

FIRST ON DROK.

The Plumber and His Crew Finish and the "Times" Gets there Again.

For the past week a company of plumbers in command of John Packwood, of Third street and Edgmont avenue, have making life miserable around the Times office. Several miles of gas pipe, suggestive of a bill as high as the Eiffel tower, have been lugged in through doors and windows until the place was gridironed and the sanctum and adjuncts made to resemble a tube mill. From a peaceful, calm and restful refuge the rooms were transformed into a section of a boiler shop, the noisy tattoo of the hammers keeping time to the rapid ascent of the bill. And it may be remarked just here by way of parenthesis that if any one having a claim on this establishment gets left on Christmas presents, it will be John Packwood's fault.

But all the racket and tumult faded away into dreamy forgetfulness yesterday through the influence of the genial warmth that emanated from the pipes as the current, so to speak, from the Chester Steam Heating Company's mains poured through the coils of pipe that John and his noisy crew put up.

John has been forgiven for his racket, for his work was done well, and according to the old proverb, anything done that way is twice done. But another very important fact that points a moral and adorns this tale is associated with work. It is that the Times was the first subscriber of the Steam Heating Company and in the bright lexicon of this journal there is no such word as follow, it always leads.