

Wednesday, January 17, 1889.

Fairfield County Items.

CITY OF WEST NORWALK. Messrs. Bates Bros. are falling and having drawn to their saw mill many fine chestnut, whitewood and oak logs, which are to be used in the manufacture of shaves or to fill their contracts for timber.

We have it from good authority that J. W. Pennell, of the City of South Norwalk, has secured the farm and mill on the site of the old possession of it in early spring. We shall be glad to welcome him to our city.

Miss Sarah Tompkins has returned from her visits at Stamford, Darien and Norwalk, and resumed her duties at New Canaan.

The indications here are that a solitary year would be obtained for the consolidation of the town. Doubtless the head selectman will have to transact his business here next year.

NEW CANAAN.

Monday evening of last week, Friendship Division celebrated its 7th anniversary. The hall was tastefully decorated, and the entertainment was a success. Concord, Friendly Greeting, Old Well and Wilton Divisions were well represented.

P. G. W. P.'s North, Hill and Butter were present and made speeches. Addresses were also made by G. W. P. Hawley, John Light and others.

Edwin Hoy, treasurer, made a report showing the Division to be in a flourishing condition. The ladies served a fine collation.

RIDGEFIELD.

A Baxter furnace has been put into St. Steven's church, and warmed the church through last Sunday.

Union services are being held five evenings in the week by the Congregational and M. E. Churches.

Mrs. John Sammis died Friday morning of pneumonia.

A town meeting is called for to-morrow afternoon.

REDDING.

There were union meetings during the week of prayer, on Sunday, Tuesday and Wednesday afternoon at the Methodist church, and on Thursday evening and Friday afternoon at the Congregational church.

The attendance was not large, yet the meetings were profitable.

There were extra meetings at the Methodist church on Wednesday and Thursday and Friday evenings of last week. At the first Rev. J. O. Munson preached and at the others the Presiding Elder, Rev. W. T. Hill.

There was a fall of about four inches of snow last Tuesday night, and notwithstanding the warmth of the weather, the sleighing on the two following days was fair, slight bells rang merrily. Friday afternoon gave about the same quantity of snow, but in the afternoon a warm mist overpassed the earth, and the snow greatly diminished, still their is a chance for sleighing.

Two petitions have been in circulation, one to the General Assembly asking for an amendment to the constitution in the interest of Temperance, and the other to Congress in behalf of Civil Service Reform.

It is a gratification to the friends of Mr. Thomas Sanford, Representative from this town, that he was made by the Speaker of the House of Representatives, through the Democratic Chairman of one of the Joint Standing Committees, and the Sale of Lands. He is also a member of the Joint Select Committee on Temperance. Mr. Foster, the other representative of the town, is a member of the Joint Standing Committee on New Towns and Probate Districts. It will thus be seen that these representatives are occupying quite important positions with reference to coming legislation.

WILTON.

On Wednesday morning last, a man by the name of Edwin Wood, who has for some time been the employ of Carter Cannon, Esq., set fire to a barn of his employe and the same was destroyed with its contents. The incendiary was pursued and captured, on a hearing before N. M. Belden, Esq., he was bound over and in default of bail was taken to the jail at Bridgeport.

Mr. J. N. Benedict has the misfortune to slip, on Saturday night last, thereby breaking his hip, which will confine him to his home for some time.

The Rev. Mr. Thompson announced to his congregation on Sunday that the debt of the church had been reduced.

STAMFORD.

C. H. Lounsbury proposes to erect one or two houses on Bedford street, next summer. He has a plan for a house to appear at the Academy of Music, Feb. 3d.

The Advocate devotes three columns to T. N. Doughty, and in the very first of them the editor says in no uncertain terms that the editor will not be interested in his article.

The Stamford Light.

WASHINGTON, January 11.—The light board gives notice to mariners that on and after February 1889, a fixed red light of the third order will be exhibited from the light house recently constructed on Harbor Lodge, Stamford Harbor, Conn. The structure is an iron tower, and is situated on the frustum of a cone, standing on an iron pier filled with concrete. A fog bell struck by machinery will be exhibited from the tower twenty seconds during thick and foggy weather.

GREENWICH.

Mrs. Hobby Husted has purchased the Home Farm for \$125,000.

Among recent real estate changes are the following: Prehligbyren Ferris to Darius F. Palmer, Esq. of South Beach, consideration \$2,000.

James B. Davis to the Byram Land Improvement Company \$20,000, and \$25 and 35 cents consideration.

Miss Kate Whelan fell through a bridge on the Railroad, a distance of 15 feet, and thereby injured her back. She is unable to get up.

At the last communion in the 2d Congregational church, eighteen persons were received into membership, twelve on profession of faith.

DANBURY.

Danbury is to have a roller skating rink. The Danzawa water mill is to be sold. It does not run on Sundays.

The Methodist revival continues. Over fifty persons have been converted. Rev. J. M. McPherson recently died in Pennsylvania. His remains were buried in Danbury. Some twenty-five artists were in attendance, including Fathers Russell of Norwalk, Keating of Westport, and Walsh of Georgetown.

Rev. J. L. Darie and Burgess Meyers are building houses on Gardfield avenue. Dr. Pulo Barber, an excellent character, died recently at the Almshouse.

W. P. Roberts paid James Baldwin \$3,500 for one-half acre of land on Pleasant street, with buildings thereon.

S. C. Willman has been elected director in the Danbury National Bank.

The Baptist Social Union have in preparation the cantata of "The Fairy Grotto."

Jan. Fry has sold to Rev. S. M. Hastings of Boston, a house on Centre street, for \$3,800. Mr. Fry will erect a similar house on the same street.

The news records eleven deaths in Danbury the first ten days of this year.

WESTPORT.

Open Westport, and that rare spectacle of a river free from ice on the 10th day of January, is seen. The oldest inhabitant fails to furnish a parallel. Indeed, so striking has been the warmth that all kinds of boats are being run into use on the river the same as if summer and not winter were here. Predictions of sudden changes have come to naught, and the weather prophet who has kept a pretty close mouth thus far, reigns supreme in his wisdom. Weather history repeats itself, and taking that history as a basis of judgment, we must, in a very short time, have a change which will surprise the natives. Conditions like the present existed in 1829-'30, continuing till January 12th, when a severe snow storm set in. The winter of '81-'82 lasted several days over its predecessor, but very soon, as it did then, the opposite extreme must come. Again, in 1859 little if any very cold weather came till after March 1st, but all we remember the late and terribly cold spring which followed, and memory of the winter of '70-'80, which gave so many mild days as to make the ice crop a failure, is yet fresh in our minds. Assuming as much knowledge of the future as we can get from the past, we predict a great snow storm and period of extreme cold to set in on or about Wednesday, January 18th, and all the snow which then falls will not wholly disappear till after April 1st.

The funeral of Mrs. Smith (colored), known to everybody here familiarly as Dinah, who died on the 9th, aged 65 years, took place Tuesday, Rev. Mr. Hart officiated at the house and Rev. Mr. Lewis at the grave. Deceased, who had been a domestic in the family of the late O. M. Bennett for nearly forty years, was considered almost as one of the family, and her remains were deposited in the lot of those she had served faithfully so long.

Mr. Alex. Lawrence has the oldest pair of boots, probably, in Connecticut. He purchased them in 1850—thirty-two years ago—in London, and has used them for hunting. They are now five pounds sterling. They are yet handsome and in such good repair as to be called "good as new."

There was an "old folks" dance Thursday evening, in the hotel ball room, and a company of very pleasant people found it to their advantage to keep the music and dancing going till a late hour. It is likely the dance will be soon repeated.

Increasing business impels Mr. J. Wood, the carpenter, to build an addition to his already extensive establishment. He is the kind of carpet bagger Westport likes.

Miss Hannah Maloney, aged sixty years, who died Wednesday after an illness of many months, was buried Thursday in the Catholic cemetery.

The idea of many that the mild weather will stay by us, may, ere long, get frozen out. Mr. Sidney Watts' house begins to assume graceful proportions.

Mr. Lloyd Nash has returned from a visit to Melrose, N. Y.

Mr. Rufus Wakeman is putting up a building at Saugatuck, in which he will carry on the manufacture of cotton mattresses. Mr. Wakeman has many persons in his employ.

Draw-tender, Chauncey Allen of the railroad bridge begins to feel a doubt as to his getting the river water ice vacation. In most former years the winter has been in bound all the winter.

The fact that Cornwall & Patterson with some tools, brought much machinery here, set up in the Building and Improvement Co.'s new factory, got thereby free advertising in the papers and caused hopes of wonderful progress to be indulged by the friends of Westport, and then unceremoniously moved the machinery to another town, reminds us of some Roman writer's poetic line, that "With twice ten thousand men he marched up the hill and then—marched down again."

Signatures to a petition asking the General Assembly to legislate for the prohibition of liquor manufacture in this State, are now being solicited with ardent spirit by friends of some temperance.

If that had hole in the plank of the little bridge on the depot road near Captain W. C. Staples', is not mended, somebody will take the horse car for a train and get left.

Brubaird's grass in the trees, thimble, though nearly every day late winter, chance for some Daneyon to write a poetic line.

Druggist Cannon, will accept, and place in his museum as a curiosity, either horn of this weather diem. Cannon's is a free museum.

Hurlbut, the news and confectionery man has a novel and useful combined horse car and steam car time table.

An "accident" happened at Saugatuck, does not still stamped envelopes. Hence, persons wishing the article must call on the Westport postmaster, which helps him and hurts Saugatuck.

One Compo man makes it a point to buy and sell daily by telegraph stock in Wall street to pay expenses of a good dinner. He said to live on it.

At the annual meeting of the stockholders of the First National Bank, held last Tuesday, Directors were chosen as follows: H. Staples, S. R. Saxton, Francis Sherwood, E. W. Taylor, E. S. Downes, T. H. Lee, E. D. Nash, B. L. Woodworth, R. A. Ogden, J. H. Woodworth, and J. H. Woodworth, Jr. Dr. H. Staples was elected President and Dr. H. Woodworth, cashier.

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CITY NEWS.

The numerous friends of landlord Francisco made frequent calls on Thursday last, at the "Mahakona" but were unable to find him. Those who were financially interested being greatly disappointed.

Many who have seen the workings of the "Guard Gates" at the railroad crossing at Stamford, think that the residents here, or the Common Council, should insist that such gates should immediately be placed on the crossing near W. H. Swanwick's store.

As was predicted in the last GAZETTE, our board of councilmen saw after they had been told, the errors of their ways, and repented of it in part, at their last meeting, by passing a resolution, fresh from a law office, to rescind certain parts of their acts. They did so, and went through the routine of electing senior councilmen. The result being the same as was announced last week.

Many men seek honors and office. Not so with our efficient baggage master, who, in addition to his numerous duties, has been appointed chief of the snow shovel brigade, or with councilman Lane, who has honors enough, thrust upon him, being city collector of taxes, councilman, city surveyor, committee on streets, and a member of the town board of relief. His shoulders are broad, and we think he can carry this load.

Dissatisfaction is depicted on every countenance, at the result of the town meeting, and by that a feeling has been caused, which will not be readily healed. Already a petition to the general assembly is being prepared, asking to be set off as a separate town, and every voter at this end, will sign it.

Rev. Homer Dunning delivered a well prepared sermon, Sunday evening, at the M. E. church, Sunday evening.

A Norwalk Author Honored.

The New York Daily Tribune of January 6th, has a critical notice of "A Political Cyclopaedia—A Cyclopaedia of Political Science, Political Economy, and of the Political History of the United States, by the best American and European writers." The volume under review is Vol. I. "Three volumes, according to the promise of the preface, will complete the work, which seems likely to be a valuable addition to the library of the student of affairs."

Among the twenty-four American writers the name of our fellow townsman, Alexander Johnston, Esq., Principal of the Norwalk Latin School, is conspicuous for the number of his articles and the honorable mention of them.

The Tribune says: "To speak briefly of some of the most noteworthy articles. Abolition (Johnston) sketches early efforts at the abolition of slavery in the United States, the volume under review is Vol. I. "Three volumes, according to the promise of the preface, will complete the work, which seems likely to be a valuable addition to the library of the student of affairs."

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Legislative Correspondence.

HARTFORD, Ct., Jan. 13, 1889.

DEAR GAZETTE: But little business of importance has come before the legislature this week. The Senate met Wednesday, appointed its committees, and then adjourned till Thursday.

The first two weeks of every session are always devoid of interest; nearly all the members are novices in legislative matters and require a little time to settle down to their new duties. Speaker Hall announced the House Committees on Tuesday. As a whole the selections are very satisfactory and reflect credit on the good judgment of the Speaker.

As predicted by your correspondent, Mr. Johnson, of Enfield, was appointed Chairman of the Judiciary Committee. The person occupying this position is always looked upon as leader of the House. Mr. Cleveland, of Brooklyn, Chairman of the Investigation Committee, is an old and tried legislator.

In selecting Judge Gillette, of Waterbury, the Speaker has made a very acceptable choice; Judge Gillette will be thoroughly impartial in all his decisions, and will be a man of unswerving honor and integrity.

Very cordial regards to our fellow townsman, Mr. Coville, of Norwalk, Chairman of the Committee on Claims; Mr. Scofield, of Stamford, Chairman of the Committee on State Prisons; Mr. Sanford of Redding, Committee on Sale of Lands.

The Railroad Committee has already reported favorably on the resolution permitting the Danbury & Norwalk Railroad Co. to extend its line; the resolution will doubtless pass without opposition, next week.

Among the matters of interest thus far introduced are the following: Petitions for greater restrictions in the granting of divorces; for incorporating a Borough in the village of Shelton; for winding up the Town-Saving Bank; for increase of punishment of crime of burglary; a resolution appointing a committee to codify the criminal code of the State; and a bill to make state election day a legal holiday.

The matter which excites the most conjecture thus far is the appointment of judges to fill the vacancies to arise on the Supreme and Superior Court benches. The general opinion seems to be that all the old judges will be reappointed except Judges Martin and Hitchcock. There are two vacancies to which one Democrat and one Republican judge will doubtless be appointed; the only Democrats prominently named are Luzon B. Morris and Henry D. Stoddard, of New Haven; the Republican candidates named are Gilbert Phillips, of Providence; Lynde Hilditch, of Guilford; and Governor Andrews, of Litchfield, with the chances in favor of the last.

A bill has already been introduced providing that the Governor shall send in his nominations within four weeks after the meeting of the General Assembly, which nominations shall be referred to the Judiciary Committee without discussion, and a bill to make the withdrawal by the Governor at any time before reported on, and that the judges shall be appointed by Joint Resolution. The bill meets with quite general approval.

Fairfield County Charities.

Mr. Frederick Marquand has sent a letter to the Brooklyn Young Men's Christian Association, offering to give \$50,000 toward building for the association on condition that \$50,000 more is secured before March 1st, and \$50,000 toward an endowment fund on condition that, before the same date, another \$50,000 is secured.

The Congressionalists say that "the will of the late Captain John Brooks, of Bridgeport, Conn., bequeaths the greater part of his \$200,000 estate to the First Presbyterian church of that city.

There are other generous givers in Southport besides Mr. Marquand, especially members of the Wakeman family.

Captain Brooks is favorably remembered in Norwalk as the accomplished steamboat captain.

Mr. Morris K. Jessup, one of the most munificent givers of New York, is of an old Fairfield county family and is himself a native.

Hartford Hotels.

In our last week's article with reference to winter sessions of the legislature in this state, we alluded to the want of proper heating arrangements in the sleeping rooms of the leading hotels in Hartford. We are now glad to learn that one of them, the City Hotel, in Main street, has been thoroughly refitted, and now presents the greatest part of its sleeping rooms are heated with steam radiators, with steam power furnished from the mains of the steam heating and power company now in operation in that city under the management of Curtis Johnson, Esq., late of the Gramercy Park Hotel, New York City, and is highly spoken of by those who have been guests there since Mr. Judson assumed control.

Quel Dommage? It was just Cousin Jack, and so—what was the harm? We on the steps, for the evening, we were in; We spoke very softly, and—as to his arm, it was just Cousin Jack, and so—what was the harm? The scent of the bay-fields crept up from the farm, We were quite in the dark, save the fire-lights...

Civil Service Reform. A Letter from Tharlow Weed. THE DEMANDS OF CIVIL SERVICE REFORMS REVIEWED—DIFFERENCE BETWEEN THEORY AND PRACTICE—INDUSTRY A CURSE FOR OFFICE-SEEKING—EVILS OF THE COMPETITIVE SYSTEM—LESSONS FROM RECORDS OF THE PAST.

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