

have high intellectual standards and attainments, but these can't regenerate men; and it may lead in all æsthetics, as music and art, but all these will not lift the burden from one poor heart, or shed light and comfort in one home. Sheaves of souls saved, measure the success of a church.

ELDERS CONSECRATED.

The four newly chosen elders of the Presbyterian church, were solemnly set apart to their work by a very appropriate service Sunday morning, before the sermon. Pastor Johnson delivered a brief, simple but excellent address; the candidates each subscribed to the church standard, rules of order, etc., and the pastor offered the prayer. There was no laying on of hands as in ministerial ordination. The sermon of the day was by Mr. Johnson on "Obedience," eminently fitting the occasion. He pleaded for high ideals in church work and said in substance to his new board of elders, "If you find the standard of our Christian and church life too low, lift them up."

Everything about the day's services, from first to last seemed unusually solemn and impressive. There was such an air of devotedness and worship in it all, that every worshipper went away from the place as from Holy ground. We may add that to our mind that is the distinguishing feature of Pastor Johnson's ministry. There may be more eloquent, talented or magnetic men in the pulpit, or even more gifted socially, but men more thoroughly consecrated to his work, with higher Christian ideals and purposes, are not as plenty as sometimes think. Such a life is a benediction to any church and community. Sunday was Pastor Johnson's day; that epitomizes the whole service.

This excessive cold spell of weather, frosts many nights and a brief flurry of snow Monday morning, has made an unwonted demand for coal and run the local supply very low, made it difficult to secure supplies from the wholesale dealers in Chicago. Last season we had from one to two tons left over, this year we are down to a dozen scuttles and a fire daily. Corn that was planted very deep three weeks ago is only fairly well up; potatoes that were set out the same time are only a few inches above the ground. But lawns and foliage are a delight. Farmers will raise grass and oats this year, but the promise of "Johnny cake" is not very flattering.

ABOUT TOWN.

A general epidemic of washing up delivery wagons has struck the town.

Delicious "Unfermented" Grape Juice is a favorite drink at Schumacher's fountain.

For the benefit of whom it may concern we will say the little village of Cavendish, not in New Hampshire, has sixteen widows living within its borders.

Pastor Thoren believes in preaching all the word. Last Sunday night he discoursed on the place where all the bad folks, and some reputed good, are liable to go, and he did it in a manly, biblical way, too.

N. Halsey and son, of Chicago, spent Sunday with George L. Wrenn's family. The son spent a part of his time with Richard W. Hawkins. He is a very bright young man, an attorney with a future of promise.

George Hesler seems to be the boss shot. Last Saturday he hit 21 out of 25 birds and has come out first in 8 successive shoots and so has the medal for this season. If there is anyone in this county or anywhere else that can beat that let him stand up and be counted.

If you want some superb "succotash," buy a pint of Lima beans, they cost only 15 cents, and a can of the best sweet corn, and make it yourself and then you will know how richly and extravagantly the farmers live who make their own. The average canned goods are not to be compared.

George L. Wrenn contemplates visiting his native place in Ohio. They will take him for a federal office seeker down there. Buckeye-dom raises candidates for office as its chief product. Occasionally it turns out a man with brains like our neighbor, which serves to keep up the general average.

Hull and Bangs of Waukegar, advertise three of the greatest blessings on earth, but the greatest of these is the "Hibbard bike;" it is the name that wins. "There is everything in a name," Shakespeare said or would have said, had he thought of it. Earl Purdy sells the same blessing.

A report reaches us of excessive drinking among the workmen on Vine avenue extension. It is reported also that beer pedlers visit the place daily and sell their goods from wagons, and that some of the men got thoroughly intoxicated. Perhaps a visit from the marshal or some official would not do any harm. We hope the reports are incorrect.

Don't forget that the city council meets next Tuesday night to "rassell" with some of the problems which confront them.

Miss Derry, Mrs. S. M. Meyer's nursery maid, was out on the sidewalk with the little children Monday when a reckless wheelman came along and ran into the baby carriage throwing the child out into the bushes, and scratching its face. When she rebuked him for his recklessness he mounted his wheel and skipped. Five dollars and costs is good enough for such as he.

The Baptists, at their great national "May meetings" in Pittsburg last week and this, had a streak of human nature. One missionary, home from India, said some things about Standard Oil Rockefeller, that were not very complimentary to the founder of the Chicago University, whereat they did not invite said missionary to the platform at the big missionary meeting Tuesday evening. They too fell from grace.

It will interest all Royal Arcanumites and should interest others to know some things reported at the Supreme council—the magnates of the order in this country. The order has been in existence 20 years or over. In 1877 it had nine members, in 1887 or ten years later there were 75,000 members, ten years later still, or now there are 193,209 members. One assessment brings in \$316,192. During its history it has paid to heirs of diseased members \$40,000,000. The president raised the all important question for assessment insurance organizations, namely—how long can we go on paying in death claims several times as much as those who had died had paid in. We have been caught in that fix and know how and where the pinch comes.

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