

FREELAND TRIBUNE.

Established 1889.
PUBLISHED EVERY
MONDAY, WEDNESDAY AND FRIDAY.
BY THE
TRIBUNE PRINTING COMPANY, Limited.
OFFICE: MAIN STREET ABOVE CENTRE.
LONG DISTANCE TELEPHONE.

SUBSCRIPTION RATES.

FREELAND.—The TRIBUNE is delivered by carriers to subscribers in Freeland at the rate of 12½ cents a month, payable every two months, or \$1.50 a year, payable in advance. The TRIBUNE may be ordered direct from the carriers or from the office. Complaints of irregular or tardy delivery service will receive prompt attention.

BY MAIL.—The TRIBUNE is sent to out-of-town subscribers for \$1.50 a year, payable in advance; pro rata terms for shorter periods. The date when the subscription expires is on the address label of each paper. Prompt renewals must be made at the expiration, otherwise the subscription will be discontinued.

Entered at the Postoffice at Freeland, Pa., as Second-Class Matter.

Make all money orders, checks, etc., payable to the Tribune Printing Company, Limited.

FREELAND, PA., JANUARY 5, 1903.



NEW SHORT STORIES

A Famous Singer's Letters.

Not the least entertaining thing in a singer's life are the letters she has sent her. In seeing and hearing an artist on the stage a degree of sympathy is established that, I suppose, makes the auditor appreciate a certain kind of acquaintance with the singer, says Zelle de Lussan in Leslie's Weekly. This seems at least to account for many letters I get. But sometimes they do seem a little personal. One gentleman, I remember, wrote: "You remind me of a lovely purring cat. You come on the stage and never look at the gallery." Another wrote that he neither smoked, chewed nor drank and that when I came his way he would show me about the town. One practical letter I recall, and the compliment it contained was of the kind that is always dear to the singer's heart. I had given the man a pleasure in life by my songs, and he wrote me a letter of advice. He said he knew singers were a careless, frivolous, spendthrift lot of people and that I ought to save my money. Following was a list of safe investments that he recommended, bearing 3 per cent interest. "You have given me some happy hours that I shall never forget," he said in conclusion. "Perhaps as a man of experience I have given you some advice that will be useful."

Queer Bookkeeping.

Mayor's Secretary William P. Ryan was commenting the other day on the way in which many illiterate persons seem to get along in the world. "The late William J. Carroll used to tell a good story along this line," said Mr. Ryan. "He had business connected with the collection of rents which used to take him to a certain place on the eastern shore at intervals. On one occasion he went into a store there, the



"I didn't see the dot in the middle," proprietor of which could neither read nor write. While he was there a man came in who was evidently a regular customer.

"I owe you some money, don't I?" he said to the storekeeper.

"The latter went to the door and turned it around so that the back was visible.

"That's so," he replied. "You owe me for a cheese."

"A cheese?" replied the customer.

"No, I don't."

"The storekeeper looked at the door again.

"That's so," he said. "It's a grindstone. I didn't see the dot in the middle."—Baltimore Sun.

The Policeman's Dilemma.

A London newspaper tells this anecdote: "Last evening a strolling policeman was passing the barrow of a costermonger who was weighing out plums to a customer. The coster, as costers do, quickly chucked off the top plum as overweight. The policeman, as policemen do, took a casual plum as his perquisite. But the biter was bit, for his teeth ground hard upon the iron simulacrum of a plum. It was the very one the coster had thrown off the balance. Now, what could a policeman do? As a gentleman he could neither prosecute, for the situation was a delicate one, nor steal a business asset. He took the right course. He returned the iron plum to the stall and took a real one."

Three fresh cows for sale. Apply to August Wildick, Dorrance.

FOR THE CHILDREN

Way Our Grandmas Studied.

To the children who today go to school and are taught in well explained lessons it would seem strange if their grandmas should tell them over again the funny way that examples were given when they went to school. In those days children had to think harder and were given much less help with their studies than they are now. During your grandma's schooldays she never had racks of beads and nice sticks as objects by which addition and subtraction could be made clear. She never had trial examples shown by diagrams at the beginning of each new portion of arithmetic, but had to put on her thinking cap and study them out.

Now, here is one example something like those grandma had to work, and when you see it try to get the answer, and if you cannot take it to her, and it is safe to say that she will tell you how to commence to work it.

Here is one given in rhyme, as several were at that time, which added interest to them as well as educational tests:

As I was beating on the forest grounds
Up starts a hare before two hounds.
The dogs, being light on foot, did fairly
Run unto her fifteen yards just twenty-one.

The distance that she started up before
Was fourscore, sixteen rods and no more.
Now this I'd have you unto me declare—
How far they ran before they caught the hare.

A Few Facts About Kites.

The Chinese, who have played with kites ever since the beginning of history, make huge kites in the shape of dragons and arrange them so that they play a queer kind of music as they float high in the air. The Chinese believe they keep off evil spirits.

Mr. Eddy, the kite king, of Bayonne, N. J., has sent up kites with a camera was attached, and he had it arranged so that he could take a picture while the kite was sailing aloft. He succeeded in getting many birdseye views of New York city.

Several men have tried to make kite ascensions. Charles H. Lamson of Portland, Me., was carried fifty feet in the air on a single kite.

The weather bureau makes its observations by means of kites. Instead of string it uses fine piano wire to fly the kites with, and at the Arlington kite station, opposite Washington, the kite wire is reeled in by steam power.

The Wonderful Toad Bone.

Many early writers have ascribed wonderful qualities to toads and frogs and also to the various parts of their body. Ptolemy, an ancient Greek writer, who was one of the leading historians of his time, believed, for instance, that if a toad was brought into the midst of a mob or other large gathering of people "silence would instantly prevail." Livy, a Latin historian, says a small bone found in the right side of toads of proper age is believed to have power over the various elements. "Boiling water will immediately cool if this bone be thrown into the vessel," says Livy, "nor will the water again boil until the bone is removed. To find this bone, lay the dead toad on an ant hill. When the ants have eaten it all away except the bones, take each bone separately and drop it into the boiling water. Thus may the wondrous toad bone be discovered."

Some Barkless Dogs.

To teach a dog not to bark would seem to be as impossible a task as teaching a child not to cry or a boy not to talk loud. But there is a case on record where a dog was so taught, though it took the trainer three years to accomplish it. Then he thought he had a dog that differed from all other dogs in the world, but in this he was mistaken, for there are at least three varieties of dogs that never bark—the lion headed dog of Tibet, the shepherd dog of Egypt and the Australian dog. These would be the right kind for pets, so that nervous people would not be disturbed at night. The law in some countries is very severe on night barking dogs. In Japan, for instance, the owner of one is liable to arrest and to a penalty of one year's work on the complaint of any one who has been disturbed by the barking.

Kettle Remakes.

Perhaps the most remarkable bridges in the world are the kettle bridges in Russia and Siberia, of which Cossack soldiers are expert builders. They are built up of the soldiers' lances and cooking kettles. Seven or eight lances are placed under the handles of a number of kettles and fastened by means of ropes to form a raft. A sufficient number of these rafts, each of which will bear the weight of half a ton, are fastened together, and in the space of an hour a bridge is formed on which an army may cross in confidence and safety.

Who Was Aesop?

Aesop, a celebrated Greek fabulist of the sixth century B. C., of whose history little is known except that he was originally a slave, manumitted by Iadmon of Samos and put to death by the Delphians, probably for some witticism at their expense.

The Brave Little Soldier Boy.

Wee Bobby is a soldier boy,
As brave as he can be;
He wears a soldier's uniform
With buckles at the knee.
He carries both a sword and gun,
Which makes him very proud;
He marches up and down the street
And blows a whistle loud.
The people stop and look around
When he goes marching by,
But Bobby looks right straight in front
And holds his head up high.
Wee Bobby takes his sword and gun
To bed with him each night,
"For you can never tell," he says,
"When soldiers have to fight!"
—Arnold M. Anderson.

QUEEN OF THE HOME.

Woman as the High Priestess of the Hearth.

Educate her as we may, but do not take from her the highest attribute, her greatest privilege, her sacred duty as high priestess of the hearth. In spite of all exceptions, the man's share is to make the daily bread and the woman's to dispense it. She must be busy about her household if it is in any true sense to deserve the name of home. Do not let us grow too ambitious, too foolishly proud, to be called a ministering angel in our own house.

The women who have solved the problem of how to take full advantage of all the new privileges without losing any of the old have thrown a fresh splendor on the home. They have fitted themselves to enter into their husbands' interests, into their sons' pursuits and go hand in hand with their daughters along the new paths, with just that gentle, restraining influence which prevents the young feet from running too far and too fast.

They are women whose culture, breadth and sympathy have made and left them entirely womanly, true queens of home! There was lately displayed in the Roman Forum a memorial tablet to a lady who during a full lifetime had served as priestess in the temple of Vesta, custodian of the sacred hearth fire. A beautiful truth underlay this old heathen rite, this dedication of the best and purest of a nation's daughters, "vestals," to keep ever alight, ever burning clear, the flame which symbolized the heartiness of Rome.

Let us have our "vestals," too—our beautiful daughters, who make home beautiful to us, not cloistered in any temple or cast adrift in the rush of the world, but ministering each at her own inglenook, dedicated in a better and higher sense to the unquenchable altar fires of home.

Children's Questions.

In dealing with children's questions mothers should be careful to discriminate between those which are asked from the desire to know and those which are the outcome merely of a childish love of talking. The latter are often best dealt with by saying quite gently, "If you think a little, dear, you will be able to answer that for yourself."

To questions of the former class the mother should reply, if possible, as carefully as she would to an adult questioner. If the matter be beyond the child's comprehension or unsuitable for explanation to one of tender years, never make a foolish or evasive answer. Say simply, "I cannot explain that to you now, for you are not old enough to understand it. By and by, when you are older, if you come and ask me again I will do my best to tell you what you want to know."

If parents would speak thus to their children, instead of snubbing or laughing at their questions, they would keep their confidence.

Paper Rack.

There are paper racks of all kinds, but few so simple as the one shown here. It is made of two pieces of board through which a dozen holes have been bored. Smooth the boards



A SIMPLE RACK FOR PAPERS.

with sandpaper, stain or varnish them, according to the kind of wood used, burn the word "Papers" upon the front with a poker, tie with rope, a strip of leather or a ribbon, and you will have something that will last for years.—Ladies' Home Journal.

To Clean Wall Paper.

It is said on good authority that no wall paper man can clean a wall paper more thoroughly or satisfactorily than you can do it yourself with a bread-crumbs dough. Mix the crumbs with half a cupful of gasoline added to a quart of water, roll into a ball and rub the paper clean with it. Never, of course, use gasoline where there is a flame of any kind, and when one part of the dough ball is dirty turn it inside and begin again with the clean part. The cleaning of the pictures in the houses of parliament in London has all been done by means of a cloud of breadcrumbs discharged through a tube by compressed air. The crumbs have been found to be the only process which will remove the dirt and soot without injury to the pictures. Artists erase incorrect work with a bit of bread roll into a ball in preference to an eraser of any other kind.

Ox Gall For Carpets.

Although there may be many new liquids for freshening and brightening carpets, nothing will do better work than ox gall. Use one gill to a gallon of cold, soft water, stirring the ox gall into the water with a stick. With a soft brush rub the carpet, making a white lather. Two persons should do this work, one following the other and washing the lather off with clear water. The water should be changed often, and then the carpet should be rubbed with clean cloths until dry.

The Stationary Washstand.

For the stationary washstand, which has not quite outlived its usefulness, the latest note is to have the back of stained glass and about eighteen inches high. Closet doors are also embellished by the addition of stained glass, a small panel usually consisting of six squares being placed near the top of the door.



THE WHISTLER.

Pat Reply From the Man Who Had to Bear the Annoyance.

Two men, unknown to each other, were standing side by side on the platform of a street car. One was whistling vigorously so close to the ear of the other that the other cast frequent glances of annoyance in the direction from which the sound came and shrugged his shoulders with evident discomfort. For a long while the whistler exercised his whistle without restraint, appearing not to notice the annoyed glances directed toward him. When he had finished off "Rip Van Winkle Was a Lucky Man" with shrill, exultant bravado, he turned upon his neighbor and said:

"You don't seem to like my whistling?"

"No," came the frank answer of a man well known to the world of readers. "I don't."

"Maybe you think you are man enough to stop it."

"No," was the reply, "but I hope you are."—Great Round World.

How to Go Slow.

Henry Guy Carleton, whose stuttering is famous, tells a story of the late William Travers, whose stuttering was notorious. It is that Travers once got in line at the window of a railroad depot and when his turn came began:

"G-g-g-give m-m-me a t-t-ticket for—"

"Oh, get down to the foot of the line!" impatiently yelled the busy ticket seller. "Perhaps by the time I've waited on the rest you'll know what you want."

Travers meekly retired, and when he reappeared at the window ten minutes later he said:

"Just s-s-send m-m-me by—by f-f-freight."

"What do you mean? Why do you say that?" asked the ticket seller.

"Well, you s-s-see," explained Travers, "I—c-c-can't express m-m-myself."—Denver Republican.

After the Banquet.

"My dear," he said solemnly, "I am perfectly sure that there are no live owls perched on the top of the dresser there and that—"

"Mercy on us! Owls?"

"—there are no trick elephants in this room standing on their heads and winking at me and—"

"—Heavens above us!"

"—that you have not three heads and all of them on fire, and yet—"

"—Spirits preserve us!"

"—All these objects are in evidence at this moment. Will you kindly step to the door and tell John to bring up the demijohn and a temperance pledge immediately?"—Atlanta Constitution.

From a High Source.

The teacher, who was reading selections from the works of great authors, was much annoyed by the inattention of the children and was compelled to pause now and then to administer a reproof.

"We will read now," she said, "something from the immortal Maccabees. He says—Katie Simmons, take your fingers out of your ears this instant or I shall punish you!"—Chicago Tribune.

Grammatical Courtship.

Silly!—How did you come to accept Jack? I thought you said "no" once.

Beryl—So I did; but he proposed again, and I said "no" a second time.

"Well?"

"He asked me to name the day, saying that in school he had been taught that 'two negatives make an affirmative.'"—Baltimore Herald.

Very Unromantic.

"They had one of the strangest marriages recorded for a long time."

"In what respect?"

"In every respect. Why, both partners on both sides were present, there was nothing sudden or secret about it, and their own clergyman performed the ceremony."—Judge.

The Reading Club.

"What are you reading in your club—Spanish, Russian or Tartar literature?"

"Not any of them. We are tremendously interested in a new book that I haven't seen advertised. It's 'David Copperfield.'"—Washington Times.

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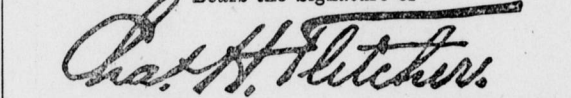
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Five Houses Went Down.

The worst mine cave-in recorded in the annals of the Lackawanna region occurred in Olyphant Friday afternoon. Five frame buildings, including the largest hotel in the borough, were completely engulfed. The cavity is 130 feet long, 100 feet wide and extends 115 feet below ground. O'Brien's hotel went down first and not a vestige of it is visible. A double dwelling house, which went down on top of it, is a mass of debris, the highest point of which is forty feet below the surface. The wreckage caught fire and gave the cavern the appearance of a broken of German lore. The firemen, aided by the torrents of water that poured into the cavern from broken water mains, extinguished the flames.

The cave-in occurred in the Eddy Creek colliery of the Delaware and Hudson Company, under the intersection of Lackawanna and River streets, the heart of the town. Directly across the street from the hotel the cave undermined a double store building occupied as a dressmaking establishment and Chinese laundry and down it slid into the hole. An adjoining one-story building, occupied as a barber shop, followed a few minutes later.

In half an hour it engulfed five buildings, whose ground space aggregated 6,000 square feet. Three other dwellings are partially undermined and threatened to topple over.

The total damage to property is fixed at \$30,000, divided as follows: O'Brien's hotel, J. W. O'Brien, owner, \$15,000; P. V. Scanlon, landlord, \$5,000; total, \$20,000; Mrs. Ann Evans, double dwelling, \$3,000; Mrs. Evans' household goods, \$1,000; William Evans' household, \$500; total, \$4,900; Mrs. Ann Evans' barber shop, \$500; George Munford, barber, \$500; total, \$1,000; Mrs. Jane Ackery, double dwelling, \$2,500; Rachel Gerstein, dressmaker, \$500; Chinese laundryman, \$500.

To these losses must be added the value of the O'Brien, Evans and Ackery lots, which it would cost many thousands of dollars to fill in.

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RAILROAD TIMETABLES

LEHIGH VALLEY RAILROAD.

November 16, 1902.

ARRANGEMENT OF PASSENGER TRAINS.

LEAVE FREELAND.

- 6 12 a m for Weatherly, Mauch Chunk, Allentown, Bethlehem, Easton, Philadelphia and New York.
- 7 29 a m for Sandy Run, White Haven, Wilkes-Barre, Pittston and Scranton.
- 8 15 a m for Hazleton, Weatherly, Mauch Chunk, Allentown, Bethlehem, Easton, Philadelphia, New York, Delano and Pottsville.
- 9 58 a m for Hazleton, Delano, Mahanoy City, Shenandoah and Mt. Carmel.
- 11 32 a m for Weatherly, Mauch Chunk, Allentown, Bethlehem, Easton, Philadelphia, New York, Hazleton, Delano, Mahanoy City, Shenandoah and Mt. Carmel.
- White Haven, Wilkes-Barre, Scranton and the West.
- 4 44 p m for Weatherly, Mauch Chunk, Allentown, Bethlehem, Easton, Philadelphia, New York, Hazleton, Delano, Mahanoy City, Shenandoah, Mt. Carmel and Pottsville.
- 6 33 p m for Sandy Run, White Haven, Wilkes-Barre, Scranton and all points West.
- 7 29 p m for Hazleton.

ARRIVE AT FREELAND.

- 7 29 a m from Pottsville, Delano and Hazleton.
- 6 12 a m from New York, Philadelphia, Easton, Bethlehem, Allentown, Mauch Chunk, Weatherly, Hazleton, Mahanoy City, Shenandoah and St. Carmel.
- 9 58 a m from Scranton, Wilkes-Barre and White Haven.
- 11 32 a m from Pottsville, Mt. Carmel, Shenandoah, Mahanoy City, Delano and Hazleton.
- 12 35 p m from New York, Philadelphia, Easton, Bethlehem, Allentown, Mauch Chunk and Weatherly.
- 4 44 p m from Scranton, Wilkes-Barre and White Haven.
- 6 33 p m from New York, Philadelphia, Easton, Bethlehem, Allentown, Mauch Chunk, Weatherly, Mt. Carmel, Shenandoah, Mahanoy City, Delano and Hazleton.
- 7 29 p m from Scranton, Wilkes-Barre and White Haven.

For further information inquire of Ticket Agents

ROLAND W. WILBUR, General Superintendent, 28 Cortlandt street, New York City.

CHAS. S. LEE, General Passenger Agent, 26 Cortlandt street, New York City.

G. J. GILDROY, Division Superintendent, Hazleton, Pa.

THE DELAWARE, SUSQUEHANNA AND SCHUYLKILL RAILROAD.

Time table in effect May 19, 1902.

Trains leave Drifton for Jeddo, Eckley, Hazle Brook, Stockton, Beaver Meadow Road, Ronk and Hazleton Junction at 6:40 a. m., daily except Sunday; and 7:07 a. m., 2:38 p. m., Sunday.

Trains leave Drifton for Harwood, Cranberry, Tombleken and Deringer at 6:40 a. m., daily except Sunday; and 7:07 a. m., 2:38 p. m., Sunday.

Trains leave Drifton for Onedia Junction, Harwood Road, Humboldt Road, Onedia and Shepton at 6:40 a. m., daily except Sunday; and 7:07 a. m., 2:38 p. m., Sunday.

Trains leave Drifton for Tombleken, Cranberry, Harwood, Hazleton Junction and Ronk at 6:40 p. m., daily except Sunday; and 7:37 a. m., 5:07 p. m., Sunday.

Trains leave Shepton for Beaver Meadow Road, Stockton, Hazle Brook, Eckley, Jeddo and Drifton at 5:26 p. m., daily, except Sunday; and 8:11 a. m., 3:45 p. m., Sunday.

Trains leave Hazleton Junction for Beaver Meadow Road, Stockton, Hazle Brook, Eckley, Jeddo and Drifton at 5:49 p. m., daily, except Sunday; and 10:10 a. m., 5:40 p. m., Sunday.

All trains connect at Hazleton Junction with electric cars for Hazleton, Jeannetteville, Audenried and other points on the Traction Company's line.

Train leaving Drifton at 6:00 a. m. makes connection at Drifton with P. R. R. trains for Philadelphia, Sunbury, Harrisburg and all points west.

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