

The Canadian Gleaner

NO. 1212

HUNTINGDON, Q., THURSDAY, JANUARY 6, 1887.

\$1.50 A-YEAR

ADDITIONAL Arrivals of new goods just received and opened out by Wm. Third & Co., comprising an immense and wonderful stock of beautiful vases, ornamented with silver and gold; fruit plates, something new; China tea sets, ornamented with gold and silver; also, bedroom sets, jugs, glass sets, ornamented inkstands, fancy glass bread-plates, ornamented egg dishes, marble stands, ornamented pepper lamps, Christmas cards, China maps, fancy shell boxes, dolls, toilet sets, mantle sets, moustache cups and saucers, something really new, silver taster and pickle dishes, ornamented tobacco jars, something very handsome in marble, lacquer, alabaster, onyx, agate, alabaster, motto frames, mottoes, chromes, fancy slippers, TOYS of every description large and small fruit dishes, &c.

Cases of shawls and mantle cloths, of the lowest designs.
Cases of fancy dress goods, fancy cloths and fancy wool knitted shawls.
Cases of ladies' and gentlemen's milk, ether, and Persian lambkin caps; also, real Scotch caps.
Cases of fancy silk handkerchiefs, children's fancy pocket, and fur caps.
Cases of men's and boys' overcoats, undercoats, pants and vests, also rubber coats.
Cases of men's fancy flannel shirts, undershirts and pants.
Cases of ladies', gentlemen's and children's overcoats, rubbers, and moccasins.
Cases of gentlemen's, ladies', misses', and children's boots and shoes.
Novelties in fancy sleigh bells, skates, trunks, and valises.
Bales of fancy sleigh robes, Japanese wolf robes, goat robes, linings and trimmings.
Bales of wallpaper, bordering, Gage's school books, &c.
Bales of tapestry, hemp, and all-wool carpets, hall floor cloths, window curtains, lambrequins, and fancy tassels.
A large and attractive stock of choice GROCERIES, CROCKERY, GLASSWARE, and HARDWARE, which will be sold for cash at a discount of from 10 to 15 per cent. under regular selling prices.

Wm. Third & Co.

Huntingdon, January 6th, 1887.

P.S.—Call and see something new in fancy ornamental goods, suitable for birthday and wedding presents.

HUNTINGDON COUNTY BANK. OPEN FROM 10 TO 3 o'clock. Interest allowed on deposits and notes discounted. Cheques issued to depositors at one-half rate. ANDREW SEMBERVILLE, Manager.

ANDREW PHILPS, Licensed Auctioneer for the District of Beauharnois, begs to inform the public that he is prepared to attend all Auction Sales in the counties of Huntingdon, Chateaugay and Beauharnois, when called upon; and, as he has been in the business for some time, satisfaction is guaranteed or no pay. Terms reasonable. P.S.—Letters addressed to Huntingdon Post Office will receive prompt attention.

DAVID BRYSON Licensed Auctioneer for the District of Beauharnois, which consists of the counties of Huntingdon, Chateaugay and Beauharnois in the English and French languages. No higher charges made for extra distance to travel, as all his time is at his disposal for business. All communications addressed to David Bryson, Howick, P.Q., or to David D. Bryson, Agent Ormstown, P.Q., will receive immediate attention.

DR. ELDER, Physician and Surgeon, Residence, Prince St., a few doors west of Dr. Wells', on opposite side of the street. Office days, Tuesday and Friday forenoons.

DR. MAJOR, specialist to the department for diseases of the nose and throat, Montreal General Hospital, has returned from Germany. 82 UNION AVENUE, MONTREAL.

DR. A. L. McILLAN, Physician and Surgeon, Huntingdon, P.Q. Office and residence, opposite the Post-office.

DR. POOLE, graduate of McGill College, Montreal. McFee's hotel, Hemmingford.

FRONTAINE, Notary Public, of Ormstown, will be in attendance during the whole of Thursday in each week, at the Grand Central Hotel, Huntingdon, prepared to do all notarial business that may be required. 20

NOTARIAL.—The undersigned begs leave to inform the public that he will be in attendance, in the office of R. Hyndman, Secretary-Treasurer of the Municipal Council of the County of Huntingdon, in the County of Beauharnois, in the Village of Howick, on EVERY THURSDAY, and remain while detained by business. In the event of any Thursday being a non-judicial day, he will attend on Friday. I. I. CHEVIER, N.P.

A. BOHRAUD, MCGORMICK, & DUCLOS, ADVOCATES, 174 Notre Dame Street, Montreal.

Mr. McGORMICK will attend the Courts in Beauharnois, Ste. Marie, and Huntingdon, and give special attention to the District.

Mr. Duclos will follow the Courts in and give special attention to the Districts of St. Hyacinthe and Bedford.

Mr. Bohraud will follow the Courts in and give special attention to the Districts of St. Hyacinthe and Bedford.

Mr. Cross attends the sittings of the Courts at Huntingdon and Beauharnois.

A. E. MITCHELL, B.C.L., HUNTINGDON, P.Q. Prompt collections and returns guaranteed.

MACLAREN, LEET, SMITH, & ROGERS, ADVOCATES &c., 102 St. James Street, Montreal. Mr. Rogers will attend the Courts at Huntingdon and Beauharnois. Claims may be left with Wm. S. MacLaren, Huntingdon.

1865 DENTISTRY. 1886 Dr. E. W. Morrill, Dentist, Fort Covington, N.Y., at home until further notice. Artificial teeth inserted on any of the first class bases now in use and the best of material used. Teeth extracted without pain or danger by the use of liquid Nitrous Oxide gas.

AROLD MCGORMICK, V.S., would respectfully inform the public that he has taken up his residence at Durham, where he is always to be found, excepting Tuesdays, at Archambault's hotel, St. Louis, and Fridays, when he will be at Mori's, Huntingdon. Office Next door to R. N. Walsh's store, Ormstown.

Corner of Notre Dame and Place d'Armes, is now open. Seats should be secured without delay. Students can begin any time. No entrance examinations.

THE course of instruction is a short, sharp, and thorough drill in practical education for business purposes. It includes Book-keeping in all its forms, Commercial and Mental Arithmetic, Penmanship and Business Correspondence, Commercial Law and Business Forms, English, French and shorthand. The actual Business Department is a characteristic feature of this college. It is thorough and complete in every detail and gives the student actual practice and experience in the various branches of business. For particulars apply to the college or send for circular containing full description of the course, terms, etc. Address: DAVIS & BUTE.

THE subscribers keep constantly on hand a large stock of Caskets and Coffins of all sizes, styles, and prices. Coffin Plates, Burial Robes, and other trimmings always in stock. Prices reasonable. Orders promptly attended to. Mr. A. Henderson, Huntingdon.

THE WANT SUPPLIED. A SPLENDID NEW TIN SHOP! ON DEPOT STREET, ORNSTOWN.

THE undersigned has opened out a first-class Tin Shop on Depot Street, Ormstown, where you will find a splendid assortment of all kinds of Tinware, Stoves in different styles, Tea Sinks, Washers and Pumps. Plumbing such as an Emitter, Iron and Tin Roofing and Eavesdropping a specialty. 15 years' experience in Roofing. Jobbing and repairing of all kinds attended to. All kinds of cast-iron in exchange for goods, such as Sheep Poles, Cold Shins, Cow Hides, Bags and Wool.

Be sure to give him a call. J. F. McLAREN, Proprietor.

TO RENT, that commodious and self-contained Cottage belonging to the Johnston estate, situated on Cemetery street. Apply to WILLIAM WALKER or Dr. MARSHALL.

FOR THE HOLIDAYS!

THE LARGEST AND FINEST

ASSORTMENT

OF

JEWELRY,

SILVERWARE,

CLOCKS, AND

FANCY GOODS

EVER DISPLAYED

IN HUNTINGDON

IS NOW ON VIEW

OPPOSITE THE POST-OFFICE.

Those Coming Early have Best Choice.

J. W. SAUNDERS.

BARGAINS! BARGAINS!

JUST RECEIVED!

CASES OF Cottonades, Gingham, Prints, Cottons, Hosiery, and Wallpaper.

BOUGHT IN JOBS AT CLOSING-OUT PRICES AT IMMENSE REDUCTIONS.

Now is the Time to get Bargains! Highest prices paid for Wool, Eggs, Oats, Peas, Barley, &c.

AT

MCCAFFREY'S, Trout River Lines.

HOUSES TO LET in the village of Huntingdon. Wm. S. MacLAREN.

December 8th, 1886. 11

FOR SALE, on very easy terms, a plot of town lots, consisting of 24, on one of which is a first-class dwelling-house. The whole of the above is very desirably situated between Dalhousie Square and the Station, fronting on Dalhousie, York and Chalmers streets.

P.S.—Will be sold in lots, to suit purchasers. Apply to A. CHALMERS.

FARMS FOR SALE, fronting on the Chateaugay river, one on the north side of the river, containing 136 acres, the other on the south side, containing 106 arpents. Both are in a good state of cultivation, with buildings in good repair, and very conveniently situated a short distance from the Howick depot of the G.T.R.R. For terms apply to WILLIAM OGDEN, N. Georgetown.

NOTICE.

All parties indebted to the undersigned, either by note or book account, are notified that in order to save costs they must settle before the 15th January, 1887, as the books will then be given to an attorney.

Mrs. A. HENDERSON. 13

HUNTINGDON PROTESTANT CEMETERY

THE Annual Meeting of the proprietors of Lots in the above Company will be held in the County Building in the village of Huntingdon on WEDNESDAY, the 12th January, 1887, at the hour of Two o'clock in the afternoon.

R. HYNDMAN, Sec. & Treasurer. 12

Huntingdon, 22nd, Dec., 1886.

The following persons will receive payment of an arrear of the Gleaner: James Anderson, Ormstown; W. Blackett, Allan's Corners; T. Gebbie and David R. Hay of Howick; Andrew Oliver, Reekburn; F. A. Cantwell, Franklin Centre; C. W. Potter, Covey Hill, Scriver Brothers, Hemmingford, and John Davidson, Dundee. Subscribe for the Gleaner and aid in sustaining the newspaper of the district.

1887. Harper's Young People.

AN ILLUSTRATED WEEKLY.

HARPER'S YOUNG PEOPLE has been called "the model of what a periodical for young readers ought to be," and the justice of this commendation is amply sustained by the large circulation it has attained both at home and in Great Britain. This success has been reached by methods that must commend themselves to the judgment of parents, no less than to the tastes of children—namely, by an earnest and well sustained effort to provide the best and most attractive reading for young people at a low price. The illustrations are copious and of a conspicuously high standard of excellence.

An epitome of everything that is attractive and desirable in juvenile literature.—Boston Courier. A weekly feast of good things to the boys and girls in every family which it visits.—Brooklyn Union.

It is wonderful in its wealth of pictures, information, and interest.—Christian Advocate, N.Y.

Terms: Postage Prepaid, \$2 per Year.

Vol. VIII, commenced November 2, 1886.

SINGLE NUMBERS, Five Cents each.

Remittances should be made by Post-Office Money Order or Draft, to avoid chance of loss.

Newspapers are not to copy this advertisement without the express order of HARPER & BROTHERS.

Address HARPER & BROTHERS, New York. Clubbed with the Gleaner, \$3.

LORD RANDOLPH CHURCHILL.

It is seldom that a man under forty rises to the highest seat in the British Cabinet. It is true that William Pitt became Prime Minister at the remarkably early age of twenty-four, but that case was without precedent in English political history, and has no repetition. Even Mr. Gladstone, whose brilliant talents were at once revealed when he entered the House of Commons, at the age of twenty-three, did not become a member of the Cabinet until he was thirty-four; nor did he receive the Prime Ministership until he was close on to his sixtieth year.

Thus the rapid rise of Lord Randolph Churchill to a lofty height of power and honor is an exception to all rules of promotion in British politics. At the age of thirty-six, Lord Randolph is nominated the second man in importance in the Cabinet, while in real weight and influence he is probably the first.

Lord Randolph Churchill comes of a high and aristocratic lineage. He is the descendant, through the female line, of that great John Churchill who, by his splendid victories at Blenheim and Malplaquet, won the title of Duke of Marlborough. Lord Randolph is a younger son of the late Duke of Marlborough, and a brother to the present holder of the title.

He has been but comparatively a short time in the House of Commons, having entered it ten or twelve years ago as member for Woodstock, a small borough near Blenheim, the palace presented to Lord Randolph's famous ancestor as the gift of the British nation.

At first, the young patrician made rather an erratic than an imposing figure in the House. He spoke with great boldness and pluck, and with some brilliancy, but his lack of veneration and judgment shocked rather than attracted those who heard him.

But year by year he stood his ground, attacking Mr. Gladstone and the other liberal chiefs with audacity and sarcasm, even assailing the leaders of his own (Tory) party when he thought them lukewarm or too prudent.

Then he formed a little party of his own, of four Tories, who resolved to be independent of the regular party chiefs; and by constant bold criticism and wordy warfare, Lord Randolph at last compelled the Tory leaders to take him into account.

He first took office in 1885, when he was selected to be Secretary for India in the first Salisbury Cabinet. People were inclined to think that, in a place of such weighty responsibility, and requiring such high quality of administrative talent, the dashing and brilliant young statesman would fail. To the surprise of every one he proved, not only a hard-working, but a judicious and clearheaded executive officer. His conduct of the difficult affairs of the vast Indian empire was admitted, even by his enemies, to be successful.

When, last summer, the Tories a second time returned to power under the Marquis of Salisbury, Lord Randolph took a long step and rose higher even than the Indian secretaryship. He took the second place in the Cabinet, becoming Chancellor of the Exchequer, and succeeding Mr. Gladstone as the leader of the House of Commons. He has ever since been recognized as really the leading spirit of the Government.

In person, Lord Randolph Churchill is small of stature and slight of form. He has a very expressive face, which has the air of pugnacity, pluck and audacity. He has large expressive blue eyes, and a bold nose, somewhat turned-up; and wears a very heavy mustache, with no other beard. He does not look like a great man, but he does look like a very wide-awake, go-ahead and enterprising man.

As a speaker, Lord Randolph possesses a keen, bold wit, expresses himself in epigrammatic sentences, and is free and slashing in his attacks, regardless of the fame or age of him who is the object of his assault. His thrusts at Mr. Gladstone, both in the House and out of it, are often so personal and so audacious as to shock men who remember the older statesman's years and career.

Lord Randolph married a brilliant young American lady, Miss Jerome, of New York; who takes a deep interest in her husband's political aspirations, and assists him in many ways. She is one of the leading members of the "Primrose League," a society formed by Tory ladies to aid that party in its campaigns.

DISEASED TEETH.

WE commend the following sensible and practical article upon the decay of teeth by Dr. Geo. B. Harriman, one of the most experienced and skilful dentists of Boston, to the attention of both parents and young people.

It is a fact too well known to be emphasized, that the early decay of teeth is almost universal in this country. In the Report of the Massachusetts State Board of Health for 1875 the statement is made that "Of eight hundred and eighty school-children under twelve years of age in Woburn, Lexington and Bedford, in 1874, five hundred and eighty-six, or two-thirds of one hundred and thirteen scholars in the Lawrence Primary school, Woburn, thirteen only were fortunate in the possession of sound teeth, and cases are not rare where young persons at the age of fifteen years are obliged to use false teeth."

What is the cause of this decay? Much attention has been given to the solving of this difficult problem by members of the dental profession, and it is almost universally conceded that the general use of certain kinds of food is one cause, and perhaps the principal cause, of decayed teeth.

Dr. Ephraim Cutter, now of New York, in the Transactions of the New Hampshire State Medical Society, 1876, illustrates this view of the matter in this way: "The Chemical News," he says, "ascribes the potato-rot to a deficiency of lime and magnesia in the soil. Different observers give the percentage of magnesia in the ash of sound potatoes at from five to ten per cent.; in the diseased potatoes only 3.94 per cent. Analysis shows over five per cent. of lime in healthy potatoes, but in diseased potatoes only 1.77 per cent."

A similar statement was made some years ago by Prof. Thrope with regard to diseased and healthy orange-trees. In the former there was a serious deficiency of lime and magnesia.

The decay in potatoes, orange-trees and trich is attended with parasitic vegetation which is everywhere present. Now, as the healthy potatoes and orange-trees resist the destructive influence of the cryptogamic vegetation named, because they get a sufficiency of soluble mineral food, or lime and magnesia, it is pertinent to ask if people who suffer in the decayed teeth eat enough soluble mineral food to make healthy, solid, and lasting teeth? Or, in other words, is there any article of food largely and universally used which is deficient in soluble mineral elements?

What is more generally used as food from the vegetable kingdom in civilized countries than flour? Does flour contain the full amount of mineral elements that are necessary for healthy bone development of the human body?

Prof. Sharpe, the well-known chemist, analyzed for me a favorite brand of flour, and found on 0.55 per cent. of ash. Now the proportion of ash in the whole grain varies from 1.65 to 2.0 per cent. Here is an essential loss of from two-thirds to four-fifths. In other words, by the use of finely-bolled flour mankind loses from two-thirds to four-fifths of the mineral elements that go to make up teeth and bone.

Is it not a reasonable inference, therefore, to suppose that the bone structure of the human body should suffer from this great withdrawal? In some districts of Prince Edward's Island the use of bolted flour is not common, and the people of those districts generally have sound teeth.

For health, as well as for the better condition of teeth, it would be better to eat wheat as the old Roman soldiers did, and do away with milling. Choice wheat run through a smutting mill, mixed with three parts of water, and steamed or boiled in a double kettle for ten hours, when salted, served hot or cold, with butter or with milk or cream, makes an exceptionally palatable and healthy dish. It is not only economical, for one pound is sufficient for a meal for four persons, but it gives most of the elements that are essential in a healthy human body.

WINE.

It should never be forgotten that the ancient wines were all of them quite different from our modern wines. They were simply the product of fermentation, like our homemade currant wine or cider. Of course, they contained alcohol and could intoxicate, if taken in sufficient quantity. Hence a drunkard was one who "luried long at the wine."

They might have different names, from their age, their color, their taste, their weight, the locality of their production, or as mixed with honey, or with myrrh, or as made from dried grapes, or as being siraple, unchanged grape-juice, or the latter as boiled down. But with the exception of the last three, which contained no alcohol, the other wines contained very little, the strongest of all only twelve per cent.

Our modern wines—the wines of commerce—are strengthened by the addition of distilled alcohol. Few of our wine-bibbers would care to drink wine which had not thus been "reinforced." Port is made to contain 24 per cent., and sherry 27. As the strongest French brandy contains only 55 per cent., one needs only to double his draught of the latter to secure the full effect of brandy.

But this is not all. The alcohol sometimes employed is anylic alcohol. This gives it a soft, fruity taste. But the effect on the system is exceedingly injurious. It is eliminated from the body with great difficulty. Hence it accumulates in the system, rendering the blood heavy and tar-like. After a fit of intoxication from it, it may take two or three days for the normal temperature to be restored.

Some wines are treated with lime to neutralize their acidity, and thus they introduce into the body an excess of salts of lime. Some have not ceased to ferment, and the process is completed in the stomach, thus producing dyspepsia. Others are charged with volatile substances to

impart what is called "bouquet;" others are "beaded"—by the addition of a mixture made from oil of sweet almonds and sulphuric acid, rubbed together with loaf sugar. All these additions are injurious, especially when long continued. Further, most of our wines are now not the fruit of the vine in any sense, but of the chemist's laboratory.

CANADA.

The sudden death of Judge Ramsay at St. Hughes early on the morning of the 22nd Dec., caused a profound sensation in legal and social circles when the announcement of the sad occurrence was made known. He succumbed to a stroke of apoplexy, which at once carried him away. He had been residing for the past few days in his cosy little residence in St. Hughes, Bagot county, and he remarked to his man servant before retiring Tuesday evening that he had never felt better in his life. At six o'clock in the morning the servant entered his room as usual with hot shaving water, when the judge awoke from his slumbers and bade him a hearty good morning. When the man returned at 8, he found his master stiff and cold in death. It was afterwards discovered that a stroke of apoplexy was the cause of his death. Hon. Justice Kennedy Ramsay died in the 60th year of his age, having been born in Ayr, Scotland, in 1826. He was educated at Madras college in Scotland. He came to Canada when he was twenty years old, and studied law with Meredith, Bethune & Dunkin. In 1863 he contested unsuccessfully, Huntingdon in the Conservative interest, and Chateaugay in 1867.

No account of the unexplored regions of the world would be complete that left out a considerable part of the Dominion of Canada, which lies at our very doors. Prof. George Le, of the Canadian Geological Survey, has made a trip from Winnipeg to Hudson's Bay, and says that the existing maps of that district are incorrect, being based on descriptions given by Indians. A great part of the journey from Winnipeg was accomplished in birch canoes paddled by Indians. Until the height of land was reached which divides the direct watershed of Hudson's Bay from that of Lake Winnipeg, the country was an immense tract of rocks, with scarcely any vegetation. When the Hudson's Bay slope was reached, the country became much more fertile. The party, arriving at the source of the Borens River, which flows westward into Lake Winnipeg, soon found the source of the Severn, which flows eastward into Hudson's Bay. The scenery here became beautiful. About 100 miles down this river from its source Prof. Le's party discovered four or five large lakes, about 60 miles in width. The land within a radius of 80 or 100 miles of these lakes is fine farming land, and it was found that the frost would not prevent the raising of crops. The country from the mouth of the Severn to the Borens River, and to Fort Trout on the Swan River, has never been explored. Prof. Le says that there is a tract 830 miles across from Lake Winnipeg to Hudson's Bay which no white man has ever traversed. In this region there are great numbers of deer and caribou, but small game is very scarce. The party stayed at Fort Severn, on Hudson's Bay, a short time, and then travelled along the coast to York River, 200 miles north, and thence returned to Winnipeg.

Rev. John Macdougall, writing to the Calgary Tribune of the experiences of the three Indian chiefs who recently visited Ontario under his charge says: "They marvelled at the maintenance of law and order among so many people of different races and languages. They were amazed at the traffic in spirituous liquors, which obtains all over our country, and never missed an opportunity of protesting against the introduction of such traffic into the Northwest. This they did without any prompting on our part."

MISCELLANEOUS.

Cardinal Manning, the highest dignitary of the Roman Catholic church in the British Empire, is a staunch teetotaler and an ardent prohibitionist. He is the author of the following little poem:

I promise Thee, sweet Lord,
That I will never cloud the light
Which shines from Thee within my soul
And makes my reason bright;
Nor ever will I lose the power
To serve Thee by my will,
Which Thou hast set within my heart.
Thee precepts to fulfil.

Oh, let me drink as Adam drank,
Before from Thee he fell;
Oh, let me drink as Thou, dear Lord,
When faint by Sychar's well;
That from my childhood, pure from sin,
Of drink and drunken strife,
By the cold fountains I may rest,
Of everlasting life.

While in New York General Booth told the following dog story:—Two drunken men in Bristol, England, were going home late at night leading a trained bull-dog. A Salvation soldier walked in between them, took their arms and said he wanted to carry them to the barracks. The men at first swore and declared the dog was to be matched for twenty pounds shortly, and they did not wish to carry such a fine pup to the barracks. After much entreaty they went and carried the dog. The two men were asked to kneel and pray. They refused because the dog was with them. The dog was brought up to the mourners' bench with the two men, and put both feet on the bench while his masters were praying. The men were converted, but the dog was still there, a thorn in their side. Finally they agreed, as their lives had been wrapped up in the dog, their families starved to feed the dog, and as it had been their ruin, they would not give it to any one. The dog was killed. Do you think any high-toned minister would bring two drunken men and a villainous looking dog into his church, put them in front pews, and let the dog come up and pray too? I hardly think so.

The standard weight of barley is forty-eight pounds per bushel, and it is necessary that it should be nearly up to the standard to be of much value for malting purposes. As land becomes poorer by long cultivation it is more difficult to grow barley of standard weight. It seems to be the mineral elements of plant food which are lacking. Hence wherever phosphate manures are beneficial to any crop they will prove especially so for barley. One hundred pounds of phosphate per acre will often make a difference of ten or more bushels of barley, with the further advantage that the larger quantity will be of full weight and saleable, while the poor crop will be too light for any use except feeding.

It was a South Boston schoolboy whose bad behavior had led the master to depart from his accustomed rule and resort to a flogging. The next day the boy "brought a note." The master read it, as follows: "Licking don't do this boy no good—talk to him." Peculiarities about the epistle led to enquiries; it turned out to have been written by the boy.

Water at the heat of 100° will not injure pot plants, but it will prove very uncomfortable to earth worms and root lice, or the white worms which so often damage the roots of these plants. These small white worms are the larvae of black flies smaller than house flies, which may be found crawling about the soil in the pot. A good plan is to fill a pail with water so hot that the hand can be dipped into it for a minute and no more, and plunge the pots in this water so that the surface of the earth is covered and the soil is soaked. A hot water bath thus given once a week and the pot set to drain awhile is an excellent treatment for the plants.

The result of some experiments at the Agricultural College of Michigan, Samuel Johnson, professor of agriculture, found the yield of wheat to be one half bushel more per acre from the seeding of five pecks than from an acre sown with six pecks. He inclines to the opinion that 14 bushels of clean seed, properly sown, is enough on well-prepared soils. Speaking of some Amber wheats, he prefers not to sow before Sept. 15, especially if the fly has injured the last crop.

According to Le Gaultois the Princess of Wales lately got from Paris a winter costume trimmed with a fine dark fur which she greatly admired. "You are a sportsman," said she to her husband; "tell me what kind of fur it is." "I don't hunt rats and mice," he replied laughing; "I leave that to the sewer-men." And now the Princess doesn't like the costume as well as she did.

They have some brilliant policemen in Hartford. A woman there had been convicted of breach of the peace and was to spend twenty days in Hartford goal. She was on her way to the latter place in a carriage, accompanied by an officer. Her hat blew off and she wished to get out to recover it. Her escort objected to this, fearing she might run away. He proposed that the prisoner should hold the horse, however, while he went after the hat. She consented to this arrangement, and while he was chasing the flying article she whipped up her horse, drove up to a tavern, had the animal taken care of, and then disappeared. That policeman's lot has not been a happy one.

The foundation of all education, from the time a child first begins to learn, is thoroughness. Whatever is attempted must be carried out thoroughly, until the learner becomes master of the subject. Thoroughness is the groundwork of all good habits of mind and a child's mind is as much a bundle of habits as its body. For this purpose it is well to strengthen the memory by insisting upon children learning something by heart every day; it cultivates retentive powers of the mind, and is a help to spelling accurately, as the eye accustoms itself to the appearance of words.

The Madras Mail gives this curious account of the doings of monkeys: Between a place called Niddivunda and Herebilly there is a large top, which is well known to be infested with a host of monkeys. Having no other mode of occupying their dull hours, they are bent upon trying to destroy the railroad track on the Tankur line. It would appear that these animals, about 50 or 60, form themselves into two companies; they range themselves systematically, one-half on one rail and the other half on the other. They begin by first removing the earth from the sides of the rails. Then, which, though they examine them very minutely, they cannot get over. On the approach of the up or down train, they will wait till the engine is within a few yards, when, with the utmost coolness, they simply jump to one side till the train has passed, and then resume their work. A remarkable instance occurred on one of these occasions. As the engine was approaching, the monkeys made their usual jumps, with the exception of one, who persisted in remaining on the line, the engine by this time being very near. Five or six monkeys, seeing the danger one of their number was in, made a sudden rush and dragged him off, so, he laying hold of him by the tail, others by the ears, they saved him. They are now styled the Niddivunda gangmen by the guards and drivers.

Artificial leather is being prepared in Germany by combining with the skins from 5 to 10 per cent. of sinews. Pieces of leather are washed, cut, boiled in alkali, lime, iron, neutralized with hydrochloric acid, and washed on a mangle to remove all traces of acid. To this are added sinews, which are treated similarly, and steamed in an acid bath until they are somewhat like glue. The materials are then mixed, pressed into sheets, moistened on both sides with a concentrated solution of alum, and the upper surface receives a thin coat of castor-oil in solution with carbon bisulphide.

The heaviest yield of wheat ever grown in Ohio is reported to be over sixty bushels per acre, on a ten-acre field, on which a crop of clover had been burned off because it was too heavy to turn under.

Stanley saved eighteen little black boys to be trained for the new order of things on the Congo, by buying them from their Arab captors for a handkerchief apiece.

A man may now make a trip from New York to Liverpool for \$15 if he will be satisfied with steerage accommodation.

A permit was granted on Monday by the health officer of Baltimore, Md., for the burial of a colored man aged 118 years. The record papers of his freedom verify his age.

THE 28th December witnessed a sweeping victory for Mowat, he carrying 58 out of 90 constituencies, and increasing his majority of 15 at last session to 28. The contest is interesting to us in Quebec as marking another stage in the development of the alliance between the Rielites and the Liberals of Ontario. Conservative like Bergeron stumped counties where there are any considerable number of French, advising them to vote the Liberal ticket, while Mercier co-operated with Mowat so far as he could be helpful. Laurier, fresh from arousing the dangerous feeling which exists here, appealed to Ontario audiences to unite with the Nationalists. When the tidings arrived of Mowat's victory, we find that typical Bleu, Senator Trudel, exclaiming "Thanks be unto God! The Mowat government has triumphed!" La Justice, the organ of the Conservative Rielites, declared "It is with the utmost satisfaction that we chronicle the result of the elections in Ontario." In Three Rivers the Rielites had a public celebration. Strange it should be so, but so it is, that the disaffected party in this province has been greatly encouraged by the action of the majority in Ontario last week.

The Mail is being soundly abused by the Gazette and other papers of like stripe for having largely contributed to the disaster that has overtaken Conservatism by what they term "its attacks on Roman Catholicism." No charge could be more baseless. We have seen no article in the Mail that assailed the spiritual doctrines of the Church of Rome, or which might not have been written by a believer in them. With its theology the Mail has had nothing to do, and its editorials have dealt exclusively with that church in so far as it has travelled outside its legitimate domain and trespassed upon the rights of the state. With the interference of its bishops in the public schools, with their obtaining public money for the support of its peculiar institutions, with their bargaining with the leaders of parties for the political influence they exercise over their people, and, especially, with the monstrous privileges of the church in Quebec, occupying the position of a state church in a country whose laws declare there shall be none, it has had much to say. From a party point of view the Mail's course may be injudicious; possibly had it cringed and flattered those who have their fingers on the throat of our Dominion, instead of exposing and denouncing them, Mowat would have had fewer followers, but in the long run it would be tantamount to doubting that right triumphs in the end, to believe otherwise than that the fearless and patriotic course adopted by the Mail will succeed. The disavowal of its platform by professional Conservatives—that is, by those who adhere to a party and use it solely as a means of winning power and emolument—can be embarrassing alone for a brief space. As the momentous nature of the issues more fully realized by the electors, whether the Dominion is to be governed in the interests of the people and of the people alone, or its policy shaped to suit bishops, archbishops, and cardinals, a new party will be formed from the ranks of both Liberals and Conservatives. For nigh two generations the Catholics of Ontario have voted the Conservative ticket. The Toronto Telegram states that 95 out of every 100 voted Liberal at the late election. It is incredible that the old Brownite Reformers can favor the policy necessary to ensure the continuance of such an alliance, and they will gradually drift outside their party, not because they have left it but because it has left them. Among Conservatives, those who expect nothing and would take nothing if offered, will be more apt to follow their organ than politicians who are ready to make any bargain with the hierarchy in order to secure a continuance of their lease of power. We do not hesitate to say, our best wishes go with the Mail in its efforts to create a party that will grapple with and reform the abuses that have crept in through the virtual though unacknowledged union of church and state, and which are so sore a hindrance to the realization of a united and homogeneous Canada.

LAST week war on the continent of Europe seemed imminent, but the danger has temporarily passed. The assertion is confidently made that a secret alliance has been formed between Russia and Germany, and that should the former declare war the latter will not interfere. The report is an extraordinary one, and to be doubted until confirmed. If such an alliance has been made, it is to leave Germany's hands free to grapple with France alone. The Bulgarian throne is still vacant, with no prospect of its being filled, for nominees acceptable to Russia are rejected by Austria and England, and vice versa. All the great powers are placing their armies on a war footing and the new year sees more men under arms than any that has preceded it. The British cabinet is understood to be in full accord with Austria and Italy on the Bulgarian question, while Egypt is a bone of contention between it and France.

POLITICS have again been reduced to a state of chaos in Britain by the resignation of Lord Churchill, who was the leader of the government in the commons. The rupture was due to differences of opinion relative to financial matters and the policy that ought to be pursued in Egypt and Ireland. It appears that Lord Salisbury is for strengthening the army and navy, while Churchill thought that uncalculated. When all hope of reconciliation was given up, Lord Hartington was invited to take Churchill's place, which he declined, while assuring Salisbury of the continued good feeling of those Liberals who oppose Gladstone's Irish measures. A conference resulted in Mr. Goschen, one of the best Liberals in the party, being appointed finance minister. This is a step towards the formation of a coalition ministry on the basis of the maintenance of the legisla-

tive union of Ireland with Great Britain. It is remarkable that in Britain as in Canada, those who place loyalty to the empire before loyalty to party names, should be drawing together to present a united front against those who are to it open or disguised enemies.

It is generally credited that Sir John Macdonald has in contemplation the immediate dissolution of the house, and that the election for a new one will take place within a month.

THE MUNICIPAL ELECTIONS

TAKE place on Monday, the meetings opening at 10 o'clock a.m., and nominations can be made up to 11. The following are the retiring councillors: Dundee: Samuel M. Millar, William Napier and Angus Deruchia. Godmanchester: W. H. Walker, Robert Sparrow, and Geo. Caldwell. Elgin: James Wilson, William Bell, and Chas. Brown. St. Anicet: John D. MacDonald, P. W. Leehy, and Caza. Huntington: Dr. Cameron, Daniel Boyd, and F. H. Henderson. Hinchinbrook: Andw. Oliver, Martin Connell, and James Anderson. Franklin: S. E. Ames, E. Rowe, and William Brooks, jr. Havelock: James Barr, John Bastard, and H. Demers. Hemmingford township: W. B. Johnson, N. L. Valle, and Wm. Fisher. Hemmingford village: Wm. Reay, W. Wark, and J. Cartier. St. Malachie: Thomas Baird, Pierre Reid, and Chas. McDonald. St. Sacrement: W. S. Cunningham and Thomas Reid.

HEMINGFORD. We had an exceedingly quiet Christmas day here this year. The severity of the cold and the want of sleighing kept most of our good people within doors during the day. The customary "turkey shoot" was lacking this year. As a substitute for this sport, some of our young men amused themselves for a time in a competition which, of late, has taken the place of the barbarous pigeon-shooting. Dishes, made in the form of a saucer, of some brittle material, are sent into the air from a powerful spring, and, as they move with great swiftness and to a considerable distance, they afford good practice for those who desire to acquire skill in shooting at game on the wing. For several years past the storekeepers of the village have wisely kept their respective places of business closed on Christmas day. Religious services were held this year in the Catholic church and that of the Church of England. At both churches the attendance was very small.

Owing to the snowstorm, which prevailed with greater or less severity during the whole day, New Years was nearly as quiet a day here, as Christmas was. There was very little driving about and business in the village stores was at a complete standstill. A shooting match at the discs mentioned above took place—in the forenoon, at which some good shooting was made. Mr. John McKay of Boston—a brother of Capt. McKay of this place took the first prize in the sweepstakes—John F. Scriver the second prize. Mr. Mackay's shooting was very good, indeed. He broke the discs in 9 shots out of 11. Mr. Mackay is a member of a gun club in Boston, and has, no doubt, had considerable practice in wing shooting.

A friendly trial of speed between some of the fast nags of the place, which was to have come off on the ice on Mr. John Ferns's farm, in the afternoon of New Years day; could not take place on account of the depth of the snowfall. The ladies of the Presbyterian church here decided, several weeks ago, to make provision for meeting some extraordinary outlays connected with the church, during the past year, by holding two or three socials. The first of these gatherings came off, at the Town Hall, a few evenings since and was, in every respect, successful. Though the evening was not favorable, the attendance was good and the financial result quite satisfactory. The entertainment provided by the ladies, both as to refreshments and as to the social and intellectual enjoyment, was such as to do them great credit. A second social is to be held at the Town Hall on the evening of the 11th inst, when the ladies hope to be still better prepared than they were at the first social, to entertain their friends and the public generally, in a manner that will be satisfactory.

The Rev. Mr. Robertson, pastor of the Presbyterian church here, was made the recipient, a few days ago, at the hands of his people, of an excellent horse. This mark of kindness on the part of his congregation, is but a fitting recognition of the zeal and ability which have marked Mr. Robertson's discharge of his pulpit and pastoral duties since he became the pastor of the Presbyterian church in this place.

A good many deaths among those who were the older residents of our community, have taken place during the past year. Mr. Thomas Dwyer, Mr. Henry Thompson, Mr. Charles Ellerton, Mr. Alexander McNaughton, Mr. Joseph Brunel, Mrs. Archibald Addie and Mrs. William Cairns, have died during the past 12 months. Nearly all those mentioned above, had reached the age of fourscore before their death—several of them had passed that age by four or five years. Mr. Henry Thompson was one of the few remaining survivors of that gallant band who took part in the battle of Odelltown on the 7th of Nov. 1838. The number still surviving of those who, on that memorable day, risked their lives in defence of British connection, can scarcely reach a score now. Soon will they all be gathered to their fathers.

The many friends of Mr. Geo. H. Phillips will be gratified to learn that he has been appointed general agent for the division of the Canada Atlantic railway on this side of the St. Lawrence. The building up of the local traffic of the line could not have been entrusted to better hands and we are glad the do-nothing policy of the company in developing the business along the line on this side of the river has ended. If the company acts on Mr. Phillips' suggestions, it will have substantial cause to congratulate itself a year hence.

The Protestants in the vicinity of Logan's Point intend opening a school soon, which they have erected on John Greig's farm, on the north side of the river. The Barringtons of the Grand Marais have joined in with them, and they expect to have 25 scholars to commence with.

HOLIDAY ENTERTAINMENTS.

ORMSTOWN.

THE Christmas festival of St. Paul's Sunday school, which was held on Dec. 22nd, was a great success. The roads being pretty good and the weather favorable, a large number of parents and friends of the scholars patronized the event; the receipts for admission amounting to \$30. The program was an unusually interesting one and was mainly sustained by the scholars. The singing, under the charge of Mr. Young, was excellent, Miss Nellie Baird playing the accompaniments with her usual ability. The solos in particular were loudly applauded, while the recitations and dialogues were none the less praiseworthy. The arrival of the Sunday-school train was a grand sight. The track was laid this year along the west side of the church instead of into the west corner—a great improvement. The engine, also, had been much improved. The success of this railway enterprise was largely owing to the kindness of Mr. Dugald Lang and Mr. Wm. McDougall, junr., and for having thus worked in the interest of the school they were both particularly thanked by the pastor, the Rev. D. W. Morison. Mr. and Mrs. G. H. Phillips of Valleyfield were present and so well pleased were they with this part of the entertainment, that Mr. McDougall was induced to take the train to Valleyfield for a similar festival held there on New Year's eve. The pastor presented a report of the work done during the past year. The membership of the school now numbers 144, including teachers, being 25 more than last year. During the past twelve months the scholars had raised \$50 for missions. By the liberality of friends, \$40 in prize-books were being distributed among the scholars. These books are of a much better standard than those usually given. During the evening, the Rev. Mr. Morison was to be seen in his happiest mood, taking his usual kindly interest in the comfort and enjoyment of the scholars, and as chairman, had occasion to speak frequently, which he did with a readiness and tact that kept the audience in good humor. The Rev. Mr. Harris gave an instructive address of five minutes, after which the presentation of prizes took place.

The Xmas festival in connection with the Ormstown Methodist Sunday school, was held in the Sons of Temperance hall, on Friday evening, Dec. 24th. The weather proved most unpropitious. The rain fell in torrents, and the night was intensely dark. Considering these unfavorable circumstances, it was a matter of surprise that so large an audience assembled. At 5.30 the scholars and teachers sat down to a sumptuous tea, to which ample justice was done. At 7 the public meeting opened with prayer by the Rev. Thomas Harris. The program prepared was lengthy and most interesting, consisting of stirring music by the church choir and Sunday school, and well rendered recitations and dialogues, which gave evidence of earnest application on the part of all concerned, and of the possession of unusual mental ability in the young people. The varied exercises well occupied the time, with intermissions, until a late hour, and were highly appreciated by the assembly, whose attention was sustained to the last. Among the attractions, were three Xmas trees—one laden with gifts for the scholars, the distribution of which by the superintendent and secretary of the Sunday school, Messrs. John and Thomas Winter, gave great satisfaction. The other trees contained very numerous and handsome presents to friends. During the evening, oysters and other refreshments were served. We were favored with the presence of Rev. D. W. Morison, B.A., of St. Paul's Presbyterian church. The opinion has been expressed that the festival was one of the best yet held in connection with the Methodist Sunday school.

HOWICK.

The annual Christmas festival, in connection with Knox church, took place on the evening of Friday, the 24th December. Notwithstanding the unfavorable state of the weather a goodly number turned out to show their interest in the work of the Sunday school. A large platform had been erected, on which were three artistically arranged evergreens, heavily laden with "knick-knacks and gimcracks, and sweetmeats delicious," and the imposing array of 60 or 70 young lady and gentlemen performers led the beholders to expect an entertainment which proved far from disappointing. The recitations and dialogues showed considerable ability and proficiency on the part of the children, and were duly appreciated by the audience. Addresses were delivered by the Rev. Messrs. Mackeraeh, Birrell, and J. B. Muir, which were instructive in substance and elevating in tone. After intermission, the cantata, entitled King Winter, was given, and although the musical part of it is somewhat difficult, the solos and choruses were remarkably well executed, and were the object of the keenest interest on the part of the listeners. The cantata represents King Winter's court and Santa Claus "putting their heads together to see what they can do to make the big and little children of the earth smile with delight," and they undoubtedly succeeded admirably in accomplishing their object on this occasion. A pleasing feature of the evening was the presentation to Mrs. and Dr. Shanks, for musical services, of a kindly address, accompanied by a tangible proof of the good feeling existing between them and the people of the church, in the shape of a beautiful piano cover, music-stand and rocking-chair. The Doctor, in a few appropriate remarks, expressed the gratification he and Mrs. Shanks experienced at being the recipients of such a beautiful address and valuable gifts. After distributing the presents and moving votes of thanks the meeting closed with the doxology. The sum of \$35 was realized at the door.

ENGLISH RIVER.

The young people of English River held a very successful Christmas festival on the 23rd of December. The church was filled to its utmost capacity, benches being placed along the aisles. The platform, which was occupied by the children and on which stood the Christmas trees, was an attractive sight. The pastor (Rev. C. M. Mackeraeh) presided, and was ably assisted by the Rev. Mr. Birrell, late of Howick, Scotland. A very interesting program was gone through, consisting of short speeches, music, readings, recitations, &c. The young people acquitted themselves admirably, reflecting great credit upon those who had the training of them. The pieces of music were well rendered and elicited loud applause. An interesting feature of the proceedings was a series of presentations. One by the pupils of English

River school to their teacher, Miss Campbell, consisting of a silver butter cooler, &c.; another by the members of the Star Lodge to Mrs. Mackeraeh, a valuable Christmas box; another by the members of the Bible class and congregation of English River to the Rev. C. M. Mackeraeh, a purse containing \$55. After the gifts, with which the trees were loaded, were distributed, the proceedings were brought to a close, a very enjoyable evening having been spent. The young people realized by the entertainment the sum of \$35.

HEMINGFORD.

The anniversary concert of the Methodist Sabbath school was held in the town hall on Christmas Eve. Although the weather and roads were not very favorable, the attendance on the occasion was large. The entertainment was an unusually good one, even for this place, where, thanks to long experience and judicious leadership, such entertainments have been usually of a high character. On the recent occasion the singing was particularly good, the rendering of the choruses especially being marked by a precision and taste which bore marked testimony to the skill and judgment of Mr. Proper, who, for a long time, has had the leadership of the school in their singing. The recitations, too, both as to matter and manner, were decidedly above the average of those usually heard on such occasions. One of the recitations, "The Wall of Defence" (a piece of great merit as a poetical composition) was given in a manner to make a great impression upon the audience. The young lady who recited it, did so with an elocutionary and dramatic power which did ample justice to the sentiment and incidents of the selection. The financial result of the entertainment was most satisfactory—nearly fifty dollars having been taken at the door and at the refreshment table.

ORMSTOWN CONFESSION. The Christmas tree of the lower school, 3rd concession of Ormstown, was held on Dec. 30. Although the evening was very cold and roads bad, the scholars, accompanied by their friends, attended in large numbers. The gathering thus turning out a success. The program comprised speeches by John Donaldson, Mr. Lindsay of McGill college, and the Rev. D. W. Morison, B.A., singing by the school and a couple of dialogues. All of the speakers, in the course of their remarks, which were very instructive, cracked a number of good jokes, creating laughter, in which all joined. The singing was highly appreciated and the dialogues were deservedly greeted with loud applause. Mr. George Elliot, J.P., read a poem of great merit, describing the incidents in the life of a horse. It was well received. A very pleasant feature in the proceedings was the gift of a handsome cake-basket and cruet stand from the scholars of the day school to their teacher, Miss Outterson. The Rev. Mr. Morison, on behalf of Miss Outterson, suitably acknowledged the gift. The circumstance displayed the esteem in which Miss Outterson is deservedly held by the community.

DUNDEE.

The anniversary of the Sunday school in connection with Zion church, Dundee, was as usual a grand success. The lecture-room was well filled with an appreciative audience. Two trees stood in the room loaded with gifts. The program was well selected and ably rendered both in its literary and musical parts. The treasurer's report was very encouraging, showing a flourishing condition, with 150 pupils on the roll and an average attendance throughout the year of 83. The Rev. D. MacEachern was presented on this occasion with a fine silver water pitcher from the choir, and Mrs. MacEachern with a set of table cutlery and a well-filled purse from the ladies of the congregation.

ST. JOHN'S, HUNTINGDON.

The basement of this church, on the evening of the 23rd Dec., was crowded to excess on the occasion of its S.S. anniversary. Much pains had been taken in decorating the platform, which had a pretty effect. The scholars, none of them very old, gave recitations more or less pleasing, while they sang in concert at frequent intervals, led by Mrs. George Hyde on the organ. The closing dialogue was most amusing and excellently rendered, Miss Maggie Dunsmore taking the leading part. The chairman, the Rev. Mr. Gomery, introduced the Rev. Messrs. Sparling, Muir, and Watson, who gave short and apt addresses.

ELGIN.

A Christmas tree and closing examination of the School No. 4, Elgin, took place on Friday, the 24th December, in the schoolhouse. The board of school commissioners was represented and the secretary-treasurer was also present. The scholars acquitted themselves in an admirable manner in most of the branches, especially Canadian and sacred history, geography, arithmetic and spelling. After the examination, which took place in the forenoon, the children, school commissioners, and parents, to the number of nearly 100, sat down to a bountiful repast. After the good things had been disposed of, a program of recitations, dialogues, and singing was gone through with. Then the tree was unloaded of its precious fruit, which embraced a beautiful silver cake basket for the teacher, Miss Janet Elder, and several other minor presents, and also a present for each of the children. Thus ended one of the pleasantest meetings held in the vicinity for some time.

ATHLESTAN.

The Sabbath school anniversary in connection with the Presbyterian church was held on Wednesday evening, Dec. 29th. The children were served with refreshments in the basement at 5 o'clock. The intellectual part of the entertainment was held upstairs, and by 7 o'clock, the church was fairly well filled. Rev. A. Rowat, pastor, occupied the chair, and, after opening exercises, called on the superintendent of the school, Mr. Andrew Wilson, to read the annual report, which showed an average attendance of 70 during the year. The ordinary collections show a falling off, but on the whole the school is flourishing under the care of the worthy superintendent. Short and instructive addresses were given by Rev. Messrs. Sparling, Watson, and Muir, interspersed by recitations, readings, and singing by the S.S. children, and also some very pleasing pieces by the choir, Miss Rowat presiding at the organ. It has not been the custom to allow presents on the tree, but simply to see that all the children are alike treated to the ever welcome candy-bag, and it was surprising to see how quickly 200 of them disappeared. After tendering a vote of thanks to the clergymen present for encouraging the school with their presence and advice, the meeting closed at a seasonable hour, all seem-

ing to have enjoyed the evening's entertainment.

HENDERSONVILLE. There was a Christmas tree for the pupils of the day school here, on the evening of the 26th ult. The entertainment was by far the best the people have listened to for some time, the program being so well carried out as to render distinction invidious; but the manner in which Miss Flossie Chapin and Miss Katie Tully acquitted themselves deserves particular mention. As usual there were many presents, and Miss Muir, the painstaking and efficient teacher, was not forgotten. Remarks were made by the commissioner and the trustee of the school and others, who expressed themselves as much pleased with the school.

KNOX CHURCH S.S. The Sabbath school connected with Knox church, in the Robson neighborhood, Hemmingford, gave an entertainment in the Orange hall on New Year's Eve. The attendance was large, the hall being filled to its utmost capacity. A lengthy program of recitations, dialogues, songs, and choruses, was gone through with by the children to the great satisfaction and enjoyment of those present. Since the Rev. Mr. Robertson became the pastor of Knox church, the Sabbath school has been very prosperous. The school numbers over 50 members, with an average attendance of about 49. As the result of the entertainment on New Year's Eve, a handsome sum was obtained which will be devoted to replenishing the library.

HERDMAN'S CORNERS. The Church of England friends held their Christmas tree entertainment in the town hall, on Tuesday evening, the 28th ult., when a fine program was placed before the audience, which crowded the somewhat limited accommodation of the hall. The children's recitations and singing did great credit to those who had drilled them; justified the proud and happy faces presented by their parents. The dialogues were also well rendered, despite some of the young folks being afraid of the sound of their own voices, while others stood with their backs to the audience, but a little more familiarity with the kindly public will remove these little faults and enable our young friends to show to greater advantage the talent they really possess. Perhaps the most pleasant feature of the evening was the presentation to Miss Isabel Coulter of a handsome plated cake basket and pickle stand, in recognition of her work both as organist in the church and also as teacher in the Sunday school. The Rev. H. Gomery, in presenting them, testified to the unremitting efforts of Miss Coulter to improve the singing, and her reliability in all weathers, also reminding those present that, by their regularity of attendances, they would not only improve the singing but the preaching. The distribution of the presents fitly closed a pleasant evening. May we suggest that, if the ladies had furnished their oysters at the close of the entertainment instead of making an interval of over an hour's length, the somewhat disorderly changing of seats by the audience would have been avoided and many of the friends would have reached home at an earlier hour. The receipts at the door were over \$18, not including payments for refreshments.

BLACK'S CHURCH. The Xmas tree of the Methodist church, Hinchinbrook, (Black's) drew out a respectable gathering on Monday, the 27th Dec. The children acquitted themselves in a creditable manner and Santa-Claus smiled on them most benignly. Something like \$20 was realized.

DEWITTVILLE. The S.S. of the union church held their anniversary on the evening of the 29th December. The date had been chosen without thought as regards the other engagements of the clergymen who preach in this church, and, who, as it happened, had all agreed to attend like meetings on the same evening. However, the meeting went on very well in their absence. Squire Cameron admirably discharged the duties of chairman, the superintendent, Mr. Dickson, had an encouraging report to make, and the scholars did excellently, entertaining the audience by their speaking and singing. The school, taught by teachers irrespective of denomination, is doing a good work.

ORMSTOWN. Mr. Louis Prejent was the recipient of a \$60 purse by the hands of Mr. D. W. Arnton, from his friends and well-wishers in this locality, on Thursday, 30th Dec. Mr. Prejent gave the subscribers an oyster supper, at which toasts were given and congratulatory speeches made. That Mr. Prejent sacrificed much while stoning the road to the depot is a well-known fact, for of the council grant all he had to himself was \$475. For 4 months of 1885 he was to be seen daily on the road, until by energy and perseverance he overcame all his difficulties and left to the parish a road worth having. On the half-mile of street 1101 loads of gravel and boulders were placed, of that quantity Mr. Prejent drew 90 loads and R. N. Walsh 58. Mr. Prejent gave to those who assisted 220 dinners, taking no account of other refreshments or of hay and oats that were bestowed. Though many looked upon the attempt as absurd, yet the farmers gave liberal support, many of them hauling two and three days. The gravel pit was on H. Winter's property, and cost \$200. The labor at the pit cost \$115.

DUNDEE.

The holidays passed without any special occurrence in this vicinity, except the usual church festivities. Christmas was not what could be called a green one, but there was no sleighing, and people did not enjoy themselves as they would, had there been a few inches of snow. If we lacked snow at Christmas, we had enough and to spare for New Years day, with a down-fall during the day.

At Bombay on Christmas Eve, Laura Morris, widow of the late Daniel Summers, formerly a resident of this place, who, together with her son, lived on the farm of Mr. Almond, went to put out a horse in the barn and did not return. Search was made for her on Sunday morning, when it was found that she had not gone to any of the neighbors, when her body was discovered a few rods from the barn in another direction than towards the house, frozen stiff. Liquor, no doubt, was the cause. Age about 38 years. I saw an item in your last issue taken from the Cornwall Freeholder, that a couple of Indians had found the body of John S. McLaughlan, who was drowned on the 18th Nov. last near Dickenson's Island. The Indians made up the story to get some money, but all they got was two dollars from a man in Cornwall. It was well planned but poorly carried out, so far as making much by it. Grain must be turning out well this year, for

John Deneen thrashed in the barn of James Smith, Godmanchester, on the 20th ult, 86 bushels of wheat in 4 hours, 96 bushels of barley in 2 hours, 37 minutes, and 310 bushels of oats in 7 hours, with a Moody thresher.

There arrived a few days ago by train, thence to Dundee by bus, a mysterious looking article, which, upon close scrutiny, was made out to be a small folding table with checker board in the centre. Tacked on it was a card "To— (twasn't Phanny) with the compliments of the season, or firm, I forget which. A picture of the same can be seen in your ad. columns.

For good soft wood, 3 1/2 feet long, \$1.75 is the ruling price here for a few hundred cords.

Mr. Samuel Long of St. Agnes, who has been at Longue Pointe Asylum, for about a year, came home a few days ago, and, I am pleased to state, very much improved in health and otherwise. The cars did not get into the Fort on New Year's day until midnight. Between here and Huntington the water supply gave out, and they had to resort to getting enough by pailfuls to run the engine up to the tank here, and go back for the cars. Can't expect to run things on a New Year's day without plenty to drink.

The lake between Hopkin's Point and Summerstown is being bushed to-day (4th).

As there is a pretty good supply of snow now, there is no excuse for the snow shoe club of this section not going out on a tramp some of these fine moonlight nights. No word of a toboggan slide being erected. Little girl—"Ma I wish that doll was for me" she said, meaning one that was on the Christmas tree in Stafford hall on Christmas eve. Mamma—"Why, you have a doll child." Little girl—"Yes, but I want to have twins. No more telephoning to Dundee at present. The instrument has been removed. It didn't pay. I understand a number of instruments have been removed of late. It is all well enough to have a talk over the wire, but it costs too much.

HUNTINGDON.

On Christmas eve it rained heavily. During the night the weather changed, and it became suddenly extremely cold, accompanied by a high wind. In consequence it was not pleasant to be out of doors on Christmas, the more so that there was no sleighing. Service was held in St. John's church, which was tastefully decorated, and, despite the cold and the slippery sidewalks, there was a fair congregation. The service, conducted by the Rev. H. Gomery, was brief and bright, as became the day. In the evening, the toboggan slide was opened for the season, and attracted quite a number. The week between Christmas and New Year was a bad one for business, there being no sleighing, and altho the sleighing was excellent the cold kept people at home. Storekeepers reported they never did less on the similar week in former years. On the last day of the old year a snowstorm set in, which, before it ceased, left a super-abundance for the long desired sleighing. A watchnight service was held in the Methodist church, attended by 25, and at midnight its bell told of the departing of the old year and the coming of the new. On New Year's day the roads were so heavy, that there was very little driving.

On the evening of the 27th ult., when a farmer, who had left his horse in the yard of the Central hotel, went out to get it to return home, he found that some person had taken the animal away. For a while there was considerable excitement, it being supposed the case was one of theft, until it became plain that Pk. O'Neil, of the Irish ridge, had driven away with it in mistake for his own, which he left behind. Next morning, a horse was heard pawing and stumbling at the door of Frank Vosburgh's stable, and on going out a horrible sight was seen—a horse cut and torn and covered with blood. The poor brute, in a few hours, succumbed to its injuries. On investigation it was found that O'Neil, after the manner of men in drink, had driven around the country furiously and recklessly, with the result that the horse, had been in collision with fences, some of them of barbed wire, had jumped ditches in crossing fields, and finally turned loose. The route over which the unfortunate horse had been urged during the night could be traced by its blood. Nothing more shocking has happened in this neighborhood for years. The owner of the horse was settled with on Tuesday.

The week of prayer has been observed by services in the four Protestant churches, the opening one having been held on Monday evening in the Methodist church and the third one took place in St. John's last evening, being the first time a like service has been held in the Episcopal church here. The liberal and fraternal spirit which exists between the denominations in Huntington is most gratifying. None of the meetings have been largely attended, altho of unusual interest.

The scholars of the intermediate department of the academy marked their appreciation of their teacher, Mr. Sutherland, by presenting him with a watch guard at the close of the Xmas examination.

By a typographical mischance, the line, Government grant.....\$328 was omitted from the financial statement of Huntington Agricultural Society No. 1 in last Gleaner.

Dr. Cameron has given it to be distinctly understood that he will not consent to be re-elected to the council.

VALLEYFIELD.

The Sabbath school entertainment held in academy hall on New Year's eve was a decided success in every way. The excellent rendering of the different parts by the children delighted the large audience as well as reflecting great credit on the Misses Wattie, who were untiring in their efforts to make the annual gathering a success.

The severe weather of the past few days has interrupted our mails about twice daily. Since January first the morning mail for Montreal goes via Howick, and the evening mail from the city comes by the same route. The Gleaner almanac, which is now eagerly looked for each year by the many subscribers of this place, is again with us. The local events are quite interesting to residents of the district, and if carefully preserved might be of service in the future for reference by the coming generation.

Mr. King, contractor, commenced on Tuesday to remove Aubrey station on the C.A.R. He expects to complete the work about the 15th. The following account of the opening of the waterworks is from the Montreal Herald: Thursday, the 23rd of December, will be a memorable day in the history of the pushing town of Valleyfield. On that day were inaugurated works

NEW AND SEASONABLE!
DRESS GOODS
 IN GREAT VARIETY.

FOR COATS, Sacs, Caps and sets, Beaverette (something new for Sacs), Mantling, Suitings, Silks, Flashes, Velvets,
 Overcoatings, Dress and Tweed Suits, Overcoats, Best makes of Boots, in ladies, gents, and children's Overshoes.
 Heavy and Fancy Shawls,
 Gents' Furnishings,
 Fancy Wool Goods,
 Sleigh Robes,
 Floor and Oilcloths,
 Carpets, Flannels,
 Buttons
 Suits made to order, &c.

WE CUT CLOSE AND GIVE GOOD MEASURE.
ALEX. McNAUGHTON & BRO.
 Dec. 23, 1886.

HURRAH! HURRAH! HURRAH!!!

GRAND OPENING
 —OF—
McLAREN'S NEW MUSIC STORE

AND LADIES' AND GENTS' OYSTER AND
 ICE-CREAM PARLOR,
 Gardner's Block, - - Front-St., Huntingdon

ALL NEW STOCK AT CITY PRICES!!!

PIANOS, Organs, Violins, Guitars, Banjos, and Mandolins,
 Vocal and Instrumental Music, Children's Toys, Christmas and New-Year Cards, All Cigars, and the greatest of Candies. A SPECIALTY: Fancy Soaps and Perfumes.

Our Oyster Parlor will be reserved for Ladies only, from 7 until 9, every evening, and will be open to the general public from 9 till 11 P.M. Large Oyster Stew, 25c; large plate of Oysters (raw), 25c, small do., 15c. A lady attendant to wait on ladies.

Store open from 8 A.M. till 11 P.M. every day (Sunday excepted).

"GIVE MAC A CALL."
 All kinds of musical instruments repaired on the premises at moderate charges.
 The Professor has been appointed SOLE AGENT IN THIS VILLAGE FOR THE HUNTINGDON ORGAN COMPANY.

MRS. R. WHITE
 HAVING REMOVED to Mr. J. Lockman's late residence, has now on hand a stock of

**GOLD AND SILVER WATCHES, CLOCKS,
 JEWELLERY AND SILVERPLATE**
 TO SUIT ALL BUYERS.

Watches cleaned and repaired and guaranteed by a competent workman.
 A fine assortment of USEFUL AND FANCY ARTICLES for Presents.

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 Materials for the latest styles of Fancy Work, direct from New York.

Orders for all kinds of ART DECORATIVE WORK, including embroidery in Silks and Araneses, Painting, Wax and Leather work promptly attended to.

Stamping a Specialty.

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LADIES' COATS
 Astrachan, Persian Lamb and Seal.

MEN'S COATS
 Coon, Astrachan, Russian Dog, Japanese Goat.

Ladies' Fur sets in all kinds.
 Men's Caps, Collars and Cuffs, and Gloves in all kinds.

Fur Coats, from \$10. Cloth Coats, from \$5 up.

REMEMBER THE PLACE:

FRONT OF THE POST-OFFICE.

ANGUS McNAUGHTON.

THE GEM FOLDING TABLE.

PATENTED MARCH 10, 1885.



SUPERIOR TO ALL OTHER FOLDING TABLES.

IT can be used for more purposes than any other table of the kind sold. As a sewing table it is unequalled. It possesses all the conveniences of the lap-board, and none of its disadvantages. It requires no support, and being level, work cannot slip to the floor as from the ordinary lap-board. Work can be left upon it, saving the trouble of removing and putting aside.
 By the peculiar arrangement of its crossed legs, and good proportions, it is of convenient width and not too great length, skirts and other garments can be drawn over the top so smoothly as upon the lap-board. It is handy as a table, and can be used in playing games and saves the trouble of removing bric-a-brac from the centre-table. As lunch tables for invalids, for parties, at home, in church parlors and vestries, for camps and picnics they are cozy and comfortable. Convenient for drawing, reading, writing and studying, at home or office. Its many uses cannot be enumerated. It is so light it may easily be placed in any part of the house. Its adjustable height makes it convenient to use with various lamps and chairs. When not in use it can be hung upon a peg or hook. It folds without trouble, and so compactly that it occupies no more space than a common lap-board.

Manufactured under Royalty by **BOYD & CO.**,
 Huntingdon, Q.

Children's Toy Furniture. In extension and full leaf tables, rocking and other chairs, desks and stools, children's hanging blackboards, children's easel blackboards and all kinds of furniture. B & Co.

FARM FOR SALE (known as the Block-house Farm), fronting on the south side of the Chateauguay river, containing 150 acres, more or less. The farm is in a good state of cultivation, buildings in good repair; a good orchard, containing 100 apple-trees, most of which have been bearing for the last 4 years, surrounded by about 270 evergreen trees. Convenient to school, church, store, and cheese factory, and within one mile of Bryson's station. Also, 12c, acres, more or less, of Bush Land, situated in the 5th range of Jamestown. For particulars apply to **WILLIAM or JOHN HAYES, Jr., Allan's Corners, P.Q.**

MEHETABEL ROGER'S CRANBERRY SWAMP.
 CHAPTER I.

'MAN proposes, God disposes,' so says an old prophet. Sometimes women propose. Mehetabel proposed to go to Boston tomorrow. She had been there once before in her life—for Boston is a long ways off, and the old colony railway runs only to Barnstable as yet; and Mehetabel lived below Chatham, on old Cape Cod.

Captain Rogers was light-house keeper at Nauset. There are three lights there to look after; they stand on a high bluff, at the foot of which washes the Atlantic, while back of it stretches a sandy plain, the greater part of which is yet 'Congress land,' which our Uncle Samuel does not find easy to sell, even at a shilling an acre. Captain Rogers was a sailor, that you might see at the first glance. He was a ship captain, not a militia captain; that is to say, he had been a ship captain, now he was a shore captain, and his lights were his ship. It made little difference to him, so far as responsibility went, or work either; for though he had no longer a lee-shore to fear for himself, every easterly gale made him fidget at his lights, thinking of the poor fellows who might be warned off by their gleam; and for the rest, his observations, which were formerly taken at noon, were now made at midnight; where he would before have got a pull on the main-sheet, he now ordered a rub of the lantern-glasses; and if he had no deal reckoning to work up, he yet kept a log—no light job for an old tar whose fingers are handier at a long splice or a timber hitch than at pot-hooks and hangers.

Captain Rogers was a man of regular habits—for you see a light-house keeper is a responsible person. He is not like a Governor of a State, or member of the Cabinet, who has all night in, and has only to sign letters, and order things to be done, which are of no consequence when they are done. A light-house keeper must keep his lights bright, and if he should be a careless person, or a sleepy-head, or perhaps, even a lover of strong drink, don't you see, some night a poor mariner, steering for his light in fullest confidence, would run his ship ashore, and perhaps lose his crew as well as his cargo. From which you will quickly gather that only the most trusty men in the State ought to be appointed light-house keepers, and a man who would not be elected hog-reeve in his town ought to be ashamed of himself for asking the Secretary of the Treasury—who knows no better, mere ignorant creature—to trust him with a light.

I advise you not to ask Captain Rogers if he could be elected hog-reeve. That is beside the matter.

'I wish you warn't goin' to Boston,' said the Captain, for the twentieth time, on the evening of the day before Aunt Mehetabel was to set out. She was packing up and it made him nervous to see one thing and then another, now a comb, and then a piece of molasses cake, and then a pair of stockings, slipped into the carpet-bag which was to accompany the good lady on her journey.

'Too late,' said she, catching up a hymn-book, which her eyes happened to light upon just then, and putting it into a handy pocket in the all-containing carpet sack, by way of light reading.

'Seems to break up everything so,' groaned Uncle Rogers. 'I don't see what's the use of Boston.'

'You ain't goin' to be the triumphant reply, as a shiny and well-preserved pair of shoes were hauled out of a corner and crammed into the bag.

Aunt Mehetabel was determined not to be vexed with the old man. She was going to Boston! she was sure of that, and why should she lose her temper? Men is sish poor, helpless creatures. Ef they don't hev everythin' jest so, they'm all upst, 'nd no more use 'n a cob-look without a bait.

'Now, then, old man, there's the ile, and there's the wick, 'nd there's yer cloths for the lanterns, 'nd there's the gal, she knows how to cook 's well 's her mamm.' Now then, let's turn in, for you've got to drive me over to the stage soon 's you put out your lights in the mornin'.

The gal's name was Rachel, and she was pretty. There are a good many pretty girls on old Cape Cod; a Cape man once told me in confidence that in all his voyages he had not seen such women as they breed on the Cape, and I think he was right. Rachel was not only pretty; she could cook, as her mother said; she could iron a shirt, and wash it too; she knew how to clean the lantern-glasses—all except the last finishing touch, which the old Captain administered himself, with a cloth locked up a separate locker.

Rachel was 'hanging around the room,' her mother said, 's though she expected a feller.' Poor child! her 'feller' was in Boston, getting ready for a voyage to the Bank Queral after cod; and Rachel was 'hingin' round in hopes that she might, at the last moment, gain permission of her mother to go along in the stage tomorrow.

Aleck Nickerson was captain of the Lucy Ann, banker; and the Lucy Ann was getting her outfit in Boston for an early start to the Banks. Captain Aleck was determined to fish for 'high lines' out of Chatham; it was his first voyage as master, and he is what they call a 'fishy man'—not a man given to incredible stories, but one who meant to fill his ship, or to 'wet his salt,' as they say.

He had selected a good crew and his brother was his mate. Down in Chatham people said that the Lucy Ann was likely to come home with a good stint of fish.

It used to puzzle the gossips which of the two it was that Rachel Rogers favored, whether Aleck, or Mulford, his brother. I am not sure that she knew herself. Aleck had committed the indiscretion of almost offering himself to her; and her mother had been indiscreet enough to say once that Aleck Nickerson was a 'likely feller,' which made me think that Mulford had the best chance just then. But the two were always together; and some people pretended to say that they went courting in common, and that either would have been satisfied with the other's success.

tions which the mate's has not; and women, as everybody knows, have to live a great deal indoors. But where promotion goes by merit the captain is apt to be the better man; and, so being, he has a right to the prettiest girl, which no pretty girl I ever knew would fight. So that, perhaps, after all, Captain Aleck had the best chance.

Aunt Mehetabel arrived safely in Boston, and at once took charge of the Lucy Ann's cabin. She had a plan to talk over with Captain Aleck—a plan which had occurred to her during her last visit to Harwick. At this time the gradual failure of the fish, and the somewhat rapid increase of the population of the Cape, caused a good deal of uneasiness to the people of that thrifty region. All the young men and most of the old fellows are fishermen; the whole living of the Cape is taken from the ocean. Hitherto there had been abundance for all, according to their frugal expectations; but now the prospect grew dark. The great fish days of Chatham were no longer what it had been in former years. The fleet, which was formerly always 'hauled up' before Thanksgiving day, now cruised anxiously after the missing schools till far into December, and could not find them; and the Banks no longer furnished codfish in the wanted abundance. And yet every Cape boy is a sailor and fisherman. They are a web-footed race; and, to add to the difficulty, a curiously home-loving race. Any other people would have emigrated. The California and Oregon coasts fish in such abundance as no Cape man ever dreamed of, and to a sailor the world is open. But to these curious Cape men there is no place in the world so beautiful or so dear as their own flat, sandy, tide-washed wash, where the corn-croserly grows breast-high, and the sand is ankle-deep in the best cultivated garden. Once Uncle Shubal Robbins drove me out in his hay-wagon, and coming to a knoll a little higher and a little greener than the surrounding flats, the enthusiastic old fellow cried out, in great exultation, 'Let us stop here and look around; far's you've travelled, I know you never saw so fine a piece o' country as this.' Place him where you will—in the most fertile and beautiful part of the globe if you please—and the Cape Cod man will sigh wearily for his sand, his pine needles, and the moan of the ocean, on his flat beach. That is in the nature of the creature, and you can not change it.

Given, then, that no one would move away; that all were bent on fishing; that, in fact, this was the only possible employment for the mass of the people, the single source of their prosperity; and finally there were not fish for all the fishermen; and you will understand that the old folks began to fear a famine for the next generation, and to talk drearily of the fading glories of the Cape.

Just at this time an ingenious Yankee invented the cranberry culture, and saved the Cape. The cranberry is a fruit that grows best on swampy lands, which can be overflowed at will with fresh water. It is an amphibious berry, which dwindles and becomes diseased if deprived of an occasional soaking. It is a God-sent therefore to people living in the midst of fresh water ponds, and a third of whose land lay in worthless swamps, dear at a dollar an acre, useless to all, and owned only because it was a part of the place.

Now Aunt Mehetabel had heard of Enoch Doane's folly, which was in everybody's mouth. She knew he was a shrewd old fellow; and one day shroded down to Harwich in the stage to inspect his operations. She came back next day in a fluster, and before she ate her dinner had selected the site for a cranberry patch of her own.

The question was, how to raise money enough to get a couple of acres under cultivation. The old light-house keeper had money in bank; but he plainly told his wife he meant to keep it there; if Enoch Doane was a fool he was not now; everybody knew that cranberries would presently be worth no more in Boston than beach plumbs; and then where would all the dollars be which silly people buried in swamps? Fortunately for Aunt Mehetabel the berry fever had not got so far down as Nauset, and she was able to buy her two acres of well-selected but tangled swamp for little more than a song. Her own savings, from knitting socks, and entertaining chance strangers, were sufficient for that. But how to get it into cultivation? How to clear it of that mass of scrub oak and rank stringy grass which now made it an impenetrable fortress? How to pay for drains, and flood-gates, for the much digging, and carting, and hoeing, and planting, which must precede a crop? Captain Aleck Nickerson had a little money in bank, and for him, as one of her nearest neighbors and confidential friends, she resolved to get help. All winter she had done her best to infect him with her own enthusiasm; and now she had come to Boston to make a last effort with him.

'Ef I had jist five hundred dollars I'd hev the pesky swamp all cleared and sot out before you cum back with your first fare,' said she.

'But I want to build my house, Aunt Mehetabel,' replied the Captain.

'Ye ain't got nobody to put in it, Aleck?'

'Never you mind about that,' retorted the Captain with a smile; 'how's Rachel?'

'Rachel's ready to wait,' said she. 'Besides, you haven't asked her.'

'Wait till I come back, high line,' said Aleck, smiling.

'By that time I can hev the patch clear's the palm o' yer hand.'

'You won't get yer money back in three year.'

'But the first crop 'll build you two houses, Aleck.'

'I don't want but one, old lady, and a pooty gal to live in it.'

'You young fellers is always thinkin' 'bout pooty gals. I swan, ef I was a man I'd think o' somethin' else.'

'Cranberries, Aunt Mehetabel?' queried Captain Aleck, who was lazy and inclined to tease, and besides owed a grudge to the old woman because she had left Rachel at home.

'Yes, cranberries,' she replied; 'cranberries is wuth ten dollars a berril, 'nd an acre 'll yield fifty berrils easy.'

'And the worms 'll eat 'em before ye pick 'em,' said Aleck.

'And yer wife 'll git cross 'nd ugly,' said Aunt Mehetabel.

'And half crazy 'bout cranberry swamp,' said Aleck, with an irrepressible chuckle, swinging himself suddenly from the transom, where he was lying, through the open skylight on deck.

'You'm a fool, Aleck Nickerson!' screamed the old woman after him. 'O Lordy, what fools men be. Here, you boy, ye lazy hound, split some wood quick; here's ten o'clock, 'nd no dinner on the fire. See 'f I don't worry him into it,' she grumbled to herself, as she poured a mess of beans into the pot.

Captain Aleck 'had more'n half a mind to do it,' as he said to himself. But 'better look twice before you jump once'; and he went into the hold and began to roll stow barrels and water barrels about, and help stow the ship for her voyage, 'so's to kind o' settle down his ideas. It is unnecessary to recount the farther strife between these two; the reader always knows, if he has a proper notion of what an ambitious middle-aged woman can do, if she once sets her heart upon a matter, that Aunt Mehetabel won the battle. The Captain was not averse to the speculation. He had five hundred dollars laid aside on interest; he had no doubt of the success of the enterprise. Cranberries were a 'sure thing,' as he well knew. The difficulty was here; he had determined to build himself a house that fall; the place was chosen and already bought; and he intended that while the house was building he would court Rachel Rogers, and when it was finished he would marry her and stay at home that winter, as he could easily afford to do if he had only moderate luck on the Banks. The prospect was an alluring one; like most of the enterprising young fellows on the Cape, he had been going 'south'—that is to say, to the West Indies, or the Brazils, or Demerara, or Mobile, every winter, to make up the year's work; and the thought of staying at home, in a snug house of his own, all winter, with a pretty young wife, while other fellows were freezing their fingers and toes on the coast, or toiling among molasses hogsheads or cotton bales in the South, was one not lightly to be given up. But 'you must keep on the right side of your mother-in-law'—at least till you marry your wife,' says an old Cape proverb; and Captain Aleck gave way, and made up his mind to go another, and perhaps another winter South, and build his house the grander when the cranberries came in. As he sailed out of the harbor Aunt Mehetabel stood on the dock, her precious bank bills tightly clutched in her hand.

'Remember us both to Rachel, Auntie,' said Aleck, pointing towards his brother on the forecastle, 'and don't lose the ribbon I sent her; and so they sailed off for the Banks.

I would not like to have been one of the poor 'fellows whom Aunt Mehetabel employed to work on her cranberry patch. She looked after them sharply. She did not spare her own hands from the brush, and you may be sure no one else was spared. Even the old Captain was induced to devote his spare hours to the work, which went on rapidly, though slowly enough to the old woman's eager temper. She was determined to surprise Captain Aleck on his return; and before the end of July the whole two-acre lot was cleared and fenced and a small part of it was already of that strange, unearthly white which surprises and disgusts one who sees for the first time a Cape Cod cranberry plantation.

The drains were neatly cut, the flood-gates securely built, and before the autumn frosts she hoped to have the whole ground in readiness for planting.

'Miss Rogers is a hard boss,' grumbled the two men who cleared, and dug, and carted fresh earth on to this waste; but 'Miss Rogers' was a general who led her troops, and looked very sharply after skulkers.

CHAPTER II.

Meanwhile while Rachel cooked, and washed, and ironed, and kept house like a well-trained Cape girl, the Lucy Ann was fast anchored on the Banks, and her brace of lovers were such unsightly objects, covered with fish gurry, clad in oil-skins, stamping about in huge sea-boots, and enveloped in barvil, and soot-water, and awkward fish-mittens, that she would scarcely have recognized them. There are Sundays on fish-ground, when all hands wash, and wash, and clean-shirt themselves—if the weather happens to be fine, that is to say. But if it is rough, a pipe and an old novel and the warm bunk in the cabin are preferred; and the most that is done to renovate the outer man is to wash in warm water and wrap in clean rags the sore fingers which a good fish day produces.

Aleck Nickerson was commonly a lucky man; he struck fish if any body did. He lifted his anchors less often than most men; and he had a crew that could catch fish if any were within reach of their skillfully contrived baits. But 'tis time his usual luck seemed to forsake him. He dropped his cod-lead in vain; 'pickin' fishin'—one fish in an hour, and small at that, was the best which fell in his way. Nothing is so disheartening as poor luck in fishing; men lose their skill, as their confidence oozes out at their fingers' end; and it is only the most sagacious who have the wit to keep their temper, and saw their lines on the rail with the patience which is sure to win in the end.

One day Captain Aleck anchored and struck fish; but not in such abundance as he desired.

'I'll go down in the boat; lower away there, two or three of you,' said he, at last. 'I'll try 'em a little ways off; it's clear weather.'

The day was almost cloudless, as fair and smooth as a calm June day off Sandy Hook. The boat was lowered, and Captain Aleck jumped into it with a bucket full of good baits and his cod-rat, and pulled away about a mile off, where he had no sooner dropped his lead than he got a bite. The men on board watched him, greedily, for half an hour, sawing their own lines while across the rail, when, suddenly, they too 'struck a school,' and in a moment every man was hauling in a twenty pounder. The Captain was forgotten in the excitement till the cook chanced to stick his head out of

the companion-way, who cried out, 'Why it's as thick as mush.'

So it was. The treacherous fog had settled down all at once, as it often does on the Banks; and where a short half hour ago all was clear as a bell, now you could not see the jib-boom end. 'Where's the Skipper?' was the question, as all hands held up for a moment and stared in each other's faces.

'Ring the bell, quick, some one!' said Mulford. 'Skipper's all right, he'll be along soon 's he hears the sound.' Nevertheless, Mulford went forward himself, and with an iron belying-pin beat lustily on the fluke of the spare anchor.

'Hold up a minute,' he said presently; 'listen, every body.' The men stopped talking and bent their ears to the rail; but they heard no plashing of oars, no shout through the white darkness.

'Shout; sing out all together, now!' ordered Mulford. They sang out from full throats; then listened again, eagerly, for an answering cry, but none came.

'Ring the bell there, somebody, and ring loud,' said Mulford; 'he'll be here directly.'

'Somebody rung, and somebody beat the anchor, while another man climbed to the mast-head, to see if he could peer above the fog, and perhaps beyond it; but he came down shaking his head, and declaring that it was thicker up there than down on deck.

Mulford slipped down on the dolphin striker and stretched his head along the surface of the ocean, hoping to get a glimpse in that way, but in vain.

'Sh—sh!' said Uncle Meeker, suddenly; 'I heard a cry.' In a moment all was still, and presently there came a wail; but it was from the mast-head, and was the lonely voice of a sea-bird welcoming the companionship of man in the thick fog.

'It's only a gull,' said some one.

'Good God, this is dreadful!' Shout again, men; sing out loud, every man. What would mother say if she was here?' muttered Mulford.

They shouted again and again; they rung the bell and beat the anchor; they listened as men listen on whose hearing depends the life of a shipmate.

'How did the boat bear?' asked the cook.

'Nor-northeast,' was the reply. 'Let us anchor and look after him; maybe he laid to his line when the fog came up.'

'Not yet,' was Mulford's reply; 'he might have drifted astap, and then we'd be leaving him.'

But now the wind began to sigh through the shrouds, and the little Lucy Ann began to roll with the swell which foretold an approaching gale. Her crew looked at each other with solemn faces. In such a fog, once miss the direction, once get out of ear-shot, and the chances are slim of ever finding your ship again.

They went to the windlass presently and hove out the anchor, set the main sail and jib, and cruised about, making short tacks through the fog, and shouting and listening by turns. All hands remained on deck; the cook in vain cried out, 'Sate ye, one half—the customary call to dinner on a Cape fishing schooner; the dinner was put away untasted; the growing anxiety for their Captain kept every man at his post. The fog did not lift; it began to drive, thick and fast, as the northeast wind blew up; and presently the swash of the sea against the bows became so loud as to make any cry of a human voice inaudible. Then night came on, and at last, after running half a dozen miles dead to leeward, the anchor was let go, a double watch set, and the remainder of the crew went below to their berths in silence.

And thus Captain Aleck was lost to the Lucy Ann. To lose a man at sea, and that man the Captain, the leader of the small band, casts a gloom over the whole voyage. Mulford was a capable fellow, he knew the fish-ground as well as his brother; and by a curious turn of luck, when the northeaster blew itself out, the cod seemed to seek the little vessel whose master was drifting in one he knew whither or how. The men drew in their fish in silence; the wonted joke was omitted; and every body drew a sigh of relief when at last, in three weeks after the loss of Captain Aleck, the last barrel of salt was wet, and the anchor was hove up for the last time, and all set to a fair wind for home.

And now came the most wretched days for Mulford. In the hurry of fishing, and the anxiety of caring for the vessel, his mind had been too fully occupied to leave space for thought about his brother. But now, with a fair wind to fill the sails, and no labor except to work up his reckoning, he began to think, for the first time, that he was to be the bearer of ill-news—and such ill-news. How should he tell the mother who was living quietly and happily at home, waiting in confidence for her son's return, proudly thinking of him as smartest and best among the young men on her 'shore' or neighborhood? How should he go to Rachel alone—he who had never visited her except in company with Aleck?

And yet it was pleasant to think that now he might visit Rachel for himself. He hated himself for the thought—and yet he thought it. You can not help thinking, that's the mischief of it; and in the midst of the most real sorrow this ugly ray of comfort obtruded itself till poor Mulford, half-distracted, wished the girl at the decease, whose pretty face made him indulge in a thought which was mean, as he felt, and which had no proper place in his grieving heart. So long as Aleck lived Mulford had been content that Rachel should be his sister-in-law; it was not till now it occurred to him that she could be his own wife. Why not? and yet, why? Should he take advantage by his brother's death? Could he ever forgive himself the joy of such a wedding?

and now it was a fair, smooth, chalky, ugly, but very promising field, with ditches run through it, and water ready to cover it. She had spent the enormous sum of four hundred and fifty dollars upon it; and she was scared at the outlay, for whose return she and her partner would have so long to wait. She had thought with dread of the account she would have to give to Aleck—and now she must render this account to Mulford—or perhaps, worse yet, to strangers, executors, lawyers! men who were sure to understand nothing except that a frightful sum of money had been wasted, and no sign of profit appeared.

'Maybe Aleck was picked up?' she at last exclaimed, ran for her bonnet, and set off for the widow Nickerson's to communicate her hopeful doubt. The two old women hugged the sweet thought to their hearts, and watched daily for some news of the lost Captain. But no news came; the first fare men were all in and out again, and no tidings were heard; in Cape Ann no one had seen or heard of a missing boat; the second fare men got home and fitted out for a fall cruise after mackerel. At last it was time to give up Aleck for lost; no hope remained; and when the last banker was hauled up for the winter, Mrs. Nickerson put on black and gave up her boy for lost.

Rachel Rogers, too, was clad in mourning, but underneath the black stuff gown there beat a very contented little heart. So long as the two brothers came courting together she had had no heart in the courtship. While Aleck was near she would have surrendered to him, because he was the older of the two, and came with an air which was that of a man used to have his own way, and to be helped first. Besides he was nearest to that nest-building which, in Cape Cod life, as among the birds, precedes the wedding. But as Mulford and Rachel sat together, talking of the brother lost, she began to find her heart warming to the brother living; and their common sorrow opened the way to a common confidence of love.

When Aleck was given up, Rachel was promised to Mulford; and to Aunt Mehetabel's great satisfaction, the young fellow proved to have great faith in cranberries. He insisted that the plants should be set out that fall yet; and before the pond froze over the path had been flooded. The work was done; and during the winter she rested and was thankful; not only thankful, indeed, but triumphant. She dragged the old captain down to see her work; she boasted in his ears of the bushels of crimson berries which should reward her labors and justify the outlay. She had scarcely patience to wait till spring.

(TO BE CONCLUDED NEXT WEEK.)

PUBLIC NOTICE

I BEG leave to inform the public that I have leased for a term of years J. R. Cameron's GRIST AND FLOURING MILL, Trout River Lines, and by careful management and attention to business would solicit a share of the public patronage.
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