

MEN'S COMFORTABLE \$1.50 HOUSE BOOTS. Restful from the first moment the foot enters them. We carry these popular "RO-MEONS," or HOUSE BOOTS, in the newest shades of Brown or Black Vici Kid, hand turn soles—light, bendable. Prices, \$1.50, \$2.00, \$2.50. SCHANK & SPENCER, 410 SPRUCE STREET.

CITY NOTES. Music tonight, Beldeman's holiday book store, board of trade building. Both branches of council will meet tonight, the select in regular and the common in adjourned session. The Delaware and Hudson company paid the trainmen on the Nineveh branch and the employees of the Clinton mines, at Carbondale, yesterday.

THE DELAWARE AND HUDSON COMPANY. According to the order of Colonel Courson there will be no drills of the Thirtieth regiment companies from Dec. 20 until Jan. 1, the first Monday in that month. S. Riera Crocker was taken to Doylestown, Bucks county, Pa., on the noon Delaware and Hudson train yesterday by Deputy Sheriff Kelley, of that county. He is wanted to answer a charge of contempt of court.

CIGAR CUTTER DID IT. Shaved Off the Top of a Lady's Finger. The innocent looking device used for clipping the ends of cigars, which stands on the cigar case in Phelps' drug store, was responsible for a big commotion in that establishment last night and also for the loss of the top of a lady's index finger.

Mexican Drawn Work. makes an elegant Christmas gift. Most elaborate line ever shown in Scranton. Mrs. M. E. Reynolds, 716 Adams avenue. Lewis, Reilly & Davies' Busy Shoe Store, will be open evenings during December.

DIED. JENKINS.—In West Scranton, Dec. 15, 1897, Morcan Jenkins, about 45 years of age, at his residence, 146 South Hyde Park avenue. Funeral announcement later. MULLINEUX.—At La Plume, Dec. 15, 1897, Mrs. J. S. Mullineux, 62 years of age, at her residence near La Plume, Pa. Funeral announcement later.

The very best place in this valley to buy Candy, Nuts, Fruits, Poultry, Oysters or Vegetables, from now until Christmas, either wholesale or retail, will be at the SCRANTON CASH STORE.

DEPOSITIONS OF THE GAINRS' GIRL. Testimony With Which It is Hoped to Save Van Horn's Neck.

STORY IS SADLY OUT OF JOINT. Saw a Man Go Into the Wescott Cellar on a Friday Which She Thinks Was the Same Friday on Which the Murder Was Committed—Story Does Not Come Up to Advance Notices and is Considered Vulnerable by Commonwealth.

Among the reasons Van Horn's attorneys will advance for a new trial at the hearing tomorrow morning is that they have discovered new evidence corroborative of the condemned man's statement that he and Mrs. Wescott met in the cellar by appointment on the night of the killing, all of which it is held will at least raise a reasonable doubt as to the killing having been malicious.

This new testimony is to be given by a 12-year-old girl, Sadie Gairns, who, at the time of the murder, was in the office across from the Wescott home. It was announced last week that the girl would testify to the effect that she was playing about the Wescott house about 8 o'clock on the right in question; that she saw a man go into Wescott's cellar; that she ran to notify Mrs. Wescott; that when she told Mrs. Wescott there was a man in her cellar, Mrs. Wescott told her to go about her business; she could attend to any man who might get into her cellar; that a short time later Mrs. Wescott went into the cellar with a plate of food and, after twenty minutes or so, came out and went back into the house.

All this, if it was as stated, might go a good ways in securing a new trial, but unfortunately for the condemned man, the story turns out to be a rather weak one, when thoroughly sifted. An order was granted to take the girl's depositions for use at the hearing, and yesterday afternoon she was summoned to Judge Archbald's chamber to tell her story. Judge Archbald called in Judge Edwards to sit with him during the hearing. Mr. Thayer represented the defendant, and Mr. Thomas appeared for the commonwealth.

SHE IS A SCHOOL GIRL. The little girl came in with her school books under her arm and was accompanied by three of her schoolmates, who ranged themselves against the wall and looked with open-mouthed wonderment at the proceedings. In which their friend was playing such an important role.

She is a smart child, and a very knowing kind of one for her years. Her answers indicated that she had thought the matter over carefully, to say the least, and at no time did she show the least embarrassment. She was perfectly at ease and seemed to appreciate and enjoy the prominence given her in the right of her friends.

IN ANSWER TO MR. THAYER'S QUESTIONS she stated that she was in the habit of playing with Mrs. Wescott's little daughter, and about a week or two ago about the Wescott corner. On the evening of the killing, at about 8 o'clock, she was playing with some others about the site of the new Noy Aug Engine house. She saw a man go through Kresge's back yard into Wescott's yard and then into Wescott's cellar. She hurried to the Wescott house to tell what she had seen. Mrs. Wescott, her mother, Mrs. Reynolds, of Jersey, and one of the boarders were sitting on the porch. She told them that a man had just gone into the cellar by the back way. Either Mrs. Wescott or the old lady, she wasn't sure which, told her to go about her business, that she could attend to anyone who might get into her cellar. She remained her play, but kept an eye on the cellars, and about half an hour later saw Mrs. Wescott, with something concealed under her apron, go into the cellar and come out again shortly afterwards. The man who went into the cellar was the same man who bought ice-cream for her and the little Wescott girl one day at Zeiler's livery and who the Wescott girl said, was one of her mother's boarders.

WAY SHE FIXED THE NIGHT. She wasn't sure that it was on the evening of the tragedy that she saw the man go into the cellar. She believed it was that night, however, for it was on Friday, and she remembered having shot at her cousin on Wyoming avenue the night she saw the man go into the cellar, and when she came down town the next day heard that Mrs. Wescott was dead.

THE COMMONWEALTH will show at the hearing tomorrow that the Noy Aug Engine house was about completed when the Wescott tragedy occurred; that Mrs. Reynolds, the mother of Mrs. Wescott, returned to her home in Jersey two weeks before the night of the murder and a number of other things to prove that the little girl is mistaken.

THREE MORE DIVORCES. Six Have Been Granted So Far This Week. Three more divorces were granted yesterday, by the local court, all of them for desertion. Elizabeth Field was granted a divorce from Clarence Field, to whom she was married May 29, 1894, and who, she showed, deserted her Aug. 27, 1893. Nathan Vidaver is her attorney. Austin Muffley, of Scranton, street, was freed from the marital bonds which bound him to Lotta E. Muffley, now a resident of Taylor. They were married Nov. 5, 1890, and she left him

May 27, 1893. John F. Scragg was attorney for the libellant. Theodore L. Bennett, of Carbondale, married Emma L. Bennett in Columbia, N. Y., April 8, 1894. They went to Philadelphia, where the husband was employed in Cramp's shipyards, and started housekeeping at the corner of Thirty-second and Herrman streets. Sept. 28, 1894, not half a year after their marriage, he came home in the evening from his work to find his wife gone and the house stripped of its furniture. He has never been able to find his wife or the furniture. His divorce was secured by Yonburg & Dawson.

STRUCK BY AN ENGINE. Frederick Wanser Sustains Severe Injuries Near the South Mill. Frederick Wanser, 30 years old, was struck by an engine on the Delaware and Hudson tracks, near the South mill, yesterday morning. He was badly injured and is now at the Lackawanna hospital. Wanser was walking along the tracks and to avoid a north-bound train he stepped in front of the engine on the other track. The Lackawanna hospital, where Wanser was immediately taken in the ambulance, it was discovered that the injuries consist of a broken collar bone, three fractured ribs, contusions on the head and two scalp wounds. Wanser is a married man and lives at 219 Sorce street. His injuries will not prove fatal.

EARLY MORNING BURGLARS. White Going Through a House at 2 a. m. They Are Captured. Four burglars were captured in the house of Anthony McNulty, at 198 Luzerne street, at 2 o'clock this morning. They awakened the occupants of the house who summoned help from the streets and held them until officers arrived from the West Side station, who took them in charge. They were lodged in the station about 3 o'clock this morning, but at that hour their names could not be learned.

FIRE AT SPORT HILL. House of Mrs. Mary Banks Was Entirely Destroyed—Houses Nearby Were Saved. A destructive fire occurred in the Sport Hill part of Dunmore at an early hour this morning. A house owned by Mrs. Mary Banks and located in the row of company houses, adjacent to Spencer's brooker, took fire from some unknown cause at 12:30 o'clock, and for an hour afterward the frame building burned until every stick was consumed. The house was in the center of the row, and was dangerously near the company houses on either side. The rains of this week, however, had dampened the wood, and it was this, and this only, which spared the other buildings. As soon as the fire was discovered an alarm was sent through the neighborhood in a short time the people fire community was out with buckets and carrels. The Banks house was allowed to burn away. It was impossible to save it and the people turned their attention to the other buildings. The independent house company, of Dunmore, was on the scene, but water could not be reached with the company's hose. An effort was made to stretch the line from the breaker, but the hose fell short. The firemen then directed their attention toward assisting the people in saving the other structures, and the Banks house, with every piece of furniture in it, was burned to the ground. The loss is estimated at \$800, fully covered by insurance.

THAT OLD COURT HOUSE AGAIN. Building Constructed With Material Taken from It Causes Trouble. The case of Le Roy Sweet against George Barber, Ira T. Barber and Ida Barber, was heard yesterday before Arbitrators B. F. Tinkham, C. E. Oliver and H. L. Taylor. D. W. Brown appeared for the plaintiff and W. W. Barber for the defendants. The suit is to recover a balance which Sweet claims is due him for building a house for the defendants on Thompson street. The material came from the old court house at Ball's Head. The defense alleges that the work was not done according to contract and was not finished within the specified time.

BARRETT WANTS \$5,000. Latest Suit Against the Scranton Railway Company. John Barrett, of Winton, brought a \$5,000 damage suit against the Scranton Railway company yesterday. He claims that while driving along North Main avenue last August a Providence car ran him down, killing his horse, demolishing his wagon and causing him permanent injuries. O'Brien & Kelly are his attorneys.

COURT HOUSE NEWS NOTES. The report of the viewers in the matter of the new road in Newton township was confirmed finally by court yesterday. On petition of Hannah R. Lewis, of Hennepin county, Minnesota, court yesterday etted Margaret H. Williams, administrator of the estate of the late John F. Lewis, to make an accounting before Jan. 3, 1898. In the case of Taylor & Lewis against Jane Napier, the rule to open judgment was yesterday discharged. Judge Archbald yesterday approved the charter of the Manville Keg Fund and Benoit in connection with the Manville colliery.

THE LECTURE ON BANKING by Mr. H. C. Shaffer, cashier of the Scranton Savings bank, at the College of Commerce tonight, promises to be one of unusual interest. Admission free. Come and bring your friends. Lecture begins at 8 o'clock. Luncheon Trial. Chicago, Dec. 15.—Today's session of the Luncheon trial was brief. Attorney Harmon finished his opening address for the defense and the jury spent the afternoon inspecting the cellars and sausage vat at Luncheon's factory.

CASTORIA For Infants and Children. The Signature of Dr. J. C. Holt is on every wrapper.

SCRANTON'S LEADING CHINA STORE. China Yell. China Yell. Santa Claus Knows Where to come for the most pleasing assortment of presents—presents that delight everybody, old and young, and the highest value for the least money. If you wish to enjoy the Christmas-tide shopping, visit Our Store, MILLAR & PECK'S China Yell. 134 Wyoming Ave. Walk in and Look Around.

LIVERYMAN MURDERED. George D. Farra's Skull Crushed by a Weight. Wilmington, Del., Dec. 15.—George D. Farra, aged 55 years, formerly a well-known livery man, but of late manager of Mrs. Nellie R. Bradford's farm, near here, was murdered last night. His skull had been crushed in by a four-pound weight found near the body, and his pocket book, containing about \$5 was missing. An attempt to burn his house had also been made. Charles Thayer, a negro farm hand, was with Farra in his kitchen last night when the latter's children retired. He is missing today and the authorities of Delaware and adjoining states have been notified to keep a close lookout for him.

Stamping Concerns to Consolidate. New York, Dec. 15.—Officials of the big stamping companies and porcelain and glassware companies in this city admit that there is to be a consolidation of all the principal companies of the country. Details have not yet been completed, but the combination will probably be effected before January 1. The aggregate capital will, it is said, be \$10,000,000. An official of a stamping company said the reason for the consolidation was the enormous competition that is now going on for trade.

Anthracite Coal Output. New York, Dec. 15.—Official statements of anthracite production in November show an output of 4,455,500 tons in November, 1897, and 4,012,700 tons in November, 1896. The total production for eleven months of the current calendar year thus reaches approximately 37,500,000 tons as compared with 38,800,000 tons in the corresponding period of 1896. Ex-Passenger Agent's Suicide. Chicago, Dec. 15.—In view of hundreds of men in Green's big billiard hall, near the board of trade, today, A. J. Moore, formerly passenger agent of the Chicago and Alton railroad, at Denver, shot and instantly killed himself. His suicide was dependent upon the loss of his position and money.

Steamship Arrivals. New York, Dec. 15.—Sailed: St. Louis, Southampton; Nordland, Antwerp; Teutonic, Liverpool. Southampton—Arrived: St. Paul, New York; Salsbor, Kaiser Wilhelm der Grosse, from Bremen, for New York; Rotterdam—Arrived: Veendam, New York.

House cleaning with FELS-NAPHTHA soap and lukewarm water, even in winter, is quick, quiet, easy and thorough. FELS & CO., Philadelphia.

Several Easel Offers. We have two hundred easels in picture department on second floor, made up in white enamel and natural oak. They were bought at half their worth—we offer them at a similar saving: White enamel or natural finished oak easels—full size. Everywhere 75 cents to \$1. Here..... 59c Handsome white enamel corrugated easel—brass trimmed. Most places \$1.25. Here..... 89c Polished oak easels, with fancy turned tops—brass trimmed. Everywhere \$1.08. We've marked them..... \$1.25 Elaborately finished easels in either white enamel or natural oak—trimmed with brass. Usually \$2.50. Here..... \$1.75

THE KLINE SHOE CO. Veracity rather than variety prompts us to tell of our success in the world of trade. In our particular province there are none who can approach us either in point of quality or price. The choice goods which we are constantly bringing to your notice are unequalled in this city. We have prepared to receive the rush of holiday buyers with the Largest, Most Complete Assortment of SHOES AND SLIPPERS suitable for all sizes and conditions of men and women. Our whole stock is highly interesting just now, because, while composed entirely of new and reliable goods, they are priced extremely low, the greater part of them having been recently bought below the market rates. Many illustrations of this tendency to sell for less than prevailing values will be found by visiting our store. THE KLINE SHOE CO. 326 Lackawanna Avenue, "Famous Old Stand."

Useful Christmas Gifts. JUST ONE BARGAIN CUSTOMERS We Have Others. Ladies' new \$10.00 Cheviot, Boucle or Braco Coats, Storm Collars, perfect fitting, at \$5.95 This is the greatest bargain of the season. At Reduced Prices Ladies' Capes, Ladies' Coats, Children's Coats, Ladies' Suits and Silk Waists. Will find our store a pleasant place to shop, as we give all our attention to the Dry Goods business. Persons desiring to give useful presents will find on our counters large assortments of Black and Colored Silks, Black Dress Goods, Fine Dress Suitings, Fine Table Linen Sets, Napkins and Table Covers.

TOYS. Second Floor Department. Room 25 feet by 100 feet, all Toys. Steps front and rear of store. Some Specials For This Day: Steel Horse and Buckboard. The horse's feet and legs move, very serviceable, about 24 inches long by 12 inches high. This will suit your boy to a T. Worth \$1.25. Today - 84c Steel Two-Wheel Carts. Painted steel, yellow wheels, was 25c. Today 19c Steam Engine. A boy's delight, extra large size, worth \$1.50. Today 98c Smaller for 49c. Steel 4-Wheel Milk Wagon. With cans and seat for driver, was \$1.00. Today 64c Kid Body Doll, Special. About 100, some sleepers, curly hair, bisque face, glass eyes, very fine dolls, worth \$1 to \$1.74. Today 98c Steel Animals with Bells. Attached to wheels, a very serviceable and entertaining toy. Choice today for 24c THE GREAT 4c. STORE 310 Lackawanna Ave. J. H. LADWIG.

BROWN'S BEE HIVE. Coats, Furs, Millinery. STORE OPEN EVENINGS DURING DECEMBER. BROWN'S BEE HIVE 224 LACK. AVENUE.

KID GLOVES ALWAYS ACCEPTABLE. Our M. & H. Gloves at \$1.00, are unsurpassed in fit and quality. Jouvin Kid Gloves, \$1.59. The most flexible, best fitting glove made. Gloves for evening wear. Handkerchiefs. Splendid assortment of Hemstitched, Fine Embroidered and Real Duchesse Lace Handkerchiefs, Ladies' and Gents' Umbrellas, Ladies' and Gents' Lined Gloves, Irish Point Pillow Shams and Scarfs, Gents' Fine Neckwear, Purses, Boston Bags.

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