

**NORTON'S**  
New Wall Decorations  
for coming Season  
are now arriving frequently.  
We invite the attention of  
persons desiring choice covering  
for their walls to see  
our excellent assortment  
of Decorative Novelties,  
which will be cheerfully shown  
to all callers without  
incurring any obligation to order.  
All grades of stock,  
exclusive patterns,  
artistic, up-to-date colorings  
at popular prices.  
**M. NORTON,**  
322 Lackawanna Ave.

**DR. W. B. HENWOOD,**  
**DENTIST**  
316 LACKAWANNA AVE.

**SEED OATS**  
There is no economy in  
sowing oats that  
will not grow.  
**Buy Good Oats**  
Ours weigh 34 to 36  
lbs. per bushel and are  
Clean Natural Oats.

**The Weston Mill Co**  
Scranton, Olyphant, Carbondale.

**PERSONAL.**  
Congressman William Connell returned from Washington Saturday night.  
Charles Orchard, of Carbondale, has accepted the position of assistant to General Agent G. H. Cobb, of the Pennsylvania railroad, Scranton office.  
Rev. P. J. Murphy, pastor of St. Patrick's church, Olyphant, is in Montreal, attending the funeral of his brother, Rev. Lawrence Murphy, who died in that city Saturday.  
A letter received from John H. Phelps announces the arrival of himself and Dr. L. P. Everhart at the island of St. Thomas in the West Indies. They expect before returning to visit South America. On the steamer which carried them to St. Thomas is the customary entertainment was given by the passengers and Dr. Everhart gave an interesting talk on birds. The travelers report excellent health.  
Alexander Alkman, for thirteen years inside foreman at the Dickson colliery, of the Delaware and Hudson Canal company, has resigned his position on account of ill health. He is succeeded by Edward McEllynn, who was assistant foreman. Mr. Alkman was considered a valuable employe by the Delaware and Hudson company. He was very popular with his men.  
Friday evening Mr. and Mrs. Lou Hinds entertained a few of their friends at their home on Webster avenue. During the evening a flashlight photograph of the guests was taken. Among those present were: Misses Rita Moyle, Lizzie Moyle, Minnie Champion, Agnes Serino, Beatrice Kyte, Mabelle Sweetser, Myrtle Fraunfelder, Rena Day, Minerva Sande, Maud Field, Lou Dolph, Ella Brown, Miss Loyal Elmer Swingle, John L. Huns, Harry Van Buren, of Peckville; Charles Moyle, Fred Carpenter, Mr. Harrington, Arthur Davis, Louis Jones, Herr Alexander, Bert Myers, Harry Randolph, Ed. Hughes, Harry Leslie, Mr. Richards.  
**The Through Sleeping Car Service.**  
It is to be re-established between New York and Chicago via the D. L. & W. and Nickel Plate Roads on April 13th, 1897. An elegant Pullman car will be attached to train No. 7 leaving New York at 7:30 p. m. each day, and will arrive at Chicago at 9:00 p. m. the following day. Dining car attached at Buffalo at 7:00 a. m. For space and all information call on ticket agents D. L. & W. R. R.

**Dr. Keller's Change of Office.**  
Dr. Keller has removed his office to 415 Wyoming avenue.

**WE OFFER**  
The best shoes we know how to buy. Should they turn out unsatisfactory in any way, we will make them satisfactory in some way. Can anyone do more than that? We show spring styles in the Rugby, Berlin and French toes. See the American calf skin shoes for men we sell at  
**\$2.50.**  
They're worth looking at—and buying.  
**SCHANK & SPENCER.**  
410 Spruce St.

**SERMON ON THE POISONED POTTAGE**

By Rev. H. E. Adriaens in Green Ridge Presbyterian Church.  
**ELICITED SYMPATHETIC INTEREST**  
Parable Was Rehearsed and Its Lesson Extracted in a True Gospel Way.—Mr. Adriaens, Showed the Need of Rising to Spiritual as Well as Material Emergency—There Should Be a Constant Fortification Against Evil.

Rev. H. E. Adriaens, of New York city, yesterday occupied the pulpit of the Green Ridge Presbyterian church. During his stay here he and his wife, a sister of Miss Marion Holmes, of Albany, who has frequently visited in Scranton, have been entertained at the home of C. H. Welles on Vine street. Mr. Adriaens' evening sermon was based upon the story of the poisoned pot of pottage and Elisha's purification of it. The discourse was essentially a gospel effort and engaged the sympathetic attention of the large congregation present. The text was H. Kings, iv:38. "And one went out into the field to gather herbs and found a wild vine, and gathered thereof wild gourds his lap full and came and shewed them into the pot of pottage: for they knew them not." Mr. Adriaens said:

It seems to be the mission of some in this world to set things straight. A mission of extrication is one for which the world has a constant demand. Difficulties multiply incessantly unless they are met and dissipated. People rise up and call that man or that woman blessed who had led the way for them into the open. Perhaps in all Old Testament history there is no more characteristic of an often fell to straighten things out as Elisha.

**WATER WAS TAINTED.**  
Jericho had a tainted water supply. The city was in a bad way. The municipal council had tried to solve the problem that was defying all solution. It was Elisha that went forth from the city's limits and seeking out the spring, sweetened it with the crust of salt. His edification from on high filled him to come with municipal perplexities. No less did it give him adaptability in circumstances at a far remove from these. Financial embarrassment confronted the wife of a deceased minister. There was no board of ministerial relief in Israel whence the widow might turn. Elisha was in line of such a board and the woman was happy and at rest in her mind as she saw the power of self-multiplication in her little pot of oil.

And, again, eschewing how the great man fulfilled his mission in a smaller province, recall the looks of apprehension and dismay that mantled the face of the theological student as he stood with an axe handle in his grasp, the head being hidden beneath the murky waters of the Jordan. "Alan, Master, for it was Elisha that told me how to sympathize with the young man's solicitude. He did not keep him on a tension. He restored the missing head to its handle and relieved the embarrassment that the loss of an occasion. Thus Elisha acted the part of the deliverer. He the difficulty such as involved a city, a house, or an individual, he was still ready to reach forth a helping hand. Yes! no matter how the difficulty took its rise he accepted the condition that confronted him and then if need be dealt with the causes later on.

**FULL OF GATHERINGS.**  
In view of the fact that the field of life is full of gatherings, and especially as those who are hearty and eager and simple are some forth into it; it may not be unwise to make the burden of this sermon rest upon the thought of care. Forward and be forearmed. It is easier to guard and warn lives from danger than to attempt to act the part of an Elisha after the evil is wrought by them. Laudable mission, indeed, it is to set the crooked things straight. More laudable, though, is it to keep things from becoming crooked. A word, then, against reckless gathering.

Note that gathering in the field of life is to be accompanied with a natural prompting. It is as a certain sense of pride that one realizes for the first time that he is a contributor to the world's work. There is no money in one's whole experience that so readily represents the first month's toll in the shop or office. The recipient feels that he has actually done something that has a measured value. Even the child in the nursery appears to have a sense of that is kindred to this of the first wages. It may walk toward its mother with a certain sort of exultant glow, call attention to itself with the word, "see what I've done for you!" The help may mean destruction in some form or other yet to the childish mind there's a sense of service. And this sense of service is the spark that ignites. Absent, then, into the field of life souls go, and underneath all else there is to be found the desire of doing something for the life, with which one's lot is cast. The man who is asked the question is "what do you want to do?" the question is what seems to you the chief thing that you would gather and cast into the common lot which it devolves upon others to share with you.

**ARE MADE UNSOLICITED.**  
Most of the contributions that are made by you or by any one else to the common life are, as this, unsolicited. Understand what I mean; no one comes to you before-hand. You are waited upon by no committees. No levy is made upon the possibilities of your life. The spontaneous is ever the true. But far if one has gone forth and garnered evil that so he make known in his acts. An evil influence is best combated when it masks under no form of faith or purity. Our contributions are unsolicited. Elisha never bade the man go out into the field, he went of his own accord and on his own responsibility. Advance now a step further. Go out with the man in the Bible record. He went out to gather herbs and found a wild vine and gathered thereof his lapful and came and shrew them into the pot of pottage. It was this man's purpose to do the right thing. When he started he proposed to secure something that would give delight to his fellows. The broth was not very palatable by itself; herbs would impart to it spiciness, taste and flavor. Surely not one will deny that that motive is commendable which proposes something good for others, something that brought in and introduced into the common life will be right at all. And it is sweetened it. Blessed be those that go forth to gather herbs. But what of those who start with the fairest intentions and never accomplish their purpose? Nothing is so evident to the watchful eye as that many begin right, start right, only to be diverted and to become the occasion of harm.

**CONSEQUENCES DISASTROUS.**  
How many resolutions have formulated themselves in hearts to gather only the herbs of fair, sweet converse, but once in the world the wild vine has caught the eye and the consequences have been disastrous. The circumstances of life tend sometimes to introduce bitterness into the heart and back from the fields comes the embittered spirit, not to give flavor, but to make life harder for those that are round about. The wild vine of gossip, also, is always growing. Cut it down in the morning and, behold, at nightfall it will have attained its vitality in a full-fledged maturity. The flavor of many a personality is spoiled; the estimate of many a one may be lured through nothing more or less than the harmful lapful of berries that grew on the bush of gossip.

slip. It's a falling to which many must confess, this—and it's only afterward that we think of the good things of which we might have spoken and learned our lessons in taking up with the vine when just beyond was the herb we had certainly intended securing.  
I want to refer to you a sentence that belonged to our beginning. It is this: "It seems to be the mission of some in this world to set things straight." You can apply this thought narrowly or militantly. Some seem to have a peculiar tact in unravelling difficulties, and, by a natural instinct, others turn to them for advice and counsel and feel that in so doing there is relief and assurance of being sent on their way rejoicing. You may have been so helped. This is the narrow application. The broader one takes higher ground. It enters the field of spirituality. The broader one may appeal to you with a personal force this very day. It concerns the setting straight of your life itself as the only assurance that other things will then take unto themselves straightness.

**HAD HE BEEN RIGHTeous.**  
Had Judas Iscariot been straightened by righteousness there would have been no need of immortalizing the shoeing in the treasury of the world. Right hearts alone make right lives, and right actions proceed from them. But who is to set your life straight? Who is to keep you from the evil that is in the world and which you are so prone to take up with and bring into the allotted portion that you are sharing with others? Who, I ask, if not the Christ of God. He has restored other souls; why not yours? He has wrought divine forgiveness for others; why not for you? He has thrown His own spotless robe into the world and the life of ours and has borne away from it, in His own body, the sentence of death.  
Learn of Him. Be more than conqueror, or thorough victor, over sin and Satan, by a measureless blessing the souls that are touching yours today.

**WESLEY AND METHODISM.**

**Subject of a Sermon by Rev. A. F. Chaffee in Asbury M. E. Church.**  
Wesley and Methodism were combined in an interesting address last night by Rev. A. F. Chaffee in Asbury Methodist church, Green Ridge. His text was Psalms lxxvii: 25: "There shall be an handful of corn in the earth upon the top of the mountain; the fruit thereof shall shake like Lebanon; and they of the city shall flourish like the grass of the field."  
Mr. Chaffee believed Wesley was one of the most remarkable personages of the church of God. In response to a supposed inquiry as to what five virtues had performed the most efficient service for the glory of God, he had no doubt John Wesley would be one of the number.  
The Church of England received no little condemnation from Mr. Chaffee in his rehearsal of the ripeness of the opportunity which Wesley grasped for establishing his reform. That denomination, he declared, had become clerically disreputable. In the time of Wesley it was common to issue church and sporting announcements at one and the same time. A clergyman's work was not a matter of manliness, but of filthy lucre, and the clergyman were commonly addicted to drink and their morals were not always the best. The mass of the people had no confidence in them and were ready enough for the truth of God.  
As a result of the founder's example there was started at the time of the revolution in this country the little sail-lot band of Methodists from which has grown a mass of people of that denomination numbering 5,000,000 souls, enough to occupy thirty days in passing in single file before a given point at the rate of three miles an hour.

Mr. Chaffee in speaking of the itinerancy of the Wesleyan ministry, argued that the itinerant Methodist churches were not subjected to any more frequent changes than the Presbyterian church. The Methodist system keeps each of her preaching men employed and gives him a church and each church a man.  
It was considered by many that the preaching of Wesley saved England from a French revolution. Mr. Chaffee declared, and some go so far as to say that he did more to save the world than any one man since his time. This old power has lost none of its force. In this country the strength of the church is great enough, big enough and powerful enough to carry any great question that it might choose to champion.

**IRISH-AMERICAN MILITARY UNION.**

**Will Hold a Convention on April 27 in New York City.**  
Brigadier General Charles S. O'Mahoney has issued orders to the officers of the general staff of the Irish American Military Union of the United States to report in full uniform at the annual meeting to be held April 27, 1897, at Hicadennas, No. 14 Union Square, New York city.  
The meeting takes place in conjunction with the Grant mausoleum celebration in New York city. Dr. J. J. Sullivan, of the North End, is colonel and surgeon general on the general's staff. He will attend the meeting.

**HILL AND MAHLE GET TWELVE MONTHS EACH**

Judge Buffington Passes Sentences on a Number of Criminals.

**CIVIL CASE IS NOW ON TRIAL**

It is an Action in Assumpsit Brought by the Widow of the Late Samuel Dolph Against the National Accident Insurance Company of New York to Recover \$4,000 Insurance, Application for a Non Suit Refused by Judge Buffington.

Sentence was imposed by Judge Buffington Saturday on a number of persons convicted of crimes against the government at this and previous terms of United States district court. James Hill, of Wilkes-Barre, convicted of fraudulent use of the mails, was sentenced to a fine of \$5 and twelve months in the western penitentiary. Similar punishment was meted out to George Mahle, of Wilkes-Barre, whose offense was the same as Hill's.  
John Metich and Harry Kitz, of Shamokin, who on Saturday morning were returned guilty of counterfeiting, were each given two years in the western penitentiary and a fine of \$5. Chas. Johns, who pleaded guilty last Monday of robbing the postoffice at Covert, Bradford county, was sentenced to twelve months in the Allegheny county jail.  
Edward F. Showers and A. C. Allison, of Sunbury, convicted a year ago of fraudulent use of the mails, and on whom sentence was suspended pending the decision on legal points raised by their attorneys, were given eighteen months in the western penitentiary and a fine of \$5 apiece.

**PLEA FOR CLEMENCY.**

Their attorneys pleaded for clemency on the ground that they are each on the verge of the grave, the one being afflicted with heart trouble and the other with a pulmonary complaint, but when it was shown that their illness dated from the time that the decision on the legal points in question was announced, the grounds for clemency lost their effect.  
L. T. Straiff, for fraudulent use of the mails, was given eighteen months in the western penitentiary and a fine of \$5. W. T. Straiff, convicted of a like offense, was given a year in the penitentiary and \$5 fine. John Kulp, fraudulent use of the mails, was given a year in the western penitentiary.  
The case of Dolph against the National Accident Insurance company of New York, is now on before Judge Buffington, sitting as a circuit court judge. It is an action in assumpsit to recover \$4,000 on an insurance policy which the late Samuel Dolph, foreman of the Lackawanna Iron and Coal company's lumber yard, held in that company, and which the company refuses to pay because the insured, it alleges, was in a dangerous part of the plant, where his business did not call him, and further that the injuries were not the direct cause of death.

**LIVED THREE MONTHS.**

The policy was secured May 27, 1887. Premiums were paid upon it until August 18, 1894, the time of death. Mr. Dolph was 70 years of age at the time of the accident, May, 1894. He lived three months after being injured.  
Testimony was adduced to show that the deceased was employed at his regular calling when the accident occurred; that the injury was of a serious nature and that death was due to nervous exhaustion induced directly by the injuries. Drs. N. Y. Leet and W. E. Allen testifying to this latter contention.  
When the plaintiff's side had rested the defendant company moved for a non-suit on the ground that the plaintiff had failed to prove death resulted from accident and had shown that there was contributory negligence.  
Judge Buffington refused the motion. The case, it is expected, will be on the greater part of today.  
George M. Watson is attorney for the plaintiff and Charles L. Hawley and H. D. McBurney for the defense.

**REMOVED.**

**THE STAR PAINT SHOP**  
TO 331 ADAMS AVE.  
CHAS. WAGNER, Decorator, House and Sign Painter

**SABBATH NEWS NOTES.**

The year's total benevolent collections in the Asbury Methodist Episcopal church, Green Ridge, amounted to nearly \$200.  
Rev. E. S. Ballestrine, of the Church of the Good Shepherd, Green Ridge, and Rev. M. B. Mill, of St. David's Episcopal church, exchanged pulpits in the evening.  
The rites of baptism were administered at the morning service in the Washburn Street Presbyterian church.  
Rev. J. G. Eckman, presiding elder, preached in the Providence Methodist church at the evening service.

**NO LET UP.**

The picture selling continues at a furious rate. Every department was robbed of some of its clerks on Saturday. Needed them in the picture room. If we hadn't cut the life out of prices on our own stock, the Pratt stock, large as it is, would not have lasted till now. A picture store without a picture would be a funny sight. But if this week's selling is as large as last week's, we'll have none left. Some of the lots are so small now we almost fear to advertise them. Lest you be disappointed.

**Medallions**

Glass front medallions in gold frames. Such as usually sold for 75c or \$1.00. This lot hasn't been advertised before. No need to advertise them now, since they sell on sight and would easily be gone before the week's end. But we must have something to talk about. So we tell of these. Choice of the lot, (about 100)

**Water Colors**

Reproductions of the masterpieces of water-color painting. With this difference: These are made by the French process, not by hand. Which you know when you're told. Not otherwise. Framed in white and gold and gilt frames. Worth \$3.00, but sold today for

**Big Ones**

20x24 inches in size, with frames 3 or 4 inches wide. Making the picture about 28x32 outside. The biggest picture and the biggest value ever sold for

**Lamp Globes**

A specially fortunate buying of these must not be left untold. If you're tired of silk shades, we suggest one of these. Decorated globes 9 inches in diameter. Any color. Worth \$1.50 to \$2.00. 100 go on sale today at

**Etchings**

A few dozen buyers can be made happy today. Framed etchings, 16x20 inches inside measurement. Ready to hang.

**A Few Left**

Those framed pictures, the 16x20 size. That have caused so many to look surprised—and buy. No wonder! This is the first time Scranton ever saw a picture of this size in a good white and gold frame sold for

**There's a great big crockery sale on the way.**

It'll reach you about next week. Our New York buyer telegraphs us that a big pottery is in difficulties. And he's bought a carload for almost nothing. But the "almost nothing" must be paid in cash. So we send him the money today. And anxiously wait to tell you of the good things. Which we'll do as soon as they arrive. Maybe the last of this week. Surely by the first of next.

**REXFORD'S, 303 Lackawanna Ave**

**SILVERSTONE,**

**The Eye Specialist**  
Who Examines the Eyes Free at 309 Lackawanna Avenue, over Lehigh Valley Ticket Office, Will After April First.

Move to 215 Lackawanna Avenue, and Occupy a Large Space In

**JOHN WILLIAMS NEW SHOE STORE**

Where he will have the finest Optical Office in the city. His PHICES for Spectacles, Eye Glasses, Artificial Eyes, Magnifying Glasses and Opera Glasses will be as always, VERY LOW. Steel Frames from 25c to \$1.00. Aluminum, 75c. to \$1.75. Filled, \$2.00. Silver, \$2.00. Gold Frames, \$3.50. Aqua Crystal Lenses, 50c. Pebble Glasses, \$1.00 to \$2.00. We replace old lenses and solder frames on short notice.

**A GOOD PLACE**

To buy a Metallic Bed, To get Furniture Upholstered and Cushions made, To get Carpets and Rugs cleaned, To buy Feather Mattresses, etc. To get Box Divans cheap.

**THE SCRANTON BEDDING CO**

**THE KEELEY CURE**

Why let your home and business be destroyed through street dirt or mud, when you can be cured in four weeks at the Keeley Institute, 28 Madison Avenue, Scranton, Pa. The Cure Will Bear Investigation.

**Music by Bauer's Orchestra THIS IS THE DAY Of Our Grand Opening**

**DON'T MISS THIS GREAT DISPLAY OF**

Tailor-Made Suits, Ladies' Shirt Waists, Fine Novelty Dress Goods, Black Dress Goods, Fancy Silks, Dress Trimmings, Wash Goods, Embroideries, Laces, Etc.

**ASK TO SEE OUR M. & H. KID GLOVES.**

They are the best \$1.00 will buy. Every pair warranted.

**SPECIAL BARGAINS FOR SATURDAY AND MONDAY.**

Ladies' Tailor-made Suits, all wool, Serge mixed, Etamule, Bolero Jacket, very full skirt, for only—\$5.95  
**DRESS GOODS—24-inch Checks and Plaids, for Separate Skirts—12c**  
A nice assortment of Check Mixtures and plain suitings, were 50c, now only—29c  
A great variety of serviceable goods, Coverts, Containes, Trammies, Veilour Coats, in Russet, Cornflower, Boral, Reseda, Mulberry, etc., ranging in price from 39c to \$1.50

**MONDAY BARGAINS.**

Good Check Apron Gingham	21c
Good Light Challies	31c
Silk Stripe Challies, were 20c	9c
Good Dark Prints, were 5c	3c
Fine Shaker Flannel	3c
Heavy Beached Cotton Crash	3c
20c Cream Table Linen	21c
40c Cream Table Linen	31c
50c Cream Table Linen	37c
Good Brown Muslin, worth 5c	3c
Fine Brown Muslin, worth 7c	5c
Heavy Brown Muslin, worth 7c	5c
Good Bleached Muslin, worth 5c	4c
Fine Bleached Muslin, worth 7c	5c
Hill Muslin, worth 7c	6c
Fruit of Loom, worth 7c	6c
Lonsdale, worth 7c	6c
5-4 Lockwood, P. C. Muslin, worth 10c	8c
6-4 Lockwood, P. C. Muslin, worth 12c	10c
8-4 Lockwood, Sheeting Muslin, worth 15c	12c
8-4 Lockwood, Sheeting Muslin, worth 16c	13c
10-4 Lockwood, Sheeting Muslin, worth 18c	15c
5-4 Lockwood Bleached P. C. Muslin, with 11c, 9c	4c
6-4 Lockwood Bleached P. C. Muslin, with 13c, 11c	4c
8-4 Lockwood Bleached Sheeting, worth 16c, 14c	4c
8-4 Lockwood Bleached Sheeting, worth 18c, 15c	4c
10-4 Lockwood Bleached Sheeting, worth 20c, 17c	4c

**MEARS & HAGEN, 415, 417 Lackawanna Avenue, Scranton, Pa.**

**China Hall MILLAR & PECK,**  
131 Wyoming Avenue, Walk in and look around.