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CONDENSED NEWS.

More snow.  
Zero weather.  
No snow for sleighing.  
Sharpen the horse's shoes.  
Frozen pipes have the call.  
The ice man ought to get busy now.  
These are strenuous days for the sled-lives and the sled-gentlemen.  
Weather prophet Hicks predicts blizzards and cold waves and deep snows for Christmas.

What this section of the country needs is a good soaking rain that knows its business and attends to it.  
Danville's Christmas trade gives promise of breaking all previous records.  
Attached to the mining department when it goes into its new quarters in the new capital at Harrisburg will be a museum of mines. Its most interesting exhibit will be the famous model of an anthracite coal mine which was one of the chief features of Pennsylvania's exhibit in the Mine Building at the World's Fair.

Shamokin has a clock man who is causing considerable excitement by stopping women on the streets and badly frightening them. Friday night no less than five women were stopped and although hotly pursued the unknown individual was able to make good his escape.  
The person who begrudges his gifts or who makes them with the hope of getting the better of the exchange has no true conception of the real Christmas spirit.

FOR SALE OR RENT—Farm of 115 acres. Inquire of A. H. Wetzel, Danville, R. F. D. No. 1.  
The assessors have been going their rounds for the annual registry.  
With Christmas near at hand, the attendance at Sunday school is steadily on the increase.  
There is a water famine in many towns in Pennsylvania, and the deficiency of rainfall in this vicinity, since January 1, is twelve inches. It is clear that the weather bureau isn't treating the people right.

The Lehigh Valley railroad company is installing snow chains on all of its engines. This is in compliance with a request of the Brotherhood of Railway Trainmen. The storm chains are a great protection to the firemen in cold weather.  
The Christmas rush will soon be at high tide.  
There are only two things needed to enable a man to experience the exhilaration of sleighing—snow, and the price.

No use looking for a rain before the freeze up. The latter is in command.  
Invitations have been received in Danville for a dance to be given at the Exchange Hotel, Bloomsburg, Tuesday evening, December 26th.  
The zero weather had many a lead pipe chink this week.  
The deposits for the first day at the Catawissa National Bank, which was opened Monday morning for business, amounted to \$10,000, a very creditable showing.

The business men of Shamokin have made an absolute rule to cease the purchase of tickets for balls, benefits, church festivals and other occasions.

A MATTER OF HEALTH  
ROYAL  
BAKING POWDER  
Absolutely Pure  
HAS NO SUBSTITUTE

Montour

"THIS COUNTRY WILL NEVER BE ENTIRELY FREE UNTIL IT SUPPLIES ALL OF ITS OWN DEMANDS WITH ITS OWN PRODUCTIONS."

VOL. 49—NO 50.

DANVILLE, PA., THURSDAY DECEMBER 15, 1904.

ESTABLISHED IN 1855

NARROWLY ESCAPED  
BEING CREMATED

The loud mewing, unusual noise and commotion made by a family cat at the home of Frank Arms, 23 West Street, early Saturday morning, doubtless saved the house from being destroyed by fire, and the family, consisting of the father and seven children, from being cremated in the ruins.

The smoke from the kitchen range makes its escape through a large old-fashioned stone chimney of wide dimensions. A few inches below where the stove pipe connects with the chimney, the upper portion of the latter is separated from the lower by a number of boards, leaving under them a vault like space several feet square and about six feet high. This aperture, during the early history of the house was no doubt used as a fire place, and the opening into it is closed by a wooden structure composed of light, thin boards that would ignite quickly from a spark.

About 9 o'clock on Friday night, Mrs. Arms imagined that she scented the odor of burning wood or soot. She commenced an investigation in order to learn if her suspicions that something about the building was on fire, but finding nothing in any of the apartments, she went out side to look at the top of the chimney to discover whether or not it was burning. Discovering no flames issuing from the chimney and no more smoke than would ascend from the fire in the kitchen range, she re-entered the house and shortly afterward retired.  
Between 1 and 2 o'clock the following morning Mrs. Arms was suddenly awakened by an unusual noise of some kind. At first she was unable to either locate the point from where the sound came or what was causing it. Then she heard the cat mewing in a peculiar manner. The animal had frequently moved at nights when wanting out of the house, but the placid, unruffled tones of her calls on those occasions were vastly different from what she was giving vent to then. The cries, it such they can be called, were loud, piercing and agonizing. The cat appeared in great distress, and to be appealing for assistance with all the force and power at its command.

Mrs. Arms interpreting the yells and mewings to be cries of distress hurriedly responded to them, little expecting, however, the startling scene that was so soon to greet her vision. When she reached the head of the stairs she heard another sound, one that deadened the stillness of the house. It sounded like the roar of an Niagara, fairly causing the house to tremble. Not knowing the cause of the terrific, thunderous like vibrations beneath her feet, and imagining any and everything, Mrs. Arms, after listening for a moment, hesitated whether to proceed or return to her room and awaken her husband. But she decided on the former, and courageously continued on down stairs. Throwing open the door at the bottom of the stairs she discovered the kitchen filled with smoke, and the board covering of the old fire place behind the range burning fiercely. The flames were leaping up the wide chimney, and ascending high above its top on the outside. It was the roar of these which Mrs. Arms had heard during the short time she had stood at the top of the stairs.

A thrill cry from her after a single glance had taken in the situation, resulted in bringing her husband quickly to her side. He rushed to the front door and called to the night employes of the Water Works, which is nearly on the opposite side of the street. They promptly responded and in a short time had the blaze under control and a few minutes later extinguished.  
When assistance arrived the wooden covering in front of the chimney was partly consumed and the flames making rapid advancement toward the interior of the kitchen. Had Mrs. Arms not discovered them when she did, they would soon have reached the stairway leading to the second story. That would have cut off the only avenue through which the imprisoned family could have escaped, except to have jumped out of the windows, thereby clad into the chilly winds of a December night—provided they had been awakened in time to have taken the opportunity thus given them to save themselves from being cremated.  
The only thing burned besides the chimney covering and a portion of the floor under the range and near the stairway, was a small hole in the roof and a few articles of clothing which Mrs. Arms had suspended to the shelf of the range before going to bed. Consequently the damages are slight compared to what they might have been, had not the cat sounded an alarm.  
Sparks falling from the stove pipe and igniting the boards separating the chimney, and these burning through and dropping down and setting fire to the soot in the old fire place is supposed to have been the origin of the blaze.

Favorably Impressed.  
The members of the Printing Committee of the School Board to whom the matter was referred at Monday night's meeting of the Board, are favorably impressed with Professor Gordy's proposed Outline of Study, and shall so report to the Board at the next meeting. They have authorized Mr. Gordy to get estimates of the cost of printing the number of books required, so as to insert that item in the report.

CHARGED WITH LARCENY BY BAILEE

Saturday afternoon P. Miller, a farmer residing in Liberty township, was placed under \$900 bail by "Squire Dalton" for his appearance at Court to answer the charge of larceny by bailor.

The prosecutor was Benjamin Miller, a junk dealer of this city. He testified to having visited the farm of the defendant on November 28, last and negotiated for the purchase of a lot of old iron, at 40 cents per hundred. He paid \$2 on account, and left for home with the understanding that he was to return in a few days and get the iron. On Monday, December 5, he went back and upon looking around, discovered that the pile of iron that he alleges was the one he had purchased, was not as large as it had been at the time of his first visit. In fact, he said, only a few pieces of it remained and as they were of an inferior quality, he refused to take them. He asked P. Miller what had become of the pile, and the latter replied that he had sold them to Jacob Engle that morning at 50 cents per hundred. Continuing the prosecutor said that he came home, and had a warrant issued for the arrest of P. Miller. The latter claimed that he made no special agreement with Benjamin Miller to sell him the iron. He came there on November 28, and said he wanted a load of iron. He did not say whether he wanted scrap or cast iron, nor did he mention how many hundred weight he desired to secure. "I had seven piles of iron about my premises. He simply said he wanted iron, and that he would be back in a few days. He offered me \$2 to bind the bargain. At first I refused to take it, but when he insisted that I should, I put it in my pocket. Jacob Engle came to my place on the morning of December 5, and I sold him 1600 pounds of iron at 50 cents per hundred. Later in the day Benjamin Miller put an appearance again. He threw a load of iron into his wagon, then he got mad and threw it out, saying he didn't want it. I gave him back his \$2 and he threw it on the ground, where it buried itself in the snow. After he went away I picked it out of the snow and put it in my pocket. "Yes, I have it now," he replied to a question addressed to him by the magistrate. Benjamin Miller was held in his own recognizance to appear and prosecute the case.

Growing in Interest.  
Under the supervision of Physical Director Carpenter the work of the Y. M. C. A. has been growing in interest and popularity.  
Five physical culture classes are now in successful operation. The business men's evening class and the business men's afternoon class both meet twice a week. The latter is not as well attended at present as it might be, but will, doubtless, have a larger number present at the meetings after the holidays. The class for young men and the boys class each meets twice a week in the evenings, and the young ladies class twice a week in the afternoons. The latter class is popular with the young ladies, well attended and growing in interest. It is confidently expected that after the first of the year greater interest will be manifested in all the classes.  
Parents who have an interest in the physical development of their boys and girls, should present them with a Y. M. C. A. membership ticket, which will be good for one year in any Y. M. C. A. in the United States and Canada.

Council Will Attend Funeral.  
There was a special meeting of Town Council last night, at 7:30 o'clock, to take suitable action on the death of Councilman David A. Montgomery, of the Third Ward.

Joseph M. Gibson, Amos Vastine and George F. Reifsdorfer were appointed a Committee to draft appropriate resolutions, and to report the same at the next meeting of Council. It was decided to attend the funeral, which takes place at 12:30 this afternoon, in a body. Council will meet at the City Hall at 12 o'clock, and from there proceed to the family residence, corner of Mill and Centre streets.

Abutments To Be Filled in.  
The Commissioners of Northumberland and Montour Counties have taken the initiatory steps toward having the Danville and South Danville approaches to the new river bridge filled in.

At a joint meeting held in the Commissioners' office in this city, yesterday, the two boards of Commissioners decided to take immediate action in the matter by advertising for sealed proposals. These will be received at the Montour County Commissioners' office on or before Saturday, December 24. Bidders must state the kind of material to be used, and the Commissioners reserve the right to reject any or all bids. The contract, as a matter of course, will be awarded to the lowest bidder or bidders, and he or they will be required to do the work with the least possible delay.

Shoe Shining Parlor.  
William Anderson has opened an up-to-date shoe shining parlor in the Lotter building opposite the Post Office. This establishment will no doubt be well patronized as it is the only shoe shining parlor in the city. Hours from 8 a. m. to 8 p. m. Saturdays until 9 p. m. Ladies shoe a specialty.

THE HOLIDAY VACATION

The School Board held a regular meeting Monday. The members present were: President Dr. Harpel, Secretary Orth, Directors Pursel, Fischer, Trumbower, Workheiser, Burns and Adams.

The Finance Committee reported \$2,384.75 in the hands of the Treasurer. On motion the report was accepted.  
The matter of moving the trolley pole from the pavement in front of the Third Ward school building, which was referred to the Building and Repair Committee at the last meeting of the Board, was disposed of.  
W. F. Pascoe, General Superintendent of the Standard Construction Company was present by request of the Building and Repair Committee, stated the case to Mr. Pascoe, and informed him what they wanted done with the pole. The Committee desired that it be moved from its present location on the sidewalk out flush with the curb. Mr. Pascoe said that he had no objection to moving the pole, or of placing it wherever the School Board should instruct him to place it. But he thought that it would be a mistake to move it out flush with the curb. "You will always regret it if you do, but I will put it there if that is where you want it," he said.

Then Mr. Pascoe suggested doing away with the pole entirely, and the placing of a bolt in the school building to which the trolley wire could be fastened. That was objected to on the ground that it might be dangerous to attach the wire to the building. It was finally decided to instruct Mr. Pascoe to set the pole out flush with the curb, as had been first proposed.  
Mr. Workheiser reported that new furnace pipe had been placed in the Third Ward building.  
Superintendent Gordy was called on to explain a matter he had under consideration. This was relative to a systematic outline of study in the schools. There was no complete, uniform line at the present time, and it was extremely necessary that one should be compiled, and adopted so that it could be placed in use at the earliest possible moment. It should be a course of study that would be of advantage to the teachers and understood by the people. It is as important for the teacher to have a system to work under, as it is for a builder to have plans and specifications of the building that he is erecting. Mr. Gordy explained to the Board. He has prepared sufficient matter to make a book of about 40 pages, and before he is through it may reach 60 pages. He had made inquiries as to the cost of getting a certain number of the books printed, and asked the Board to take some action in the matter. On motion it was referred to the Printing Committee, to be reported at the next regular meeting of the Board.

It was decided to close the schools on Friday, December 23 and to re-open them on January 3, 1905.  
The next meeting of the School Board falling on Monday, December 26, which will be observed as Christmas, it was decided to meet Tuesday evening, December 27.  
The following bills were ordered paid:  
Standard Gas Co. \$ 2.65  
Danville St. Ry. & Mfg. Co. 48.80  
H. G. Salmon 2.80  
Miles, Peffer & Co. 2.80  
D. R. Williams 55.60  
W. J. Williams 23.50  
William Quigg 5.50  
T. L. Evans' Sons 7.50

Xmas Shoppers Out in Force.  
The near approach of the Christmas season is being heralded in this city in many ways, but one of the most noticeable manifestations of the advent of the Yuletide is the steadily increasing number of shoppers that throng the Danville stores. Last evening many persons were on the streets, and nearly all were bent on gift purchasing expeditions.

In the toyland stores especially large crowds are to be found, many bringing the little ones to see the wonderful collection of toys. This season is always a delight to the children.  
The windows of the stores are also beginning to reflect the brightness of the season. Many have taken on their holiday attire, and are beautiful in their festive decorations. The merchants of Danville deserve great credit for the attractiveness that is always a feature of the stores at Christmas time in this city.

Ready for Distribution.  
The Executive Board of the Danville Fire Department held a meeting Saturday night in the hall of Friendship fire company. The department badges having arrived, the secretaries of the four companies were given them to distribute to the members. Each member is entitled to a badge and by calling on the secretary of their company they can get one. The badges must be worn on the lapel of the firemen's coats, especially during a fire, in order that they can be recognized and admitted within the ropes.

Shot a Rabbit.  
The Rev. S. B. Evans, pastor of St. Paul's M. E. church, went to the woods on a hunting expedition on Tuesday, and bagged a rabbit. It wasn't a good day for hunting either.

PERSONAL PARAGRAPHS

William Orl of Bloomsburg spent Sunday with friends in this city.  
Harry Deaner of Catawissa, spent Sunday with Danville friends.  
Herbert Switzer, who is employed in Sunbury, spent Sunday with his family in this city.

W. A. Sholeberg of Berwick, spent Sunday in this city.  
Ernest F. Paden of Berwick, was a Sunday visitor in this city.  
C. C. Houseack of Berwick spent Sunday in this city.

Miles Honck of Pottsville, is visiting at the home of his parents, Mr. and Mrs. William Honck, Honeymoon street.  
Mrs. Bigler D. Moyer left yesterday for a visit with friends at Shamokin. Alex M. Diehl made a business trip to Watsonstown yesterday.

Miss Florence Smith visited friends in Sunbury yesterday.  
Mrs. Daniel Byerly and son Lewis left yesterday for a visit with friends at Shamokin.  
Mrs. John Miller of Cooper township, is spending a few days with friends in Sunbury.

H. R. Edmondson transacted business in Shamokin yesterday.  
Theodore R. Angle returned from Bethlehem yesterday.  
A. J. Leniger made a business trip to Shamokin yesterday.

William L. Antrim returned yesterday from a trip to Pittston.  
Mr. and Mrs. John Edwards and Charles Whitmeyer of Manay spent yesterday in this city.  
Mr. and Mrs. John C. Zaner of Washingtonville were among the visitors in this city yesterday.

J. W. Lindner of Milton was a visitor in this city yesterday.  
B. F. Shultz of Berwick spent yesterday in this city.  
John Coleman of Washingtonville called on friends in this city yesterday.

Jacob Wintersteen of Jerseytown spent yesterday in this city.  
E. W. Reese of Hazleton transacted business in this city yesterday.  
R. W. Smith of Bloomsburg was a visitor in this city yesterday.

James C. Heddens and D. C. Williams returned last evening from a hunting trip on Bald Eagle Mountain with 14 rabbits, 13 gray squirrels and 12 quail.  
James K. Casey of White trout was a visitor in this city yesterday.

Mrs. Elizabeth Raup, who for a few days has been the guest of Mr. and Mrs. William Andy, East Market street, returned to her home in Milton yesterday.  
Mrs. Frank L. Miles arrived yesterday from Natick, Ohio, and will spend a few days with Mrs. Rachel Wertheimer, East Front street.

John K. Jacobs transacted business in Bloomsburg yesterday.  
Mrs. John Waters, Mrs. William Waters, Mrs. Norman Hess and daughter, Miss Mildred of Bloomsburg, spent yesterday at the home of Mrs. Rebecca Hess, Bloom street.

Quail to Be Distributed.  
Yesterday the committee, appointed by the Danville Rifle and Gun Club to collect funds for the purchase of quail for distribution was busy soliciting aid among the sportsmen in this vicinity, and met with encouraging success.

Enough money was subscribed to warrant the purchase of an additional ten dozen of the birds. This, together with the twelve dozen quail that the Club decided to buy, will make twenty two dozen to distribute. Not all of the sportsmen have been seen, however, so in all probability the number will exceed the twenty-two dozen now pledged.

Anyone desiring to order birds and wishing to take advantage of the club rates, can leave their order with Robert Y. Gearhart, Treasurer of the Danville Rifle and Gun Club. The quail can be obtained for \$1.00 a dozen and can be taken as soon as the consignee reaches this city.

Revivals Were Successful.  
The revival meetings at St. Paul's M. E. church have closed. They had been in progress for several weeks under the leadership of the pastor, the Rev. S. B. Evans, and were one of the most successful held at that church in many years.

The attendance nightly was large, not only on the part of the membership, but on the part of members of other congregations and the public at large. While the pastor labored hard in bringing about the result which followed, he had the earnest support and assistance of his people. Pulpit and pew worked together as a unit, and reaped a rich harvest in return for the efforts put forth. Much enthusiasm was aroused.

A spiritual awakening occurred, resulting in a revival that has not only benefited the church in which the series of meetings were held, but the entire community. Penitents, having been convinced by the strong and earnest words of the pastor that they should change their manner of living, flocked to the altar and later professed conversion. During the course of the revival, thirty new members were added to the church.

DEATH OF D. A. MONTGOMERY

David A. Montgomery, one of Danville's most prominent citizens and a member of Council, died at 9 o'clock Monday eve, after suffering with a complication of diseases for about two years and a half.

The deceased was born in what was then Newberry, but now the 7th and 11th Wards of the city of Williamsport, 44 years ago. He was married to Miss Emma Pursel, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. J. F. Pursel. April 1, 1895, he moved to Danville from Hughesville. At the latter place he was engaged in the livery business with his father-in-law, Mr. Pursel, and in Danville he was in the grocery business with his brother-in-law, E. K. Pursel.

Mr. Montgomery was elected to Council about 3 years ago, and took an active part in the affairs of the Borough. He was a member and deacon of the Trinity Lutheran church. He is survived by his wife, also his mother—Mrs. P. C. Miller, of Tirol, Lycoming county, and the following brothers: George Montgomery, Eaglesmere; Edward, of Tirol; William, of Picture Rocks and a sister, Mrs. Charles Rooker, of Nancy.

Music of Great Composers.  
During the time intervening between now and Christmas day the American will publish a number of musical programs to be rendered by the churches and Sunday schools on Christmas.

It has become the custom to present in the church on Christmas eve or Christmas day, the choicest vocal and instrumental sacred music of the greatest composers with augmented choirs. Elaborate decorations are also an attractive feature, and the churches in every way endeavor to show their jubilation and joy in commemorating the coming of the Savior of mankind.

The choral Holy Eucharist on Christmas morning in Christ Episcopal church has come to be one of the marked religious features of the year's services in the parish. This service serves to meet the convenience of a large number of people who keep a religious Christmas before the duties of the day begin. The service begins at 6:30 o'clock. Following is the musical program to be rendered at this and other services at Christ church on Christmas day:  
Processional—"Adeste Fideles"

Reading  
Kyrie Eleison, Gloria Tibi, Gratias, Credo, Simper in C.  
Sursum Corda, Sanctus, Benedictus  
Qui Venit, Agnus Dei, Gloria  
Nunc Dimittis in E Flat, Stainer  
Recessional—"It Came Upon the Midnight Clear"  
Midnight Celebration—8 a. m.  
Morning Prayer—10 a. m.  
Choral Holy Eucharist—10:30 a. m.  
"Hark the Herald Angles Sing"  
Magnificat—Mendelssohn  
Kyrie, Gloria Tibi, Gratias, Credo  
Simper in E Flat  
"Sing, Oh Sing, this Blessed Morn"  
Presentation of Jesus—Smart  
Presentation of Jesus—Whitney  
Sursum Corda, Benedictus Qui Venit, Agnus Dei, Gloria in Excelsis, Simper in E Flat  
None Dimittis—Gregory  
Adeste Fideles—Gregory  
Choral Evening Prayer—7:30 p. m.  
Processional—"Reverent Square"  
Psalms 98, 110, 132

Magnificat—Gregory  
None Dimittis—Gregory  
Hymn—"O Little Town of Bethlehem"  
Hymn—"While Shepherds Watched Their Flocks by Night"  
Tansur  
Presentation of Jesus—Whitney  
Sursum Corda, Benedictus Qui Venit, Agnus Dei, Gloria in Excelsis, Simper in E Flat  
None Dimittis—Gregory  
Adeste Fideles—Gregory  
Choral Evening Prayer—7:30 p. m.  
Processional—"Reverent Square"  
Psalms 98, 110, 132

The Pure Food Farce.  
It is suggested that the Pennsylvania pure food laws should be enforced only against dealers who have been warned that certain goods which they handle are impure and who nevertheless persist in selling them.  
Justice would approve such departure from present methods of enforcing the laws. As now enforced these laws are farcical.

The retailers against whom the arms of the Commonwealth are leveled are in most cases innocent of wrongdoing or of complicity in violations of the law. They buy what they believe are pure goods and sell them under that belief. It is unjust to hold them under the representation of chemists from whose findings there is no appeal, for the selling of alleged adulterated goods.

It should be clear to everybody that the retailer is himself the victim of the adulteration. What can be said in defense of that law which penalizes the victim of a crime or misdemeanor? What would be said of the mental level of a people who would send to jail the victim of an assault and take no action against the assailant?

Owner Pays if Dog Bites.  
The following will be of information to many a person who owns a vicious dog. In the case of Joseph Norwood whose son was bitten by a dog belonging to William Mell, the jury in the court of common pleas at Carlisle, last Wednesday, rendered a verdict in favor of the plaintiff. The father receives \$320 damages and the son \$1,100. The suit was brought for \$2,500 damages.

Public Library for Williamsport.  
The will of the late James V. Brown bequeaths \$400,000 for the building, equipment and maintenance of a public library for Williamsport. This bequest is in accord with the expressed intention of Mr. Brown made 10 years ago. He is estimated to have been worth \$1,500,000.

FIRST TROLLEY CAR ON MILL STEET

"Mill street!"  
The exclamation was made in ringing tones by a conductor on the Danville and Bloomsburg trolley line, last night.

His car was the first to run through to the intersection of Bloom and Mill streets. Hence his jubilant shout. The long expected had really occurred.  
It was exactly 9:25 o'clock.

The car was packed from end to end with passengers. There was "standing room only," and hardly that. Both platforms and all the steps were crowded. A number of boys clung to iron rods at the rear of the car. The only space not occupied was the roof. The trip around the Bloom street curve, down "A" street, through the subway, along Walnut street to Mill was made with ease. Not the slightest trouble was encountered enroute.

When the car stopped the motorman pulled the string and permitted the whistle to get in several minutes solid work. Its thrilling tones on the crisp air was the first notice that many had of the arrival of the first trolley car to Mill street.

Tuesday night's extreme cold weather caused another delay in getting the Bloom street switch in position and work at that point. Orders were given during the afternoon for every man employed in laying the switch to report for duty that night, in order that the work might be pushed to a finish with the utmost speed.

It wasn't a pleasant order to receive. The workmen were already tired and chilled through. The thought of homes and warm stoves, were more to their liking, than that of having to resume work again at night and when mercury was hovering around the zero mark. American members of the crew readily consented to turn out and work all night if necessary, but the Italian portion of the gang revolted and emphatically refused to subject themselves to the bitter elements. "We no workee," too much cold; by and by a box!" they said. Interpreted the expression is this: "We will not work at night when the weather is so cold. If we do we will get sick, die and be put in a box." The few men who went to work continued at it until 10 o'clock, notwithstanding the stinging, frosty air. But the work was not completed, and it took the full crew until 4 o'clock yesterday afternoon to finish laying the switch. At about the same

portion of track requiring straightening and strengthening to be attended to. A portion of the rails on "A" street and extending along Walnut to Bloom, thence to Mill were covered with ice and snow to a depth that made them invisible. They had to be dug for, and it was necessary to clean them before cars could be run over the line. A crew of men commenced cleaning the rails shortly after dinner and it took them until 4:30 o'clock to reach Mill street, and an hour later to reach the crossing of the D. L. & W. It was impossible for the men with picks and scrapers to remove the ice sufficiently for the current to have any effect on the wheels of the cars, so to expedite matters a heavy layer of salt was scattered along both rails the entire length of the frozen track. Then it was up to the salt as to the length of time that most of a necessity intervene before the cars could run to Mill street.

During the progress of the fair Sunday evening, Wallace Belsky, of Onondaga street, and Joseph Zabky, of Mohawk street, Shamokin, got into an altercation over a girl. A fight ensued and Wallace laid his antagonist out for some time by dealing him several wicked blows on the head with a "bit-ly." The defeated youth was unconscious for some time and was severely cut about the head.

Vacation for Rural Carriers.  
Representative Lafean, of Pennsylvania, has introduced a bill in Congress which provides for the granting to all carriers who have been in service for over a year prior to July 1, 1905, a leave of absence of fifteen days without loss of pay. Carriers who have been less than one year in the service are to be entitled to a leave of absence of one and a quarter days for each month served. The bill also provides for the employment of substitutes at a salary of \$800 per annum.

National Guard News.  
The bill for the construction of armories has been prepared and will be introduced early in the session of the legislature.  
The olive drab cap, recently made regulation in the United States army has not yet been adopted in Pennsylvania but probably will be before the next encampment.

Some of the companies of the Twelfth are making good progress with the new Drill Regulations but others are taking things so easy that the spring inspection is bound to catch them unprepared.

JOB PRINTING

The office of the AMERICAN being furnished with a large assortment of job letter and fancy type and job material generally, the Publisher announces to the public that he is prepared at all times to execute in the neatest manner.

JOB PRINTING

Of all Kinds and Description

TEAMS CROSSING RIVER ON THE ICE

Teams and vehicles are now crossing the river on the ice. The mail was brought over in a wagon Tuesday evening; teams crossed yesterday without mishap. Pedestrians are still making good use of the foot path. The pathway is safe in every respect at the present time, but in order that it may continue in that condition, the News suggests that wagons, sleds and other heavy vehicles be given an entirely different and distinct route to follow.

Wheels and horses hoofs will wear the ice through more rapidly than the feet of men and women. Consequently there should be two roads across the river. Leave the present path for pedestrians and locate another for vehicles.

As a safe guard against slipping and falling when descending the South side bank, the snow and ice should be covered with ashes. The same precaution should be taken on this side.

Thoughts on Christmas.  
Christmas with its many hallowed and enchanting associations is again about to dawn upon the world. Christmas!

What magnet in the sound; what subtle charm in the word. How it stirs the fount of memory. With the quickness of the lightning's flash it restores childhood. Old age is given a backward glance into the distant past. A moving panorama portrays scenes of other days when the years were young and hopes bright. The faces and forms of youthful companions, now either bent with age or gone to their reward, distinctly appear on the canvass. Loved parents, around whom children gather at the old homestead and listen to the story of the babe born in the manger, are presented with startling effect. Their features are so distinct and clear that the beholder is nearly forced to believe that the picture before him, is real and not a trick of memory.

The whole world loves Christmas. It gives pleasure to youth and joy and contentment to age. Children look forward to it with bright anticipation, wondering what the day of all days is going to have in store for them. Parents anxiously await its coming, happy in the thought of the pleasure they can give their children.

It is a day of family re-union, when parents, brothers and sisters long separated, are re-unioned around the old family hearth stone, acquaintances are renewed and friendship re-encountered. Angels rejoice and again herald about the glad tidings of "Peace on Earth—Good Will to All Men."

Let everybody try to make the coming Christmas one of genuine pleasure and rejoicing throughout Danville. Above all things else "remember the poor, whom ye have always with you." Make it an object to make some one outside of the pale of your immediate family and friends, happy on Christmas. From your abundance give to the needy and the distressed, remembering that it "is more blessed to give than to receive."

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