

Rubber Goods.

Now is the time to buy Rubbers, Arctic Felt Boots and German Socks.

REMEMBER

Our special sale on all Winter Footwear, Warm Lined Shoes, Felt Slippers, etc. We must convert them into CASH before inventory, March 31, if prices will do it. See the bargains we offer at 75c and 95c pair.

We have already received several new lines of Ladies' Fine Shoes for spring. At \$3.50, fine hand turned, inlaid vesting, lace stay, kid top, coin toe; at \$3.00, silk vesting, top, lace; at \$1.50, vesting top, fair stitch.

H. B. MERRITT,

17 N. Saginaw St., Pontiac, Mich.

B.J.A.'S OAK OBSERVATIONS

Miscellaneous Items Pertaining to the Proceedings of Our People in General. Our sick, lame - total cures, etc.

John Holmes is quite ill with grip. Miss Clara Erb spent Tuesday in Pontiac.

Mrs. J. Benedict's health is very poor this winter.

Mrs. B. P. Shipman entertained guests from Detroit Sunday.

Mrs. E. Loucks has returned home from a visit with Detroit friends.

Little Raymond Lawson is recovering from an attack of bronchitis.

Mrs. H. Kimmel is caring for her niece Mrs. Wm. Curry, who is very ill.

Miss Tillie Brown left Thursday to spend a few days with her sister in Monroe.

Miss Ida Thibault of Detroit, was guest of Mrs. John Baum Saturday and Sunday.

Misses Mary Manning and May Martin, of Detroit, were guests at Mrs. J. Conrad's early Sunday.

Mrs. Bert Campbell and daughter Zilla, of Birmingham, spent Saturday at Andrew Campbell's.

Widow Lafferty is very ill with inflammation of the bowels. She is attended by Dr. Kidder.

HARRY FULLER, Engineer on the Lake Shore, called on his many friends at this place recently.

Miss Edith Walton, formerly of Royal Oak, now of Detroit, visited friends at this place Saturday.

Devey & Lawson have increased their hardware stock considerably during the past two weeks.

Miss Maud Alger visited Birmingham friends Sunday and was "knocked in" at that place last Monday.

Mrs. J. Brown was in Monroe last week visiting her daughter, who is attending the Academy there.

The infant daughter of Wm. Truesdell, aged five days, died Sunday and interment was made in Royal Oak cemetery.

The Daughters of Rebecca visited Liberty Lodge, Detroit on Wednesday evening of last week.

Edward Connor is keeping bachelor's hall while Mrs. Connor is rejoicing with her daughter, Mrs. Robb, in Detroit.

Dr. H. Erickson has purchased four acres of land of Mark Hall, on which he intends building a new home residence. Evidently Royal Oak suits this gentleman first rate.

The banquet held in the Royal Oak Opera House on the evening of Washington's Birthday was indeed the social event of the week. A large crowd, fine entertainment and good financial realizations.

Thos. Holme and Miss Susie Brown, of Detroit, were united in marriage at the home of the bride February 18.

The young couple are for the present stopping with Mr. Holme's father, Mrs. M. A. Richings, of this place.

Chas. Herchfeld, the varoloid victim, is rapidly convalescing under the care of Dr. Kidder. It is a mere supposition about the boy contracting the disease from the horse blanket, as previous to his illness he had been going about the town to town in quest of a new home residence. Evidently Royal Oak suits this gentleman first rate.

Last Saturday, February 19, being the birthday anniversary of Mrs. John Baum and Miss Anna Luttenbacher, of this place, also Miss Minnie Ross Hamilton, of Detroit, in the afternoon of the social time. In the evening several other friends were invited and a general good time prevailed. The ladies were recipients of some pretty presents.

BIG BEAVER BILLOWS.

Bringing Triest Billets from this Honny Little Burg-Victoria-Twittingers of Proceedings in General.

L. G. Smith has a new niches sow for sale.

Mr. and Mrs. M. S. Robbins visited at Milford last week.

There is talk of a new meat market here this summer. (Oh! let it be soon.)

The donation given for Rev. A. Smith was a grand success; proceeds about \$50.

Misses Belle Pallister and Fannie Smith visited Mrs. Wm. Clark, of Troy, last Thursday.

Mrs. L. H. Houghton is visiting her daughter Grace, who is attending school at Ypsilanti.

Miss Oella Pallister will leave for Detroit next week, where she will learn dressmaking. We hope she has good luck.

OUR COMPANION

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(By E. Estelle Sutton.)



The most comfortable position imaginable.

It is curious to recall the change that comes to one if fond of traveling - almost immediately - starting from friends and starting on a journey. Until the train, stage or ship moves off, our thoughts are of things and people we have seen and met on the way there seems to be a complete transition, and we begin to fit ourselves out for our immediate surroundings, and for the time being to "fit" them. On this occasion, a journey to New York by the Shenandoah route, there was little in these surroundings to interest; the other element of the car made us feel a little anxious. While dreamily gazing we might take on some of the things we saw.

"Look out and see the passing show."

His tone was respectful, his speaking evidently involuntary, so, without hesitation, we turned our heads and were pleasantly entertained by the passing of a large floating show.

Our companion was very pleasant, and his manner generally well adapted for some time though no more of him.

During the night others came in, and in the morning, in offered such civilities as a gentleman may in traveling, and made us notice him just enough to conclude that he was a young man slight-seeming for the first time.

We left the East Tennessee & Virginia road at Roanoke, entering there the beautiful Shenandoah valley. The stranger assisted us at different times with thoughtful kindness, and we determined to enter more freely into conversation with him, with a consciousness that we might see one apparently so inexperienced. This we did when we gathered in a little group at the back of the coach, looking upon the ever-varying scenes through which we were passing. The beauty of the route far exceeded our anticipation. The Shenandoah river, on both sides, for miles and miles, winding about, ever changing; sometimes hitting the back of the coach, sometimes little coveys or other things, and we felt that we were lost, at others seen, and it would in the distance have the appearance of a quick river. Again, rising off from the one, breaking its silver wave over rocks and around hills, and in the distance, at some points, to meet its absence ere it was back again.

Different features of the journey suggested occasions of similar or greater interest to our companion, who began to support herself at 18, says the Philadelphia Times, has shown how a poor school-teacher can use Europe to her advantage.

Earning a small salary in a public school, she has taken private pupils and lived frugally and has been able to make a European tour during the two months' holiday. Her first journey was made to England and Scotland and was enjoyed so keenly that she planned another one and saved money during the next winter.

The second tour was through France, Belgium and Holland, and in order to travel comfortably she learned French and Italian in her spare time.

Her school work she began to study German and at the end of two years was ready for a journey up the Rhine and to Vienna, and thence through Germany and Italy to Rome. She made a fortnight in Switzerland. Two years afterward she was in Spain, and was able to speak the language. During the last year she has made her way to England, Denmark, Norway and Sweden to Russia, and spending a fortnight in Moscow. She carried with her a fair knowledge of Spanish, and not only knew the Russian alphabet, but could read the street signs, but could make her own bargains with drosky drivers and go about without a guide. In the winter of 1894-5 she was in Constantinople and learned to speak six modern languages, and she has supported herself entirely by her earnings as a school-teacher, and has paid for her journey with her own pennies. Starting with a painstaking study of the language of the country which she was to visit, and also preparing to handle the language, she has made the best possible preparation for her time abroad. The reward for all this energy and perseverance has come in her thirtieth year. Her knowledge of foreign languages has opened up a broader way as a teacher, and she has left the public schools to take a position as instructor in French, German and Italian in a high school for young women. There may be many other women than those ordinarily involved in foreign travel, but the persistence of this American girl in carrying out her plans is worthy of praise. It is well to gain in any human life, if it is governed by a definite purpose and keeps that purpose steadily in mind.

Justly in the Pasture.

"Pasturing is the legal style of caring for the cow," says the writer in Village in Greer county, Oklahoma. Funds being short, the court house was built minus a jury room, so the farmer retired to make up the middle of a vacant lot, steps out of hearing distance, and proceeds them from corruption with a shotgun.

Mark Work.

Patient (who has just had his eye operated upon)—Doctor, it seems to me 10 guineas is a high price to charge for that job. It didn't take you ten seconds to put that Great Ointment on, and in learning to perform that operation in ten seconds I have spotted more than two bushels of such eyes as yours.—Tit-Bit.

PAID HER OWN WAY.

Woman Who Went to Europe Six Times.

A plucky American woman, who began to support herself at 18, says the Philadelphia Times, has shown how a poor school-teacher can use Europe to her advantage.

Earning a small salary in a public school, she has taken private pupils and lived frugally and has been able to make a European tour during the two months' holiday. Her first journey was made to England and Scotland and was enjoyed so keenly that she planned another one and saved money during the next winter.

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WAS SAT VISITING.

interest to our companion, and we soon found him such a mixture of knowledge, simplicity and complete unobtrusiveness that we were puzzled as to who and what he was. Unmistakably he was a gentleman, certainly well cultivated and yet very simple in manner and bearing. We found his mind stored with such knowledge that we were not surprised when he remarked upon the beauties in many parts of the world; talked intelligently of painters, sculptors and architects, and when finally he said it had been his good fortune to visit all three continents, that he knew Arabi Pasha personally, was consequently well interested in the trouble at that time in Egypt. We began to fear that our efforts to entertain this retiring and seemingly inexperienced young man, who had him have favored amazingly of concealed pastimes. About this time, too, he astonished us by alluding to his wife and child.

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Once, after leaving a long passage or hall, we entered a large, brightly lighted chamber, with spacious rooms from which hung in every direction, sparkling elasticities. Looking back we could at once trace in the large hall in which we stood and at the end of the hall the "Arab's tent," around which the caissons hung in many-colored folds, as if by magic. The tent had been used in its construction; behind these folds lights were placed, so that the colors in layers like the coralline were seen at a distance of some feet above, in every direction, were hanging staccato, and from the floor arose stalagmites in majestic proportions. It required but little effort of the imagination to fancy they were statues worn with age, or perhaps with water, that was frequently seen falling lightly over them. We wondered if some of them had not found their way into the De Censol collection of museum material. The Emperor of Austria, as our guide called it, resembled that of a statue of graceful proportions, the clear outlines of which were slightly dimmed by the distance.

The last chamber we entered was very large, and though called the ball-room, did not suggest to any of us a room for dancing, but was a long one—a sweet voice, clear and birdlike, with just a touch of sadness in it, was singing the "Serenade of the Song," and as its echoes died away from us, we fancied they had been caught by some mysterious influence and carried along with the wind, the wealth of beauty awaits the future explorer, and finally blended with heavenly sounds to which our ears are not yet attuned.

We left the cave reluctantly, and started on our way to New York. Our young acquaintance had enjoyed it as he did everything else in a quiet and unassuming way. We began to think regretfully of parting from him. He compelled me to think of him, though certainly not from any efforts of his own. The intelligence, gentleness and absence of selfishness discovered in him during our short acquaintance, made me wonder that we could have thought him an untutored, inexperienced youth, and aroused a lasting interest in him.

A short time before we reached New York our conversation turned to remarks upon the almost universal difference between great men and their sons, and the difference between great men and their daughters. He asked that we should not make our remarks too general, adding with quiet humor, "My father is a great man."

The solitary person with whom we began our journey—the inexperienced youth, who was husband and father—had traveled the whole globe, and was the youngest son of General Grant!

PAID HER OWN WAY.

Woman Who Went to Europe Six Times.

A plucky American woman, who began to support herself at 18, says the Philadelphia Times, has shown how a poor school-teacher can use Europe to her advantage.

Earning a small salary in a public school, she has taken private pupils and lived frugally and has been able to make a European tour during the two months' holiday. Her first journey was made to England and Scotland and was enjoyed so keenly that she planned another one and saved money during the next winter.

The second tour was through France, Belgium and Holland, and in order to travel comfortably she learned French and Italian in her spare time.

Her school work she began to study German and at the end of two years was ready for a journey up the Rhine and to Vienna, and thence through Germany and Italy to Rome. She made a fortnight in Switzerland. Two years afterward she was in Spain, and was able to speak the language. During the last year she has made her way to England, Denmark, Norway and Sweden to Russia, and spending a fortnight in Moscow. She carried with her a fair knowledge of Spanish, and not only knew the Russian alphabet, but could read the street signs, but could make her own bargains with drosky drivers and go about without a guide. In the winter of 1894-5 she was in Constantinople and learned to speak six modern languages, and she has supported herself entirely by her earnings as a school-teacher, and has paid for her journey with her own pennies. Starting with a painstaking study of the language of the country which she was to visit, and also preparing to handle the language, she has made the best possible preparation for her time abroad. The reward for all this energy and perseverance has come in her thirtieth year. Her knowledge of foreign languages has opened up a broader way as a teacher, and she has left the public schools to take a position as instructor in French, German and Italian in a high school for young women. There may be many other women than those ordinarily involved in foreign travel, but the persistence of this American girl in carrying out her plans is worthy of praise. It is well to gain in any human life, if it is governed by a definite purpose and keeps that purpose steadily in mind.

WAS SAT VISITING.

interest to our companion, and we soon found him such a mixture of knowledge, simplicity and complete unobtrusiveness that we were puzzled as to who and what he was. Unmistakably he was a gentleman, certainly well cultivated and yet very simple in manner and bearing. We found his mind stored with such knowledge that we were not surprised when he remarked upon the beauties in many parts of the world; talked intelligently of painters, sculptors