The Bradford Reporter.

S. W. ALVORD, Publisher. REGARDLESS OF DENUNCIATION FROM ANY QUARTER. $2 per Annum in Advance.

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SPECIAL NOTICES inserted at FIFTEEN CENTS per line for first insertion, and FIVE CENTS per line for subsequent insertions.

LOCAL NOTICES, same style as reading matter, TWENTY CENTS a line.

ADVERTISEMENTS will be inserted according to the following table of rates:

	1w	4w	2m	3m	6m	1yr.
1 inch	$1.50	3.00	5.00	6.00	10.00	$ 12
2 inches	2.00	5.00	8.00	10.00	15.00	20.00
3 inches	2.50	7.00	10.00	13.00	20.00	30.00
4 inches	3.00	8.50	14.00	18.25	25.00	35.00
¼ column	5.00	12.00	18.00	22.00	30.00	45.00
½ column	10.00	20.00	30.00	40.00	65.00	75.00
1 column	20.00	40.00	60.00	80.00	$100	$150

Administrator's and Executor's Notices, $2; Auditor's Notices, $2 50; Business Cards, five lines, per year, $5, additional lines $1 each.

Yearly advertisers are entitled to quarterly changes.

Transient advertisements must be paid for in advance.

All Resolutions of Associations; Communications of mere individual interest, and notices of Marriages and Deaths, exceeding five lines, are charged TEN CENTS per line.

The REPORTER having a larger circulation than all the papers in the county combined, makes it the best advertising medium in Northern Pennsylvania.

JOB PRINTING of every kind, in Plain and Fancy colors, done with neatness and dispatch. Handbills, Cards, Pamphlets, Billheads, Statements, &c., of every variety and style, printed at the shortest notice. The REPORTER Office is well supplied with Power Presses, a good assortment of new type, and everything in the Printing line can be executed in the most artistic manner, and at the lowest rates.

CASH ALWAYS CHARGED.

BUSINESS CARDS.

W. WALLACE KEELER
HOUSE, SIGN AND FRESCO PAINTER,
Towanda, Sept. 15, 1870.-yr

O. D. BARTLETT & SON, Insurance Agents, Towanda, Pa. Sound and reliable companies represented.
O. D. BARTLETT. C. GRAHAM BARTLETT.
Nov. 22, 1872.-1y*

B. FOWLER, REAL ESTATE DEALER, No. 278 South Water Street, Chicago, Illinois. Real Estate purchased and sold. Investments made and Money Loaned.
May 10, '70.

JOHN DUNFEE, BLACKSMITH, MONROETON, PA., pays particular attention to ironing Buggies, Wagons, Sleighs, &c. Tire set and repairing done on short notice. Work and charges warranted satisfactory. 12.15.69.

AMOS PENNYPACKER, HAS again established himself in the TAILORING BUSINESS, shop over Rockwell's Store. Work of every description done in the latest styles.
Towanda, April 21, 1870.-1y*

GRAYSVILLE WOOLEN MILL.
The undersigned would respectfully announce to the public that he keeps constantly on-hand Woolen Goods, Cassimeres, Flannels, Yarns, and all kinds at the lowest cash price. HAIGH & BROADLEY,
Oct. 24, 1870. Proprietor.

C. S. RUSSELL'S
GENERAL
INSURANCE AGENCY.
TOWANDA, PA.
Oct. 20-tf

WM. H. MORGAN & CO. Deal in Real Estate.—Lots from $100 upwards. Also Real Estate Agents. Land bought and sold, and money loaned. Parties desiring to sell Wild Lands, Farms or Lots, can have a map of the lands or subdivision made at this Agency, and property sold on a reasonable commission. Office four door above Post office, Mercur's Block, Towanda, Pa.
L. L. MOORE. [Dec 4'72]. WM. H. MORGAN.

THE UNDERSIGNED ARCHITECT AND BUILDER, wishes to inform the citizens of Towanda and vicinity, that he will give particular attention to drawing plans, designs and specifications for all manner of buildings, private and public. Superintendence given for reasonable compensation. Office at residence N. E. corner of Main and Elizabeth streets.
J. E. FLEMMING.
Box 511 Towanda, Pa.

NEW PARLOR OF FASHION. SHAVING, HAIR CUTTING, SHAMPOOING, and HAIR DYEING in the Latest Style. Also particular pains to cutting Ladies' and Children's Hair. Shampooing and Dyeing at
GARAWAY & LINCHOME, over the Post Office, Main Street, Towanda, Pa.
Aug. 1, 1872.

W. W. KINGSBURY,
REAL ESTATE, LIFE, FIRE, & ACCIDENT
INSURANCE AGENCY.
Office of Main and State Streets.
Feb. 14, 1872. TOWANDA, PA.

SASH, DOORS, AND BLINDS.
Constantly on hand and manufactured to order. Sash Doors and Blinds of any size, style, or thickness, on short notice. Blinds to your orders, ten days before you can get them elsewhere. Lumber dressed and made into any article desired. Be sure that you will find what you want when you come to Towanda. Terms cash.
Towanda, Jan. 1, 1872. GEO. E. ASH.

WATSON & BROTHER,
DEALERS IN
WOOL, HIDES, PELTS, CALF-SKINS, FURS, &c.
Highest market cash price is paid at all times. Office in Exchange Hotel, Main-st., Towanda, Pa.
Towanda, Nov. 14, 1870. TOWANDA, PA.

NEW FIRM!
NEW GOODS, LOW PRICES!
AT MONROETON, PA.
TRACY & HOLLON
Keep a full line of Groceries and Provisions, Drugs and Medicines, Oil, Lamps, Chimneys, Glass Ware, Paints, Oils, Varnish, Yankee Notions, Cigars and Snuff. Pure Wines and Liquors kept for medicinal purposes only, and at the very lowest prices. Prescriptions carefully compounded at all hours of the day or night.
TRACY & HOLLON.
Monroeton, June 24, 1872.-1y.

CHARLES F. DAYTON,
Agent for Humphrey Brothers,
HARNESS MAKER,
Corner Mercur's Store,
Keeps constantly full assortment of DORLLE and HARNESS, and all other goods in his line. Repairing done to order.
Towanda, Jan. 23, 1871.

BAKERY! CONFECTIONERY!!
GROCERIES!
The undersigned begs leave to return thanks to the citizens of Towanda and vicinity, for the very liberal patronage extended to him during the past year, and at the same time to give notice that he still continues the business at the old stand of
BEST FAMILY GROCERIES
He is also prepared to offer AT THE LOWEST RATES
Will continue the Baking business in all its branches, and can furnish anything in this line at the shortest notice and
GUARANTEE SATISFACTION.
He has also fitted up a
DINING ROOM,
where at all times he will be ready to furnish Meals at all hours, at as low rates than usual.
Strangers and others visiting town are invited to call.
He is also supplied with Ice Cream, Cakes, Fruit, &c., &c., which he will supply to order at short notice.
Remember the place, nearly opposite the Means House.
HORACE A. COWLES.

MERCURS BANK,
TOWANDA, PA.
(Successors to B. S. Russell & Co., Bankers.)
Buy and Sell Exchange, Loans Money, Makes Collections, &c.
GENERAL BANKING BUSINESS.
Now is an Incorporated Bank.
Interest allowed on Time Deposits.
Drafts payable in any part of the United States, Canada or Europe, this Bank and its Agencies, at the lowest rates.
PASSAGE TICKETS
Tickets from Nova Scotia, England, Ireland, Scotland, or any part of Europe and the Orient, for sale on the CELEBRATED INMAN LINE.
Government Gold, Silver, United States Bonds and Securities bought and sold at the highest market rates.
Agent for the sale of Northern Pacific 7 3-10 Bonds.
M. C. MERCUR, President.
F. S. VINCENT, Cashier. mar.13'71

TOWANDA COAL YARD,
NEAR RAILROAD AND ELIZABETH STREETS,
AGENCY SULLIVAN ANTHRACITE AND BRECLAY BITUMINOUS COALS.
ALL SIZES PITTSTON ANTHRACITE COAL
At Market Prices.
Aug. 15, 1872. WARD & MONTANYE.

PROFESSIONAL CARDS.

JAMES WOOD, ATTORNEY AND COUNSELLOR AT LAW, Towanda, Pa.

SMITH & MONTANYE, ATTORNEYS AT LAW. Office—corner of Main and Pine Streets, opposite Porter's Drug Store.

DR. H. WESTON, DENTIST.—Office in Patton's Block, over Gere's Drug and Chemical Store.

DR. T. B. JOHNSON, PHYSICIAN AND SURGEON. Office over Dr. H. C. Porter Son & Co.'s Drug Store.

F. G. MORROW, PHYSICIAN AND SURGEON, offers his professional services to the citizens of Warren and vicinity. Residence first house north of J. F. Cooper's Store, Warren Centre, Pa. apl18'72 1y

DR. C. M. STANLEY, DENTIST, successor to Dr. Weston. Office in Patton's Block up stairs, Main Street, Towanda, Pa. All kinds of plate work a specialty. Jan 18'73

DR. S. M. WOODBURN, Physician and Surgeon, Office over Wickham & Black's Grocery store.
Towanda, May 1, 1872.-1y*

H. STREETER,
ATTORNEY-AT-LAW,
may30,'72. TOWANDA, PA.

H. B. McKEAN, ATTORNEY AND COUNSELLOR AT LAW, Towanda, Pa. Particular attention paid to business in the Orphans' Court. July 20, '68.

I. McPHERSON,
ATTORNEY-AT-LAW,
Feb 27,'73.-1y. TOWANDA, PA.

W. H. CARNOCHAN, ATTORNEY AT LAW (District Attorney for Bradford County), Troy, Pa. Collections made and promptly remitted. feb 15, '69.-tf.

W. B. KELLY DENTIST.—Office over Wickham & Black's, Towanda Pa. Teeth inserted on Gold, Silver, Rubber, and Aluminum base. Teeth extracted without pain. Oc23.72

DR. L. D. BEACH, PHYSICIAN AND SURGEON Permanently located at TOWANDA, Pa. Particular attention paid to all Chronic Diseases. Cancers and Tumors removed without pain and without the knife. Office at his residence on State street, two doors east of Dr. Pratt's. Attendance in office Mondays and Saturdays. May 16,'72.

MADILL & CAUFF, ATTORNEYS-AT-LAW, Towanda, Pa.
H. J. MADILL. J. N. CAUFF.
Office in Wood's Block, first door south of First National Bank up stairs Jan 8,'73-1y

OVERTON & ELSBREE, ATTORNEYS AT LAW, Towanda, Pa., having entered into copartnership, offer their professional services to the public. Special attention given to business in the Orphan's and Register's Courts. apl 4'70
E. OVERTON JR. N. C. ELSBREE.

W. A. PECK'S LAW OFFICE.
Mason's Free opposite the Court House, Towanda, Pa.
Oct. 27,'70.

A. KEENEY, COUNTY SUPERINTENDENT, Towanda, Pa. Office with R. M. Peck, second door below the Ward House. Will be at the office the last Saturday of each month and at all other times when not called away on business connected with the Superintendency. All letters could hereafter be addressed as above. dec.1.70

DR. J. W. LYMAN,
PHYSICIAN AND SURGEON.
Office one door east of Reporter building Residence, corner Pine and 2nd street.
Towanda June 22, 1871.

JOHN W. MIX, ATTORNEY AT LAW, Towanda, Bradford Co., Pa.
GENERAL INSURANCE AGENT.
Particular attention paid to Collections and Orphans' Court business. Office—Mercur's New Block, north side Public Square. apr. 1, '69.

DOCTOR O. LEWIS, A GRADUATE of the College of "Physicians and Surgeons," New York city, Class 1843-4, gives exclusive attention to the practice of his profession. Office and residence on the eastern slope of Orwell Hill, adjoining Henry House. Jan 14, '69.

DR. D. D. SMITH, *Dentist*, has purchased G. H. Wood's property, between Mercur's Block and the Elkell House, where he has located his office. Teeth extracted without pain by use of gas. Towanda, Oct 20, 1870.—yr

Hotels.

DINING ROOMS
IN CONNECTION WITH THE BAKERY,
Near the Court House.
We are prepared to feed the hungry at all times of the day and evening. Oysters and Ice Cream in their seasons.
March 30, 1870. D. W. SCOTT & CO.

ELWELL HOUSE, TOWANDA, PA.
JOHN C. WILSON
Having leased this House, is now ready to accommodate the travelling public. No pains nor expense will be spared to give satisfaction to those who may give him a call.
☞ North side of the public square, east of Mercur's new block.

RUMMERFIELD CREEK HOTEL.
PETER LANDMESSER.
Having purchased and thoroughly refitted this old and well-known stand, formerly kept by Sheriff Griffis, at the mouth of Rummerfield Creek, is ready to give good accommodations and satisfactory treatment to all who may favor him with a call.
Dec. 23 866-tf.

MEANS HOUSE, TOWANDA, PA.,
COR. MAIN AND BRIDGE STREETS.
The Horses, Harness, &c. of all guests of this house, insured against loss by Fire, without any extra charge.
A superior quality of Old English Bass Ale, just received.
Towanda, Jan. 24,'72. T. B. JORDAN, Proprietor.

WARD HOUSE,
TOWANDA,
BRADFORD COUNTY, PENN'A.
This popular house, recently leased by Messrs. Knox & Means, and having been completely refitted, remodeled, and refurnished, affords to the public all the comforts and modern conveniences of a first-class Hotel. Situate opposite the Park on Main Street, it is eminently convenient for persons visiting Towanda, either for pleasure or business.
sep6'71 KNOX & MEANS, Proprietors.

MANSION HOUSE,
LERAYSVILLE, PA.
W. W. BROWNING, PROPRIETOR.
This House is conducted in strictly Temperance Principles. Every effort will be made to make guests comfortable. Good rooms and the table will always be supplied with the best the market affords. Nov. 1, 1871.

SUPERIOR AGRICULTURAL MACHINERY, for Sale by
R. M. WELLES,
TOWANDA, PA.,
Office No. 3 Mercur's Block, north side of Court House square.
WHOLESALE AND RETAIL DEALER AND MANUFACTURERS AGENT.
Mowing Machines, Horse Powers and Threashers, Wheel Rakes, Plaster Sowers, Grain Seeders, Hay Tedders, Reversible and Steel Plows, Clover Mixers, Thill Horse Hoes, Clover Hullers and Fanning Mills.
LAWN MOWERS, WATER DRAWERS, BEST BELTING
BEST CHURN POWERS IN THE WORLD, CORN SHELLERS FOR HAND OR POWER, &C., &C.
Catalogues and descriptive, illustrated printed circulars, furnished or mailed free to all applicants. It will cost but three cents to send for circulars in postage
Farmers when in Towanda, call and see me.
April 22 '72. R. M. WELLES.

WEEKLY ARRIVAL OF
ANTHRACITE COAL
On the Railroad, at Canal Street, which will be sold by the car load or less quantity, and delivered on reasonable terms. Please call at the Coal Yard.
JAMES WILBER, Salesman.
Aug. 24, 1872. L. S. CASE, Proprietor.

NEW ARRIVAL OF
MILLINERY GOODS!
On and after SATURDAY, Oct. 5th,
I shall be prepared to exhibit my new arrival of
MILLINERY GOODS
To the ladies of Towanda and vicinity. My stock comprises everything in the line, and I shall continue to sell at my usually reasonable rates.
Give me a call and examine the good for yourselves.
Oct 1, 1872. S. M. GRIFFIN.

FOR SALE.—A house and lot in Smithfield Centre, suitable for residence and store. Enquire of James H. Webb. Jan.15

Miscellaneous.

J. O. FROST & SONS,
MANUFACTURERS
OF
FURNITURE!
Our ware-rooms at all times contain an
UNRIVALED ASSORTMENT OF CHAMBER SETS
Of all styles and prices, combining with the Rich and Elegant, the Medium Prices, suitable for all, and so cheap that any can afford to have them. Also the finest and most
FASHIONABLE BLACK WALNUT PARLOR AND LIBRARY FURNITURE.
Of new and original designs and of the most superb style and finish. Also a choice assortment of
TABLES, WARDROBES, DRESSING CASES, SIDE-BOARDS, LIBRARY AND BOOK-CASES.
Also a complete line of, Tete-a-Tetes, Sofas, Sounges Rocking, Easy and Parlor Chairs, in the greatest variety of styles and prices. Also an endless variety of
BEDSTEADS, BUREAUS, CHAIRS TABLES, MIRRORS, FEATHER PILLOWS, MATRESSES, & SPRING BEDS,
Of every description, and in fact everything to be found in a First Class Furniture Store,
CHEAPER THAN THE CHEAPEST!
We pay Case for Lumber, or will take Lumber in exchange for Furniture. Also a large stock of
COFFINS
Of every description from the most common to the finest Rosewood, always on hand. We are sole agents for
FISK'S METALIC BURIAL CASES,
Which are now conceeded by all parties to be far the best Metalic Case in use. We have the
FINEST HEARSE
In this section of country, and will furnish anything in the UNDERTAKING line AS LOW as the same quality of goods can be got at ANY PLACE, either in Towanda or elsewhere and from our large EXPERIENCE and thorough acquaintance with the business, we can save persons many annoyances to which they are always subject when dealing with incompetent parties.
STORE 107 MAIN STREET.
☞ Do not forget the place.
J. O. FROST & SONS.
Towanda, April 2, 1872

PHOTOGRAPHY!
The undersigned would inform the public that they have purchased the
GALLERY OF ART,
of
HARDING & GUSTIN,
on Main street, first door south of the First National Bank, and mean, by strict attention to business, and by the addition of every improvement in the Art of Photography, to make the place worthy of patronage. Mr. GUSTIN is to remain with us, and give his whole time and attention to the making of
IVORYTYPES,
PAINTINGS IN OIL AND WATER COLORS,
As well as PENCELING in INDIA INK.
Particular attention given to the enlarging of pictures, and to the finishing of all kinds of work, so as to secure the best results, and as much time as possible given to making negatives of small children.
Those wanting pictures will please give us a trial, and we think that they will be satisfied.
GEO. H. WOOD & CO.
jan11'73y

M. E. ROSENFIELD'S
CLOTHING EMPORIUM!
OPPOSITE THE MEANS HOUSE,
(Formerly occupied by H. Jacobs.)
The rapid growth of Towanda requires the expansion of business, and the undersigned, realizing this want of the community in the
READY MAYE CLOTHING LINE
Has opened a new store in Beidleman's Block, (formerly occupied by H. Jacobs,) and is now prepared to offer to his old customers and the public generally, a better stock of
MENS' AND BOYS' CLOTHING
Than can be found in any other establishment outside the cities.
My stock has all been purchased from the manufacturers this season, so that I have no old stock to get rid of, bought at high prices. I have a full line of
GENTS' FURNISHING GOODS
of the finest quality and latest styles, which I am Offering at low figures.
REMEMBER!
I have no connection with the old stand, and when you want anything in the clothing line, for yourself or boys, call on me in Beidleman's Block.
M. E. ROSENFIELD.
Towanda, March 28, 1872.

100 MEN WANTED
To buy the celebrated
HARD AND SOFT COAL BURNER
COOK STOVES.
We have the best line of Stoves in the State.
MANSARD COOK and MODERN VULCAN
Have taken the premiums in all the State Fairs, and we know they are a first-class Stove.
DOMESTIC COOK
For soft coal, something new.
DOMESTIC COOK
For hard or soft coal. Also the
INVINCIBLE, PRESIDENT, ZENITH, UNITY,
All first-class Stoves.
PARLOR STOVES.
EMPIRE GAS BURNERS 4 sizes),
COSY LIGHTS,
LIGHT HOUSE, BEACON LIGHT, ROCKET,
REFLECTOR, FIRE FLY, AND BALTIMORE HEATERS.
A full assortment of Hardware, Tinware, Copper, and Sheetiron Ware always on hand.
☞ All orders filled promptly. Job work done and warranted. Give us a call.
LEWIS & SMALLEY,
Nov.13,1872. No. 4, Bridge St., Towanda.

PRICE LIST—CASCADE MILLS.

Flour, best wheat, per sack	$2 75
" " " " hundred lbs	5 50
" " " " barrel	11 00
Feed, per cwt	1 60

Custom grinding usually done at once, as the capacity of the mill is sufficient for a great amount of work. H. B. INGHAM.
Camptown, May 22, 1872.

FARMERS, bring your produce and sell it to WOOD & MERCUR.
Jan 18, 1873.

FROST & SONS make the best Extension Table in the world.

Original Poetry.

SUNSHINE AND SHADOW.
BY ADA ATH.

A valley small, a running brook,
By hills surrounded—cosy nook!
Where houses nestle—village small,
So quiet—sunshine over all.
A wayside inn—we enter here
A darkened room, a scene so drear,
A wounded soldier, weeping wife,
A shadow creeping o'er her life.

Along and weary way they've come—
From Gettysburg—they seek their home;
As evening shades are gathering o'er
His spirit free doth upward soar.
Her moans doth pity wake—we try
To comfort her so deep ate:
"He's free from sorrow, pain—to die
Is going home; ah, happy fate."

We homeward share her lonely ride,
Thro' the dark night, so cold and chill;
Dim valleys pass—up mountain side—
Till morning breaks, so white and still.
We leave her there in cot so small—
Among the mists of morning bright,
With Him who watcheth over all,
Even when around are clouds and night.

As homeward turn we on our way,
The sun with glory ushers Day;
The hills around are tipped with gold,
Before us Nature doth unfold
Her face so grand, but late so gray;
The mist is rising—clears away,
And like the mist doth sadness fly,
While o'er us smiles the bright blue sky.

Ah! happy, careless hours we passed,
Our life was early morning bright,
Our sweet spring-time, too bright to last;
The cross-roads of our life in sight:
You went your way, and I went mine,
And summers pass, and snow-wreaths twine;
Long years have gone and impress bear
Of smiles and tears, and love and care.

Faces and scenes so strange and fair,
And music sweet doth thrill and trance;
I catch a word, or tone doth bear
Me back to earlier years—perchance
Again your form I see as then
When *all* was as it *seemed to be;*
Faith, Hope and Charity! again
Come back! arise, and dwell with me.

Miscellaneous.

DELIA'S GOVERNMENT BOND.

"Why do you go to Cherrywood?" asked everybody three years ago.

"Because nobody else goes there," we truthfully and unfashionably replied, and we have never regretted it.

When the railroad-journey was ended and the twelve-mile drive in a two-seated-spring wagon was superadded, it must be confessed that the sight of Widow Blatchford's, where, in the Yankee parlance of our driver, we were to "put up," was not enlivening. Externally the house was of bright red, and for a moment its appearance increased our heat and exhaustion; but once inside, the coolness and shadow were inexpressibly soothing. The rooms were deliciously dim to our weary eyes; through the window came the tinkling trickle of water over rocks from a spring behind the house, and tho' the wall paper was a pattern of chocolate colored urns in painfully precise rows, on a ground of sombre gray, and two mourning pieces framed in black wood, were conspicuous ornaments, the pure white dimity curtains, and the jar of pale green and delicately fragrant wood-ferns in the fire-place gave grace and lightness sufficient to redeem the depressive effects of the first mentioned features. The windows looked out upon a grand mountain panorama, crowned with changing clouds, and the valley stretching away below. We exclaimed with delight as we sank into the straight-backed-cushioned rockers, and took in the situation.

"I expect you're dreadful fond of mountains," said the good hostess beamingly. "But hadn't you better take some supper now? The hills will keep, but maybe the vittals won't."

They did not long, for we addressed ourselves to their disposal with marked success. What a supper! Crispy fried brook trout; smaller and sweeter than any other fish that swims; powdery potatoes of marvellous whiteness, heaped-up doughnuts, ample slices of brown bread and white ditto, "slap-jacks" of size and tenderness, and the inevitable Yankee "soda biscuit," hot, light, and yellow—How good it tasted only those can know, who, like ourselves, have travelled far and long, climbing for hours straight up hill after hill, to reach at last table-land, where the air is so pure so clear, so bracing, that we rise body and soul on tiptoe. Then we slept the sleep of the just and the undyspeptic, on husk mattresses that were neither thin or knobby, lulled by the tinkling spring into pleasant dreams.

Cherrywood life for visitors was exhilerating with fun, fishing, mountain climbing, and mountain drives too for those who had the temerity to struggle into the high wagons fearless of the steep up-and down roads, and confident in the strength of the harness. Gradually we came to know and like many of the people, being taken in their homes and interests with a free-heartedness which we fear will cease if Cherrywood ever gets a name as a "nice summer resort," and learns the give-little-and-take-much system of most places so yelped.

Our hostess, dear motherly woman, was a stout walking encyclopædia of information regarding every neighbor, great and small, spicing each tale or anecdote with shrewd comments and keen perception of character, and softening all by honest unpretending charity.

"Take notice who's in the store, won't you? I'm particular to know if Reuben Gilson has got back,"

She called thus after us one pleasant after-tea-time, as we were going for the papers left by the mail-stage at the store which was also the post-office for Cherrywood, and we assented, wondering inwardly if Reuben Gilson went about labelled that we were expected to know him at once. A glance sufficed to tell us that all the occupants of the store and porch were known to us, but as we turned from the building, a tall, blithe figure passed us with a ringing tread and a courteous gest of salute that did not savor of Cherrywood manners, which, though kindly, were mostly unpolished. We had a glimpse of dark, keen eyes, and plain sensible features, and presently reported our observation to Widow Blatchford, who came to meet us through the gloaming, greeting us a few yards from the door.

"Certainly, that was Reuben," was her interested assent, "I declare. I should like to see Dely Bligh, now."

Bligh? Surely we remembered seeing her. It was our first Sunday in the white meetinghouse, when, with all the congregation we faced the choir for the singing of the last hymn. A sweet, apple-blossom face with its delicate tints and baby-blue eyes, redeemed from mere insipid prettiness by the decided character of the square little chin and the firm curve of the lips in repose.

"A wild rose among mullen stalks," the doctor had called her, with a man's eyes to the cheeks and dimples only, winning by his remark a pleased smile from our hostess.

But what had pretty Delia Bligh to do with Reuben Gilson's home-coming? As all women from fourteen to four score are alive to any hint of a love story, we proceeded to importune our hostess for information, and she, kind soul, soon gratified us.

Pretty Delia Bligh and Reuben Gilson had "kept company" from childhood, and had been engaged; but after Reuben went into business at Grafton Mills and Delia taught school at Cranberry Corners, a cool ness arose between them, ending in the breaking of the engagement.

"Reuben is a favorite with me, and so is Dely, for that matter," said Mrs. Blatchford. "Girls are high strung; mostly they have more pride than wisdom when they're young. Dely's no exception, but she is good material. I don't want to see her spoiled.

"What began the coolness?" we queried.

"Reuben lives to Mrs. Frye's when he is here; she is his aunt. I guess that had as much to do with it as anything," said our hostess, with a shrewd laugh. "I don't speak against her. I know no harm of her, except being Josephine's stepmother, and that's more her misfortune, poor thing."

We knew Mrs. Blatchford's opinion of the thin-lipped "Josephine," having heard it aforetime when we also heard the story of Dorema Fletcher's brave struggle against poverty and public opinion.

"Honey on the surface and gall inside," our hostess summed her up; adding apologetically, "to be sure I suppose she is soured by what she has gone through. It must be wearing to be disappointed always in what you set your mind on getting, and it isn't every one has the gift to drink vinegar and keep sweet."

"There is such a thing as making the vinegar ourselves and imbibing it instead of something sweeter," we suggested. "The bitter in every cup may be transmuted."

"Certainly," said Mrs. Blatchford. "But then some has unfortunate dispositions from the cradle, you know."

"Surely, if Reuben Gilson has lived in the house with her he must know her too well to be influenced by her, if he really loved Delia Bligh," we said.

"Hum!" said our hostess skeptically. "Do you know blinder bats than men are in some things? I don't. He sees nothing artful in the way she picks up Dely's actions and twists them to look queer. He thinks she is fond of Dely, and tries to make the best of a light-minded flirting creature for his sake. Bats! you may say."

"Then he is very weak to be deceived by that mischievous old maid," scornfully proclaimed little Mabel.

"Bless your heart, child," said Mrs. Blatchford with her comfortable laugh, "nothing is so helpless as a single-minded man in the hands of a calculating woman—for a time;" with significant emphasis on the last clause. "Besides, Josephine Frye's isn't the only tongue in the world, either. It's my opinion nothing but talk has parted Reuben and Dely: that and their foolish young pride. Maybe it'll come right, maybe it won't. Either way folks' tongues have enough to answer for."

If the coming right meant the reuniting of the sundered lovers, it certainly did not seem probable as the days went on. Pretty Delia sang in the choir on Sundays, and Reuben Gilson's eyes rested on the apple blossom face as if it had never been dear to him, and the sweet voice floating through the old meeting-house had never touched his heart. And more than once a broad-shouldered young farmer drove up from Cranberry Corners and tarried at the cottage of Calvin Bligh.

We become acquainted with both the young people, and Delia was speedily a great favorite with the doctor and the children, though the feminine spirits of our party could have little patience at her exchanging a lover like Reuben Gilson for the Cranberry Corners rustic. We admired the sterling sense and keen intelligence of the young man, but there seemed to rest on him a grave reserve, almost a gloom that prevented any approach to familiarity.

Presently a rumor was afloat—how it originated no one knew. Who ever can tell how "They say" begins? But gathering additions daily, increasing, spreading in the mysterious ways that only rumor grows, a whisper that all was not well with Reuben Gilson's integrity; that his unusually long vacation was enforced, not voluntary; that he had left his Grafton employer with a stain upon his name and honor. Strange tales were hinted of how his employer's son had suddenly gone no one knew whither, and how his flight implicated Reuben Gilson as a comrade in dishonesty; there were not wanting declarations that even new trial and exposure were threatening the latter. Did people believe this? Did they accept without question this blighting of the good name of one they had known from boyhood, and whose record had been hitherto blameless?

Cherrywood was not a whit behind other towns in swallowing slander, and whoever does not know the ground-like growth of scandal, has had but a limited sphere of observation. A few clung to their faith in Reuben Gilson; our hostess was one, but she showed the trouble and disquiet she staunchly denied. Singularly enough no breath of what was on all lips seemed to reach the victim himself all this time. He kept on the grave tenor of his way, abstracted, absorbed; and you may be sure gossip did not fail to comment on this indifference and seeming unconsciousness.

What Delia Bligh thought nobody knew, until one morning she appeared in Widow Blatchford's kitchen, on the plausible errand of obtaining a recipe for "spice cakes." Some other thought lurked behind the troubled blue eyes, and the fact was speedily patent to the dear old woman whose spectacles were leveled at her favorite.

"Now tell me the rest," said she, presently. "Are you going to set up a kitchen and oven of your own soon?"

"Oh, Aunt Blatchford!" (our hostess was "aunt" to half the country round), "no, of course not!" with a quick, pained voice. Then more softly, "Do you know what people are saying?"

"About Reuben? Yes, child: it is n't true though."

"Folks believe it," said Delia, sadly. "He looks so sober and gloomy; something is wrong, somehow, I am sure."

"Hum!" sniffed Mrs. Blatchfo

"Does Calvin Bligh believe it?"

"Father? Well, you know how father is. He isn't sure of his own mind until he is opposed. Then it's made up quick. And I said I did n't believe it, and mother too, and now he won't believe anything else. Deacon Quimby went to see Reuben, and he would not hear a word from him; said he was busy. And oh! aunt, a man was up from Grafton yesterday, and the deacon heard him talk as he went away. He said, 'Well, Reuben, three hundred will do it, and you may call yourself lucky to get off with that;' and Reuben answered, 'he would see about raising it, but had a good mind to take his chance.'"

"Aunt Blatchford, I want to trust you with something. I want your promise to keep secret always what I say now," pleaded the girl, getting close to her old friend.

"Well," said Mrs. Blatchford affirmatively.

"Aunt, I want you to give him this," said Delia, very low, but earnestly. "It's my government bond—all mine, you know—five hundred dollars Uncle Silas gave me in his will. He must never know where it came from—never. Maybe Reuben has gone wrong; it don't seem like him, but young men have temptations, and if just this money will set him right and give him a chance to begin again, I want he should have it. Reuben was good to me when we were littie—and—I used to—like him. I don't want him to be disgraced and wicked. Oh, aunt! talk to him—he'll listen to you, I know; tell him to set himself right with the money, and then get right with God. Reuben used to be good. I don't think he went wrong of himself."

"That money was for your setting out," said Mrs. Blatchford, still unbending. "What will your father say?"

"I shall not be married," said Delia, yet more softly. "Father will never know I've parted with the money. I can teach and earn more. I'd rather work my fingers off than—than not save Reuben!"

"Dely Bligh, you're a good girl," said Mrs. Blatchford, suddenly losing her grimness and drawing Delia into her ample embrace. "I take back any hard thoughts I've had, and I'll do your will and keep my counsel. There—there, child—I kind of mistrusted you liked Reuben still; don't cry—yes, do, it'll help you bear it."

Then the old lady and young girl kissed and comforted each other in true womanly fashion, and Calvin Bligh never guessed what had deepened the flush on his pretty daughter's cheeks, as she gave him his tea that evening.

Mrs. Blatchford's opportunity for keeping her promise came speedily. Opportunities do easily come to people in earnest.

When the young man understood the meaning of her kindly, simple talk at first he raged "like a wild tiger," as she afterwards expressed it, and then he threw back his fine head and laughed so loud and long the good woman thought his reason had departed. Then he explained to her how his employer had indeed failed, and he himself was undoubtedly out of a situation at present. But that he and his employer's son were connected in some invention which they were struggling to get patented; that they were contesting the point with a wealthier man, and had been like to fail for want of funds.

"But we shall pull through now, and our fortune is secured," said the young man. "As for your offer of aid, Aunt Blatchford—here, give me the bond. It shall help me out of perplexity, though it isn't needed to save me from disgrace, and you shall have it again with compound interest in six weeks. Only I shall always be in your debt for so much love and kindness and Christian charity."

Then he kissed her wrinkled hand with the grace of a knight of old, and went away.

But when Widow Blatchford and Delia Bligh next met, was there not a private jubilee?

Cherrywood eyes began to get open, and the Cherrywood gourd of scandal to droop in its highest branches, about that time; and when Reuben Gilson came back from a month's sudden absence, there were plenty to welcome him as a "worthy young man, very smart, and an inventor of real genius."

Straight to the Widow Blatchford's went Reuben, and to her with gratitude and love he rendered up Delia's government bond, with marvelous interest."

"The land of man!" cried the dear old woman, "but I can't take more than it was to begin with. She'd never forgive me—there, what a blundering old creature I am."

"She?" cries Reuben, his dark eyes aglow.

It is my belief the Widow Blatchford's blunder was not unconscious, but surely the error or the purpose were alike forgivable. With laughter and tears she let him win from her the name of her whose hand had been ready to pluck him from shame and dishonesty, and if he went from her presence to that of Delia Bligh, who will wish to look with curious eyes on the interview that followed?

"And they're to be married at Christmas," said our good hostess in extreme delight, as she told us the news next day. "They'll live at Grafton. Reuben says his wife is too good to stay where folks blacken a man's name for nothing, and think themselves smart for doing it. Dely was near not forgiving me for telling of her, but there, an old woman like me is blundering sometimes."

"So then it is all right," we said, "and all the talk accomplished no harm. That's good."

Then and there our good hostess turned with impressive uplifted finger, directed at our careless lips and uttered this homily:

How! No harm, do you say? Don't you call it something that those children were parted for most two years, just by talk? That they suffered and had hard feelings of each other, and lost out of their lives two years they might have been happy in? That Dely's heart was near broken by thinking him a thief, and Rheuben's name was stained among his own townsfolk? All over, you say. Well, but the scars are there. The pain needn't have been endured? Yes, but it was felt. Life wont look exactly the same to those children as if they had never lost faith in each other, and Reuben'll never have the charity that was his before he learned how ready people are to take away a man's character wantonly.

"Slander turns out a lie, and folks think no harm's done. Words are cheap and folks are careless of them. But if they knew what words are, they'd feel their lips scorched with hot coals whenever they use the insinuating speech, or the uncharitable remark, or meanest of all the nasty little they say that carries a blight with it. 'Tis never meaner than when has a handle of unexplained truth, and takes up appearances that ain't understood, and twists them crooked.

"No, child; spoken words don't die; you can't call them back as you call the cows home at night. Hearts ache for 'em and souls go astray by their means. And it's my belief no more solemn reckoning is laid up against mortals than for the mischief of their careless tongues."

IRISH LADIES.

Happening to be in Queenstown, Ireland, one evening in July last, I was invited to attend a grand ball. I had been doing some of the interior districts of Ireland, and was so tired that at first I was rather inclined to excuse myself. But before decidling, I asked a question or two: "Is it a big thing?"

"Never saw anything so grand in in town!"

"What class of women?"

"The first class; the very best from Queenstown, Cork—in fact, the most beautiful women in the world."

I knew how the common women of Ireland looked. I had seen hundreds of them about Killarny, selling "mountain dew and goat's milk," and in fact for some time had seen nothing else. But I had seen the common class only—the servants, peddlers and peasants. I had not seen the aristocracy. I made up my mind to go. The number of ladies was about one hundred and fifty. Their dress was like that of American ladies on similar occasions, only a trifle more so—sleeves a little shorter, corsage a little lower. The ladies were remarkably self possessed, quiet and graceful, and I think on the whole averaged prettier than I have ever seen for the number on such an occasion.

Some of our naval officers were present in their stunning uniforms, and were honored with marked attention and the sweetest smiles.

I have written all this rigmarole in order to say something about the physical development of these Irish ladies.

The Irish girls we have seen in America have full chests, large, fine arms, and are altogether plump and vital. When an American lady has shown me her arms—candle-dips, No. 8—and has asked, "How can I get such arms as Bridget's?" and I have said, "*Work*—work as she does, and you will have her arms" the lady has generally said, "Oh, that is not work, that comes from climate. I tell you if I had been brought up in Bridget's clim