The Somerset Herald.

ESTABLISHED, 1827.

VOL. XXVIII. NO. 31. SOMERSET, PA., WEDNESDAY, JAN. 7, 1880. WHOLE NO. 1487.

Terms of Publication

The Somerset Herald

published every Wednesday Morning at $2 00 a annum, if paid in advance otherwise $2 50 will invariably be charged.

No subscription will be discontinued until all arrearages are paid up. Postmasters neglecting to notify us when subscribers do not take out their papers will be held able for the subscription. Subscribers removing from one Postoffice to another should give us the name of the former as well as the present office. Address

The Somerset Herald,
Somerset, Pa.

ATTORNEYS AT-LAW.

F. KOONTZ, ATTORNEY AT LAW, Somerset, Pa.

W. R. SCULL, ATTORNEY AT LAW, Somerset, Penna.

H. ENSLEY, ATTORNEY AT LAW, Somerset, Penn'a.

GEORGE R. SCULL, ATTORNEY AT LAW, Somerset, Pa.

LAW NOTICE.—Alexander H. Colborn has opened his office in Somerset and solicits a share of public patronage.

H. SCHRADER, ATTORNEY AT LAW, and Notary Public, Agent, Somerset, Pa., in Diamond Block, jan. 13-tf.

VALENTINE HAY, ATTORNEY AT LAW, Somerset, Pa., will attend to all business entrusted to his care with fidelity. Office in Mansion House Block. may 12-tf.

J. AMOS, ATTORNEY AT LAW, Somerset, Pa., will attend to all business entrusted to his care with fidelity. Office in Mansion House Block.

W. R. L. BAER, ATTORNEYS AT LAW, Somerset, Pa., will practice in Somerset and adjoining counties. All business entrusted to them will be promptly attended to.

WILLIAM H. KOONTZ, ATTORNEY AT LAW, Somerset, Pa., will give prompt attention to business entrusted to his care in Somerset and adjoining counties. Office in Printing House Row.

COUGHENOUR & RUPPEL, ATTORNEYS AT LAW. All business entrusted to their care will receive prompt and personal attention. Office in Cook's building, Main street, opposite the Somerset House.

JOHN R. SCOTT, ATTORNEY AT LAW, Somerset, Pa. Office in the Court House. All business entrusted to his care attended to with promptness and fidelity.

JAMES L. PUGH, ATTORNEY AT LAW, Somerset, Pa. Office, Mansion House, up stairs, in Main Cross St. Collections made, and all legal business attended to with promptness and fidelity. may 12-tf.

SURVEYING, Writing Deeds, &c., may be left at the Somerset Herald Office, or at Shipley & Cook's Store. C. F. WALKER. [Aug 8

PHYSICIANS.

DR. E. M. KIMMELL & SON offer their professional services to the citizens of Somerset and vicinity. Office, at the house formerly occupied by Dr. Kimmell, sr., where he can be found at all times, unless professionally absent. [may 12-tf.

DR. J. K. MILLER has permanently located in Somerset, and offers his professional services to the citizens of Somerset and vicinity. Office on Main street, in Dr. Kimmell's store.

DR. E. SHUMAKER tenders his professional services to the citizens of Somerset and vicinity. Office in residence, one door west of the Methodist church.

DR. G. R. MASTERS has returned to Somerset for the practice of his profession, and tenders his professional services to the citizens and surrounding country. Office in Diamond Block; residence with Curtin Grove.

DR. W. COLLINS, DENTIST, Somerset, Pa. Office in Cook's Block, up stairs, where he can at all times be found prepared to do dental work, such as filling, regulating, extracting or inserting artificial teeth of all kinds, and of the most improved and approved styles. Operations warranted.

DR. A. G. MILLER, PHYSICIAN & SURGEON, Has located in South Bend, Indiana, where he will be pleased to be consulted by letter or otherwise.

Dr. W. F. FUNDENBERG, Late Resident Surgeon, New York Eye and Ear Infirmary, Has located permanently in the City of CUMBERLAND, Maryland for the EXCLUSIVE treatment of all diseases of the Eye and Ear, including those of the Nose and Throat. Office, No. 20 South Centre Street.

DENTISTS.

JOHN BILLS, DENTIST. Has taken Offices in Neff's new building, Main Cross Street, Somerset, Pa.

WM. COLLINS, DENTIST, Has taken Office in Fryant's Store, Somerset, Pa., for the purpose of inserting Artificial Teeth in the most approved manner. Having had fifteen years experience in the practice of Dentistry, he feels confident that he is prepared to do as good work as can be done anywhere. Those desiring artificial teeth in this place, will find it to their interest to call before having the work done elsewhere, as he is determined to meet the increasing demand for teeth has introduced a system whereby he can enlarge my facilities that I can furnish sets of teeth at lower prices than you can get them in any other place in this country,—and am making a good set of teeth for $5, and if not satisfactory to any person among my thousands of patrons in this and the adjoining counties that have had work done by me, the same can be had for that is not giving good satisfaction, they can call on me at any time and get it done free of charge.

HOTELS.

DIAMOND HOTEL, STOYSTOWN PA. This popular and well known house has lately been thoroughly and newly refitted, with all new furniture, which has made it a very desirable stopping place for the traveling public. The table can not be surpassed, all being supplied with a large public hall attached to the same. A large and roomy stabling, where horses can be had at the lowest possible rates by week, day or meal.

SAMUEL CUSTER, Prop'r.
B. E. Chr. Diamond,
Stoystown, Pa.

DAVIS BROS., House, Sign and Fresco PAINTERS, SOMERSET, PA.

SELLERS' LIVER PILLS

Having the standard remedy for the cure of Liver Complaints, Costiveness, Fever and Ague, Sick Headache, and all derangements of the stomach and liver for over fifty years, find that "Sellers' Liver Pills cured me of a severe case of Liver complaint of eight years standing." W. Frank, Joliet, Ills. Price, 25 cts. R. E. Sellers & Co., prop'rs., Pittsburgh. Sold by all druggists.

AUCTIONEER.

JOSEPH PHILLIPS, offers his services in the sale of Real or Personal Estate, or anything to be disposed of at auction, and feel I will give entire satisfaction. Orders by mail promptly attended to.

W. A. KOONTZ,
Confluence, Pa.

BANKS, ETC.

NEW BANK.

Somerset County Bank

CHARLES J. HARRISON,
Cashier and Manager.

Collections made in all parts of the United States. Charges moderate. Butter and other checks collected and rushed. Eastern and Western exchange always on hand. Remittances made with promptness. Accounts solicited.

Parties desiring to purchase U. S. 4 PER CENT. FUNDED LOAN, can be accommodated at this Bank. The rupons are prepaid in denominations of 50, 100, 500 and 1,000.

S. T. LITTLE & SONS,
108 BALTIMORE STREET,
CUMBERLAND, Md.

WATCHES, CHAINS, SOLID SILVERWARE, DIAMONDS, AMERICAN CLOCKS, FRENCH CLOCKS, SILVER PLATED WARE, JEWELRY, &c.

HOLIDAY PRESENTS!

Watches and Jewelry Repaired by Skilled Workmen and returned by Express Free of Charge. No extra charge for Engraving. Goods warranted as represented. oct 15

New and Elegant CARPETS!

All Grades.

Low Prices.

DRUGGET SQUARES.

Lignums and Linoleum.

BOVARD, ROSE & CO

39 Fifth Avenue,
PITTSBURG, PA.

Sept 24

$300 A MONTH guaranteed. $12 a day at home made by the industrious. Capital not required; we will start you. Men, women, boys and girls make money faster at work for us than at anything else. The work is light and pleasant, and such as anyone can go right at. Those who are wise who see this notice will send us their addresses at once and see for themselves. Costly Outfit and terms free. Now is the time. Those already at work are laying up large sums of money. Address TRUE & CO., Augusta, Maine. June 11.

$1500 TO MAKE A YEAR, or $5 to $20 a day in your own locality. No risk. Women do as well as men. Many make more than the amount stated above. No one can fail to make money fast. Any one can do the work. You can make from 50cts. to $2 an hour by devoting your evenings and spare time to the business. It costs nothing to try the business. Nothing like it for money making ever offered before. Business pleasant and strictly honorable. Reader, if you want to know all about the best paying business before the public, send us your name and we will explain all particulars and private terms free; sample worth $5 also free; you can then make up your mind for yourself. Address GEO. STINSON & CO., June 11 Portland, Maine.

Ayer's Cherry Pectoral

For Diseases of the Throat and Lungs, such as Coughs, Colds, Whooping Cough, Bronchitis, Asthma, and Consumption.

The reputation it has attained, in consequence of the marvellous cures it has produced during the last half century, is a sufficient assurance to the public that it will continue to realize the happiest results that can be desired. In almost every section of country there are persons, publicly known, who have been restored from alarming and even desperate diseases of the lungs, by its use. All who know it to be invaluable, acknowledge its superiority; and where its virtues are known, no one hesitates as to what medicine to employ to relieve the distress and suffering peculiar to pulmonary affections. CHERRY PECTORAL always affords instant relief, and performs rapid cures of the milder varieties of bronchial disorder, as well as the more formidable diseases of the lungs.

As a safeguard to children, amid the distressing diseases which beset the Throat and Chest of Childhood, it is invaluable; for, by its timely use, multitudes are rescued and restored to health.

This medicine gains friends at every trial, as the cures it is constantly producing are too remarkable to be forgotten. No family should be without it, and those who have once used it never will.

Eminent Physicians throughout the country prescribe it, and Clergymen often recommend it from their knowledge of its effects.

PREPARED BY
Dr. J. C. AYER & CO., Lowell, Mass.,
Practical and Analytical Chemists.
SOLD BY ALL DRUGGISTS EVERYWHERE.

KIDNEY-WORT

The Only Remedy

THAT ACTS AT THE SAME TIME ON THE LIVER, THE BOWELS, and the KIDNEYS.

This combined action gives it wonderful power to cure all diseases.

Why Are We Sick?

Because we allow these great organs to become clogged or torpid, and poisonous humors are therefore forced into the blood that should be expelled naturally.

KIDNEY-WORT WILL CURE

BILIOUSNESS, PILES, CONSTIPATION, KIDNEY COMPLAINTS, URINARY DISEASES, FEMALE WEAKNESSES, AND NERVOUS DISORDERS.

by causing free action of these organs and restoring their power to throw off disease.

Why Suffer Billious pains and aches?
Why tormented with Piles, Constipation?
Why frightened over disordered Kidneys?
Why are you nervous and sick headached?
Why have sleepless nights?

Use KIDNEY-WORT and rejoice in health. It is a dry vegetable compound and One package will make six quarts of Medicine. Get it of your Druggist, by mail order it for $1. Price, $1.00.

WELLS, RICHARDSON & CO., Proprietors, (Will send you pam.) Burlington, Vt.

PENSION AGENCY.

S. P. Swoftzer of Sand Patch, Somerset county, Pa. Justice of the Peace, surveyor and claim agent—will promptly collect all Bounty and Pension claims entrusted to him. Persons wishing any information will address him at the above named place, enclosing discharge and postage stamp for reply.

ADMINISTRATOR'S NOTICE.

Estate of Polly Nicodemus late of Somerset Bor., Somerset Co., Pa., deceased.

Letters of administration on the above estate having been granted to the undersigned, notice is hereby given to those indebted to it to make immediate payment, and those having claims or demands will present the duly authenticated for settlement at the office of W. H. Koontz, in Somerset Borough, on Saturday, February, 7, 1880.

JOHN R. HUSTON,
Dec. 31 Administrator.

AUDITOR'S NOTICE.

The undersigned having been appointed Auditor on motion of W. H. Koontz, Esq., by the Court of Common Pleas of Somerset county, Pa., to pass upon the exceptions found, and make a distribution of the moneys in the hands of W. H. Miller, assignee of Valentine Miller, to and among those legally entitled thereto, hereby gives notice, that he will attend to his duties at his office in Somerset, Pa., on Tuesday, January 20, 1880, when and where all persons interested can attend if they think proper.

L. C. COLBORN,
Dec. 31 Auditor.

EXECUTOR'S SALE

By virtue of an order issued out of the Orphans' Court of Somerset county, to the undersigned directed, there will be exposed to sale by public outcry, on

Tuesday, January 20, 1880,

at 1 o'clock P. M. on the homestead farm, the following valuable real estate, late the property of John Walter, late Jenner Twp., deceased, viz:

A certain tract of land situate in Jenner Twp., in said county, adjoining land of Jacob C. Horner, Jesse Griffith, John Harshberger, John Stuffi and others, containing 150½ acres, strict measure, being the late homestead of said dec'd. There are about 150 acres clear, of which about 20 acres in meadow, with a two story frame house, a two story stone dwelling house and a large bank barn thereon erected; there are also two apple orchards, a peach orchard and a good sugar camp on the premises. The farm is well watered, is in a good state of cultivation, and is underlaid with limestone.

This tract is in one of the best sections of Jenner township, and is convenient to churches, schools, stores &c.

TERMS.—One-third in hand, one-third to remain a lien on the land for widow's dower, and the balance in three equal annual payments thereafter, without interest.

The deferred payments to be secured by judgment notes. Possession will be given on the 1st of April, A. D. 1880, when the deed will be made and notes taken. The crops in the ground are reserved. Ten per cent. of purchase money must be paid on day of sale.

JESSE WALTER,
W. H. WALTER,
Dec. 24 Executors of John Walter, dec'd.

JNO. HICKS. LA RUE M. HICKS

Agents for Fire and Life Insurance,

JOHN HICKS & SON,

SOMERSET, PA.,

and Real Estate Brokers.

ESTABLISHED 1850.

Persons who desire to sell, buy or exchange property, or for rent will find it to their advantage to register the description thereof, as no charge is made unless sold or rented. Real estate business generally will be promptly attended to. [aug15.

MERIDEN BRITANNIA CO. W'ST MERIDEN, CONN.

SALESROOMS

Union Square, New York,
—AND—
154 State Street,
CHICAGO, ILL.
MANUFACTURERS
—OF—
SILVER PLATED WARE.

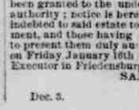
Trade Mark for Spoons, Forks, &c.

1847, Rogers Bros. A. I.

These Goods have taken the Certificates of Award wherever exhibited, both in this and the old Countries,

And the Meriden Britannia Co. are the LARGEST and Best Manufacturers in this line in the World.

Ask your Jeweler for these Goods. April 16.



C. F. WALKER of this place has a lot of his celebrated Horse Rakes for sale—better than ever and cheap. Any one who wants one at once, would do well to send him a postal card or in some way let him know in order to make sure of getting one, as he is his formula of selling might not find all who want rakes. May 29

MORGAN'S WOOLEN MILL,

ESTABLISHED 1812.

Having secured the services of Mr. Wm. H Barnhart as my Agent in Somerset county for the coming wool season, I wish to thank my numerous customers for past favors, and bespeak for Mr. Barnhart the liberal patronage enjoyed by my former agents.

I have a very large stock of

WOOLEN GOODS!

of my own manufacture, consisting of

BLANKETS,
CASSIMERES, SATINETS,
JEANS, REPELLANTS, FLANNELS,
COVERLETS, CARPETS,
YARNS, &C.,

which I wish to

TRADE FOR WOOL.

Our Goods are MADE FOR SERVICE, under my own supervision, and we strive now, as in the past, to give satisfaction and full value to all. We will, as usual, visit all our customers during the Summer.

WM. S. MORGAN,
Stanton's Mills.

Apr 9

ADMINISTRATOR'S NOTICE.

Estate of John Carver, late of Stonycreek Tp., deceased.

Letters of administration on the above estate having been granted to the undersigned, notice is hereby given to all persons indebted to said estate to make immediate payment and those having claims against the same to present them duly authenticated for settlement at the late residence of deceased in said township on Saturday the 3d day of January, 1880.

ABRAHAM CARVER,
JACOB J. SPEICHER,
Nov. 19 Administrators.

EXECUTOR'S NOTICE.

Estate of Catharine Lettig, late of Somerset Twp., Somerset Co., Pa., dec'd.

Letters testamentary on the above estate having been granted to the undersigned by the proper authority; notice is hereby given to all persons indebted to said estate to make immediate payment, and those having claims against the same to present them duly authenticated for settlement on Friday January 16th 18 6, at the house of the Executor in Friedenburg, Somerset county, Pa.

SAMUEL SNYDER,
Executor.

Dec. 5.

"AUNT PEGGY" WRIGHT.

HER NINETIETH BIRTHDAY.

A MEMORABLE FAMILY RE-UNION.

FIVE GENERATIONS IN A GROUP.

We made mention in the last issue of the *Democrat* that there would be a Family Reunion at the old Wright Homestead, on Saturday, December 13th, in honor of the 90th birthday of "Aunt Peggy" Wright.

The family reunion took place, according to programme, but it proved to be much more than a family affair, for there were numerous invited guests present, including quite a number of aged people, and youths and children were not lacking.

Mrs. Wright had been informed that some of her neighbors and descendants would call upon her that day, but she was kept in ignorance of the magnitude of the affair, until it gradually developed to her vision. Children, grandchildren and neighbors began to gather early, and, a little after nine o'clock, carriages and buggies began to roll in from a distance. Descendants and other relatives from Clayton, Madison, Reading and Hopewell townships came across by the Rehoboth road; and the numerous guests from New Lexington came pouring out the Deavertown road.

The barnyard and public road were crammed with horses and vehicles, and the large house was full up stairs and down with the assembled guests. Half a dozen good coal fires were booming, and the stairway leading from the first to the second floor was frequently blocked by persons eager to go up or down. The New Lexington Cornet Band appeared on the scene about eleven o'clock, and regaled the assembly with several of their choicest airs.

Dinner was announced a little after twelve, and continued until after three. Tables were spread in the dining room and on the two back porches. They were literally crowded with everything good to eat, and the display of large fine cakes could not easily be excelled. Even the good old crutters and "tanglebreeches" were not absent. One of Aunt Peggy's great-grandchildren (about thirty years of age, however,) after eating a bunch of the 'tangles' nearly as large as his head, remarked that they tasted very good, but were "thin diet for a laboring man." It was a little cool on the porch, of course, but the jokes and hot coffee flew thick and fast, and the dining was well done. Every once in a while, all the afternoon, ladies were running around trying to find somebody who had not eaten, and the *Democrat* representative was strongly tempted to forget that he had had his dinner; but he did resist it and we cheerfully put it down to his credit. The day was given to handshaking and general conversation, and the time was well occupied. Several attempts were made to count the number of persons present, but they failed of complete success. Those who tried it could count until they reached about two hundred and seventy-five; but the remainder jumped around and run up and down stairs so they could not be numbered. It is safe to say there were three hundred present.

Aunt Peggy was, apparently, about the least surprised of anybody. She was highly pleased, but was as calm and collected as though none but the members of her own immediate family were in the house. She was in the best of health, and got up and dressed herself before seven o'clock. When told by some of the friends that they feared such a large crowd might make her nervous, she promptly replied, "Don't be the least alarmed; I am not one of the nervous kind;" and it cannot be denied that she understood herself perfectly. She received many of her friends standing, and seemed not at all fatigued in doing so. She knew almost everybody that she had ever seen, and readily recognized some persons that she had not met for nearly thirty years. She resides with her son Jackson, at the old family homestead, in a large two story frame house, erected about thirty-five years since.

Dr. Vanatta and family, and his daughter Clara and family, of Uniontown, Muskingum county, were present—Mrs. Vanatta, the oldest daughter of the late William Williams, of Madison township, Perry county—looking almost as young and well as when she came to New Lexington a bride twenty-five years ago—played the exceedingly interesting part of grandchild and grandmother, in the same act.

The *Democrat* representative knew enough about the world to realize that he was looking upon a very rare scene, as Mrs. Vanatta sat by her aged grandmother, and called her own two little grandchildren to her side. It is seldom, indeed, that five generations are gathered, at the same time, under one roof, as on this memorable day.

SKETCH OF AUNT PEGGY.

Margaret Ankeny, who, for fifty years or more, has been known in all this neighborhood as Aunt Peggy Wright, was born in Somerset county, Pennsylvania, December 13th, 1789. Her father's name was David Ankeny; her mother's maiden name was Elsie Ritter. Margaret Ankeny was married to Thomas Wright December 25, 1809, After their marriage, Mr. and Mrs. Wright lived in Pennsylvania seven years, and until they had three children. They then pulled up stakes at the old home, and removed to what was then Muskingum, but what is now Perry county, Ohio. They moved family and goods in a four-horse wagon, and were three weeks on the way. It rained every day of their journey but three; and they ate their meals and slept in the wagon. They crossed the Muskingum river at Zanesville on a flat boat. They halted in Putnam and got breakfast. There was only one house in Putnam, and not many houses in Zanesville. Mr. Wright rented a farm in Madison township. The farm was on the old State road, near where David Ream now lives.—They arrived there in April, 1816, raised and saved a crop, and then came to the farm where Aunt Peggy has ever since lived, and which Mr. Wright had purchased. She has resided on this spot for sixty-three years.

When Mrs. Wright and her husband came to this place, and unloaded their world's goods, neighbors were few and far between, and the almost unbroken forest abounded with many kinds of wild game. Deer, bears, panthers, wolves, wild cats, and other animals had their home and habitation near. There was only one family lived on Bear run; William Fowler lived near where Moxahala now is, John Fowler, Samuel McClellan and James Comly lived where new Lexington now is, and there were two or three houses close to where Rehoboth now is. Rehoboth and New Lexington were not laid out.

A bear once came and took a fat hog out of the pen near Mrs. Wright's house, killed it and hid it in the leaves. The bear returned in a few days and got another hog from a man by the name of W. Lashley, who lived where W. Hammond now lives. The neighbors were aroused and all gathered in with guns and dogs. Uncle Thomas Wright had two bullets in his gun, and as the bear raised up from the dogs, he fired and killed it. They hung it in Lashley's house, raised the puncheons of the floor, and skinned and cleaned it in there, and then divided the meat. When Jeremiah, one of Mrs. Wright's other children, was a small boy, he was sent to a neighbor's, beyond Rehoboth, to get a cheese hoop repaired. On his return, when he got to where Nugent's coal switch is, and only about a quarter of a mile from home, he espied two cub bears, and, boy like, tried to catch them, when the old bear raised up from behind a log, and put its front feet up on it.—Jerry made tracks fast enough toward home and raised the alarm. Several men gathered with guns and dogs, and run the bear down on the creek close to where Ira Carroll now lives. There the bear climed a tree, and one dog held on to it with his teeth until he was lifted clear off the ground and some distance up the tree. The bear was shot and tumbled to the ground. Ever since then the creek near where the bear was killed has been called Bear run.

Aunt Peggy has been the mother of eleven children and raised ten of them. She has eighty grandchildren and about seventy-five great-grandchildren. She has also five descendants of the fourth generation. Seven of her children are yet living, to-wit: Jackson Wright, Cyrus Wright and Julia Selvy, wife of Thomas Selby, of the vicinity of New Lexington; Mrs. Mary Williams, widow of the late William Williams, of Madison township, Perry county; David Wright and Charlotte Rost, of Missouri; and James Wright and Susan Carroll, wife of Benjamin Carroll, of this place.—Children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren are intermurried with the families of Williams, Selby, McClung, Wilson, Carroll, Groves, Yost, Ream, Vanatta, Arnold, Teal, Moeller, Snider, Hull, Colborn, Bright, Snell, Eversole, Zeigler, Guy, Barnes, Koons, Hammond, and fully as many more, not known or not now remembered by the writer. So it will be readily observed, that a reunion of Aunt Peggy's descendants could be no small affair.

She united with the New Lexington Baptist Church in 1823, and was baptized in Comly's mill dam, close to where H N. Free's new store house is. Rev. James Skinner was the Pastor of the church at that time, and administered the ordinance of Baptism. She attended meeting at the residence of the late Samuel Rush, one mile northwest of town, where Mr. Nixon now lives, and carried her baby, a distance of three miles from home. She said she would rather walk than bother with a horse.

Aunt Peggy is accustomed to say that those early pioneer days were the happiest in her life, when she had plenty of work to do, and the will and strength to do it. She used to milk twelve or fifteen cows, and made plenty of butter and cheese. She was a liberal feeder of her stock, and she says her calves didn't go around with tails like chestnut burs. She pitched wheat and taught her husband how to build the first stack he ever made. She had learned that at home when a girl. She would take her child to the field and lay it on a bunch of flax, while she was engaged in binding and saving the crop. For several years she did all the sheep shearing. On one occasion, she got breakfast, did up her work, clipped nineteen sheep in the forenoon, and went to the house in time to get dinner for the men.

Thomas Wright, the husband of Aunt Peggy, died July 5th, 1864, after which she kept house about one year, and then got her son, Jackson to move into the house with her.

Rushs, Coddingtons, Hulls, Shinners, Thralls, and a number of other families came to the neighborhood soon after the Wrights moved down from Madison Township. Mrs. Wright has one brother still living. His name is David Ankeny, and he resides on the old home place in Pennsylvania. Aunt Peggy thinks that she is stouter than any of her daughters or grand-daughters yet. She never had any trouble with her neighbors, but always lived a life of peace, neighborship and good will. She says she always made it a point never to fuss with the "old man." When things did not go to suit her, she just shut her eyes like an ox and went straight ahead. It is seventy years this month since Aunt Peggy was a bride, and she lived with her husband nearly fifty-six years, though he has now been nearly sixteen years gone to his rest.

We say and think ninety, years, but we are slow to take in its full meaning. A few important dates and eras will assist our memory. Mrs. Wright was born in the first year of the first term of George Washington, and consequently has lived under all Administrations of the government. When the handsome and accomplished Dolly Madison presided over the White House, Mrs. Wright had a considerable family, and moved from Pennsylvania to Ohio during Madison's Administration. She was nearly fifty years of age when Andrew Jackson retired from the White House, and when Abraham Lincoln went incog into the National Capitol in the dark days of 1861 she had already passed her three score and ten. She was old enough to remember and talk to the soldiers of the Revolution, while they were yet comparatively young men—almost as young as the soldiers of the late Rebellion, some of whom we yet meet wherever we go. She has been intimately acquainted with soldiers of the Revolution, of the war 1812, of the Mexican war of 1846—47, as well as those of our more recent Civil War. These simple statements will aid the mind in comprehending the important periods through which our aged and highly esteemed friend has lived. We hope that she may live to celebrate her one hundredth birth-day. — *Perry County Democrat.*

OUR WASHINGTON LETTER.

(From our Regular Correspondent.)

WASHINGTON, Dec. 23, 1879.

The Military Academy bill was passed with a merely nominal reduction from last year's appropriation. Notwithstanding the fact that the rank of our miniature army is out of all proportion to its file, there is to be no surcease of the gorge with which West Point has for years overstocked its official corps. Few people appreciate the peculiar political influence of West Point. The English taunt our Republicanism with the remark that we, too, have a peerage of Judges and Honorables. But the most potent and aristocratic peerage is that which traces its ancestry to West Point and the Naval Academy. The cadets, appointed by members of Congress, salaried from the day of their matriculation to the day of their death, evince their gratitude and wise providence by marrying Congressmen's sisters, cousins and aunts, thus securing influence which means a securer hold on the public Treasury. Washington is the paradise of the Army and Navy officer. They masquerade in citizen's clothes and few realize what hosts of them are here. Their rank, their education, their accomplishments in all arts—except those of war and navigation—endear them to society and facilitate those martial relations which have burdened the country with sinecures and robbed Congress of its independence.

In the Senate yesterday there was a lively debate on the resolution of Mr. Voorhees calling for the appointment of a committee to investigate the cause of the Exodus of negroes from North Carolina to Indiana and Mr. Windom's proposed amendment instructing the committee, in case they should find the cause to be cruel and unjust treatment of the negroes by their white fellow-citizens, to report to Congress what steps should be taken to secure them in the free exercise of their political rights, and whether a territory should not be set apart for their exclusive use. The debate, though animated from first to last, was moderate in tone, and characterized by becoming courtesy and dignity on both sides.

Congress adjourns to-day for the holidays, having accomplished much in the way of appropriations. On Friday last, the House passed the Fortifications and Pensions Appropriation Bills, the latter calling for $32,404,000. During the week Mr. Warner has asked for information as to what came of the bi-metallic mission to the governments of Europe, for which $20,000 was appropriated; and Mr. Morrill for the effect on the revenue of the repeal of the duties on tea and coffee. Resolutions have been introduced expressing sympathy with the Irish Nationalists in their efforts for equal laws and self-government, and the hope that they may soon become owners of the soil they cultivate; and speeches have been made over petitions for enriching the soldiers and sailors of the civil war by the difference between the gold value of the greenbacks in which they were paid and their nominal value.

The President has decided to appoint an equal number of Democratic and Republican supervisors of the census of each State. This decision gives some dissatisfaction in Republican circles, and the President has been urged to make all such appointments from his own political party. He, however, declines to do so, on the ground that the law, as it now stands, would not be fairly administered if he appointed only the Republicans.

C. A. S.

Indignation in Maine.

BOSTON, December 18.—A dispatch from Skowhegan says the counting out of that town at Augusta is the only topic of coversation on the streets, and is denounced by Democrats as well as Republicans. An indignation meeting has been called for Saturday evening. A telegram from Farmington mentions the prevalence of a great indignation there. The Mayor and Aldermen of Rockland adopted a resolution to-night condemning the action of the Governor and Council.

Station Burned.

TYRONE, PA., Dec. 18.—The railway station at this place, a small frame building, was destroyed by fire this morning. The flames originated from a defective flue in the heater. The baggage room, a small frame building, was also burned. The contents, consisting of tickets and the usual furniture of a railroad office, were destroyed. The amount of the loss is $8,000.

The best and about the only way to get even with a treacherous mule—and who ever saw any other—is to take his shoes off, lead him on to smooth ice and then blackguard him. He dare not indulge in his natural propensity, and the vexation of spirit exhibited in his intelligent countenance is really interesting.

A false charge—Putting in the wad before the powder.

A TWENTY POUND NOTE.

There never was such a man to bet as Staining. He was always so sure he was right. Our mutual friend, Marxwell, ought to have sailed for Brazil, but I felt confident I had seen him in the street. Staining said it was nonsense, and he bet me twenty pounds to a shilling I was wrong. He hardly finished speaking when Marxwell, who had not sailed, came up. Staining pulled out from his pocket book a twenty pound note and hand it to me.

"There you are, old fellow. 'A fool and his money, etc.' Another illustration of that wise adage."

"Not exactly; for you don't expect I shall take your money?"

"Yes, I do; and shall be extremely annoyed if you make any difficulty."

I protested; but presently he said, irritably, "Then be my almoner, and give the money in charity." And he pressed the note back on me, and left abruptly. There are objections to standing in the highway with a bank note in your hand and puzzled expression in your face, so the bank note was transferred to my pocket, and I went my way wondering, when I was met full tilt by a clergyman, whom I very well knew.

"Hullon?" he cried. "Mr. Smith, both you and I seem to have our minds so much occupied to-day that we cannot take care of our bodies."

I apologized, "No grave matter of mine," I said; "but you look sad. Nothing wrong with you or yours?"

"No, thanks: but I have just left a depressing scene. A young couple married in hot haste, have gradually come to grief. The wife and child are ill. Relatives and friends have receded in the remote back ground. And worse than all, the husband—"

"Become intemperate or has gone mad?"

"Neither one nor the other."

"Something worse?"

"Yes; for to be dishonest is worse than going mad. And it is such a mere trifle that is needed, apparently, to put all straight that I groan at my inability at the moment to find it."

"What's wanted?"

"Well, it is only twenty pounds,"

"There's the money you require. Haste away and do all the good you can with it."

My friend looked astonished. He even hesitated.

"It is very good of you, he said, 'but, really—"

"I have the power to give it away. Good-by." And I hurried off. Then I hastened back to him.

"Kindly, on no account mention my name."

"No, as you wish; but you should know that of the objects of your bounty." And he told me. Then we parted. I had gone only a dozen yards when there passed me a young man, with a flushed face and a frightened, anxious look in his eyes. He caught up to my friend and spoke to him.

"That is the man," I said to myself, "whose proceedings have been dubious, and who will, I trust, be rescued by Staining's twenty pounds. Well, if the wheel should turn, and if this poor man should ever be in a position to deliver a fellow-creature from such trouble as he himself is now in, by the surrender of twenty pounds, I wonder whether he'll do it? Smith you surely know human nature well enough to answer your own question. Not he—not a bit of it."

This little incident with plenty of other things was soon swept away from my memory by a sudden call to go abroad, even to the place where Marxwell did not go—Brazil. Nothing hampered me then; I was a young bachelor, and could start for the antipodes at two days' notice. When I take my wife and children—I forget the number—for our autumnal trip, in these latter days of my life, I required weeks' preparation. Alas the change!

Away then to Brazil; away to new life, new scenes, new companions, new hopes and fears; away to fortune and the yellow fever! Here occurs in my tale a grand interval of twenty years (my story deals in twenties!) I doubt whether I should have come had not a young English lady one night sung in my hearing an old home ballad, so well remembered in connection with some loved ones who in this world will sing no more, that the well known craving for a native land mastered me at once, and within a very short time I was on my voyage to England.

On the way, I had one night a frightful dream. I fancied a terrible enemy had me on my back, and was clutching at my throat. Tighter grew his grasp, and fainter my breath. My starting eyes scanned every feature of my murderer. Slowly and painfully—as I was held this way, for some time it appeared—did I call to mind the face before me. It was Staining—but Staining reckless, desperate. I gasped an entreaty for mercy.

"Give it to me; I want it; I must have it instantly—instantly!" was the hoarse reply.

"What—what can he mean?"

"What?" he shrieked in a maniacal frenzy. "Wretch, my twenty pounds!"

I had quite forgotten about this bet and the twenty pounds, but the dream set me thiking of what rumors I had heard occasionally respecting Staining since I left England, that his money had wasted, that he had fallen considerably in position and even into poverty. I had written to him several times, but of late years he had not replied.

"Poor fellow," I now thought, "there may really be something in that dream. If his pride will accept it, he shall have the money back, and very glad I shall be to restore it."

Back to England. Settle down again in the old country. Main matters disposed of, I began to think of minor ones, and among the latter the discovery of Staining; he was not in his former haunts, and I failed so long to find him that I was beginning to despair, when one night I met him on the street.

The brilliant artificial light of a ball room may increase the luster of a woman's bright eyes and her sparkling jewels, but if you want to see a poor broken down man, decayed and dismal, in his worst aspect, survey him standing under a street lamp, drizzling rain descending upon him, and he with folded arms, presenting a picture of mute despair. So did I behold Staining. I put my hand on his shoulder. He sprang from me as though I were a wild beast.

"I did not want to run away," he said hoarsely, "they knew that. I'll face it—I'll face it," he added tremulously. "Go on, I'll walk quietly enough—why—what—eh—surely, can it be—can——"

"Yes, it is Smith, your old companion. Pray be composed. Staining, my friend, what is all this? Come away, and confide in me. If you are in trouble, and money can help you, you shall not want." And I took his arm and we went together.

And then I heard poor Staining's confession, and it amounted to this: When he had wasted his money, he obtained a situation in a merchant's office. The pay, poor enough, was sufficient to keep him; but even now nothing could restrain him from gambling on a small scale on horse racing. As a consequence he was soon penniless, and worse—dishonest. He had paid a betting debt out of a £20 note which the day before I met him had been entrusted to him. Discovery had ensued almost instantaneously, and though the luckless man had explained that it was only through a failure of another member of the virtuous fraternity he could not at once replace the money, he had been discharged, and had reason to suppose he would be prosecuted.

"Many, many thanks," replied the poor fellow to the offer I directly made him. "You can see the firm in the morning; but though they have allowed a day to pass, I doubt whether they will take the money. I believe that they are bent on my ruin."

I could not believe; so early next day, I was at the office of Messrs. Baydon, Blendon & Co., and having been admitted into the room of the senior partner, I stated my errand and proffered my £20.

Mr. Baydon was a sleek old gentleman. There was, so to speak, wealth and ease all over him. He bent his head complacently, and replied:

"I can appreciate your kindness to this poor man, and I, myself, would pass the matter over at once; but my partner, Mr. Blendon, takes a different view and I cannot interfere." And he was firm upon the point. Could I see Mr. Blendon? Yes, if I could call again in two hours.

In the cab I kept muttering to myself, Blendon, and Robert Blendon, too? I am sure of it; still, it is be so, it is very strange. I think I should know that face, however time may have altered it. We shall see who will be master."

Back to Messrs. Baydon, Blendon & Co.'s office, then in the presence of Mr. Blendon.

All my anxiety for my poor friend faded away. I was master of the situation. Briefly I stated my desire to pay the amount of Staining's defalcation, and my hope that, under the extenuating circumstances, no publicity would be given to the miserable wrong doer.

Mr. Blendon heard me with some impatience, and, before replying, he drew out a check to "self or bearer" (I could see him do it) for a hundred pounds. Having given this to a clerk to get cashed, he said to me, arranging the papers the while:

"You will excuse my answering somewhat shortly. It cannot be. It is not the money we are about, but we must vindicate the law."

I declare, I was half pleased at the grandiose style of his speech. How beautifully he was walking into my net.

I ventured to suggest that in a case like this there was no imperative call to such a course, and that forbearance might rightly be shown.

"I do not see it—I can't see it," answered Mr. Blendon, crossing his legs with an air of resignation, as as to say, "This man is a nuisance, but I must bear with him." He resumed:

"You do dot appear, sir, to observe the immense importance of punishing delinquency of this kind. I would not take your money on any account. Dear no! If I were to let this man off, I would be ashamed of myself. He ought to be in custody now, and he will be very shortly. I have just overcome some foolish hesitation of my partner. I am always firm myself." (Not always, Mr. Blendon—not when I last saw you. But I waited a bit. A little further into my net, please). "And therefore, however sorry I may be, sir, I must say NO. Dishonesty is a fearful thing, and it must be punished. If I were myself to commit an act of this kind and—"

Why did he stop? I bowed quietly, and rising said:

"You are right, Mr. Blendon. Dishonesty is a terrible thing, and while not for another moment pressing my request, I know you will forgive my calling to remembrance before I leave, a curious case known to myself. May I tell it you? Some twenty years ago, a poor young couple, not long married, had fallen into poverty. The wife and infant were ill; the doctor had ceased to attend because he was not paid. Comforts there were none. Even necessaries were wanting. The husband was distracted; he would get money; he must get money. When his young wife and infant child were well nigh starving, what was to be done? Stay, stay, Mr. Blendon, I will complete my story. The money was obtained,