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130 Washington Avenue, Scranton, Pa.

#### Lackawanna County.

##### CARBONDALE.

The Carbondale correspondence of The Tribune has been placed in the hands of Mr. C. R. Munn, Salem avenue and Church street, to whom news items may be addressed. All complaints as to irregular delivery, etc., should be made to W. T. Roberts, news agent.

##### POPULAR CONDUCTOR

The Christmas number of the Railway Employees' Journal printed a half-tone cut and gave a sketch of Owen Loftus, one of the most popular conductors of "Jeff." Among other things it says: Mr. Loftus was born forty-five years ago. He received his initiation into the railroad world on the old gravity, whither he remained until he became a "graduate in gravitation." In 1874 Mr. Loftus filed an application with the Erie Railroad company for a position and in due time was tendered the unenviable position of brakeman on the "Old Third Rail" route. In 1879 he was promoted to extra conductor and in 1881 he was assigned to a regular train, and when the accommodation train was added to the division he assumed charge of it, running it until it was annulled some four years since. He also conducted the "Flyer," which ran Sunday for several years on the "Jeff." Mr. Loftus is a member of Division No. 156 of the Order of Railway Conductors of Carbondale, and is a leading and earnest worker in the ranks.

##### AT THE GRAND TODAY.

This afternoon and evening the theater-goers of this city will be afforded another opportunity of greeting their favorite artists, "Jack" Mason and Marion Manola, in their most delightful musical comedy, "Friend Fritz." It is one of the most beautiful plays ever seen on the American stage. It is delightfully simple in its story, and both Mr. Mason and Marion Manola have some exquisite solos and duets during the action of the piece. The music is by Stanislaus Stange and the words by Julian Edwards. With but one exception the company is the same as appeared in the original production, and the scenery and costumes were all new this season.

##### PURELY PERSONAL.

Interesting musical programmes have been prepared for rendition at all the churches of the city tomorrow. The choir embrace much vocal talent, and their efforts promise to eclipse the accomplishments of years gone by. About an hour after Patrick Flannery, an aged man of Sand street, went to work yesterday morning in No. 3 mine, he was found stiff with the cold. He was taken to the surface from where an ambulance transferred him to his home. Chief-Officer Clark Hetzel has upheld the dignity of the law by having and sized bill of costs saddled on R. McMullen, who interfered when officer was attempting to imprison Sears, the other night. At the spring the defendant said he did not know he was violating any law. Postoffice hours today from 8 a. m.

to noon. Lobby open from 3.30 to 4.30 p. m. for lock box owners only. One delivery by carriers. No money order or registry business done. Telephone hours today will be from 8 to 10 a. m., and from 4 to 6 p. m. Rev. Francis McPatrick, of Philadelphia, will preach in Trinity church tomorrow.

Carbondale's papers suspend publication today. Formerly Christmas was their only day, but now they observe the Fourth, Thanksgiving, New Years, and are seriously considering putting Labor Day on the list.

The Leader didn't connect with its "stereograph" news service last evening, and was two hours late. Among the family dinner parties that will be given today is one at the home of Mr. and Mrs. P. A. Brown, on Wayne street. Their guests will be Mrs. P. A. Bell, Mr. and Mrs. D. Scully and daughter, Helen, and Mr. and Mrs. W. C. Scully.

"My Boys," the comedy in which Richards and Canfield have scored wherever they appear, and which will be given at the Grand Opera house Monday evening, is said to be full of the drollest situations and sparkling with witty dialogue which keeps the audience in a constant roar of laughter from rise to fall of curtain. The extravaganza with the four mixed-up babies is one of the most laughable comedies imaginable.

A pretty wedding took place at the home of Mr. and Mrs. James Morgan, on Porter avenue, Thursday evening, when their daughter, Miss Kathryn, was united in marriage to Mr. John Howarth. The ceremony was performed by Rev. W. A. Beecher, pastor of the Second Presbyterian church, and was witnessed by a large number of invited friends. John Barnes acted in the capacity of best man while Miss Minnie Jones was bridesmaid. After the ceremony a reception was held.

##### LOCALS.

William M. Lathrop of Paterson, N. J., formerly editor of the Leader, arrived in town last evening to spend Christmas with Mrs. Lathrop, who has been here for a month. They will return to Paterson Monday.

Misses Mary Murphy, May Kilpatrick, Ella Horan, Elizabeth Burke, Sarah Swiger, Elizabeth Harte and Rosella Burke and Thomas J. Loftus arrived home from Millersville State Normal school yesterday afternoon. Joseph Carroll, of Holy Cross college, Worcester, Mass., is spending the holidays with his parents.

Dr. and Mrs. T. J. Lamb are in Wilkes-Barre spending Christmas.

A. T. O'Neill, assistant superintendent of the Prudential Insurance company at Connellyville, is spending Christmas here.

Harry Dimock is in Prompton. Morse Aitken is home from Lafayette college.

Dr. Morrison, of Philadelphia, is spending Christmas with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. William Morrison, of Eighth avenue.

James Murrin, of Columbia college, is home.

J. P. Creagan, of Hazleton, is visiting relatives here.

Harry Lister, of the Williamson School of Mechanical trades, is in the city.

Mrs. Walter Armstrong has returned from her European trip. Joseph Missett is home from Baltimore Medical college. Miss Maggie Thomas returned yesterday from a private hospital in New York much improved. Miss Alice Priel, of South Church street, has accepted a position in the news office of W. J. Roberts.

##### TAYLOR NEWS.

The programme of the Estabrodd, Special Music at the Methodist Episcopal Church. The following is the programme for the estabrodd which will be held in Weber's rink this (Christmas) day: Morning session—(Chairman, Rev. Ivoe Thomas; conductor, Rev. J. M. Loyd. Opening song, Miss Edith W. Watkins; addresses by chairman and conductor; addresses by ladies; competition, "Little Lights," prize \$200, second prize \$100, for children under 15 years; competition, "The Village Blacksmith," prize \$2, second prize \$1; adjudication on No. 4, competition, also solo, "O Rest in the Lord (Ezzah), prize \$3; adjudication on No. 5, competition, impromptu speech, prize \$1; adjudication on No. 7; adjudication on No. 9; competition, children's choir, "Blessed Jesus Hears Us," (Jones), prize \$10; adjudication on No. 12, Afternoon—Chairman, John R. Jones, esq.; conductor, Rev. Dr. H. H. Harris, Taylor. Opening song, Mr. Edwin Bowen, Hyde Park; address by chairman and conductor; competition, bass solo, "The Skipper," prize \$3, given by James George, esq.; competition, (Ezzah), prize \$2; adjudication on No. 3; competition on duet, "Excelsior," prize \$4; adjudication on No. 4; adjudication on essay, "Cyclops' garb," "Friendship," prize \$3; competition on words from given letter, prize \$1; adjudication on No. 6; adjudication on No. 9; choral competition, "Aberystwyth," prize \$15; competition, "Curfew Must Not Ring Tonight," prize \$3; adjudication on No. 12. Evening session—Chairman, Hon. H. W. Archibald; conductor, Hon. H. M. Edwards. Song, Prof. W. D. Evans; address by chairman and conductor; competition, soprano solo, "The Beggar Girl," prize \$3; adjudication on No. 13 (afternoon); adjudication on No. 2; competition, "Reading Music," prize \$2; competition, "Ye Storm," prize \$3; adjudication on No. 6; competition on tenor solo, "The Shoe Upon the Shore," prize \$3; adjudication on No. 7; adjudication on No. 9; competition, choral singing, "Their Sound is Gone Out," prize \$50; song, Edwin Bowen; adjudication on No. 12.

Mr. and Mrs. George Taylor were the guests of relatives in Hyde Park on Thursday.

Services at the Calvary Baptist church at 10.30 a. m. and 8 p. m. tomorrow, Sunday school at 2 o'clock, officiating. All are welcome.

Funeral, Director J. E. Davis, of North Taylor, has purchased a handsome team of black horses for his increasing business.

The Methodist Episcopal church choir have provided special Christmas music and tomorrow evening they will render a beautiful cantata descriptive of the glorious birth. The service consists of ten musical numbers, besides appropriate remarks by the pastor. Special preparations are being made to accommodate a very large audience. The following is the programme: Solo and chorus, "Sing Unto the Lord," Mr. John P. Tubbs and choir; solo, duet and quartette, "He Shall Come Down,"

Mrs. J. R. Neely, Mrs. Atherton and Messrs. Owens and Ebbel; baritone solo, "Daughter of Zion," J. E. Watkins; solo, duet, trio and chorus, "Comfort Ye, My People," Mrs. Atherton, Miss Morgans and R. Watkins and choir; chorus, "For Unto Us a Child is Born," choir, female chorus, anacle song, "It Came Upon the Midnight Clear," solo and chorus, "Glory to God in the Highest," Mrs. Annie Bieseker and choir; solo and chorus, "O, Little Town of Bethlehem," Mrs. Atherton and choir; full chorus, "Joy to the World," choir. The services will commence at 7.30, to enable members of all churches to be present. The collection taken will be for the benefit of the choir, who have gone into considerable expense in rehearsing this work.

Mrs. Richard Patterson, of New York, is the guest of her sister, Mrs. David Lloyd, of Washington street. The barbers will close their places of business today at 1 o'clock sharp.

##### JERMYN.

A very pretty wedding took place on Thursday evening at the home of Mr. and Mrs. John H. Solomon, when their daughter, Miss Jennie, and Nicholas Regan, of Carbondale, were wedded by the Rev. Charles E. Fessenden. Mrs. James Allan, a cousin of the bride, played the wedding march. The bride was attired in a navy blue tulle, with satin and lace trimmings; her maid, Miss M. Isabelle Maxwell, was attired in a light broadcloth with trimmings similar to that of the bride. The groom was attended by Mr. Charles Swartz. After the ceremony a wedding supper was served. Mr. and Mrs. Regan, after a short wedding trip, will reside at Carbondale. Among those present were: James Maxwell and family, William Maxwell and family, Robert Maxwell and family, James Solomon and family, James Mitchell and daughter, James Allan and family, Mr. and Mrs. George Griffiths, Mr. and Mrs. G. A. Avery, Mr. and Mrs. W. H. Decker, Daniel Kane and family, Mr. and Mrs. Graves, Mr. F. M. Graves, Fred on Saturday last. Punctual on Tuesday, she leaves four small children, two boys and two girls.

Mrs. George P. Meyers was at Hart Lake this week. Miss Carrie Colvin, of Factoryville, is spending the holidays at home. The Baptists will hold their Christmas entertainment tonight in the hall over the drug store. The church fair was a decided success. The society cleared about \$115. Great credit is due to the ladies who were in charge. Mr. Horatio Fish, of West Nicholson, visited friends in this place over Sunday last.

##### CLARK'S SUMMIT.

Mr. and Mrs. Aggar visited Rev. I. D. Fallory and family the past week. Mrs. Tom Leony died at her home here on Saturday last. Punctual on Tuesday, she leaves four small children, two boys and two girls. Mrs. George P. Meyers was at Hart Lake this week.

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##### OUR MASTER, THE CALENDAR.

Some sage reflections Over the Near Departure of Our Old Friends, From the Hartford Courant.

Soon we must have new calendars. The present incumbents are attenuated; they have managed to hold their own through the trying weather of 1897, but they are about ready to give up. There's a lesson of constancy and patience in them. When it was raining for weeks at a time and when the sky was clear, when there were rumors of wars and when we were celebrating our nation's holidays; when we were hailing the third-rail's advent and when we were stumbling through plowed-up streets; while we rejoiced over severer work done and while we slapped at the pesky mosquitoes; as we greet a new postoffice, as we called Elizabeth Park our own, as the old police station vanished and a new one took shape, as landmark after landmark gave way to improvement, as we welcomed a sacred war relief, as old friends departed and new ones came—amid all our varying emotions the calendars kept plodding right along. They shed a leaf each day, or month, according to their build, and, for certain special anniversaries, one here and there may have indulged in red paint, but never exaggeration. That was all. It's because calendars are so steady that they're found in every home and office, however puritanical, however exacting.

Not every one appreciates their culture and information. Occasionally a woman, though she be surrounded by calendars, will ask her husband what day of the month it is. Being busy reading a newspaper, he gets sarcastic; if he were a philosopher, he would see what a compliment had been paid him. In the presence of her husband, a woman ignores all other sources of information, even though studiously provided by him. That is one reason why a woman who is much with her husband never winds her watch.

But honesty and reliability are wearing; a calendar can't hold out more than a year. And we always find ourselves eager to take our chances with a new one. There may be the picture of a pretty girl or of a conflagration on the old one, or if it's one of the more pretentious home variety, portraits of authors or generals or monarchs, yet none of these things save it. The picture, associated from the calendar, may be sent to an attic purgatory; the calendar itself goes straight to destruction, for there's little so obnoxious, so revolting, so fatal to peace of mind as a thing that's not up-to-date.

Then, too, there are memories about the old calendar. It was always laughing at your impatience; it was always protesting that you were intolerant, mercenary. It kept you up to such a high pitch of promptitude and accuracy that you're glad to be rid of it. You recall how a year ago you marked certain days way down deep in its pages, when notes were to fall due or disagreeable tasks were to be performed, and how relentlessly the calendar kept at it till it brought those hidden days to the top! An old wound is torn open as you reflect on the time when you neglected to keep pace with it and left an expired page to incubate it; you were the sufferer; you got terribly nipped up; the calendar never changed countenance.

Cold common sense tells us that next year's calendar will be just as tyrannical; but we are ever ready to exchange an old master for a new. Hope springs eternal.

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