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D. R. J. V. SHINDEL, SURGEON AND PHYSICIAN, Middleburg, Pa. Offers his professional services to the citizens of Middleburg and vicinity.

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F. A. BOYER, JR., AUCTIONEER, Freeburg Snyder Co. Pa. Most respectfully offers his services to the public as Vendue Cryer and Auctioneer.

B. T. PARKS, ATTORNEY AT LAW & DISTRICT ATTORNEY, MIDDLEBURG, SNYDER COUNTY, PA. Office in Court House, (Sept. 15, '70)

LEWIS BREMER'S SONS TOBACCO WAREHOUSE No. 322 N. THIRD ST. PHILADELPHIA.

MERCHANT HOUSE, H. H. MANDERBACH Prop'r. No. 413 & 415 North Third Street, Philadelphia.

GREAT EXCITEMENT IN BANNEVILLE. NEW GOODS. HELFRICH & BROWER

Wish to inform the citizens of Bannerville and vicinity that they have opened a new stock of goods, and will keep constantly on hand a full assortment of

Consisting of ALPA, S. DOLINS, PLADS, LESTRES, DELAINES, CALICOES, &c.

Cloths & Cassimeres HATS and CAPS, BOOTS and SHOES.

HARDWARE AND OFFENSWARE. SALT AND FISH.

And in fact everything usually kept in a first class country store. All of which we offer at greatly reduced prices, for Cash or Country Produce.

QUICK SALES AND SMALL PROFITS. We ask at least that the public examine our stock and prices before purchasing elsewhere, as we always show our goods with pleasure.

WILLIAM H. BEAVER Respectfully announces to the citizens of Middleburg and vicinity that he is now ready to supply them with the largest and most complete stock of

SPRING & SUMMER GOODS. Respectfully announces to the citizens of Middleburg and vicinity that he is now ready to supply them with the largest and most complete stock of

Boots and Shoes, READY-MADE CLOTHING. SHIRTS, &c. everything usually kept in a well regulated store.

READING RAILROAD—Summer Arrangement, Monday May 15, 1870.

Great Trunk Line from the North and North West to Philadelphia, New York, Reading, Potsville, Tamaqua, Ashland, Shamokin, Lebanon, Allentown, Easton, Ephrata, Litz, Lancaster, Columbia, &c.

Leave Harrisburg for Reading, Potsville, Tamaqua, Minersville, Ashland, Shamokin, Pinegrove, Allentown, & Philadelphia, a. m. 8:10, 2:50 and 4:10 p. m., stopping at Lebanon and principal way stations.

East Pennsylvania Railroad trains leave Reading for Allentown, Easton and New York, &c. Returning, leave New York at 9:00 a. m., 12:00 noon and 5:00 p. m., and Allentown at 7:20 a. m., 12:25 noon and 4:20 and 8:45 p. m.

Way passenger train leaves Philadelphia at 7:30 a. m., connecting with similar train on East Penna. Returning, from Reading at 9:30 p. m., stopping at all stations.

Leave Potsville at 5:40 and 9:09 a. m. and 2:50 p. m.; Herndon at 9:30 a. m.; Shamokin at 5:40 and 10:40 a. m.; Ashland at 7:05 a. m. and 12:50 noon, Mahanoy City at 7:51 a. m. and 1:07 p. m.; Tamaqua at 8:35 a. m. and 2:20 p. m. for Philadelphia.

Leave Potsville, via Schuylkill and Susquehanna R. R. at 8:15 a. m. for Harrisburg, and 12:50 noon for Pinegrove and Treanton.

Reading Accommodation train: Leaves Potsville at 6:40 a. m., passes Reading at 7:30 a. m., arriving at Philadelphia at 10:20 7:30. Returning, leaves Philadelphia at 10:20 a. m., passing Reading at 8:00 p. m., arriving at Potsville at 9:40 p. m.

Pottstown Accommodation Train Leaves Pottstown at 6:25 a. m., returning leaves Philadelphia at 4:00 p. m.

Columbia Railroad Trains leave Reading at 7:30 a. m., and 6:15 p. m. for Pottsville, Litz, Lancaster, Columbia, &c.

Perkiomen Railroad Trains leave Perkiomen Junction at 9:09 a. m., 8:00 & 5:30 p. m.; returning leave Schuensville at 8:05 a. m., 12:40 noon, and 4:15 p. m., connecting with similar trains on Reading Railroad.

SELECT POETRY. PULLING HARD AGAINST THE STREAM.

In the world I've gained my knowledge, And for it I have had to pay, Though I never went to college,

Many a bright good hearted fellow, Many a noble minded man, Finds himself in water-shallow;

Don't give way to foolish sorrow, Let this keep you in good cheer, Brighter days may come to-morrow,

THE MASONIC CHRISTMAS. "I cannot do it." The speaker was a noble looking man of about fifty years of age,

"Such is my earnest desire." "Masonry is not strictly a reformatory institution. It does not go to the moral lazarettes and bring forth the inmates to heal them of their maladies."

"But you may get into God's pure air, and with recovered health you may associate at length with those who have never been affected."

"You are not just entering upon an other convivial season. The holidays are approaching when usually the temptations to vice and excess are the strongest."

"The words were spoken kindly but firmly, and there was also an accent of sorrow which the attentive observer might have detected, as if they were led out by a strong sense of duty in opposition to the secret desire of a yearning heart."

"I cannot do it." The words were spoken to a youthful and yet not youthful looking individual who leaned on the back of the easy chair in which the elder sat.

"The youth suddenly left the position of leaning on the back of the chair, knelt at the feet of the aged man, and raising his head exclaimed—

"As God bids me live, so will I be all you ask me for the coming year, and forever."

"God assist you to keep your solemn oath" was the reply. Edward Lincoln was the son of a man who was much in public life and paid little attention to his family.

"I have already said I cannot," was the reply. "I would do anything that would reclaim you—you, my dear sister's child, loved as if you were my own, but even for that I will not bring disgrace upon the institution I so fervently love and so profoundly reverence."

"I have no doubt that your petition might be received, acted upon and you be admitted into the lodge could I give assurance of your reformation."

"But I will reform." "You have promised often—you have performed never."

"But, uncle, I swear—" "Nay, do not swear it! You will break it if you do, and I would not have perjury on your soul."

"Is this kind? When I wish to reform my course you thrust me from you—keep me at an arm's length—you will not receive my promises—"

"God knows how much I desire to believe your protestations—how much I wish to confide in your promises, But I cannot, will not forget it—your conduct has been such as would disgrace the institution with which you would connect yourself. I cannot but remember that in the future it may be equally as bad, or worse."

"No, no, uncle not worse!" "It may be worse. That is the all most unvarying consequence of the course upon which you have entered."

"True, but you have my promise—"

leave entirely the evil companions with whom you now associate. You must enter upon an entirely new line of life; you must change your habits;

"So hard! So much to do?" "Sorely. All this and more must be done. You must live down the prejudices that your mind and heart has created against you."

"I would do all this, and yet you refuse to assist me in the least possible degree. You refuse to throw those safeguards around my pathway that might prevent me from straying from the pathway of virtue."

"But you may refuse to do it!" "You mistake. You are now straying from the path of virtue; we cannot prevent you. It is possible to recall you from wandering."

"Is that the language of a man?" "Of the once proud man, strong in his own power to be as he would?"

"Alas, I have learned that I am powerless to resist the approaches of vice."

"And you ask me to be instrumental in introducing you to an order where purity of life and rectitude of conduct are prerequisites?"

"That I might be pure and upright, led by so good examples?" "And, should you fall, think of the disgrace to the body of which you would then be an unworthy member."

"It would be shameful!" "And to save you from that shame I will not be instrumental in placing you in a position where you will be liable to endure it. But this I will do, and it depends entirely upon yourself whether I can assist you in your reformation. You desire to become a Mason."

"Such is my earnest desire." "Masonry is not strictly a reformatory institution. It does not go to the moral lazarettes and bring forth the inmates to heal them of their maladies. It rather takes the sound and perfect man and prevents him from falling a victim to the contagion."

"And I am already in the pest-house." "But you may get into God's pure air, and with recovered health you may associate at length with those who have never been affected."

"You are not just entering upon an other convivial season. The holidays are approaching when usually the temptations to vice and excess are the strongest. Forsake your old habits and circum-pet in your actions through the season of temptation that is coming; be a man through the coming year, and if you can show a clever record on the Christmas eve of the next, I will then grant your request, and so far as my influence is concerned it shall not stand in the way of your entrance within the veil which I hope is to be a safeguard for you through long years of life."

"The youth suddenly left the position of leaning on the back of the chair, knelt at the feet of the aged man, and raising his head exclaimed—

"As God bids me live, so will I be all you ask me for the coming year, and forever."

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the old man, but with a changed expression. It is now the expression of confidence and trust; then it was fear and distrust. And the face of the younger has undergone a change.

"I have not forgotten it for a single day—sorely for an hour," was his reply.

"I believe you, Edward. And I have prepared a little surprise for you, which I hope will prove pleasant. You are elected to receive initiation in the lodge of which I am a member, and you can be received this evening if you so desire."

"Oh, thank you, uncle! You are ever so kind and thoughtful. I have wished to put you in mind of your promise, but had not the courage to do so. I shall be too happy to become a member at any time that suits the convenience of the lodge."

"So I supposed. We will then go, as it is about the hour. But let me say to you that you are not about to enter upon any light and trifling ceremony. It is of deep and solemn significance. Then let your mind, your thoughts and your feelings be serious and solemn. What you are about to do may have an important influence over your whole future life. Proceed in the work in the proper spirit, and may God bless you in this and all your laudable undertakings."

"It is unnecessary follow the neophyte through the ceremonies of initiation. The caution of the uncle was not lost upon him, and he arose from the lodge dejected with a better view of the importance of the work in which he was engaged; he left the lodge fully impressed with the sublime tenets of the order."

"Your first impressions of the first degree of Masonry?" asked the uncle after arriving home.

"Beautiful, exceedingly solemn beyond expression and impressive beyond conception. I no longer wonder that you refused to recommend me when I first requested you to do so."

"I rejoice that it so strikes you. With clean hands and pure hearts only should we approach the altar of Masonry. He who does not control and subdue his passions has no right to worship at its shrine."

"His worship would be a bitter mockery." "Even so, Edward, and for that reason I could not be instrumental in leading, pointed as you were then, as a devotee at our altar."

"I blush when I remember the presumption exhibited in making the request."

"Let that pass. You know more of Masonry and its teachings than you did then, and I trust before another Christmas shall visit you will have beheld hieroglyphic light, which none but craftsmen ever saw; and that as new beauties are revealed, stronger resolutions for right and truth shall be implanted."

"Such is my hope and prayer." The conversation was interrupted by the entrance of a servant bearing a tray of substantial fare, garnished with few delicacies, and following was the aunt of the new initiate with the smoking tea tray; and close in the rear a beautiful girl, whose resemblance to the patriarch of the group, indicated the relationship of father and daughter.

The collocation was placed on the table from which the books and papers were removed.

"This is the anniversary of our Edward's promise—a promise that has been faithfully, amid many temptations, religiously kept. You, my husband, have expressed your approbation, and in this humble manner permit me to give expression to mine. Around this table we rejoice that a son is found, and a family made happy."

"Thank you, my dear wife, for this delicate and appropriate testimonial I doubt not it will be fully appreciated. The best way to prove our thankfulness is to do justice to the viands before us."

"One more petition, uncle, before we partake of the collation. More than a year ago—before you so utterly refused to present my request to the lodge for initiation—I asked you for your consent that this dear girl, and he seized her hand in an impassioned manner, and led her in front of the patriarch, should be my wife. You very properly refused. I renew my request. Ann's dear, kneel with me and beseech a blessing from our father—our mother."

"Bless you, my children! Bless you," ejaculated the joyful old man, and the emotion with which the mother responded "Amen," proved beyond dispute that there were no divided hearts in that business.

And there, with hearts overflowing with love for each other, with gratitude towards the good All-Father who sent his Son into the world and hallowed that day as an anniversary ever to be remembered, they held their Masonic Christmas. Need we describe the scene further? It is unnecessary.—Mystic Star.

In the bull-fighting days a blacksmith who was rearing a bull pup, induced his father to go on all fours, and imitate the bull. The canine pupil pinned the old gentleman by the nose. The son

The Game Laws. We print below the game laws of our State. Such laws have become necessary in all of the more thickly populated portions of the country, and it is every man's duty to denounce any infringement of them which may come to his notice.

"I have almost altogether exterminated every farmer and fruit raiser should especially make it his business to see that insectivorous birds receive all the protection that the law affords."

It shall not be lawful for any person within this Commonwealth to shoot, kill, or in any way trap or destroy any bluebird, swallow, martin or other insectivorous bird at any season of the year, under the penalty of two dollars.

No person shall shoot, kill, or otherwise destroy any pheasant between the first day of January and the fourth day of July, or any partridge or rabbit between the first day of January and the first day of October, in the present year, and in each and every year thereafter, under the penalty of five dollars for each and every offense.

From June first to September first of each and every year thereafter, it shall be unlawful for any person to use any snare, trap, or other device to catch, kill, or destroy any wild animal or bird, under the penalty of five dollars for each and every offense.

No person shall kill or otherwise destroy any pheasant between the first day of February and the first day of August, or any woodcock between the first day of February and the fourth day of July, or any partridge or rabbit between the first day of February and the first day of October in the present year, and in each and every year thereafter, under the penalty of five dollars for each and every offense, and that this is a supplement to and the same is hereby repealed.

No person shall buy or cause to be bought or carry out of this State for the purpose of supplying any private or public house or market, any pheasant, partridge, woodcock or rabbit, unless the same shall have been shot or taken in the proper season as provided for in this act, under a penalty of five dollars for each and every offense.

No person shall at any time willfully destroy the eggs or nests of any birds mentioned in this different sections of this act within this Commonwealth, under penalty of two dollars for each and every offense.

The possession of any person within this Commonwealth of any of the game and birds mentioned in the different sections of this act, shot, killed or otherwise destroyed out of the season as aforesaid, shall be prima facie evidence to convict under this act.

Any person offending against any of the provisions of this act, and being thereof convicted before any Alderman or Justice of the Peace aforesaid, or by the oath or affirmation of one or more witnesses, shall, for every such offense, forfeit the fine or fines attached to the same, one-half to the use of the county in which the complaint is made and the other half to the use of the informer; and if the offender shall refuse to pay the said forfeiture, he shall be committed to the jail of the proper county, for every such offense, for the space of two days, without bail or mainprize; Provided however, that a conviction be made within sixty days after the committing of the offense.

That any act or acts conflicting with this act, be and the same are hereby repealed.

1. The time for shooting partridges shall commence on the 20th day of October, and end on the 20th day of December in each year.

2. That the penalty provided by the 2d section of the act, to which this is a supplement, be and the same is hereby increased to twenty-five dollars and the remedy provided by said law for collecting said penalties shall be and is hereby amended; and all laws and parts of laws inconsistent herewith and the same are hereby repealed.

Provided, That the provisions of this act shall not apply to the counties of Tioga, Potter, Bradford, Sullivan, Venango, Warren, Pike, Wayne, Lehigh, Cambria, Jefferson, Clinton, Centre and Westmoreland.

Section 2 was repealed by section 1, but was afterwards re-enacted for the counties of York, Montgomery, Fayette, Westmoreland and Greene.

A SICKLY man, slightly convalescing, recently in conversation with a pious friend, congratulating him upon his recovery and asking him who his physician was, replied:

"Dr. Jones brought me through." "No, no," said his friend, "God brought you out of your illness, not the doctor."

"Well, may he be did, but I am certain the doctor will charge for it."

A grizzly bear was killed recently in California, that measured from the tip of his nose to his tail 71 feet, and from the tip of his nose to the top of his head

Josh Billings Papers. THE ANT.

The ant is a many footed insect. They live about one thousand five hundred and fifty of them (more or less) in the same hole in the ground, and hold their property in common.

They have no holy days, no eight hour system, nor never strike for any higher wages. They are very cheerful little fellows, and have no malice, nor back bit to their hearts.

There is no predatory law among them, and you never see one out of a job.

They get up early, go to bed late, work all the time, and eat on the run. You never saw two ants arguing some foolish question that neither of them didn't understand; they didn't care who let the moon be lalabated or not, whether a fish weighing two pounds, put into a pail of water already full, will make the pail stop over or weigh more.

They ain't hunting after the philosopher's stone, nor getting crazy over a search of the sudden earthquakes. They don't care whether Jupiter is thirty or thirty-five millions of miles up in the air, nor whether the earth holds around on its axis or not, so long as it don't bob over their heads and spill their barley.

They are simple, little ants, full of faith, working hard, living prudently, committing no sin, praising God by minding their own business, and dying when their time comes, to make room for the next lot of ants.

They are a reproach to the lazy, an encouragement to the industrious, a rebuke to the vicious, and a study to the Christian.

If you want to take a lesson in architecture, go and sit down by the side of their hole in the ground, and wonder how so many can live so thick.

If your pushans needs consolidation, watch the ants and be strengthened. If a man had (added to his capacity) the pushans and grit of these atoms of animated nature, every mountain on the huzzum of the earth would, before this has been leveled, and every inch of surface would be strewn with fruitfulness, and countless of human critters would have been added to the inhabitants of the universe and him fed on corn and other ass.

I have set by the hour and a half down near an ant hill, and marvelled; have wondered at their instincts, and have thought how big must be the peckish who was satisfied to believe that even an ant, the least of the bugs could have been created, made bigger, and set to work by chance.

Oh, how I do pity the individual who believes that all things here are the work of an accident. He robs himself of all pleasure on earth and all right in heaven.

I had rather be an ant (even an humble, badly legged profane swearing ant) than to look upon things of this world as I would upon the throw of the dice.

Ants are older than Adam. Man (for very wise reasons) weren't built until other things were finished and pronounced good.

If a man had been made first, he would have insisted upon bossing the rest of the job.

He probably would have objected to having any little bitty ants at all, and various other objections would have been offered equally green.

I am glad that man was the last thing made.

If man hadn't bin made at all, you never would have heard me find any fault with it.

I haven't much faith in man, not because he can't do well, but because he won't.

Ants have by laws and a constitution and they mean something. Their laws ain't like our laws, made with a hole in them, so that a man can steal horse and ride them on a walk.

They don't have any whiskey ring, that is virtuous, simply because it books by the million, and then legalizes its own acts.

They don't have any legislators that you can buy, nor any judges layin around on the half shell, redly to be swindled.

I rather like the ants, and think now I shall sell out my money and real estate and live like them.

I had rather live them than the bulls or bears. I like their morals better. The bulls and bears handle more money, it is true, and make a great deal more noise on Wall Street, one of em sticking his horns into a flabby piece of Erie and tossing it up into the air, and the other ketching it when it comes down and tramping it under his feet.

This may be phun for the bulls and bears, but is worse than the cholera morbus for poor Erie.

Ants never disturb Erie; ye couldn't sell one enny Erie enny more than you could sell skip on the codfish banks of Newfoundland.

Ants are a honest, hard toying little people, but whether they marry, and live in marriage, is beyond my strength; but if they don't they are no wuss oph than they are out West (near the city of Chicago), where they marry to-day and apply for an injunction to-morrow, and are redly for the next day to fight it out again on the other line.

Wedlock out West, (near the great grain market of Chicago), is one of them kind of locks that almost any body can pick.