The coming fortnight will be alive with gaiety. Beginning with Thursday evening when Mr. and Mrs. T. C. Von Storch will give a dancing party at the Bicycle club few evenings are devoid of some elaborate function. Christmas eve Mr. and Mrs. A. D. Blackinton will give a very large party at the same place for their nephew and Siebecker, Irone Lorenz, Jennie Fenniece, Mr. and Miss Galpin. Saturday her, Grace Coolidge, Marguerite Snyder, will, of course, be devoted to family festivities and the private entertainment of many out of town guests. Monday evening is the date of Mr. and Mrs. John Jermyn's dance. Tuesday 21, Taylor Foster, Warner Hayes, Wilevening Mr. and Mrs. Henry Belin, jr., will entertain.

Mrs. H. M. Boiss has issued invitations for an at home Thursday afternoon for Miss Boies, while Colonel and Mrs. Boies will give a reception and Sprague, dance on that evening, also to an-nounce their daughter's debut. The climax of the merry week will, of course, be the New Year ball, of which go much is said at this time. These, together with the Assembly and unlimited dinners and luncheons will make a busy holiday season indeed.

Cards for the New Year ball Friday evening, Dec. 31, were issued yesterday bearing the names of the committee members: Messrs, James Blair, Paul B. Belin, Joseph M. Boics, Lawrence B. Fuller and Theodore S. Fuller, The patronesses are: Mrs. James Archbald, Mrs. Henry Belin, jr., Mrs. H. M. Boies, Mrs. J. B. Dimmick, Mrs. H. Kingsbury, Mrs. W. W. Scranton, Mrs. H. P. Simpson, Mrs. A. H. Storrs, Mrs. E. B. Sturges, Mrs. Everett War-Mrs. T. H. Watkins, Mrs. E. N.

Mr. and Mrs C. H. Zehnder gave a dinner at the Country club Saturday night when the following were present: and Mrs. H. M. Boles, Dr. and Mrs. C. L. Frey, Mr. and Mrs. A. H. Storrs, Mr. and Mrs. Bower, Mr. and Mrs. C. C. Rose, Miss Elizabeth Zehnder, Mr. May.

The "art lecture course" recently boomed in this city is the most remarkably piece of enterprise in the way of a book agent scheme ever worked on a long suffering and 'easy" community. Ladies who were enthused with the prospects of attaining to a height of art knowledge in a course of twelve lectures agreed to relinguish their twelve nice round dollars for the same erudition with a lot of levely pictures to be thrown in. They went to one lecture one stormy day last week and were informed that the remainder of the course and the pictures would be forwarded from the 'bureau" wherever or whatever that may be. When the eagerly awaited parcel arrived it contained a book bound in blue and white and this was both "lectures" and pictures. The volume is illustrated with small reproduction in indifferent half tones of the works of American artists. Sometimes there are as many as five illustrations on a moderate sized page, and the text which is neither valutatious or very replete with information, constitutes the "art lectures." None of the pictures are available for portfolio or framing purposes, as both sides of the leaves are utilized with text and illustration. Just before Christmas, and twelve nice, round dollars for a book that satisfieth not; and yet you will hear some people declare that there is no "art feeling in Scranton. Well, indead, there is plenty of it in certain quarters just-at the present time!

Mr. and Mrs. Henry Belln, jr., have issued invitations to a recention and dance at the Bleyele club December 28.

Mr. Edward Blair and his friend, Mr. Parsons, of New York, who have been guests at he home of Mr. J. A. Linen, left this week for the city. After the holidays they will go South for a few prior to an extended stay

Mrs. G. duBois Dimmick sang at the missionary meeting at the First Presbyterian church on Thursday an exrendering of "Cantique de Noel" by Adam.

Some one asks "Shall I read 'His Grace of Osmond?" The advice here given is "Don't." It has added nothing to Mrs. Burnett's fame and is so palpably a fival clutch after the loaves and fishes that it deserves no recognition. The story told in "A Lady of Quality" is repeated in every detail ad nauseum, the scenes which in that book made strong situations and gave pathetic touches, in the "companion" volume are merely vulgarity and bathos. There was no possible excuse for writing "His Grace of Osmond" any more than there was for repeatedly lugging into its chapters the disgusting description of the Thames incident when the hero, clothed a fa-Trilby, saves a bride from drowning, not his own but some one else's bride,

Mr. C. Philip Smith, the well known artist of New York, gave lessons to a class of ladies at the home of Miss Anna K. Scranton during his stay in this city. Mr. Smith's wonderful effeets in water colors and ceramic art are known n t only in the metropolis, but in almost every large city of the

Miss Marilla Mott entertained the Tuesday Afternoon club of the West Side in the rooms of the Scranton club Tuesday afternoon, which were prettily adorned for the occasion. 'ladies present were: Mrs. George W. Phillips, Mrs. W. W. Phillips, Mrs. Charles A. Burr, Mrs. George B. Reynolds, Mrs. H. C. Wallace, Mrs. Robert

# FACE

Pimples, bloches, blackheads, ros. rough, oily, mothy skin, itching, scaly scalp, dry, thin, and falling hair, and baby blemishes prevented by CUTICURA SOAP, the most effective skin purifying and beautifying soap in the world, as well as purest and sweetest for toilet, bath, and nursery.

J. Williams, Mrs. William W. Watts, Mrs. J. J. Roberts, Mrs. Marsh, Miss Augusta Blair, Miss Lillian Shively, Miss Elizabeth Heermans, Miss Em-

Mrs. E. G. Worden delightfully enertained a number of young people at ter home on Pine street on Wednesday n honor & Misses Lorraine Weichel and Carol Finn. Those who assisted were: Mrs. C. B. Wagar, Mrs. George Finn, Mrs. Charles Weichel, Miss Bessie Jones and Miss McIntosh. The other guests were: Miss-es Sadie Partridge, Helen Finn, Ethel Clark, Lillian Lewis, Olive Jadwin, Helen Connell, Emma Walters, Mamie Siebecker, Irone Lorenz, Jennie Fen-Florence Peck, Ethel Woolworth, Mary McClave, Ruth Wagar, Masters Arthur Matthews, Fred Jones, Jack Baynsford, Karl Fassold. Clyde Weichliam Dimmick, Bertram Fenner, Carl Ceolidge, Carl Weichel, Fiarold Connell, Elmer Weichel, Rebert McClave, Orrin Christian, Charles Wade, Russell Burdlek, Justin Parrish, Edward Lee

Scranton whist cranks are very proud of the record made at the Atlantic Whist meeting this week, by Messrs, J. W. Dusenbury and L. G. La Bar, who made the high score in the match in which they and Hamilton and Taylor played against the experts, Remak, Milton Work, E. P. Townsend and Shinn. At the election of officers Mr. J. W. Dusenbury was made director of Atlantic Whist association for two years.

At the Country club cotillon Tuesday evening, Mr. and Mrs. A. H. Storrs and Mr. and Mrs. N. G. Robertson received the guests. Mr. Paul B. Belin led the cotilion. Among the out of town guests were: Miss Janet Law, of West Pittston, Miss Miller, of Easton.

Mr. and Mrs. I. F. Megargel informally entertained a few friends Thursday evening.

The Anthracite Wheelmen held their first club dance Thursday night. Many young people participated and the occasion was a pleasant one.

The coming marriage of Miss Ida Eleanore, only daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Charles H. Hazlett, of 134 South Hyde Park avenue, to Charles L. Kaufman, jr., of New York city, is announced. The ceremony will take place at the residence of the bride's parents, Thursday, Dec. 30, at 8.45 o'clock.

## Movements of People.

William Mitchell is at Maplewood.

Attorney A. A. Vosburg is in Sunburg Miss Grace Norton was in New York

Dr. Beed Burns was in Honesdale Wednesday.

M. F. Norton, of Carbondale, was in he city yesterday. Walter Clearwater, of Genet street, has

eturned from Towanda. Miss Mackey, of Kingston, is the guest f Mrs. H. H. Beidleman. Miss Pigeon, of Carbondale, has taken p her residence in this city. Miss Leuise Thurber, of Nicholson, is

visiting friends in Green Ridge. Mr. J. M. Chance will spend the holi-days at his old home in Salem. III. Miss Jessie Stearns, of Peckville, spent the week with friends in this city. Miss Katherine Scranion has returned from an extended visit in New York.

Miss Anna Salmon will return from New York today to spend the holidays

Mrs. G. D. Stevens and daughter. Le-ore, of Maplewood, are in this city. Mrs. Thomas Dickson has returned from several days' stay in New York. H. J. Keenan, of the Hotel Jermyn force, was in Wilkes-Barre yesterday. Mrs. Alfred Pascoe and granddaughter f Carbondale, were in town Thursday, Mrs. Pierce Butler and daughter, of dale, visited Scranton this week Miss Janet Law, of West Pittston, was the guest of Mrs. D. E. Taylor this week, Max R. Clearwater is home from the Lawrenceville school for his Christmas

Mr. and Mrs. Barnard Cissel, of Elizabeth, will spend the holidays with friends in this city. Misses Lois Schlager and Bessie Porter

isiting relatives in this city, has re-urned to her home in Montrose.

Miss Agatha Sweeney returned yester-day to her home in Honesdale, after spending several weeks with friends in Roger S. Searle, of Montrose, a broth-er of Judge Daniel W. Searle, of Sus-quehanna county, was in this city on

Miss Irene Collier, of West Pittston, he has been the guest of Mr. and Mrs. P. P. Campbell, of William street, has reurned home. Mr. and Mrs. George Folmer, of Orwigo-

irg. Pa., who have been the guests of r, and Mrs. C. Ben Johnson of 55 Madi-a avenue, have returned home. Mrs. Renshaw and daughters, Mrs. Mrs. Renshaw and dammers, Mrs. Hudson and Mrs. Renshaw, who have been visiting A. C. Renshaw, have re-turned to their home in Newark. N. J. Mr. and Mrs. T. J. Fostor, Mrs. Rich-ard O'Brien, Miss Collins, J. M. Smoult-

ard O'Brien, Miss Collins, J. M. Smoult-er and Miss Morgan were registered at the St. Dennis in New York last week. Mr. J. W. Kelsey, of Deposit, N. Y. who has been visiting his mother and his sister, Mrs. A. C. Bailey, of New York street, returned to his home yes-James Wagonhorst, or Pittsburg, and itto Wagonborst, who have been coach ng the foot ball team of the University f Iowa, are in the city visiting their pa-

## OFFICERS OF KEYSTONE CONSISTORY.

rents on Irving avenue,

Recently Installed By Past Commander-in-Chief H. V. Dunnell. Past Commander-in-Chief H. N. Dunnell recently installed the following officers of Keystone Consistory of

Illustrious commander-in-chief. Anirew Strang, thirty-second degree; Blustrious first Beutenant commander, John Morris, thirty-second degree: illustrious second lieutenant commander, R. J. Williams, thirty-second degree; grand secretary, John G. Sherthirty-second degree; grand treasurer, H. N. Dunnell, thirty-third degree: grand minister of state, Joeph Steldle, thirty-second degree; rand chancellor, B. S. Robinson, hirty-second degree; grand engineer,

T. H. Brock, thirty-second degree; grand hospitaler, W. H. McGarrah, thirty-second degree; grand master of eremonies, William Maylin, thirtyecond degree; grand standard-bearer W. Long. thirty-second degree; grand captain of the guard, F. F. Schaen, thirty-second degree; grand sentinel, J. F. Hetzel, thirty-second de-

A Great 28 Page Paper. Tomorrow's Sunday Free Press will e the greatest paper ever published in Scranton-it will be a beautiful 28page paper with a handsome libo-Don't fall to get a copy.

## Saucy Bess' Comments.

The question of handwriting is one that puzzles more people than the experts, the bankers and the printers It has been said that this particular age is the twilight of handwriting. and that soon it will be a lost art Perhaps this might not be such an irreparable calamity as would at first appear. It would simplify matters to a marked degree in supplementary proceedings and would be a missing link that might completely do away with breach of promise cases, as type-written love letters never could impress a jury with their fervor, as could the words in the hand-writing of the de-

That there should be fashions in writing as in gowns is a deplorable fact, since occasionally comes along style which works woe with the victims of its followers. Take for instance the big angular English hand, which most young women of the present have affected or still employ. These big angular hieroglyphics offer more disadvantages in the way of illegibility than any other ever devised, save perhaps the Egyptian craze of a few thousand years ago, which necessitated the disovery of a Rosetta Stone to decipher. No enterprising Egyptologist or other ologist has made known to the public. the key to the big English hand. As used by the average society girl it is mysterious and past finding out and affords unlimited recreation in the way of guessing as to what the written message may possibly contain.

A popular Scranton girl, the pride f her father's heart, was away visiting friends in a distant city not long ago. One day her father came home from business almost in tears, "Molly has written a letter to me;" he an-nounced pathetically, "and I can't read a blessed word," He grew more enraged as he proceed d: "I can't make out whether she's gone and got engaged to some good-for-nothing; whether she has the scarlet fever and wants you to go to her, or whether she wants me to send her another check. She wants something, I guess, and she ought to have it."

The mother promptly wrote in a plain, old-fashioned hand to the ab sent daughter; "Do try to write a letter that your father can read," she urged in this epistle. "You know how he loves you, and your last letter has just about broken his heart and made him so cross that I don't know whether he'll let you stay for the other two weeks, for which you ask in your letter. He says you've got to come home and go to a business college and learn type writing."

Another young woman wrote to a riend in this city regarding a proposed visit to which the Scranton girl was obliged to reply: "I gather from your letter that you are at last to make me that long proposed visit, and that you want me to meet you at the train, but whether you are coming Sunday, Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday or Friday, I can't quite determine. I am inclined to believe that the time you designate is not Saturday, as that word would probably take another line. Do, dear Bess, tiletate a message to the telegraph man and I'll be on hand."

A Scranton young man who was rather devoted to a fair neighbor, whose particular style of writing he had never had much occasion to notice. horrified the maiden's mother one day rushing in and excitedly shouting that "Nellie had been blown up in railway accident," he having had a letter to that effect from the absent one who had gone to Philadelphia for a fortnight's stay. In the excitement that followed, no one thought to try to read the letter and a great amount of trouble was entailed before it was discovered that Nellie's missive contained the injunction to tell her mother to forward her yellow parasol.

If letter writing is not already a lost art it will soon be and on the stiff angular hand recently fashionable will fall the responsibility. It takes a deal of affection and more perseverance than is vouchsafed to the average morhave returned from a visit with Mrs. D.
H. Menner at Honesdale.
Miss Watson, who has been the guest of Mrs. A. M. Decker, has returned to her home in Philadelphia.
Mrs. John R. Baynsford, who has been asperating, if not a charming similar asperating, if not a charming similar asperating, if not a charming similar asperating, if not a charming similarity. Blessed be the typewriter girl, man, or machine, each and all, and blessed be the man who is endeavoring to introduce the vertical hand, which, although not pretty, serves the purpose designed.

Christmas is about to precipitate itself upon us without giving the enthulasm of olden times that used to come ith the heaped-up banks of snow, the w air, the still, starry nights. Anything more distinctly unlike Christmas weather than that thus far afforded can not be imagined. It is the fashlor to scold about the weather and of course it is better to employ one's time in doing this than to find fault with one's acquaintances, I was pleased, however, the other day, when it was sunny and bright, to hear a thoughtful woman, who usually has something to say when she speaks, remark emphatically: "I am so tired of hearing people grows about this weather and complain that it is so unhealthy. The statistics don't indicate unusual mortality. It is absurd to de clare that unless we are pinched up with the bitter cold and see everybody muffled to the ears, while the poor drivers and cartage men have to slap themselves madly to keep from freezing to death, that we must be unhealthy. I. for one, like this mild weather and am glad for the sake of the poor, who suffer less, that it con-

But somehow it isn't "Christmasy, There is an enthusiasm about a snowy Christmas that is contagious. dealers say that if the winter prior to Christmas is so mild that new furs and heavy coats are not purchased that people will manage to get through the remainder of the season with their last year's garments. The florists de clare that their business is not so good as usual this season, and most business men utter similar lamentations, and yet there have been such seasons be fore, although they are swiftly forgotten while the beautiful white Christmas tides shine out in memory like

a monument to bliss forever past. But there are so many family circles this Christmas where bare earth, or snow clad landscape will make little difference in the thought where possibly, a sparkling beautiful winter day would only strike a deeper chill to the heart as each one of the group would think of a grave out under the white heaped mound which last Christmas was not there, and tales, of the vacant chair, which then held the warm living presence of one dearly, dearly loved.

Buy Diamonds from the old reliable house. C. Luther,

Saucy Bess.

JONAS LONG'S SONS.

JONAS LONG'S SONS.

JONAS LONG'S SONS.

JONAS LONG'S SONS.

## We Fire Bomb Shells of Bargains

To scatter trade traditions. We aim to hit the public with goods and prices that merit appreciation. Our buyers are constantly on the alert—with cash in hand—to bring bargains to the store for you. The world is full of honest, upright business firms whose resources occasionally become pinched. Then is the time when our work comes incash influence.

## Goods Are Often Sacrificed

On the altar of hard luck, but earnest effort, when the almighty dollar is the executioner. Bargains are knocking at your door. Bargains that should be seized from the griddle while they are yet hot.

## Thousands of Dollars

Have been expended here for Holiday Goods, many of which as to prices are veritable gravity trains-at down grade. It will enable you in this great store and among these great stocks to choose gifts among.

Thousands of Bargains.

## China And Glassware

Let us introduce you to our China and Glassware Department. You'll be interested in the big display of Holiday Goods there. We wouldn't like to say we had the finest display in the state, but-well, come and see. anyway, Here's Suspenders luck for you today. An inkling into the great stock which we illustrate by giving three special bargains to help you on your happy way:

50 Decorated Toilet Sets six pieces and very handsome pat-

terns. What you'd pay \$1.90 for in any other store, here for one day

95 cents

### 200 Bohemian Flower Vases

handsomely decorated in gilt on green backgrounds. Fancy tops 8 inches high; regularly sold at 35c

100 of the same style vases, 12 inches high, worth 75c., at 39c

200 Gilt Banquet Lamps

complete with round decorated globes, fully worth \$2.00, at \$1.19

Came in last night—a big lot of manufacturer's samples. On sale this morning at 10 o'clock-specia counters.

19c, 25c, 35c, 50c and 75c

Every one worth at least twothirds more.

Regular Dinner

in the Restaurant.

11.30 to 2.30,

Forty Cents.

## Men's Furnishings

Men shoppers will find this departmennt located near Bargains to the Wyoming avenue entrance, where quick and careful attention awaits them. Our friends tell us we Startle the City have the finest display in the city. Would be glad to have your opinion. These items will serve to get you acquainted:

A bargain that will surprise you. Buying them at 20 cents would be like finding money. Our price today-yes, while they

10 cents a pair.

## Underwear

75 dozen Men's Natural Wool Shirts and Drawers-the 75-

39c a garment.

Still better-better quality, silk-faced

59c a garment.

## White Shirts

Men's Laundered White Shirts-short or long bosoms-made expressly for our trade, at

39c each-value 75c.

## Neckwear

Ascots, Puffs, Tecks, Four-in-Hands and Imperials, in every conceivable color and pattern that is new. In most stores you'd pay a dollar for any one of them-not here. They're for your choosing at

50c each.

## Women's Aprons | Special for This Evening,

From 7 Till 9 O'Clock Only.

Men's White Unlaundered Shirts, full length bosoms, reinforced at sides and over shoulders; cut full and in all sizes.

21c each.

Worth at the least 45c, each,

## Hosiery

Women's Fast Black, Scamless Hose, usual price to cents pair.

Our price 5 cents.

Women's Fast Black, Scamless Hose, with either ribbed or hemmed tops; also an asortment of figured hose. Usual price 20c.

Our price 10 cents.

Men's Fast Black or Tau Seamless Half Hose, usual price 10c-

Our price 5 cents.

Men's Camel Hair Half Hose, at 111/2c pair.

Children's Fast Black Ribbed, Seamless Hose, sizes 51 to 91, usual price 15 cents pair,

Our price 6c pair. Boys' School Hose, warranted

fast colors and seamless. Double

knees. Sizes 6 to 91. Usual price 25c. pair.

Our price 121/2c pair.

## An Underwear Bargain

100 dozen Women's Fine Cotton Ribbed Vests—Winter weight, Cut full size, with crocheted edging. All sizes, and worth by all that's fair a quarter each.

For today only at 121/2 cents.

Jonas Long's

Scranton's Great Department Store.

Candies -- Special.

Cream Chocotates, Fine quality 11c lb Fine Mixed Candles, Bon- 16c lb

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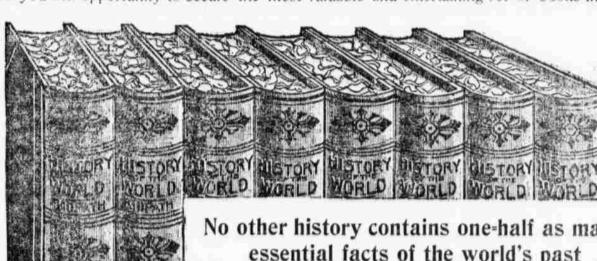
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No other history ever recorded the progress of the Races of Mankind from the beginning down to the present day—in fact, there is no other history of mankind today—in any language. True, you can procure histories of some of the greater and a few of the minor races—separately—partial records for the most part—by various historians. True, also, you can consult the encyclopedias for abstract facts and incidents of various times and countries, though no consecutive or accurate record can thus be obtained except by the student. But in Ridpath's History of the World you read page after page of the most delightful un-history like narrative—in which is told connectedly the story of man—from the original stock, through, every one of the many ethnic branches of the black, the brown and the ruddy races—till without effort of memory, you've a clear idea of all the existing branches of the great Human Family—as well. you've a clear idea of all the existing branches of the beginning as the paths they've followed down the centuries from the beginning as the paths they've followed down the centuries from the beginning.

You'll know why some nations have declined—why others have risen—why you'll know why some nations have declined—why others have risen—why you'll read of every important incident into the control of the contr

others are yet destined to rise and fall. You'll read of every important incident in every nation's history—of every age—with no cumbering of unnecessary detail. You'll start at random any one of the

Eight Massive Volumes

and it'll be long past bedtime before you lay it down-and that's only treating it on the one side-as a work of absorbing Perhaps its greatest value is as a reference work-tor as such it has been acknowledged the "best in any language-of any By reference work we mean its use as an encyclopedia of information about every country past and present-every race and tribe of ethnic importance that has ever trod this earth from the beginning-in short, every important event, as well Its unique system of indexing—a marvel of interest in itself—enables one to turn quickly to any subject—or class of subjects—country or class of countries—events or series of events—nation or branch of races—of all times.

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