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In artificially digests the food and aids
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# ROUND THE REGION.

The Delaware and Hudson Company has purchased the William A. colliery, located at Duryea and owned by the Connell Coal Company. Negotiations for the other collieries owned by this company are under way. Options have been given by John Jermyn on the Jermyn mines Nos. 1 and 2 in Rendham, Lackawanna county.

### NEW YEAR DIVINING.

CURIOUS CUSTOMS CONCERNING MATRIMONY.

N THE principle of beginning the year well it has been customary in many countries to select New Year's day as most auspiclous for matrimony, and indeed a remnant of this custom is found among ourselves, for no day is more highly favored in this regard than the 1st of January, says the St. Louis Globe-Democrat. In some countries the weddings of the year are all arranged with a view to their celebration on Jan. 1, and by a curlous contradiction, in Siam and some mountain districts in India, the year's funerals are also celebrated on the first day of the succeeding year. Temporary interments take place a day or two after death, but on the first day of the following January the remains of those who died during the year are borne to their last resting place, the funeral feasts are celebrated at the same time with the weddings, and in the most literal manner the funeral baked meats do coldly furnish forth the marringe tables.

Advantage is taken of the day by the unmarried to ascertain how many years will clapse ere the bonds of matrimony are fixed upon them. The French peasant girl borrows her mother's wedding ring and suspends it by a hair from her own head, holding it as near as possible to the inner rim of a teacup. Then she counts, as rapidly as may be, the number of her own years. The tremalousness of her fingers causes the suspended ring to sway to and fro. Another notes while she is counting the number of taps of the ring on the teacup, and these betoken the years of single blessedness that lie before her.

In the country districts of Germany and England there is a tea and coffee test, which has the merit of limiting the years to a number so reasonable that any girl should feel satisfied with the result. As conducted, according to Gunter, this test is as follows: A teaspoon is carefully balanced on the edge of a cup; then another spoon is partly filled with tea or coffee, which, drop by drop, is allowed to fall in the bowl of the balanced spoon, until the bowl outweighs the handle and the spoon falls into th



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Many persons have had the experience of Mr. Peter Sherman, of North Stratford, N. H., who says, "For year I suffered torture from chronic indigestion but Kodol Dyspepsia Cure made a well man of me." It digests what you eat and is a certain cure for dyspepsia and every form of stomach trouble. It gives relief at once even in the worst cases, and can't help but do you good. Grover's City drug store.

A number of Centralia young men, in celebrating Christmas, plunged the town in darkness. They smahed twenty-two street lamps. Four plate glass windows of business houses were also broken, while a number of fences, porches and doors were battered down.

Help is needed at once when a person's life is in danger. A neglected cough or cold may soon become serious and should be stopped at once. One Minute Cough Circe quickly cures coughs and colds and the worst cases of croup-bronchitis, grippe and othey throat and lung troubles. Grover's City drug store.

The strike at the Enterprise colliery. Shamokin, was settled yesterday. The miners who were paying laborers wages agreed to give the 10 per cent advance and arrange matters satisfactorily.

When the stomach is tired ont it must have a rest, but we can't live without food, Kodol Dyspepsia Cure "digests what you rest, but we can't live without food. Kodol of post post of the digestive argans to hathing the digestive argans to hathing the digestive and the good food young the cold man of the digests all kinds of food. Grover's City drug store.

A wedding of more than ordinary in terest was solemnized at Mahanoy City yesterday afteranoon, when Chief Burgess M. J. Leonard took Miss Mary Breslin, of Buck Mountain, for his bride. The young people left for a tour of the South.

JAPANESE MOCHI MAN.

He is the Santa Claus of Japan and Appears on New Year's.

The great event of the New Year is the arrival of the mochi man, who is a tolerably fair substitute for Santa Claus. His coming is quite as mysterious also, as no child knows whence be comes or where he goes. However, at some hour of the day or night before the ist of January he arrives, not with the jingle of sleighbells or the clatter of noisy hoofs upon the roof, for a Japanese house is chimneyless. Therefore the mochi man is obliged to enter through the shoji (paper windows), which he does so openly and so vauntingly as to do away with all that fascinating unreality that in its investiture of our king of the holiday revels is so precious to the little ones. Nevertheless the children go to bed at the appointed hour New Year's eve, and the little bias eyes try to go to sleep, but instead of reaching the "Land of Nod" the small people usually arrive at "Wideawakeville."

At last the mochi man announces his presence by dashing a heaping handful of rice and beans into the face of the supposed to be sleeping child, and this is the signal for a midnight froile. The throwing of rice and beans at this hour and upon this occasion has been considered from time immemorial a desire on the part of the thrower to express three wishes for the good of the receiver. These wishes are respectively that he may have good luck and happiness the coming year and that he may be at "outs" with the on (devil)—far from inappropriate symbolisms to be woven into a New Year's greeting.

The mochi man always brings with him an infectiously cheery confusion of earthen cooking stoves and earthen vessels to boil mochi in. This toothsome edible is mixed, boiled, stirred, cooled and stuffed before the very eyes of the youngsters, and finally it is evolved into a gluthous rice cake. In the beginning of its preparation, which is somewhat complicated, it is worked about in a wooden bowl with a bamboo stick until it looks much like strained honey. All this is aggravatingly sweet to the nost

Coffee.

Hard on the Old Man.

There are divers manners of forming resolutions for the new year that are always put into practice, and all have their devotees, even if the turning over of a brand new leaf only lasts a week. There is one system of starting the new year, however, that has lost at least one devotee for all time in New Orleans. About 2 o'clock last New Year's morning, after the usual ushering in of the new year and as the family was about to retire, the head of the house told of an old custom that was in vogue when he was a boy. He explained that in his boyhood everybody would open the Bible at random on the first of the year and the first text his eye should rest on would be a guide for his conduct during the coming year. The custom found ready acceptance, and one young hopeful produced a Bible, and, letting it fall open, his finger fell on the following text from Lechariah, chapter 1, 2: "The Lord hath been sore displeased with your fathers." It is needless to say that no other member of the family was coaxed to try the old custom.—New Orleans Times-Democrat.

Times-Democrat.

The Norseman's Calendar.

The ancient Norsemen reckoned by winters, and the beginning of their year was probably dated from the 16th of October. The festival in honor of Thor was beld in midwinter, about our Christmas time, and in fact was the origin of the Christian holiday merrymaking. We get the names of at least three, if not four, of the days of the week from the Norse gods of the Odin religion. Tuesday is from Tir or Diss-day, on which the offerings to fate were made and the courts of justice held; Wednesday is from Woden or Odin, one of the Norse trinity; Thursday or Thor's day, from Thor, the chief of the trinity, and Friday is from Frigg, another of the repnor deittes of the trinity.

# NEW YEAR'S

FOLKLORE.

CUSTOMS PREVALENT IN OTHER DAYS.

EARTY expressions of good wishes for a happy and prosperous New Year are the greeting for this season. But, if we may credit our English forbears, we may for ourselves forceast the general aspect of the next 12 months, says the Detroit News-Tribune. It is pleasant to be foolish sometimes, and a few minutes with the folklore and ancient customs of our ancestors cannot be time ill spent.

From a valuable manuscript in the library of Trinity college, Cambridge, we learn that if the New Year commences on a Sunday
The winter shall be good, I say,

cerr.

If the question of complexion is un tettled, that of sex is decidedly not No female under any circumstances must be the first to enter a house of New Year's morning.

good."
They retired to the outer darkness, but in less than five minutes the deacon returned, much the worse for wear.
"I can't wear off this time, brotherin," he said, "He licked me"."—Atlanta Constitution.

onstitution.

Much to Learn In the New Year.

All beginnings are important and gnificant, but the true eras are not in he calendar, but in the heart. The new year's beginning—the real new year f grace and obedience, with their requiring gift of peace—is not an arbivary period, but the hour of inward hoice, when the will of man gives up he helm into the hand of Christ. In hat new year there must be much to sarn and suffer, but there shall be hore to win and to enjoy.

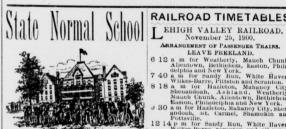


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are the only normal school that paid the aid in full to all its pupils this spring



The Clock Tobacco Co.,

Scranton, Pa.
William Schwartz.

### RAILROAD TIMETABLES

AMRANGEMENT OF PASSENCER TRAINS.

LEAVE REELAND.

6 12 a m for Weatherly, Mauch Chunk, Allentown, Ideaherly, Mauch Chunk, Allentown, The March Chunk, Allentown, The March Chunk, Allentown, The March Chunk, Allentown, March Chunk, Allentown, Bethiehen, Baston, Philadelpha and New York.

9 30 a m for Marketon, Mahanoy City, Shen-March Chunk, Allentown, Bethiehen, Easton, Philadelpha and New York.

12 14 p m for Sandy Run, White Haven, Wilkes-Barre, Soranton and all points

1 20 p m for Weatherly, Mauch Chunk, Allentown, Bethiehem, Easton, Philadelphia and New York.

4 2 p m for March Chunk, Allentown, Bethiehem, Easton, Philadelphia and New York.

4 2 p m for March Chunk, Allentown, Bethiehem, Easton, Philadelphia and New York.

4 2 p m for March Chunk, Allentown, Bethiehem, Easton, Philadelphia and New York.

6 3 4 p m for Sandy Run, White Haven, West, March, Sandon, Philadelphia and New York.

7 20 p m for Sandy Run, White Haven, West, March, Sandon, Philadelphia and New York.

Wirkes-Barre, Seranton and all points 7 29 pm for Hazleton, Mahanoy City, Shen-andoah, Mt. Carmel and Shamokin, ARRIVE AT FREELAND. 7 40 am from Weatherly, Pottsville, Ash-land, Shennadoah, Mahanoy City and Hazleton,

ARRIVE AT FREELAND.

7 40 a m from Weatherly, Pottsville, Ashland, Shenandosh, Mahanoy City and Indeed and Ashenandosh, Mahanoy City and Iron Indeed and Iron Harden and Shamoy City And Iron Iron Scranton, Wikes-Barre and Caim, Mt. Carmel and Shamokin.

9 30 a m from Scranton, Wikes-Barre and White Haven.

12 14 bit Invest.

13 15 pm from Scranton, Wikes-Barre and Hazleton.

14 15 pm from New York, Philadelphia, Easton, Bethiehem, Allentown, Mauch White Haven.

15 4 pm from Scranton, Wilkes-Barre and White Haven.

16 34 pm from Scranton, Wilkes-Barre and White Haven.

17 29 pm from Scranton, Wilkes-Barre and White Haven.

18 Cortlands Street, New York City.

18 Cortlands Street, New York City.

28 Cortlands Street, New York City.

29 Cortlands Street, New York City.

20 Cortlands Street, New York City.

20 Cortlands Street, New York City.

21 Charles Lee Care.