

left Saturday  
te where she will  
own's for a few days  
ne goes to Battle Creek to  
er home in the future. She  
be greatly missed by her many  
friends here where she has been a  
prominent figure in church and social  
work for many years.

Mrs. Hassel Jackson, wife of a former well known Vermontville boy, died at Butterworth hospital, Grand Rapids, on Dec. 10th after submitting to an operation for appendicitis on the fifth. The remains were taken to Manistee for burial and her little boy, now but three years old, will remain with her sister there. Mr. Jackson is employed by the Citizens Telephone Co. in Grand Rapids.

#### Met With Heavy Loss.

THE ECHO editor is in receipt of a letter from Mrs. Robert Griswold which tells of the heavy loss of Robert and Graham Griswold along with the other members of the West Oregon Lumber Co. at Linton, Oregon, when their big mills and a portion of their lumber yards were entirely destroyed by fire, causing a loss of over \$150,000 with but \$72,000 insurance.

The Portland paper in writing up the fire says in part:

The extensive plant of the West Oregon Lumber company at Linton is almost a total loss as the result of a fire of mysterious origin last night. The destruction could have been confined to comparatively a small section of the property had the fireboat, which did the most able service, been equipped with sufficient hose. As it was the mill crew of fully 150 men

was compelled to watch the flames sweep through the buildings and yard until it got beyond all control. The property loss will reach \$150,000; 100 men are thrown out of employment and a monthly pay roll of \$10,000 is wiped out.

The most serious aspect of the company's misfortune is that there are a large number of great industrial plants down the river beyond the city limits which face just exactly the same peril. Millions upon millions of dollars invested in these mills and factories would be at the mercy of a conflagration like the one of last night.

The Portland fire tug responded to the call for help and did valiant work with the 2000 feet of hose with which it was equipped, but this furnished

only two lines and could reach only part of the distance from the river's edge to the seat of conflagration. Beyond its fighting range, the fire played havoc at will for a short time after the blaze got under headway, its scorching heat drove the mill crews away and put the emergency fire pump out of commission. The sturdy workmen then, with trucks and teams, began the work of saving as much of the cut lumber in the yards as they could. There was about 1,000,000 feet of clear lumber, worth about \$15,000, stacked in the yard and on the docks, and the men trucked away about half of this before the flames beat them off.

No reason for the cause of the fire can be given as the mill had been closed down about five hours and the night watch had passed through the engine rooms where the fire broke out but thirty-five minutes before the fire

was covered. All that was saved of the plant was the bunk house and the boiler houses and these were only saved after extremely hard work by the fire fighters.

Plans for rebuilding are already under way but it will require a year's time before the company will be able to get into full operation again. The hosts of friends of the Griswolds join THE ECHO in extending sympathy to them in their loss and hope that the boys will soon have the plant in good condition and ready for their rapidly growing business.

Mrs. Griswold writes that since her seizure of sickness last summer she is rapidly regaining her health and that she and Robert are both deeply in love with the western country.

## DECEMBER 27, 1911.

Ned Alsover and family were over Sunday from Charlotte.

Miss Flossie Lennon is spending the week at home from Detroit.

Al Faust and Will Sherrard were Charlotte visitors Saturday.

Mrs. Roy V. Neal went to Detroit Tuesday for a ten days' visit.

Fred, Louie and Edith Lentz spent Christmas here with their mother.

A. H. Allen and son Herbert were in Charlotte Tuesday on business.

Dr. H. W. Davis and C. B. Hawkins are in Grand Rapids today.

Miss Agnes Hunter was at home over Christmas from Battle Creek.

Mr. and Mrs. L. P. Lamb and baby were at Okemos for a holiday visit.

Miss Elizabeth is on the vacation at her home in Bellevue.

L. W. Snell and family of Grand Rapids came home to roost for Christmas.

Ed. E. Moore and family were Christmas guests at Edward Sibrrell's.

Homer Brown came home from Chicago for over Christmas with his people.

Mrs. Chas. Parks was taken quite sick Monday with neuralgia of the stomach.

Mr. and Mrs. John Mooney of Toledo are visiting Mrs. Mears during the week.

Miss Lucile Pendill was at home from Lansing from Saturday till Monday night.

Marion Sparks and family of Lansing spent Christmas with Henry Cross and family.

Bert Warren and family of Kalamazoo came up for the holiday at Dr. C. S. Strell's.

Dwight Davis came home Friday night from Chicago for an over Christmas visit.

Harley and Perry Fox of Grand Rapids were down for Christmas with their people.

Albert Stevens of Dakota is here for a visit with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. J. V. Stevens.

John Faust of Detroit spent from Saturday till Monday here with his brothers and sister.