

# ANDOVER NEWS.

FOR WEEK ENDING DECEMBER 7, 1910.

## FROM CALIFORNIA

### Interesting Letter of Trip to the Pacific Coast, Living About Same Cost as We do Here. Fine Weather

Berkeley, Cal., Nov. 24, 1910.—My ticket gave me the privilege of stopping anywhere I please. Took the Grand Trunk at Buffalo, stopped at Chicago, visited Art Gallery and Lincoln Park which are both very fine and which poor people could not enjoy, but for the very rich who we find so much fault with.

Took the Burlington Road at Chicago, which is one of the best in the country and passes through the finest section of the West, stopped at Denver which I think is a fine city. The bird men were having their convention there. I saw them fly. One Johnson was killed. Stopped at Salt Lake City, went to Mormon church and saw a large congregation of fine looking people and heard a very able sermon.

Took Denver and Rio Grand which passes through some of the finest scenery in America. Stopped at San Francisco but did not like it as well as Oakland, which is just across the bay. This place (Berkeley) is a fine place of about 40,000 population. The State University is located here, also the only Greek Theatre in the United States. It is patterned after the old Amphitheatres in Rome and will seat about 2,000.

Everything is green here and the flowers are all in bloom, no frost, and the weather is pleasant. There has not been very much difference in temperature on the coast, since I came. Producers, especially cattle men, are complaining very much about the railroad monopolies taking all their profits. Living is about the same here as in the East but real estate is much higher.

Fine strawberries are selling here at 10c per basket. People are kind and sociable to strangers. The only thing I lost on the way here was three hours time, but I expect to find it again when I return. I expect to go to Los Angeles next week, and will try and send a few lines from there. Please send paper there, to General Delivery, and I will make it right.

S. G. WAFFLE.  
WM. P. LETCHWORTH.

Philanthropist Passes from Life at Glen Iris, December First.

William Pryor Letchworth died, Thursday evening, December 1st, at Glen Iris, his beautiful home at Portage. His death being attributed to the infirmity of age rather than any particular disease. Mr. Letchworth, by his life of benevolence and for the uplift of humanity has won the hearts of the people throughout the Empire State as few men have, and his name is spoken with reverence by even the school children upon the streets.

Funeral services were held at Portage Sunday afternoon and in Buffalo where interment was made Tuesday morning.

MOSAIC CLUB SENDS PRESENT.

Last Saturday afternoon a joint meeting of the Mosaic Club and Junior League of the M. E. Church, was held, with the Junior Superintendent and tied a comforter to send along with other Christmas gifts to Deaconess Home in Buffalo. Those who wish to donate toward this good work please have your collection of anything you can spare ready for the committee when they call on you.

HAWTHORNE CIRCLE.

The Hawthorne Circle will meet in the Library Monday evening, Dec. 12th. The following program has been arranged for: Roll Call.—Co-operative Societies. Current Events.—Anecdotes. Reading.—Social and Industrial Progress.—Mrs. Brundage. Reading.—Foreign Capital in England.—Mrs. Poase.

NEWS 15c per year.

## The Optomist

By an Optomist

You remember the old Classico which declares that,— "There was a man in our town and he was wondrous wise, He jumped into a bramble bush and scratched out all his eyes." The Optomist has been reminded of that old verse in several ways of late. There are a good many people who are in the sad condition of that historic man, but the trouble is they have not the sense which he had, for our classic declares that,— "When he found his eyes were out with all his might and main, He jumped into another bush and scratched them in again."

Mr. and Mrs. Wondrous Wise are with us all the year, and we can tolerate them fairly well most of the time, but when Christmas draws near we feel like turning them out in the cold world. We can smile at them when they deal out big doses of political and social wisdom, determined that we shall swallow them whether we will or not, bound that we shall follow their blind leadership even into the ditch, but when they assail our notions of Christmas we balk. We are willing to be dubbed "old fashioned" and "behind the times," but we are not going to follow Mr. and Mrs. Wondrous Wise into their famous bramble bush at Christmas time.

Our eyes have seen some things and though we have donned spectacles, and some gray hairs and a bald spot, still we can see some things yet which the Wondrous Wise family say don't exist. We favor a "same Christmas" every time, but our belief in Santa Claus is just as firm as ever, and we have good sound reasons for believing in him. It is bad enough to have Mr. Wondrous Wise spoil all our fun the rest of the year with his talk about "microbes," and "new thought" and "new movements," without his coming in at us at Christmas time and turning his science on our childhood notions.

So the Optomist would make an appeal to you gentle reader for a good old-fashioned observance of Christmas. If you have lost sight of some things through the years, just try and find some thing to help you to see again, even if you have to resort to the method of the historic Mr. Wondrous Wise of Mother Goose fame. It will not hurt you to read "The Night before Christmas" to the children, and if you have no children of your own, borrow some for Christmas. Read "The Christmas Carol," by Charles Dickens, and read it until you are full of the spirit of the story. Go back to your old home in your thoughts and think how much happiness you got out of what Mr. and Mrs. Wondrous Wise call the delusion of Santa Claus, then try and give some other child just as much happiness as you had. And by the way, gentle reader, did you ever stop and think how much happiness and comfort the world has gotten out of it's delusions? The hard facts have not been the things that have given happiness to the world so much as the dreams and so called delusions, and if we grown-ups could only keep some of those childish things in our hearts, we would be a good deal better off.

It makes an old fellow like the Optomist sad of heart to have a little mess of seven-summers hit his old Santa Claus with her hard logic, and there is hardly a youngster of seven who cannot do it in these days. And gentle reader: if you agree with the Optomist, why not join him in the work of opening the eyes of these youngsters? We have all seen him in the old days and some of us see him yet. We have written him letters and he has granted our requests. We have an experience and a literature to back us up and help us. Let's bring the jolly old man back to his own and make him King of the mirth and jollity of the glad Christmas tide. Now we hope none of the Wondrous Wise family will read these words. They will all cry "boah and nonsense" with one accord. But remember that they have eyes and see not. Probably they do not even believe in goblins and fairies and giants and brownies. They do not believe in much of any thing only microbes and natural law and taxes. The Optomist hopes that good old Santa Claus will forgive

## CELLULOID COMB EXPLODED

And Mrs. E. R. Beever, of the Galeson Dispatch and her Daughter Jessie have a Narrow Escape.

Monday morning in Galeson, Pa., Mrs. E. R. Beever, the editor and publisher of the Leader-Dispatch had an experience that she will not care to have repeated. The lady was at her home engaged in making her toilet. She had a celluloid comb in her hair and in using a heated iron in dressing her hair, the iron came in contact with the comb. In an instant the comb exploded and burst into a seething flame burning the lady's hair and setting fire to her clothing.

Mrs. Beever screamed for help and her daughter, Jessie, who was in an adjoining room heard the call and rushed to her mother's assistance. She succeeded in putting out the fire by desperately pulling the clothes from Mrs. Beever, but in doing so her own wearing apparel was set on fire and the ladies then had two conflagrations to attend to instead of one.

It was, indeed, fortunate that Miss Beever was so close by when the accident occurred—and doubly fortunate that both Mrs. Beever and her daughter escaped with only minor injury.

## ANOTHER BANKER GONE BAD.

There is hardly a day but what the daily readers of the newspapers do not hear of some defunct bank going to the wall from bad speculations or the embezzlement of the depositors' money. In "The Bowers Detective," a four act comedy drama which is to appear at the Auditorium, on Monday, December 12, we will have the story vividly told of an unscrupulous Bank President, who has been a rejected suitor for the hand of his cashier's bride, plots and plans to ruin and blast the good name of the cashier by placing the crime of embezzlement upon him and is aided by a willing tool who has been a clerk in the bank.

The story told in "The Bowers Detective," is founded on actual occurrences and presents characters in every day life in the big cities. "The Bowers Detective" will be presented by one of the best comedy companies that the management could put together with all the necessary scenic surroundings to give the story its proper coloring. Many new and novel specialties will be present during the action of the comedy. Seat Sale Saturday, Prices 25c, 35c and 50c.

## READY TO CORRECT ERRORS.

We have within the past few weeks mailed every subscriber a notice to the effect that after January 1st, next, The Andover News would strictly enforce its rule of Cash in Advance, No Pay, No Paper, and have also indicated the time to which each subscriber was paid. Undoubtedly, errors have been made in the statements, but we have endeavored to make them as near accurate as possible.

If you find that you are not properly credited on our books when you receive your statement, kindly do not allow it to trouble you. Notify us and we will be only too willing to rectify it.

## NOTICE.

At the meeting of the Board of Directors of Allegany Mutual Telephone Co., held, June 8, it was voted to make the switch fees payable semi-annually instead of annually, on the first of December and June. The bills for Dec. 1, 1910 are being mailed this week.

## Some Peculiar Beliefs.

In country parts of Italy, where the peasants are poor, baked earth has been utilized to form crocotas to hang on the necks of their cattle, and in Scotland and Ireland old bells are still extant that consist of four thin plates of iron hammered and riveted together. One at Antwerp given by Charles V. is made of copper, silver and gold and is valued at \$100,000.

—Don't miss the New York Ladies Trio at the Methodist church Saturday evening. Admission 25c.

and forget, and that he will visit every home in Andover. He hopes that the Christmas gladness may enter every heart, and the Christmas spirit prompt all of us to do all we can to make it the gladdest, happiest season of all the year.

## MORE NEW BOOKS ADDED TO LIBRARY

### Splendid Line of Good Literature Ready For You. List of New Books Recently Added to Andover Library.

Ready for your reading, a fine lot of new books have just recently been placed on the shelves at Andover's popular Free Library. Look them over and you cannot fail to find many in the list which will be very interesting.

The Red Symbol, Ironside. Redney McGraw, McFarlane. Red House on Rowan Street, Doubleday. Passers-by, Patridge. Snare of Circumstances, Buckley. Wonderful Little Lives, Schwartz. Girls of Fairmount, Baker. Flamed Querries, Waller. The Ramrodgers, Day. Involuntary Chaperon, Cameron. Captain Stormfield's Visit to Heaven, Mark Twain. Legends of the City of Mexico, T. Janier. Hermit of Capre, J. Stevenson. Wild Olive, B. King. The Science of Happiness, Williams. Going Some, Beach. The Right Stuff, Hay. Twisted Foot, Rideout. An Army Mule, Thompson. Wilderness Pets at Camp Buckshaw, Breck. Little Gardens for Boys and Girls, Higgins. The British Isles, Tomlinson. When Sarah Saved the Day, Singmaster. John of the Woods, Brown. Swimming, Brewster. Clever Betsey, Burkham. John Winterbourne's Family, Alice Brown. The Homecomers, Winifred Kirland. In the Catskills, John Burroughs. Young Americans in the British Isles, Tomlinson. The Empty House, Stuart Phelps. The Siege of the Seven Sutors, Nicholson's. Lords of High Decision, Nicholson. Killmeny of the Orchard, Montgomery. Tag, Patriarche. Banbury Cross Stories, Howard. Jacqueline of the Carrier Pigeons, Seaman. Son the Immortals, Tracy. Moving of the Waters, Cady. Arbor Day, Schaffner. Assers Life of King Alfred, Cook. Gwenda, Grundy. Hilaryon Her Own, Grundy. Recollections of a Varied Life, G. C. Eggleston. Big John Baldwin, Vance. Unknown Quantity, Hall. The Secret of Old Thunderhead, Irwin. Cave Women, V. Burhams. Last of the Chief, Altshelter. Double Play, Barbour. Florence Nightingale, Richards. The Sky Man, Webster. The House of Mystery, Will Irwin. The Doctor's Lass, Booth. Happy Islands, Jeanette Lee. The Crossways, Martin. Samuel Pepsy, Lubbock. Danbury Rodd Aviators, Palmer. The Silent Call, Royle. Man Higher Up, Miller. Day of Inheritance, Thanet. Day of Soul, Jackson. Margarita's Soul, Lovell. Thief of Virtue, Phillpotts. Adventures of an A. D. C., Bradley. Simon the Jester, Locke. Bronson of the Rabble, Hancock. Longshore Boys, Stoddard. Blindloss. Glory of the Conquerors, Gaspeit. A Mine of Faults, Bain. The Rosary, Barclay. House of Whispering Pines, Green. Peppy, Story of a South African Girl, Cynthia Stockley. Deep Sea Warriors, Lubbock. Man Outside, Martyn. The Wrong and Peril of Woman Suffrage, Buckley. Tell me a True Story, Stewart. Master of the Inn, Herrick. Life for a Life, Herrick. A Modern Chronicle, Churchill. Nathan Burke, Watts. Games for the Play Ground, Bancroft.

## ORGANIZED BROTHERHOOD.

Men of Methodist Church Held Inter-esting Banquet Friday Night and Organize.

Fifty plates were laid at the Men's Banquet at the Methodist Church, Friday evening and the organization of a Methodist Brotherhood was completed.

Some two or three weeks ago, Rev. W. H. Adams, pastor of the Andover Methodist church, suggested the idea of organizing the men into a brotherhood for the purpose of bringing the men of the church in closer touch with each other socially and interest them more thoroughly in the work of the church, getting them to work in harmony with each other. In order to get the matter properly before the community, it was decided to hold a men's banquet.

The supper was served by the ladies of the Methodist church in a charming manner. The pastor, Rev. W. H. Adams, presiding as Toast master and called out the following speakers: The Social Instinct and Need of Man,—C. L. Earley. The Social Needs of the Community,—J. H. Backus. The Church as a Social Factor,—George Robinson. The Social Relation of Churches,—Rev. H. D. Bacon. The Methodist Brotherhood,—Rev. L. D. Woodmacy, of Wellsville. Enrollment blanks were circulated at the close of the speaking and a large number signed as members, after which the temporary organization of the Methodist Brotherhood was completed by the election of the following officers: President,—John Common. Vice President,—Arling R. Baker. Secretary,—B. H. Hann. Treasurer,—George Robinson. The officers of the temporary organization were appointed a committee to draft constitution and by-laws, and perfect a permanent organization.

The occasion was one of good cheer and comradeship, and the newly organized brotherhood will undoubtedly become a factor in Andover society in the near future.

## WOODMEN NOTICE.

Regular meeting of Andover Camp 12478, Friday evening, December 9th. Annual election of officers will be held at this time. All members are urgently requested to be present.

The Picturesque St. Lawrence, Johnson. Oberammergau, Short. The Green Cloak, Davis. Pageant of English Poetry, Leonard. History of Mr. Polly, Wells. Story of a Whim, G. L. Hill-Lutz. Marcia Schuyler, G. L. Hill-Lutz. The Land of Enchantment, Lillian Whiting. Uganda's White Man of Work. Course of Drink, Elton R. Shaw. Scarlet Pimperly, B. Orcey. Mary Cary, Boshier. Life of Robertson of Blight or Rie. Homans Automobile Educator, 1910 Revised Edition. The Letters of Thomas Aldrich. Webster's New International Dictionary, 1910. City of Beautiful Nonsense, Thurston. The Bright Side, Skinner. Twice Born Men, Bigbie. The Mediator, Steiner.

## REORGANIZED FOR A SPLENDID SUCCESS

### Even Though Hampered by Want of Capital the "Old Reliable" is at Last Making Expenses and then Some

In the history of the Erie—and more than any other American line—the Erie has a history—the reorganization of 1895 stands as a dividing line between the new and the old. The "old" was the time of Jay Gould and Jim Fiske et al., who used to carry the offices of the road around in their pockets, and of old Dan Drew, whose printing-presses used to be run over-time turning out uncounted reams of stock. The "new" is the time of the sober operation of the company by a group of highly efficient traffic men, handicapped, it is true, by their legacy of mismanagement and over capitalization, but striving with all the power that is in them to make their great property what it ought to be.

When the present management came in a few years after the reorganization, it was a tremendous task with which they found themselves faced. On its record, people had no faith in the Erie. Its credit was gone. Its equipment and its road-bed were in lamentable condition. Worse than that, the new management soon enough came to find how difficult was economical operation of a line whose rails had been laid along the route offering the largest subscriptions instead of the least grade resistance. To build the necessary cut-offs, and to eliminate the killing grades on this up-hill and down-dale route was possible enough, but required money—lots of it. That the company did not have and could not borrow. Capitalization and capital are two mighty different things. The company had plenty of the former, but lack of the latter on more than one occasion during those early years of the reorganization came perilously near sending the whole property into bankruptcy.

As lately as only three years ago, indeed, lack of working capital came near bringing to naught all that the new management has done for the property and throwing it into the receivers hands. The panic hit the Erie particularly hard. Gross earnings fell off tremendously while expenses increased. Between that upper and nether millstone, net revenues, which had been \$15,171,000 in 1907, fell off to \$10,277,000 in 1908. With a big issue of short-term notes coming due, it looked very squally for a time. But at the very moment of danger, strong financial interests stepped in and provided the necessary cash.

How well justified they were in their judgment that the road ought to be pulled through is seen in the remarkable earnings shown since that time. Probably there is not another road in the country that can show so complete a right-about-face in condition and outlook during the past couple of years as can the

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