SIFFORD & KUYKENDALL.
(THE OLD PARKER STAND.)

A Mammoth Establishment.—A Metropolitan Stock of Goods, Which for Style, Quality and Variety is Unequaled in Somerset County.

OF the large number of houses in the same line of trade there are usually a few which, by intimate acquaintance with and close attention to business, together with a full knowledge of the requirements and needs of their patrons, and of the classes of goods handled, are enabled to offer the best inducements to be honestly maintained.

The house that stands pre-eminent above all others in Somerset in quantity, variety and extent of stock carried and business done, is, without question, the one of our enterprising hustlers, Sifford & Kuykendall.

And the writer takes pleasure in speaking of this successful firm, whose rapid growth in trade and large variety of stock handled, is so far above the average that it is entitled to more than a passing notice in an edition of this character. They have by their years of experience learned many of the secrets of the goods business, which is now enabling them to give their patrons such unequalled advantages in the way of low prices and great variety of the finest goods on the market to select from.

Mr. Sifford, the senior member of this firm, has had many years of experience in the wholesale trade, being connected with one of the largest wholesale houses in this part of the country, and his inside knowledge of prices gives him a wonderful leverage in buying goods and enables the firm to offer many bargains that the average merchant is absolutely unable to secure.

The junior member of the firm, Mr. Kuykendall, has had a number of year's experience in mercantile life; has studied the business closely and is one of the most obliging, reliable gentlemen to deal with that we know of. Two years ago, when these gentlemen came to Somerset and purchased the stock of goods of Parker & Parker, of which George R. Parker, so well and favorably known all over this community, was the head founder, they secured Mr. Parker's services, and his familiar face is always to be seen around the old establishment where he has, since 1872, when he founded the business, been the most prominent figure, and we may add a man esteemed and appreciated by the entire public.

Though these gentlemen have only been here two years their honorable manner of doing business has given the people great confidence in their integrity, their knowledge of the business and the general superiority of their inducements. They are men who believe in quick sales and small profits, up-to-date goods of best quality and satisfied customers.

This mammoth establishment has 5,000 feet of floor space filled to overflowing with their immense stock. Here, under this roof, one can find nearly everything needed for the clothing and adornment of the body, with each and every department carefully and intelligently supplied with the largest stock of the best goods to be found anywhere.

Their general salesroom is handsomely fitted up and carefully equipped for the speedy and careful accommodation of their customers. And herein is stored a full, varied and complete line of dry goods, including dress-goods of every style and grade. The latest patterns and newest designs in delicate and modern fabrics are to be found here at all times, together with trimmings and furnishings to suit every piece of goods. Everything new and handsome which is calculated to please the ladies' eye and render good service to the purchaser, is stretched forth here in the most tempting manner.

Underwear, domestics of all kinds, linen goods, cottonade, and the thousand and one other articles that go to make up the most complete house in Somerset County, are here in unending abundance. And each and every article is marked down to a price so low that none can sell lower. Provision is made for the accommodation of all classes of customers in goods from the plainest to the most handsome and attractive.

LADIES' CLOAKS AND WRAPS.

The line of ladies' furs and wraps of every description is wonderfully large. The new stock just purchased is the largest in quantity and the latest in style and variety, nothing but the most desirable and handsome being placed on sale, while their inside prices give the purchaser a bargain that will well repay them for the time spent in coming to Somerset.

Their large up-stairs is also filled with choice goods. First we find an endless line of boys' clothing—good, solid suits—and warm, lasting overcoats neatly and strongly made up of good, durable goods, the latest style, and sold at prices that defy competition. They can fit all boys of all ages with any desired grade or style of clothing.

CARPETS AND RUGS.

If anybody wants to know who takes the lead in the carpet trade, they have only to go to the popular house of Sifford & Kuykendall to find not only the largest stock and greatest variety in Somerset County, but they will find prices here far below what the average dealer can afford.

Their stock is almost unlimited, both in quantity and variety, and to illustrate their ability to undersell all competitors we need only to refer to the wonderful effort made by wholesale and retail carpet houses all over the country to secure the contract for carpeting Highland Inn. Two or three of the largest wholesale houses in Pittsburg, as well as a number of other big carpet dealers, submitted their bids for furnishing the 3,000 yards of carpet needed. But when the bids were opened it was found that Sifford & Kuykendall had offered by far the best bargain and were consequently awarded the contract, which they filled in a highly satisfactory manner.

They are now offering special inducements to farmers by exchanging carpets and rugs at cash prices for wool and produce for which they pay the highest market price.

LADIES' TAILOR-MADE CLOTHING.

The stock of ready-made ladies' garments is full to overflowing and embraces all the newest designs, the best goods, and the prices are so reasonable that this is fast becoming the ladies' emporium of fashion for elegant dresses, skirts, etc.

MILLINERY.

This is a new feature adopted by this firm and their efforts have been remarkably successful. Their line of millinery goods embraces everything in stylish and becoming ladies' headdress. The assortment of ribbons, tips, feathers and other trimmings is new, stelking and attractive. The fine patterns hats and bonnets are the most nobby ever exhibited in Somerset. Miss Cora Spangler, one of our well-known milliners, who has a high reputation as an artistic trimmer and designer, has charge of this department, and her success in selecting the style and color of head-dress best suited to each customer, has made her very popular with the ladies and brought to this house a very extensive trade, they having sold 1800 hats during their first season at prices so low that everybody was satisfied.

DRESSMAKING.

The good appearance and attractiveness of a lady is largely dependent upon the fit, style and general appearance of her dress, and in this as in all other departments Sifford & Kuykendall are in advance of the times in artistic dressmaking. They have recently secured the services of a most efficient modiste—Miss Glendmeyer—one of the best authorities on dressmaking, cutting and designing, of Baltimore. She is strictly up to everything new that is unique and striking in ladies' dressing. Not only a cutter of rare talent and ability, but also a designer of well-known skill, and possesses a high reputation in the most fashionable circles of the city of Baltimore.

SOMERSET COUNTY COURT HOUSE.

Since coming here she has proven her knowledge of the best and the latest and has already won the confidence of our best dressers. The advent of her coming has marked a new departure in dressmaking in Somerset and given our people the advantage of the very best that can be had in modern, up-to-date, stylish dress.

This entire store has an air of completeness and thoroughness that commends it to the public and adds to the present conviction of the people that this is the great trade emporium of Somerset county, the headquarters for good bargains, honest dealing and upright business methods, where all persons, from the poorest to the richest, get the full value of their money, the kindest treatment and exactly what they call for at the lowest price for which a good, reliable article can be had anywhere.

JAMES B. HOLDERBAUM.

Somerset's Headquarters for Hardware, Stoves, Agricultural Implements, Buggies, Wagons, Etc.

EVERY town has its representative house in each and every line of business, and in Somerset this is especially true in the hardware and implement line. For here we have a store that would be a credit to any city. One whose immense and varied stock of goods carried and whose extensive volume of business done makes the house of James B. Holderbaum a trading point unsurpassed and ranks it as the leading house of this kind in Somerset County.

The premises occupied by this splendid hardware house are large and commodious and especially adapted to the speedy and satisfactory accommodation of the numerous customers who make this popular house their trading point. And in addition to having this—the largest building room in town—filled to overflowing, Mr. Holderbaum has one large wareroom and is building another in order to have storage room for his immense stock, which is carefully classified and neatly arranged, every department being supplied with anything and everything that you can think of or call for in that line.

The assortment of first-class, carefully selected shelf hardware is full and complete, while the line of table and pocket cutlery, both of English and American make, is unexcelled in variety and quality, and a stock of edged tools, saws and the like, from which he can easily suit any customer.

When it comes to builders' hardware the display of goods is hard to

INTERIOR OF JAMES B. HOLDERBAUM'S HARDWARE STORE.

beat. Every item has been remembered and the stock is so full and so choice that he can suit any and everybody.

In the matter of stoves, both for cooking and heating purposes, the line is strictly up to date and embraces every size and style, either for coal or wood. Mr. Holderbaum makes a leader of the celebrated Cinderella stove. This is one of the finest cookers and most conveniently arranged; a great fuel saver and longest laster on the market, every stove being sold with a guarantee.

Blacksmiths' and wagonmakers' materials, barbed and smooth wire, plow points, etc., are always in stock at this great hardware emporium.

Mr. Holderbaum is our leading dealer in buggies and carriages of every description. He buys of the best factories, handles a class of goods that are noted for beauty and strength, easy-running and long-lasting qualities; guarantees every vehicle he sells, and these fine rigs are sold at about the same price that some dealers ask for a common or inferior grade. And every one sold helps to advertise the superiority of James B. Holderbaum's buggies and carriages.

In the matter of wagons the same truths are applicable, and the same excellent qualities are possessed by his wagons as by his buggies, with the result that Holderbaum's vehicles, be they buggies or wagons, are recognized as standards of excellence in every part of Somerset County.

His line of agricultural implements is the largest in this part of the country, and the makes which he handles are always the best and from the most reliable houses, thereby giving his patrons the benefit of being able to secure repairs for any machine, in marked contrast with many houses that flourish for a time and then close down, leaving their patrons with comparatively new machines, rendered worthless on account of inability to secure repairs.

In the line of harness of any and every style, either double or single, light or heavy, fine or common, Jas. B. Holderbaum is Somerset's undisputed leader, both in large variety and cheapness of price. His assortment of saddles, of all kinds of straps, horse-collars, sweat-pads and other horse furnishing goods is almost endless, and he probably sells more harness than any other house in Somerset County, always giving the people the best values and goods that are guaranteed to be just as represented.

All the above goods are not only the best to be had upon the market, but are sold by Mr. Holderbaum at prices that defy competition; so low that none can sell lower, while the people have long since learned that James B. Holderbaum is fully reliable and trustworthy.

The house of James B. Holderbaum is not one of the spontaneous order; it is an upright, pushing, legitimate institution, whose proprietor is and has always been a resident of this community and expects to remain here indefinitely. This fact alone is the best reason why he is held in esteem by our people, who know that he has ever fulfilled every obligation, lived up to every promise, made his word good in every guarantee, and that he has made it a point to secure every agency for nothing but standard goods, made by reliable houses that furnish repairs—stove, plow or farm implement—which is in striking contrast with firms whose goods are made for a while and then the factory is closed, leaving the buyer with practically new machinery wrecked or lost for the lack of some small repairs.

Mr. Jas. B. Holderbaum began business in 1882, succeeding his father Mr. J. M. Holderbaum. He had but little stock and only a small trade, but his honest manner of conducting business, his very low prices, his up-to-date goods and his choice selection soon caused his trade to increase, his business to spread, enabling him to add to his stock from time to time, until at this writing the hardware and implement house of Jas. B. Holderbaum, after having been tested by long years of time, stands out prominently as a mercantile house of merit, whose good management and the best goods to be found upon the markets have earned the confidence of the general public, and have enabled him to establish himself with a stock of fancy goods equal to all the demands of trade in this part of the country and have given him a patronage first in magnitude and volume in Somerset.

ACME GROCERY.

THIS is one of the neatest and cleanest kept grocery houses of the town, where a full assortment of eatables is always in stock. The selection of goods is very complete and includes staple groceries of all kinds as well as the best brands of Flour, Fancy Groceries, Fine Cigars and Tobacco, and the best and largest stock of Fine Confectioneries in the town.

Geo. J. Piatt, the well-known manager, is a well-posted groceryman and makes a special effort to give his patrons not only the best goods in the grocery line, but the best bargains possible. Good weights, fair treatment and pleased customers are his objective points, with the result that his trade, already large, is constantly increasing. He trades in country produce and customers can always find good, fresh goods here at the most reasonable prices. He also keeps constantly on hand a fresh supply of Thompson's Bread, which is better liked the longer it is used.

SOMERSET COUNTY TELEPHONE COMPANY.

A Complete, Well-Equipped, Accommodating Company. A Strictly Home Concern.

WITHIN the memory of men yet living messages of either great or small importance could travel no faster than the man who carried them and the man no faster than his steed. Railroads were considered a wonderful invention for the rapid transfer of intelligence. Then came the telegraph, a system which revolutionized the transmission of messages, and last, but not least, came the invention of the telephone.

This new and plain means of instant transfer of messages made it the most practical and convenient of anything that the world had ever seen. Unlike telegraphy, any one can operate the 'phone and transmit his own message. But it was many years after the introduction of the telephone before it came into general use. Patents were granted which prevented the common people from enjoying this wonderful blessing, but, thanks be to time, these have expired and our people are now able to own and operate their own telephone systems, which they can do much better than a foreign corporation because they know the needs of their own community, are familiar with the neighborhood in which they live, and, most important of all, are near by and easily accessible to their patrons, always ready and willing to make all proper changes and concessions to their customers, whom they also regard as their neighbors.

This is the kind of a company that we have in our midst, and is known as the Somerset County Telephone Company. This company was first organized in 1893 and came into the hands of its present management in 1896. Since this time rapid advancement has been made both in the way of improvement of the line and its extension to different parts of the county. In fact, it has been almost entire rebuilt, the old 'phones have been taken out and new ones of the latest and most improved patterns put in their place. Scores of patrons have been added to the list, thus greatly increasing the value of the service which this company is now able to render while the rates remain at the same low figure. New wires, new poles and new outfits of every kind have been placed on every line, and at the present time this company has direct and prompt connection with the following leading points in Somerset County: Somerset, Listie, Milford, Gebharts, Rockwood, Garrett, Beachdale, Berlin, Meyersdale, Keystone Junction, Boynton, Salisbury, West Salisbury, Tub, and also have a line running into Grantsville, Md.

Other connections are being made as rapidly as the circumstances will permit, and at no distant day you will find the Somerset County Telephone Company in a position to reach every town in the county over its own lines and our home enterprise will be the pride of our people, the just reward for an energetic, fair, progressive method of doing business, and the people will reap the benefits by the superior service and good accommodations which this company always gives its patrons. In addition to reaching all these towns this company has regular exchanges in all the principal places and now have in operation about 300 different connections which enter all of the most important commercial, manufacturing and professional places in its territory.

The officers of this company are: A. F. John, president; C. C. Naugle, vice president; E. M. Beachley, secretary, and H. M. Berkley, treasurer.

These gentlemen, together with F. W. Bender, constitute the board of directors, and it is under their wise management and obliging treatment of their patrons, together with the prompt and efficient service rendered, that the Somerset County Telephone Company has become so popular with the general public.

Their system is not only being extended to new towns and reaching important points, but the more progressive and up-to-date farmers are having phones placed in their homes which enabled them to transact much important business without making a long, tedious trip to town and losing half a day or a day's time in addition to the incidental expenses that always accrue upon the occasion of such visits. In conclusion, we will say that we look upon the Somerset County Telephone Company as being one of our most valuable and worthy enterprises and one which should receive the patronage and encouragement of all our people.

FRANK SHIVLER.

A Leading Shoe Dealer, Where the Best Makes of Footwear Are Sold at the Lowest Prices.

WHEN it comes to footwear there is great competition, and it is sometimes hard for the buyer to distinguish between the merchant who handles shoddy goods and caters to the trade as carrying the best, and the merchant who carries strictly first-class goods of standard makes, that are strong, durable and all right.

But in our town it is easy to find the man who carries the best goods on the shoe market anywhere. Goods that have a well-known reputation for lasting qualities, that give ease and comfort, are neat and attractive in appearance, wear long and well, hold their own and keep the feet dry and warm. Such a store in Somerset is the old reliable Shoe House of Frank Shivler, than which there is none better anywhere.

Mr. Shivler started in business in a small way; first he did repairing and making, and about ten years ago he put in a stock of shoes—good, solid goods—that he sold at the lowest living prices. He has never catered to the shoddy trade, and the people know that they can rely upon the quality of his goods as well as his reasonable prices, and that what he says regarding the goods is always a satisfactory guarantee.

Mr. Shivler's trade is growing, and those in need of footwear will find his new fall stock of boots, shoes and rubbers the very best.

Keffer's New Shoe Store.

THIS house is the newest of our Shoe Houses and its coming has given our people an opportunity to select the footwear that they may need from an entirely new stock of goods—one in which the goods were bought especially to suit the demands of this trade. After careful inspection and investigation, this house bought of well-known, reliable manufacturers, whose goods are recognized standards of excellence in every market; goods that are at the same time strong, durable, easy on the foot and handsome in appearance. The assortment is very large and complete and embraces shoes of every description, from the heaviest work shoe to the finest grades. Here is handled John Kelley's popular ladies' shoes. These models of neatness and good-wearing shoes are the best to be had, while they are being sold at extremely low prices, quality considered. The other makes, either of boots, shoes or rubbers, are equally meritorious, and the people who have availed themselves of these inducements are well satisfied, as there are given to every patron the best bargains possible. Handles no shoddy goods, but in turn this store is filled with good goods that last well and make every patron happy.

The trade is rapidly growing, and if any of our readers are looking for a good bargain it will pay them to give Mr. Keffer's new shoe emporium a call and see for themselves the fine variety and splendid quality of the stock which is carried. He is very courteous to all and will make your visit a pleasant one, while if you wish to buy you will save your money and be treated right.

Location, next door to Mrs. Uhl's, on the Diamond.

RUSSELL FLICK,

Contractor, Builder and Architect.

WHEN it comes to the all-important task of building a home which is likely to become our future abode for life, it is most important that the designing be wise and the execution of the work honest and good. To be sure that this will be done right, it pays to employ a modern, skillful, up-to-date contractor; one who is thoroughly responsible and in every way capable. And this is the kind of a man that we can present to our readers in the person of Mr. Russell Flick.

Mr. Flick was born and raised in Lavansville. He is a mechanic by nature and a natural architect, neat and tasty in his notions of building, amply able to execute his plans. Though Mr. Flick has only been contracting and building in this town for something like three years, he has already won the confidence of the general public, and many of the most attractive and substantial of the new homes built in this town and surrounding country are the product of his handiwork.

He draws the plans when necessary, prepares the specifications and does the work exactly as contracted. He stands ready to submit a bid on any job, large or small, and if he secures the contract, to perform the work promptly and satisfactorily. He is a very low bidder, and by doing much of his own work can do it cheaper than most contractors. He takes the contract, furnishes everything, and prepares your house ready for occupation, or takes the contract to simply do the work, or, in fact, any way to suit the customer, and, our word for it, you cannot find a better man or more skillful carpenter anywhere than Russell Flick.

A. H. HUSTON.

Undertaker and Embalmer.

1812. — — — 1898.

THE old adage that "time proves all things" is certainly verified in the undertaking business of the Huston family. It was in the year 1812 that Peter Huston erected a house on the same corner on which A. H. Huston's new residence now stands and engaged in the making of coffins and the burial of the dead. He was soon interrupted, however, by a call to arms. The second war with England had just broken out and he was commissioned as a Lieutenant in the volunteer army. After the war he returned and continued the coffin making business until too old for work, when his son, Chambers Huston, took up the business where his father left off and was a prominent undertaker in Somerset for almost half a century.

In 1889 the mantle fell upon his son, Mr. A. H. Huston, the present leading undertaker of Somerset county. Mr. A. H. Huston has had a lifelong experience at this work, has studied all of its details and mastered all of its intricacies. He is one of the most skillful and capable embalmers in the country and his place is supplied with every convenience and modern improvement and the latest designs in caskets, burial robes, cooling boards, etc. He also has an elegant new hearse and all other equipments for properly and promptly attending to the last sad rites of those who are called from works to reward.

Mr. Huston is a gentleman in every respect, always kind and considerate, ready and capable of properly catering to the wishes of the friends of the deceased and at the same time able to see that everything is properly attended to; never leaves anything undone that should be done and never does anything that should not be done. He is popular with all the people, always most reasonable in his dealings, a most worthy successor to his respected ancestors, and a man respected by all.

FREDERICK LAUS.

IF it is a first-class blacksmith that you are looking for, and want good work done, the best material used and a skillful mechanic to do your work, don't forget the fact that Fred Laus can not be beat when it comes to a neat job of work, either in new or repair work. He does everything in a workmanlike, durable manner. He is a natural mechanic and does both iron and wood repair work, while as a horseshoer he is recognized as one of the best in town.

C. H. COFFROTH.

Somerset's Old Reliable Furniture and Undertaking House. Stands Today as the Champion of Fair Treatment and Low Prices.

OF the live dealers in Somerset county devoted to the furniture trade, this extensive concern is undoubtedly the leader. This house carries a general assortment of furniture, embracing everything known to the trade, bedroom suites of oak, iron and brass; fine silk, plush and mahogany parlor suites; chairs of every class and description; an endless line of easy rockers, dining-room and kitchen furniture; sofa lounges, library furniture; in short, the largest stock and the lowest prices.

This house was established in 1843, by William B. Coffroth, and in 1882, his son, the present proprietor, became a partner. In 1891 the elder Coffroth retired, and Mr. C. H. Coffroth became sole proprietor. He having been raised in the business, knew all of its details and has worked hard to give his customers every possible advantage. He attends the great furniture openings at Grand Rapids, Michigan, every year, where every furniture factory in the United States has its exhibit, and there studies the designs from every quarter, selects the most desirable, looks out for good bargains, which enables him to give his patrons inside prices on all goods.

His stock is extremely large and the variety very great. He has three floors filled to overflowing with his magnificent, stylish line of furniture. Even this amount of floor space is too small and Mr. Coffroth purchased a large wareroom on South street.

FUNERAL DIRECTOR.

This important line of business is one that requires special training and long experience. It is a delicate, difficult task to perform all the duties in a satisfactory manner, paying full respect to the feelings of the bereaved and caring properly for the remains of the departed.

Mr. Coffroth's full knowledge of embalming, his reserved and obliging nature, and his splendid equipment give him a leading position among the funeral directors of Somerset county. He has an elegant funeral car and all other necessary equipments of the latest and best; is prompt and careful in answering all calls, reasonable in his charges, and popular with the people with whom he has dealt.

Mr. Coffroth's place of business is at No. 636 Main-Cross street, where he takes great pleasure in showing all callers through his extensive apartments. His residence, erected by himself a few years ago, is a neat and attractive one, and is located at No. 340 Patriot street, directly east of the Methodist church.

CHARLES WEIMER.

A Well-Known Blacksmith and Horseshoer.

WE would introduce Mr. Charles Weimer to our readers, but we really don't think it is necessary, from the fact that he is known to be a worthy representative of the celebrated Weimer family of blacksmiths who have for so many generations devoted their lives to this particular line of work and in which they have earned the confidence and good will of the general public.

Mr. Charles Weimer is now a middle-aged man and all his manhood days have been spent in a blacksmith and horseshoeing shop, and certain it is that there is nothing pertaining to his line of work of which he is not master. Horseshoeing, which is a leading feature with him, is given special attention, and the old adage of "no foot, no horse," is his belief, and a good horse is the object that he works for in his shoeing. He is very successful in preventing bad habits by proper shoeing, removing corns and otherwise strengthening the weak foot. He is an expert when it comes to shoeing driving horses, is a careful, painstaking workman,—always reasonable in his charges, prompt in his work and obliging in his treatment of patrons.

The location of his shop is on Patriot street, and you will find Mr. Charles Weimer a good man to deal with.

FRANK M. WEIMER.

A Skillful Blacksmith, An Expert Horse-shoer.

THERE are few people in Somerset whose memory extends back to the day when the first Weimer embarked in the blacksmith business here, for it has been more than half a century ago. And from that day to this the Weimers have led the blacksmith business in Somerset.

The subject of this sketch, Mr. F. M. Weimer, was born and raised in this town. He grew up around a blacksmith shop, and in addition to having had a life-time's experience, is a natural mechanic; has always studied to please and labored to excel in every department of his work, with the result that he is fully up to date and understands every kind of smithing. He makes a specialty of horse-shoeing, for which he is eminently equipped; is a fine judge of a horse's foot, and puts on a shoe so as to prevent interfering, forging and knee knocking; takes special pains to build up and strengthen the foot, and horses shod by him regularly develop good feet and naturally become better travelers.

Mr. Weimer is prompt in his work, reasonable in his prices, a pleasant man to deal with, enjoys a good trade and is a safe, conscientious, reliable blacksmith and horse shoer.

There is one special advantage that he gives his customers and that is a good, warm stable, with a good feed box, where the horse can be sheltered and fed while it waits its turn to be shod. Thus the farmer can save livery bill and have his horse shod ready when he wants it.

Mr. Weimer is one of those industrious, fair-minded business men, whom we always take pleasure in recommending.

D. W. SAYLOR.

Clean Restaurant, Lunch Stand and Confectionery.

THOSE who eat and love good things to eat, are rapidly learning that the popular restaurant and lunch house of D. W. Saylor always abounds with the best and freshest of everything that the market affords, that his meals are well cooked, temptingly served and that everything is kept in good order, with an abundance to satisfy the hunger of any man at small cost.

At this well known place one can find a hot cup of coffee, a warm lunch, or a satisfying meal at any hour of the day and until 12 o'clock at night.

Mr. Saylor carries a large line of cigars and tobacco, handles fresh bread, cakes and pies, carries a full assortment of candies and everything in the way of fancy groceries and choice vegetables. He always enjoys a good trade because he always treats his customers right, gives them the best of everything, is sociable and pleasant with all, and his prices are the most reasonable, considering the excellent quality of his meals and lunch, together with the abundant quantity.

This popular restaurant is located opposite the Vanneat House and is patronized by the best people of Somerset town and county.

SOMERSET COUNTY JAIL.

HENRY F. BARNETT.

Groceries, Flour, Grain, Feed and Hay.

IN the elements of business interests that go to make up the general traffic of the day, groceries rank as the foremost staple, their actual sales being the largest. We all eat, and most of us are particular about what we eat, and therefore appreciate a well managed, heavily stocked, clean grocery, such as the well-known house of Henry F. Barnett is known to be.

This store is located opposite the Somerset House; it is large, conveniently arranged and well managed. The stock of goods carried is strictly up-to-date, the large room being filled with a choice selection of staple goods of every class and kind, while in canned goods the best brands are always in stock. Fancy groceries, condiments, sauces and relishes are also in evidence, while the line of provisions, country produce, flour, feed, etc., is complete and varied. Special care is taken that every article shall be fresh and pure, and the patrons of this house have been given the most perfect satisfaction, both in quality and price of goods.

The earliest and latest of every delicacy is handled, while the line of fruits, both foreign and native, is unexcelled in Somerset.

Mr. Barnett became proprietor of this popular grocery house only last May, but his good goods, his fair dealing and reasonable prices have already built him up a very extensive trade.

Then his wide acquaintance in the country, where he is very popular, has brought him a heavy trade in country produce, so that he always has fresh eggs, good butter, fine fruit, etc., that he sells cheap to his customers. He is a pleasant man to deal with, sells on narrow margins and can give you the best possible bargains in the grocery line.

NOAH MENSER.

TO those of our readers who have horses to shoe or who may need any kind of blacksmith repair work, we take the liberty of recommending our well-known smith, Noah Menser, who is thoroughly qualified to perform any kind of work in his line in a neat, solid and lasting manner. His shop is conveniently located at the rear of the U. B. Church, and those who patronize him say that his work is good, his prices reasonable, and that he makes every effort to please his customers, either in repair work or in horseshoeing. As a horseshoer he has few superiors. He has given the subject much study, in addition to his many years of practical experience, and horses shod by him are always given the best work and the most scientific care for the preservation of their feet. Bad habits can be remedied, and good work is guaranteed.

PROF. ELMER E. PRITTS.

Superintendent of the Public Schools of Somerset County.

"ARTISTS are not made by their much learning, but are born artists," is an old adage, and one which we believe the experience of life will sustain, and we believe this same axiom will operate in the same way regarding educators. That a man who is not endowed with the necessary make-up and peculiar fitness will never make a successful educator, even though his attained qualifications be unlimited and perfect. In short, any man, to be an artist in his line, must be by nature adapted to the work which he is called upon to perform.

The public schools of Somerset county are certainly under the supervision of a man whose entire make-up especially fits him for the successful and able conduct of his work. Prof. Elmer E. Pritts, who has so wisely and ably looked after the educational interests of our county, was born on the 26th day of December, 1861, in Somerset township, Somerset county, Pennsylvania. Mr Pritts comes from German stock, and his early education was secured in the public schools. He, from his earliest school days was ardently devoted to his books, possessed a wonderful memory, and always had a record for good lessons and efficiency in school work; was very thorough and systematic, and, when a lesson was once mastered, it became a part of his perpetual storehouse of knowledge. He attended the Normal Schools of the county, and completed his education under private tutorage. He commenced teaching in the schools of Somerset township in 1878, when a boy only seventeen years of age, and the marked success of his early work, together with his skill in imparting knowledge and managing the school gave him a start that has been followed by one promotion after another, until he holds as a reward for his special fitness and earnest, successful educational work the highest position in the public school work in Somerset County.

He served seven years as Principal of the Somerset Borough Schools. He had ten teachers and five hundred pupils enrolled, and it is largely due to his able management of the schools here that our people gave him his present position, and his management of the educational affairs of the county has been so satisfactory, so wise and judicious that our people, regard him as the right man in the right place. He has been a constant, energetic worker, has been quick to observe and prompt to adopt everything new that is an improvement over former methods, thus bringing the schools of Somerset county up to a high state of perfection. He is very careful to visit and inspect the workings of every school in the county, consults with the teachers, giving them the benefit of his valuable experience and observations, favoring them with suggestions and advice, thus enabling them to more thoroughly and intellectually cultivate the minds of the young. In 1888 Mr. Pritts married Miss Minnie Sipe, and they have one child, Miss Mary Elizabeth, a promising little daughter.

Mr. Pritts is a member of the Lutheran church. He is original in his educational work, a good disciplinarian, systematic and judicious in all his work, and the success and improvement of the public schools since his administration began, is the best proof that can be mentioned that he is an up-to-date, thorough educator.

D. W. SEIBERT.

Principal of the Somerset Public Schools.

AS one year follows another, as time glides along, competition in business and professional life becomes stronger, with the result that those who would lead, particularly in educational work, must possess superior qualifications, must be thorough masters of every phase and shade of the work in which they are engaged, must know how to impart knowledge to their pupils, must be thorough, systematic, successful and wise in the management of their work.

SOMERSET HIGH SCHOOL.

It is this competence, fitness and thorough understanding of the art of school teaching and school management that has earned for Mr. D. W. Seibert his rapid progress as an educator, and has made him the popular head of the Somerset schools.

Mr. Seibert is strictly home product. He was born five miles east of this town in 1873. He was raised on a farm, strengthened his muscle and mind at field work, attended the country schools, taught school for three years and then entered the Southwestern Normal School, from which he graduated in 1895, and it was not until the fall of 1896 that he became connected with the schools of Somerset.

His first year's work was in the Grammar school department, and so well did he perform his duties that our school board elected him to the principalship of the schools. He took hold of affairs with a firm but mild hand, and soon had the school in good working order. Things moved swiftly, the pupils made splendid progress, the people were satisfied, and when the year had expired it seemed a matter of common consent that Mr. Seibert should continue at the head of the schools. Our school board employed him, and as the second year of his principalship glides along we hear and see many evidences of good results that are being accomplished by our school children under his able management.

NORMAN E. BERKEY.

GRAMMAR ROOM.

HERE is the room where the utmost care must be taken to keep the pupils interested and prevent their abandoning school life, and it was for this reason that a judicious, skillful teacher was placed in charge in the person of Norman E. Berkey, who is doing commendable work in not only holding his class but also keeping his pupils interested and aiding them in making such admirable progress as they are.

Mr. Berkey is a home boy, a graduate of the Somerset High Schools, and has been a teacher for twelve years, one year of which was in the Johnstown public schools and ten years in the home schools. He is a very competent, capable educator, a careful, painstaking instructor, thorough in every department, and has earned a high reputation as a teacher.

CHAS. R. SCHULTZ,

WHO has charge of the Second Grammar School Department, is doing very well. His pupils are getting a good start, are much interested in the work before them and he has been remarkably successful in keeping their interest in their books on the increase.

Mr. Schultz is a native of Milford township, this county, a graduate of the California State Normal School, and this is his third term as a teacher. There is a general good feeling existing between Mr. Schultz and his pupils; it seems that it is a united effort to do the very best they can. Mr. Schultz is well-read, bright and shrewd, and his production regarding the history of our public schools published in this issue is worthy of a careful perusal.

MARY G. FLECK.

A MOST interesting room is the first year's work of the Intermediate Department. The children are just being transformed from childhood and budding into boy and girlhood. Their minds are rapidly developing and it is all-important that they should have the best of training, and that their instructions be well timed, thoughtful and wise, which, we are glad to say, is the case under the tutorage of our popular teacher, Miss Mary G. Fleck, who was born and raised here, graduated from the Somerset High Schools in 1890, and has been a teacher in the public schools for the past seven years.

Miss Fleck is a modest, retiring lady, thoroughly intellectual, a typical instructor and an able teacher.

MISS WINNIE KNEPPER.

OUR little children's second year's school work is in charge of Miss Winnie Knepper, a Somerset girl and graduate of the Somerset High School, having completed her course and secured her diploma in the class of 1894. This is her second year as a teacher, and she has a house full of pupils in her charge who are reporting to their parents that they like their new teacher and are learning very fast. They are just beginning to grasp the meaning of an education, and are manifesting much interest in their studies. The outlook for a good year's work is bright and the people have great confidence in Miss Knepper.

MISS BERTHA CROMWELL.

SOMERSET'S progress in educational work is nowhere more plainly to be noticed than in the large number of educators and professional people she turns out. The schools here are now practically in the hands of home talent, and one of the most popular of this class of teachers is Miss Bertha Cromwell, who was raised here, graduated from our High Schools in 1892, attended the Indiana State Normal, taught school two years in Addison, and has filled her present position for three years with credit to herself and to the satisfaction of the people of Somerset.

MISS KATE SNYDER.

PRIMARY work in its second year is in the hands of that efficient and capable teacher Miss Kate Snyder, whose years of experience, whose special fitness and attentive care have earned for her a warm place in the hearts not only of the children of Somerset but also of their parents, who always feel that the best interests of the little ones will be cared for while in charge of Miss Kate Snyder. Miss Snyder attended the public schools and completed her education at the Johnstown High Schools. She is a teacher of undisputed merit, an affable, kindly lady, who is a strength to the public schools of Somerset.

MRS. J. M. KEFFER.

WHERE the little folks first enter school, with their little timid faces, their tender, bashful expression, their little minds an unfolded book, the primary grade forms an interesting and difficult work for the teacher. It is, indeed, the hardest task in school work; the place where a start must be made. If right, all is well; if wrong, the loss is great. We have 50 little tots in the primary grade, first year, under the charge of Mrs. J. M. Keffer, who has taught school 13 years and who completed her education at Millersville and Indiana State Normal. She is especially adapted to primary work, studies the disposition of the little tots, and has the faculty of securing their love and getting the best results in their educational work.

MISS MILDRED BILLS,

A SOMERSET girl, known and respected by all our people, has charge of the second year of intermediate work, with a house full of attractive, interesting children who are starting on their new year's work with every promise of accomplishing the very best results. The care and attention that are being given them by their teacher is bearing fruit in reviving the old interest in school work and expanding their intellectual grasp.

Miss Bills was born and raised here, is a graduate of the Somerset High School and has attended the Indiana State Normal. She is thoroughly qualified as a teacher and is giving her best efforts to the work in hand. The children like her and are making excellent progress under her tutorage.

MISS ANNA C. PATTON.

INTERMEDIATE work in its second year is well attended, the children seem happy and contented, ambitious to excel and anxious to learn, are taking hold of their work this year with a renewed vigor, and seem to appreciate the untiring efforts of their efficient instructor, Miss Anna C. Patton. Miss Patton is a native of Somerset, was educated in the Somerset schools, graduating from our High School in 1893. She taught two terms in the country and two terms of Kindergarten school, and attended and graduated from the California State Normal in the class of 1898. She is diligent and untiring in her efforts to give her pupils the very best instructions and advantages possible, is an obliging, intellectual lady, possessing the confidence and esteem of us all.

BIRD'S-EYE VIEW OF SOMERSET.