

CORRESPONDENTS' COLUMNS

THE MOST RELIABLE MEDIUM FOR

SPREADING INFORMATION

STERLING.
The ground is covered with snow and for a day or two the sleighing has been passable.

H. A. Williams and E. M. Gilpin have spent a week in Pike county hunting. Dr. R. A. Smith was there last week.

On the 25th Rev. E. W. Webster united in marriage Miss Mamie Fitz and Chas. Phelps of Wilkes-Barre. Congratulations. Mr. Phelps' father and mother were present and also a few other friends. Mr. Phelps is a painter and paper-hanger by trade. We are sorry to lose one of our best girls. But such is life.

Report says Mrs. Tryphena Megargle will soon make a vendue and go to Kansas where her only sister still resides.

Stella and Floyd Cross returned from Wyoming Seminary this week; also Mason Gilpin. Granville Webster has been at Watertown, Mass., for the past year but is now home on a week's vacation and expects to go to Pittsburg next week. He has a good government situation and will make a success of life.

A Mr. Spangenburg, a brother of Mrs. Walter Musgrove, is their guest.

On the 22d Orange Whitney had a runaway and has since been laid up for repairs. Particulars not known.

Mrs. M. A. Gilpin spent last Sunday with Scranton friends.

Last Saturday evening the Odd Fellows treated themselves to an oyster stew. Such occasions usually bring a full house.

On Thanksgiving Mr. and Mrs. Augustus Snyder were guests of Mrs. P. H. Howe.

Moscow Lodge, No. 504, F. & A. M., presented 21 Past Masters with Jewels this evening and Judge Newcomb, of Scranton, was present.

Dr. R. A. Smelt received a jewel with his name engraved, number of lodge, etc. W. B. Leshner, I. G. Simons and John Gillner were also present.

INDIAN ORCHARD.

Thanksgiving morning a large flock of wild geese was seen flying in a northeasterly direction.

Thanksgiving day came in with a rush and whirl of snow and rain as the poet Longfellow says:
Out of the bosom of the air,
Out of the cloud folds of her garments shaken,
Over the wood-lands brown and bare,
Over the harvest fields forsaken

Descends the snow.
Though so stormy a day a few entertained friends and relatives.

E. E. Avery entertained his sons, Fred and Will, and their families to a turkey dinner.

Mrs. C. T. Weeks recently visited her son Will and wife at White Mills.

Leo Weeks, who has been nursing a badly swollen knee, has recovered so far as to be able to resume his work at Dorflinger's.

Miss Minnie Weeks is visiting friends in White Mills.

Wm. H. Hall made a business trip to Scranton Friday last.

The Bell telephone inspector inspected the 'phones at this place and pronounced the line "the best one he had struck yet."

Miss Barbara Williams has entered the employ of Katz Underwear Co.

E. Bayly, who recently remodeled his house, now has a well-planned and commodious home.

Earl Ham is relaying the wall and cementing his cellar.

Mr. and Mrs. L. R. Garrett and Mrs. W. H. Hall visited Mrs. Phoebe Barrenger, who is seriously ill, on Sunday last.

The question asked was "Did you get up in time to see the eclipse of the moon?"

Those who saw the sunset Saturday and Sunday evenings were favored with a most beautiful sight; truly the "Heavens were hung with curtains of gold." And later the full moon shining over the crusted snow made a beautiful winter scene.

(From Another Correspondent)
Several sleighs were seen on the roads in this vicinity on Friday and Saturday last. Sleighing was pretty good at this place. Although the fall has been an exceptionally good one for doing late work the recent snow storm was too early for many. Several fields of corn are yet to be gathered, and many cellars are not ready for winter to set in.

Mrs. Killam, of Hawley, visited her daughter-in-law, Mrs. Roy Killam, at the Red Rock Farm last week. She returned home on Sunday last.

Mrs. Howard Bishop and Miss Dexter, of Honesdale, were recent visitors at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Ira K. Bishop.

Mrs. Ira K. Bishop spent several days recently with her daughter, Mrs. Geo. Sibley, of White Mills.

Mr. and Mrs. H. H. Bunnell were recent visitors among relatives and friends in the Valley.

John P. Budd and son, Charles, of Beach Lake, and Ray Bayly and W. H. Marshall, of this place, spent last Sunday with friends at Seelyville and Beech Grove. The first stop was at A. W. Eno's. Mr. Eno has one of the best barns in Wayne county; everything in and around it is up-to-date. The next call we made was at Mr. Thompson's, at Beech Grove. This

gentleman has the best herd of milk cows we have ever seen. He gave us many pointers on feeding and caring for same. On our return we called at George Erk's, where we saw the best herd of full bred Jerseys that can be found in this vicinity.

Merchant Holbert of the Ready Pay Store, of Honesdale, is reshingling his house at this place.

Marshall Smith is treating his beautiful house to a coat of paint.

Miss Rickert, who has been sick for several weeks, does not gain health as rapidly as her many friends wish her to.

Laura Ham, who has been visiting her sisters, Mrs. Jos. Tuman and Mrs. William Cosgrove, of White Mills, has returned home.

Jeannette Ham, of Honesdale, spent Sunday last with her father at the Red Rock Farm.

On Friday last the writer called on John Perkin of East Berlin, who runs a dairy farm and grist mill; most of the work done in the latter is custom work.

W. J. Barnes, Beach Lake's hustling lumber merchant, is getting out a bill of lumber for a Wilkes-Barre firm. The sticks are the largest for the number that has ever been shipped from this place, all of which are hard wood and are to be used to block heavy machinery. The sizes of the sticks are 10 in. by 14 in., 12 in. by 12 in., 10 in. by 12 in., 10 in. by 10 in., and 8 in. by 10 in. The lengths vary.

The grangers at this place will elect officers on Wednesday evening, Dec. 8th. After the election they will be served with oysters and chicken.

Messrs. Bunnell and Saunders made a trip to Pike county last week. They saw deer but killed none.

Leon Toms visited his mother and sister at Honesdale on Saturday and Sunday last.

Emma Spry spent Sunday with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. W. C. Spry.

Wednesday night's storm played havoc with telephone wires in this vicinity. A number of linemen were at work on Friday putting them into working order again.

Len Cole, of Susquehanna, made his semi-annual trip through here on Thursday last.

Charles Bayly, of Archbald, spent Thanksgiving with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. R. E. Bayly.

Peter Weber, who has been a resident of Potter county for several years, was a recent visitor at W. C. Spry's.

ORSON.

The oyster supper given last Tuesday evening under the auspices of the Ladies' Aid society was very largely attended and all enjoyed a good time. It was a success financially, the net proceeds being \$56.50 which was applied on the pastor's salary.

Mr. and Mrs. D. J. Hine spent sometime in Scranton last week.

J. J. Simpson, of Carbondale, manager of the Poyntelle and Orson Ice Co., was in this place last Wednesday looking after the interest of the company.

A. S. Lewis, who has been sick at the home of his brother, J. W. Lewis, is improving.

Mr. and Mrs. E. S. Whipple are visiting at Lenox.

Mr. and Mrs. J. H. Utter spent Thanksgiving at the home of Mr. George Chamberlain.

Mr. and Mrs. J. H. Sheldon recently visited at New Milford, Great Bend and Binghamton; while there Mr. Sheldon visited the large ice plant at Heart Lake.

The teachers of our school gave an entertainment last Wednesday. Miss Smith and Miss Watson are both doing fine work in the school.

Miss Ethel Griffen has returned home after visiting her brother at Preston Park.

The Board of the Sunday school decided to have a Christmas tree at the church this year.

On account of the severe snow storm on Thanksgiving day the little rabbits had a rest. Usually we could hear the dogs and guns in all directions.

(From Another Correspondent)
Wayne County Farmers' Institute to be held under the auspices of the Department of Agriculture of Pennsylvania, will hold a two days' session at Orson on Saturday and Monday, Dec. 4th and 6th, 1909. Exercises public. Everybody invited. First session on Saturday afternoon at 1:30 o'clock.

The Sunday schools of the fifth district of Wayne county expect to hold a convention in the Orson Methodist church about Dec. 10th. A good programme is being arranged by the committee. State workers will be in attendance and it is hoped that all who can will avail themselves of the opportunity to attend so that each school will understand what will be expected of them during the coming year in order to attain first rank for the county.

Mr. and Mrs. D. J. Hine spent Thanksgiving in Scranton.

Mrs. Fred Wadin and daughters, Lillian and Grace, of Jermy, spent a few days recently at the home of Mrs. H. Palmer.

Mrs. M. A. Ward will entertain

the Ladies' Aid society on Wednesday of this week.

The supper held on last Thursday night by the ladies of the church was a success and added a nice sum to the church treasury.

A. C. Hine spent Saturday in Carbondale.

BETHANY.

Mr. and Mrs. Emerson W. Gammell entertained for Thanksgiving Mr. and Mrs. Rush Kimble and family of Pleasant Valley and Mr. and Mrs. H. Bennett and family.

Rev. and Mrs. W. B. Signor and son, Duane, ate Thanksgiving dinner with Mr. and Mrs. Charles Webb and family.

Mr. and Mrs. J. V. Starnes gave a family dinner on Thanksgiving at their home.

Mr. and Mrs. John Strongman, Miss Strongman, of New York, Mr. and Mrs. Benjamin Strongman, of Honesdale, Mr. and Mrs. J. J. Hauser and family of this place, were entertained by Mrs. George Robertson and Miss Strongman at their home on Thanksgiving.

Charles W. Sutton came down from Hancock to spend Thanksgiving with his family at the Lavo home and also Sunday. Mortimore Lavo, Mr. and Mrs. Charles Sutton and son, Keith, ate Thanksgiving dinner with Mr. and Mrs. Homer Ballou and family.

Mr. and Mrs. J. B. Faatz and son, Charles, spent Thanksgiving with Mrs. Faatz's sister and husband, Mr. and Mrs. Cott of Miner's Mills.

Mrs. Lewis and little daughter, of Schenectady, N. Y., visited the former's grandfather, William Pethick, last week.

Mr. and Mrs. James Johns ate Thanksgiving dinner with Mrs. Helen Gilchrist and family.

Mrs. John Samson left for Hawley Wednesday after a few days' visit with his friends here.

A. E. Swoyer of New York, visited his friend, Russell Starnes, the last of the week.

Plenty of snow with a crust on top for Thanksgiving day. Hans Berg was trying his snow shoes and seemed to go all right.

The Union service in the evening in the Methodist church was much enjoyed by those who attended. Rev. Cody preached an excellent sermon. Vinning Cody left Friday to visit his brother, Fred, in Rochester.

Rev. Webster of Sterling preached in the Presbyterian church on Sunday morning and all who heard him felt greatly benefited.

Ella Gammell and Eva Harmes attended a party at the home of Dorothy Reifer, Tanner's Falls, on Saturday night.

Mr. and Mrs. William Hauser gave a dinner to their children on Sunday; those present were Mr. and Mrs. Harry Smith and family of this place, Mr. and Mrs. Leroy Hauser of Honesdale.

William H. Palmer visited his sister, Mrs. John Doney over Sunday.

SHERMAN.

Mrs. Flag, of Binghamton, is keeping house for Edson Whitmore.

We are sorry to note that Howard Early who went to Brooklyn to work some time ago, is sick in that city with scarlet fever.

Mrs. W. E. McClatchey and son, Walter, of East Yonkers, N. Y., has been visiting her parents, Mr. and Mrs. S. T. Smith for two weeks.

Mr. and Mrs. W. O. Curtis and Mr. and Mrs. J. H. Smith spent Thanksgiving day with Mr. and Mrs. L. A. Curtis of Deposit.

A small party of ladies surprised Mrs. W. M. Evans on her birthday Tuesday evening. All were pleasantly entertained, refreshments were served and all returned home wishing Mrs. Evans many happy returns of the day.

A large party was entertained at Mr. and Mrs. E. Low's on Thanksgiving day.

Mr. and Mrs. F. A. West of Binghamton spent Thanksgiving day with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. S. T. Smith.

HAWLEY AND WILSONVILLE.

Mrs. Frank Gilpin and daughter Lucy, returned on Sunday afternoon from a visit with relatives at Paupack.

Casper Unger and wife of Bone Ridge, entertained on Sunday, the 21st, the following friends from Hawley: Theodore, Theresa, and Grace Unger, John Bennett and Mr. and Mrs. Henry Groner.

W. F. Snydam, jr., wife and son passed Thanksgiving day with Honesdale relatives.

Mrs. William Reifer and daughter, Frances, spent the latter part of the week with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Frank Bea at Wilsonville.

John Mone and wife of Uswick, took dinner with Katherine Riddle and family on Sunday.

While drawing saw dust on Thursday Charles Whele espied a flock of wild ducks in the Paupack river near the old mill. He quickly went to the house for his gun and after firing several shots he wounded eight and killed three, making a very toothsome addition to the feast of the day. Harry Bea shot into the same flock and secured one.

The Epworth League of the M. E. church will hold a photograph social at the home of Theodore Wall on Friday night of this week. Each one is requested to bring their photograph taken in childhood. The result will be a lively guessing contest as to which one of the grown ups the child picture represents. The one making the most correct number of guesses to be the star guest of the evening.

The obliging clerk in Mr. Barrett's store has joined his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Gaffney, in New York,

and if he likes it will make that place his future home.

Margaret Whele passed Thanksgiving day at the home of her parents, Albert Whele and wife.

L. Phillips and son, Frank, drove to Big Pond on Sunday.

Mrs. Frank Stevenson, who is suffering with stomach trouble, in consequence, is dieting. She secures her fresh eggs of Mrs. George Heichelbeck.

M. T. Church, of Scranton, was a business caller at Wilsonville on Saturday afternoon.

Frank Bea and sons took their large gasoline launch from the river on Thursday. It being very heavy, it required several men to handle it.

Mr. and Mrs. Casper Unger were Sunday guests of her mother, Mrs. Meyer, of Tafton.

Daniel Smith, of Schenectady, N. Y., arrived in town on Saturday to visit his sister, Mrs. James Drake, and family.

John Anderson acted in the capacity of a guide for a hunting party in Pike county last week.

Mrs. Beecher, wife of the game warden stationed at Hoadleys, drove to Wilsonville on Saturday evening to meet her husband, who was with a hunting party who were returning from the Pike county hunting grounds with two bucks and one doe, the latter being found mortally wounded and will be sent by the game warden to the state hospital.

MAPLEWOOD.

Miss Clara Gibbs, of Scranton, spent Thanksgiving with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. W. S. Gibbs.

R. W. Kellum and Frank Ames will start a wood saw on the Keene place next week. They expect to furnish all sizes of wood.

Mr. and Mrs. Leslie Brown are mourning the loss of a baby boy.

The Keystone League of Christian Endeavor will elect officers on Wednesday evening after prayer meeting.

The following committees for Christmas have been appointed at the Grace church: Music—Mrs. J. G. Rosenberg, Alba Black; decoration—Misses Beatrice Black, Mary Hartley, Abbie Black, Kathryn Hazen, Roy and Guy Black; training—Mrs. Philander Black, Misses Augusta and Adelaide Mitchell; purchasing—Aaron Black, E. M. Keene, Mrs. George Black and Howard Gromlich.

Miss Sarah Storm, our school teacher, spent her Thanksgiving at Stroudsburg while Miss Anna Sampson visited her parents at Ariel.

Mr. John Ransom, who is visiting relatives in the west, writes that there is abundance of game and that he has secured a fine deer.

Kelly Jones, who received several fractured ribs in an accident last week, is resting easy at the present writing.

HAMLINTON.

Mr. and Mrs. Max Simons spent Thanksgiving day in Scranton.

Miss Marion Boyce is home from Wyoming Seminary.

Dr. B. G. Hamlin, of the West-Jersey Homeopathic Hospital, Camden, N. J., is at home on a short vacation.

Mrs. G. O. Gillett is slightly improved.

Mr. and Mrs. F. A. Abbey went to Moscow on Friday where the former attended a Masonic banquet.

Mr. F. A. Peet visited Scranton the latter part of the week.

L. J. Pelton and wife entertained for dinner on Thanksgiving day Mr. and Mrs. R. H. Simons, Mr. and Mrs. Orrin Simons, and Mrs. Jennie Williams and son, Roland.

Roy Van Sickle spent Thanksgiving day at the M. E. parsonage.

Mr. and Mrs. John Hummer, of Avoca, are visiting Mrs. Hummer's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Chapman.

No Thanksgiving services were held here because of the storm.

B. F. Hamlin spent part of last week in Scranton.

Frank Chumard has been quite seriously ill, but is now somewhat improved.

The supervisors have removed the stone crusher to Arlington.

Lawrence Alt has gone to the hunter's camp at Rock Hill.

H. C. Pelton was entertained at Arthur Becker's on Thanksgiving day.

STEELE.

Our butcher, Thomas Arthur, committed several murders last week butchering 52 pigs and winding up Saturday by butchering a four hundred pounder for the Bobolink.

Pork has taken another jump of late; butchers are paying 11 cents per pound by the carcass.

Mr. Snediker left Saturday for Scranton to be with his wife over Sunday, who was taken there for treatment last week. The last report is that Mrs. Snediker is much improved and will soon be back to her home and friends who are anxiously waiting.

Lumberman Hollenback, with his force of men and teams, has been on the move for the last month as the pile of hemlock and hard wood logs around his mill at Prompton will show. Snow or no snow when Mr. Hollenback gets started the logs move.

John Wesley Arnold returned to his home last Thursday after attending the wedding of his daughter, Beattie, at Susquehanna.

Merchant Diamond of Waymart, has started another large branch store at Prompton where anything from a needle to a team of horses hitched to a wagon and ready for work, can be had as reasonable as anywhere in Wayne county.

apent Saturday and Sunday with friends here at Steele.

Miss Edith Wood of Seelyville, visited her parents, Mr. and Mrs. William Wood on Sunday.

Miss Nichols is training her pupils for the Christmas exercises that will be held at the Chapel Christmas eve. There will be a large tree for the accommodation of not only the Sunday school children but all who wish to present their friends with a Christmas gift. Everybody will be welcome.

CRUELTY IN SEAL HUNTING.

These Harmless and Inoffensive Animals Have Been Killed in Great Numbers.

As the season approaches when fur clothing in great variety is demanded by those who would appear to be dressed fashionably, one cannot help being painfully reminded of the cruelty practiced in the hunting and killing of animals.

Such methods of obtaining the pelts of fur-bearing animals as have been used for years make a record of greater horrors and cruelties than are known in the history of savage races. If men and women, whether possessed of humanitarian instincts or not, were to see and realize what atrociously inhuman acts are committed in the taking of animals and stripping them of their skins, often while the animals are still alive, it is safe to say that they would renounce fur as an article of dress, at least, so long as it is obtained under such cruel conditions.

How many wearers of fur stop to consider that the softest and most delicate seal skins or the Llama, Astrakhan, and Persian lamb which they prize so highly and for which they are willing to pay almost any price, are the skins of unborn animals taken by a process indescribably cruel?

The fur seal has been so wantonly slaughtered that its extinction is threatened. According to Dr. David Starr Jordan there were, in 1885, 2,000,000 seals on our islands. That number has now been reduced to 50,000. These harmless and inoffensive animals have been killed off so rapidly that it is doubtful if anything short of laws giving them absolute protection throughout the year and making it a crime to wear their fur will save the few that now remain.

The story of the egret and the cruelty of the plume hunter, so often told in Our Dumb Animals, is a terrible indictment against the wearers of the "white badge of cruelty," but the destruction of the fur seal through the brutality of the merciless seal hunter is even a greater and more shameful one.

The season for hunting the seal occurs twice a year, in spring and autumn. The fur is in good condition at such times, and continues so only for about one month. Hence the great haste to make a sufficient killing to supply the demands of fashion. On land and sea this butchery takes place; in the rookeries the killing is done with clubs and pikes, and on sea by shooting and spearing, in either case, without discrimination between old or young, male or female.

The testimony of Dr. Jordan, who was recently appointed by the United States government to investigate the condition of fur seals, is astounding.

"If the destruction of these animals shall continue," he says, "their complete extermination within a few years appears to be certain. The cruelty of this murderous process is appalling. Since pelagic sealing began more than 600,000 fur seals have been taken in the North Pacific and Behring Sea. This means the death of not less than 400,000 breeding females, the starvation of 300,000 pups, and the destruction of 400,000 pups still unborn. Nor do these dreadful figures tell the whole story. In this calculation, account is taken only of those of which the skins have been brought to America. No record of the animals lost after being shot or speared is available, though the number is known to be very great."

And there is still more to be added to this heart-sickening tale of cruelty. Land sealing is carried on with even greater brutality. In an article contributed by Captain Borchgrevink to the Century Magazine, he says: "As a rule, the slaughter and skinning of the seals were most barbarous, bloody, and hideous—unnecessarily so. Specially cruel is the task when seal pikes are used. Only rarely does a seal die from one or two blows of the pike, and if it is not dead it is generally considered 'all the better,' for it is easier to skin a seal while it is half alive. In the utmost agony the wretched beast draws its muscles away from the sharp steel, which tears away its skin, and thus assists in parting with its own coat."

From such descriptions as these, taken from reliable sources, no one can escape the conviction that in the methods of seal killing there are committed the greatest known cruelties. Far from the bounds of civilization and away from humanizing influences, inhuman beings may be found who will do the deeds of murderers and fiends.

BOOKS RECEIVED.

New Books That Have Been Added to the High School Library.
The following new books will add greatly to the library of the Honesdale High school:
Alcott: Little Women.
Aldrich: Marjorie Daw.
Baldwin: Old Greek Stories.
Barbour: For the Honor of the School.

Barnard: First Steps in Electricity.

Black: Adventures in Thule.
Brigham: Geographic Influence in American History.

Brookings: Briefs for Debate.
Brooks: Century Book of Famous Americans.

Brooks: Marco Polo.
Brooks: True Story of George Washington.

Bulfinch: Legends of Charlemagne.
Canfield: What Shall we do Now? Church: Roman Life in the Days of Cicero.

Churchill: Richard Carvel.
Coolidge: Sheaf of Stories.
Crosby: Fifteen Decisive Battles of the World.

Dawes: How We Are Governed.
Deland: Successful Venture.
Dickens: Chimes.

Dodge: Hans Brinker.
George: England and Wales.
Greenwood: Principles of Education.

Haaren: Fairy Life.
Hale: Stories of Discovery.
Hart: Camps and Firesides of the Revolution.

Jackson: Penny Billings and Poppy.
Lamb: Tales from Shakespeare.
Loring: Two Spies.

Modern Classics Fouque.
Ollivant: Bob, Son of Battle.
Ramee: Under Two Flags.
Palgrave: Golden Treasury.

Parkman: Oregon Trail.
Pyle: Otto of the Silver Hand.
Richards: Mrs. Tree.
Roberts: Kindred of the Wild.

Rogers: Tree Book.
Schaffner: Thanksgiving.
Scudder: George Washington.
Seawell: Paul Jones.

Sidney: Five Little Peppers Midway.
Sinclair: Chip of the Flying U.
Spurr: Moni.