of holiday goods at this place. There is absolutely no real novelty in the line of jewelry, bric-a-brac, etc., that cannot be had at Biggs', and why should you run from place to place hunting something unique?

**Extra Announcement.**

We have just received a nobby line of fashionable chinchilla overcoats, lined throughout with silk, made up by such well-known tailors as Bell, Kroney & Lent and Rock, for prices ranging from $50 and that up to $85. Will sell them for one-half of what they were made up for. Open every evening till 8:30 up to Christmas Eve.
MISFIT CLOTHING PARLORS,
516 Smithfield street.

**Good Cheer**

For Christmas to be found in "Holmes' Best" 1875 pure Monongahela rye whisky, 1840 Ransom cognac brandy, and endless assortment of fine wines and liquors to select from.
THE WM. H. HOLMES CO.,
158 First avenue and 120 Water street.

**Portraits for Christmas Presents.**

This month, a handsome 8x10 frame with every doz. cabinet photos. Also genuine crayons at special low prices.
LIES' STUDIO, 10 and 12 Sixth st.
MWSu

"WORTH A GUINEA A BOX."

FOR MEN, WOMEN AND CHILDREN.
BEECHAM'S PILLS are a marvellous Antidote for Weak Stomach, SICK HEAD-ACHE, Impaired Digestion, Constipation Disordered Liver, etc.; found also to be especially efficacious and remedial by FEMALE SUFFERERS.
Of all druggists. Price 25 cents a box.
New York Depot, 365 Canal St. 40

RUPPERT'S SKIN TONIC.

A delightfully refreshing stimulant for cleansing and making the complexion natural looking, as well as healthy. Warranted to cure any skin disease of no matter how long standing. Price $1 and $2 per bottle, three large size $5, the amount usually required to clear the skin. Call or send 4c stamps for Book of Beauty, ROOM 203, second floor, Hamilton building, 93 Fifth avenue, Pittsburg. Special—To every lady calling on Wednesday 23, will be given a box of Ruppert's Face Powder FREE. de20-su

RUPPERT'S EMOLLIENT,

A delightful cream prepared from almond meal cocoanut oil, etc., containing no mercury in any form, but will cure any case of roughness or chafing. Excellent for the hands and face. 50c and $1 per jar.
ROOM 203 SECOND FLOOR,
Hamilton Building,
de20-100 93 Fifth Avenue, Pittsburg.

HAVE
You ever experienced the disappointment of having a plate of sour and tough Buckwheat cakes set before
YOU
We know you have and to obviate anything of the kind in the future we would advise you to try a package of the
HERD
Brand Prepared Buckwheat and Breakfast Cake Flour, and after one trial you will be convinced that
IT
Is the purest and best Prepared Flour on the market. If your grocer does not handle it, please send his address to us and you will find it on his counter on your next visit.
KEYSTONE BISCUIT WORKS,
94 to 100 Beech St., Allegheny.
no16-16-wsu

Parisian Cloak & Suit Com'y
OUR MOTTO: LOW PRICES. | YOUR MOTTO SAVE MONEY
SIXTH ST. AND PENN AVE.
Manufacturing and Importing Retailers.

LADIES, LOOK!
Thousands of Elegant Cloaks Given Away
—FOR—
Christmas Gifts
—AT—
HALF PRICE THIS WEEK.
Save money. Visit the
PARISIAN.
de20-su


COL. MULBERRY SELLERS REAPPEARS
In a New Humorous Novel
By MARK TWAIN,
ENTITLED
THE AMERICAN CLAIMANT.

It has been secured for the Sunday Issue of THE DISPATCH, and publication will begin
SUNDAY, JANUARY 3.

The story is founded on the fact that Mark Twain's family has a sort of claim to the Earldom of Durham. Col. Sellers is here the claimant to this earldom. The young Lord, who is the heir recognized by English law, is at heart a Socialist, and he comes to America to put his theories into practice. By a series of exciting incidents the lordship in him disappears and he becomes an applicant for any kind of work in Washington. The Old World notions of the young Lord, which are not nearly so extinct as he thinks they are, come into sharp contact with the practical workings of rude democracy, and here Mark Twain gets his opportunity for graphically showing in his picturesque manner some of the differences between the aristocratic idea and the democratic idea. Hard as he is on the monarchical side of the question, there are nevertheless some things in this portion of the work that will cause the American to think and ask himself questions. The story ends in a most satisfactory manner. Of course, it is full of humor.

A specially strong feature of this new acquisition for the Literary Department of THE DISPATCH are
ILLUSTRATIONS BY DAN BEARD,
Whom Mark Twain regards as the only man who has really illustrated his ideas.

BEGINS SUNDAY, JANUARY 3.