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All forms of Hernia a specialty. Well known Scranton physicians in charge. SCRANTON GERMAN RUPTURE CURE CO., LIM., 203 Washington Avenue.

PERSONAL.

Galusha A. Grow is at the Wyoming. Dr. A. S. Nye, of Adams avenue, is out of the city on business. Will S. Road, of the freight department of the Lackawanna road, spent Christmas with his parents in Montrose. Miss Margaret Mitchell, of Penn avenue, is visiting Gouldsboro friends. Dr. H. B. Clearwater, of Troy, N. Y., is visiting his parents in Green Ridge. Dr. and Mrs. H. B. Ware, who have been visiting at Buffalo, returned yesterday. Miss Scott, of Binghamton, is the guest of Mrs. Willis Kemmerer, of Franklin avenue. Chairman Wood, of the Wayne county Republican committee, was in the city yesterday. John N. Davis, of Plymouth, spent Christmas with Thomas W. Thomas, of Putnam street. George W. Hall, a prominent fire insurance man from Michigan, is visiting friends in this city. Rev. John J. Feeley, of Williamsport, has been appointed assistant to Rev. M. F. Crane at Avoca. Mr. and Mrs. E. Davies, of Edwardsville, and Mrs. Jones, of Kingston, spent yesterday with Mrs. Charles, of Chestnut street. John Fitzgibbons, of Chicago, is visiting his parents on Tenth street. Mr. Fitzgibbons is master mechanic of the Rock Island railroad. Mr. Lawler, of Easton, has been appointed city editor of the Scranton Times in the place of Captain Brady, who has returned to Washington to resume his duties as correspondent. Among yesterday's visitors to the city were C. C. Jadin and Sheriff Alberty, of Wayne county, who were in consultation with S. S. Wright and C. F. Wright, of Susquehanna county, with regard to the contest in the Fifteenth congressional district to supply the vacancy caused by the death of Congressman Myron Wright. A progressive euchre party was held at the residence of Mr. and Mrs. Aaron Goldsmith, on Wyoming avenue, last evening, when the following guests were present: Mr. and Mrs. Jeff Freeman, Mr. and Mrs. Ben Samter, Mr. and Mrs. Solomon Goldsmith, Mr. and Mrs. Louis Marks, Mr. and Mrs. Jacob Cohen, Mr. and Mrs. Samuel Samter, Mr. and Mrs. Theo Stern and Mr. and Mrs. Herman Langstaff. Refreshments were served and a very pleasant evening was enjoyed by all present. Oxford, International, Bagster and Holman's Bibles. PRATT'S BOOK STORE.

HE WAS A LONE FISHERMAN

Constable Moran and Superintendent McMullen Arrested Him.

MR. THOMPSON IS AFTER THEM

Had Them Arraigned in Court for Assault and Battery—Verdict of Not Guilty Returned—Joseph Holtham's Fondness for Wives.

Court, after its Christmas vacation, opened again yesterday morning. Judge Purdy presiding in the main court room and Judge Sittler in No. 2. The first case called was that of John S. Thompson against Constable Michael Moran, of Carbondale, and William S. McMullen, superintendent of the Delaware and Hudson Railroad company. Attorneys E. C. Newcomb, of this city, and John F. Reynolds, of Carbondale, represented the prosecutor and Attorney H. C. Butler, of Carbondale, the defendants, who were under indictment charged with assault and battery.

On June 23 last Thompson, who is a prominent contractor, went from his home in Carbondale and began to fish at No. 4 dams, owned by the Crystal Lake Water company. Mr. McMullen is also superintendent of the water company. Thompson alleges that he was at the dam fishing only a few minutes when the two defendants came along and Constable Moran said to him that he was violating the law by fishing without permission, as the posted notices erected on the banks of the dam in conspicuous places expressly forbade it. Mr. Thompson answered that he did not know the rules, whereupon Constable Moran placed him under arrest. The prosecutor wanted to know where the warrant was and he was told that no warrant was needed, that he could be arrested without one by coal and iron police, to which both defendants represented they belonged.

Held Mr. Thompson. The constable caught hold of Mr. Thompson by the arm and forcibly prevented him from fishing any further. Superintendent McMullen went for a carriage to Carbondale and in the meantime Constable Moran detained him in custody. When the former returned with the carriage he had with him a warrant issued by an alderman of Carbondale, where the prosecutor later appeared and entered bail for his appearance at court. The defendants on the stand yesterday claimed that they had a perfect right to arrest Mr. Thompson, as he was violating the law and in making the arrest they asserted that no more force was used beyond what was absolutely necessary. The jury returned a verdict of not guilty and placed the costs on the defendants.

A peculiar case was the next one before Judge Purdy. Joseph Holtham was charged with perjury by Mrs. Ida Fisher. The commonwealth was assisted by Attorney H. L. Taylor in the prosecution and Attorney C. H. Soper represented the defendant. Holtham is a vicious rascal, if the stories told of him are true. Mrs. Fisher was married to him in June, 1890, by Alderman Wright at the court house and she lived with him three years, when it developed that he had another wife living. The charge of perjury against him was brought on the ground that he took a false oath when he was obtaining his marriage license and made answer to the questions put by the clerk, among which was one regarding the deposition regarding whether he had a wife living when he was asking for permission to marry another.

Ventured Three Times. It appears that Holtham was married three times and that only his first wife is dead. In 1888 he wedded a young girl, Miss Alice Healey, aged about 20 years. She lived with him at his home on Myerlet avenue until one child was born to them. When the young one was three months old, it is claimed by those who presume to know, that Holtham and his young wife agreed to separate, and the terms of agreement were that he should pay her a certain sum of money and provide her with a passage to Ireland. They separated and she crossed the water, taking her child with her. Holtham has three children by his first wife, and after wife No. 2 left him, he advertised for a housekeeper, and among others who answered the "ad" was a young woman calling herself Mrs. Ida Fisher. Holtham engaged her and was so well suited with her as a housekeeper that he offered his hand and heart within a month after he first saw her. She accepted and he married her in June, 1890.

Mrs. Fisher had been married about three years when she became aware that her husband's second wife was not dead, as he represented, but alive in Ireland. Several witnesses were sworn to prove that Holtham and Miss Healey were regarded as man and wife and one of them testified that he had a letter a few weeks ago from Miss Healey, written in her own handwriting. The commonwealth rested at adjournment, and the testimony for the defence will be heard today.

TWO BUILDINGS BURNED

Sensational Stories Circulated That Children Lost Their Lives.

WERE WITHOUT FOUNDATION

Origin of the Fire Is Shrouded in Mystery. No One in the Building in Which the Fire Originated—Loss Covered by Insurance.

Another mysterious fire was that which destroyed two dwelling houses, situated on Meadow avenue, South Side, last evening. A few minutes after 7 o'clock the alarm was sounded from box 49 at Crown avenue and Birch street. The three South Side fire companies responded and the William Connelly's with their new team was the first to arrive, but they could do nothing as no water plug was within reach, the nearest one being at Stone avenue. John Kourik, who lives at 316 Meadow avenue, has a small fish pond in his garden and a line of hose was dropped into it and a stream of water forced by the Neptune steamer to the burning buildings.

The building where the fire originated was owned and occupied by Bernard Babel and a family of five children. It was a two story structure, the first being brick and the top frame. The number of the house was 721 Meadow avenue. It was practically destroyed before the firemen got to work. The house owned by William Elboch to the left was also destroyed. It was a story-and-a-half frame affair. Elboch saved all of his furniture and carried \$500 insurance. His loss will probably be covered by that amount.

No One in the House. The strange and mysterious part of the story remains yet to be told. Babel's house, where the fire started, was locked up and apparently no one of the family was at home. John Hoffman, who lives to the right of Babel's house, heard people departing from the house about a half hour before the fire broke out. It was he who first saw the fire and gave the alarm. He tried to get in the front door but it was locked and so securely that it resisted his efforts to break it in. He went around to the rear and managed to burst in that door.

The flames drove him back and to him then the fire looked as if it broke out in the front room of the house. When he heard the people leaving the house before the fire he looked over and only saw a man coming down the back door of Babel's house. But he heard about a half dozen voices of children.

After the flames had destroyed the houses and the control of the fire was brought about, sensational stories spread to the effect that several children asleep in the upstairs of the house had been burned to death.

They Did Not Return. At 9:30, two hours and one-half after the fire had occurred, neither Babel nor any of his children had put in an appearance at their late home. It was said they had gone to a Christmas entertainment of the Sunday school of the Hickory Street Presbyterian church, but at the church it was learned that Babel was not there and does not belong to that congregation. Search was made in the cellar of Babel's house after the fire cooled, but no trace of human bodies could be observed.

Lieutenant Zang and Patrolman Sartor made an investigation which satisfied them that no one was burned in the building. Babel and his family had gone visiting for the night was what the officers learned from a trustworthy source.

Unless the fire originated from an overheated stove or was caused by the upsetting of a lighted lamp, there is no theory unless it was deliberately set on fire. The promises, the neighbors say, were fully covered by insurance.

MARRIED AT NOON.

Miss Cora H. Phillips Wedded to Professor Charles H. Ashton.

The first large wedding of holiday week was that yesterday of Miss Cora H. Phillips, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. John H. Phillips, of Adams avenue, North Park, to Professor Charles H. Ashton, of Harvard university. The ceremony was performed at noon in the Green Ridge Presbyterian church by the pastor, Rev. N. F. Stahl.

Miss Grace Smith, of Honesdale, the maid of honor, preceded to the altar the bride, who accompanied by her father. There were two bridesmaids. Daniel J. Phillips, brother of the bride, attended the groom. The ushers were: Charles Carr, Charles Winkler, Charles E. Daniels and Charles Genter.

The bride wore a gray traveling suit and carried lilacs-of-the-valley; the maid of honor was attired in a fur-trimmed brown cloth dress.

After the ceremony a reception, attended by only immediate friends and relatives, was held at the bride's home, and at 3:50 o'clock Mr. and Mrs. Ashton left on the Lackawanna road for a tour. They will reside in Cambridge.

Mrs. Ashton, until recently, taught school in No. 19 building, on the West Side, and is a graduate of the Mansfield State Normal school. Mr. Ashton is formerly an instructor in the Normal school, is a professor of mathematics at Harvard.

THE MOST remarkable cures of scrofula on record were accomplished by Hood's sarsaparilla. This medicine is unequalled for diseases of the blood. Take only Hood's.

HOOD'S PILLS are hand made, and perfect in proportion and appearance.

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Standard Diaries for 1895. PRATT'S BOOK STORE.

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Gold Pens and Pencils. PRATT'S BOOK STORE.

Great variety of Sleds, Clipper Wagons and Doll Carriages. PRATT'S BOOK STORE.

The \$40,000 School House, for Columbia avenue has been let and will be commenced immediately. There are still a few more lots left at a low price. Arthur Frothingham, Office, Theater Lobby.

Brush and Comb, Manicure, Toilet and Shaving Sets. PRATT'S BOOK STORE.

Davis' Automatic Inkstands. PRATT'S BOOK STORE.

IT IS OVER REEFERS. REEFERS

The Holiday rush, we mean. We had a lot of goods arrive a few days before Christmas, and were too busy to open. Among them a lot of those

\$10 DINNER SETS

These sets are new shape, tasty decorations and we guarantee the quality. Our line of

DINNER, TEA and TOILET SETS,

Is large at all prices.

China Hall

WEICHEL & MILLAR, 116 WYOMING AVENUE.

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NEW STORE, NEW GOODS, NEW PRICES.

LOWER THAN EVER BEFORE.

IF You buy your shoes of Schank you wear the latest styles.

SCHANK'S Shoe Store

410 Spruce St.

A SUGGESTION

Of course you are in a quandary what to give for a Xmas present. Now your mind will be greatly relieved by visiting either of our stores, where our lines of Bath Robes, Canes, Umbrellas, Leather Goods, Neckwear, Gloves, Suspenders and Night Shirts are complete. Our assortment is certainly the largest and best in the city.

Christian, THE HATTER

412 SPRUCE ST. AND 205 LACKER AVE.

IT IS OVER REEFERS. REEFERS

LARGE VARIETY, GOOD STYLES AND LOW PRICES.

We want to show you our MEN'S STRICTLY ALL WOOLEN \$10 SUIT

Colors, Grey, Black and Oxford Mixed.

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Custom Tailors and Clothiers, WYOMING AVE.

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308 Lackawanna Avenue.

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In order to close out our entire stock of Winter Goods in all departments.

Jackets, Capes and Furs

SOLD LESS THAN COST.

MILLINERY

At your own price. Ladies' and Gents' Underwear, Dress Goods and Notions, all MUST GO AT THIS SALE.

HAIR CHAINS FOR CHRISTMAS PRESENTS.

Something nice for a Christmas Gift. Chains made out of your own or some dear friend's hair. Leave orders as early as possible.

E. M. HETZEL, - 230 Lacka. Ave.

FREE TICKETS TO THE SKATING RINK

WITH EVERY PAIR OF ICE SKATES SOLD BY US BETWEEN NOW AND NEW YEAR'S, WE WILL GIVE FREE ONE TICKET GOOD FOR ONE ADMISSION AT ANY TIME TO EITHER OF THE ICE SKATING RINKS.

C. M. FLOREY

Y. M. C. A. BUILDING, 222 WYOMING AVENUE.

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133 FRANKLIN AVE. We are now doing a general Drug, Paint and Oil business at the above location, during the erection of our store building recently destroyed by fire.

New Goods

IN EVERY DEPARTMENT. OUR TELEPHONE CALL NO. 223. All orders promptly filled and delivered to any part of the city.

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And have people commenting about it.

Now Is the Time to Buy an Overcoat

If you intend getting one. Our vast assortment is still unbroken and you'll have no difficulty making a suitable selection.

PRICES? Well, You Should See Them, Away Down. Drop in and see us. We'll Interest you.

PENN CLOTHING AND SHOE HOUSE

137 AND 139 PENN AVENUE,

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To close before our New Goods arrive at prices that will accommodate the after-Holiday purse.

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