The Somerset Herald.

GEORGE R. SCULL, Editor.

WEDNESDAY.....Dec. 19, 1894.

Hay and Straw for sale in large or small lots, by MAHLON SCHROCK.

Butter and eggs are selling for high prices in most of the cities of the state, a large article of the former bringing from thirty to fifty cents a pound.

Every man and boy in the County will be interested in the great $15,000 distribution being made at H. Heffley's.

Many of the public schools are having "potato days," on which occasions each pupil takes a number of tubers to school and the bulk is then donated to the deserving poor of the neighborhood.

A formal petition has been prepared and signed by 31 members of the Westmoreland county bar for the passage of a law by the next legislature providing for the appointment of an additional law judge for the courts of that county.

Order your Groceries, Flour and Feed from Mahlon Schrock and have them delivered, FREE.

A project is on foot to construct a graded public road from Nineveh to Johnstown, the cost of which is estimated at about $9,000, which amount is to be raised by contributions from persons living along and at both ends of the proposed new roadway.

Christmas toys and Christmas novelties are daily arriving at Ed. B. Coffroth's Main Cross street grocery and confectionery.

The eighteen-year-old daughter of Enos Blount, of Chaneysville, Bedford County, was instantly killed on Tuesday, by the accidental discharge of a gun her father was handling. The contents of the gun struck the young lady full in the temple.

When looking for useful holiday presents don't forget that John Stenger's, in Somerset, is the place to buy them.

Some people think that a raffle is not a violation of the lottery law. Frank Eberhart, of Westfield, Clarion county, was of that opinion. He wanted to dispose of a bicycle and had a lot of tickets printed, which he sold at a stipulated price. Some of the tickets were sent through the mails. Now he is under $1,000 bail for his appearance before the United States District Court.

Don't delay purchasing toys and candies for the little ones' stockings until the week before christmas when stores are crowded and clerks are busy, but go at once to Ed B. Coffroth's and get your holiday goods. He has a large and complete assortment of the latest novelties and substantialities.

Judge Barker, of Cambria; Doty, of Westmoreland, and Rayburn, of Armstrong, marked week designated by Governor Pattison to conduct the contested election case of ex-Judge Blair and Judge Jerry White in Indiana county. The bill in behalf of Judge White was filed Tuesday but the Attorney General saw reason why the praecipe should not issue.

Do you want to buy a first-class musical instrument at a moderate price? Go to Snyder's drug store.

In some counties in the state the commissioners are paying a higher price for dogs killed by dogs than is offered in the market. Since the new tariff bill was passed it is better for farmers to have their sheep killed by dogs than to take them to market. Of course this is only negligence on the part of the commissioners, or bad judgment of the viewers.—*Huntingdon Journal.*

Candies of all descriptions at Coffroth's grocery, by the pound or ton. The best place in town to buy treats for Sunday schools, etc.

Ohio has come nearer than most states to placing her county seats at the geographical center of the counties. Columbus, the capital, is almost exactly in the center of Franklin county, and the county seat, very wisely, is close to the geographical center of the state. There are more than twenty counties, each with its county town in the center of the county, and as many more with county towns only a few miles from the center.

Readers of the HERALD should not forget that J. N. Snyder, the druggist, can fit their eyes with glasses.

A singular accident caused the destruction by fire of the barn of Hon. John M. Greenawalt, at Cresswell Station near Hollidaysburg, on Saturday last. While the horse power thresher was in operation on the barn floor, a small stone became wedged in the machinery and the consequent friction set fire to the material in the thresher. The thousands of floating particles of straw carried the flames to every part of the barn. The barn and its contents, except the horses, were destroyed.

Genuine sale of fine furniture at Devore's, 6 and 8 Franklin St., begins Aug. 9th. Parlor suites at about half price.

A timely hint to Christmas givers is offered by First Assistant Postmaster General Jones. He calls attention to the fact that Christmas packages are subject to different regulations than those which govern the transmission of letters. The law is sufficient postage stamps will be every one is not fully prepaid packages go to the limbo of the dead letter office. Every ultimately returned, Christmas will have passed them by. Every reader of this should friends should post the advice in a conspicuous place.

Mr. Isaac Jones, of this place, has secured the agency of the Elmlen Roofing Co., New York. This is one of the largest and best roofing companies in existence. Mr. Jones will be at all times prepared to repair or paint metal roofing, or to furnish new roofing of the famous "Climax" brand, the oldest and best roofing in the market.

John Green, a farmer of Mercer county, had an interesting time killing hogs recently and with an experience he will not soon forget. He brought the water to a boiling temperature by heating large stones and throwing them into the barrel of water. This worked very well until the hog was hoisted in a large boulder, commonly called a "nigger head," nearly red hot, when a terrific explosion ensued, breaking the cask and throwing the water out upon Mr. Green and scalding him severely, instead of the hog he was hauling. Several others were also burned and hurt by flying missiles, but their injuries are trifling compared to those of Mr. Green.

Have you seen Devlin's Brussels Carpets at 50 cents per yard, in any pattern? Lace Curtains lower than jobber's prices. Prices guaranteed on any article,—80 and 82 Franklin St., Johnstown, Pa.

The practice of bending pins and then putting them on a chair or bench so that the point is upright, is a trick that should no longer be practiced among the young folks. In the McConnellstown school the other day a boy set one of these dangerous traps on the bench occupied by Bunn Johnson. When Johnson came to school he sat down by his desk, but he had no sooner sat down than he sprang up and howled for the pin which was buried deep in his flesh. He pulled it out and when he went home his leg hurt him so bad that he could scarcely walk and the next day the wound was so sore that he was compelled to go to bed. He suffered the most intense pain and everything was done to alleviate his sufferings, but nothing gave him relief. Finally his flesh grew very hard around the wound and the physician concluding it was healed left the spot and a quantity of poisonous matter was created. Don't play such tricks, there is danger of blood poisoning.—*Huntingdon Journal.*

I manufact for the Ross Feed and Ensilage cutter, which I will run against any cutter built. Any one wanting a first class feed cutter can get it from me.

J. M. FIKE,
Bills, Pa.

A merry Christmas to all our readers.

Webster Good and Angus Louther, students at the Gettysburg College, are home for the holidays.

Mr. Carl Scott has returned home for the Christmas vacation from the Mercersburg Academy.

Prothonotary Saylor and family have taken possession of their comfortable new home on Patriot street.

Esquire L. M. Hicks, of this place, has been admitted to practice as an agent before the Pension Department.

Farmers' Annual Institute next Wednesday and Thursday. All indications point to a large attendance.

The local order Knights of the Golden Eagle, will give a banquet in their hall, in Baer's Block, on the evening of Dec. 28th.

The managers of the Rockwood Electric Light Company expect to be able to furnish their patrons with illuminating current next week.

The B. & O. authorities have declined to establish an agency at Friedens, much to the dissatisfaction of the patrons of the road at that station.

Theodore Benson, of Connor postoffice, has been granted an original pension, and John Glover, of Meyersdale, has been granted an increase of pension.

At the Presbyterian Church next Sabbath, Dec. 23, a "Christmas Sermon" will be preached in the morning by the pastor. Services in the evening at the usual hour. Come and welcome.

Rev. Hiram King, of the Reformed Church, will hold Christmas services in the different churches of his charge as follows: Glade, Saturday evening, Dec. 22; Shanksville, Sunday evening, Dec. 23; Somerset, Monday evening, Dec. 24; Lavansville, Christmas evening.

Miss Nannie, daughter of Captain and Mrs. William H. Sanner, was soloist at a concert given in one of Pittsburg's leading churches, Friday evening, for the benefit of the Epworth League. Miss Sanner is a student in the M. E. College, that city, and is paying special attention to voice culture.

The protracted meeting at Pleasant Hill Church, in Somerset township, is still in progress. Up to this time forty persons have been at the alter, thirty of whom have professed conversion, and twenty-four have united with the Evangelical Church. The attendance at the meeting is large and interest in it is increasing.

President Cleveland has promoted Ensign Chester M. Knepper to be a Lieutenant in the U. S. Navy. The Lieutenant is now on duty aboard the squadron flag ship "Philadelphia," at present guarding the interests of the United States in the Japan-Chinese war. Lieutenant Knepper is the eldest son of Mr. and Mrs. Oliver Knepper, of this place.

Saturday Sheriff Hoover levied upon the printing materials of the *Vedette* office, and as a consequence no issue of that sparkling sheet was gotten out last week. We hope brother Tredwell will have no difficulty in arranging matters with the creditors of the *Vedette* Company, and that his paper will resume publication with the new year.

On Thursday evening, at 8:30 P. M., Miss Sadie S. P. Bricker, youngest daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Samuel Bricker, of this place, and Mr. Joseph Snyder, of Rockwood, were united in marriage at the home of the bride. Rev. T. J. Bristow, of the Presbyterian church, performed the ceremony. Only the immediate friends of the bride and groom were present.

The HERALD acknowledges the receipt of an invitation to the annual banquet of surviving comrades of R. P. Cummins Post G. A. R., to be given in the Opera House, Friday evening, Dec. 28th. The comrades will meet in G. A. R. Hall, at 6 P. M. sharp, for the purpose of closing up the unfinished business of the Post for the year 1894. Following the banquet a camp-fire will be held, for which an interesting program has been arranged.

The Ministerial Association of Somerset met Monday afternoon at the Reformed Church parsonage. It was decided to hold union meetings each evening except Saturday, during the Week of Prayer in January, 1895. Rev. Hiram King, Secretary, is to prepare a list giving precedence in the arrangement to those churches who did not have the meetings last January. Mr. King gave an address on "Religion, What is It?" which was discussed by the members present. The next meeting will be held at the Lutheran parsonage, Monday next.

The Grand Jury last week concurred in the finding of the Grand Jury at September term in recommending that an addition be built to the Sheriff's residence. In order to provide a suitable and convenient kitchen for the Sheriff's family and for the jail, and that both the Court House and County Jail be heated by hot water or steam heat to be furnished from one boiler.

Both of the above improvements to the county buildings are badly needed and when made will tend to render them more comfortable and safe.

David Weigle, of Stonycreek township, has discovered what is believed to be a very valuable vein of iron ore on his farm near Shanksville. A sample of the ore has been analyzed by the chemist of the U. S. Mint in Philadelphia, who pronounced it to be of the finest quality. The vein was discovered several weeks ago while Mr. Weigle was engaged at boring for coal along "Weigle's Run," about one-fourth mile from the Stonycreek. In case the ore pans out in rich paying quantities it will furnish an additional incentive to the Pennsylvania Railroad to build a branch road from Johnstown into the coal and iron fields of this county.

In another column we publish a communication from County Superintendent J. M. Berkey, which is earnestly commended to the careful consideration of Assessors throughout the county. The question raised by Superintendent Berkey is of vital importance to every tax payer, inasmuch as it points the road toward securing increased revenue for the several school districts of the county. In Somerset borough, for instance, there are perhaps fifty tax payers, who contribute to the revenue of the commonwealth, but who do not pro rate with their fellow citizens in the matter of receiving a share of the State appropriation for the maintenance of the public schools. It appears to us that the point raised by Superintendent Berkey is well taken and that by adopting his suggestion the Assessors of the county will succeed in securing for the several school districts a larger proportion of the State appropriation.

A Connellsville dispatch says: "John Miller, who lives near here, went up into the mountains two weeks ago and has not been heard of since. The ostensible object of his expedition was hunting, but his friends here believe that he was on the track of the moonshiners along the Fayette-Somerset line and that they have murdered him. Their suspicions are strengthened by the fact that his two dogs have returned home. Some time ago Miller created enemies among the illicit distillers by attempting to hunt them down, and it is said that they then threatened to have revenge upon him. They are headed by the notorious William Pritts and are known to be a desperate gang."

Pritts must indeed be a redoubtable scoundrel if he is responsible for one-half of the "jakes" gotten up at his expense.

REWARDED FOR DISTINGUISHED GALLANTRY.

John W. Mostoller Receives a Medal for Heroic Conduct at the Battle of Lynchburg, Va.

In Quemahoning township, this county, there resides a veteran whose inate modesty had up until a short time ago prevented his receiving the recognition guaranteed by "Uncle Sam" to all soldiers who distinguish themselves in fighting for the Union. The veteran's name is John W. Mostoller, late a private of Company B, 54th Pennsylvania Volunteers. His surviving comrades have frequently referred to the heroic conduct of private Mostoller, but only recently was he prevailed upon to permit his friends to present his claims to the Secretary of War in order that he might receive the distinguished honor conferred by Act of Congress upon soldiers who have rendered similar service.

The following letter, which explains itself, was received by 'Squire Gardner, who was instrumental in securing the evidence required to sustain private Mostoller's claims.

WASHINGTON, Nov. 30, 1894.

Mr. Geo. B. Gardner, Stoystown, Pa.

SIR:—I have the honor to inform you that, by direction of the President and in accordance with the act of Congress approved March 3, 1863, providing for the presentation of medals of honor to such officers, non-commissioned officers, and privates as have most distinguished themselves in action, the Acting Secretary of War has awarded a medal of honor to John W. Mostoller, late private Company B, Fifty-fourth Regiment, Pennsylvania Volunteers, for most distinguished gallantry at the Battle of Lynchburg, Va., June 18, 1864.

Please furnish this department with the postoffice address of Mr. Mostoller in order that the medal can be forwarded to him as soon as suitably engraved.

Very repectfully,
F. C. AINSWORTH, Col. U. S. A.

A few days after the receipt of the above letter Mr. Mostoller received a beautiful gold medal, similar in shape to the G. A. R. badge, with the following engraved on its face: "U. S. Medal of Honor to John W. Mostoller, late private, Company B, 54th Regiment Pennsylvania Volunteers."

The gallant conduct of private Mostoller is thus described by one of his comrades who was present at the battle of Lynchburg, Va., on June 18, 1864: "Companies B, and G, became separated from the rest of the regiment early in the action. Company B, had met with terrible loss. Captain John Cole had been wounded and all of the remaining officers of the company had been either killed or disabled, so that only nine soldiers of the company were left when they got in front of a rebel battery stationed near a log house. Mostoller, who was a favorite with his comrades and was looked upon as the most courageous man in the company, leaped in front of the remnant of Company B, and shouting "Come on boys!" charged the rebel battery and put it to route. The battery was supported by infantry and soon recovered, and taking a new position opened a fire of grape and cannister on Mostoller and his little band, who by this time had been reinforced by Company G. The battery was a second time driven from its position and Mostoller and his comrades were pursuing it far into the enemies lines when the late Colonel E. D. Yutzy, of the 54th, came dashing up on his horse and commanded the attacking party to fall back inside the Federal lines. From that day to this Mostoller has been known to his comrades as 'General.'"

He was one of the the first to enlist on the breaking out of the Rebellion, and served in the campaigns of Generals Seigle, Hunter, Kelley, and Sheridan. He was captured by the enemy and confined in Libby Prison on November 30, 1862, where he remained until exchanged.

Mr. Mostoller is the first resident of this county to receive a medal for distinguished service rendered the United States, and so far as our knowledge goes he is the only soldier in this or any adjoining county to be thus honored.

The recipient of the medal is justly proud of the high honor conferred upon him and every man in the county should rejoice at this official recognition of his gallantry.

Postmaster Uhl, of this place, was one of the nine men who followed Mostoller on the charge referred to.

Times Coupons, Good as Money.

The Pittsburg *Times* is going to send the Preachers to the Holy Land. You can sell Preachers *Times* coupons at

FISHER'S BOOK STORE,

for 6 cents per dozen in exchange for Holiday and other goods. Save your coupons and take them to

FISHER'S BOOK STORE.

Ed B. Coffroth's is the best place today for candies and holiday goods of all kinds. His goods are the freshest and his prices the cheapest.

Death of David Emert.

David J. Emert, one of the leading and most prosperous farmers of Lincoln township, died on Thursday evening last at his home near Gideon post office, from heart trouble and dropsy. He had been ill for a period of three or four months and his death was not unexpected by those acquainted with his condition. He was 59 years, 10 months and 13 days old. The funeral took place at 2:00 P. M., Saturday, when interment was made in the Lichty Church Cemetry, Rev. William Houpt, of the Evangelical denomination, officiating. The deceased was born on the farm adjoining the one on which he has lived for many years and on which he died. When a young man he was united in marriage with Miss Elizabeth Walker, a member of a prominent Brothersvalley township family. Four children resulted from this union as follows: John G., clerk to the County Commissioners; Edmund, who lives on the homestead; Mary, wife of Frank Schmucker, and Annie, wife of J. W. Gary, of Lincoln township.

Have you seen the Holiday Goods at Ed. B. Coffroth's? If not, you should call there at once. It is not always safe to wait until the day before Christmas to make purchases for the children's stockings.

The Wife's Share.

A decision of interest was handed down a few days ago by Judge Barker, of Cambria county. It was an action brought by Mrs. Susan Gannon to recover on claims made by her against certain real estate in Johnstown. In 1874 her first husband, Emil Young, made an assignment for the benefit of his creditors. Several pieces of real estate were included and disposed of by the assignee. In the transfer the signature of Mrs. Young was not attached. In March last she instituted proceedings to recover her interest in all the properties. The decision of the Court is that she is entitled to the wife's share, one-third. On one of the lots a business house has since been erected. The Court decrees that she be paid $110 annually as a ground rental from that property.

Mrs. Young was a former resident of Berlin.

This is the season of the year when all thought is turned towards Santa Claus. Grocerymen, as a matter of course, have been thinking about that sly old gentleman for months and the farsighted have been preparing for his annual visit. Ed B. Coffroth is the foremost of the enterprising grocerymen in this regard. He has his stock of holiday goods opened up and ready for inspection. Santa Claus will find a cordial reception at his Main Cross street store, and sufficient toys and nic nacs for the dear little ones to replenish his sack as often as he may choose to call.

Pure Somerset County Applebutter for sale by MAHLON SCHROCK.

Winslow S. Cobb & Co. are paying 4½ cents per ℔ for hides, weighing from 30 to 60 ℔s, delivered at Confluence.

Musical Instruments.

Violins, Mandolins, Guitars, Banjos and other stringed instruments at Snyder's drug store.

CRIMINAL COURT.

A Long List of Cases Disposed of.—The Grand Jury Concur With the September Jury in Recommending Improvements and Repairs to the Court House and Jail.

Criminal Court was in session up to Friday night last week. Following is the disposition made of the various cases on the calendar since our last week's report:

Commonwealth vs. Joseph Thomas, rape; Polly Thomas, prosecutrix. Defendant acquitted on the ground of insanity and ordered confined in the County Home.

Same vs. William Austin, rape; Florence V. Zimmerman, prosecutrix. The jury returned a verdict of guilty. The defendant's counsel filed a motion for a new trial and in arrest of judgment.

Same vs. Alexander and Charles Hoover, selling liquor without a license and to minors; Peter and D. B. Shoemaker, prosecutors. Alexander was convicted in manner and form as indicted and Charles was convicted of selling without a license. The Court sentenced Alexander to pay a fine of $500 and undergo imprisonment for three months in the county jail. The same sentence was imposed on Charles for selling without license and for selling to minors he was sentenced to pay a fine of $50 and to twenty days in jail.

Same vs. Bruce E. Donaldson, carrying concealed weapons; George Mitchell, prosecutor. Grand jury return not a true bill and the prosecutor to pay the costs.

Same vs. Peter Shoemaker, A. & B.; Bruce E. Donaldson, prosecutor. Grand jury return not a true bill and the prosecutor to pay the costs.

Same vs. Robert Finney, *et. al.*, riot; John J. Hauger, prosecutor. *Not pros* entered on payment of costs by the defendant.

Same vs. Edward Jones, larceny; R. F. Sheppard, prosecutor. The defendant was convicted and sentenced to the penitentiary for sixteen months.

Same vs. Joseph Silva, false pretense; George Snyder, prosecutor. The defendant was acquitted but made pay the costs.

Same vs A. McF. McMasters, practicing medicine and surgery without having registered; Wm. H. H. Yaun, prosecutor. There were four cases and in each of them the verdict was not guilty and the defendant and prosecutor each to pay one-half the costs.

Same vs. Ira, Frank and William Walker, larceny; H. E. Shaffer, prosecutor. The defendants, three young boys, entered a plea of guilty and were sentenced to three months in the county jail.

Same vs. John Winters, A. & B., James Cummins, prosecutor. Grand jury return not a true bill and the prosecutor to pay the costs.

Same vs. James Cummins and Samuel Saylor—A. & B.—John Winters prosecutor. The defendants were found guilty and Cummins was sentenced to three and Saylor to four months' in the county jail.

Same vs. Bruce E. Donaldson—Surety—George Mitchell prosecutor. The plaintiff and defendant were each ordered to pay one-half the costs.

Same vs. Peter Shoemaker—Surety—Bruce E. Donaldson prosecutor. The costs were divided between the plaintiff and defendant.

Same vs. William Long—Desertion—Louisa Long prosecutor. Defendant ordered to pay the costs.

Same vs. Lewis Pifer—Surety—Daniel Showman prosecutor, *nol. pros.* entered on payment of costs by the defendant.

Same vs. E. A. Spangler—False pretense—S. P. Meyers prosecutor, *nol. pros.* entered on payment of costs by the defendant.

Same vs. James A. Peters—F. & B.—Phoebe Nicholson prosecutor, *nol. pros.* entered.

Same vs. John M. Wright—A. & B.—N. B. Kein prosecutor, *nol. pros.* entered.

Same vs. Lewis Pifer—Adultery—Daniel Showman prosecutor. The defendant was acquitted, and the costs equally divided between the prosecutor and the defendant.

Same vs. Loyd Ravenscraft—A. & B.—Chauncey Boyer prosecutor. The verdict was not guilty but the defendant to pay all costs.

Same vs. Samuel Swarner—Larceny—David Gildner prosecutor. Grand jury return not a true bill.

Same vs. John Walker—Receiving stolen goods—W. H. Saylor prosecutor. Grand Jury return not a true bill.

Same vs. Milton R. Walker —Assault with intent to kill—M. D. Humbert prosecutor, *nol. prossed.*

Same vs. S. P. Sweitzer—Selling liquor to minors, &c., James Cummins prosecutor. Grand Jury return not a true bill and the prosecutor to pay the costs.

Same vs. James McBratney—Larceny—C. C. Tissue prosecutor. Verdict not guilty.

REPORT OF GRAND JURY.

To the Honorable, the Judges of the Court of Quarter Sessions of Somerset county, Pennsylvania:

We, the members of the Grand Jury, through our foreman, most respectfully report:

That, in obedience to the instructions of your Honorable Court, we visited and inspected the county jail and outbuildings thereto attached and would recommend that the following improvements and repairs be made:

1st. That the County Commissioners do see that the public water closet attached to the jail building be cleansed and be kept in a better condition.

2d. That we do also concur with former Grand Jury in regard to addition to jail building, to be used as a kitchen, passed upon, Sept. Term of Court, 1894.

3rd. That we, the Grand Jury, recommend that the court house and jail be heated with a steam or hot water heater, and utilize all material or appliances now in use for this purpose—in placing a steam or hot water heater, if it can be done.

The Grand Jury are of the decided opinion that it would be economy for the county to use but one heater for both buildings.

J. G. KIMMEL,
Somerset, Pa., Dec. 15, '94. *Foreman.*

Eighteen violators of the law will eat their Christmas dinners in the county jail.

Uniformity of Deeds in Somerset County.

Register and Recorder Miller has adopted a new system of recording deeds, and hereafter all deeds, so far as possible, recorded in Somerset County will be uniform. Mr. Miller will exchange the new form for old style deeds with all Justices of the Peace, Attorneys, Notaries, Scrivenors, et cetera. He will, also, arrange with dealers in blank forms in all parts of the county to furnish the new blank deeds at moderate cost.

The plaintiff in a criminal proceeding tried before the court last week, testified that she had named her baby boy "Bicycle," in honor of the child's unknown father, alleged to be an expert wheelman.

Cash Must Accompany the Deeds.

Register and Recorder Miller has adopted the cash system in his office. No deed will be entered of record hereafter unless the charge for recording is paid in advance.

California, Pa., State Normal.

Our Own Normal School.

Winter term opens Dec. 21; Spring term March 25. Send for catalogue and circulars. New Gymnasium, New Electric Light Plant, New Water System. Health record almost perfect. (Never a death at the school). Advantages not surpassed, if equaled, in the State. Somerset county students will obtain more help at their own Normal School than at any other, and save money besides.

THEO. B. NOSS, Ph. D., Principal.

Highest of all in Leavening Power.—Latest U. S. Gov't Report

Royal Baking Powder
ABSOLUTELY PURE

The Triennial Assessment and the State Appropriation to the Common Schools.

EDITOR HERALD:

Permit me, through the columns of your paper, to call attention to the triennial assessment now being made and its relation to the state aid to the common schools. Although not any part of my official work, yet a desire to bring greater good to our schools will, I trust, be sufficient excuse for writing this article.

The law in the matter is clearly set forth in the following:

"That it shall be the duty of the commissioners of each county to ascertain, triennially, with the assistance of the respective assessors, the exact number of taxable citizens residing in each school district in their several counties, and to certify the same under their hands and seals of office, to the Superintendent of Common Schools, who is hereby directed to adopt the number of taxables thus certified to him as the basis of distribution of the state appropriation, which said certificate shall be prepared and transmitted on or before the first Monday of June in every third year, commencing with the first Monday of June, A. D. one thousand eight hundred and sixty-five."

The assessors are required to report to the county commissioners, along with the assessment, the number of *resident taxables for school purposes* in their respective districts, which report becomes the basis for the distribution of the state appropriation for the next three years. Where districts are divided or changed in boundaries, thus affecting the number of taxables, a special report shall be made at the next *annual* assessment.

From the present appropriation of five and one-half millions, each district receives about $8.50 for each taxable reported at the last triennial assessment (1892). As the number of taxables in the State increases the pro rata, as a matter of course, will be correspondingly less. But it is very important that the full number of resident taxables be properly credited to each district to the end that all may receive the appropriation justly due them.

The attention of assessors is especially called to the phrase, "*resident taxables.*" This I understand to mean all citizens of a district—male and female—who pay tax upon property, occupation or money. It also includes, I am legally advised, all resident taxables through *undivided estates.* For example: John Smith's estate is taxed but not yet divided. There may be one or more female heirs who, although not taxed in their own right, are yet taxed through their undivided share in the Smith estate. All such who *live within the district* and are over twenty-one years of age are to be counted as taxables for school purposes, and to be so reported. A personal investigation in one or two districts has revealed the fact that there are quite a number of such cases, and as will readily be seen, would materially increase the appropriation to such districts. It should be remembered, however, that the estate, as such, should never be counted in reporting the number of taxables.

We seek, of course, only what is rightly due each school district, and not, with any mercenary spirit, to take advantage of legal phraseology. I have sought reliable information upon the above interpretation. If I am wrong, I ask to be over-ruled. But in view of the fact that the rural districts do not, under existing laws, get a fair share of the munificent appropriation, it is especially urgent that all shall get the full measure of state aid to which the laws justly entitle them.

Respectfully submitted,
J. M. BERKEY.

Berlin, Pa., Dec. 17, 1894.

Clearance Reduction Sale,

My eleventh annual Clearance or Reduction Sale will begin on Dec. 26th. I have an immense stock of goods that will be sold at the lowest prices ever made in Somerset. An agreeable surprise in quality and prices of goods will await all my customers.

Come and see my prices before making your purchases.

MRS. A. E. UHL.

Ursina Jottings.

The Christmas entertainment promises to be good. All should attend.

Lee Forgner has a sample of the first cotton that ripened in Somerset county. He has quite a collection of relics of yore.

Noah Scott has done considerable plowing for the spring crops. The question may be asked: "Is it better to plow in the fall than in the spring?"

Miss Carrie Heil will spend the remainder of the winter here attending school.

Holiday Goods!

Christmas Gifts!

The largest stock, most complete assortment, and greatest variety of almost anything and everything suitable for Holiday presents, at

Fisher's Book Store.

Books, Pottery, Novelties, Bric-a-brac, Toys, Albums, Plush goods, and everything in the greatest variety, at

Fisher's Book Store

MY STORE IS REPLETE WITH

SENSIBLE SERVICEABLE SUGGESTIONS

—FOR—

Holiday Presents

—FOR—

MEN.

Jonas L. Baer,

Commander of the "Up-to-Date" Army of Well Dressed Men at moderate cost.

: TO :
: THE TRADE :

—OUR STOCK OF—

FURNITURE

has been selected with unusual care, and at lower cost than former years. We are therefore able to offer, not only the very best goods on the market, but can quote lower prices than heretofore.

We Rarely Lose a Customer,

as we aim in all cases to give the Customer

FULL VALUE FOR HIS MONEY.

C. H. COFFROTH,

606 Main Cross Street,

Somerset, - Pa.

DON'T GO TO CHURCH

Unless you have a pair of glasses through which you can read the hymns clearly.

COME HERE!

Before next Sunday and let us fit a pair of Glasses to your Eyes that will enable you to read fast enough to keep up with the choir.

Neff & Casebeer,

Jewelers & Opticians.

No. 413, Main St, - SOMERSET, PA

ALL : THE : PEOPLE

of Somerset and vicinity who are preparing for the glad Christmas time, will be interested in knowing that we, too, are making ready for the Holiday season.

FROM MANY STATES

and lands are gathered together good things, ranging in price to suit the heaviest and lightest purse.

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will receive early attention, and our clerks will greet you kindly and cater to your wants with their usual promptness.

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Fancy articles, gloves, mittens, hosiery, and an immense assortment of

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There are great reductions in the prices of all WOOLEN

Dress Goods, Flannels, and Factory Blankets.

Prices on Ladies' Wraps are very much lower.

Fur Capes will be closed out cheap and special orders will be taken if parties desire FUR CAPES made to order.

MRS. A. E. UHL.

EXECUTOR'S NOTICE.

Estate of John Holm, late of Shade township, Somerset county, 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 Saturday, Jan 26th, 1895, at the late residence of dec'd.

F. W. Biesecker, Attorney. LAVINA HELM, Executrix.

EXECUTOR'S NOTICE.

Estate of Rachel Gindlesperger, late of Paint township, Somerset county, 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 will present them duly authenticated for settlement on Tuesday, January 15th, 1895, at late residence of dec'd.

F. W. Biesecker, Attorney. CASPER SMALL, Executor.

EXECUTOR'S NOTICE.

Estate of George Hare, late of Lower Turkeyfoot township, 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 Saturday, Jan. 5, 1895, at the residence of dec'd.

W. S. KUHLMAN, Executor.

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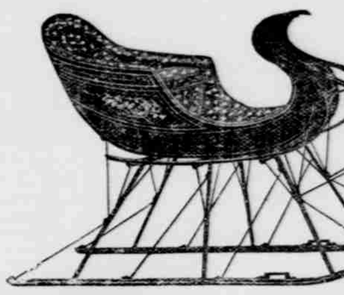

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