



## FACTS!

We are now better prepared to meet the wants of our customer than at any time before, as we have on hand a complete stock of every thing belonging to a first-class Furniture Store.

## REMEMBER,

No old shop-worn or second-hand goods. Everything new and up-to-date.

## SPECIALTIES!

Couches, \$5.75; Sideboards, \$10.00; Parlor Suites, \$18.00; Chairs sold at prices that always please our customers.

TRY US and be your own judge, and let us C U B A customer of ours.

**Johnson & McCulloh,**  
ELK LICK, PENNA.

**Fisher's Book Store,**  
SOMERSET, PA.

## WHOLESLAE AND RETAIL!

This large and pushing establishment sells at wholesale to 90 town and country merchants in this and adjoining counties. Its wholesale trade extends into Maryland and West Virginia. We are at all times prepared to compete in prices with the city markets.

At this season we are specially pushing School Books and School Supplies. Our stock of these goods is large, full and complete, and the prices lowest wholesale.

Special attention is also being given to Holiday Goods. We are also doing a nice trade in Miscellaneous Books and Baby and Doll Carriages.

Constantly in stock a full line of Staple and Fancy Stationery and Harmonicas. Merchants and others can buy of us to advantage, Tablets, Inks, Pens, Pencils, Envelopes, Bill Books and Legal Cap Papers, Fountain Pens, Blank Books, Judgment Notes, Receipt Books, School Books and Supplies, Miscellaneous Books and such other goods as are usually for sale in an up-to-date Book, News and Stationery Store.

**Chas. H. Fisher.**

**Get It At Jeffery's!**

When in need of anything in the line of Pure Groceries, Fancy Confectionery, Thompson's Fresh Bread, Books, Stationery, Notions, etc.

CALL AT

## THE LEADING GROCERY.

Space is too limited to enumerate all my bargains here. Call and be convinced that I sell the best of goods at the lowest living prices.

My business has grown wonderfully in the past few years, for which I heartily thank the good people of Salisbury and vicinity and shall try harder than ever to merit your future patronage.

Respectfully,  
**J. T. JEFFERY,**

Opposite Postoffice, Grant Street.

## Grain Flour and Feed!

S. A. Lichliter is doing business at the old stand. With greatly increased stock and facilities for handling goods, we are prepared to meet the wants of our customers in

**ALL KINDS OF STAPLE GROCERIES,**  
Feed, Flour, Corn, Oats, Etc.

In short anything to feed man or beast. Furthermore, we are JOBBERS OF CARBON OIL and can save merchants money on this line, as we buy car-load lots. We are also

**Headquarters For Maple Sweets.**

We pay cash for good Butter and nice, clean Fresh Eggs. Come and see what advantages we offer.

**S. A. LICHLITER, Salisbury, Pa.**

### TO OUR SUBSCRIBER.

It is now almost one year since THE STAR has resumed publication, and it will be but a few weeks until many of our patrons will be in debt to us for a full year's subscription, while many others have paid in advance. Those in arrears are kindly requested to pay up at the earliest possible moment, as we need the money badly, owing to many improvements that we have been adding to our printing plant at great expense. To all those in arrears we would say: If you receive a statement by mail, do not take it as a reflection upon your character or integrity, for nothing of that kind is meant. We have been kind enough to trust you all these months, and we trust that in no case has our confidence been misplaced. If you receive a statement it will simply mean that we need our money and expect prompt settlements.

We also wish to call your attention to the fact that after Jan. 1st, 1899, all subscriptions not paid spot cash will be \$1.50 per year, but if paid spot cash in advance, \$1.25 will pay for a year's subscription. In other words, the 30-day offer will be withdrawn.

We thank our numerous subscribers for their patronage and solicit a continuance of the same. Our subscription list has had a phenomenal growth throughout the entire year, every week adding a goodly number of new subscribers, and the increase shows no abatement. In the meantime we are contemplating many additional improvements, and while we already have a printing plant that is a credit to the town, we expect to add many other improvements to it during the coming year. And it shall also be our aim to greatly improve the paper during the next year.

Kindly help the good work by paying what you owe and a year's subscription in advance.

Wishing all our patrons a prosperous New Year, I am yours for the best interests of Salisbury and Somerset county,

P. L. LIVENGOOD.

### MINERS ON A STRIKE.

#### A FIGHT AGAINST THE MACHINES.

Trouble at the Merchants' Coal Company's Mines, near Salisbury.

Cumberland News, Dec. 23d. About 160 miners of the Merchants' Coal Company, operating in the Elk Lick region, near Salisbury, Pa., along the Baltimore and Ohio railroad, about 40 miles north of Cumberland, have been on a strike several days because of the installation of Jeffery electrical mining machines. The machines, six in number, have been worked with great success by the company.

Mr. Thomas T. Boswell, of Baltimore, president and general manager of the Merchants' Coal Company, has been making the Queen City hotel his headquarters since the trouble began and has been at the scene of the strike several times. Mr. Boswell thinks the men have not just grievance. He says: "We offer them 20 cents a ton to shoot and load after the machines. This is in accordance with the district scale, and by it each man can earn from \$2 to \$2.40 a day, which I consider good wages. We do not intend to recede from our position, which is a just one, but are willing to adjust difficulty. We hope to have things amicably straightened out by the first of the week."

Yesterday morning some 50 or 60 men were in Cumberland en route to Salisbury to take the strikers' places. When they arrived at the latter place the Union word was given and the men refused to work. Most of them returned here, yesterday evening, on No. 48. The men were largely from the Fairmont, West Virginia, region and were in charge of Frank Pinnell. Several Cumberland laborers joined the force here.

It was thought the trouble would have been adjusted by the middle of this week. The strikers met and decided to stick to their demands. The rate for digging before the machines were put in was forty cents. The Pen-Mar Coal Company, whose mines are near Salisbury, are paying their miners 20 cents a ton for following the machines. A few men from the George's Creek region are working in these mines.

The Merchants' Coal Company's three mines are equipped with the most modern appliances with the view of making them as safe as possible, and the trade of the company amounts to 1,200 tons daily. As many as eleven cars can be loaded from one shot, after the machines have undertaken a breast of coal.

A News representative was talking with one of the men who went to Salisbury and who would not take the jobs offered, when they found out they were wanted to replace strikers. He said: "We let them know Cumberland people are not scabs. The strikers seemed to appreciate our act very much. The man who took me over had to pay my way back."

### The Miners Strike.

The strike situation at the Merchants' Coal Company's mines remains practically unchanged, while the strikers remain orderly and law-abiding, and continue to have public sentiment strongly on their side.

Last week a lot of men were brought here from West Virginia to take the places of the strikers, but they had no sooner arrived than they were ready to take their departure, claiming that they were brought here under misrepresentation and that they did not know that a strike was on. Therefore, they left at once, saying they felt sure that the strikers had a just grievance and that they hoped to see them win.

Supt. Garrett claims that the imported men knew all about the conditions here and considers that they did not act in good faith.

Just which statement is correct, THE STAR of course does not know; but at any rate the departure of the imported men is one point scored for the strikers. That the general public rejoices in it, it would be folly to dispute.

### COAL-MINING MACHINES.

How Coal is Dug in the Elk Lick Region by a New Device.

Many of THE STAR's readers have heard of the coal-mining machines which have lately been introduced in some of the mines of the Elk Lick region, and there are many who do not have the least idea as to how the machines do the work. We clip the following from the Glasgow (Scotland) News, which explains the machines and their working in detail:

"The Merchants' Coal Company, of Baltimore, of which Thomas T. Boswell is president, have successfully put in operation at their mines, in the Cumberland region, the 'Chain-Cutter' coal-mining machine. This method in mining, in which the Merchants' Coal Company has taken the initial step among the colliery owners of Baltimore, is an innovation. The 'Chain-Cutter' machine consists of an endless knife chain, which undercuts the coal seams to the depth of 84 inches, and at the same time cutting lengthwise for 44 inches.

Repeated incisions having been made until the entire breadth of the coal is cut, electric coal drills are brought in to play and borings are made midway in the seams, and blasting fuses tear away the coal in bodies of thirty to thirty-five tons, which are broken with picks and axes to be loaded on cars for shipment.

By this improvement in mining the officials of the Merchants' Coal Company state that they will be able to insure their trade about 75 per cent. lumps, which is a big advantage for costwise shipments, as this coal, being handled several times from cars to vessels, and in turn from vessels to docks, insures a larger percentage of lumps when it arrives at its destination. With these machines mining is done very quickly; the average for each machine is five minutes per cut of seven feet under the coal.

As a starter the Merchants' Coal Company have installed twelve machines, with a capacity of 2,000 tons per day. The energy required to operate these machines and the electric drills is generated in a power-house located centrally between these mines, so that the equipment of the mines may be operated expeditiously from the one plant. The power-house is 70 by 100 feet. Installed in it are two boilers of 150 horse-power each, and dynamos for generating electricity. The mines and entire plant are illuminated by incandescent lights."

The machines described in the foregoing are the same as the Merchants' Coal Company have in operation in this region, and no doubt the Glasgow News describes their mode of working very accurately. However, their coal and coal in this world of ours, and no matter how much coal may be shot down by one blast after the mining of these machines, it is a certainty that no 30 or 35-ton shots can be made in the Elk Lick coal. In fact it is highly probable that the work these machines do is greatly exaggerated, and the account published in the Glasgow paper was likely placed there by the manufacturers of the machines, who are on the alert for sales.

The machines in use at the Niverton mines, in this region, work on a different principle from those in use by the

Merchants' Company, but which type of the two is the better, we do not know.

### According to Law.

It has often occurred to THE STAR that there is entirely too much needless repetition used in various legal forms and documents. In other words, we believe there is entirely too much old foggyism used in legal forms and documents—old methods, repetitions and awkward expressions that serve no other purpose than to confuse the mind and make an unintelligible jumble and ridiculous mess of what would otherwise be so plain "that a wayfaring man though a fool, could not err therein" or fail to comprehend the meaning at a glance.

If a man were to give another an orange, he would simply say, "I give you this orange," but when the transaction is entrusted to the hands of a lawyer to put it in writing, he adopts this form: "I hereby give, grant and convey to you all and singular my estate and interest, right, title and claim and advantages in and of said orange, together with all its rind, skin, juice, pulps and pips and all rights and advantages therein, with full power to bite, cut, suck and otherwise eat the same or give the same away, as fully as I, the said A. B., am entitled to bite, cut, suck or otherwise eat the same orange, or give the same away with or without the rind, skin, juice, pulp or pips, anything hereinbefore or hereinafter, or in any other deed or deeds, instrument or instruments of what nature or kind soever to the contrary in anywise, notwithstanding."

The Nebraska Conservative wants some Populist editor to explain this paradox: "Many organs of the Populist party in Nebraska are explaining the diminution of the calamity vote at the recent election by stating that the Populists were all so industriously at work in fields and factories that they could not spare the time to attend the election. This is a queer excuse to be unanimously circulated by a press which for months has unanimously declared that the unemployed were all over Nebraska and that relatively very few citizens had anything to do. The paradoxes of Populism are many, and this is one of the most stalwart."

The editor of THE STAR has been notified by the Post-office Department that he has been appointed post-master of the Elk Lick office. The appointment came in time to be regarded as a Christmas present, and the editor certainly appreciates it. Letters of congratulation are pouring in from all sources, and the citizens of this borough and township have been calling at THE STAR office in crowds, all week, to shake hands and congratulate. To all of these kind friends the editor returns his sincere thanks, and will add that when he takes charge of the office he will do all in his power to give the patrons of the same and the Post-office Department the best and most satisfactory of service.

The chirography of the presidents from Washington down to McKinley is as different as the chirography of the same number of any other men chosen at random from the various walks of life. Students of character contend that there are many points of similarity in the mental make-up and equipment of our presidents, but if there are, they are certainly not shown in the handwriting of these men. Of the entire lot I suppose old Zachary Taylor wrote the worst hand. I have numerous letters of his which I am confident no human being could read. It was cramped and awkward, like that of a boy just learning to write. Jefferson wrote a plain, flowing hand, and Monroe's writing was decidedly feminine, though not nearly so much so as Grover Cleveland's, whose chirography is small and delicate. Jackson's scrawl bespoke a nervousness and timidity of which no one dared to accuse him while he was on earth, and Lincoln's, smooth polish, which his crude, simple mind did not bespeak. Of all our chief magistrates, McKinley writes the best hand, and his chirography shows a painstaking ease and caution which are evidently the dominant factors of the man's character.—St. Louis Republic.

"TIMMIE SCULL," the nincompoop editor of the Somerset Herald, still keeps yelping and snarling at the heels of Hon. W. H. Koontz, who at the last general election was chosen by a large majority vote to represent this county in the next Legislature. "Timmie's" wry faces and scowling grimaces are highly amusing to his enemies, while to his former friends they are disgusting, as is evidenced by the wholesale

way in which people throughout the county are discontinuing their subscriptions to his dirty and traitorous rag of a newspaper.

The very idea that a man of "Timmie's" shallow brain and elastic conscience will presume to arraign a man of General Koontz's calibre—a man whom the people love for his generosity, respect for his uprightness and admire for his true worth and ability—is preposterous and ridiculous. But poor "Tim" can't help it that he was born a fool, and he isn't dangerous, anyway. He is in reality as harmless as the giant we read of in Pilgrims' Progress, when he has people of manhood and courage to deal with. Therefore, "let the galled jade wince," as the great Shakespeare once said, and in due time he will hang himself, as any other bellowing calf would, if he is given enough rope.

His intelligence compared with that of General Koontz is as a grain of sand compared with Pike's Peak, while his honor is an unknown quantity. All the mean things hurled at General Koontz from so foul a source as "Tim" Scull, will do the General more good than harm. Therefore, let "Timmie" wallow in his political filth and writhe to his heart's content. Poor soul, (if he has a soul) 'tis all that he can do.

### Athletes Make Poor Soldiers.

Leslie's Weekly.

An odd fact developed by the campaign of the Seventy-first New York is this, at least it seems to be established, that, given equal hardships, men in fine athletic training suffer more than men in ordinary condition. Statistics show, in this regiment, that the runners, the jumpers, the crack bicyclers, and the record men generally were readier fever victims than their comrades, and gave out sooner in the emergencies of the battlefield. There was Sergt. Meeks, a long-distance runner, and "Hub" Smith, a bicycle rider, and Siebold, a winner of running races, and Ott, a sprinter and hurdler, and Private Meeks, another bicycle rider, and Divanne, a runner, and so on through a long list. Almost without exception these fine athletes fell into illness or utter collapse with the first hard strain put upon them. They made worse fever cases and dysentery cases than the others, and it appeared to nurses and doctors as beyond question that the thorough physical training which these men had completed just before the war, in anticipation of the spring athletic games, was a serious impairment of their powers for resisting disease. It is worthy of note, also, that most of these athletes indulged neither in drink nor tobacco.

The sooner a cough or cold is cured without harm to the sufferer the better. Lingering colds are dangerous. Hacking cough is distressing. One Minute Cough Cure quickly cures it. Why suffer when such a cough cure is within reach? It is pleasant to the taste. P. S. Hay, Elk Lick, Pa.

### DEMOCRATIC ICE.

Mr. Elijah Livengood, who is somewhat of an authority on all things pertaining to Democratic capers, saw a Democratic ice gorge above Stanton's dam, last week. The ice formed a gorge above the dam about a third of a mile in length, but the next day after it lodged there none of it was to be seen.

Now, there would have been nothing strange about this, had the ice on the dam disappeared also, but it was still there, solid and unbroken, and just what became of the ice that formed the big gorge at the head of the dam seemed somewhat of a mystery. Mr. Livengood, however, was not long in figuring out a solution to the mystery, and after he had done so, he told a staunch Democratic German neighbor about the strange occurrence.

"Vell, vere dit der ice vent?" inquired the astonished neighbor. "That's dead easy," said Elijah, "it was Democratic ice, and true to Democratic capers, it went the contrary way—up the river."

"Och, tsu den, tuyfel mit dich, du ferfuchten dunner wetter!" said the irate German as Mr. Livengood beat a hasty retreat.

ACTIVE SOLICITORS WANTED EVERYWHERE for "The Story of the Philippines" by M. H. H. H. H., commissioned by the Government as Official Historian to the War Department. The book was written in army camps at San Francisco, on the Pacific with General Merritt in the hospitals at Honolulu, in Hong Kong, in the American trenches at Manila, in the insurgent camps with Aguinaldo, on the deck of the Olympia with Dewey, and in the rear of battle at the fall of Manila. Bonanza for agents. Brimful of original pictures taken by government photographers on the spot. Large book. Low prices. Big profits. Freight paid. Credit given. Drop all trashy unofficial war-books. Outside Free Address, F. T. Barber, Sec'y, Star Insurance Bldg., Chicago.

SCALE BLANKS for sale at THE STAR OFFICE.