

CORRESPONDENTS' COLUMNS

THE MOST RELIABLE MEDIUM FOR

SPREADING INFORMATION

POYNTELLE.

Ice harvesting and blizzards are in order here the last two weeks, with the odds in favor of the blizzards.

Tuesday, December 28, Philander Black, of Maplewood, came here, accompanied by the following assistants: Messrs. Alton Black, Alton Van Sickle, Fred Van Sickle, Fred Bell, Clyde Bell, Elmer Brown, Mahon Grumick and John Bell, all of Maplewood. They arrived here on the noon train and after dinner repaired to Lake Five Mile, where the Consumers' Ice Company, of Scranton, has an up-to-date ice plant of twenty thousand tons capacity. They proceeded to prepare for business while the telephone was kept hot throughout the vicinity announcing that Mr. Black had come, as it is always a sign something is going to be done when he appears. By Thursday night everything was in working order. Next in order was to organize a working force, which Mr. Black proceeded to do with his usual dispatch, as follows: Alton Black, in charge of the field; H. C. Wolff, of Orson, feeding the plane. He proved the right man in the right place, by pushing up twelve thousand cakes in eight hours. I. W. Hine was on the planer; Lufe Bennett of Winwood, on the gooseneck; Nick Bartleson of Orson, tending friction; Alton Van Sickle, carpenter; John Bell, filler; H. W. Sanford, of Orson, ex-Superintendent of the Poyntelle and Orson Ice company, as general utility man; Floya Phillips, of Winwood, timekeeper, and, last, but not least, Tom Smith, of Orson. Thus organized, with seventy-five men and eight teams, all were working like clock-work when Mr. Davis, general manager of the company, came up from Scranton last Monday and sent Philander Black to Maplewood to look after their ice cutting here. He is getting good results, considering the adverse weather he has to contend with. Last Saturday one of the men who was towing a float of ice through the channel got onto the float to clear away slush ice that had collected in front of it, and, being unable to distinguish where the float ended or the slush ice began, made one step too far and went down amongst the floe. One of the other men came to his assistance. He went to the shanty and dried a little and was soon back to his post, none the worse for his bath.

One of the horses broke through while plowing, but was soon hauled out.

The Poyntelle and Orson Ice Co. is operating on Summit Lake, with Henry Sheldon superintending the work, but are handicapped by the weather, which has been close to zero some days.

INDIAN ORCHARD.

Friday's snow storm blockaded the roads in many places in this vicinity and but few teams were seen on them to-day.

All of the men from this place who were working on the ice for the Borden's, returned home on Friday morning. They expect to return on Tuesday next.

John Miller and wife, of Hawley, were entertained by Mr. and Mrs. Jos. G. Swartz on Sunday last.

Grandpa Miller, who has been making his home with Mr. and Mrs. Swartz, is visiting his daughter, Mrs. Levi Ostrander, of Ateo.

Mr. and Mrs. Roy Bayly spent Sunday last with Than Wood and family of Boyd's Mills.

W. C. Spry of the Old Red Rock Farm, attended the annual meeting of the Big Eddy Telephone Co. at Cochection on Tuesday last. This is becoming one of the greatest companies in this part of the Union.

Fred Marshall and William Maloney of Laurella, were business callers at Earl Ham's on Monday last.

Mrs. R. E. Bayly, of Laurella, was a visitor at the home of her daughter-in-law, Mrs. Ray Bayly, last week. John Clemo, of Waymart, was in this vicinity this week buying fat stock.

Fred Swartz visited his uncle and aunt, Mr. and Mrs. Levi Ostrander, of Ateo, the early part of the week. William Oliver of Genoungtown, was a caller at A. M. Henshaw's on Wednesday last.

O. W. Treverton, who has been working in a sugar plant in Michigan, has returned to his home.

C. C. Gray of Honesdale, and F. Taylor of Cherry Ridge, visited Indian Orchard Grange on Wednesday evening last.

Pomona Grange will meet with the Indian Orchard Grange on Thursday, February 10th. A good as well as profitable time is anticipated.

H. H. Crosby spent Thursday last with John and William Perkin of Englehart.

Nettie Ham, of Honesdale, spent Saturday and Sunday with her father, Thomas Ham.

Lewis Gray has been hauling wood for Wm. Ives, of Beach Lake. Mr. and Mrs. R. B. Marshall of Beach Lake, spent Friday last at A. M. Henshaw's.

Misses Florence, Mayme and Margaret Maloney, of Laurella, were

pleasantly entertained at the home of Mr. and Mrs. David Oliver on Sunday, the 9th.

Ollif Treverton, a student of the Honesdale High school, spent Saturday with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Treverton, of Beach Lake.

The Bethel school contemplates holding an entertainment in the near future.

H. H. Bunnell and Fred Swartz were business callers in the vicinity of Beach Lake on Friday last.

A. M. Henshaw and grandson, Leon Toms, drove some fat cattle to Hawley on Friday last.

The Honesdale and Texas Poor Directors met at the Almshouse on Friday. We are all glad to learn that they have reappointed Mr. Bunnell for steward.

A. M. Henshaw and W. H. Marshall were calling in the vicinity of Forest Lake on Friday last.

STERLING.

For the past week or two sleighing has been excellent, but now more snow is coming and we certainly have a regular old-fashioned, Democratic winter.

Many have improved the sleighing by laying in a good supply of coal.

On account of the measles many are not attending the high school this week. All our sick are on the mend so far as we are aware.

Miss Annie Simons is dressmaking for Miss A. M. Noble, who soon expects to go to New York City to attend a wedding.

Mr. and Mrs. Leonard Yates are nicely settled in their already furnished house. Congratulations. The boys have "had a cigar" and so are happy. In fact it has been too cold and disagreeable to enjoy a good "skimleton."

The Republican party will hold their caucus on Saturday evening at the Odd Fellows' Hall.

Chester Stevens left for Scranton to-day with a load of eggs for J. E. Cross. Thirty-five cents per dozen is a pretty good price for that article.

Thomas Musgrove has been on the sick list for several days past, but expects to be able to serve as juror all this week.

The Grand Army men very considerably choose the 13th for their installation exercises and also dinner. Most of the members of the Post were present and after a public installation Rev. W. E. Webster delivered an address that was carefully prepared and also well received. Still a number of us fail to see where General Robt. E. Lee was either a christian or a patriot. In fact we think he was, in every sense of the word, a rebel. Remarks were briefly made by Rev. F. L. Hartner and M. A. Gilpin. John Bird, of Madisonville, spoke at some length on intemperance, and we agree with him that that is the question of the day. Rev. J. H. Boyce kept all in good humor and the pupils of the High school furnished the music. The meeting was well attended and was certainly a decided success.

Mrs. W. E. Webster is visiting her parents near Waverly, N. Y.

Hut Williams delivers two full two-horse loads of merchandise every week for J. E. Cross.

BETHANY.

Vining Cody returned from Honesdale Wednesday.

Mrs. Voigt, of Honesdale, spent several days last week with her sister, Mrs. Ernest Bodie.

Mr. and Mrs. Ezra Clemo, of Carbondale, spent part of the week with the former's mother, Mrs. Kate Clemo.

Rev. Cody spent Sunday in Factoryville exchanging pulpits with Rev. Pimm.

Miss Addie Jennings is very seriously ill.

Mr. James Johns is able to be out after his recent accident.

Quite a number are expecting to attend the Sunday School convention at the Baptist church in Honesdale on Thursday.

Keith Sutton is seen out most every day in his comfortable sleigh and fur robe enjoying the sleighing.

Mrs. Jasper Faatz, of Scranton, was a visitor at the home of Judson B. Faatz on Saturday.

The Aldenville M. E. Ladies' Aid served a fine dinner at the parsonage on Thursday.

Asa Kimble, wife and son, were callers at E. W. Gammell's on Sunday.

James Henshaw bought a carload of lime last week and the farmers of his neighborhood were busy hauling it to their farms.

George Henderson has made a good recovery from his recent accident.

Jasper Faatz, of Scranton, is thinking of purchasing the Ward place.

Mr. and Mrs. I. J. Many attended the funeral of Mrs. Franklin Bodie at Prompton on Wednesday.

The annual donation for Rev. W. B. Signor will take place Thursday evening, January 20th, at the parsonage. All are welcome.

Mary R. Gilchrist and Howard Johns, of Forest City, spent Sunday with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Jas. Johns.

HAWLEY AND WILSONVILLE.

Mrs. Edward Harder, who lives on the hill, is quite sick at this writing.

Stanley Crane called at Wilsonville on Sunday night.

Friday's deep snow fall made a leg-weary return trip from work for the many pedestrians who are employed in Hawley's various factories and live at Wilsonville and Tafton. Some of the mill girls did not go to work on Saturday.

Last evening's excitement was a runaway horse owned by Gottlieb Walter of Hawley, driven by his young daughter and her girl friend who were seen to drive toward Bone Ridge. Shortly afterward the horse and the unoccupied sleigh returned. Your correspondent has not learned what became of the young ladies.

Another recent excitement at Hawley occurred in Atkinson's lumber yard when the owner, Harry J. Atkinson, was bitten by a dog. The wound was given proper attention and he soon thereafter went to New York. The dog was also sent there to ascertain if there is any sign of rabies.

Mrs. Peter Daniels, of Lakeville, was the guest of her daughter, Mrs. George Heichelbeck, at Wilsonville last week, returning home on Sunday.

Verna Bennett, who has been living with Mr. and Mrs. Keesler at Tafton Corners, went to the Kohlman House at Hawley, on Saturday to assist Mrs. Kohlman.

Mrs. Brigham, of Port Jervis, came to Hawley first of the week to see her physician, Dr. Catterall, who attended her during her illness when here on a visit to her parents Christmas week.

Wm. Watts and two gentlemen friends, enjoyed a sleighride to Robinson's Pond on Sunday.

E. Degroat, fireman of Wall & Murphy's saw mill, at Seelyville, has moved on the Purdy farm at Fowletown since work in the mill is suspended for the present.

Julia Compton, teacher of the Tafton school, went to her home at White Mills on Saturday.

Martha Irmish entertained a guest from Hawley on Sunday afternoon.

George Teeter made a business trip to the county seat on Tuesday.

Most of the caucuses of both parties for the nomination of borough and township officers will be held on Saturday night. It is every American citizen's duty, who is a voter, to go to the polls and vote. No action is in reality as bad as wrong action. By staying away we give the opportunity to the bad men in politics to control the nomination and election of the officers, thus driving good men out of politics. The voters themselves are to blame for this condition of affairs. Do your duty and you probably will have no cause for complaint afterwards.

After a sickness of only three days with diphtheria Miss Ella Kelley died on Friday at her home on the West Side. She was aged 15 years and the funeral was held on Saturday. Several cases of the dreaded disease are reported to be at Hawley.

Lena Miller, who lives on the east side, is very sick.

Several accidents have occurred while coasting on the hills near town. Mamie Maloney was thrown from her sled, breaking her knee cap. Nicholas Butler cut a gash in his leg which required several stitches to close it up.

'THRUST DAGGER IN MY HEART' SHE ASKED.

Pittsburg, Jan. 15.—"Thrust a dagger through my heart three times, to make sure I am dead. Let my body lie ten days, cremate it then and bury the ashes in Allegheny Cemetery," were the written instructions found beside the dead body of Laura White, a spinster, sixty-five years old.

Miss White was always regarded as a pauper. The body was discovered early to-day at a place where she lived alone in a room with five locks upon the door. The body was in a condition indicating that she had died days ago.

Police found in a trunk in the poorly furnished house bank books and a will disposing of \$100,000 to local charitable institutions. Cancelled checks in the woman's clothing ranged in amounts from 17 cents to \$1,000. Real estate held by the woman is located in Indiana, Montana and California.

The will found by the police makes special request that "competent medicinal authority examine her body for ten days" to ascertain to a certainty that death had occurred. The sum of \$50 was left for this service. The doctor staking her heart three times is to receive \$20.

OLD ENOUGH, ANYWAY.

The "scientists" have generally computed the age of the earth at 100,000,000 years. Now comes Professor Davis, in a lecture delivered a day or two ago at Lowell, Mass., asking us to lop off 40,000,000 years, leaving our planet "only" 60,000,000 years old. By the way, it is interesting to know that Venus—which is now as "Hesperus, leading the starry host," blazing in our Southern sky with incomparable effulgence, and is rapidly approaching a brilliancy that will enable it to present the rare phenomenon of visibility by day—was an "old thing" when the earth was born from the whirling elements of "chaos and old night." No one need dispute Professor Davis's calculations by which he corrects the in-

significant error above alluded to. He still leaves the earth old enough for all practical purposes and a good many millions of years older than most people imagined it to be. But, as we read of the almost incalculable aeons and distances which are involved in the mysteries of the universe as revealed to us by those who are wise above what is written, we cannot but be impressed with the force of Young's apothegm, "An undevout astronomer is mad."

IS THE WILL OF THE LATE HENRY C. COLE A FORGERY?

THIS IS THE QUESTION THAT MUST BE SETTLED.

Henry D. Cole's will offered for probate is disputed. Register of Wills E. M. Gammell has to decide whether the paper which is before him for probate is the will of Henry D. Cole of Waymart is a forgery or the simon pure document disposing of his estate. Mr. Cole was a prosperous farmer and left an estate amounting to over \$5,000, his real estate being valued at \$2,500 and personal about \$3,000.

When Mr. Cole died letters of administration were taken out by and the bond signed by John Sensenstine who is a brother of Cole's second wife. About three weeks ago Mrs. Cole claims to have found a will which she claims is that of her late husband, in which all the personal property is left to her. The will was written with lead pencil and the writing is so dim and indistinct that it is not decipherable without the aid of a magnifying glass. This will is contested by Cole's children by his first wife, who claim the will is a forgery. Register Gammell gave a hearing on Saturday in order that both sides might give what evidence they had to support their sides of the case. Mrs. Cole was represented by Attorneys F. P. Kimble and O. L. Rowland, while the contestants were represented by Attorney E. C. Mumford.

Sensenstine, who, as above stated, is a brother of Mrs. Cole, and is the one who took out the letters of administration and signed the bond, swore that he recognized the will as one made by Cole and that he was present when it was written, saw it executed and signed same as a witness, and that one Will Burdick was the other signer. The will was dated August 12, 1907. On cross examination he reiterated this testimony and was requested by Attorney Mumford to write on a piece of paper the name of Henry D. Cole, his own name, the name of Will Burdick and the words "Waymart, August 12, 1907." Sensenstine further testified that the signature attached to the administrator's bonds was his own writing.

Miss Nellie Hummel, of Waymart, testified that she had lived in the Cole family and had seen Cole write his name upon a slate several times for the amusement of the children, sometimes he wrote "H. D. Cole" and other times "Henry D. Cole."

Mrs. Burdick, widow of W. B. Burdick, late of Waymart, was shown the Cole will. She stated after a close examination of the alleged signature of her late husband, that it was not his writing and that he never wrote it, and called attention to the spelling which was "Boedick" and stated her husband knew how to spell his name which was "Burdick," and that she never knew him to sign his name "Will Burdick," but wrote it W. B. Burdick or Willard Burdick.

William H. Bronson, assistant cashier of the First National Bank of Carbondale, said he knew Cole and saw him write his name upon the signature card at the bank.

Nelson H. Cole, of Scranton, son of the late H. D. Cole, said he was acquainted with his father's writing, having received several letters from him and had seen his signature on checks. Father's alleged will was shown him and after examining it through the glass said it was not father's handwriting. That none of it was his father's writing, not even the alleged signature. On cross-examination witness said that his father didn't always write his signature "Henry Cole," but sometimes "H. D. Cole."

The next witness was George O. Sharp, assistant cashier in the Merchants and Mechanics bank, of Scranton, who stated that he had testified on several important cases in the Lackawanna valley as an expert in handwriting, among them being the celebrated Crawford will case in Scranton. The alleged Cole will was given Sharp, who stated after a careful examination had been made, that it was his opinion that the body and signature of the will was of one handwriting, because the letters were practically all of the same slant and appeared to be written by a cramped hand. In picking out different letters a comparison was made with the signature and they were all of the same slant. "It is my opinion," said Mr. Sharp, "that one party wrote the body of the will and signature all at the same time. The capital 'S' in John Sensenstine's name, and where it appears in the body of the writing, in my opinion, appears to be the same." The handwriting of John Sensenstine made in court Saturday was given the expert and a comparison made between the two. When asked whether the writing of John Sensenstine was the same as that contained in the body of the alleged Cole will, Mr. Sharp replied that "it

is my opinion that it is," and also the signature of Will Burdick as compared with that of the body of the will, he replied, "is the same."

Other witnesses called were Mr. and Mrs. William Klees, of Scranton, the former a son-in-law of Mr. Cole, and the latter a daughter. Mrs. Klees stated that her father had made no will April 15, 1908, and had seen him many times since. Cole told her he would never make a will. Mr. Klees corroborated Mrs. Klees' sworn statement and stated that Mr. Cole told him he would never make a will; that it was not very pleasant for him where he was, saw him twice since August 12, 1907, the date of the alleged will, once in his house and once in Scranton. Her last conversation with him about the will was on November 23, 1907.

The hearing will be continued after this week's court.

HUMAN LIFE FOR JANUARY, 1910.

The piquant, beautiful face of Elsie Janis greets the reader on the cover of Human Life for January, and the issue carries a splendidly illustrated story of this very clever little star.

A wealth of other good things is bound between the covers of this number. Alfred Henry Lewis' second instalment of "Traveling with Taft" is undoubtedly the big magazine feature of the opening year, and his account of a secret meeting at a certain Beverly cottage last summer is full of surprising disclosures.

Rufus H. Gillmore has an absorbing story on Mrs. Augusta E. Stetson, the dethroned but still feared and powerful leader of the great Christian Science church which she built in New York City. It is a remarkable story of a remarkable woman.

Vance Thompson tells the strange story of the duel waged by Mme. Steinheil—the "Witch of the Elyses"—for her life, in which she matched her beauty, wit and fascination against a relentless judge, and won.

More wonderful than the "Arabian Nights" is the story of Joseph Parrott and the building of the great Flagler railroad in Florida, by which it will be possible next February to go by rail to Havana.

Julia Marlowe is the bright particular star in this month's series of "Actresses of To-day."

The other departments, including "The Camera on Folk of the Hour," "Celebrities of the Day," "Caustic Comment of the Cartoon," "Modern Mortals," etc., are right in step with the march of progress in their chatty, entertaining sketches of people worth knowing about.

PREFERS PRISON TO HOME.

Convict Declines to Accept Parole and Return to His Wife.

New Castle, Ind., Jan. 15.—Rather than be paroled from the Michigan City penitentiary and be compelled to return here and live with his wife and support her, Albert Marley will remain in prison and serve his sentence, and then be at liberty to do as he pleases.

A parole was offered Marley, which his wife had been instrumental in obtaining, but the convict prefers to remain behind prison bars until his sentence is served.

Marley was arrested for wife desertion, and of his promise to provide for his wife and children he was allowed to go on parole some time ago. Later he said he had evidence that his wife was unfaithful and Marley returned to prison after he violated his parole. Now he prefers to remain in custody rather than live with his wife.

Children and Infant's coats to close out at less than cost. Menner & Co.

—Advertise in the Citizen.

THE COMETS WERE DEFEATED.

The Honesdale Team had a "Cinch" Last Friday Night.

Ha, ha! It was a snap—that game of basket ball between the Comets of Carbondale and the team of this place. They couldn't even see the ball when it comes to play with such a powerful team as Honesdale puts forth this season.

The game was played at the High School Gymnasium on Friday night and it was a howling success—especially to the Honesdale boys. The score was 52 to 3 in the honor of the High School.

The home team had their opponents simply dazzled during the forty minutes of play and never during the game was there the slightest chance for the boys from over the mountain. The particular stars for the locals were Jacobs and Brown, although every member of the team deserves much credit. The following tells the tale of woe and the terrible onslaught:

Comets—Lewis, Right forward; Williams, left forward; Morgan, center; Davis, right guard; Herbert and Millard, left guard.

Honesdale High School—Freund—right guard; Hiller, left guard; Jacobs, center; McIntyre, right forward; Brown, left forward.

Baskets, from field—Freund 5, Hiller 3, Jacobs, 5, McIntyre 4, Brown 9. From foul, Williams, Referee, Finnerty.

RUSSIA LEADS WORLD AS A WHEAT GROWER.

Washington, Jan. 15.—The United States has lost its place as the greatest wheat-producing country in the world, and Russia now holds that distinction. Even though last year the total yield of wheat in the United States was next to the largest in the history of America agriculture—only the crop of 1901 having exceeded it—Russia last year produced the remarkably large harvest of 783,000,000 bushels, or 46,980,000,000 pounds, which constitutes the largest crop ever harvested by any country, and 26,000,000 bushels greater than that of the United States.

The great yield of Russia for 1909, as shown by the revised official returns, which have just been received by the United States Department of Agriculture, is the feature of the grain world for the year. Coming after three successive short crops, the great one exceeds by more than 100,000,000 bushels the previous record of Russia.

Only once before has the wheat production of Russia surpassed that of the United States, namely in 1904, when the crop here was a partial failure. Now in a year when the American yield is next to the largest ever grown in the United States, Russia a second time takes first place.

The wheat acreage in Russia has been rapidly increasing for many years. Last year it was more than 65,000,000 acres. Rye was grown on 72,000,000 acres last year. Rye is the chief bread grain of Russia, while wheat is the "money crop," about one-fourth of the whole being exported.

HOG WEIGHED 960 POUNDS.

New Jersey Farmer Sends Monster to Market.

Bridgeton, N. J., Jan. 15.—The largest hog ever raised in this section was brought to this city yesterday. When dressed it weighed 960 pounds.

It was raised by Henry J. Frens, a farmer living near Aldine, N. J. It was twenty months old when killed, and measured seven feet in length, three feet two inches across the back, and three feet six inches in height when it stood in the pen.

JANUARY CLOSING OUT SALE

--OF--

WINTER GOODS

--AT--

MENNER & CO.

KEYSTONE STORES.

TO CLEAN UP STOCK

Ladies' Jacket Suits.

Misses' and Junior Tailor Suits.

Winter Coats and Cloaks.

Evening Capes and Cloaks.

Up-to-Date and Nobby Fur in Muffs, Collars and Scarfs. Real Goods.

We have an odd lot of Made-up Waists in Silk and Wash Goods that we will sell out at very low prices.

MENNER & CO.