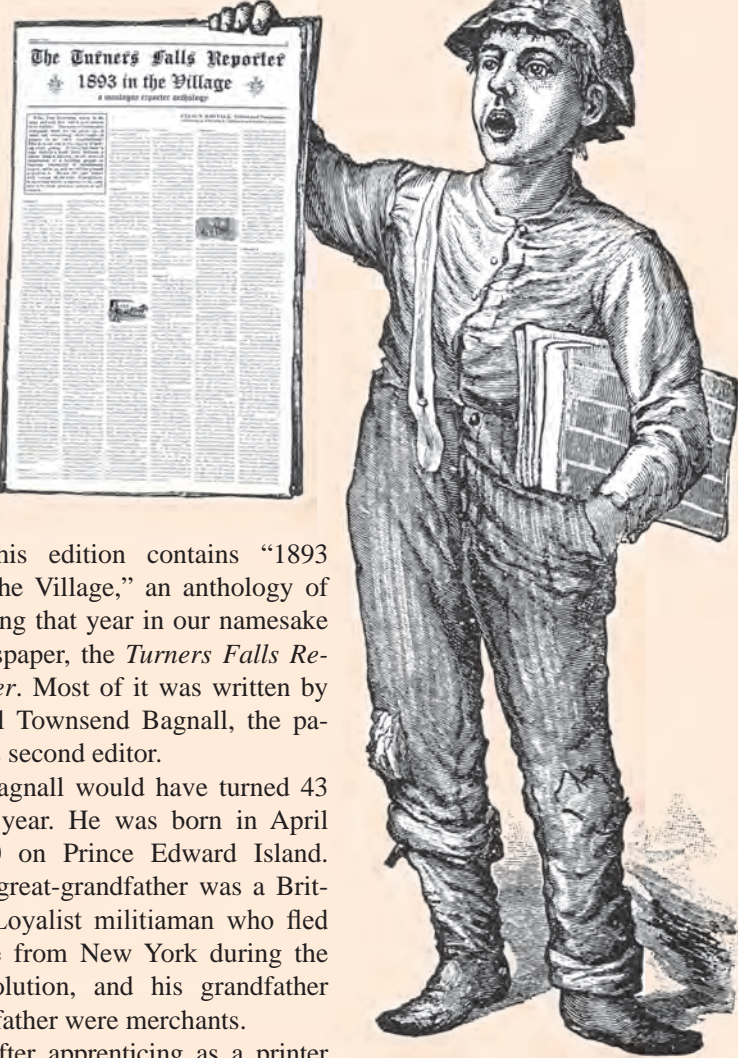


The Montague Reporter

Special Material Found Within

Elves were hard at work over our break!



This edition contains “1893 In The Village,” an anthology of writing that year in our namesake newspaper, the *Turners Falls Reporter*. Most of it was written by Cecil Townsend Bagnall, the paper’s second editor.

Bagnall would have turned 43 that year. He was born in April 1850 on Prince Edward Island. His great-grandfather was a British Loyalist militiaman who fled there from New York during the Revolution, and his grandfather and father were merchants.

After apprenticing as a printer in New Brunswick, Bagnall immigrated to the United States in 1870; in 1872, at the age of 22, he moved to this brand-new village to help Addington Welch found the *Reporter*. After working in Worcester and Providence, he moved back to town at 24 and purchased the struggling paper from Welch.

This year, 1893, was the 19th year in which Bagnall chronicled Turners Falls. His voice was clear but weary around the edges, and his sympathies and prejudices beginning to show more plainly.

It was the *third* year for the editorial assistant, Miss Antonia Jessica Stemple, who would eventually take over most of the day-to-day work of the paper and the management of its business. She was the author of at least some of this text, none of which was signed. Stemple was born in this village to German parents in March 1875, meaning this was the year she turned 18.

In her old age Stemple would see **SPECIAL** page A8

Challenge to Solar Permit In Land Court Next Week

By SARAH ROBERTSON

WENDELL – Nexamp, the energy development company planning to build a solar array on Lockes Village Road, has postponed three scheduled public hearings since neighbors of the proposed project filed a lawsuit against the company last month.

Shutesbury-based attorney Michael Pill filed a suit in Massachusetts land court on November 13 arguing that the solar project’s original 2018 special permit has expired, and that Nexamp should have to reapply under Wendell’s new, more stringent solar zoning bylaws and new regulations on energy storage systems.

Two days later, Nexamp filed a motion to dismiss the case. A case management conference, via Zoom and open to the public, is scheduled for Thursday, January 8.

Nexamp is seeking approval from the planning board, conservation commission, and board of health to amend the original special permit for a 11.6-acre solar array to add a 2-megawatt lithium-ion battery energy storage system, as well as a permanent stormwater drainage infrastructure.

The plaintiffs in the November see **SOLAR** page A4

Road Funding Authorized for Purchase of New Tractor

By KATE SAVAGE

GILL SELECTBOARD

Highway superintendent John Miner attended Gill’s selectboard meeting Monday with plans to update some of Gill’s aging equipment.

Miner has requested funds for a new tractor and wood-chipper for the last two budget cycles. But the selectboard and finance committee did not add them to the proposed budgets that went before town meeting, citing fears of triggering a Proposition 2½ override.

The upcoming annual budget is also likely to be tight, with roof repairs needed on the elementary school and Riverside building.

“I did some brainstorming,” said Miner, “and thought: right now we’ve got what I believe is enough money in Chapter 90 to use a little bit to try to offset the town’s finances, and purchase a tractor.”

The board approved a request to use Chapter 90 funds to buy a see **GILL** page A3

Town Orders Hole Fixed; Building Owner Suggests Hole Might Belong to Town



JAMIE SIMPSON PHOTO

The hole in the parking lot at 42-44 Canal Road in Turners Falls (above, center) has grown since March. This week the board of health issued a fresh nuisance order.

By JEFF SINGLETON

TURNERS FALLS – “It puts us at risk, in my opinion, because if something happens we know about it, and we’ve tried the avenues of asking,” Montague selectboard member Rich Kuklewicz said at the board’s December 22 meeting. “I am for doing whatever we can, because the last thing I want to do is to be meeting with someone whose family has had a tragedy there.”

The new year will begin with a large sinkhole in the parking lot in front of 42-44 Canal Road, a one-time paper mill building that served as the office of the Franklin Regional Housing and Redevelopment Authority until its move to Millers Falls Road in 2018.

The mill was won at a 2017 auction by Curtis Sherrer and deeded in May 2018 to River Child LLC, a company owned by Sherrer and

a partner, who publicly announced plans to turn it into a cidery named Wild Child Cider. That project has apparently stalled, and tenants including a yoga studio, vintage clothes store, and bicycle shop have all moved on; what is left is a growing sinkhole.

In 2019 Sherrer’s partner’s name was removed from the management of the company, and Sherrer renamed it Rock Paper Ciders, LLC. The property was transferred in 2021 to an entity named Great Falls Realty Trust, which listed its address in the building. State tax board filings in 2024 indicated Sherrer is its trustee.

Last March the board of health, its chair Melanie Ames-Zamojski told the *Reporter*, issued an order to address the sinkhole as a “nuisance” to public safety, citing Chapter 111, Section 122 of state law.

see **MONTAGUE** page A5

New ‘Driveable Trail’ Pitched as ‘Clean’ Escape From Land Access Maze

By GEORGE BRACE

LEVERETT SELECTBOARD

At its meeting on Tuesday, Leverett’s selectboard announced it is pursuing a grant to create a “driveable trail” on town-owned land providing access to the Gordon King Life Estate Conservation Area and its popular blueberry patch and nature trails.

The selectboard had held an extra meeting on Thursday, December 18, to authorize a Community Preservation Act grant application seeking to create a route to the King Meadow from Shutesbury Road beginning at “Woodard’s Corner.” On Tuesday the board announced that this application had been submitted,

and that its members will appear at a community preservation committee (CPC) meeting on January 7 to respond to questions as part of the approval process.

If the project goes forward, it could resolve a dispute over broad public use of a town-owned easement through private property owned by Dave and Norma Evans and their daughter, Julie Evans Marlowe. The route had offered residents the easiest access to the conservation area for decades, particularly those with limited mobility, but in preparation for their return to Leverett after living elsewhere for a number of years, the family barred

see **LEVERETT** page A3

YEAR’S UP, SPHERE’S UP

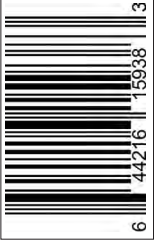


WILL QUALE PHOTO

Andrew Irving (right) raises the orb on the town common in Montague Center Wednesday afternoon in preparation for New Year’s Eve “ball drops” at 7 p.m. and midnight. At left, Ferd Wulkan and Kip Williams monitor his safety. A pulley which remains fastened to the tree year-round ensures snag-free setup and smooth drops.

The Map Is Pretty Much the Territory at This Point

| | | | |
|---|-------|--|-----|
| Running Full Speed With a Snorkel..... | A3 | Be-Sprinkled With Dandelion Blossoms..... | B5 |
| Shallow For a Fair Distance From Shore..... | A4 | Under the Frosting of Your Cake..... | B6 |
| Fell Into the ‘No Problem’ Category..... | A5 | By Letter, By Postal Card, By Messenger..... | B7 |
| Wolf Girlz, Fireball, Giant Wasps, Therapy Dog..... | A6-A7 | Destructive to Useful Fish..... | B8 |
| Great Appetites for Griddle Cakes..... | B1 | A Whole Throng of Willy Frenchmen..... | B9 |
| The Fiendish Noise of Tin Horns..... | B2 | A Living Sermon on Total Depravity..... | B10 |
| Testimony of an Unprejudiced Elephant..... | B3 | Held Up By Footpads..... | B11 |
| No Greater Foe Than Cleanliness..... | B4 | Double-Runners Full of Merry Coasters..... | B12 |



The Montague Reporter

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High Places

In the final month of the year, *Drop Site News* published two mind-boggling investigative pieces: "Epstein, Israel, and the CIA: How the Iran-Contra Planes Landed at Les Wexner's Base" (December 18), and "Epstein and Leviathan: How the Financier Opened Doors to Netanyahu and Ehud Barak Amid Israel's Offshore Gas

Fight" (December 29).
It's easy to go numb at the constant churn of "Epstein disclosure" news, particularly because the initial public story involved sex trafficking and related heinous crimes.
It turns out those were only the tip of an iceberg – or the thread now unraveling a sweater. "Follow the money," someone once said.

Letters to the Editors

Appreciated Up North

I'm confident I'm not alone in feeling overwhelmed, frustrated, and distressed by national news these days. This past year I discovered a good way to protect my mental health: I stay off the Internet as much as possible, and I avoid so-called social media like the plague.
I mostly ignore national news. Enough of what's going on out there sifts through via my trusted sources.
Lest you think I prefer ignorance, I counter with: you don't know me. (Well, unless you do, in which case, hello friend!) I am typically reading at least four non-fiction books at a time, generally about issues related to political science, sociology, economics, etc. To quote a line from the film *Slacker*, "withdrawing in disgust is not the same as apathy."

To keep up with what's going on, I recently subscribed to a few (more) print newspapers and magazines, including *The Montague Reporter*. I did this for two reasons. One: I enjoy reading them and I trust their editorial decisions enough to keep coming back. Two: it's imperative to support independent journalism and keep it from the rapacious clutches of private-equity robber-barons (redundant, I know) and surveillance-capitalist tech bros.
Someone might wonder why a person who lives in Bellows Falls, Vermont, might want to know what's going on in and around Montague. That's a valid question and I have a valid answer. I work in Franklin County. I also love Western Massachusetts and have dear

friends, acquaintances, and favorite spots to visit in your part of the Commonwealth.
The Montague Reporter is a fantastic newspaper, and folks living in its service area, and beyond, are lucky to have it. The local reporting is thorough and accessible, and the community participation in the form of columns, comics, illustrations, photography, and poetry is delightful. Special shout-out to whoever composes the table of contents. More newspapers should write their tables of contents in such a creative way. I'm looking at you, *Wall Street Journal*!
Keep up the good work, *Montague Reporter*. You rock!

Wendy M. Levy
Bellows Falls, Vermont

Neighborly Ties

Out shopping at a large store recently, I noticed one of my shoes was untied. With diminished flexibility, some minor vertigo, and no place to sit, I knew that if I tried bending down to tie the laces, I might lose my balance and fall, something that leaves some 40% of us elders in serious trouble.
Feeling sheepish, I scanned the nearby strangers, chose one, gathered my courage, and spoke. "Can I ask you a really weird question? Would you tie my shoe?"
She responded with delight! When I muttered that I sure was embarrassed, the man she was with smiled warmly and said, "Oh,

don't be. We have mothers, too, you know!" My heart melted...
What if we thought of reaching out for help not as weakness or a character flaw but as a way of connecting us to our neighbors, known and unknown? Helping others tends to leave us feeling good but if everyone is too stubborn, bullheaded or independent to request assistance, others miss out on that satisfaction.
So by all means, chip away at this silly societal taboo and ask with abandon! It's a way to be kind to yourself – and to others.

Maggie Sadoway
Turners Falls

CORRECTION

In a caption to his front-page photo in our December 18 edition, Ed Gregory wrote that crews were "working to repair operational anomalies on two electronically-activated pistons that control the movement of the #4 bascule gate on the Turners Falls dam." A South Deerfield reader, Rick Kostanski, wrote in to point out that the gate being repaired was #1, not #4. Our apologies for the error – and a big thanks to Rick!
We hope to correct our errors whenever we become aware of them, and we rely on our readers to help us accomplish this.

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NINA ROSSI ILLUSTRATION

Stella Silbert takes a fresh pizza out of the oven at the Leverett Village Co-op on a recent Friday evening. Silbert has been the pizza baker there since October, and enjoys creating special toppings to offer on Fridays such as parsnip, bacon, garlic, and peas with white sauce on a sourdough crust. (Among many other responsibilities, she also edits the Montague Reporter Podcast!)

Real School Equity

As we enter the new year and read in our local papers about our school district possibly regionalizing, I keep asking myself this question:
Will 2026 finally be the year Massachusetts fixes its education funding formula so it truly supports children's academic and life success, and by extension, thriving communities across the board?
Because here is our truth. In Massachusetts, public education funding tied to local property taxes is deeply connected to the legacy of redlining. Redlining locked racial and economic inequality into land and housing. Property-tax-based school funding then turned that inequality into educational inequality.
And by the way... have you heard the housing news lately?
Poor communities continue to have fewer resources. Wealthier communities keep thriving. That is not accidental. That is the predictable outcome of historic policy choices that favored some communities while disinvesting in others. This is why school funding and educational outcomes still vary by race, income, and ZIP code.

So as legislative races and gubernatorial elections ramp up, please pay attention. Listen closely to candidates' priorities on education. Look at their track records. We do not need more promises.
The funding formula has been a perpetual conversation. Every so often, a pot of money gets thrown our way. It helps briefly, then it runs out. The core issue never gets fixed. And rural communities have higher needs with fewer options.
Now, let's talk about regionalization.
Regionalization ignores unequal starting points. Treating unequal

communities "the same" actually entrenches inequality. Regionalization assumes:

- All towns start on equal footing;
- Shared governance equals shared benefit;
- Cost savings equal improved outcomes.

But when wealth, need, and power are unequal, shared systems reproduce hierarchy.
So what actually helps rural towns? If the goal is strong education without reinforcing structural harm, better options exist:

- Stronger state funding not tied to local property wealth;
- Targeted rural aid for transportation and staffing;
- Shared services like special education, procurement, and admin without full governance consolidation;
- Investment in place-based schools as community anchors.

The bottom line is that regionalization in rural Massachusetts is often a bad idea because it layers a shared-governance solution on top of a deeply unequal funding system shaped by historic disinvestment.
Just like redlining:

- It looks neutral on paper;
- It feels pragmatic in the short term;
- It shifts the burden onto communities with the least capacity to carry it, a.k.a. kicking the can down the road for others to fix bigger problems.

We can and must do better. Our kids, our schools, and our rural communities deserve nothing less. Here is for a hopeful 2026 on the education front in our commonwealth.

Francia Wisniewski
Montague

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GILL from page A1

new Kubota tractor for \$60,818. It will replace the current tractor, which is 43 years old. Miner said the new machine would be bigger but also “eco-friendly,” with a “two-speed PTO,” which he said “saves you a lot of fuel and wear and tear on the motor.”

Miner suggested that when the budget is less strained in the future, the town can put \$60,800 back into the highway department’s budget to pay for road repairs that would otherwise be covered by Chapter 90.

“I think this is a great idea,” said selectboard member Greg Snedeker. “We can always backfill later if we get the funds.”

Miner is also applying for a new MassDOT Unpaved Roads Grant, asking for \$246,000 for a new Caterpillar 930 wheel loader. The current loader is from 2010, and maintenance costs are rising. The grant application calls the wheel loader “the most important piece of equipment that we own.” It also states that changes in the weather patterns are causing more intense and longer-lasting rainstorms, along with multiple “mud seasons” every year, making unpaved roads impassable.

If the grant is awarded, the 2010 Komatsu loader will be auctioned off as surplus. Miner suggested the funds from the auction could go toward buying a new wood chipper.

“Sometimes these grants have a tendency to become available for maybe one cycle, possibly two,” said town administrator Ray Purington. “If you don’t jump right on it, you miss your chance.”

As he left the meeting, Miner warned that a recent brown-out in town could have damaged a sewer pump. Snedeker said the brownout affected his house as well and destroyed his fridge.

“Picture clogging your nose and running full speed with a snorkel,” said selectboard chair Charles Garbiel. “That’s what that compressor’s trying to do with less energy going through it.”

Other Business

The board approved a 2026 food concession trailer license renewal for Ryan Grandmont’s Toasty Buns, located in the Leaf Joy parking lot at 1 Main Road.

When asked about the license renewal of the town’s other food truck, Cielito Lindo, Purington said he had not received an application from them. The business has

been discussed in sewer commission meetings for the last several months, due to its failure to show compliance with new grease trap regulations.

A few homes in Gill may be able to receive needed rehabilitation. The Gill/New Salem Housing Rehabilitation Program was awarded a community development block grant of \$630,000 to rehabilitate nine housing units in the two towns. The program gives eligible homeowners zero-interest loans to bring their buildings up to code. The loans can be repaid when the building is sold.

Purington said he believed there were already a few people on the waiting list for the loans, who would be contacted by the housing authority. To apply, residents may contact Bridget Phillips at the Franklin County Regional Housing and Redevelopment Authority at (413) 223-5203.

Kristen Carey’s sixth-grade class at Gill Elementary is a winner of the “Name a Snowplow” contest sponsored by MassDOT. Their winning entry is “Thaw Patrol.” Other winners include “Cleopatra” and “Sleet Caroline.”

Ellen Johnson was appointed to the board of registrars.

The selectboard congratulated Geroge “Manny” and Gloria Holmes on celebrating their 73rd anniversary last week.

Due to a schedule change, state senator Jo Comerford will attend Gill’s next selectboard meeting on January 12 at 5:30 p.m. She is expected to provide legislative updates, hear about Gill’s priorities, and answer questions.



LEVERETT

from page A1

public travel with a locked gate and signage in 2024 over privacy and property-right concerns. The family also filed a case in land court, which remains unresolved.

The dispute has been a source of tension among residents, with townspeople voting decisively against taking the right-of-way by eminent domain at a special town meeting in November.

Board member Tom Hankinson said that upon hearing of the idea for alternative route, the CPC granted an extension past its usual October deadline for grant applications, and the three conservation commission members who walked the proposed route with Hankinson and CPC member Eva Gibavic on December 21 seemed in favor of submitting the proposal.

Hankinson added that he has also seen community support for the idea.

The project would entail “building a dirt road on town-owned property, leading to town-owned property,” and would be a “really clean” solution if it goes through, Hankinson said.

Proujansky noted that the proposed route is described in the application as a “driveable trail,” because calling it a “road” would “imply things we don’t want to imply.”

Hankinson said that if the application is approved by the CPC, it will also need to be approved by town meeting in May. If another solution presents itself before then, he said, the proposal could be dropped.

He also confirmed after the meeting that mediation between the selectboard, the con com, and the Marlowe/Evans family is ongoing.

Dudleyville Road

Richard Nathhorst, a resident of Dudleyville Road and the driving force behind a multi-year drainage project currently underway there, reported that engineering markers for the project had been vandalized. Stakes had been pulled from the ground, he said, and attempts were made to scrub paint off of trees marking them for removal.

Nathhorst said the vandalism was illegal, and that the engineers will replace the stakes and markers.

Town administrator Marjorie McGinnis noted that tree removal was the only work on the project scheduled to take place this winter.

Other Business

McGinnis said she was continuing to research information technology vendors to replace the town’s former provider, which gave notice it would not be renewing its contract on January 1. Being without a provider for a short time, she said, was “not an emergency.”

The selectboard renewed the Leverett Village Co-op’s liquor license at the same \$100 fee as last year. The board also renewed an auto repair and sales license for Dewey Auto Sales.

The board updated a list of the town’s planned capital spending projects maintained by the Franklin Regional Council of Governments for use in seeking grant funding. The changes include adding all of Leverett Elementary School’s planned projects and bumping up some cost estimates to account for inflation.

The next selectboard meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, January 13.

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New Gill Elementary Principal Announced

By REPORTER STAFF

GILL-MONTAGUE – On Friday, December 19 the Gill-Montague regional school district announced that Justin Mickiewicz has been hired to serve as principal at Gill Elementary.

Mickiewicz will replace Walter Huston, who has served in the role since July 2022 and announced his retirement this fall.

According to the district’s statement Mickiewicz, who was interviewed as a finalist by a seven-member committee, has 24 years of experience in the field, including two master’s degrees – one from Worcester State College, in School Administration in Educational Leadership, and the other from American International College, a Master of Education in Reading.

He has been teaching fifth grade at the Mountain View

public school in East Longmeadow. According to the state Department of Education, Mountain View has 286 students enrolled in grades 3 through 5. Gill, meanwhile, has 110 enrolled from kindergarten through grade 6.

Mickiewicz said he sees in the Gill role “the opportunity to lead in a community-oriented environment that values every learner and seeks to continually grow.”

Tari Thomas, the interim superintendent of the Gill-Montague district, said Mickiewicz’s “leadership philosophy, which centers on establishing an inclusive professional culture and ensuring equity is woven into every school decision, aligns perfectly with our community’s values and goals.” Thomas specifically cited his “deep commitment to student-centered learning, his expertise in mathematics and differentiated instruction, and his proven administrative experience.”

Huston’s last day with the district was December 23.



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SOLAR from page A1

lawsuit, neighboring property owners Linda Hickman and Benjamin Schwartz, are among a group of Wendell residents who have shared their opposition to the project at public meetings and hearings since the plans were reintroduced this summer. Some residents say they are concerned with the public safety and environmental contamination risks associated with a potential lithium-ion battery fire, as well as noise from the battery system and other impacts on the watershed.

The Wendell conservation commission is currently engaged with a third-party engineer to review the original wetlands delineation, and the board of health is scrutinizing emergency response plans submitted by Nexamp to comply with the board's 2024 regulations of battery storage systems.

Nexamp postponed public hearings before the con com on November 11 and December 9, and opted not to attend board of health meetings to discuss the project on November 24 and December 8.

The most recent planning board public hearing had been scheduled for December 15. Nexamp senior vice president of business development Michael Cucchiara and his attorney Michael Dana Rosen joined via video conference to ask that the hearing be continued until after the land court appearance. The planning board agreed to continue it until January 26.

At the December 15 meeting, Cucchiara said he believed the case "may be resolved within the next month," and that continuing the hearing until after the court date "would benefit the planning board."

Nexamp's lawyers have moved to dismiss the neighbors' case on three grounds: that the specific charge was not made under the correct le-

gal statute; that the land court lacks jurisdiction to decide on the validity of a special permit; and that the suit should have been filed against the company's subsidiary, Wendell Solar LLC, the entity technically applying for the amended permit.

The town of Wendell is named as a "nominal defendant" in Pill's suit – a term that indicates it is not accused of wrongdoing, but must be involved for the case to be decided – and will be represented by town counsel David Doneski of KP Law.

Doneski, in an opinion sent to the planning board on December 1, wrote that he agrees with Pill that the original permit expired, but for a different reason and at a different time.

Pill's suit argues that Nexamp's project must comply with the town's updated solar zoning bylaws because construction did not begin within six months of the 2018 special permit being issued. Doneski wrote that he believes the permit expired on January 15, 2022, after a blanket extension granted by the state during the COVID-19 emergency lapsed. While a 2024 law, "An Act Promoting a Clean Energy Grid, Advancing Equity, and Protecting Ratepayers," extends some approvals dating back to October 2020 until 2029, Doneski said that in his opinion this specific type of municipal permit did not qualify.

Planning board members have indicated that they will rely on opinions from Doneski and land court judge Lauren Reznick to determine whether the original permit has expired, and what they should do about it.

The planning board, board of health, con com, and selectboard have scheduled an executive session for next Monday, January 5 at 7 p.m., three days before the court date, to discuss the town's legal strategy with Doneski.



NOTES FROM THE WENDELL SELECTBOARD

Plans for New Fire Department Pond; Worries About Emergency Generator

By JOSH HEINEMANN

The Wendell selectboard's December 17 meeting was short and likely to be their final meeting of 2025. The next regularly scheduled meeting would be December 31, a good night to avoid travel, even within Wendell. Unless an unanticipated event forces a change, they agreed their next meeting should be January 14, and that members can come to the office individually during the week of December 31 to sign the warrant so bills can be paid on schedule.

Fire chief Matt O'Donnell came to the meeting to discuss use of McAvoy's Pond for fire suppression by both Wendell's and Shutesbury's fire departments while Lake Wyola is drawn down for dam repair. He said he was not sure when that repair would be finished, or when the lake would return to its regular level.

Wendell has an easement for creating a dry hydrant at McAvoy's Pond, to replace the dry hydrant at Bowens Pond when the dam holding that pond is removed. The state Office of Dam Safety and the Bowens Pond landowner are working to remove that dam, though some town citizens want it to remain.

The new dry hydrant will be less central in Wendell than the current one, and more expensive, because McAvoy's Pond is shallow for a fair distance from shore and the top of a hydrant's inlet must be below any ice. Wendell has not yet allocated money for the work.

Selectboard chair Laurie DiDonato recused herself when Ray DiDonato came, "just to check in" about the dam that contains McAvoy's Pond. He said he was reasonably sure the easement had been established. The town owns half of that dam, while the other half is owned by a trust. An inspection showed the dam needs nothing now, and rates its condition as fair.

Ray DiDonato said the trust has been setting money aside for maintenance and a potential repair. He said the town paid for its share of one repair once, and there had been a line item for such repairs in the town budget, though he was not sure if that line is still in the budget. He

said he thought the town should establish a fund for McAvoy's dam maintenance and contribute to it regularly, so that if an expensive repair is called for the money will be available without a special town meeting.

Generator Worry

Town engineer Jim Slavas said the town hall generator "needs a fix." The model in use now, installed after the 2008 ice storm, has been discontinued. Slavas said the best choice is to replace it with a more powerful commercial-quality generator with the capacity to maintain Good Neighbors' freezers and refrigerators and other town hall functions, including the building's potential use as an emergency shelter.

This may cost \$20,000, an expensive option. Slavas said Good Neighbors submitted a grant application for a new generator but was denied. Treasurer Carolyn Manley said a replacement generator is in the capital plan.

Slavas said he could repair the present generator with a controller which costs \$750, "which seems an absurd amount." If electricity goes out before he installs the controller, he would have to run the generator manually.

The new dry hydrant will be less central in Wendell than the current one, and more expensive.

Depending on the town hall wiring, he added, he may be able to install a smart sensor that would rotate the electricity among freezers and keep all the food safely cold without overloading the generator. Its cost is less than \$1,000. If wiring is not adequate for the smart sensor, an electrician's cost would add to that expense.

Slavas said that some years back his work as town engineer was so limited he considered asking for a pay cut. Now buildings are aging and work has picked up, but he is not asking for a raise.

Neighbor Request

Citizen Anna Boysen asked for a change in the definition of the easement to the town office lot that gives her room to park and walk to her front door.

Her house, built in 1808, is on land trust property, and the property line is 32 feet from the house, the reason for the original easement. She wants to build a five-foot-by-ten-foot equipment shed behind where she parks.

Besides changing the definition of the easement, she will need permission from the zoning board of appeals to build that close to the town's line.

Neither Boysen nor Laurie DiDonato was sure of the legal or insurance implications of such a change. When asked if she would pay for a legal consultation Boysen hesitated, but did not say no.

Other Business

Road commission chair Phil Delorey updated the selectboard on the Farley bridge. He said Keith Nelson of Gill Engineering created the original design for its repair at \$31,183, and construction oversight at \$22,204. Removing the old deck and support revealed more work is needed. For the additional redesign, state oversight, and permitting, Nelson needs \$6,294.

Wendell is the lead town on the project, but will split cost evenly with Erving. Delorey said he is allowed to take that money from Chapter 90 funds, but that would take it away from paving and other road needs.

Historical commission member Lisa Hoag confirmed the appointment of Doug Smith to the historical commission.

Wendell formerly used the service CodeRED to inform people of important town events, road closures, and potential emergencies until it was penetrated by malware and shut down in November. Since then CodeRED established a new platform and is expected to be useful again in 2026.

In January, select Wendell officials and a willing responsible citizen will start training to use the new system.

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MONTAGUE from page A1

At some point Sherrer put a fence around the hole, but it “failed,” according to town administrator Walter Ramsey. The health board informed Sherrer in June that fines would be forthcoming. After Sherrer met with town planner Maureen Pollock and Massachusetts state geologist Brian Yellen, who developed a remediation plan, Ames-Zamojski said, the fines were “waived.”

The sinkhole, however, got bigger. In early December, the board of health once again reported a legal violation.

At the December 22 selectboard meeting, Kuklewicz expressed alarm at the potential dangers posed by the growing hole. The department of public works placed barriers at the front of the driveway last week, but they were soon removed. According to Ramsey, Tom Cusano, owner of the former Southworth paper mill across Fifth Street, uses a section of the driveway belonging to the public to position trucks entering and leaving his property.

Reached by email for comment about the sinkhole’s recent history, Sherrer replied that the most recent message he had received from the town of Montague on the issue was in May, that he was never informed that the fencing he had set up around the hole had “failed,” and that he had learned that “someone was excavating a small portion of the hole with a backhoe” last spring.

Sherrer also placed blame for the erosion on FirstLight Power, the owner of the adjacent power canal, and went on to indicate he was unsure whether the sinkhole was on his property, or that it was a sinkhole.

“If there is, in fact, water eroding the soil underneath that location, it is coming from out of the Canal and would be the responsibility of the Canal owners to remediate,” he wrote. “I don’t know how anyone can expect me to plug a hole in the canal wall. And just filling the hole will only put off solving the real problem.”

Attempts to contact FirstLight Power for comment on the matter were unsuccessful as of press time.

Sherrer wrote that the hole is “probably not a ‘sink hole’ at all, but rather a collapsed tunnel,” and added that “the property lines are in question.” A review of old insurance maps, he explained, have suggested to him that the parcel he purchased should in reality be 25 feet

to the southwest, downstream along the canal, meaning that the hole is not in fact on his property.

This “discrepancy,” he said, “has a great bearing on both the current hole (is it actually on Town property?)” and the state Department of Transportation’s plans to replace all three bridges surrounding his property, currently slated for 2029.

Sherrer said he had contacted the town historical commission and was promised that its members would review the maps, but received no response to a follow-up inquiry last March.

Ramsey said that such matters are not under the purview of the historical commission.

The *Reporter* was unable to find mention in the minutes of the health board that it discussed the sinkhole, or approved letters to correct the nuisance, at its meetings. According to Ames-Zamojski, then-health director Ryan Paxton had the authority to issue such notices without a vote of the board.

At its December 22 meeting, the selectboard approved a contract with Ashley Gough to be the town’s new public health director, effective January 9. Gough, who has a master’s degree from the Smith School of Social Work and managed wellness programs at Clinical & Support Options and LifePath, has most recently served as the health agent for the town of Orange.

“Hopefully Ashley will have a new perspective on how to move forward with this owner,” Ames-Zamojski said of the sinkhole matter.

On Tuesday, however, the health department issued an order, signed by Ames-Zamojski, titled as a “re-issuance” of its March 27 order and attaching the earlier document. The new order calls on Sherrer to remedy the violation “immediately” or face “daily fines.” It also warns that the health board may “enter the property to abate the nuisance... with all costs assessed to the property owner.”

“The sinkhole continues to increase in both size and depth, and the temporary fencing has failed and is no longer sufficient to protect the public,” the letter states. “No mitigation or stabilization work has been performed. A fine was issued on June 18, 2025, but was later withdrawn based on representations of cooperation; however, no demonstrable progress toward abatement has occurred.”

Use of the tracking code provided on the March 27 order, which was sent to Sherrer at 44 Canal Road, reveals that on March 29 it was “returned to the sender” by the United States Postal Service “because the forwarding order for this address is no longer valid.”

Ramsey has expressed guarded optimism about the situation. “Not much progress, but we’re working on it,” he told the *Reporter*.

A recent investigation of the sinkhole by this newspaper indicates that water has been entering it from the sky.

Other Business

While wearing its personnel board hats the selectboard appointed Christopher Sims as town constable, approved a plan to monetarily incentivize employees who opt out of town health insurance, endorsed changes in the job descriptions of two staff members in the town clerk’s office, and discussed at length the salaries of staff who switch to jobs at lower pay grades.

The longest discussion revolved around department budget requests for the next fiscal year, to be part of the FY’27 budget voted by town meeting in the spring. The board reviewed all the requests submitted by various departments. In November it had requested from each a “level services” budget and a second version cutting 2% of expenses from that level.

Selectboard chair Matt Lord suggested that the board divide the departments into three groups: those that had no problem budgeting for a 2% cut; those that could not realistically make that cut; and those for which more information was needed.

Six, including the Clean Water Facility, public works department, and health department, fell into the “no problem” category; four, including the Council on Aging and municipal airport, were labeled “no way”; and Lord flagged five, including the police, libraries, and planning department, for more discussion.

Selectboard member Marina Goldman noted that Lord’s list was similar to that of the finance committee, whose meetings she has recently been attending.

The next selectboard meeting is scheduled for Monday, January 5.

Mike Jackson contributed additional reporting.



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Deadline: Interested candidates can obtain the position description and an employment application on the Gill MA website, <https://gillmass.org>.

Candidates should submit a completed employment application with resumé, references and a cover letter to: Town of Gill, Attn: Principal Assessor Search, 325 Main Road, Gill, MA 01354 or in a PDF format via email to taxcollector@gillmass.org with the subject line “Principal Assessor Search.”

Applications will be accepted on a rolling basis until the position is filled, with a preferred submission deadline of January 9, 2026.

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TOWN OF LEVERETT

Hearing Notice - Proposed Bylaw Changes

A public hearing will be held in person and remotely on Wednesday, January 14, 2026 at 7:00 pm during the Planning Board meeting to discuss proposed changes to the “Zoning By-Laws”: Public access is available by using the link for the selectboard meeting posted on leverett.ma.us.

Changes proposed are in relation to:

SECTION 3900 Site Plan Review
SECTIONS 2244, 2245, 2247, 2340, 2400, 3120 and ARTICLE VI

Complete text of the proposed changes can be found in the Town Clerk’s office.

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EVENTS

submissions:
events@montaguereporter.org

FRIDAY, JANUARY 2

Element Brewing Company,
Millers Falls: *David Brule &
His Irish Band*. 6 p.m. No cover.

Four Phantoms Brewing,
Greenfield: *Rock & Roll
Trivia Night*. 6:30 p.m. \$.

Iron Horse, Northampton:
*NRBQ and the Whole
Wheat Horns*. 7 p.m. \$.

Shutesbury Athletic
Club, Shutesbury:
The Breadwinners.
7:30 p.m. No cover.

Deja Brew, Wendell:
Solmere. 8 p.m. No cover.

SATURDAY, JANUARY 3

Carnegie Library,
Turners Falls: *Used Book
Sale*. 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Great Falls Discovery
Center, Turners Falls:
Gel-Printing Snowflakes.
Materials provided. Ages
6 and up. 10:30 a.m. Free.

Shea Theater, Turners Falls:
Cinemastorm: *Frankenstein*
(2025). A “visual effects
masterclass,” with live
commentary by Dennis
Berardi, the film’s visual
effects supervisor, and local
filmmaker and Cinemastorm
host Robert Kryzkowski.
(Attendees are encouraged
to have maybe already
seen the movie without
commentary.) 7:30 p.m. Free.

Iron Horse, Northampton:
*NRBQ and the Whole
Wheat Horns*. 7 p.m. \$.

Full Moon Coffeehouse,
Wendell: *Butterfly Swing*.
Benefit for the Coffeehouse
itself. 7:30 p.m. \$.

Stone Church, Brattleboro:
*Planning For Burial, Wolf
Girlz, Coffin Flop*. 8 p.m. \$.

Rendezvous, Turners Falls:
Love & Rage, with *Olivia
Nied* and DJs *blush* and *\$¢¥*.
9:30 p.m. By donation.

SUNDAY, JANUARY 4

Great Falls Discovery Center,
Turners Falls: Documentary
screening, *Fireball* (2020).
Explore the origins of meteors
and their impact
on civilization. 2 p.m. Free.

EXHIBITS

Waterway Arts, Turners Falls:
Local Local, small works by 21 local
artists using material from Franklin
County, through this Sunday, January 4.

**Great Falls Discovery Center,
Turners Falls:** *Will Close*, paintings
showing the beauty and complexity
of the natural world, with text from
experts and longtime New
Englanders. Through January.



Guillermo Del Toro’s *Frankenstein* was declared one of the ten best films of 2025 by the American Film Institute, partly on the merit of its stunning visual effects. This Saturday, the Shea Theater will host a very special Cinemastorm screening of the film featuring live commentary by its visual effects supervisor, Dennis Berardi (*Fight Club*, *The Cell*, *Ad Astra*, *The Shape of Water*). Amazing... and it’s even a free event!

LAVA Center, Greenfield: *First
Sunday Word*, with featured
writers *Janet MacFayden*
and *Bill O’Connell* and open
mic. 1 p.m. By donation.

Stone Church, Brattleboro:
Wolfman Jack, Grateful
Dead tribute. 6 p.m. \$.

Feeding Tube Records,
Florence: *Animal Piss It’s
Everywhere*, more TBA.
5 p.m. By donation.

Buoyant Heart, Brattleboro:
*Misty Xelibri, Soli G, Julipode,
Toper, Dystecha*. Masks
req’d. 8 p.m. \$.

MONDAY, JANUARY 5

Four Phantoms Brewing,
Greenfield: *Monday
Night D&D*. “Self-contained
adventures designed to
be played in a single
session.” 6 p.m. No cover.

Wendell Free Library, Wendell:
*Fiber Group / Mending
Circle*. 6:30 p.m. Free.

TUESDAY, JANUARY 6

Erving Public Library,
Erving: *Keeping All Kids
Safe*, workshop for families
about social media,
technology. 5 p.m. Free.

Wendell Free Library, Wendell:
*Community Resiliency
Conversation*. 6:30 p.m. Free.

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 7

Montague Center Library,
Montague: *Knitting Club*. Bring
your work-in-progress. All skill
levels welcome. 4:30 p.m. Free.

Dickinson Library, Northfield:
Dungeons & Dragons.
Single-night campaign
for ages 16 and up, all
XP welcome. Register at
northfieldrec.com. 5 p.m. Free.

Greenfield Public Library,
Greenfield: *Cat Castles*. Bring
your post-holiday cardboard;
additional supplies provided.
Limited space. Register at
www.tinyurl.com/catcastles.
5:30 to 7:30 p.m. Free.

Rendezvous, Turners Falls:
Half Shaved Jazz.
8 p.m. No cover.

THURSDAY, JANUARY 8

Great Falls Discovery Center,
Turners Falls: *Nice & Easy
Walk*. 1 p.m. Free.

Millers Falls Library,
Millers Falls: *Book Club*.
Rebecca Solnit, *A Paradise
Built in Hell*. 5:30 p.m. Free.

Brewery at Four Star
Farms, Northfield: *Library
Trivia Night*. 6 p.m. Free.

Iron Horse, Northampton:
*Nidia Góngora, Gaia
Roots*. 7 p.m. \$.

Bellows Falls Opera House,
Bellows Falls, Vermont:
*John Gorka, Patty Larkin,
Cliff Eberhardt, Lucy
Kaplansky*. 7:30 p.m. \$.

FRIDAY, JANUARY 9

Great Falls Discovery
Center, Turners Falls:
Kidleidoscope Story Hour.
Winter Birds. Ages 3 to 6.
Story, activities, and
crafts. 10:30 a.m. Free.

Carnegie Library, Turners
Falls: *Lofi Creativity Zone*.
A creative hangout for
twens and teens. 4 p.m. Free.

Great Falls Discovery Center,
Turners Falls: Local history
talk, *Keeping It Cool: Ice
Harvesting*. 4 p.m. Free.

Montague Common Hall,
Montague Center: *Square
Dance with The Catydid*s,
Sally Newton calling.
Jammers welcome.
6:30 p.m. By donation.

Shutesbury Athletic Club,
Shutesbury: *Adam S.Z &
The Inner Fiyah*. 7:30 p.m.
No cover.

Deja Brew, Wendell: *Deep
C Divers*. 8 p.m. No cover.

Rendezvous, Turners Falls:
*Scott Hsu, Tobey Sol
LaRoche*. 9:30 p.m. No cover.

Montague Center Library, Montague:
Mark Mariani, pastel paintings,
through January.

Sawmill River Arts, Montague Center:
Guest artist *Annaleah Moon
Gregoire* presents paintings
at the gallery through January.

Hope & Olive, Greenfield:
Flora, Fauna, & Figures, paintings
by Julie Kumble, through March 15.

Looky Here, Greenfield: *Psychedelic
Filly*, art by Emily Tatro, through January.

Gallery A3, Amherst:
Alliterations, paintings by Gordon M.
Green, and *Radical Hope*, paintings by
Evelyn Pye. Both through January.

**Augusta Savage Gallery, UMass
Amherst:** *Reserved Passages*,
watercolors by former teacher Richard
Yarde and his student Susan Montgomery.

Black Birch Vineyard, Hatfield:
Quabbin Art Association, members’
exhibit featuring a wide range
of media. Through February.

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TUE-SAT
4-9

CALENDAR

SATURDAY, JANUARY 10

Greenfield Public Library, Greenfield: *Winter Farmers Market*. 10 a.m to 1 p.m. Free.

Great Falls Discovery Center, Turners Falls: Author *Prudence Marsh* reads from her latest children’s book, *A Place for Poe*. 11 a.m. Free.

Great Falls Discovery Center, Turners Falls: Local history talk, *The Strathmore, a.k.a. Keith Paper Mill*. 2 p.m. Free.

Bombyx Center, Florence: *Valley Jazz Voices Winter Concert*. 3 p.m. \$.

Incandescent Brewing, Bernardston: *Little House Blues*. 6 p.m. No cover.

Montague Common Hall, Montague Center: Open Mic, with featured performers *The Enchantivists* (*Claire Dacey*, guitar, viola, drum; *John Genyo Sprague*, recorder, piano, drum). 6:15 p.m. By donation.

Looky Here, Greenfield: *The Future*, book release and reading featuring *Andrea Lawlor*. 7 p.m. \$.

Darling’s, Easthampton: *Editrix, Hat, Hot Dirt*. 7 p.m. \$.

Stage 33, Bellows Falls: *Deep Seize, Dutch Experts, Holly Brewer, Snowglobe Almanac, The Y Lie*. 7 p.m. \$.

Stone Church, Brattleboro: *Minibeast, The Vermen*. 8 p.m. \$.

Rendezvous, Turners Falls: *Start Again, Immune Friction*. 9:30 p.m. \$.

SUNDAY, JANUARY 11

Great Falls Discovery Center, Turners Falls: Documentary screening, *Nocturnes* (2024). Two scientists study hawk moths and nocturnal insects in a Himalayan rainforest. 2 p.m. Free.

Iron Horse, Northampton: *Livingston Taylor, Matt Cusson*. 2 p.m. \$.

Stone Church, Brattleboro: *Wolfman Jack, Grateful Dead* tribute. 6 p.m. \$.

Iron Horse, Northampton: *Livingston Taylor, Matt Cusson*. 7 p.m. \$.

MONDAY, JANUARY 12

Montague Center Library, Montague: *The Attic Live*. Local author Bruce Watson presents his web magazine. 5:30 p.m. Free.

Four Phantoms Brewing, Greenfield: *Monday Night D&D*. “Self-contained adventures designed to be played in a single session.” 6 p.m. No cover.

Rendezvous, Turners Falls: *Presentation Night*. “Want to nerd out in a fun, supportive environment?... We will provide a laptop and a projector, for slides or reference materials, a mic, a timer, and an eclectic, community oriented audience.” Hosted by *Olivia Nied*. 8 p.m. No cover.



“Her songs are always jubilant and despairing, resolute and unmoored, hopeless and stubbornly persistent all at once,” Spin Magazine wrote of Montreal singer-songwriter Myriam Gendron’s latest album. “These chimeras of the past and present illustrate what Gendron does best,” a reviewer at Pitchfork wrote, “digging up timeless sounds only to disrupt them, reenvisioning what’s timeless for this precise moment.” Catch her Wednesday, January 14 at Belltower Records in North Adams. New age multi-instrumentalist Wednesday Knudsen opens.

TUESDAY, JANUARY 13

Leverett Library, Leverett: *Young Entrepreneur Business Class: Creating Your Business Plan*. 5:30 p.m. Free.

Dickinson Library, Northfield: *Giant Wasps of Franklin County*, with biologist Paul Sievert. 6 p.m. Free.

Wendell Free Library, Wendell: *Organizing Your Digital Life, Simple Practical Systems*. 6:30 p.m. Free.

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 14

Dickinson Library, Northfield: *Read with Marley*, a gentle therapy dog. 3:30 to 4:30 p.m. Free.

Erving Public Library, Erving: *Wildlife on Wheels*. Call (413) 423-3348 to register. 2 p.m. Free.

Iron Horse, Northampton: *Albert Lee*. 7 p.m. \$.

Belltower Records, North Adams: *Myriam Gendron, Wednesday Knudsen*. 7 p.m. \$.

Rendezvous, Turners Falls: *Falltown String Band*. 8 p.m. No cover.

THURSDAY, JANUARY 15

Great Falls Discovery Center, Turners Falls: *Nice & Easy Walk*. 1 p.m. Free.

Rendezvous, Turners Falls: *Curmudgeon Bingo*. 7 p.m. No cover.

FRIDAY, JANUARY 16

Great Falls Discovery Center, Turners Falls: *Kidleidoscope Story Hour: Possums*. Ages 3 to 6. Story, activities, and crafts. 10:30 a.m. Free.

Carnegie Library, Turners Falls: *Lofi Creativity Zone*. A creative hangout for tweens and teens. 4 p.m. Free.

Mount Toby Friends Meeting, Leverett: *Reggie Harris*. 7 p.m. \$.

Tree House Brewing, Deerfield: *Eggy*. 7 p.m. \$.

Nova Arts, Keene: *Bex Burch, Tori Young, John-Francis Quiñonez*. 7 p.m. \$.

Great Falls Harvest, Turners Falls: *Big Huge, Jeanines*. 8 p.m. \$.

The Drake, Amherst: *Spectre Folk, Mark Robinson, Willie Lane*. 8 p.m. \$.

Rendezvous, Turners Falls: ZYN. 9:30 p.m. No cover.

SUNDAY, JANUARY 18

Shea Theater, Turners Falls: Young Shakespeare Players East present *Julius Caesar*. 1 p.m. Free.

Erving Public Library, Erving: *Craft Day with the Friends*. For older teens and adults; instruction and materials provided. Call (413) 423-3348 to register. 1 p.m. Free.

Great Falls Harvest, Turners Falls: *Cajun Danse Party with Back O’Town Cajun Band*. Dance instruction at 1:30 p.m., event at 2 p.m. \$.

New England Youth Theatre, Brattleboro: *Play, Swamped*, written and directed by Court Dorsey. 2 p.m. \$.

Stone Church, Brattleboro: *Wolfman Jack, Grateful Dead* tribute. 6 p.m. \$.

Marigold, Brattleboro: *The Real World, Made Manifest, Rhubarb Duo, Hexrot*. 8 p.m. Free.

MONDAY, JANUARY 19

Northfield Mountain Recreation and Environmental Center: *Snowshoeing for Beginners of All Ages*. Free rentals and demonstration. Pre-registration required. 11 a.m. to 12 p.m. Free.

Four Phantoms Brewing, Greenfield: *Monday Night D&D*. “Self-contained adventures designed to be played in a single session.” 6 p.m. No cover.

Wendell Free Library, Wendell: *Fiber Group / Mending Circle*. 6:30 p.m. Free.

TUESDAY, JANUARY 20

Leverett Library, Leverett: *Live Insect Zoo*. All ages. 2:30 p.m. Free.

Carnegie Library, Turners Falls: *Knitting Night*. 5 p.m. Free.

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 21

Dickinson Library, Northfield: *Dungeons & Dragons*. Single-night campaign for ages 16 and up, all XP welcome. Register at northfieldrec.com. 5 p.m. Free.

looking forward...

THURSDAY, JANUARY 22

Dickinson Library, Northfield: *Doctor in Homespun*. Susan Wright and Loris Epps tell the tale of a local female doctor/weaver from the 1800s. 6 p.m. Free.

SUNDAY, JANUARY 25

Shea Theater, Turners Falls: *Hani Thompson*, record release, with special guests *Cloudbelly*. In the Shea’s Lounge. 7 p.m. \$.

TUESDAY, JANUARY 27

Millers Falls Library, Millers Falls: Movie, *The Dark Crystal* (1982). 5 p.m. Free.

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 1

Town Hall, Gill: Documentary screening, *An Act of Conscience* (1997), about the years-long struggle that ensued after the IRS seized the home of war tax resisters in Colrain. Discussion to follow. Snow date February 8. 1 p.m. Free.

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 7

The Drake, Amherst: *Landowner, Slant of Light, Outro*. 8 p.m. \$.

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 26

Stone Church, Brattleboro: *Moviola, Wet Tuna, Animal Piss It’s Everywhere*. 8 p.m. \$.

SUNDAY, MARCH 29

Palladium, Worcester: *Emperor, Blood Incantation*. 7:30 p.m. \$\$.

FRIDAY, JUNE 19 to SUNDAY, JUNE 21

Franklin County Fairgrounds, Greenfield: *Green River Festival* feat. *Charley Crockett, Spoon, Geese, Kurt Vile & the Violators, Wednesday, Lucius, Big Freedia, Hurray for the Riff Raff, The War and Treaty, Kashus Culpepper, Etrain De L’Air, Swamp Dogg*, more. More info at greenriverfestival.com. \$\$.

FRIDAY, JUNE 26 to SUNDAY, JUNE 28

MASS MoCA, North Adams: *Solid Sound Festival* feat. *Wilco, Billy Bragg, Billy Bragg & Wilco, L’Rain, The Breeders, Ryan Davis & The Roadhouse Band, Gang of Four, Richard Dawson, Souled American, The Messthetics*, more. More info at solidsoundfestival.com. \$\$.

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SPECIAL from page A1

explain that “the circulation and the advertising patronage of the *Reporter* would not provide even a simple living for the publisher,” and so, “seeing which way the wind was blowing,” Bagnall “gradually developed a good business as a bank stationer,” and the paper became a “secondary consideration.”

In 1893 he was likely stretched, working endlessly at both jobs, investing in training a teenager so he could step back from the small country weekly without it going under.

Starting and ending in the wintertime, as a calendar year does in our hemisphere, tends to carve a particular sort of story arc. Winters here in Franklin County are cold and fairly dark and quiet, and often a thing to get through; it can be unsettling to think of them as the heart of each year’s story.

1893, starting from the first winter and ending in the second,

carved a descent. Only traces of the broader United States context ended up in the *Reporter’s* news columns, so it may help to know that plummeting silver and wheat prices in the spring set off major panic in the banks and then a stock market crash in early May, tumbling the adolescent national economy into its most severe depression to date. Unemployment rose from about 728,000 in 1892 (3.0%) to 4.61 million in 1894 (or 18.4%).

Turners Falls was out of the way – geological, geographic, and spiritual obstacles had kept it sparsely settled until the textile and railroad magnate Alvah Crocker sited a planned industrial city here – and was insulated at first, though you may notice the Crocker National Bank taking certain defensive measures in late April.

The owners of the paper, cutlery, and cotton mills here, doubtless aware what it would mean to attract two and a half thousand workers to

a fresh-built hamlet and then cut off all their sustenance, pared down working hours, then days, and then wages as slowly as they could.



With many hands here kept at work, the crash’s severity was first really felt by the number of strange and idle hands reaching in. Two railroads stopped here, and even when the trains themselves were pared back, the tracks still led the way. Turners Falls was not a fort.

From his vantage a few blocks from the mills and admiring their builders, Bagnall had nevertheless always recorded with cool fascinated horror the ways they smashed and flensed the village’s largely im-

migrant workforce. He derided, in a chirpy Victorian manner, both the violence and noise of modern machinery and the vices of the poor without lingering for too long on how one might drive the other, praising productivity and profit while urging temperance and reform.

By 1893, as his job-printing business subsidized the *Reporter*, he would have known how closely tied his luck was to those of his banking, government, and industrial customers throughout New England. He was also watching as the system they built begin to spiral into human catastrophe. We can hear his worry and we can hear his tone grow meaner.

The crisis and collapse of a Gilded Age, the evaporation of its moral premises, movement of the people, the seeds of political realignment, the temptation to retreat into fear and misanthropy: this layer of the past is under our feet, and its pat-

terns shape the streets we walk today, in more ways than one.

The archive this anthology draws from is available online at *montague.advantage-preservation.com*. Some of its content involves accidents, assault, injury death, suicide, misogyny, racism, and ethnic and anti-bicycle prejudice. We’ve taken liberties with excerpting and reordering the news, and in a few instances we have inserted location names for clarity without using brackets. Any reader with a serious interest should refer to the source material.

We hope you will enjoy this winter gift, passed down to you from this *place itself*, which wrote it all down and printed and saved and donated it, put it all to microfilm, and later scanned and uploaded it for us to harvest from for free and marvel. Thanks to the Montague Public Libraries, and to our own editorial assistants, and thanks to winter, which is sometimes the heart of the story.



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The Turners Falls Reporter

1893 in the Village

a montague reporter anthology



What THE REPORTER wants is the news, and only that which is of interest to its readers. The space of a reputable newspaper must not be given up to small talk concerning short visits of persons in the same neighborhood. This does not rise to the dignity of sewing circle gossip. If there has been in your vicinity a death, birth, sickness, a visitor from a distance, social event of importance, or a building project or business transaction of considerable import, write us, and we will be pleased to publish it. Do not fill your letters with notices of the calls of neighbors, or mentions which unknown to us, may bear with them personal malice or self interest.

January 4

Jack Frost takes a hand in the plumbing business these cold nights, so look out for the water pipes.

Sheriff George A. Kimball, after about 25 years of honorable official life, will retire from office at noon, to-day, and Isaac Chenery will become high sheriff of the county. Mr. Kimball went to the jail to-day and turned over the prisoners to the new sheriff. At noon all the deputies met at the courthouse and formally qualified, after which the party took dinner at the Mansion house by invitation of Sheriff Chenery.

Turners Falls had so much wrangling over the appointment of a deputy that nobody would touch the office now with a ten foot pole, it would seem. When the time does come the name of the man who gets the appointment will be the one the business men ask for, and everything will be above board.

The skating on the river has been superb, and large parties have enjoyed it day and evening. Landlord C. D. Whitaker of the Farren House, although sixty years old, is said to be one of the best skaters in New England, and daily he excites the admiration of onlookers by fine fancy skating. Quite a number of young men have skated to Northfield and back finding the ice good all the way, except that they had to be a little careful at the French King rapids.

The death of Annie Hildebrand of Third street, of peritonitis, last Wednesday, created suspicion in the minds of the authorities that possibly she did not die from natural causes, and Medical Examiner Coy was instructed to make an autopsy, which he did, assisted by Dr. A. C. Walker. What they found they refuse to disclose only to the district attorney, but the report, source unknown, freely circulated on the streets that it was simply some kind of an ovarian tumor that caused the trouble.

Prof. Lil Kerslake is home again after a trip with his "pig circus" through the Middle States.

January 11

The icy going the past week has made it a very busy

one for the blacksmiths, one shop shoeing over 45 horses, on Monday.

The children of the Unitarian Sunday school were given their annual New Year's supper, last week Monday evening. Miss Katherine Fales was presented with a purse of gold, in appreciation of her service as organist.

A large number of persons are quite outspoken in regard to appointment of deputies by Sheriff Chenery. The Orange *Journal* quite vigorously protests against some of the appointments, saying the public had voted for a new deal all around, and expected it.

The annual meeting of the New England tobacco growers' association at Unity hall, Hartford, yesterday, was attended by over 100 members from all parts of New England. In his opening remarks President Horace S. Frye of Windsor, Ct., said that the new Congress would certainly pass a new tariff bill, which might change the present duty on tobacco, upon which the life of the tobacco interests of the country depended. The growers would fight for the retention of the present duty. The crop of tobacco in New England has risen from \$1,400,000 in 1889 to \$6,000,000 in 1892 owing to the protective tariff, and the revenue was \$7,000,000, more than the average revenue for the previous five years. Five thousand farmers and employes are engaged in growing tobacco in New England.

Those boys who had been amusing themselves by breaking the glass in the shoe shop windows have been fined \$5 each. Hope it will do them good.

About all the business men in town are giving away calendars, good, bad, and indifferent. The family who has not received enough to cover the walls of at least one of their rooms, may consider itself unfortunate, or perhaps it would be better to say that they have reason to be thankful for the trouble they are spared in disposing of them.

Mrs. Henry Axtell, age 56, died at the residence of Horace Burnham in Montague City of erysipelas, yesterday. She had been for years

an inmate of the Northampton Insane Asylum.

An interested party has sent us a communication in which he is anxious to know why parents do not urge their children to be ready in time for the team which takes them up from Montague City to school. He considers it a cruelty to keep the horses and driver shivering out in the cold, while he is waiting for them to get ready to go.

January 18

Our local ice dealers have been harvesting their crop. They find the ice from 14 to 16 inches thick, and of the best quality.

Owing to the extreme and unusual depth that the frost has penetrated the ground, many cellars are freezing that have in the past been safe and trusty.

A water-pipe burst, Monday, and flooded a portion of the shoe and harness store of L. Bibeau, spoiling considerable fine stock.

In spite of the extremely cold weather, the masquerade ball of the Home Aid society, held on last Wednesday evening, was well attended. About \$70 was realized by the society.

The young people of Montague City put a dam across the old canal to create a pond on which to skate.



One of the best wood lots in Franklin county was sold the other day, and it attracted considerable attention. Lewis L. Hastings of Gill sold fifteen acres of chestnut and some oak for \$3000, or \$200 an acre. It is said to be the best lot sold in Franklin county for some years and was purchased by Reynolds & Holmes of Erving. It is located on the Northfield road, beyond the brick schoolhouse, and is a charming bit of woods to the eye of the traveller, but it must go now.

Thomas Bros. lost their third horse since they have been building the Keith mill, last Monday morning. As the team was going down the steep hill leading to the Keith mill, the horse slipped, and went down, causing the stones with which the team was loaded, to fall off, and cut off its hoof, making it necessary to shoot it at once. The horse was very valuable, being one of an \$800 matched pair.

Some one set fire to the rivermen's cabin, below South End, Sunday evening, and it was burned to the ground.

Owing to the cold weather and the patent schemes of ventilation demanded by the state, the public schools have had to suspend session

this week.

A couple of thousand human beings were burned to death in a theatre, in China. We should offer prayers in our churches that Providence may vouchsafe humanity from any such calamity in a christian country.

Charles Connolly, the dry goods merchant of Holyoke, who kept the Boston Store in this village several years ago, has an immense establishment now, occupying five or six stories of a big block. He is also engaged in the manufacture of silk, being the leading spirit in a new company formed in Holyoke in the past year. Mr. Connolly found a congenial spot when he went to the bustling paper city down the stream.

The facts disclosed at the investigation of Doctors Coy and Walker in the case of Annie Hildebrand, whose death is believed to have been caused by a criminal operation, are such that an inquest will be held.

A long-distance wire is being strung over the telephone line from Fitchburg to Greenfield.

January 25

Although there has been some sleighing the past two weeks, there has not been much sleighing for pleasure. The weather has been flirting with zero so steadily that the young man has been obliged to forego a ride with his best girl, for even a couple in love could feel the cold without any difficulty.

The vital statistics of Montague for 1892 show a record of 256 births, 76 marriages and 141 deaths.

An intelligent woman may find several days' work in the REPORTER office, folding pamphlets. Easy to learn.

James Dazzot, an employee of the Turners Falls Lumber Company, had his hand so badly injured as to necessitate the amputation of two fingers.

Prof. Kerslake and his pig circus returned from a trip to New York and Pennsylvania last evening.

Turners Falls people seem to have great appetites for griddle cakes, as the cook at Cassidy Bros. made on an average 550 a day while here, and they were all eaten up.

Last Monday evening a party from Greenfield and another from Turners Falls, numbering in all 24 people, met at Rugg's hall, Montague City, with local people, to institute a Good Templar's Lodge, which was successfully accomplished. The name of the lodge is Good Will No. 107. The meeting nights are the 1st and 3d Tuesday of each month. The charter will not be closed for two or three weeks in order to give any one who desires, an opportunity to join as a charter member.

CECIL T. BAGNALL, Editor and Proprietor,
ANTONIA J. STEMPLE, Editorial and Business Assistant.

February 1

If a person has nothing else to do he might find considerable amusement in watching the different dispositions displayed by those people who have suddenly found themselves sitting in the most ungraceful attitudes on the icy sidewalks the past week.

The severe weather did not stop work on the new mill foundations, which are being pushed as rapidly as possible.

A new heater will be put in the primary department of the Montague City school, and the children will be kept comfortable in the future. The scholars were obliged to stay at home a number of days on account of the cold.



Onions, for which there has been very little demand of late, have again been called for and are now being shipped. Several lots which have been held for higher prices, have been disposed of at private terms.

Hogs are very scarce, and bring a high price, and any one who has two or three of the four-footed ones to sell, will make money. We notice that the crop of hogs that walk upright, on two legs, is as good as the average, and this town has no need to complain for lack of them.

A concert and dance under the auspices of the Greenfield Brass Band of 25 pieces will be given in the Hibernian Hall, on Friday evening of this week. All are cordially invited to come and see what kind of a ball, Greenfield people can give.

Several sleigh ride parties have already passed through our village, with the usual accompaniments of hooting and tooting. It is a mystery how some people will carry on when they are strangers, and think no one knows them, while at home they are the pink of propriety. A sleigh ride party seems in most cases to be the signal to leave all common courtesy and etiquette behind.

In Dr. Louise Fiske Bryson's paper on "Education in the Treatment of Nervous Girls," occurs this timely admonition: Instruction should begin in childhood in the art of dressing well, according to the strictest conventionality. Theoretic dressing is dangerous at all times, especially for those who have weak nerves. Fantastic or unusual combinations should be frowned down at once. Whatever makes nervous girls appear different from others in their own eyes, more artistic, picturesque or ideal, more elevated in thought because they despise, or effect to despise, fashion and the ways of ordinary hu-

man beings, should be gently but firmly set aside. While it is only right and proper to allow girls of every description freedom of choice in regard to personal ornament, within certain fixed limits, anything approaching a 'costume' is to be deprecated for children and young women of unstable nervous systems, as it attracts attention and deepens self-consciousness, the very thing to be avoided.

A number of tons of silica rock have been taken from the Vincent pasture at Charlemont and shipped to Michigan, to be manufactured into earthenware. If the experiment is successful more of the rock will be used.

Lawrence Powers' daughter, aged 13, died last week, of diphtheria, after a very short illness, and burial was ordered at once. She was a bright girl, and beloved by her many companions.

February 8

The water in the old canal along the Montague City road is overflowing the banks on account of ice, and making bad work of the highways.

The residents of Riverside will miss the ice when it disappears from the river, as it saves them some distance in going to and fro.

Sheriff Chenery has re-appointed Wm. H. Ward a deputy sheriff, to take care of the Montague business.

Those who think we have a high tax rate will do well to remember that there were 18 towns in Massachusetts in 1892 where the rate exceeded \$20 and 144 cities and towns where it was \$15 and over.

Friday evening of this week, the masquerade ball of the Gustav Adolph Lodge will be held in Hibernian hall. This is an event which is eagerly looked forward to each year, and costumes are now being planned. Those who wish, may rent costumes of Mr. Bucholtz who will be in Hibernian hall on Thursday evening and all day Friday. The hall and stage will be tastefully decorated, and an enjoyable time is anticipated.

It will cost the Amherst college freshmen a nice little sum to settle for the damage they did Friday night while having their class supper at Greenfield.

The French priest, Rev. J. Edward Perreault, has given up his charge here and gone to Worcester to enter a larger field, by order of the bishop. No man has gone from among us whose departure has caused such universal sorrow as this good priest. He came here several years ago to find a large French population without a sympathetic spiritual guide and friend, and consequently we all suffered from the effects of such a large body of people who were good at heart but were simply

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ANDREW W. SCHIEDING.
Turners Falls, Mass., Feb. 14, 1893.

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adrift without a compass. The good man soon had a magnificent place of worship erected for his people and a parochial house followed in short order. His people were drawn to him as steel is to the magnet, and they were exhorted to follow godly lives, to beware of excesses of passion, and to abhor the sin of drunkenness, although the pledge of total abstinence was not demanded. Father Perreault worked wonders among a people easily led to better ways by love and kindness, and the coarse and brutal methods of such as would drive to goodness with a club were conspicuous by their absence with him, who led the way to heaven as a little child. It was a pleasure and an inspiration to us all, no matter at what manner of altar we worshipped, to witness the work of this good man, and we all of whatever faith, feel that we have met with a personal loss in the going from among us of Rev. Father Perreault. A petition was signed by all the leading business men and manufacturers of the village, asking the bishop to allow the favorite priest to remain, but that only convinced the dignitary that he was right in his judgment that Father Perreault was too big for the place, and so called him to a larger sphere of usefulness.

February 15
With the frost four or five feet deep, the prospect of a muddy season next spring, when the process of thawing out begins, is uncommonly good.

Sheriff Chenery expects to call his 10 deputies together in a few days to be measured for their new uniforms.

F. I. Webster has added a stock of street lamps, and various other larger lamps for outdoor use.

The Congregational society of Turners Falls will soon complete arrangements for lighting their church by electricity.

The masquerade ball of the Gustav Adolph lodge, which was as usual very successfully carried out. Both the gallery and the floor were crowded with masqueraders and spectators. The stage and hall were tastefully decorated. Prizes were taken by Mrs. John North, Oscar Hummell, Gustav Feyrer.

Jacob Witzman, about 22 years old, for several years a resident of Shelburne Falls and a brakeman on Conductor Starkey's freight train, while coupling cars yesterday morning slipped on some ice and was so badly crushed that he died about 2.30 yesterday afternoon.

Cyrus Rice of Moore's Corner, Franklin Co., while out recently, shot a fox, and upon picking him up found he had on a collar.

Others than the wicked stood in slippery places, last week, and it was a difficult matter to preserve one's equilibrium with anything like becoming dignity; the streets and sidewalks furnished much better skating than the average pedestrian desired. But to the small boys, the icy streets were a source of unmitigated delight, and from early morning until late at night, they darted about the streets on their skates, like magnified bats, to the imminent risk of their own and others' lives, and the terror of all nervously inclined persons.

February 22
Principal Jefferson of the

High school was confined to the house for several days with a severe cold.

W. L. Salmon has just received a Columbia safety bicycle, model 30, weight 30 pounds, which can be seen at Holts jewelry store.

Martin Slater had a finger caught in the machinery, at the Turners Falls Paper Company's mill last week, and it was necessary to have it amputated. Dr. Messer attended him.

The fire department came out in a hurry Thursday noon when the alarm was struck. The fire was a very little affair in Thomas's house on Second street, which caught from a burning chimney, and was speedily put out.

A new piano factory is to be erected at Farley the coming summer. Already money enough has been subscribed to ensure success.

The school teachers of the Town of Montague have formed themselves into an association, for "the comparison, criticism, and study of methods of instruction," under the name of the Montague Teachers' association.

Even in this "fin de siecle" age, St. Valentine finds some followers, and for the benefit of these, the shops contain specimen of what the artists and printer man can accomplish. Some of the valentines look as if the designer thereof was suffering from indigestion at the time he designed them.



March 1
Spring has come. The small boy is down on his knees playing marbles for keeps on the sloppy sidewalks.

The snow in the woods is over four feet deep, and the lumbermen are not so happy as they would be with less.

Owing to the drifted condition of the Montague City road, loaded teams have hard work getting through. Two loads were upset there yesterday, and last evening one man had his load of wood dumped over the fence, and he was obliged to go away and leave it there.

It is apparent that the long cold period in January killed many partridges, as the dead birds have been found in the woods. A lack of deep snow in which they burrow when the cold is extreme, left them unprotected.

Hiram Martin, who has been ill from blood poisoning since Thanksgiving, died Friday night. The funeral was held Sunday from the house on Fifth street.

Wm. Gartrell is now located in Morgan's building on K street where he will continue his carriage, house and sign painting business. He also does paper hanging and graining in the best manner.

An inquest was held by Trial Justice Dana, last week, on the case of Annie Hildebrand, who died under suspicious circumstances, and he will report to the Superior court in April.

Greenfield may boom all the electric railroads it wants to, but it must be given to understand that no electric car can ever pass over the lower suspension bridge, and if the county commissioners allow an electric road to be built on the narrow mountain path to the bridge, they will be held responsible for numberless

murders, as death and disaster will surely follow the awful engine of destruction on such a place. Unfortunately, innocent farmers who desire to reach the shire town with their spirited horses, will be the greatest sacrifices on the altar of Greenfield's greed. It took a whole page of fine print to give the list of killed and maimed by the electric cars in Boston, last year, and we can assure our friends, the coroners, a most successful run of business if ever cars are allowed to occupy the narrow roadbed of the Greenfield hill. The road might help some of our professional men who have to go to Greenfield every day for information, but the demand is principally limited to land speculators who desire to get a dollar from a man who earns it like a gentleman.



If Greenfield wants to reach Turners Falls by an electric railroad, why not come around Cheapside, through Montague City. No objection would be made to this route, and patronage enough to sustain a road would be easily secured. The old railroad bridge could now be bought for a song (in all probability) while crossing on the suspension bridge is utterly out of the question. The land sharks might kick at this route, but it would catch the people.

March 8
The Montague town meeting was quite largely attended, and the debates on the appropriations were quite spirited, but the majority felt in a liberal mood and about "everything went."

Keen March winds and snow drifts only add to the pleasures of a sleigh ride, in the minds of the young people, as the numerous merry parties, whose coming is heralded by the fiendish noise of tin horns, have noisily testified.

C. P. Wise is selling Florida oranges for 20 and 25 cents a dozen. He also has sweet Indian River oranges at different prices.

With an electric railroad on the Greenfield road, a winter like this, where, oh where, would the horses travel, with the snow thrown from the track! Just imagine the condition of a road for both electric cars and horses!

Seventeen persons were killed and wounded by the electric cars on the west end line in Boston during the month of February just closed. Many of the accidents were from frightened horses. A city horse has his attention called in so many directions that the cars are not such a terror to him. But we will ask any reputable horseman in this neighborhood if he would care to drive a spirited horse up that narrow mountain path, and meet a whizzing devil of an electric car on one of those corners, with barely room enough to pass without collision. Murder would soon rest on the head of every man connected with the scheme, if they succeeded in collaring that narrow mountain trail for their hissing monsters and rigging.

Miss Bessie Hawks, daughter of John J. Hawkes, formerly of this village, died at her home in Boston, yester-

day, of paralysis of the brain. She was a beautiful young woman, in face, form, mind and character, was a hard working student, overwork in her studies being the principal cause of her death. Her age was 19, and she leaves a host of friends in this village to mourn her early decease.

One Sunday afternoon, last fall, a party of young gamins broke into F. I. Webster's hardware store and stole a number of revolvers and cartridges. It was kept quiet and about a week ago they were all found in the debris of an old shanty in the rear of High street which had been burned. They were ruined but Officer Dunbar took charge of them and easily discovered what boys frequented the old shanty. The boys have all been found and some have confessed the theft. The 7 o'clock train from New Haven was fired upon one evening, and it is supposed it was done by these boys. Two boys named Hahn and one Gartrell, with others, are implicated. They will have a hearing before the State agent.

March 15
The first bluebird registered last Wednesday.

Severe colds seem to be an epidemic, in many cases the victims being confined to the bed.

Owing to the melting ice and snow, the streets last week were full of rivers and lakes in miniature, and the majority of pedestrians gave their feet a thorough bath.

Carroll Daly will give up his position in the Fitchburg Station the first of the month, to drive the village sprinkling cart.

Fire broke out in the rod shops at Montague City last week, but was discovered before much damage was done, by one of the employes.

The ladies of this town are not very zealous in exercising the privilege they have of voting for school committee. They probably think that if they can't vote for all officers they won't vote for any, and that settles it.

Maurice O'Keefe has been appointed night watchman in the Keith mill, in place of Calvin Hood, who is ill and unable to work. Mr. Hood has been watchman in the mill for twenty years, and this is the first time he has been away from his post.

A German carp weighing twenty pounds has attracted attention at Burt's market in Greenfield, and was in size and form, a curiosity. It is eight or ten years since the effort was first made to stock waters in this vicinity with carp. This fish was caught in Atkins' pond, Leverett. It had found its way into a small brook running into the pond and was there captured by a boy with the aid of a pitchfork.

The one o'clock train on the Canal road, yesterday, struck Otto Johnson, a Swede, who was standing underneath the Fitchburg railroad bridge at the crossing, and threw him into the ditch.

When picked up, one leg was found broken in two places, and his head badly injured. He had been at work in the cutlery, and was going to his home at the South End, on the track. When he reached the Fitchburg bridge he stopped to look up at the train passing overhead, and probably did not hear the whistle of the approaching train. Engineer Stone tried to stop his engine,

but there was not time. Dr. Coy attended the unfortunate man, but is unable to say at present what the outcome of the injuries will be.

A. W. Hinsdale and wife of East Colrain were unpleasantly surprised, last week, and had an undesired opportunity to find out what ungratitude is like. Last May they took in to their home a young man aged 19, Frank Kibler, by name, who came to them anxious for work and a quiet home, after having spent two months in the county jail on a charge of vagrancy. The Hinsdales were much pleased with the young man and his ways, and he understood he might stay as long as he chose. Last week after coming home from a drive, they found the young man had left, and had taken with him all his clothing and \$125 which belonged to Mr. Hinsdale, that he had found in a bureau drawer.

A small tenement house near the brick yard, belonging to W. H. Ward, was burned last Sunday morning. As it was unoccupied, it must have been set on fire.

Some newspapers have recently made comments on the attitude of Turners Falls in opposing an electric railroad, which would be very amusing if they were not misleading.

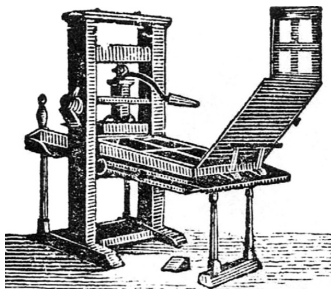
Turners Falls knows what it wants better than any outside newspaper can tell us, and if we have good reasons for opposing other people's schemes to bleed us, it is nobody's business to set up any kindergarten school to attempt to shed any new light on us.

We all came here from the four corners of the earth to lasso an untamed water power with the express purpose in view of making a dollar, and a good many of us have seen a big town rise from a wilderness of scrub oaks, and the only persons to whom credit is due are the men who make goods for the world at large and spend the money received from their sale in giving employment to people of all sorts and conditions. Take away or cripple the hand that reaches out after the dollar, and gets it, and Turners Falls would shrivel up like a last year's bean pod and be just as interesting to Greenfield or any promoters of blood-sucking schemes. Now none of the men who have contributed in any degree to develop this place ask or desire any further railroad facilities. We have two lines of steam cars by which Greenfield may be reached almost at any hour, and the fare to workmen is but a song. We have two telegraph offices, three express offices, and mails coming and going all day long, with a chance to catch a man's ear in the metropolis by long-distance telephone. We are not walled in - we couldn't afford to be walled in - for every dollar we get has to be lugged in by main strength and skill, and none of us are foolish enough to climb fences with that kind of a load.

We have the finest stores in the county, of every kind and description, and our merchants sell at lower prices than they ever thought of in Greenfield, and considerable trade is attracted from all the country round about. But it is an unwritten law in the shire town that a dollar must not be spent in Turners Falls if there is an excuse to spend it at home. They have not the slightest idea of reciprocity, and brazenly say that even a

workman cannot remain in the employ of their shop and live with his parents in Turners Falls. He may bring his family over if he will, but he must leave his own home if he wants work, and they cannot be induced to follow him. While the shire town makes no bones of saying it has no money or favors for us, we are not chumps enough to allow them to reach after our dollars with all the nonchalance of a highwayman. We have hundreds of acres of unoccupied lands, which when built upon will help bear the burdens of our taxes for water, sewers, streets, and sidewalks. The level farming lands of Greenfield thrown on the market at lower rates might tempt many to alienate all their interests in this town, and be a good excuse for the existence of an electric railroad, but if any sane man can tell us wherein Turners Falls would be benefited we'll be only too glad to give his superior knowledge respectful consideration.

The writer knows whereof he speaks from personal experience. As is well known, Turners Falls is not large enough, "by a good many times," to support such a printing office as the ambition of its proprietor must have, and its patronage to the amount of nine-tenths must be obtained from abroad, and it comes from the most exacting customers in the large cities who demand the most skillful work. Now, if for a score of years all this work could come hundreds of miles, through Greenfield, to us, one would suppose some of the shire town printing would be attracted hither; but owing to the aforesaid unwritten law, the whole amount of Greenfield patronage at this office in a dozen years would not amount to what we are obliged to refuse from customers in the cities in almost any month in the year, owing to a plethora of orders, while truth compels us to state that some of the little printing used here is taken to the Greenfield shops. This office does not need any crumbs that may fall from their business tables, and we merely use the illustration to show that the shire town has always maintained a wall, but cries out against the wickedness of other people's barriers.



March 22

Spring comes in like a lamb, and like a very nice lamb at that. We need a gentle spring to atone for the hard winter we have just passed through, and we shall probably get it. The outlook for sugaring is good. An unusually large number of tubs will be set. Several farmers will try for the government bounty. Tuesday evening, April 18, is the date fixed for the musical and literary entertainment by the ladies of the German M.E. church at Patucket hall. There will also be a sale of fancy articles, and ice cream, cake and coffee will be served. L. Hamlin has bought the lot on Third street, next to the Booker block, and will build a three-story brick block, 25 by 90, this spring. The house of Cephas Burn-

ham, near Lake Pleasant, was destroyed by fire, Thursday night, about 8 o'clock. Mr. Burnham was in Montague village at the time. It was at first thought his wife, Phebe, was also burned, as she was seen about the premises only a few minutes before the fire broke out. After thoroughly searching the ruins the next morning and not finding her, there is no doubt she has wandered away and any information concerning her will be thankfully received by I. Chenery, her trustee.

The *Gazette* reads the REPORTER with very little care, it would seem. We have distinctly stated that there would be no objection to foreign capital building an electric railroad through our territory, if in the right direction; but if Messrs. Field and Conant got any other consolation from our people, they must be very clever Pickwickians. When an electric railroad is allowed to tap this village after the manner to suit Greenfield, we can assure all concerned that conditions as they now exist will be mightily changed. Whoever comes to Turners Falls to deal with business men, soon finds out that there has been no retarded growth of eye teeth.

March 29

The brooks have poured large contributions of snow water into the river, but notwithstanding this fact, the water is quite low for this season of the year.

The wild geese who went north a couple of weeks ago, have had an opportunity to experience the vagaries of the New England climate.

"That tired feeling" seems to have taken possession of a good many people these sunshiny spring days, to judge by the manner with which many are ambling about the streets.

Housewives all over the country will soon be getting ready for the spring campaign against the winter's accumulation of dust and dirt. The average man regards it a senseless institution, but has to accept the inevitable with the best grace he can.

A party of men and boys gathered near Lake Pleasant, Sunday morning after the fire, to search for Mrs. Phoebe Burnham, who disappeared at the time of the burning of the house, but the search was fruitless.

G. Zschau, who runs the livery stable on Fourth street, is looking for purchasers for his horses and carriages, etc., as he is going to retire from the business.

Vermont's abandoned farms will become a thing of the past, if the present rate of disposing of them continues, 192 having been sold during the past year, according to the report of the state's board of agriculture. As those that have been advertised by the Massachusetts board have also met with a very favorable response from purchasers, it would appear that a hopeful feeling is being entertained concerning agriculture in New England.

Freight traffic is quite heavy on the Fitchburg railroad. Passenger traffic, while good, cannot be called heavy at present, but when the World's Fair opens a very heavy business will be done. At least one Chicago excursion daily will run over this road during the fair.

In discussing the question of an electric road between Greenfield and Turners Falls

the doubt is frequently expressed as to the safety of crossing the lower suspension bridge. A local engineer, familiar with the construction of this bridge, is authority for the statement that it is quite as strong as the upper one. That the support in proportion to the length is practically the same, and the lower one will sustain as great an additional weight. — *Greenfield Gazette*.

Not many years after the lower suspension bridge was built, a circus came along with an elephant who did not profess to be a civil engineer, and the show manager tried to get the huge animal to walk over the structure that was then the pride of the valley. The knowing creature walked cautiously on to the airy span and tried its strength after the manner of elephants. In ten seconds he deliberately turned about and informed his keeper, in his own expressive way, that an elephant's neck was too precious to risk on that kind of a trap. The animal consented to swim the river at Montague City, rather than trust to the judgment of local engineers. From our observation of the knowledge of engineers who don't know what they are talking about, we would much rather depend upon the expert testimony of an unprejudiced elephant, in the matter in question. As a matter of fact the bridge was condemned for ordinary travel some years ago, and quite a sum of money was expended to keep the structure out of the stream. Making comparison of a wooden towered, racked and patched bridge, with one of iron columns, immense steel cables and unusual anchorage, is something one would not expect from even a "local engineer" in the reckless, booming, shiretown of little Franklin.

The man who borrows his paper from a neighbor, but does not subscribe for it himself, is usually the one that does the most criticising. The fact remains, however, that he always wants to see and read said paper, and would be woefully offended if his neighbor refused to lend it.

April 5

The small boy is now busily engaged in throwing and bouncing his ball, to the eminent danger of windows and passers by.

The spring is considerably behind the corresponding season last year, when many persons planted early peas in March. But it is a good thing that the great body of snow on the ground is going off gradually, and the deep frost coming out slowly, else we should have tremendous and destructive freshets. April will be pretty sure to even things up.

Work has already begun laying the foundations for L. Hamelin's new L street brick block.

J. J. Lanz of Springfield, has bought out the bakery business of Mrs. H. R. Frickenhaus on Fourth street.

Chester A. Davis has bought from Everett & Farwell the celebrated stallion, "Glenville."

James Coy of Montague City has bought a pneumatic Columbia safety through the agency of Lester Salmon.

Certain employes of the Keith mill had a good deal of amusement furnished them last Saturday, at the nominal cost of only two cents. One of them, expecting some fun, nailed down two pennies on

the steps leading to the mill, as an April joke, consequently all day every passer by would invariably stoop down to pick up the coins, and each one, in that vulgar but expressive phrase, would "get left."

The new piano shop, to be built at Farley, will be 11x40 and three stories high, and will manufacture what will be known as the Frick piano.

At a special town meeting held in Northfield on Saturday, Henry C. Holton was elected to fill the vacancy on the board of selectmen. The meeting was quite animated and considerable time was expended in discussing the article to see if the town would raise and appropriate a sum of money to enforce the law relative to the illicit sale of intoxicating liquors. The idea did not strike the public very favorably however, and a motion to adjourn was heavily carried, leaving the article with no action taken.

On and after the first day of May 1893, no person or persons residing in that part of the town of Montague, embraced within the limits of the Turners Falls Fire District, shall keep any swine within the limits of said Fire District, unless such person or persons shall be granted a license to keep swine, signed by a majority of said Board of Health, and such license may at any time be revoked by said Board of Health for good cause shown.

Annual meeting of the lawn tennis association will be held at the bank on Friday evening, April 7th.

April 12

Snakes are out. When the big body of snow gets off the hills we may expect warm weather, and not much before, but will it ever go?

The fishing season was duly opened last week, and a few chilly, consumptive looking trout brought in.

Real new and delicious maple syrup has come, also some fluids that masquerade under the same name, but whose origin will not bear investigation.

These sudden changes of weather demand great caution in the matter of clothing, as simply changing a heavy coat for a light one, may mean a long illness, and its attendant doctor's bill.

Rev. Alfred Free has put up a thousand packets of fine flower seeds, and six hundred choice gladioli bulbs which he will distribute to the children of the grammar grades in the public schools, this week. Each child that will agree to plant and care for them will receive either seeds or bulbs.

The grip has laid many a sufferer low during the past week.

On Friday of last week, Patrick Bulman, formerly of Turners Falls but lately working at Mt. Hermon, attended an auction in Bernardston and on returning home fell from his wagon and striking his head dislocated his neck. His whole body was paralyzed, but still consciousness was retained. He remained in that condition for a week, and died on Saturday. He leaves a wife and six children. He was buried here yesterday.

The Adams *Enterprise* last week threw up the sponge, after struggling along two and a half years at a losing game. From all appearances, about a couple of thousand dollars a year would represent the sum

exceeding the bare expenses. Great fun, this printing of newspapers for the glory of little country towns! And charmingly expensive.



April 19

A. Paillet has bought the Jackson place on the Plains.

The spring has taught us that it is well to be sure that we are off with the snow shovel, before transferring our attentions to the lawn mower.

The high winds of this week are doing much to dry up the roads, and except where there is considerable clay, the wheeling is quite passable.

The fishermen report the water in the brooks as being too high and too cold for trout fishing.

The Montague Paper company is putting in an iron and cement floor in one of the rag rooms and making other improvements.

George Fournier, the blacksmith, now does his horse shoeing in the basement of his shop, which can be reached from the Avenue. His brother, Peter Fournier, has charge of that department.

F. A. Lamb, formerly in business in the Clapp block, has leased the George Hunter store on School street, Greenfield, and has opened a grocery store there.

As the train was nearing Chickley river bridge, not far from Charlemont station, Monday morning, George Hutchinson, about fifty years old, laid down on the track, spread his feet toward the engine, pulled his cap over his ears and awaited his doom. It came soon. One leg was cut off and remained on the track while the rest of the dead body was thrown into the river. Medical Examiner Canedy had the body placed in charge of the Charlemont selectmen, who will keep it in the tomb. Hutchinson was one of the famous Hutchinson family of singers. He had been living in Plainfield and Hawley for the past two or three years, half-demented and an object of charity.

The Montague City road was impassable for teams two days the past week on account of mud holes at two places. It was almost impossible to keep a carriage right side up, and the horses simply floundered in an apparently bottomless pit of clay jelly.

The Avenue from Seventh street to the railroad bridge, has been in a terrible condition this spring, owing to the streets having been cut down to the clay bed in the fall. One loaded team got stuck there one day last week, and the wheels sank down to the hubs, when the friendly assistance of a pair of horses pulled the stalled wagon to the surface of the earth again.

April 26

The frog opera season opened last week. Tickets are free.

Trout continue to be scarce and shy and no good catches are yet reported by the early fishermen.

O. A. Blaisdell & Co. now have their elegant new soda apparatus in order, and will begin on Saturday evening, April 29, to draw all kinds of soda from it.

Michael Fitzgerald of Montague City, has sold a very valuable milch Jersey cow

COLLE OPERA HOUSE

One Night On l y.

WEDNESDAY EVENG, APRIL 12.

As many Laughs as there are grains in a bush-el of Wheat, . IN .

RENO & FORD'S SUCCESSFUL COMEDY DRAMA,

JOSHUA SIMPKINS,

THE GREATEST OF ALL RURAL PLAYS.

Produced with Special Scenery and Wonderful Mechanical Effects Including

THRILLING SAW MILL SCENE,

A Real Buzz Saw cutting through Genuine Timber at Lightning Rapidity.

PLEASING SINGING, EXCELLENT DANCING, CHARMING MUSIC.

FINEST BAND AND ORCHESTRA

carried by any Travelling Co.

Look out for the Great Band Parade at noon

RESERVED SEATS SALE OPENS AT COLLE'S DRUG STORE, APRIL 7, 9 A. M.

ARMOUR'S SOUPS!

Quart Cans 30 Cents.

SUPERIOR QUALITY.

Ox Tail, Chicken, Consumme, Tomato, Mock Turtle.

Delicately prepared and ready for table use.

—AT—

C. P. WISE'S, Jacobus Block, 38 Second St.

FOR SALE!

5 Horses, 3 Carriages and a Carry-all, 2 Express Wagons, 2 Working Wagons, 3 Single Sleighs, 1 two-seated and 1 four-seated Sleigh, 2 Working Sleighs, Harnesses, Robes, Buffaloes, Ropes and Halters, and everything pertaining to the livery stable business. Will be sold all together, or singly to suit purchasers.

G. ZSCHAU, Fourth Street.

CROCKER NATIONAL BANK.

TURNERS FALLS, MAR. 20, 1893

A special meeting of the Stockholders of this Bank will be held at the Bank, Thursday, April 20, 1893, at one o'clock p. m., to act upon the following articles

Art. 1 To see if the Stockholders will vote to reduce the capital stock of the Bank in accordance with the recommendation of the Directors, or act anything thereon.

Art. 2 To transact any other business that may legally come before said meeting

Per order, BOARD OF DIRECTORS.

D. F. ABERCROMBIE, Cashier.

March 21, April 12 and 19.

A FINE PIECE OF CHEWING TOBACCO

IS INDEED A LUXURY

FINZER'S

Old Honesty

COMES AS NEAR BEING

A FINE PIECE OF

PLUG

TOBACCO



Standard Brand

AMONG DEALERS

THESE GOODS ARE ON THE

MARKET IN ONLY ONE SHAPE,

3x12 FULL 16 OZ. PLUG—THE

MOST CONVENIENT TO CUT IN

POCKET PIECES OR CARRY WHOLE.

JNO. FINZER & BROS., Louisville, Ky.

CARPET CLEANING.

My team will run to Montague City and Turners Falls, every Tuesday in April and May, for carpets which will be returned the following day. Leave your orders with your Post Master.

T. F. HARRINGTON, Montague, Mass.

KOKA-KINA ASSELIN.

Complete extract of Coca (Frythroxyton). The three Cinchonas (Peruvian Barks) red, yellow and pale, and Gentian root, allied with one of the finest old French wines. As an invigorating tonic this Elixir has no equal. If you are run down by work, try KOKA-KINA; it will build you up. In cases of impoverishment of the blood, difficult menstruation, in convalescence it is really the best tonic to use. The worst cases of Dyspepsia have been cured by the use of KOKA-KINA. It has cured thousands in France, it will do the same here. Try it and be convinced. Ask your druggist for it and take no substitute. For sale at A. E. MARTELL'S Drug Store, and at all drug stores. ASSELIN & CO., Paris and New York. N. E. DISTRIBUTING AGENCY, 85 Howard St., Springfield, Mass.

THE

GLENWOOD & RICHMOND

STOVES

RANGES

ACKNOWLEDGED TO BE THE BEST IN THE MARKET.



Refrigerators and Ice Chests.
We have a good stock of them to select from and prices within the reach of all
GRANITE, JAPANNED AND HOLLOW WARE
A full assortment. Full line of
Pumps, Brass, Copper and Iron Sinks of all sizes.
STEAM, GAS AND WATER PIPES, FITTINGS, &c., &c.
Akron Drain and Sewer Pipe,
MANCHESTER & WARD,
High and Low Pressure Steam Heating, Tinning and Jobbing
Third Street, Turners Falls.

NOW IS YOUR TIME!

We have made a big

MARK DOWN

- IN -

WALL PAPERS.

Call and buy a Room of solid standard make Gilt Paper for the same price or less than you pay for the snide Goods that you send away for and pay Express on.

All 15 Cent Gilt, marked down to 10 Cents. Papers, from 5 Cents Single Roll to any price you wish to pay.

J. F. BARTLETT,

BARTLETT'S BLOCK, AVE. A.

ESTABLISHED IN 1869

THE TURNERS FALLS

BOOT AND SHOE STORE.

NEW .: GOODS

For the Fall and Winter now in Stock.

Stock complete in all directions for

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN

Also for

MISSES, BOYS, YOUTHS AND CHILDREN.

Don't fail to examine goods and get the low prices or clean new goods for the coming season

REPAIRING DONE NEATLY.

G. L. RIST.

Rist's Block, Cor. Ave A and Fourth Street, Turners Falls

- - ESTABLISHED IN 1878. - -

The Strongest Insurance Agency

In Franklin County.

STOCK COMPANIES.

Ætna, Home, Insurance Company of North America, Phoenix of Hartford, Springfield F. & M., Old Hartford, Continental, German American, Phoenix of N. Y., Niagara, Girard, Royal, North British Mercantile, Queen, Caledonia.

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| Total Assets Over, | Liabilities, | Surplus Policy Holders Over. |
| \$80,000,000. | \$58,700,000. | \$40,000,000. |

MUTUAL COMPANIES.

Holyoke, Quincy, Middlesex, Merchants & Farmers, and Wachusett.

DIVIDENDS PAID ON ALL EXPIRING POLICIES, 25 TO 75 PER CENT.

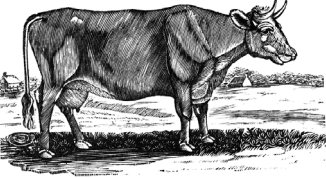
Mutual Life Insurance Company of New York, the Oldest, Largest, Strongest and Best.

Call on or address

W. H. P. GILMORE, Agent,

Turners Falls, Mass.

to go on a gentleman's estate near Boston. It is rumored that nearly a hundred dollars was obtained for the animal.



At this season of the year it is well to clean out and burn up all the refuse and rubbish that has accumulated through the winter. Cholera and other contagious diseases have no greater foe than cleanliness, and plenty of fresh air and sunlight will purify the damp places and help keep away those diseases which thrive in filthy surroundings.

There is any quantity of grip in the surrounding county, not malaria, or colds, but genuine old fashioned grip, with its aches and pains and concentrated cussedness. There have as yet been few deaths caused by the disease, and the type is hardly as severe as that which has prevailed during the past two years.

Miss Hattie Emery has been absent from her station in the post office for several weeks. She has been ill with an abscess in her throat.

The regular Montague City road, practically closed to navigation of all heavy draft craft, this spring, will be opened to prairie schooners at least, by next month. All experienced navigators have taken the more southern route by the brick yards, and have at all events escaped foundering.

A loaded team, rather than risk being swamped in the Avenue A mud-hole opposite the shoe-shop, drove on concrete sidewalk to the great injury of the exclusive pedestrian path.

The Burnham farm, within the limits of the fire district, was once held to be worth more than a tendered offer of \$5000. To-day it is hard to get \$2500 for it at public auction.

For a long time the directors of the Crocker National Bank have been in favor of reducing the capital stock from \$300,000 to \$200,000, in the interests of the institution. There was a time when the original capital could easily be loaned at home, but with the strengthening of all local corporations the demand for money has steadily decreased, and in order to earn good dividends, the bank has been obliged to take its chances with such commercial paper as it could select in the trade centers. With extraordinary care the bank has been fortunate in handling so much outside paper, but prudence suggested a reduction of the capital stock to a point that would be sufficient for home demand, where there is always safety. At the stockholders' meeting, on Thursday, some 2400 shares were represented, and the reduction sought was voted with little dissent, the business was immediately shaped up to agree with the new capitalization, and on Monday the Controller of the Currency gave his signature of approval, and the bank is now paying back in cash \$100,000 to its stockholders. The Crocker National bank is one of the gilt-edged financial institutions in the state, has always paid good dividends, and will no doubt pay better in the future. Its surplus is \$51,000.

Edward Begor, who killed Abigail Rogers of Wendell with a club, appeared in the Superior court, Thursday afternoon, retracted his plea of not guilty and pleaded guilty to murder in the second degree. The commonwealth, through District Attorney Aiken, accepted the plea, and Judge Fessenden sentenced him to imprisonment for life. The confession which led to the change of plea, was made by Begor, in jail, last fall, to a fellow prisoner, William O. Taylor, whose acquaintance he had made during a previous term Begor had served for larceny, on the charge of the woman he afterwards killed. He told his story to Taylor, whose term was nearly out, so that he could search for the money Begor said was hidden under the shanty. Taylor informed Jailor Allen, and this officer with Detective Munyan stationed himself in the dark corridor one night while Taylor induced Begor to repeat the tale. He gave it in all its particulars. The confession was kept in secret, when through the Dist. Attorney, it was given to Begor's counsel, Messrs. Bicknell and Titus. They had conferences with their client and the change of plea is the result. The search for money by the officers aided by Taylor, proved to be fruitless. Begor's story follows that of his cousin and companion "Artie" up to the time of the younger boy's leaving the shanty on the morning of the murder, Sunday, September 4, 1892. He says that a quarrel occurred in which the old woman threatened to have him arrested, and that he first struck her with his fist, following this with another with an iron skillet which floored her. He then made a hunt for her money, but noticing that the woman's eyes followed him, he went to the woodpile, brought back the heavy stick shown in the preliminary trial, and with it dealt the killing blow.

In answer to a petition signed by nearly 200 citizens of Northampton, District Attorney Aiken has announced that pool-selling in connection with horse-racing, will be stopped down that way.

A South Deerfield young woman, whose marriage to Michael Brennan was to have taken place at Greenfield, last Wednesday, is in sorrow. The young man went out to get shaved in preparation for the coming event, and has not been heard from since. He tired of his bargain and skipped out. While the bride was waiting for his return, the best man and bridesmaid were patiently strolling about Greenfield streets in wedding finery, anxiously looking for the young couple. It passes all understanding, to see what pleasure all classes and conditions of men, including women and children, take in leaning up against the young trees, when indulging in gossip, and trampling on the struggling grass on the edge of the sidewalks, both of which have been planted at the expenditure of much time and money. Some will even get out of the straight and narrow path of the sidewalk, for no other purpose than to walk over the grass.

A ghost is disturbing the slumbers of the residents of Canada Hill. On Monday night he became so troublesome, that several men armed with double barrelled guns and knives sallied forth to destroy him, but after much trouble they gave up the work in disgust. He evidently wouldn't be destroyed.

May 3

The year of 1893 will contain 53 Sundays.

John J. O'Brien is building a piazza all around his house on the Avenue.

F. I. Webster sells bicycles of all kinds on the installment plan so that a working boy may own a wheel and pay for it as he can.

A. W. Howes will give a large photograph, 16x20, to the person guessing the nearest to the number of beans in a glass jar. Any one getting a dozen photographs of him may guess. The jar of beans and a sample of the kind of photograph given may be seen in Allen Bros' window.

A party from here went to Northfield, last week, to hear the great Polish pianist, Paderewski.

The County commissioners, last week, re-located the highway from Factory Village east for about three miles on the petition of the selectmen of Gill.

John Shine, porter at the Farren House, while driving back from Greenfield, Thursday afternoon at five o'clock, was run into at the railroad crossing at the suspension bridge by a freight train which was backing up. The carriage was broken into a thousand pieces, and the top tossed into the canal. The horse sprang and cleared the carriage without being much hurt, pulling along the driver who had held the reins tightly all the while. Shine struck hard in his fall, receiving a serious wound on his head, and is hurt internally, having raised considerable blood the first day. He is yet confined to his bed under the care of Dr. Messer. This is probably the most dangerous crossing in the state, it being impossible to know whether or not a train is coming from the South until the horse is within a few feet of the track. The noise of the mills make it impossible to hear a bell or whistle when a long train is backing up, while with the engine on in front the signals may be heard.



Would-be schoolmarms are numerous. There are many more applications for schools among the hill towns of western Franklin county than can be utilized. The girls dislike "working out," consequently they qualify as teachers, and, in many instances, meet with disappointment.

The Springfield *Sunday Republican* astonishes its friends throughout the county by its recent persistence in being the vehicle of Greenfield venom, which is as insidious as absinthe and as deadly as Hades. Last Sunday it had a particularly vicious sneer at one of our "gilt edged" financial institutions, the Crocker National Bank, because our prudent business men concluded to reduce the capital stock of that corporation. Not many years ago, that rock of financial strength of this region, the First National of Greenfield, did just what the Crocker has done today, reduced its capital from \$300,000 to \$200,000, and the Franklin County National followed suit a few years later, after paying dearly for the folly of trying to use a capital of \$300,000 in a country town. These facts, we believe, did

not bring sneers at that time, from the Republican, and why it is in these degenerate times the vehicle of venom against the financially soundest industrial village in the valley, is beyond our comprehension. The writer in the Republican suggests that if our people did not oppose electric railroad schemes, the Crocker bank would be able to loan an additional \$100,000. With three very strong banks in Greenfield, we fancy any business paper that would find favor here would not need to take electric cars to neighboring banks on discount days. The *Republican* should by this time know that the phenomenal success of all our business enterprises makes the use of a large banking capital unnecessary, and that every scrap of stock of all sorts and descriptions, with one notable exception, has been touched by Midas, and it is exceedingly probable there would not be this one exception to lament had our people consulted their own business counsellors instead of taking heed of the wonderful Greenfield sagacity, which has always been on tap but rarely imbibed.

May 10

Spring seems to have been afflicted with a bad case of the sulks this year.

Venus will be our evening star for the rest of the year.

The water has been quite high in the brooks and rivers this week.

Pneumonia is making its regular spring visitations, and many are ill with the disease.

If anyone hereabouts planted a tree Arbor Day, the matter was kept very quiet.

The French society had a very large attendance at the play which they presented in the opera house, last night.

The Clark Machine company will make an exhibit at the World's Fair.

George F. Batten starts his merry-go-round for the season, and will make the New England circuit.

J. J. Drago has rented the lot on the avenue next to Allen Bros', and will put up a small building for his fruit and candy business.

Some miscreant cut the pneumatic tire of Henry Reineker's safety bicycle, last Saturday night. Should the culprit be found he will be prosecuted.

May 17

Can the oldest inhabitant remember a later spring than this?

Circuses and tents are already being heard from.

Turners Falls has added more than a dozen to its population. About that number of Germans arrived yesterday.

Frank Roberts has returned from a two weeks' visit to the World's Fair.

Geo. Batten's merry-go-round is located at the foot of First street. It is a source of much happiness in the young folks.

The soda fountains are running once more, and the impecunious best fellow begins to realize that ice cream season is at hand.

The mails have been fragrant lately by the quantities of arbutus blossoms with which people remember their friends in localities where these sweet flowers do not grow. Several boxes have been sent, and the flowers are highly prized by the fortunate receivers.

The Board of Health will prosecute all persons who ne-

glect to comply with their order to have all vaults cleaned before the first of June.

Charles Jacobus narrowly escaped serious injury last week. He was coming down the steep mountain road from Greenfield, on his wheel, and losing control, he ran against the bridge with full force. The front wheel of his bicycle was badly broken, and he was thoroughly shaken up, but he escaped any more serious results.

A brother of John Shine, who was injured in a railroad accident here lately, was drowned in the Connecticut River at Brattleboro, last Sunday.

The entertainment given mainly by the children of the public schools for the benefit of the Village Improvement Association, last Saturday evening, was very largely attended, and clearly showed the interest manifested in the association's work.

President C. M. Burnett, of the Improvement Association, opened the entertainment by making a few remarks regarding the work the association has been doing, and what it hoped to do in the future.

A chorus of a hundred or more school children next sang, "Welcome to Arbor Day," which was done in an excellent manner, and showed thorough training. They were led by Miss Ingram.

Miss Louise Roeder followed, by reciting selections from Emerson's "May Day."

The Harugari Sngerbund, consisting of fifteen members, led by Mr. Albert Mildie, sang "Unsere Wiesen Grnen Weider" in a way to win much applause. They responded by singing "Das Deutsche Lied."

The next thing on the programme, and perhaps the most interesting was a class exercise on the "Lesson of Arbor Day" by about twenty children of the intermediate grades, led by Miss Kate Hartley. The children were questioned on the meaning of words and sentences, and on the uses of wood, water, trees, and everything relating to Arbor Day. The lesson was very instructive. Most of the children were very quick and alert to answer the questions, some of which were answered in the manner common to children and were truly startling, displaying as they did logic of a new school of their own foundation.

This exercise was followed by another song by the children's chorus, entitled "The Echo," which was very pleasing. Little Miss Grace Davis, recited in a clear and pleasant manner a recitation of the "Cedar Grove."

The entertainment was closed by the singing of "Jagers Lust" by the Harugari Sngerbund.

The society intend to have several more public entertainments later on, and hope they will be as successful as this one.

All persons desiring to connect with the sewers must first apply for permit from George Starbuck or Myron A. Ward.

The "barefoot boy" has put in his annual appearance.

May 24

Earth's carpet is plentifully be-sprinkled with dandelion blossoms and all vegetation is making rapid strides forward.

The Village Improvement association is busy replacing all the trees along the streets that have been destroyed or

have died the past winter, and the Montague paper company is turfing and otherwise beautifying its lot on the corner of First street and Avenue A.

The lawn and the grounds around the Baptist church have been seeded, turfed and put in better condition generally.

Youthful fishermen line the banks of the streams, and many a large string of fish is the result of the small boy's love of the sport.

In a few weeks the bugs so destructive to carpets, and all kinds of woolen goods, will begin to get in their work. The cold, wet spring has, it is said, increased the propagation of miller-moths, worms and small bugs of all kinds.

John Shine, who was injured by the cars at the suspension bridge crossing, a few weeks ago, has settled with the Fitchburg railroad company, getting \$210 for his toss. Mr. Whitaker has not yet settled with the company for the horse and carriage.

H. C. Philips, superintendent of the Turners Falls Cotton Mill, was surprised in an agreeable manner, Saturday. He was about to leave the mill for home when he was met by about one hundred of the foremen and employes of the mill, and presented with a handsome silver tea service, to show how they regard him as their neighbor and employer.

Mr. Griswold made an effective speech when he presented the gift. Mr. Philips will soon go to Sutton, where he has been engaged as a superintendent in a large cotton mill.

George A. Paul, well known in connection with several mercantile establishments, the American House and Lake Pleasant hotel, is visiting friends in Greenfield. He has not been able to work since last July, and has been dangerously sick. He has lost the sight of one eye, and a long gray beard makes him look at least twenty-five years older. His sickness comes from the secondary effects of the grip.

Four horses, attached to the Gill road scraper, left untended for a moment near the residence of Leonard Barton, at Riverside, yesterday, improved their opportunity to create a good deal of excitement by running away. They raced around the by-ways and streets of Riverside until about every human hair stood on end, when the route was changed for Turners Falls. The ponderous machine danced along the bridge and Second street in a manner sufficient to make mothers tremble for the fate of the swarms of children that lay in its track, but the horses soon became exhausted and stopped on Fifth street, without having harmed themselves, the machine or anything in their line of travel.

The unoccupied shop of the Turners Falls shoe company will be sold at public auction, in June.

May 31

Very beautiful has the country looked for the past week, the hills lovely with the soft tints of the freshly starting foliage, mingled with the dark green of the evergreens, the green fields dotted with wild flowers, and the fruit trees laden with blossoms. Again is the proof before us that "Art may err, but nature cannot miss."

The Boston carrier pigeon association sent 45 pigeons to Greenfield, Sunday morning, on the paper train to be set at

large at 8 o'clock. Ira Lowe of the firm Lowe Bros. & Co. liberated them at the time appointed, and they reached Boston in just one hour and 55 minutes.

John Donovan had the misfortune to have a finger badly jammed in a brickmaking machine the other day.

John Hill and Harry Hall had a serious collision with their bicycles yesterday. Hill's bicycle was completely demolished.

"Keep off the sidewalks" is being continually dinned into the ears of cyclists now-a-days by the people anxious to promote the public good.

The roses will do their share next month toward beautifying the well kept lawns which have been made so attractive by the brilliant bloom of the tulips.

Scott Dunklee, manager of the Adams farm in Factory village, was nearly killed by a boar, Monday. The animal had escaped from his pen and as Dunklee was driving him back, he prodded him with a stick to make him go faster. This made the boar angry, and he knocked Dunklee down and gored his leg badly. He was about to attack the man's head when assistance came, and he was driven back to his pen. Several stitches had to be taken in Dunklee's injured leg.

Justice Green sent Archie Burrows of Northampton to the Concord reformatory, Saturday, for stealing a team from L. Nim's livery stable in Greenfield, Monday morning. Aleck Galy, another 16-year-old boy, was also sent to the Concord reformatory. He was arrested at the depot with another boy for vagrancy.

The picnic and field day of the A. O. H. society in the driving park, yesterday, was very well patronized and was a success. It was one of the most orderly picnics ever held in town, and everything passed off smoothly. Many of the sports and races were omitted, owing to the failure to make entries. Most parties seemed content to boast of their exploits to a select audience, rather than to appear in public and display them, so there were no entries for several of the advertised sports. The foot ball game was also omitted.

Of course the balloon ascension by Miss Lottie Leon, was an attractive feature. The ascension took place at about six o'clock. The balloon did not ascend very high, owing to the moisture of the atmosphere and the rain. The aeronaut sailed over the town and landed in a tree near the schoolhouse in Factory Hollow, without any accident. She was rescued from the tree top by Newton Clark, whose skill at bagging fat coons made the task quite natural, and the fair sky-visitor was fortunate in having her lines fall in such a safe place, although many imagined she might fall in the river and get drowned.

Fans, icewater, blazers and all the articles used in the warfare against heat, have been called forth. May we find little use for them.

The cutlery will shut down, Saturday for two weeks, that the annual repairs may be made.

Michael Fitzgerald has much improved his Montague City home by a fresh coat of paint and blinds.

A large number of Italians came to town the other day to work on the new Keith mill. It was impossible to find enough local workmen.

The French-American brass band will have a strawberry festival in Patucket hall, on Thursday evening, June 8. The proceeds will be used to purchase new uniforms. The band frequently appears on the streets in the evening.

There is a set of outlaws in Montague who have no kind of regard for public property. Two street lamps have been tampered with and globes broken, and on Wednesday night last Merton Deane's bicycle was taken from his father's barn.

The suicide of Chas. L. Clapp on the old homestead farm at East Deerfield, Friday morning, is certainly sad, in that it takes away a man who had many friends, although he had some peculiarities of character. He arose early in the morning, took a large dose of strychnine, and then calmly told his wife, saying he had taken so much that he was sure to die, and that it was useless to call a physician. A physician and neighbors were called, but he died before anything could be done for him. He declined to lay down on the bed, and instead lay down on the piazza, and after several spasms died there, his body being very rigid when given into undertaker's care. The suicide was probably brought about by several things. His father, Calvin Clapp, committed suicide in the same house about twenty years ago by cutting his throat. This would seem to indicate hereditary insanity. It is also stated that the deceased was worried about money matters. He leaves a widow and three children, a boy of sixteen, another child of five and a baby about one year old. He was a brother of Edwin and Gerry Clapp, two well-known citizens of Deerfield, and Calvin Clapp of the Montague mill. The deceased was for a long time an employe of the Cutlery company in this village, and drove to and from his home every day.



June 7

The festive bullfrog indulges in a bass solo every night now.

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Northfield people, from one end of the town to the other, are delighted with the decision of the supreme court in reversing the order of the probate court, appointing a guardian over Mrs. Brittain, whom the experts called a perfectly sane woman, who desired to give her property to her best and most sympathetic friend, her grandson. Outside the immediate family, much interest was taken in the case which was the subject of discussion in hundreds of homes, on the streets, and wherever men congregated.

Geo. F. Adams, superintendent of streets, is grading the streets at South End in a desirable manner. Many of the streets down there were in wretched shape, hollow in the center, and in Spring and Fall, were merely puddles. In grading Fifth street, the rock is used to make a bank wall on I street, and G, H, and I streets are given a pitch sufficient to drain the surface water.

The Italian and his dancing bear has appeared. They look just the same as they did "years and years ago," with the addition, if possible, of a few more coats of dirt, and a few more inches of unkempt hair.

June 14

The cotton mill shut down for the circus last Wednesday. Nature is trying apparently to make up for lost time, especially in the matter of weeds, which grow with a vigor beautiful to witness.

The street commissioner is putting stone gutters on the sides of the avenue.

Superintendent H. O. Smith of the John Russell Cutlery Company is the busiest man in town these days, with numberless forces of men making repairs in all parts of the great works. All the heavy machinery is being reset, and foundations that were any way yielding have been made as solid as the everlasting hills, with tons of rock and cement. As many of the workmen as possible are given employment in the various repair gangs.

There were few bidders at the sale of the shoe shop, Saturday, and Lawyer W. S. Dana bid in the property for \$10,000. What he will do with it, has not transpired, but he will probably turn it over to parties who will find small industries for it. It is believed that small concerns would gladly take room and power, if it could be had cheaply. It has been suggested that a parochial school agitation would turn the building into a good pot of cash quicker than anything else.

Postmaster B. W. Mayo is making many improvements in the postoffice by various additions and extensions. After the carpenters and painters get through, the place will be scarcely recognized. There has been a large addition in the rear, whereby more light can be obtained, and the size of the money order office has been also enlarged, making it much more convenient for the public. The partition in which the telegraph company had its office has been removed, which has greatly enlarged the office, so that parties waiting for the mails need not be so uncomfortably pushed and crowded as heretofore. A new flooring is also being put in.

A forlorn-looking tramp appeared at the residence of Leander L. Bartlett, at Montague City, on Wednesday last, while the family were

ROOMS TO RENT
HIBERNIAN BLOCK.
Suitable for Offices or Work Rooms. Well lighted. Steam Heat. Rent reasonable.
Inquire of T. J. CARROLL,
At Carroll & Argy's.

MY NEW STORE!
BOOTS, SHOES AND RUBBERS,
Harnesses, Whips,
Robes, Etc., Etc.,
Saddlery Hardware.

Repairing done at short Notice.

L. BIBEAU,
Ave. A, Hibernian Block,
TURNERS FALLS - MASS.

Don't Tobacco Spit Your Life Away

Is the startling, truthful title of a little book, telling all about Notobac, the wonderful, harmless, economical, guaranteed cure for the tobacco habit in every form. Tobacco users who want to quit and can't, by mentioning the Reporter can get the book mailed free. Address

J. T. CUMMINGS,
Northfield, Mass.

AT THE SECOND STREET MARKET,
You will find at all times a full line of
Native and Chicago Dressed Beef,
Veal, Lamb, Pork, Sausage, Lard,
Hams, Dried Beef, Tripe,
Vegetables,
And everything usually found in a first-class market.
Fresh and Salt Fish,
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Give us a trial, our prices are low.
GEO. A. ROBERTS & CO.
Telephone Call 25-4.



JOYFUL News for Boys and Girls! Young and Old! A NEW INVENTION just patented for Home use!
BROWN'S FOOT POWER LATHES, circular, scroll and fret sawing, turning, boring, drilling, grinding, polishing and screw cutting. For Carpenters, Cabinet Makers, Carriage Makers, Black, White, Silver, Copper and Goldsmiths; Architects, Amateurs, Gentlemen, Clergymen, Teachers, Jewelers, Dentists, FARMERS and EVERYBODY ELSE.
Users have Written:
"Had 15 years, would not take \$100. Gave \$4." -
"Cost me \$20. I have refused \$100. Had it 15 years." -
"It is worth twice its cost." -
"I could not do without it." -
"I have seen many. This is the best. Beats them all." -
"I am earning my living with it."
Price \$5 to \$50. Send 6 cents for 100 pages of Lathes Instruction and Description.
EXTRA! BROWN, Lowell, Mass.

The Newest Styles in SPRING and SUMMER MILLINERY.

Trimmed Hats a Speciality,
GAUNTLET GLOVES, HOSIERY, JERSEY VESTS,

LADIES' COTTON UNDERWEAR, STAMPED LINEN.

SILK 31in. Wide, only 62c yd.

CROCHET SILKS and COTTONS, EMB. SILKS, &c.

AT
MARBLE & GILBERT'S,
Turners Falls.

FOR SALE.

A small farm in the west part of Gill, of about fifteen acres, with house and barn, land well divided and under good cultivation. Also one lot, about six acres of mowing and sprout land. Will be sold together or separate.

Inquire of
GEORGE CAREY, or
STEPHEN CAREY.

To whom it may Concern.

Be it known that the late firm of Carroll & Argy, doing business on Avenue A, in Turners Falls, in the town of Montague, is dissolved by mutual consent.

The business will be continued by Carroll & Co., who are authorized to collect all outstanding accounts, and will assume and pay all outstanding debts of the late firm.

Turners Falls, Mass., June 1st, 1893.
CARROLL & ARGY.



FITCHBURG RAILROAD
SUPERIOR EQUIPMENT, EXCELLENT TRAIN SERVICE, FAST TIME, and CONSCIENTIOUS EMPLOYEES MAKE THE
HOOSAC TUNNEL ROUTE
THE FAVORITE LINE from Boston to Troy, Albany, Saratoga, Lake George, Adirondack and Catskill Mountains, Syracuse, Rochester, Buffalo, Niagara Falls, Hamilton, Toronto, Cleveland, Detroit, Cincinnati, Chicago, St. Louis, and all points West, Southwest, and Northwest.

FAST EXPRESS TRAINS
With elegant PALACE PARLOR and SLEEPING CARS to and from
BOSTON and CHICAGO

BOSTON and ST. LOUIS, NIAGARA FALLS,
without change.

THE POPULAR ROUTE for all points in Northern New York, Vermont, and Canada. THE ONLY LINE running through cars, with out-change, from Boston to Rutland, Brandon, Middlebury, Vergennes and Burlington.

THE PICTURESQUE ROUTE from Boston to St. Albans, St. John, Ogdensburg, Ottawa, Montreal, and Quebec.
ELEGANT PALACE PARLOR AND SLEEPING CARS to and from
BOSTON and MONTREAL,
without change.

For Time-Tables, Parlor and Sleeping Car accommodations, or further information, apply to any Agent of the Fitchburg Railroad and at
250 Washington Street,
Fitchburg Railroad Passenger Station, Boston.

J. R. WATSON, General Pass. Agent.

Turners Falls Branch, GOING TO GREENFIELD
MORNING. AFTERNOON.
6.00, 9.10, 10.30, 2.00, 5.00, 8.00
LEAVE GREENFIELD AT
6.40, 9.40, 12.10, 3.45, 5.30, 8.48
JOHN ADAMS, J. R. WATSON, Ticket Pass. Agent

JACOBUS BROS.,
WHOLESALE AND RETAIL DEALERS IN
WINES,

MALT AND SPIRITOUS LIQUORS
OF ALL KINDS,
Both Imported and Domestic.

We are Agents for A. J. Houghton & Co's.

CELEBRATED PAVONIA BEER.

This Beer is made from the best Bohemian Hops and Canada Malt to be had, and is free from all adulterations. You will always find it on draught at our place, No. 34 Second Street.

We keep constantly on hand the following well known
WHISKIES,

which we sell at reasonable prices
BY THE PINT, QUART AND GALLON.

Fine's Golden Wedding, } C. B. COOK'S
" Silver " } Old Hermitage,
Garden City, } " Natwood,
Genuine Imported St. Croix Rum, 75 cts. Flat,
Holland Gin, 65 cts.

LUNCH WILL BE SERVED AT ALL HOURS.

JACOBUS BROS.,
No. 34 Second Street,
TURNERS FALLS, - MASS.

NOTICE TO CONTRACTORS.

Bids will be received on or before Wednesday, July 5th, for the Masonry and Carpenter Work necessary for putting the Smead ventilating and heating system in the High School Building at Montague Center. Plans and Specifications can be seen by applying to W. O. CROCKER, Turners Falls, Mass.

The Committee reserve the right to reject any and all bids.
C. W. HOSMER,
For the Committee.
Turners Falls, June 20, 1923.

WATER MELONS ON ICE!

The cash market is the place to get them.

Large stock for the Fourth, and price will be low.

Leave your orders early and have one ice cold.

H. S. SQUIRES, Manager.

Telephone, 21-4.

NOTICE OF BOARD OF HEALTH OF TOWN OF MONTAGUE, ABOUT CLEANING OUT PRIVY VAULTS.

NOTICE is hereby given that no person or persons shall clean out privy vaults before 10 o'clock in the evening. There are some being cleaned out in day light by out of town folks, regardless of the public. This must be stopped. All persons violating this rule will be punished to the full extent of the law.

Per order
BOARD OF HEALTH.

BAKERY, CANDY STORE, ICE CREAM AND DINING ROOMS.

Where everything pertaining to a **FIRST CLASS BAKERY** can be found fresh every day Ice cream, all flavors. Sherbets and fancy orders at short notice.

Our new Soda Fountain is in order, where whipped cream, ice cream and all flavors of soda are drawn. Boston Brown Bread and Baked Beans hot every Sunday morning.

LEWIS & SEVERANCE,
Kellogg's Block,
Ave.A., Turners Falls.

away viewing the circus parade. He asked the servant for some old shoes, and she incautiously said she could get none as the folks were away. Then he asked for bread, and while she was in the pantry to get him some, the vagabond slipped up stairs, ransacked all the rooms, and stole twenty dollars, which he found in a purse in a bureau drawer, and disappeared.

George O. Peabody, the well known carpenter and builder, died at his home on High street, this village, on Monday morning, after suffering a number of years of poor health.

Mr. Peabody was born in Somerset, Vt., 66 years and five months ago, and in early life went to Springfield, Mass., where he followed the trade of a carpenter. He finally settled in Conway, where he married, and carried on business, until the starting of Turners Falls, when he was induced to come here and take charge of the erection of the new mills about to go up. He was very successful and employed large numbers of workmen, being for a number of years about the only contractor for woodwork of any prominence, and most of the early buildings are the monuments of his skill. He was well thought of by Mr. Davis, of the Turners Falls Company, as well as all the other stockholders in the enterprises here, and the stranger within our gates was at once advised to "go and see George," to get the proper bearings before moving in any direction.

Mr. Peabody was President of the Savings bank for a number of years, and when in his prime was a leading spirit in all local affairs. Some ten or a dozen years ago he was stricken with rheumatism, which compelled his retirement from business, and he has been a cripple ever since, but always able to be about in his carriage, never losing his cheerful disposition. His heart was in the right place to begin with, and it always staid there.

Mr. Peabody's three brothers survive him, Rey. Charles, a Congregational clergyman, Daniel, a well known physician, both of Springfield, and John, a farmer now living in Windham, Conn. He also leaves a wife, who was a Miss Truesdell of Conway, and three sons - Edward, who lives here, Frank, a miner in the far west, and Fred, a jeweler in Waterbury, Conn.

Funeral will take place today, from the Congregational church, and the body will be interred in the Springdale Cemetery.

Workmen who have complained that their pay has not been as good as their city brethren, should remember that if the city mechanic gets more a day he is obliged to earn more a day. The city man has to hustle for dear life every minute of the day, while the country mechanic gets a go-as-you-please gait on him that makes him less valuable to his employer. Where larger pay is given there you will find nothing but hustlers, and they earn what they get.

Tramps are getting very insolent at houses where they call for food, and women are getting quite nervous at the action of the gentry. The foreign peddler with a pack is also becoming quite a nuisance on the country roads, and on some occasions he manages to sell goods by being ugly to the women who

come to the door.

The ravages of the cut worm are fearful this summer.

A business change in town is rumored.

June 21

The vacation season is in full blast.

The roads are dusty enough now days, to give every one a chance to swallow their allotted peck of dust.

The first logs of this year's drive are now in the Turners Falls lumber company's booms. The rear of the drive is at Olcott Falls, Vt.

L. F. Kerslake now travels with his pig circus on his own account.

There was the liveliest kind of an exhibition, one night last week, in which fists, profanity, two angry antagonists, and spectators played the principal parts. It occurred on Second street, and add to the above a fainting young lady, and the situation may be grasped at once. After the contest, peace was restored, and no arrests made.

Merton Dean, whose bicycle was stolen from his father's shop in Montague, some time ago, was notified by letter, last week, that it might be found in a pasture, within a mile and a half of his home. He went and found it all right.

A small tornado that is late in being reported occurred in Shelburne, last week. It lifted the roof from a building owned by E. R. Williams, carried it over several maple trees and uprooted a number of fruit trees.

Ira A. Glazier of North Leverett, was brought before Trial Justice Gunn, last Wednesday, for assault upon John E. Pratt of Shutesbury with a knife. He was bound over to the superior court in the sum of \$700.

Last Wednesday evening four men from Montague seated in a two seated wagon, and driven by one forlorn looking horse, having gone beyond the danger-line in the amount of liquor they had taken into their systems, became hilarious, and amused themselves alternately in abusing their horse and driving him at a furious rate, and in abusing each other. They succeeded so well in their attempts, that steps were taken to arrest them, observing which, the four fled. After much trouble, two were captured, but the other two escaped to indulge in sincere repentance, it is to be hoped. Of the two who were captured, one was fined \$15.00 and the other \$10.00.

John Hill, for about 20 years superintendent of the jack-knife grinding-room in the Russell cutlery in this village, died at his home on the Greenfield road Thursday. He left the shop feeling ill, the Saturday previous to his death, and his sickness turned into pneumonia. He leaves a widow and several grown up children. His kindly way won the friendship of those in his employ, by whom he will be greatly missed. He was a skillful cutler, and was open-handed and generous, never refusing to bear more than his share of the burdens of his less fortunate comrades.

The celebration of the glorious Fourth, at the trotting park, this year, will eclipse all previous attempts in that direction. Sports of all kinds will be indulged in, and it is intended to make the day a red-letter day in amusement annals.

The cutlery shops will start up again on Monday.

June 28

The official beginning of summer seems a matter of small interest to us after the sample of excessive heat June furnished us.

Mosquitoes are holding high carnival, this year, and never were more plenty or persistent, but fortunately for suffering humanity flies are less numerous than usual.

Farmers have been busy setting tobacco and restraining the too active potato bug with frequent doses of paris green.

If sitting down on a pie or a disembowelled sandwich has any charms for you, if seeing beetles inspecting your bread, and ants peering out from under the frosting of your cake while bugs float around in your glass and worms pelt down on your head, constitute enjoyment, help yourself to the pleasure, for the picnic season is at hand.

Miss Antonia J. Stemple, the very capable editorial and business assistant in the REPORTER office, has gone to the World's Fair to make a visit long enough to thoroughly study the great international display, with a view to enriching her mental resources as a newspaper writer, for which profession she shows unusual aptitude, as these columns have given evidence for the past three years.



A drunken man has been roaming around the village for a week with his head full of cuts and a broken jaw, bringing up finally in the lock-up.

The policemen took a horse and carriage away from a drunken Frenchman, one night last week.

Judge Conant adjudged Mrs. Annie Collett Jameson of Gill, insane, and she was taken to the Northampton asylum, yesterday.

There was a vicious fight on Third Street, Thursday night a little after six, when one of the recently imported bricklayers got in some very clever sidewinders on the figurehead of William O'Neil, who is not slow with his own pair of dukes. Dr. Messer patched up the injured pugilist so as to allow him to go home in one piece.

A couple of tramps attempted to climb into an open window of a house in Riverside, where a gentleman happened to be sitting without a light on one of the recent warm nights, but the lawless prowlers were awfully surprised when they were seized by a pair of hands like John L. Sullivan's and shaken almost clean out their scare-crow wardrobe. Not until some one bores a hole with a gun through a midnight prowler will the household be safe from such uncanny visits.

A series of ball games between the married and single men, to be played on Goddard's field, is being arranged for.

July 5

June favored us with an abundance of rain before her departure, and the gardens were much improved thereby, though it came too late to be of much benefit to strawberries.

Woodchucks are mak-

ing sad havoc with peas and beans, owing to a scarcity of dogs which have been disposed of for killing sheep. Foxes are very tame, coming even into the door yards.

The fire cracker nuisance began last week, to the terror of horses and the annoyance of everybody except the small boy.

An engine on the Canal road while switching Saturday, ran off the switch just below the depot. A good part of the day with the services of a wrecking train from New Haven was required to get it back on the track again.



There were over 1600 people in attendance at the picnic of the Amusement Association at the Turners Falls Driving Park, yesterday, and the affair proved the most entertaining of any that has been got up here for a long time.

Two fat men struggled in the 100 yard foot race. A roly-poly good natured Cockney Englishman named Williams trotted around an athletic Frenchman named Brook, and came to the tape in 12 seconds.

A. H. Davy, the bicycle rider, won a prize of \$25 by beating Gus. F. Milkey's track mare in a half mile turn, making the circuit in 1.15.

The whole programme was carried out in a ship shape manner, and all the sports were put on at the appointed hour. Considerable praise is due Secretary F. X. Robert, Jr., for his very able management of the affairs of the day.

Northampton parties have been looking at the water-power near the mouth of South river in Conway with a view to utilizing it for electrical purposes.

The selectmen of Greenfield have revoked the drug-gist license of Thomas Roche. Charges were made against him that he entered fictitious names when well-known citizens bought liquor.

Fitz Grant, an Italian, 18 years of age, employed as hod carrier on the new Keith mill, was drowned Sunday afternoon, while bathing in the Connecticut river at the mouth of Barton's cove. He jumped from a log into water over ten feet deep, and being unable to swim, was drowned before assistance could be obtained from any source. The body was recovered about an hour after the accident. A view was made by Medical Examiner Coy.

There is more drunkenness in town this year, than ever before, and it is not uncommon to see youngsters, sixteen to twenty years of age, reeling along the streets. French boys seem to be the ones that can most easily find drink. A good deal of liquor is sold illegally all over the village.

The hoodlum element owned the town the night before the Fourth, and steps were removed from houses, signs taken down, trees broken, and hell generally reigned for several hours. A good many complained, while not a few encouraged such lawlessness, thinking it a want of patriotism to curb boyish enthusiasm.

There is a law against

allowing bonfires to be kindled on the public streets, and yet bonfires burned brightly within a few yards of the buildings.

Some vicious scamps blew out the large lights of glass in the Howard House windows with cannon crackers. So long as the authorities allow so much lawlessness, the town will have to foot all such bills.

Changes in the law on drunkenness went into effect July 1. The principal amendments provide that men arrested cannot be released by the police, but each case must be passed upon by the judge. A man arrested for drunkenness must be told that he can petition the court for release without arraignment for the offense. If the prisoner decides to make the petition, it must be given over to the probation officer, who investigates the facts and reports to the judge before the regular proceedings begin in the court. The judge then has the authority to release the man, who must make the same showing concerning previous offenses, etc., as before required by the police before releasing a man. The other important change is a return of the fine system, when a man has been convicted, while now he can only be imprisoned.

Isaac Chenery, trustee of the property of Mrs. Phoebe Burnham, who has not been seen or heard from since the burning of her house on Montague Plain, March 16, has offered \$50 reward for evidence that will reveal her, alive or dead.

Ten dollars reward is offered for evidence that will convict the person who maliciously broke down one of the young trees on Avenue A, below Fifth street, on the night of July 4th. Apply to the board of directors of the Village Improvement Society for the money.

Last week brought another lot of gypsies to their favorite camping ground on the Greenfield road.

July 12

The crop of daisies this year is immense. Fields which last year showed no signs of the beautiful but by farmers much despised weed, have this season been plentifully sprinkled with the yellow and white blossoms.

The past few weeks have brought us unusually severe thunder showers, considering that the weather has been comparatively cool and the Sundays have been delightful days, with clear bracing air and bright sunshine.

Although the season for the beautiful pond lily has arrived, there seem to be very few brought into the town.

Watermelons and muskmelons are in the market and of good quality also.

The tenement vacated by Principal Jefferson in E. H. Bartlett's house on High street, has been rented by J. A. Atkins.

A Turners Falls bicycle rider ran into a Greenfield rider, the other night, and destroyed the latter's wheel, worth \$160.

William McClintock, aged 17, will be given a hearing before Justice Dana, this afternoon, on a charge of assaulting Annie Doton, of about the same age, of Montague City, while she was returning from Sunday School, a couple of Sundays ago.

Some of the sports of Greenfield and Turners Falls ushered in the Fourth at an

early hour by having a battle of game roosters. Each town was represented by five birds and Greenfield had the honor of winning four out of the five battles The stakes were \$25 a side and there were several small side stakes. The affair took place in Greenfield near the stone farm. The party was very select and it is said that several well-known business men were among those present. They did not attend because they care particularly for cock fighting, but rather because they had never seen a contest of this kind, and went for the novelty. It may be interesting to know that it is said that the shire town has a "handler" who is very expert. Turners Falls has a cock that is called Jack McAuliffe, because he has never been beaten and when the "handler" in Greenfield gets a bird that can whip Jack there will be another battle. The contest, Tuesday morning, started at 5 o'clock and was over before 8 o'clock.

Mrs. Ney of Bay State, came to visit her mother, Mrs. Haigis, on Second street, this village, last week and brought her daughter, Bertha, aged one year and nine months. The child got hold of a bottle of caustic potash from which she drank, causing intense suffering for a day when death came to her relief.

July 19
The blackberry crop promises to be enormous.

The Montague Paper company is putting in two more steam boilers.

In spite of the July weather, coal took an upward leap in price, last week.

Otto Bertram, the new German doctor, has opened an office in Schuler's block.

The Fitchburg railroad is now introducing the air-signal apparatus. By this system the old, unreliable bell cord is abolished, and each car is equipped with a separate signal apparatus.

Joseph Farlander has sold his house on Second street to George Stotz for \$1830, which, estimating by former Turners Falls prices, is supposed to be not more than two-thirds of its value.

Mrs. David Kavanaugh and Mrs. Delia Lenoix met with a serious accident Saturday. They started with others in a two-seated wagon for berries. The back seat, occupied by Mrs. Kavanaugh and Mrs. Lenoix, was not securely fastened and fell backward, taking its occupants with it. Mrs. Kavanaugh had two ribs broken and was badly bruised. Mrs. Lenoix had her scalp nearly torn off by the seat striking her head.

At the superior court, the grand jury returned the following indictments: Edward Hawks and Lillian L. Goodnow, adultery; both pleaded not guilty. Dennis Cadratt and Julia Foster, lascivious cohabitation. Ira A. Glazier, assault and battery, df't pleads guilty. Inhabitants of Colrain, neglect to repair the highway.



Mr. Bardwell's fine flock of sheep in Coleraine has been demoralized twice within five weeks by mutton-eating dogs, causing an estimated damage of nearly \$100.

The people who are at Northfield, mostly college people, attending "Moody's college conference," will be glad to get away with the clothes on their back. Some enterprising thieves have been clearing out their rooms while they were attending prayer meetings.

Tramps are appearing among the hill towns to the disgust of the farmers.

July 26
Most of the farmers have finished haying.

The sound of the crickets is heard, reminding us that summer is on the wane.

Something very near a drought has prevailed in this vicinity, and it is said the potato crop will suffer, although some early ones are being dug now and promise well.

Berry pickers with receptacles ranging from a pint cup to a wash boiler, scour the plains for berries, and add a picturesque feature to the monotony of the scenery thereabouts.

The Turners Falls Water Power company have divers working on the dam.

About 100 people went from here on the excursion to Nantasket, last week.

A granite curbing is being put in on Second street, preparatory to making a sidewalk.

Persons using the city water recklessly by allowing the hose to lie on the ground or fastened to a stake, without paying extra for the same, will be liable to have water shut off entirely.

F. Engerman, a youth of tender years, chopped two fingers off Emmond Schuler's hand, last week. The boys were chopping wood when the accident occurred, the victim holding the stick.

A false alarm of fire was given last Thursday, the cause proceeding from a hen house down in the South End.

In all lines of manufacturing there is absolutely no demand for goods, and capitalists are quite uneasy as to the result. Nobody is buying, and nobody paying for what they have bought, so that thrifty business enterprises are paying more for money to do business with than profits will allow. Cool heads now may prevent hungry stomachs hereafter.

August 2
Thunder showers are unusually severe, this season causing much damage. Last week's shower was accompanied by snow and hail in different parts of New England, and the sudden changes of temperature from 90 to 60 degrees, to which we are so frequently subjected, are trying to the strongest.

The apple crop this year promises to be light. Some people estimate the yield at about half that of last year.

Philip and Jacob Jacobus have begun to build \$5000 houses on their lot on Central street, from plans of a New York architect. The buildings are to be identical. Michael Sullivan & Son do the stone and brick work, and John Kiley the wood work.

The moonlight dance held at Goddard's grove, Friday evening, for the benefit of the German Musical Society, was a great success. Milde's orchestra furnished the music.

Henry Guello has been drunk so long that Justice Dana concluded to send him up for thirty days so that the natives might learn to know how he looks when sober.

Adair Demo got full of rum, Monday, and succeeded in overturning his carriage at the corner of Fourth street and the avenue, and pitched headlong into the street. He was put into the lock-up to sober off, and Justice Dana let him on probation.



St. Mary's Temperance society held a pleasant lawn party on a vacant lot on the avenue one evening last week.

There will be a ball game on Goddard's field, Friday afternoon at four o'clock, between the single and married men. This is the deciding game of the series and as each have won one, a very exciting contest is promised. All come.

Last week, a man giving the name of Redwood, called at Fred Field's summer hotel in Montague, and engaged board and rooms for himself, wife and two children, who he said were coming next day. In the meantime he tried to buy a good bicycle and inquired of Mr. Field, who recommended him to a store in Northampton where he bought one worth \$150, giving a check with Mr. Field's signature for \$180. The company did not have the money and so said they would send a check to Montague in a few days. They did so, and then Mr. Field found out why his new boarder "never came back" from Northampton. Since then Mr. Field found out that this same person passed another check with his professed signature for \$50, at White Brothers' dry good store in Greenfield. Redwood has neither been seen or heard from since the discovery of the little game.

Instead of hearing about hard times around the establishment of the Keith Paper Co. the air is full of business enthusiasm. Work on the new mill is progressing rapidly, and plans have just been completed for a large extension not contemplated before the hard times scare began to appear. The newest addition will extend from the end of the South wing to the railroad track, and will be four stories high.

August 9
The children have now located the best apples, and may be seen daily returning from foraging expedition with their loads.

George A. Roberts & Co. will close their meat market on Second street, Saturday, as they could not make their business pay. They still run their market in Greenfield.

The Rod shop started up Thursday, but without the full number of help.

The last of the great log drive, which was started at the head waters of the Connecticut early in April, is here. Over 700 men were employed at the outset, though the force has been reduced until now there remain but about 30. Two men have been drowned on the drive, which is the largest ever sent down the Connecticut.

The assessors have finished their work and made the rate, which is \$19.50 a thousand, with an additional \$2.80 for the fire district tax, making the burden to most of the taxpayers \$22.30 on \$1000. The number of polls is 1670.

The increase in valuation is about \$33,000 in the fire district, while the balance of the town's valuation is shrinking. The loss of \$100,000 bank capital is felt this year.

Early last Friday morning the community was awakened by an alarm of fire. As is usual in Turners Falls, the greater part of the people were at the scene in a few minutes. The fire originated in Mrs. Rent's barn on L street and from that the house caught. The fire had gained quite a headway before it was seen. Before the firemen could extinguish the flames a great deal of damage was done LaPort's block, closely adjoining. The damage amounted to \$1500. Both buildings were insured. The South End firemen were badly rattled, and Chief McCarthy had his patience severely tried with his men.

Charles M. Stratton, one of the oldest and most highly respected citizens of Greenfield, died at his home on Prospect street, last Thursday. Both he and his wife were taken sick after eating lobster. Mrs. Stratton recovered in a short time, but Mr. Stratton's case could not be relieved. He was a direct descendant of the earlier settlers of Northfield, his great-great-grandfather Hezekiah Stratton, being one of the second lot of settlers to locate there.

Hugh Maxwell and William Riverington, selectmen of Heath, were called, Sunday, to view the dead and mangled sheep of Myron Hamilton, Charles Hamilton and Thomas Tanner. The sheep were in the Wright and Gould pastures, the dividing fence being the line between Heath and Rowe, and dogs had evidently ravaged the two flocks a week or more before discovery. Charles Hamilton's sheep were in the Wright lot and eight were killed, while Myron Hamilton lost 30 and Thomas Tanner two, making a total of 40, about half the number in the pastures. The remnants of the flocks were taken from the pastures to safer quarters The dogs have not been identified, and will probably raid other sheepfolds before being discovered. So many sheep are killed by dogs yearly in Western Franklin county that the business of growing wool and raising early lambs is discouraging.

William Metz, of Third street, lost three toes while going up in an elevator at the silver plating shops at Greenfield, yesterday.

Ollie Prentice, son of Thomas Prentice of Riverside, a seven year old boy, was smothered in the sand while playing last Saturday. He stood on his head in a sand hole, and the treacherous stuff caved in on him.

The married and single men played ball again, Friday afternoon, on Goddard's field. The game was won by the married men, 13 to 11. It was a well contested game from start to finish, but the married men excelled in batting. The single men played a steady up-hill game throughout. The married men went to pieces in the second inning and the whole nine, with one or two exceptions, played real "yellow ball." They soon collected themselves, however, and proceeded to mow down the lead of the single men with a vigor that was appreciated by the spectators. Cowbell Bill cheered the married men on to victory, while the efforts of the youths in duck breeches

for their favorites were unavailing. It was an enjoyable afternoon for all concerned.

Don't be afraid to hand in news to this office. It isn't necessary to see the editor personally. One of the assistants in the office can do just as well, and tell the story properly, if the relator cannot. Give us the news, by letter, by postal card, by messenger, or as you will. There is always a welcome for it, even if the editor does not get it personally. He has often business to do that takes all his time and attention.

August 16
About \$15,000 was paid to the logmen that were discharged here. Two went on a spree and made so much disturbance that they were arrested.

Owing to lack of orders, the Turners Falls cotton mills will run on half time beginning on Monday next. The factory will close the last three days in each week until business revives.

The New England Fibre company will shut down for two weeks to fix its spring water dam and do some other repairing. They are running full time, and have all the orders they can fill.

Owing to a misplaced switch, several freight cars were smashed to kindling wood in the Fitchburg railroad yard, here, Saturday. The trains were delayed while the tracks were being cleared.

The drunken railing along the Montague City road has been put on its feet again, improving the appearance.

It has been discovered that to put the curbstones where intended on the village streets, whole lines of trees would have to be cut down; so the engineer has been summoned to relocate the curbing, which will be placed two feet further out.

Miss Antonia J. Stemple, of the REPORTER office, has returned from a two months' visit to the World's Fair. She was the guest of her uncle in Chicago.

The operators of skin games following the circus, roped in a good many suckers in this town to the tunes of five to twenty-five dollars.

The old question of a division of the town of Deerfield and the annexation of the Green River district to the town of Greenfield is again in agitation through the efforts of the Green River people to secure a sewer system in their section. They petitioned for the sewer some time ago and at a town-meeting the latter part of June \$3000 was appropriated to build the system. The Green River people, who have cultivated the conceited idea that they can have anything on demand, were in ecstasy and inclined to crow over the farmers of the town, who bitterly opposed the idea of the whole being taxed extra for the benefit of a small portion. The latter have been doing a deal of quiet work and the result was seen, Saturday, when in a special town-meeting at Deerfield the farmers united in a solid majority and rescinded the vote to appropriate money for the sewers. Some Greenfield people, who are in favor of annexation, are pleased at this latest sectional wrangle in the sister town, and are ready to fan the blaze if it will result in the accomplishment of their object.

Workmen should know that business of all kinds is

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The Greatest
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STRICTLY ALL WOOL,
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BEAUTIFUL MEDAL
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LATE THINGS IN

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demoralized to an alarming degree, and a question of wages should not be so much in mind as the possibility of no wages at all. All kind of goods are entirely out of demand, and collections that came in 30, 60 and 90 days, are simply stopped, as far as the West is concerned. Should manufacturers be provoked to close their factories, workmen would swarm over the face of the earth like so many ants seeking food and shelter. But the stringency, if it does not bring disaster, will teach men to go slow in apparent prosperity, for they know not the day nor the hour when disaster cometh. Unalloyed prosperity is apt to make men take little heed of the morrow, and disaster coming unnoticed is usually the most terrible. The safe pilot is the one who knows what it is to run against a snag.

Four precious youths, all under a dozen years, have been camping out in the grove at the South End for a week or more, getting food where they could, going so far as to visit neighboring hen-roosts in pursuit of forage. The police raided the gang, and found that two were runaways from the Sisters of Charity at Holyoke, and two belonged in this village. The state officer was summoned, and when he appears a hearing will be given the young vagabonds.

August 23

Long evenings, now, and cold.

Doctors are kept busy these days, there is so much illness caused by stomach and bowel troubles, and young children are the special victims.

Peaches in great quantities were received in town, last week, and housewives have been busy in consequence.

Bullheads, pickerel and eels are reported plentiful in ponds and rivers near by.

This village is more plentifully supplied with hitching posts than any other town in the state, we believe. Not only can hitching posts be found in front of houses and stores, but in front of many vacant lots as well.

A car lays capsized on the switch near the depot of the Canal road, as a result of an accident, yesterday.

Mr. Joseph Griswold, of the cotton mill company, so long as he cannot furnish but half employment to his people, refuses to take more than half the rent from tenants of his block.

The walls of the new Keith mill are going up like wild-fire now that the massive arches and solid walls of masonry are passed. The bricklayers are almost ready for the last floor to be laid, and the roof will go on in a very short time now.



A large party of business men of this village had planned for an outing at Lake Megantic, Canada, this week, but the state of business kept all at home. With money utterly unobtainable to pay help, and nobody buying goods, many of our business men feel that they cannot afford to take a week off.

On account of dull times the Fitchburg railroad is reducing the number of em-

ploies. Five men were recently discharged from the engine house at North Adams, while the switching gangs were cut down some time ago. There are “through freight” engineers who have not been on the road in over a week.

The Fitchburg road has been paying some of their employes in gold, being unable to obtain currency.

The John Russell Cutlery Company have at last been forced to close their factory three days this week, owing to a lack of orders, and the impossibility of placing goods on their shelves with any certainty of future profit.

How business men now envy the poor, who do not need to borrow money to carry along a losing business!

John Moriarity was struck by a flying board from a saw in the saw mill at Riverside, last week, and badly wounded in the arm.

Love-makers in the park should at least keep clear of the occupied seats when they make exhibitions of themselves. A party of young men were highly entertained by an extremely spoony couple who occupied grass seats near them the other evening.

Andrew Hunter, a brick-maker, loaded up full of rum on Monday, and imagined he owned the town. Policeman Dunbar sacrificed his uniform in pulling the fellow off the earth, which he had staked off, and Justice Dana collected \$20 as taxes for the brief season of ownership.

The public should bear in mind there is no such thing as “shutting down” for a newspaper, no matter how hard the times. Neither is there any way to materially reduce expenses in a newspaper office. It takes just so many hands, just so much paper and just so much work to get out a paper, good times or bad.

August 30

Schools re-open for the fall term on Tuesday.

A party of young people held a picnic at the Montague dam on Fall River, Wednesday afternoon.

Yesterday’s high wind broke down a lot of trees on the Montague City road so that on several places the road was partially obstructed with the fallen branches.

A leak in the main water pipe on Third street is giving the water commissioners some trouble for a couple of days.

Much damage to tobacco and other crops in Vernon was done by a hail storm, Sunday, the loss amounting to several thousand dollars. Whole tobacco fields were ruined. Franklin pond in Guilford rose six feet in an hour, and Green river nearly as much. A stallion owned by Mather Barber of Coleraine, and valued at \$1000, was killed by lightning.

The mill owners on Saw mill river, which runs from Lock’s Pond to the Connecticut, have had notice from the fish commissioners that the sawdust is destructive to useful fish.

The cutlery shops will not start up again until after Labor Day. If business is then as dead as it is now, the doors will be kept closed still further. The whole country has refused to buy goods, and won’t pay for what they’ve had, in every line of trade, so there is absolutely no encouragement for manufacturers to do anything.

A railroad detective and three local officers from Fitchburg started out from that city, recently, and arrested 21 tramp track walkers. The railroad officials are determined to break up this nuisance and will follow up the business until the road is rid of the outlaws.

Jacob Koskoba, a youth under age, and William McClintock, aged 17, were picked up in a beastly state of intoxication after twelve o’clock, Monday night, and locked up. Yesterday, Justice Dana imposed a fine of \$5.00 on Koskoba, and continued the case against McClintock for a week, as the young man seems to be bound for the devil as fast as rum can take him.

William H. Lee of Shelburne, in a fit of insanity, attempted to murder the Roberts family with an ax, Monday morning. He was arrested by Officers Swan and Woodward and adjudged insane by Drs. Drew and Wilson. He was taken to the Northampton asylum in the afternoon.



Last Wednesday about 7.30, fire was discovered in Geo. Lougee’s block on Fourth street. The fire raged fiercely for about an hour, and the firemen had to work hard to put it out. It is supposed that a defective chimney was the cause of the fire which was confined to the roof and top story, and was fortunately prevented from spreading. The loss was about \$1500 on the house, which was insured for \$2500. Those that lived in the second story lost considerable by the water, for there were literally “streams of living water” pouring down the stairs and floating around in the rooms, as a result of the water which the zealous firemen sent into the burning house. There was no drouth felt there that night, and the families removed all the furniture and household goods possible, as they would not have been any better off if they had experienced the water cure. A vast crowd stood gazing at the scene, and proving something of a nuisance to the firemen and neighbors, a few applications of the hose caused them to scatter in a hurry, only to come again.

The building was occupied by four occupants, George C. Lougee, John C. Fellows, O. B. Wood and George Spencer. The ball game between the clerks and the papermakers was very well attended, and a good game was seen by those who are fond of the sport. At the close of the papermakers’ half of the tenth inning, with the score a tie, they refused to go on with the game and the umpire gave the game to the clerks, 9 to 0.

If any man feels the financial stringency let him begin his economies in the saloons. This will save the pennies for wives and children.

September 6

Katy-dids are making themselves heard these evenings. It is said that there will be a frost in just six weeks from the time they begin.

The picnic of the Gustav Adolph Lodge was fairly well patronized considering the general depression, but the

money did not flow in quite as freely as in other years.

A tent show which played all last week on L street, drew lots of money that was needed elsewhere, out of the people’s pocket.

The season just closed at Lake Pleasant is considered a very successful one, and the attendance fully as large as the average in recent years. The prohibition of excursion trains on Sundays does not seem to have made any difference in the size of crowds. The railroad ran trains just as before, but kindly refrained from calling them “excursions.”

The celebration at the park on Labor Day, proved intensely interesting to those who witnessed them, and gave the spectators plenty to talk about. The attendance was good but it could have been larger. Of course the bicycle races proved the great attraction, as usual. There were six races. W. C. D. Thomas, who was entered in four races, did not appear, and G. A. Rist did not ride in the last two races in which he was entered.

One evening of last week a party of young people had a corn roast at Lily pond. Ghost stories were contributed by all.

Mrs. S. E. Ripley had a night blooming cereus bloom last week, which had four large blossoms.

The main water pipe on High street burst this morning.

Since the town of Montague had to pay some \$2,000 on account of an accident resulting from the lack of railing at a dangerous place in the road, other towns are putting up substantial railings in many dangerous places.

A bridge on the Boston & Albany railroad, near Chester, collapsed early Thursday afternoon, under the weight of the Chicago limited express train, with a dreadful wreck as a result, fourteen persons being instantly killed, while twice that number were badly injured. There is a class of railroad accidents that no care or foresight can provide against, but an accident resulting from a weak bridge is not one of them, and that such a disaster should occur on a bridge like the Boston & Albany is inexplicable and inexcusable.

Patrick Cunningham has charge of the extensive repairing which is being done at Keith Spring. The spring is being cleared of rubbish, the embankment put into good condition, new piles driven in, to replace the ones that have rotted, and a new house erected. The spring will be a more attractive place than ever after it is renovated.

Only two war veterans appeared before the board of county pension examiners Wednesday, which is rather a small number for this time of year. The cutting off of some of the pensioners had undoubtedly an effect upon some of those would otherwise apply.

Thomas Hurly, a resident of L street, having absorbed more of the cheering and enebriating fluid than was good for him, awakened the neighbors toward midnight, one day of last week, by the noise he created. He was engaged in the edifying amusement of thrashing his children and making such general disturbance as gentlemen in his condition are fain to do.

Frank Davis, who has a wife and seven children, has

had a weakness for drink lately, and was brought before Justice Dana to give an account of himself. Promised to turn over a new leaf and give his money to wife and babies instead of the saloon, the kindly justice allowed him to depart on probation.

Cornelius Conner, Frank Elmer, and Frank Breslin of Millers Falls went down to the mouth of Millers River, and stole water melons from the field of Orange Brown. The court believing that a water melon patch is not public property, collected a fine of \$5.00 each, as a reminder that a man is not compelled in law to put a time lock on all of his property in order to be sure of its possession.

John Smead’s domain was invaded last week by the little son of John Fulton, and the youngster was picked up by the ears by Smead and put over into the territory of his paternal ancestor. His method of transporting young Fulton, displeased his bellicose father very much, and he made a pun on his name by delivering a blow on Smead’s anatomy whose force could be truthfully measured by a full ton. Instead of being satisfied with their own methods of punishment, both Smead and Fulton came up smiling before the bar of justice. Solomon like, Justice Dana made both happy by collecting \$5.00 from each, which was interpreted by the warriors as meaning neither was to blame.

Deputy Sheriff Fowler arrested John Williams and William Hall in Orange last week, and had them before Justice Greene on the charge of stealing a ride on a Fitchburg freight train. They were sent to jail for 30 days. William said he had not done a stroke of work for five years, and the indications were that he belonged to the light-fingered chaps who go about the country breaking into houses and railroad trains.

Never in the history of many of the villages that dot the shores of the Blackstone, from Worcester to Woonsocket, R. I., has there been such a lull in business as at the present time, in many instances all of the industries in a village being completely closed. One walking through the towns would think it was Sunday were it not that the shops of the provision dealers are open and the post offices are doing a little business for Uncle Sam. The merchants, who are doing a much reduced business, wear a sickly smile when asked what the outcome will be. Hundreds of men, women and children in the Blackstone valley are thrown out of employment, and hundreds more have lost the support which supplied them with bread. The situation is far from reassuring, and if some relief does not soon come the people, enterprising and prosperous, will be reduced to want.

There is an ambitious youth down in Montague City who is evidently cherishing dreams of blossoming out some day as a wonderful “imported acrobat.” In anticipation of that day, he has stretched a wire between a fence and a post out in his yard, and his feet shod with a pair of old rubbers, and armed with a pole twice the length of his body, he makes heroic endeavors to master the mysteries of wire walking. He deserves success for his ambition, as most of the youths of this day seem to be lacking that quality.

September 13

Light frosts on low lands have been reported.

Those who know all the signs, say that thunder in the fall is a sign of warm weather.

The season of cattle shows and county fairs is upon us, and they will soon be in full progress. The farmer is now engaged in saving his big fruits and vegetables for exhibition, provided of course, if he has any.

The mothers are beginning to find out where they “are at,” now that their boys and girls are at school again, part of the day at least. Most of them are giving long sighs of relief.

The universal depression does not seem to be felt in the matrimonial market, as marrying and giving in marriage is going on just as lively now as in other years.

Those who haunt the woods these beautiful autumn months, and run the risk of being poisoned, may be interested in the statement of a Vermont man. He says that by washing the poisoned parts with whitewash he has cured ivy poisoning in one night. This cure may recommend itself to come because it is cheap, and some might object to it for the same reason.

Those housewives who did not secure their canning peaches when they were cheap, because they entertained hopes of getting them still cheaper, will not be overjoyed to hear that the price has been raised. The late winds have been the cause of the increase. In this case the wind blew some one some good, but as the negligent ones will think, not to the right parties.

October 7, the day of the assembling of the Republican state convention, is a long way off, but the work of stirring the soil for a crop of delegates is going on briskly. Runners are out all over the state in the interest of the various candidates.

Those having any fault to find with the amount they are taxed will find the assessors at their office on Saturday and Monday, Sept. 16 and 18, where mistakes will be rectified.

The board of health have received notice from the State board that they are required to report daily the number of contagious diseases of which physicians have given notice. They are now required to report all cases of smallpox, scarlet fever, diphtheria, membranous croup, measles, typhoid fever, cholera, typhus fever, yellow fever, cerebrospinal meningitis, hydrophobia, malignant pustule, glanders and trichinosis. All physicians in town must now report to Dr. Coy, agent of the board of health, all diseases here, enumerated coming under their care.

The county commissioners are going to see if they can not lessen the number of sheep killing dogs in the county. To this end they are having post-ers prepared to send to the selectmen of the various towns, who are requested to post the same, calling attention to section 2, chapter 454, of the acts of 1889 where a reward of \$10 is offered to any person who kills a dog known to be a slayer of sheep, or for evidence that will show conclusively who is the owner of a dog or dogs by which damage has been done to domestic animals.

Some mischievous boys amused themselves filling up the outlet pipe of the Mon-

tague City watering trough, consequently it overflowed, and flooded the road.

A young son of Jerry Reen, of Fourth street, while playing with a number of young companions was struck in the eye with a stone, the injury being sufficient to cause loss of the eye.

Rose Schleger, a young German woman, was sent to the Northampton asylum, yesterday. She had become violently insane.

Charles Connoly, senior member of the firm of Connoly, McAuslan & Forbes of Holyoke died early Friday morning at Northampton in the insane asylum. He had been suffering from paresis for some time and had been committed to the asylum Monday. The disease was aggravated by the death of his daughter two years ago and since that time he had been steadily declining. He established the Boston Store in this village, and in 1885 went to Holyoke, where he was well known and had been looked on as a successful business man, being the organizer of the new silk mill. He leaves a wife and two children.

Deerfield came very near losing one of its well-known political workers and farmer statesmen the other day, for Horatio Hoyt had a narrow escape from having his earthly political career ended while out looking over some land with Rufus Brown. While the survey was going on Brown, who has no love for Hoyt, suddenly pushed the latter to the ground with a stump. As Hoyt, who imagined the old discussion over woman's right to register in the town was again on tap, arose to make a reply, his head ran against a crowbar which happened to be in Brown's hands. A scar was left on Hoyt's brainy head and then the rumpus was ended, as friends interfered, and Hoyt says that he is now trying to find out why he was struck.

About 350 bushels of potatoes have been grown on the county farm at the jail this season, with a good supply of grass and some corn.

The corner has fairly been turned and the business situation is likely to grow steadily better from this time on. The premium on currency has disappeared, stocks are going up, savings banks are withdrawing their demands for notice, and closed factories are resuming.

September 20

September is giving us some delightful weather, — when it don't rain.

The ice man will soon give way to the coal dealer.



The Montague City Rod Co. closed two days last week.

The drinking fountain which has been erected in front of Allen Bros.' store, fills a long felt want. A most abnormal craving for water has been developed in the young since its erection.

The inevitable tax-bills have made their appearance, and the sums mentioned thereon will take your breath away, whether you are taxed on a shanty or a mansion.

Although the water commissioners have been at their office for several evenings collecting water rates, there is still a considerable amount outstanding. They will meet

again to-morrow morning, Sept. 21st, and invite all water takers who have not already done so to give them a call.

Mrs Ballentine, for a number of years a missionary in India, and who is soon to resume her work, will speak to the ladies on Thursday of this week, at 4 p.m., at the Congregational church, giving her impressions of the life in India and her experiences in the work. A cordial invitation is extended to all the ladies in the village to come and hear her.

A week ago to-day the 100th birthday of the little town of Gill was celebrated in a royal style. The day was all that could be wished for, and friends, neighbors and citizens from far and near gathered to-gether. It is estimated that between two and three thousand people were on the grounds during the day. Many came from a distance to visit their old home, and there was a general reunion in consequence.

Alonzo Payne was arrested at his home, Saturday night, and had a hearing before Justice Malone in Greenfield, Monday, for burning the barn owned by Frank LaValla. He was put under \$2000 bonds to appear at the November sitting of the superior court, but failing to secure bonds, he was sent to jail.

The discovery of Payne was a piece of very keen detective work, done by Deputy Sheriff E. J. Pratt of Millers Falls. Mr. Pratt saw some footprints in the sand around the barn and followed them to Payne's house. When he inquired for Payne he was informed that he was at the Charlemont cattle show. Later it was learned that Payne did not attend the fair, Thursday, but was seen to board the train for the fair at the West Deerfield station, Friday morning. A closer examination of the footprints revealed the fact that the prints were made by rubber boots and there was a hole in the sole of the left boot. When Payne returned to his home, Saturday night, he was arrested and brought to Greenfield. In his kitchen were found the boots referred to. When he was brought before the justice to explain matters he said that it was true he did not go to the fair on Thursday, but that he was not in Montague on Thursday night. He said he walked to Millers Falls, Thursday afternoon, and found that the train had left a few minutes before. He started from Millers Falls to walk to Greenfield to take a train there, arriving there at about 9 o'clock, but he was again too late, so he then went to a barn near Franklin park and stayed until the next morning, when he continued his tramp to West Deerfield, where he was seen boarding the train. When questioned about the boots he said they were not his, that he never owned a pair of rubber boots, but he did not tell to whom they belonged.

The reason given for the act is revenge, which he sought on Mr. LaValla. Some time ago Payne "borrowed" a plow from LaValla and Mr. LaValla told him that if he returned the plow he would not prosecute him. Payne returned the plow and later he borrowed some ducks from LaValla. LaValla told of this and it is thought this roused Payne's anger and caused him to commit the deed.

There have been several

mysterious fires in this vicinity and Payne has been suspected for a long time. He has a bad record, having no less than six indictments against him at different times. He served a three years' sentence in the county jail not many years ago for poisoning cattle.

One wonders in reading the testimony in regard to the recent railroad disaster on the Boston & Albany railroad the hearing before the railroad commissioners, whether it is true of all railroads, as it appears to have been on the Boston & Albany, that the high salaried officials know very little about what is doing on the line of the road, evidently trusting to luck and the good sense of common laborers to keep a great iron bridge in a safe condition to carry the enormous weights bridges are now called to sustain. In this Chester disaster a gang of bridge builders were repairing a bridge, and left it, to eat their dinner, in such a weakened condition, on account of rivets removed, that the first train that came along went through, with great loss of life and property. It was very careless on their part, no doubt, but what shall be said of the high officials of the road who never told them any better, and no one present overseeing or inspecting the way they did the work?

Harry Frost, an elderly man, was the victim of a most annoying trick last week. While going home from his work, one evening, some one proceeded to throw a stone with great force, which struck Mr. Frost on the ankle. He is now very lame and obliged to walk what little he can, with a cane, as his leg and foot are very much swollen. He does not know who is the cause of his misfortune, but wishes he did.

September 27

Alonzo Payne, who was committed to jail awaiting action by the grand jury on the charge that he burned Frank LaValla's barn, is out on bail. His bonds are \$2000 and he put up the money himself as security. His bank-book shows that he has a deposit of more than \$4000.

A red fox was shot on Canada Hill last Friday.

Time is pretty evenly divided between day and night now.

The cutlery shops were shut down on Friday and Saturday of last week.

The smell of tar is now constantly ascending to the skies, for the side walks are being concreted. L. C. Hill of Chicopee is doing the work.

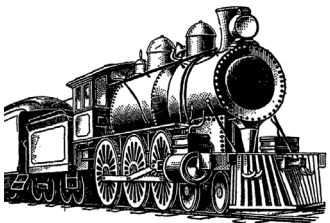
The price of milk was advanced Sept. 1st to six cents per quart. The reason given is the drying up of the pastures. The price of creamery butter has also advanced to 33 cents per pound.

The Franklin County Agricultural Society had pleasant weather for the opening of their fair on Thursday, and consequently the attendance was above that of first days of former years. A drizzling rain fell late in the afternoon of the second day, but the attendance was very good and the financial results pleasing.

Ben. Hamilton, whose abode is on the Plains, has changed his residence to the jail, where he will abide for the next six months. Justice Dana sentenced him to that place for his third offense of drunkenness.

John Sullivan, a young

man employed as a laborer on the Keith Mill had a very narrow escape from instant death last week. While wheeling a barrow of mortar on the top floor of the new building, a stone caused him to trip, and he fell down three stories, a distance of about forty-four feet. In his descent he struck a ladder, and farther on a plank, which broke the force of his fall, and saved him. On examination it was found that he broke no bones, or was otherwise seriously injured, and that he will be none the worse for his experience. He has a scalp wound to remind him of his fall.



Miss Sophia T. W. Morton and Mrs. Henry L. Stevens were killed at the Chapman street crossing in Greenfield, yesterday, by the 4.13 train on the Boston and Maine railroad. They had been out driving and were near the crossing when the train was due. There are several stories told by persons claiming to have been eye-witnesses of the accident. A passenger on the train said that he "saw the ladies urging their horse on in an attempt to cross the tracks before the train passed." Another passenger said that "the ladies were apparently trying to hold back the animal when he rushed into the train." There was no blood on the pilot of the engine, while the tender and the front of the mail car were covered with blood, going to show that the horse struck the engine, instead of the engine striking the horse. The train took the horse several rods down the track, broke the carriage into kindling-wood and threw the women several rods. Mrs. Stevens was instantly killed and Miss Morton died before reaching the station at Greenfield, less than a mile away.

This is a very dangerous crossing. the railroad being partly obscured by a bank along the track. It is said that a similar accident took place there a number of years ago. The crossing could be made perfectly safe at a very slight cost. Both women were very well-known, being dressmakers. A daughter 20 years old and her husband survive Mrs Stevens, while Miss Morton had no relative in Greenfield nearer than a cousin, Mrs. L. C. Pratt, but she has sisters and brothers in the West. Medical Examiner Coy viewed the bodies at the depot, where they were kept from the time of the accident until they were taken to their homes.

Wendell people have been having more experience with peddlers. A book agent with more brass than brains has been canvassing the town, and where he was unable to persuade people to part with their hard earned cash, he was insulting, going so far as to call one lady a liar. One woman ventured to free her mind pretty freely. The people here are likely to give agents a wide berth as past experiences are anything but pleasant, and if the canvasser is met at the door with a revolver, he had better retire as gracefully as possible for the women of Wendell have fire in their eyes.

Harvest moon now, and delightful evenings.

October 4

The poor eels in the canal are having a hard time at present. Every Sunday a whole throng of wily Frenchmen are intensely busied in hunting them up. Large strings of the slippery dainties are caught, some being fortunate enough to haul out twenty or more. Parties even come over from Greenfield to engage in the sport.

Martin Coyne has started a blacksmith shop on Second street.

The work of concreting the sidewalks goes merrily on. Second and Third streets have been finished and the rest are rapidly nearing completion. When the walks are laid our streets will compare favorably with those of more pretentious places.

A number of the boys met Saturday and organized a foot ball team, with C.W. Munson, business manager and G.H. Rist, captain. They have secured permission to practice under an electric light, and may be seen any night practicing together. They play under the name of the Turners Falls Athletic Club and desire games with any other clubs or high school teams. The first game will be played with the Greenfield high school, on next Tuesday, Oct. 10, on Goddard's grounds.

The next club run of the Bicycle club will be to Brattleboro. The start will be from Bank block at 10 A. M. sharp next Sunday.

Chicken thieves are hard at work, and there is much complaint. Not infrequently a farmer will lose from twenty-five to fifty chickens in a single night.

Jacob Jacobus, while inspecting his new Prospect street house on Sunday, met with an accident. He stepped on a plank which broke under his weight, and he fell a distance of several feet. His shoulder was dislocated. Dr. Best attended.

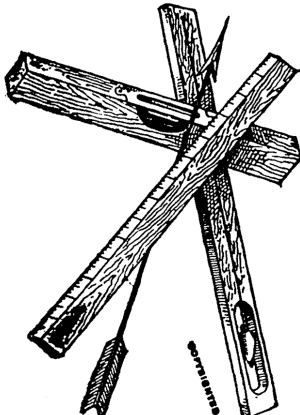
A Frenchman while engaged in spearing eels in the canal, last Sunday, had a spear accidentally thrust through his hand. Dr. Bertrand, who happened to be passing, extracted it.

A Polander who is well known in local police courts, was arrested Saturday night and fined \$5. He had been at the wedding festivities of one of his countrymen who had been married that afternoon but made himself unbearable.

When through the stupid negligence of a trusted employee, a man is killed by the cars, the average jury takes a vicious delight in pouncing on the earnings of the railroad company, which may be those indirectly of widowed and orphaned stockholders, to an extent bordering on highway robbery! But when some cunning fiend, of either sex, with horrible brutality takes the life of some innocent and unfending member of the community, the self same grade of jury may allow the blackest criminal to go out free, and add their blessing to his or her departure, a handshake being quite the common form of expressing the good will of the suspect's "peers."

The contract for the labor of the prisoners at the Greenfield jail expires November 1. The men are employed in bottoming chairs with cane for S. K. Pierce & Co., South Gardner.

Sheriff Chenery and wife have gone to the World's Fair. They will visit friends



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And come to think of it,
PEOPLE WHO BUY

WATCHES
AND
JEWELRY

Are sure to appreciate
Straight Goods!
Always to be had at
FRANK W. HOLTS'
Jewelry Store.


"Four Season Strawberries."
Plants of this famous strawberry, a perpetual grower of delicious fruit, for sale at \$1.00 per dozen, \$5.00 per hundred, delivered by mail free. May be planted at any growing season, spring, summer or fall. Will not winter kill. One of the most successful of berry plants of France. Also trees and shrubs of all kinds for sale, and warranted to grow, or replaced free of cost. Address,
A. FAILLET, Nurseryman,
Montague, Mass.

PEANUTS! PEANUTS!
JOHN DRAGO will sell
A NO. 1 PEANUTS
AT
4 CENTS A QUART,
First-class Peanuts
AT
5 CENTS A QUART,
beginning next Saturday, Oct. 14
☞ **JOHN DRAGO,** next to the tailor shop, Ave. A.

To the Ladies.
THE "HAPPY THOUGHT"
Hat Fastener
overcomes all the objections to the hat pin besides adding many desirable features.
I have the exclusive sale of this fastener in this town. Call and see them and you will go away with a **HAPPY THOUGHT.**
Millinery.
All the Latest SHAPES and NOVELTIES kept on hand at
MRS. A. E. MARTEL'S.

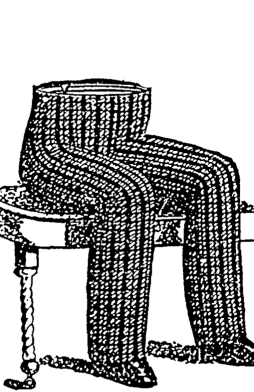
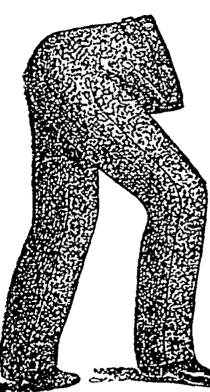
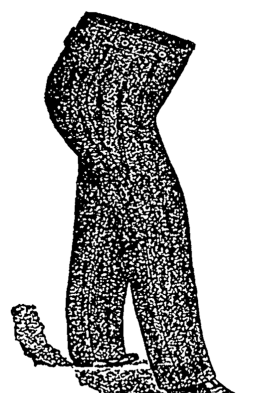
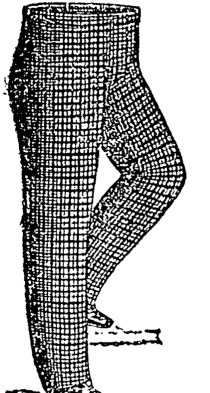
Custom Tailoring.
GENTLEMEN — Now is the time to select a **GOOD SUIT AT A VERY LOW PRICE.** Times are getting dull and I want to keep the hands at work.
N. L. COTE, Tailor.

A MEDICINE THAT MAKES GOOD BLOOD



GILMORE'S AROMATIC WINE
Will completely change the blood in your system in three months' time, and send new, rich blood coursing through your veins. If you feel exhausted and nervous, are getting thin and all run down, Gilmore's Aromatic Wine, which is a tonic and not a petticoat, will restore you to health and strength. Mothers, use it for your daughters. It is the best regulator and corrector for all ailments peculiar to women. It enriches the blood and gives lasting strength. It is guaranteed to cure Dierioria, Dysentery, and all Summer Complaints, and keep the bowels regular.
Sold by all druggists for \$1 per bottle.

ORANGES, BANANAS, LEMONS, NEW FIGS, NEW DATES, NEW NUTS.
Hecker's Self-Raising BUCKWHEAT now ready.
VERMONT MAPLE SYRUP, COMB AND STRAINED HONEY.
Respectfully,
CASSIDY BROS.



DUTCHESS + TROUSERS.

STANDING. BENDING. STOOPING SITTING.

No matter in what position you place yourself,
DUTCHESS TROUSERS WILL FIT!

WARRANTY.
You may buy a pair of Dutchess Wool Trousers
AT \$2.00, 2.50, 3.00 OR 4.00,
And wear them Two Months. For every **SUSPENDER BUTTON** that COMES OFF, WE will **PAY** you **TEN CENTS**. If they **RIP** at the **WAISTBAND** WE will **PAY** you **FIFTY CENTS**. If they **RIP** in the **SEAT** or elsewhere, WE will **PAY** you **ONE DOLLAR** or **GIVE** YOU A **NEW PAIR**.
BEST IN THE WORLD. TRY A PAIR.
FOR SALE BY
RIST & CONANT,
TURNERS FALLS, MASS.

At Turners Falls,
THURSDAY, AUGUST 10th.

THE ONLY LIVING
ADAM FOREPAUGH'S
BRAND NEW SHOW.

THE ONLY SHOW ON EARTH

Owned by Adam Forepaugh
Managed by Adam Forepaugh
Presented by Adam Forepaugh

The entire outfit Built, Constructed Equipped and Organized expressly
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Quantity the Greatest | Quality Unexcelled | Variety Unparalleled



THE ONLY LIVING ADAM
FOREPAUGH'S
Scouts, Cowboys, Cowgirls, Jokers, Comanche, Pawnee and Blackfoot Indians, Mexican Vaqueros & Charros, Wild West Shows of every kind, both ancient and modern, on a quarter-mile track. Wild Bedouin and Arabian Desert Hunt. zeus, risking life and limb at every performance. The cream of the profession in newly discovered acts.

Wild WEST
HIPPODROME
ARABS
AERIALISTS
SPECIALISTS

Exclusive appearance at every entertainment of the world. I
KING OF ALL ANIMAL TRAINERS.
ADAM FOREPAUCH HIMSELF
Introducing for the first time, HIS
NEW TRAINED ANIMAL SHOW
16 BEAUTIFUL BRONCHOS OF THE PLAINS.
8 PRETTY PETITE SHETLAND PONIES.
6 SUPERB SPIRITED STALLIONS
2 COMIC MULES. 2 DONKEYS.
—AND THE—
EQUINE LOTTIE COLLINS
The HIGH KICKING horse, that dances "Ta-Ra-Ra-Ra-Dr-A-Y," bonneted and dressed just
like the fair and famous Kimpichereu star
The Greatest Congress of Four Footed Creatures Ever Convened.
In re-capitalizing the prominent features of the new show, we desire to give particular attention
to its entire variety and the fact that it is a wholly an astounding
assembly of several shows in one, with its



Realistic Wild West, Real Roman Hippodrome and Race Track
Horde or Arabs, Aerialists, Specialists and Clowns.
And an exhibition of TRAINED ANIMALS without parallel

OVER 100 ACCOMPLISHED ARENIC ARTISTS,
Including the most Astonishing Array of ACRIBATES and LEATHERS ever brought into
concerted competition

PUBLIC PAGEANT PARADE at 10 A.M.
Don't fail to see the Stud of Trained Horses, Cowboys, Indians and Scouts, Wild Arabs, Roman
Horse, Jokers, and entire display of the Arenal forces, marshalled by ADAM FORE-
PAUGH in person.

Excursions on all lines of travel. Get particulars of your Station Agent
Performances Afternoon and Night. Doors open at 1 and 7. Begins one hour later

in Ohio and Minnesota before their return.

An African native choir from Kaffirland, South Africa, will appear in native costume, and give a concert in Opera House in Greenfield, on Thursday evening, Oct. 12. The choir has representatives from seven distinct tribes, and has appeared before Queen Victoria and the nobility. It is understood that the concert will be extremely interesting. A party from this place is expected to go.

Hawley farmers complain that the corn crop is badly twisted and torn, apples poor and few, but a good crop of hay was secured and a medium yield of potatoes has been dug. A native of the town says the money is so scarce and silver dollars so few that he has forgotten how the money looks.

Business at Colrain is slowly reviving. There has been a small reduction in the wages of the mill hands, but tenement rents are low.

Now is the time to lay the foundation for good health during the winter by taking long walks out in the country this beautiful autumn weather. Nature has put on its gayest dress before donning its winter garments, and mortals should not be slow to take advantage of it.

October 11
The most inveterate grumbler has nothing but praises for the beautiful weather we are now enjoying.

The Turners Falls cotton mill, which has been running three days a week for some time, started full time Monday, but has cut down wages 10 per cent.

Mrs. Jarvis is shingling one of her Seventh street houses.

Haskell Dodge, who has the contract for the Keith mill addition, is putting in the substructure on the new auditorium in Northfield.

Grapes are exceedingly plenty, and prices are very low down.

A horse ran away last Saturday night, about 6 o'clock, up the Avenue and around the Keith block, making a great clatter and causing much terror during his short flight.

Tar which was being used for concreting, started to burn on Fourth street, early Thursday morning, and the dense smoke which arose, gave some people the impression that there must be a terrible fire "somewhere."

A little daughter of Orville Wart, about four years old, had two fingers of her left hand chopped off at play, last week, by an enterprising neighbor's child. One finger may perhaps be saved.

Frank Bernard, aged about 19 years, fell from the abutment of the lower suspension bridge on the Greenfield side, last Sunday afternoon and received a deep and ugly gash on his head. He was unconscious for some time, and severely injured, but will probably recover.

John Delehanty while attempting to separate two canines who were engaged in a fierce fight, had his hand severely bitten by one of them.

All foreign-born citizens who expect to become voters must present to the registrars their naturalization papers, or, if they came to this country before attaining the age of 21 years, the naturalization paper of their father. This is one of the requirements of the present registration law and names cannot be added unless in compliance therewith. The law referred to is Section 50, Chap. 417, Acts of 1893. This may be important to those parties who wish to vote at the next election in November.

The usual polling places have been appointed by the selectmen for the coming election. Hibernian hall in this village, Union hall in Millers Falls, and the Town hall in Montague are the places named.

George Spofford, the New London Northern conductor, formerly of Northfield has been granted a divorce from his wife, Nellie Spofford, on the ground of intolerable severity.

We have received information that the French are not the only people who are fond of eels, and who catch them in the Canal. Our informant tells us that representatives of every nationality are present, and engage just as vigorously in the sport as their French brethren.

fashion possible. He even went so far as to take several benevolent gentlemen by the arm and walk along with them, at the same time making his demands. All efforts to get rid of him were of no avail, but he finally ceased his attacks and made a start for new fields.



October 25
Wild ducks are flying south.

There was a forest fire on the Greenfield road, last Sunday, which burned quite fiercely.

C. P. Bardwell's house on Prospect street has been painted.

The Turners Falls cotton mills are putting in a new floor in the weaving room of their mill.

The reduction of fares on the Valley road is said to be the beginning of further reductions on the other lines controlled by the Boston and Maine system.

Some one amused himself the other morning by shooting a bird-dog belonging to Mr. Slate of Montague City.

C. C. Quimby, who is interested in statistics, kept track one Saturday night, of the number of pedestrians who passed Allen Bros' store and found the number to be 300 in fifteen minutes.

The Holyoke Free Press, heretofore a lively democratic sheet, has come out for the republican party, principally because \$300 was put up for the purpose.

On Wednesday afternoon, Patrick Victory and wife of this village, at least one of whom was said to have been under the influence of intoxicants, while driving towards South Deerfield, encountered a south-bound train at the Billings crossing at the north end of Main street, and either not noticing the train or not being disposed to stop for it to pass, attempted to cross the track in front of it, but the train being too quick for them passed by with the horse's head almost touching the cars. The horse being thus stopped, and not liking the proximity of the train when in motion, suddenly turned, tipping the carriage over and leaving the carriage top with the occupants in the ditch, ran through a wire fence into a field wrecking the carriage and scratching himself badly. Mr. and Mrs. Victory, strange to say, were only slightly injured and were taken to the station on the Canal R. R. and sent home sadder, if not wiser than before the accident.

One of the best games ever played on the Mt. Hermon grounds was played Saturday, Oct. 21, between the T.F.A.C. and the Mt. Hermon second team. Game was called at four. The Mt. Hermon's took the ball and advanced it ten yards. It was then taken by the T.F.A.C.'s, and in three minutes was in their ten yard line. But nothing was gained in the first half. The second half the T.F.A.C.'s advanced the ball within half a yard of the line. Failing to make half a yard, the ball was taken by the Mt. Hermon's, and was rushed half way down the field. In a fumble the ball was gained by Zeigler just as time was called. Referee first half,

Crain; referee, second half, Hall. Average weight of Mt. Hermon team, 155 pounds; average weight of T.F.A.C.'s, 134 pounds.

These high crown hats the girls affect are very "bewitching". They remind one of the hats in old pictures which witches are represented as wearing.

The number of drunken "brawls," "scrap," and wars of words which take place in this town, on Saturday nights and Sundays, would make a good showing with the number which take place in the "slums" of any great city.

The house and barn of Alfred D. Flagg, next above Simon C. Phillip's in Gill, was burned to the ground this morning at four o'clock, together with stock, crops, and household furniture. The family escaped with their clothing only. The buildings were insured but there was nothing on the furniture or stock. The fire is supposed to have been set by a tramp.

November 1
There was a heavy frost yesterday morning.

The woodcock are taking their annual flight, though few of the game birds have been bagged in this vicinity.

Signs indicate that the sauer-kraut season has begun.

There has been considerable sickness lately, and sore throats prevailing. A good many are sick with intermittent fever.

Beware of the counterfeit silver half dollars which are afloat just now.

Work is quite slack in many places in the country yet, and this village is seeing its share of continued hard times. There is no sale for manufactured goods of any kind, and collections are slow from the West.

Sheriff Chenery, who was the guardian of Phoebe Burnham, is much puzzled to know what became of her. She disappeared last winter on the night that her house on Montague plain was burned, and nothing has been heard of her since. A thorough search was made but no trace of her was found. It was thought that when summer came and the snow was off the ground that traces of her would be discovered, but the summer is over and the manner of her death or disappearance is as great a mystery as ever.

Daniel Murphy, who was a grinder in the cutlery works here for eighteen years, died of consumption at his home in Bay State, Saturday. His body was brought here for the burial, which took place yesterday. He had moved to Bay State, during the strike the local grinders had some time ago.

The first thing a reader of newspapers does now days is to see where the latest railroad accident occurred. He is never disappointed. There is always one at least.

The Republican rally at the opera house, this evening, will doubtless be a very large and enthusiastic meeting. Hon. Joseph Barbour, who will give the address, is recognized as one of the best campaign speakers any party can muster.

Registration of voters ceases at 10 p.m. to-day. So far there has been added to the list 29 new names. Eighteen are from this village, four from Millers Falls, and seven from Montague.

The World's Fair has

been seen by all who could get away, and now we shall hope for returning business prosperity. The big show must have had some effect in some quarters.

The members of the High school had a Halloween party last night in the school building. There was a supper, for which everyone paid ten cents, singing, dancing, halloween stories and games. All spent a pleasant evening, and \$7.45 was cleared, which will be applied on the purchase of the piano.

There was a foot ball game, Saturday, between the T.F.A.C. and a team from the High school. The High school force was the winner. Both sides were thoroughly pounded and thrashed, and few that played in the game escaped without some reminder of it.

It would be an excellent idea to put the road machine which has been standing near the depot for a year or more, with no protection whatever, under cover. It has been standing there through storm and sunshine, and from appearances it would seem that it was going to remain in the same position this winter.

“Get off your cart and come down with the stuff,” is about the way a gang of tramps called to W. P. Hutchinson Monday evening on the main road heading from Greenfield to Deerfield. Hutchinson failed to comply with the command and showed fight, but was overcome by two men and a canvas bag containing \$14 was taken from him. An hour later Arthur Saxton, a painter, on his way to see his brother in Deerfield, accompanied by his two boys, was held up by four men, but nothing was taken from them. Late in the night some tramps came into Greenfield and all but two applied for lodging at the lock-up. Hutchinson and Saxton identified several of them as the footpads who committed the assault. No money was found in their possession.

A knight of the road, who is a somewhat novel character, because he is willing to work a little, has been doing some fine whittling with a knife in the form of some standing fans. He has sold several in town and I. A. Darling has one on exhibition in his store. Some have paid him one and two dollars for them, but Saturday night this worthy was parading the streets in a slightly exhilarated condition and was offering one for 50 cents.

The American express company is resorting to extreme measures to prevent attack upon its employes by robbers. It some time ago issued revolvers to all of those who have the handling of money and this week an order has been sent out offering a reward of \$1000 for each robber shot dead in an attack upon an employe, \$500 for each one shot and crippled so as to be unable to get away and \$100 for each one arrested in the act. Robbery of expressmen, under these circumstances, does not offer an attractive field for operators.

About a dozen of tough looking specimens of the genus tramp have formed a colony on the co-operative plan in some pine woods at the other end of the town. They are engaged during the day in collecting funds to keep up the establishment, but meet with but moderate success. They help to enrich the grocery men by purchasing three or four

cents worth of food at a time.

Male tramps are common enough, but women are scarce, fortunately. A woman applied for lodging at a house in Orange, the other night, however, who said she had been living in Montague, but getting out of work there, she and her husband were going to seek friends down East, in the only way they were able to travel, on foot. Even the tramp business is being invaded by the feminine gender.

November 8

New moon this morning, and stormy weather is promised for the week following.

Those eminent weather prophets, the goose-bone, the corn-husk and the bark-on-the-north-side-of-a-tree, predict a long and cold winter. This is not very encouraging for people who are out of work.

Cider-mills are having a busy season and the mince-pie crop, this fall, should be particularly juicy and palatable.

D. W. Murphy of Third street is having a house built for him on Park street.

Bread and butter voted yesterday.

Forty-eight new names were added to the voting list for this year. Four were from Millers Falls, seven from Montague, and thirty-seven from Turners Falls.

A window in the Republican headquarters was demolished by some one who threw a burnt out stock of a Roman candle into it.

Morris E. Ruth of Holyoke, the socialist labor candidate for lieutenant governor, is a brother of Theodore Ruth of Riverside, and was a former resident of this place.

There has been very little betting done in town on this election. People seem to have no money to lose in betting.

The guide post near the Montague City watering trough was recently destroyed by a runaway team.

The foot ball team went to Mt. Hermon, Saturday afternoon, and played a game of foot ball in which they were defeated to the tune of 20 to 0.

It is very shocking to hear a sweet, curly-haired child, with an angelic countenance, tell another that she will “smash her.”

E. R. Marshall has invented and received a patent on an improvement in fourdrinier paper machines, whereby the wires may be changed without taking the whole machine apart as has to be done now. Mr. Marshall patents the idea as a “passing thought,” capable of meaning much to the builders of paper machines, but shrewd papermakers say he has invented something that will save lots of time, much heavy lifting, and no end of profanity.

Coon-hunting is the fashionable amusement nowadays, and hills in the neighboring villages nightly resound with the barking of dogs and shouts of enthusiastic sportsmen. For back-aching, leg-breaking and wind-taking amusement there is nothing like a coon-hunt.

Jim Kane and Michael Leary got more firewater down, Saturday night, than usual, and Policeman Dunbar ran them in the cooler for the night. Monday morning, Justice Dana collected \$5 from each.

It is stated on seemingly good authority, that Osias Danghinais, a well-known

Frenchman and a peddler of meat, was held up by footpads, Saturday night, when on his way to Greenfield from this village, and relieved of a sum of money.

J. O. Bliss, who keeps the grocery store on Third street, met with a serious accident last week. He had the misfortune to get a large rusty nail into one of his hands, which made it necessary to cut his hand open to get it out. Lock-jaw was feared as a consequence. His store is closed.

Andrew Luippold was investigating an old gun, Sunday, which had been given to him, and as a result of his investigations, he sustained a serious wound. He had loaded up the gun with a heavy charge, when it exploded, and the force of it caused a big piece of the stock to go deep up into his hand. The hand had to be cut open, the piece taken out, and the wound sewed up. Four fingers were also injured.



Hunger is a pitiless master, and a tramp who came to this town hit upon a clever plan for overcoming it. He went into one of our local restaurants one day, and in the most plausible and business like manner inquired if a few more boarders could be accommodated there. Upon receiving a reply in the affirmative, he stated that he was a bridge contractor, who employed six men, and was at present engaged on the lower suspension bridge. He desired to secure table board for his six men and himself. He told the proprietor to be sure and not forget to make preparations for the extra seven, as they would all be very hungry, for bridge builders had to work hard. His men would not be up for dinner, but he alone would have dinner, but his six men and himself would all be there for supper. An excellent dinner was accordingly set before him, to which he did ample justice. Then, after again stating that all of the seven new boarders would be there for supper, he departed, and he “never came back,” or was ever seen again.

Lena Grayson, a young woman aged about twenty-one, jumped from the two o'clock train on the Fitchburg railroad, between this village and Montague City, last Wednesday afternoon. She was accompanying Mrs. George Starbuck, by whom she was employed, to Greenfield and suddenly arose from her seat, went out on the platform and jumped. She landed in a sand bank and so her injuries were not of a very serious nature, but she dislocated a shoulder. It was at first reported that she was thrown off the platform, but this was not the case. It is supposed that the girl is not in her right mind, as there seems to be no other cause for her rash act. She was taken to the Farren House where she was attended by Dr. Farwell.

Miss Summersides, a teacher in the seventh grade of the public schools left last week for Boston, where she has secured a better position. As no teacher was obtained till this morning for the school here, which she left,

the pupils had quite a holiday.

A great deal of thieving is being done in this village. Nothing is safe unless a lock and chain is attached to it, and not always then. All the canned goods in a South End resident's cellar were carried off, and another man lost three barrels of potatoes, barrels and all, by the same kind of robbers.

The hoodlum element which frequents all public places should be promptly suppressed when they go beyond the bounds of propriety. This element, which is disproportionately large in this town, carries on in a manner which should make those who had their manners and education in charge blush, and use some very strong measures to put an end to it. The hooting, whistling, noise and general ill-behavior, which characterizes them, argues ill for the character and manners of the coming men and women. This crowd is the terror of every decent minded person, and strong measures should be taken to put them where they belong. Perhaps if they were treated a little earlier in their career to some good, large, unadulterated doses of the old-fashioned “spirit of birch,” it might have had a good effect on their whole system.

November 15

Now that the election is over, confidence restored, and silver repealed, we can all sit down and patiently await that great wave of prosperity which our democratic friends assure us is on the way. We trust that it won't mistake the directions and get lost before it reaches us.

A social dance was held in Hibernian hall, on Saturday evening.

Miss Story of Maine is the successor of Miss Summersides in the 7th grade school.

Otto Zeigler had his left leg lamed in the foot ball game Saturday. He could not walk at first, and after he could, he had to limp badly.

L. G. Paul of Gardner, Maine, lost an eye last week, while at work on the new Keith mill. He was engaged in putting in a filter, and was driving in a spike with a sledge in rather cramped quarters, and the spike bounded back in some way, and struck him in the eye. He immediately lost his sight.

All the mills at Turners Falls are now supplied with the city water as a defense in case of fire, to supplement their own fire pumps. Pipes have been laid along the line of the canal, and hydrants placed at convenient distances for protection of all the mill property. With an abundance of water, under 120 pounds pressure, no manufacturers can have better fire protection than those of Turners Falls.

George Ingall, 14, Charles Ingall, 12, and Michael Kennedy, 10, were brought up for examination in Greenfield, Saturday, for being runaways. They all belong in this village. George Ingall has been in the state reform school at Monson and was out on probation. He was re-committed, but his brother Charles, and young Kennedy were sent home.

The young lady who was injured last week by falling from a car platform, is really Miss Mary Barrett Howitz, whose parents live in Baltimore, Md. She has been out of health for some years, with nervous trouble, and being es-

tranged from her family, chose another name so as to keep her whereabouts unknown to them. A clue was obtained which revealed her family, who are wealthy people it is supposed. Her father, a retired lawyer, in feeble health, has written several letters to Mrs. C. C. Quimby, who has given the young woman a home, and a mother's care, asking her to kindly continue her good deeds, and she shall be well rewarded for her trouble. The young woman appreciates the sympathy of one who understands her nervous condition, and is quite pleasantly situated where she is, chats entertainingly and intelligently as befits one who has had the advantage of a very liberal education.

Miss Nellie Gauthier was before Justice Green, Saturday, charged with stealing a celluloid comb from Mrs. Isabella Scott. She was sentenced to three months in jail. She appealed and being unable to furnish bonds went to jail to await her trial.

November 22

A photograph saloon is being built on the avenue on the corner of Fifth street, by a man from Holyoke.

Water Zlibbee, a Pole, as it may be unnecessary to state, was before Justice Dana, today, charged with stealing a watch from Joseph Savuto, also a Pole.

Justice Dana sent Joseph Morin, a member of the travelling brigade by profession, to jail for four months.

Complaints having been made that liquor was being sold at the Howard house, which is run by Felix McCabe, police officers Dunbar and Lafrombois, Deputy Sheriff Smead of Greenfield and officer Davis made a raid on the house last Saturday night. They secured two kegs of beer and a jug of whiskey. The hearing has been set for the eighth of December, before Justice Dana.

The water commissioners went to Orange, one day lately, and visited the pumping station there for the purpose of gaining new points and ideas, if any were to be had, but the Orange idea of it seemed to be no better than that of Turners Falls.

Freeman Davenport of Heath was sentenced to a short term in the county jail, Saturday, for indecent exposure, by Trial Justice Bardwell of Shelburne Falls.

A resident of Factory Hollow had a visit from some undesirable customers, late last Saturday night, and as a result he now has thirty hens less than he had before the visit occurred. Late at night he heard a slight disturbance among the hens in the hen house but thought nothing of it, and did not consider it anything unusual. The next morning he discovered his loss. A neighbor reported that he had seen a horse and wagon hitched a short distance from the house that night, but it created no suspicions. The thieves probably brought the wagon along that they might the more quickly and surely convey away the helpless egg-producers they had captured.

There are still a good many charitable and kind hearted men and women left on this globe. In spite of the hard times and that most of the givers have had little or no work, a goodly sum of money was collected in the cutlery

Wood for Sale Cheap.

Having a large STOCK of DRY, HARD and SOFT WOOD, have decided to Reduce Prices on same for present Hard Times.

HARD SAWED WOOD, \$2.50 for ½ Cord Load; \$5.00 per cord.

SOFT SAWED WOOD, \$1.75 for ½ Cord Load; \$3.50 per cord.

These prices are for CASH on DELIVERY. Will also furnish all Aid and Benevolent societies with COAL for Poor, \$6.00 per ton, SOFT WOOD for \$1.50 per ¼ Cord Load.

D. MCCARTHY, Agt.



Reigns Supreme

B-L

Tobacco

keeps moist.

Always the same.

JOHN C. FELLOWS,
Carpenter, Joiner & Cabinet Maker

SHOP ON AVENUE A.

TURNERS FALLS. - - MASS.

AUCTION.

Will be sold at Public Auction, on the farm occupied by FRANK S. KELLEY, in Greenfield Meadows,

Thursday, Nov. 2d, 1893,

AT 10 O'CLOCK A. M.

Twenty-five young cows, new milch or coming in within six weeks, 1 2-year-old Durham bull, 1 2-year-old stag, 1 yoke oxen, six years old, weight 2200, good workers, 5 shoals, 3 sows, 1 pair gray horses, 7 and 8 years old, 1 4-year-old mare, well broken, 1 large roan horse, six years old, 1 cheap horse, 1 cheap mule, 15 acres corn stalks, 90 bushels corn, 4 tons rye, 25 tons first quality horse hay, 1 2-horse moving machine used one year, 1 new moving machine, 1 new and 1 second-hand horse rake, 2 plows, 2 pair heavy team harness, 1 new two-horse dump cart, 2 Champion team wagons, 1 set Milburn trunks, 2 buggy harness, 1 buggy, 2 2-horse sleds, 1 1-horse lumber wagon, 1 1-horse sled, chains, shovels, hoes, rakes; all the wood and lumber on north side of Gorge road on said farm.

Terms Made Known at Time of Sale.

E. OWEN, Auctioneer.

THE

ONLY STORE

In Town filled entirely with



Goods for the Children

Is in connection with the

Corner Book Store,

Where may also be found a

SPLENDID STOCK

— OF —

HOLIDAY GOODS

FOR EVERYBODY.

The Leaders in Style and Prices

J. G. Freeman & Co.

The Reporter office does all kinds of Job Printing at the lowest prices. It has customers in every city in New England. Do you patronize us? Why?

shops and elsewhere for the relief of a very needy family in town. Last summer one of the employees of the John Russell Cutlery Co. was suddenly overcome by a paralytic shock, which made him helpless. For months he was unable to speak, walk or do anything else, and his death would have been no surprise. He finally rallied, and is now able to totter about some, though slowly and painfully, and has partially recovered his speech, but he will not be able, if ever, to work for a long time to come. Naturally, his long sickness and loss of work left his large family, numbering about a dozen, destitute. In this strait, several sympathizing friends have been going about among those who know the man, and have succeeded in obtaining a large sum of money which can not but be much appreciated by the parties whom it will go to benefit.

The oyster supper and entertainment given in the Congregational church, on Friday evening, was well attended and very enjoyable. The way Messrs. Adams, Russell, Schuler, Salmon, Crain and Nourse showed what plights a man, no matter how highly gifted otherwise, could get into, in his attempts at house-keeping was very amusing.

November 29

There will be many a gathering, to-morrow, where those that have been absent from the dinner tables the past year, will come home to celebrate the great New England festival.

The John Russell Cutlery works have reduced the working hours of their force to seven per day. Work begins at 8.15 and ends at 4.15. By doing this there is no need of using gas.

Barnard Dolen had several hens stolen from his house the other night.

Louise Barnard, who has had charge of the lamps in the Montague City bridge for several years, has taken the contract to keep the Montague City street lamps burning.

A surprise party was held on Miss Hattie Eberlein, last Wednesday evening, by a large number of young people who came to celebrate her birthday.

The new tariff bill is creating not a little uneasiness among the manufacturers. As a sample, it is said that the reduction of the tariff on pocket cutlery will wipe every pocket cutlery manufactory in the United States out of existence in less than a year.

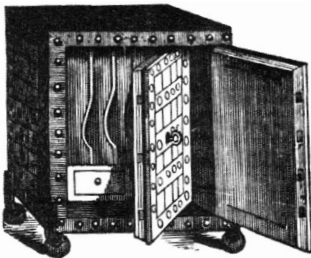
Any one who contemplates building soon, if he has the necessary capital available, would save from 15 to 20 per cent by building now. Materials and labor are both lower than they are likely to be again for a long time.

A man of this village was observed standing for fully five minutes before a bill board on which were represented a dozen or more hours, clad, or rather not, in costumes that would have awakened Anthony Comstock's ire, and gave one the impression that the human form divine bore some resemblance to a spider.

The thief who was so successful in robbing the hen house of Mr. Severance, who lives about a mile above Factory Hollow, evidently thought that what was done once could be done again, for he tried to steal some more hens last Monday night. He succeeded in filling two large

bags with them and started for home on foot, but this time the captives made such a disturbance that Mr. Severance was awakened, and pursued the thief for some distance, but he made good his escape. In his plight he dropped his two bags, and the hens were recovered. Monday, Sheriff Davis arrested James Bennett of Canada Hill who is the one suspected of the thefts. He was brought before Justice Dana who placed him under \$600 bonds. There will be a hearing of the case Dec. 6.

The superior court's attention was taken up Friday, with the evidence in the Alonzo Payne case, charged with burning his neighbor's barn. Payne was not put on the stand, but his housekeeper, Miranda Anderson, went on the stand and told her story. She claimed there had been no trouble between Lalla and Payne, except over an old plow and about a few ducks. It was charged by the government that the man who set the fire wore an old pair of rubber boots, by which he was tracked from the scene. Miranda said these boots were too small for Payne, and that she had them for barn use. Judge Conant argued the case for Payne, and he tried to prove that Payne was on his way to the Charlemont fair on the night of the fire, and that, therefore, he could not have been the guilty one. The case did not reach the jury until late in the afternoon. Payne was found guilty.



The Crocker National bank has just put into its vault an additional safe to hold its valuables. This strong box is absolutely burglar proof and is the finest in Western Massachusetts. It weighs 7500 pounds, and has no keys whatever, the fastenings being the latest system of automatic bolt work, controlled by three independent time locks. The bolts automatically close at a stated time every afternoon and open again in the morning, and no human being can interfere with the arrangement during the "closed season," and the makers, the Damon Safe Co., guarantee that no burglar could drill into its contents inside of forty-eight hours.

December 6

The snow plough made the first of its annual visitations last Sunday.

The small boy and his sled are very much in evidence, and the pedestrians find it necessary to keep eyes and wits about them in order to succeed dodging them in safety.

Michael Sullivan is tearing down one of the chimneys of the Montague mill, in the part that has been abandoned.

Cornelius Murphy, who was catcher of the base ball team in this place when it was in its glory, has been home on a visit. He has been playing with the National league of Cincinnati the past year.

A lamp hanging in the window of Geo. Batten's pool room, exploded after midnight last Wednesday. It set fire to the articles in the window and scorched the woodwork considerably, but as the lamp was quickly

thrown out, and the fire extinguished, but little serious damage was done.

At a Polish wedding, Wednesday night, Tom Pero, "The Polander King" became too hilarious. Officer Lafromboise locked him up for the night. Justice Dana fined him and three others that took part in the melee \$15.00 each.

Sheriff Chenery went to Charlestown with Alonzo Payne, Friday, where he will spend five years. Officer Allen of the state-prison had Payne under his charge before, when he was at the Greenfield jail for two or three years.

While Sharpe, a Mount Hermon student, was returning to the school, Thursday night, he was accosted in the meadow on the Northfield side of the river by a man, who, coming from behind, caught him by the neck and threw him to the ground, at the same time making a grab at his watch. He only caught the chain, and as it broke, he did not get the watch. After a short scuffle, in which Sharpe managed to recover his chain, the two separated and ran in opposite directions. Aside from a few small pieces of skin, Sharpe lost nothing, while the man left with two less teeth in his head.

Owing to the hard times and slow collections, Messrs Carroll & Co., the clothiers, have made an assignment for the benefit of their creditors. If all consent to scale their claims, the firm will go on without having to resort to the tedious delays and expenses of the insolvency courts.

The ladies of the several churches in town, thinking that there might be worthy families who would need assistance the coming winter, have decided to re-organize the Ladies' Union Aid society, and a preliminary meeting will be held in the directors' room of the Crocker national bank, on Tuesday afternoon, Dec. 12, at 2.30 o'clock.

One of the public school teachers interested the flock of which she had charge in the scheme of providing a regular Thanksgiving feast, with turkey and all the accompaniments, to some poor family in town. The children entered heartily into the scheme, with all the impulsiveness and warm heartedness of childhood.

A good many towns have organized charities and voted large sums of money for the improvement of roads, or some other needed town work, that the vast army of unemployed may be kept from starving.

December 13

The selectmen have posted notices forbidding coasting on all sidewalks and on all streets with the exception of L.

Every store in town is making arrangements for a good Christmas trade, and all are offering attractive goods.

Lorenzo Griswold loses chickens from his hen house every few nights, but is unable yet to catch the thief.

John Bennett was given a hearing on Wednesday, on the charge of stealing chickens from Fred Severance of Gill. The evidence was sufficient to bind the accused over to the grand jury.

A good number of people complain of the small number of trains on the Fitchburg line now, and some talk in favor of an electric road who once opposed it vigorously. There is nothing like personal

inconvenience to help change men's minds and votes. The livery men are called upon many a time now to accommodate the travelling public. Sheriff Davis runs a stage line to Montague City to carry some of the Rod Shop hands who live in Turners Falls and there is some talk of reviving the old stage line to Greenfield. There is little violent fault finding, only the stopping of trains long established necessarily entails hardships on working people whose work and homes are apart, and the recent change effected every mill in town except the cutlery.

The dear girls have begun to manufacture Christmas presents out of discarded articles, such as old bottles, grape baskets and toasters.

Since good sleighing has arrived, every young man's sweetheart has been irritating him with her hints as to the desirability of a sleigh ride. The young men so bothered, would not care a bit if it were not that owing to their impecunious condition they are obliged to turn a deaf ear to all hints so generously bestowed.

Lyman Lyons, whose brother was the brave union general and West Point officer who was killed at the head of his troops during a battle in Missouri in the early days of the war, died at his home on Dry hill, Montague, Thursday, Gen. Lyons left a fortune of \$50,000 to the government to aid in paying the national debt, while his brother died in straitened circumstances. Lyman Lyons during life ran a sawmill and mingled little with society. His wife died last week, and he died, Thursday, brokenhearted.

There was a time when we heard a great deal about a wall that the Turners Falls Company had built around this town so no one else could get in. We hear no more of it now, but it has been left to the Fitchburg Railroad Co. to turn the key on us for the purpose of keeping us in. Every day at half-past four the key is turned as though we were a lot of naughty children, (perhaps we are, but they needn't tell us of it,) and we are shut in very securely until next day.

The machinery is coming every day for the new Keith mill, and by spring everything will be in readiness for the big boom in business that we all hope for.

December 20

A great many persons out of work and in want, have applied for aid to the overseers of the poor.

The man of the house feels quite heated these cold mornings after he has succeeded in releasing his water pipes from Jack Frost's icy bondage.

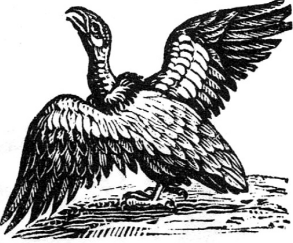
Every night, no matter how cold, the long L street hill is covered with double-runners full of merry coasters. The hill is as good a one for coasting as can be found anywhere, and those fond of the sport make the most of it.

The cash market on the avenue is going to have lots of turkeys and chickens for Christmas at cut prices. Order one for your dinner.

The A. O. H. society will give a poverty ball in Hibernian hall, on Friday evening, Dec. 29. Milde's orchestra of six pieces, will furnish music. Admission 50 cents.

Monday, while M. B. Collins was driving past the vacant lot on the corner of L and Fourth streets, on which there

is a machine sawing up wood, the loud, buzzing noise frightened the horse and he ran. Mr. Collins was thrown out and his arm broken.



James O'Neill's billiard rooms have been closed by his creditors.

Deputy Sheriff C. A. Davis has closed the drug store of Peck & Hood, and the first meeting of the creditors will be held on the 30th.

Charles A. Kane, formerly of this town, was found on Central st., Lowell, nearly frozen, by patrolman Gregg at an early hour the other morning. He was removed to the city farm hospital.

A crowd of strange females invaded the town, recently, and made the natives stare by their conduct and conversation. They aptly illustrated how repulsive some women can make themselves.

The body of Patrick W. Hayes of Hoosick Falls, N.Y., 46, and unmarried, was found Monday morning, near the Goldthwaite place in a pasture six rods below the road to Erving, a mile east of Millers Falls. The body was warm. Nothing of value was found, but a book with name and address was picked up near the body. Hayes was in Millers Falls, Saturday afternoon, with four others drinking heavily, one negro being in the party. All left for Erving about 2 p.m. At 2, Monday morning, one of the party wandered back and remained in the depot till about 7 and then went to the town farm. He is now in charge of Officer Griffin. The negro and two others stayed in the Erving lock-up last night. The face of the dead man was bruised, and other marks strongly indicate foul play. He leaves one sister in Cohoes, and a mother and three brothers in Hoosick Falls.

Police Officer Whillehan at Orange, arrested four tramps there, Monday evening, who admitted that they were with Hayes. They said they spent the afternoon with him at Millers Falls, and that they had been drinking. They admitted that he left Millers Falls with them, but that he lagged behind. Deputy Sheriff Pratt with a force of officers had been scouring the surrounding towns all day for them. They said they stopped Monday night at Erving. One of the four is a colored man, and he cried as Officer Whillehan locked him up.

The four tramps were brought before Trial Justice Bicknell at Orange, yesterday, and two of them, Charles Sanders, colored, and William Thompson, were held in \$5000 each to appear before the grand jury charged with manslaughter, while Edward Dunn and W. N. B. King were held in \$200 each to appear as witnesses. All were taken to the Greenfield jail.

A large basket made entirely of candy is displayed in Lewis's window. Any one buying ten cents worth of candy is entitled to a guess on its weight. The person guessing its correct weight will receive the basket.

Merchants all report a good and brisk Christmas trade in spite of hard times. People seem to have saved

and scraped some where else, but they will buy Christmas gifts. Most of them know that it is a paying investment to give gifts to friends, even if one has to do without something oneself.

December 27

The ice on the river is nine or more inches thick. It was 14 inches in thickness in some places last week.

Friends, relatives and children from far and near came home to spend Christmas. All the old faces have been seen.

Every store in town was driven to its utmost, Saturday night, waiting on its Christmas customers. The numerous clerks had their hands full, and when at last business was over, the once well-stocked stores looked as though a cyclone had swept through them.

While coasting down L street hill, Thursday afternoon, a sled ran into a sleigh and two boys, John Grogan and Timothy Murphy were thrown off and injured. Young Grogan was more frightened than hurt, but Murphy was in need of repairs when he was picked up, and was considerably injured.

Mr. and Mrs. G. L. Rist have been quite sick with the grippe.

A. O. Wyman, of the Clark Machine Company, says that in a half dozen years hardly a dozen moulders have come to him seeking employment; but during the past six months of business depression, fully 50 have come along on foot looking for work.

It should make the unenterprising and slow going natives of Turners Falls wake up to read the number and value of the buildings erected and improvements made in towns about ours. Very few buildings have been built here, and of those which have been started, few are ready for occupancy. Athol has expended over \$100,000, Greenfield about \$187,000, Orange over \$100,000 and Northfield, Charlemont, Millers Falls and in fact nearly every town in our vicinity has done well. Why are we always behind?

Charles Underwood, brother to Henry Underwood of Coleraine, was found in the road in Rowe, Thursday morning, Dec. 14, frozen to death. He had started, Wednesday night, to walk to Whitingham, to attend his sister's funeral. He was very thinly clad.

Lewis's basket made out of candy was won by Charles Tanner, who guessed its weight as 10½ lbs., while the exact weight was 10 lbs. 11 ozs.

It would seem that half the village was on a drunk Sunday and Monday. Little gangs of noisy men and full grown boys might be seen on almost any corner, and not a few fights were imminent. One unfortunate owner of a prize jag fell on the icy sidewalk and left part of his cheek on the pavement.

Any one having any clothing of any kind to contribute to the Union Aid Society, will please leave the same at the Corner Book Store.

It is about time to be pondering over those new year's resolutions.

