AMERICAN SENTINEL.

$1 PER ANNUM. WESTMINSTER, MD., SATURDAY MORNING, APRIL 25, 1903. VOL. 72--NO. 17.

To Ministers and Others.

Owing to the late hour in which decrees and other legal papers are issued by the Court, frequently not until Thursday night, we request all ministers and those having fairs, festivals, suppers and entertainments for the benefit of Sunday schools and public schools to send their notices in not later than Tuesday morning of the week they wish them announced. *By doing so their publication can be guaranteed.* Legal notices must be published within a certain time after they are issued by the Court, and in order to comply with the decrees, &c., of the Court we are compelled to leave out or curtail our local corresponeence or omit markets, religious and other notices.

RELIGIOUS NOTICES.

Ascension Church.—Holy Communion at 10 a. m. Second Celebration and sermon at 7.30 a. m. Evening service at 7.30.
E. B. TAYLOR, Rector.

Methodist Protestant Church.—Sabbath School Sunday at 9.15 a. m. Midweek service on Wednesday evening at 8.00. Junior C. E. service at 2.00 p. m. Christian Endeavor at 6.30 p. m. Preaching at 10.30 a. m., and 7.30 p. m.
L. F. WARNER, Pastor.

Centenary M. E. Church.—Sabbath School Sunday at 9.15 a. m. Junior League 2.30 p. m. Epworth League at 6.45 p. m. Prayer meeting Wednesday evening at 7.30 p. m. Preaching at 10.30 a. m., and 7.45 p. m.
D. G. MILLER, Pastor.

Grace Lutheran Church.—Lecture and prayer meeting Wednesday evening at 7.30. Junior Catechise at 1.30, Senior at 2.00 p. m., on Saturday. Sunday School at 9 a. m. Y. P. S. C. E. 6.30 p. m. Preaching at 10.30 a. m., and 7.30 p. m.
P. H. MILLER, D. D., Pastor.

St. Paul's Ref. Church.—Sunday School at 9.15 a. m. Divine services at 10.30 a. m., and at 7.15 p. m.
CALVIN S. SLAGLE, Pastor.

Carroll Charge, Reformed Church.—Holy Communion at Bachman's at 10 a. m.
JAMES B. STONESIFER, Pastor.

Salem Charge, Lutheran Church.—St. Benjamin's Church.—Sunday School at 9 a. m. Preaching at 10 a. m. Catechise on Saturday at 1.15 p. m.
St. John's.—Sunday School at 1 p. m. Preaching at 2 p. m. Catechise after preaching.
R. W. Dott Pastor.

Uniontown Charge—Lutheran.—Communion services will be held in the charge as follows:
Baust: April 26th, at 10 a. m.
Winter's: May 3rd, at 10 a. m.
Preparatory service on the Saturday preceding at 2.30 p. m.
G. W. Baughman, Pastor.

J. H. FUSS, AGENT.

STATEMENT SHOWING THE CONDITION OF THE HARTFORD FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY OF HARTFORD, CONN., DECEMBER 31ST, 1902.

INCOME.

Total Income during the year	$10,029,259.21

DISBURSEMENTS.

Total Expenditures during the year	$9,251,642.04

ASSETS.

Real estate	$ 902,940.77
Mortgage loans on real estate	781,899.00
Loans secured by pledge of bonds, stocks or other collateral	4,800.00
Bonds and stocks owned by company	7,584,301.98
Cash in office and in bank	815,948.22
Printing plant	24,175.15
Agents' debit balances	922,893.87
Interest and rents due and accrued	12,218.34
Net amount of uncollected premiums, not more than three months due	1,066,919.00
Market value of real estate over book value	47,559.23
Market value of bonds and stocks over book value	1,309,610.19
Reinsurance due on losses paid	10,597.49
Gross assets	$13,443,763.24

ASSETS NOT ADMITTED.

Securities deposited in various States for the protection of policyholders in such States (market value)	$ 311,192.39	
Liabilities in said states	47,661.35	
Liabilities over deposits	$125,859.06	
Printing plant depreciation	202.87	
Total		$ 202.87
Total admitted assets		$13,443,560.37

LIABILITIES.

Net amount of unpaid losses and claims	$ 827,805.40
Total unearned premiums	7,852,840.94
Commissions, brokerage and other charges due to agents and brokers on premiums paid	136,032.30
Return premiums	295,728.00
Total amount of all liabilities	9,012,406.64
Surplus as regards policy-holders	4,431,153.73
Capital stock paid up	$ 1,250,000.00
Surplus as regards stockholders	3,181,356.60
Amount of policies in force in United States on 31st December, 1902	1,294,382,871.00
Amount of policies written in Maryland during the year 1902	8,673,412.00
Premiums received on Maryland business in 1902	90,759.42
Losses paid in Maryland during 1902	52,234.21
Losses incurred in Maryland during 1902	57,449.52

State of Maryland, Insurance Department. Commissioner's Office. Baltimore, Jan. 15, 1903.

In compliance with the Code of Public General Laws, I hereby certify that the above is a true abstract from the statement of the Hartford Fire Insurance Company of Hartford, Conn., to December 31st, 1902, now on file in this Department.
LLOYD WILKINSON,
Insurance Commissioner.

Statement Showing the Condition of the Mutual Benefit Life Ins. Co., of Newark, New Jersey, December 31st, 1902.

Total Income during the year	$15,005,018.54
Total Disbursements	11,167,951.08
Total admitted Assets	82,759,184.13
Total Liabilities	76,103,289.30
Surplus as regards Policy-holders	6,655,894.83

H. P. GODDARD, STATE AGENT,
410 Maryland Trust Building, Baltimore, Md.
J. Hoffman Fuss, Agent, Westminster, Md.
E. E. Roop, Agent, Wakefield Md.
Albert Jones & Son, Agents, Mt. Airy, Md.
ap 11 4t

TEACHERS' HAND BOOK.

Rule No. 2 in the Hand Book will be a protection for our teachers against persons who might insist on taking the teachers' time during school hours. Some facts have reached this office which suggest the propriety of calling attention to this regulation for the guidance of teachers.

It may be well to state that, on general principles, the Examiner never gives any recommendation or indorsement of any book offered to the teachers of Carroll county by any book agent. In any case where the teacher might desire an opinion from this office, it would be necessary to see the Examiner in person, or write to him.

The Spring term will close April 17th; Teachers' Association will be the 24th instant; the school year for Carroll will close Friday, May 1st; and the final examination of pupils will be held the last three days of the summer term, April 29th and 30th, and May 1st.
ap 4 3t S. SIMPSON, Examiner.

NO. 4011 EQUITY.

In the Circuit Court for Carroll County, in Equity.

Mary Gosnell et al., plaintiffs, vs. Milton Downey, et al., defendants.

Ordered, this 2nd day of April, in the year 1903, that the sale of the real estate made and reported in the above entitled cause by David E. Walsh and Francis Neal Parke, trustees, be ratified and confirmed, unless cause to the contrary be shown on or before the 4th day of May next; provided a copy of this order be inserted in some newspaper published in Carroll county, once in each of three successive weeks before the 27th day of April inst. The report states the amount of sale to be $230.00.
JAS. H. BILLINGSLEA, Clerk.
True copy—Test:
ap 4-3t JAS. H. BILLINGSLEA, Clerk.

NOTICE TO CREDITORS.

This is to give notice that the subscriber has obtained from the Orphans' Court of Carroll county, Md., letters of administration on the estate of
JONAS C. MYERS,
late of Carroll county, deceased. All persons having claims against the deceased are hereby warned to exhibit the same, with the vouchers thereof legally authenticated, to the subscriber, on or before the 30th day of October, 1903, they may otherwise by law be excluded from all benefit of said estate.
Given under my hand this 30th day of March, 1903.
JOSEPH MYERS,
ap 4 4t Administrator

HERING'S DEPARTMENT STORE.

SALES THAT WILL MAKE THIS STORE ATTRACTIVE FOR BUYING FOR THE COMING WEEK.

Spring Dress Goods BARGAINS.

69 CENTS. 69 CENTS. 69 CENTS.

All Wool Voile, Etamine, and Mistral, 49 inches wide, in Black, Navy, Reseda, Garnet and Castor. The newest and most popular goods for this season. The same as you would pay 85c elsewhere.

Mattings.
China Mattings, in fine weaves, very heavy, all colors, worth 15c, for this sale
12½c.

Extra heavy China Matting, in Red, Blue, and Green, our regular 20c quality, for
16c.

98 Cents.
Ladies' Percale Wrappers, in Navy, Gray, Garnet, and Black and White stripes, best quality Percale, all sizes, from 32 to 42 in.

Summer Curtains.
50c A PAIR WORTH 69c.
Swiss Curtains, in dots and stripes, with ruffles, 2½ yds. long.

$1.69 a Pair.
Ladis' 3 strap, all Patent Leather Oxford, with French heel, worth
$2.00.

98 Cents.
5 doz. Ladies' Black Mercerized Satine Skirts, with three ruffles, regular $1.25 quality.

CHARLES E. HERING, Westminster, Md.

COMPARE
Sharrer & Gorsuch's
$15 SUITS MADE TO ORDER,

with others' $18 and $20 Suits, and you will see how we save you a $5 bill on every Merchant Tailor Suit. Over 500 of the season's handsomest patterns to select your Suit or Trousers from. A special line of Fine Worsted Pants, to order, $5.00.

Elegant Ready Made Suits.
Our Suits this year in style, fit and finish are fit for a king to wear. Suits from $4 to $15. Our $7 and $8 Suits are regular $10 values.

Boys' Suits. Boys' Suits.
We sell more Boys' Clothing each season because mothers are learning that Sharrer & Gorsuch's Boys' Suits and Knee Pants wear best and are cheapest.

Some Great Shirt Bargains.
A genuine Madras Dress Shirt 25c. Bedford Cord 50c Shirt 35c.
A line of Shirts, that look and wear like $1 Shirts, for 50c.
The best Working Shirt made 45c; a good one for 25c.
50 doz. of our famous Working Pants 50c to 85c. Sweet Orr Overalls.
oct 11 1y 7



THE WESTMINSTER
STEAM LAUNDRY,
153 WEST MAIN STREET,



is well equipped to do your family work.

Recent improvements have increased our capacity in all departments.

Your family wash done at a low price per lb. Rough dry or ironed.

Try it awhile and see if you ever had whiter linen.

Shirt and Collar work cannot be excelled.

R. N. SNADER, Proprietor.
ju-8 tf W. M. and C. & P. Phones.

IT'S COMPLETE. WHAT?

J. W. Lockard & Son's,
CARPET DEPARTMENT, CONTAINING
Carpets, Mattings,
Oil Cloths, Comforts, Blankets, Spreads,
Lace Curtains, Portieres, Etc.

Prices Way Down
on above articles, also on our FURNITURE and BUGGIES. We invite all to visit our store before buying, as we will save you money.
Yours to serve,
J. W. LOCKARD & SON.,
13 and 15 Liberty Street, Westminster.
an 16 1y

John D. Bowers.

Sharing a Good Thing.



Confectionery is most often bought for a gift. Those who buy it naturally want the best. That's why Candy buyers are critical, and that's why such careful buyers of Candy come here. Whatever you want, from the wholesome old-fashioned Taffies to the rich delicious modern Creams, you'll find our stock offers the best. Fancy and Stable Groceries are our specialties. We stick exclusively to our new line, and buy from first hands, therefore can give you first prices and fresh goods. The advantage you have, your goods don't cost you anymore than you pay for them elsewhere. This is one point you want to look at carefully. We have reopened our SODA FOUNTAIN and are prepared to furnish you with the old reliable Soda Water you all know about, with new additions and new drinks, 40 different flavors. We are giving one Soda Ticket with every cash purchase of $1.00, except Sugar. County produce taken in exchange. Highest prices paid.

JOHN D. BOWERS, OPPOSITE CATHOLIC RECTORY,
jm-23-02-1y C. & P. TELEPHONE 11-3. 47 and 49 East Main St., Westminster.

NOTICE TO CREDITORS.

This is to give notice that the subscriber has obtained from the Orphans' Court of Carroll county, in Maryland, letters Testamentary on the estate of
JAMES A. LOGUE,
late of Carroll county, deceased. All persons having claims against the deceased are hereby warned to exhibit the same, with the vouchers thereof legally authenticated, to the subscriber, on or before the 6th day of November, 1903, they may otherwise by law be excluded from all benefit of said estate.
Given under my hand this 6th day of April, 1903.
ROSA A. LOGUE,
ap 11 4t Executrix.

PLAIN and fancy Printing, Posters, Sale Bills, &c., done at short notice at this office.

NOTICE TO CREDITORS.

This is to give notice that the subscriber has obtained from the Orphans' Court of Carroll County, Md., letters Testamentary on the estate of
ELIZABETH A. CLARK,
late of Carroll County, deceased. All persons having claims against the deceased are hereby warned to exhibit the same, with the vouchers thereof legally authenticated, to the subscriber, on or before the 31st day of October, 1903; they may otherwise by law be excluded from all benefit of said estate.
Given under my hand this 31st day of March, 1903.
JACKSON MYERLY,
ap 4 4t Executor.

JOB PRINTING, such as Sale Bills, Post ters, Pamphlets, Books, &c., printed at sh rt notice and at modern prices Call at this office before placing orders elsewhere.

J. S. MYERS, D. D. S. J. E. MYERS, D. D. S
MYERS BROTHERS,
Surgeon Dentists
NEW WINDSOR AND WESTMINSTER, MD.
We are prepared to do all kinds of
Dental Work. Crown and Bridge Work, a Specialty.
Our office at Westminster, formerly occupied by Dr. Selby, will always be open.
The TANEYTOWN OFFICE will be open first Monday and Tuesday of every month.
GAS ADMINISTERED.
Western Maryland Telephone.
aug 23 02 tf

IVAN L. HOFF,
Attorney at Law.
ENGLISH and GERMAN SPOKEN.
OFFICE—Main Street, next door to Central Hotel Westminster, Md. ap-7 6m

Benevolence of Change.

—:o:—

Why should I fear the change called death?
That ceasing of the moral breath;
That voyage to an unknown shore,
Where myriads have gone before.
More hideous, I think, if fate
Should doom me, lone and desolate,
Here to remain, time without end
And watch the great procession wend
Its endless journey to the grave,
To rest which I could never have.

And thus we see that change is kind,
We think it cruel, and yet we find,
'Tis life contains the whole of dread,
And death but means all fears have fled.
To all the past it bars the door.
And shuts it out foreverme.
Away, then, with this slavish fear;
This my resolve, that now and here
I'll live serene and free from strife—
Death is a crown to such a life.

—Thomas O. Clark.

ABSTRACT OF AN EASTER SERMON.

—:o:—

The following abstract of a sermon delivered by Rev. Wm. L. Seabrook, formerly of this city, in the Lutheran Church of The Redeemer, Newberry, S. C., on Easter Sunday, is from the Newberry *Herald and News* of the 14th inst.:

Mr. Seabrook's theme was found in John 20: 11-16, and his text was the question asked of Mary by the angel of the resurrection and by the risen Christ, "Woman, why weepest thou?" Among other things he said: All three evangelists tell us of the death of Christ on Calvary—and when they next speak it is to tell us that He who died for our sins rose again for our justification. They tell us nothing of the events of those long hours of hopelessness during which he lay in the tomb, of where and how they lived, of their experiences of grief. Why should they? What does it matter now? All sorrow is past. He died, yes, but He lives. Good Friday and Easter lie very close together; each explains the other. Out of the tomb, into life and triumph, this is the story of the day we name Easter. It was a day of gladness, it is a day of joy, a day worthy to be the first of a new line of Sabbath days. Every recurring Lord's Day commemorates the event of that day, but among all the bright days, which call us to the Lord's House, this Lord's Day that we name Easter is the brightest. The very bells calling to the house of prayer seem to ring more joyously and as their tones reach our ears, the heart's voice replies, "Yes:

"O bells, within the steeple sway,
It is the glorious Easter day!
Gladly we leave the Lenten fast,
The fear and gloom are over-past,
The sealed stone is rolled away,
A risen Christ we sing today."

Nature herself is glad and unites her voice with ours in rejoicing. Her burial time is past. She has come forth from winter's sepulchre with rejoicing.

Our churches are filled with the sweet incense of flowers. As the women of old brought sweet spices to the tomb of our Lord, so the women of today bring the beautiful flowers, not because they are beautiful and pure, but because they speak to us of life, and we bring them saying:

"O blossoms yield your incense sweet,
For cross and altar, fair and meet:—
In full array we set the palms
In sign of victory:—our Psalms
Are jubilant with joy and faith;
Our Lord is Lord of life and death."

The question that first the angels and the Risen Lord asked of Mary on the Resurrection morning, the Easter day brings to all. The angels had often looked upon tears by the side of a grave tenanted by some loved form, but never before had they beheld one weeping by an empty grave and because it was empty. In their question there may have been sympathy, but that seems hardly possible, for there can be no true sympathy where there has never been suffering. The chief element in their question was wonder, as if they said, "If you could know all that we know, your tears would soon be turned to joy." But their questioning word, even with the added message, "He is Risen", could not dry Mary's tears. Still weeping she stood in the twilight dawn, by the sepulchre. Now there comes one, who has Himself wept by a grave side. He knows the meaning of human sorrow, because He has touched depths of grief known to no other than Himself. He knows the meaning of human suffering, for into deepest anguish, He, our Leader, the Captain of our salvation made perfect through suffering, always goes before us. He knows the meaning of human tears, for He has shed them by a grave side, and when He spake asking "Why weepest thou?" it was not in wonder, but in closest fellowship and tenderest sympathy. He asks it with the purpose of revealing Himself, the risen, living Christ, alive for ever more.

The real joy of the first resurrection morning was brought to Mary by the Christ Himself. So today, the glad Easter bells, the joyous songs of resurrection comfort, the beautiful flowers, all whisper peace to sorrowing hearts, but the one voice that brings peace is the voice of our Risen Lord Himself.

The memories of this day will pass away, but in every hour of loneliness and sorrow, He stands by your side and if you listen for His voice you will hear Him speak your name and the memory of the blessed truth that He knoweth His own by name and for them with tenderest care, will comfort.

O heart bowed down, why weepest thou? Through your tears look to Him, who speaks your name, and He will comfort.

"O hearts, that since last Eastertide,
Have been with sorrow crucified,
Have given your best beloved to God,
But find it hard to kiss the rod,
Rebel no more but on this day
Put doubts and all your cares away."
"O Graves, wherein such treasures lie,
Infold them yet, but bye and bye,
On some glad, glorious Easter day
The King, the King, shall come and say
"Give up O graves, your sacred store,
For death is vanquished evermore.'"

The Rev. Mr. Powers' Thanksgiving Sermon.

—:o:—

BY EBEN E. REXFORD.

From Conkey's Home Journal.

PUBLISHED BY REQUEST.

The minister's wife shivered when she heard her husband announce from the pulpit on that November morning, that there would be a donation party at the parsonage on the following Thursday evening.

"I wonder what they'll bring this time," she thought. "Last spring they brought beans. We saw beans thought beans, and ate beans for months, and there's still enough on hand to last an ordinary lifetime. If it should be beans this time, Henry'll have to quit the ministry and go into the produce business."

"What do you intend to take?" the doctor's wife asked of Mrs. Deacon Jones, after service.

"I think I'll take clothing," answered Mrs. Jones. "The children look rather shabby, lately, seems to me. I don't know whether Mrs. Powers has gumption enough to make over things as Mrs. Peters used to; but if we give the clothes an' she don't make good use of 'em 'tain't our fault."

"I guess I'll do the same," said the doctor's wife. "The children have outgrown some of their clothes, but they're almost as good as new. They'll do for the minister's family."

"Mebbe Mrs. Powers won't thank us for our old clo'es," suggested little Mrs. Thorne. "I don't believe I would."

"She ought to be thankful for what she can get," said Mrs. Deacon Jones, severely. "Ministers' wives musn't be too particular."

The minister of Stony Creek had been considering the advisability of making a change at the end of the pastoral year. The fact was, his congregation was, collectively, a stingy one. It included men who could well afford to pay liberally toward a pastor's support, but they had formed the habit of contributing the salary in a niggardly fashion, and the result was that the minister's family really suffered for the necessities of life, at times, while he was expected to consider everything that was given in the light of an especial favor, and be thankful that he got as much as he did. It did not seem to occur to them that he earned more than he received. They had been brought up to think of religion as being "free." It was only by the exercise of the most rigid economy that both ends could be made to meet, at the minister's house. It was very discouraging to him; but he was earnest in his work, and willing to make sacrifices for the possible good that might grow out of his ministry among the Stony Creek people. His wife often got out of patience with him for not resenting the treatment he received at the hands of the church, and being one of the outspoken kind, she said exactly what she thought, and said it very forcibly, sometimes.

"They ought to be told the plain truth about their meanness," she declared. "If I preached to them, I'd say something that would set them to thinking, even if it did make them mad. You work hard for the salary they're supposed to pay you, and it ought to be paid in cash. The idea of paying a good share of it in stuff that we don't need, or want, just because they can't get rid of it for money! It's a shame, and they ought to be told that we consider it so. I'd set my foot down, if I could have my way about it, and tell them that I wouldn't have another donation, if they proposed it. We aren't objects of charity, if they do think we are. Preach them a sermon, John, from the text that the laborer is worthy of his hire, and make it good and strong. They'd resent it, of course, but what if they did? They need to have the truth fired at them like hot shot, once in a while."

"We'll wait and see how this donation party turns out," said the minister. "If it isn't more of a success than the one last spring, we'll get out of Stony Creek when my year is up."

"It's settled then" said the minister's wife, with a laugh. "I might just as well begin packing up first as last."

The evening of the donation-party came. Mrs. Deacon Jones was the first arrival. She brought a big bundle of old garments.

"You'll find it real easy to make make 'em over," she said. "They'll do your family just as well as new ones."

Presently Mrs. Doctor Wade appeared upon the scene. She also brought a good sized bundle of miscellaneous clothing.

"Some of the things are almost as good as new," she said. "They won't need making over, I guess. If they should, it won't be much work to fix them."

Before long it seemed as if all the old clothes of the neighborhood were being unloaded on the minister's family. There were garments of all sorts and sizes, and colors, and some for every member of it. Mrs. Powers found it hard work to keep from expressing her indignation as her attention was called to dresses that would likely be a "good fit" for her, and jackets ten years out of date "that had real good stuff in them," and hats whose merits were dwelt upon at great length, and only needed "the least bit of change to be right in style."

The impulse came, more than once, to tell the donors of these articles, frankly, that she felt it an insult to be given that which they had no further use for, and were too glad to get rid of. But, for her husband's sake, she held her peace.

"I think we ought to move to the city and open a second hand clothing store," she said as they looked over the miscellaneous collection, after their visitors were gone. "We've certainly got stock enough to keep us in trade for a year, at least. The idea of giving us to understand that their cast-off things are good enough for us! I consider it a downright imposition. Half the stuff they brought is utterly useless unless one cared to work it up into a rag carpet. I wonder what they'd say if I were to announce that I was going to make a carpet out of it? They would say I was 'shif'less,' and wasteful, for one thing, after having sung the praises of their gifts in the way most of them did."

The minister set to work next day on his sermon for Thanksgiving. "I've chosen a rather peculiar text," he said. "I don't know what I shall be able to make out of it. It's this: 'And I say unto you, even Solomon in all his glory was not arrayed like one of these.' Of course the central idea is to be that beautiful character is preferable to a king's garments. I think I'll be able to make my sermon fit it."

An idea that seemed akin to an inspiration flashed across Mrs. Powers' brain, but she said nothing to her husband about it. At intervals, however, all that day and the next, she had queer little laughing spells which he could not account for. When he asked what pleased her, she simply said, "Wait and see."

Thanksgiving Day came, and the church at Stony Creek was filled with worshippers.

The minister arrived promptly, but his family had not put in an appearance when services began. The opening hymn was sung and the usual prayer offered, and still they had not arrived. Then the second hymn followed and the congregation settled itself to listen to the sermon, and the minister's pew was still empty.

"You will find my text in the sixth chapter of Matthew, twenty-ninth verse," he began. "It reads as follows: 'And yet I say unto you, that even Solomon in all his glory was not arrayed like one of these.'" The familiar words rolled out sonorously above the heads of the intent congregation just as the church door was heard to open. Nearly every one turned to see who was coming (the usual reception accorded late arrivals), and such a sight as met their eyes! Mrs. Powers was marching dignifiedly up the aisle, followed by her four children. She had on a dress that was instantly recognized by nine-tenths of the congregation as an old one of Mrs. Deacon Jones', a hat that Mrs. Tibbets had worn for at least two years, and a jacket that was so familiar that "Mrs. Doctor Wade" seemed written all over it. And the children were spectacles fit to provoke the laughter of the gods, arrayed as they were in garments that represented half the families of the congregation. Some were too small, and some two large. No two of them harmonized in style or color. The general effect was highly dramatic as the words of the minister's text still rang in the ears of those who looked on the procession making its way up the aisle. The young people tittered audibly. Some of their elders indulged in broad grins, and some chuckled, but most of those whose generosity had made the grotesque display possible, looked wrathfully indignant. Eyes would wander to the pew where the minister's family sat, in spite of all efforts to keep them on the minister, and certainly the spectacle that its occupants presented was enough to distract the attention of all save the most serious-minded, from his sermon. It was with great difficulty that the minister controlled his risibilities, he confessed to his wife, after they got home. "I don't believe I could have gotten on with the sermon if it had not been written out," he said. "The sight was enough to upset a much solemner man than I am. If you could only know how you looked my dear!"

"I did know," she replied. We looked at ourselves in the glass, before starting, and I didn't get over laughing at what we saw there until I had got to the church door. I wanted them to see what guys they had made of us. The idea came to me when you told me what your text was to be. I know they'll never forgive me, but I can't help that. It was a sermon they needed. My! but didn't Mrs. Deacon Jones, and Mrs. Doctor Wade, and some of the others represented in our wardrobe look daggers at me after church? I don't think one of them spoke to me, but Mrs. Thorne whispered that she gloried in my spunk, and said it served them just right. Maybe it wasn't just the proper thing to do, but after all, why wasn't it? They gave us the clothes to wear and we wore them, and what reason had they to be angry with us for that, I'd like to know.

It has been many years since the Reverend Mr. Powers and his family left the Stony Creek field, but the recollection of his last Thanksgiving Day sermon and the way in which his text was illustrated is still vivid in the memory of the neighborhod. Since then, the rag-bag has not been robbed for the benefit of the minister's family.

Scared Out of A Wife.

—:o:—

The following story is published by request. Its literary quality is not of a high standard, but the fun it of may atone for that defect:

The narrative which I am about to write was told me one cold, bleak night in a country parlor. It was one of those nights in midwinter when the wind swept over the land, making everything tingle with its frosty breath, that I was seated before a blazing fire, surrounded by a half a dozen boys and an old bachelor, a Peter Green—about forty and eight years old.

It was just the night without to make those within enjoy a good story, so most of them had to tell his favorite one, save Mr. Green, and as he was a jolly story teller we were somewhat surprised to hear him say: "I have no story to interest you;" so we had to find other entertainments for awhile, when one of the boys told me to ask him how it happened that he never got married. To this he replied: "Well, gentlemen, it don't seem right for me to tell how that happened, but as it is about myself I don't care much. You see, when I was young we had to walk as far as five miles to church and singing school, which was our chief enjoyment. This don't have anything to do with my not getting a wife, but I just wanted to show you that we had some trouble them days in getting our report. John Smithe and I were like brothers, or like 'Mary and her little lamb.' Where one went the other was sure to go.

"We went to see two sisters, and as we were not the best boys imaginable, the old man took umbrage and wouldn't allow us to come near the house, so we would take the girls to the end of the lane, and there we would have to take the final kiss. We soon got tired of that sort of fun and I told John on our way to singing school one night that I was going into the house too. He said if I did the old man would run me. I told him I was going to risk it anyhow, let come what would. So home we went with the girls. When we got to the end of the lane I told the girls we proposed going all the way. They looked at each other in a way that I didn't like too well, but said the old folks would be in bed, so they didn't care if we did. They were a little more surprised yet, when I told them we thought of going in a little while, but as all was quiet when we got to the house we had no trouble in getting into the kitchen. Then and there we had our first court, and I made up my mind to ask Sadie to be my wife the next time I came. It was now past the turn of the night, and we had four miles to walk and I told John we had to be going. So we stepped out on to the porch, but just as we did so the sky was lit up by lightning, and one tremendous thunder peal rolled along the mountain side. Its echo had not died out in the far-off vales until the rain began to pour from the garnered fullness of the clouds. We waited for it to stop until we were all sleepy, when the girls said we should go to bed in the little room at the head of the stairs which led out of the kitchen, and as their father did not get up early we would be home before the old folks were astir. So after bidding the girls a sweet good-night and hugging them a little, and wishing them pleasant dreams and promising them to come back on the next Saturday night we started to bed. We didn't have far to go, as the bed stood near the head of the stairs. John was soon in bed, but I was always a little slow and full of curiosity, and was looking around the little room. At last I thought I would sit down on a little chest which was spread over with a

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