

Correspondence.

Spicy News Items Gathered by Gazette Correspondents.

Johnson.

Jan. 24.—This week was a gay one for Johnston. On the evening of Jan. 19th, the Sewing Circle of this place held their semi-annual sale and also had a bean supper in the public hall at Cody's, and likewise a Band concert.

On the evening of the 20th we were visited by the Minister of Agriculture with a delegation of gentlemen who represented different branches of agriculture, and with them were our two representatives Hon. L. P. Farris and Mr. Carpenter.

It was brought out in the meeting that there were difficulties here that were unknown in Nova Scotia. There was great interest manifested when the question of dairy production was introduced.

White's Cove.

Jan. 28.—Mr. E. J. Wright who has been visiting friends at McDonald's Point for some time arrived home on Thursday.

Howard D. Farris who has been visiting his parents Mr. and Mrs. S. F. Farris returned to Portland Maine this week.

Miss Annie Barnes and sister from McDonald's Point are visiting friends here.

Diphtheria has broken out at Wm. H. Springer's and the daughter of Fred Springer is down with it.

Sidney Stewart who has been laid up with a bad cold is some better.

Mr. and Mrs. Samuel F. Farris left this afternoon for Newcastle to visit friends.

Miss Bertie McLaughlin is dressmaking at W. H. Gunter's.

The daily mail will begin on Tuesday 1st and Mr. G. Farris and Son are the contractors to carry the mail from Station to Jemseg.

Charles Gunter is mail driver from White's Cove and Robertson's Point.

Jan. 31.—The weather has been very cold for the past week. This morning the thermometer registered 30° below zero.

On Wednesday last "Debby" Wm. Fajou's fine trotting mare was taken ill. L. I. Flowers, veterinary surgeon, was summoned and rendered the necessary aid and she is now on the mend.

Debby's record is not exactly known by your correspondents but is in the locality of 2.20.

Reese.

Jan. 26.—This place on the 24th experienced the worst storm of the season about 16 inches of snow falling and in consequence the roads are all blocked and

in a terrible condition.

Miss Nora Branscombe at present is the guest of Mr. and Mrs. James H. Reese.

On the evening of the 25th Miss Maud White and Mrs. I. N. Parker snow shod from the Parsonage at Young's Cove to Mr. J. H. Reese's residence a distance of three miles and a half in one hour and a quarter.

Chipman.

Mr. William Morrison, who has been sick for upwards of six weeks with typhoid fever complicated with pneumonia, we are glad to state is able to be up and about the house again.

This brings us to remark that impure drinking water is one of the favored abodes of this insidious foe which the exceedingly numerous is so diminutive in size as to escape the vigilance of the unwary traveler as he seeks to quench his thirst by copious draughts from the limpid stream.

After a brief period of incubation the patient complains of being unwell and both he and his friends are persuaded that he is taking a heavy cold.

All the domestic remedies are brought into requisition for breaking up the fever that is setting in; but the wily microbe which has become well entrenched in its stronghold holds the fortress, and is not to be routed in that refectory manner.

Even the "Old oaken bucket, the moss covered bucket that hung in the well" which has been immortalized by the poet and endeared to childhood's memory is not the innocent idol painted by the bard; but rather an inviting camping ground for man's worst foes and the ancient bucket no longer considered a household necessity is fast disappearing from usage in country homesteads.

Also all wells sunk in barns where the ground is porous or contiguous to compost heaps and chip yards come under the ban of condemnation for the choicest springs of water may be rendered impure by surface water in rainy seasons finding its way into the exposed and unprotected spring reserved for family use.

Water in a pure state is a great cleanser but for us to derive the best results it must be free from foreign ingredients and contaminating properties.

Mr. Andrew Darrah has received the contract for carrying the tri-weekly mail from Chipman to Upper Gasperaux.

The Mr. Douglas reported in last week's GAZETTE visiting Cambridge is probably entitled to the surname of Wilson as a young man of that name has been off duty here but has returned safe home again.

The cold wave the first of the week wound up the worst snow storm we have had this winter. The roads especially the cross ones were badly blocked but are getting broken out to-day.

Our two councillors have arrived home before the storm set in; but full particulars of the Municipal Council are not yet at hand.

A new minister, recently converted from Methodism, is to preach here tomorrow and a full house is expected.

Jan. 29.—People generally in this section of the country are beginning to be more concerned as to the necessity of insuring a better quality of drinking water than that which satisfied the preceding generation.

Disease is no longer looked upon as a mysterious dispensation of Providence; but as a penalty for the violation of nature's laws and as contamination of water is universally regarded as a fruitful source of disease some of our citizens have commenced to search for a purer supply by boring deep into the ground until the desired vein or basin is reached that will meet all demands.

Such wells have been used in Europe for centuries and are known as Artesian wells, so called from the French provinces of Artois where this mode of well boring was first practised.

There is a well of this kind in Paris, 1925 feet deep and affords four million gallons of water per day; sufficient for the wants of 500,000 people; and another Artesian well at Aire has continued to flow steadily to the height of eleven feet above the surface of the ground for more than a century.

We have not attained to such magnificent results in this province but we consider ourselves fortunate when we get an overflow and are satisfied if we can raise an abundance by the aid of a pump.

Several of our neighbors here have been prospecting for water by boring during the past few months with varying results but lack of perseverance seems to be the chief cause of failure.

Mr. Stanley J. Winslow of Kent county has bored this winter on Mr. John Briggs' farm and the well which is 160 feet deep yields a great supply of water and works eminently satisfactory.

Mr. Winslow is now boring at Briggs' Corner for Mr. Lloyd and has a number of like contracts on hand in the same vicinity.

To-day is the last day for Mr. James Wiggins for carrying the mails from the Narrows to Chipman.

Mr. Wiggins has been very punctual in his engagements during the many years past in which he held the position as mail driver.

Next Tuesday the mail will be conveyed by train to Chipman station daily, but the people not living in the immediate vicinity will not be much better off than before and the populous districts like those of Briggs Corner and the Forks will not rest satisfied until they have the benefit of a daily mail.

Rev. Mr. Gross occupied the pulpit of the Baptist church here last Sabbath and tomorrow Rev. Mr. McIntyre exchanges

pulpits with Rev. Mr. Snell of Havelock. Mr. Snell was a student of the Rev. C. Spurgeon of London.

This morning the mercury was 40° below zero.

MOTHER EARTH.

Great! It is on the warm earth to lie While purple shadows o'er the far hills Watching the light-shod wind bear down the grass, Watching the clouds—the pilgrims of the sky. The breath comes sweet from fields of melilot, And now the soul of Siegfried's magic note Rings full and clear from a woad thrush's And life's sad stress and burden are forgot, O, mother, genetic mother! When I shall have lived my little human space So take me to your nuptial lap again And spread your homely apron o'er my face.

As sleep, not dying, to my thought it seems, With dreamless waking in the dream of dreams. —Marguerite Merington.

WOMAN'S PROGRESS IN JAPAN.

The Emperor and the Empress Both Believers in Modern Ideas. At last the women of Japan are beginning to show signs of progress. The Emperor himself is interested in their advancement. He hopes in time that they will attain the same position enjoyed by the women of the West.

The Empress of Japan, Fusako, is by no means kept in the background by her husband. She shares his throne, and is consulted upon matters of national importance. More than this, she presides at his table, and this is an honor accorded only to her co-consort.

The number of pigs kept by the colliers and artisans of the North of England is a live animal of some sort, and though dogs, guinea pigs, cage birds, and hound-dogs are attractive, his "fancy animal" is usually a pig.

Snail farming forms a peculiar branch of agricultural industry in France and other countries, and the consumption of them in France is very large. Edible snails vary greatly in size, the largest white ones are the real escargot, but this term is usually employed to designate all edible snails adapted to table purposes.

At the out-station of H—, Mr. J. S— was on the occasion in January when the station on leave and his place was supplied by a minister not so conversant with church matters. Accordingly, having received notice of the chaplain's intended visit, he ordered his bearer (a very unceremonious person, as it turned out) to prepare the church for the pastor's arrival.

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"It is the sea which ennobles everything. Between the line and the surf there was but the ancient foreshore, covered with prickly tamarisks and manure-colored heath, with yellow sand conspicuous here and there.

When ladies wore their "topknots" ridiculously high it occurred to Rowland Hill to admonish them from the pulpit, and he did it by means of the words, "Topknot, come down," which he evolved from Matthew xxiv, 17. "Let him which is on the housetop come down."

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The busiest time on the Atlantic cable is between the hours of 10 and 12 in the forenoon, during that time on an average about 900 messages pass over the cable each way.

WAITING FOR SOMETHING TO HAPPEN.

He grubbed away on a patch of ground, "Waiting for something to happen." Year after year the same old round, "Waiting for something to happen." The moments he had to spare he spent In "waiting for something to happen." His hair grew gray, his shoulders bent, But he grubbed and he loafed, and was content To "wait for something to happen."

REVIVED MEMORY.

When We Grow Old We Recall the Things of Long Ago.

About seventy-five years ago, upon a rainy day, a small boy who had reached the mature age of 6 was sitting with his mamma and bemoaning the state of the weather and accompanying absence of novel entertainment.

The years went on. The gentle young mother went out into the great unknown to find the light of her life that shone in "papa's eyes," and the century and the boy having been young together, grew old in company, too.

Snail Raising.

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A Sparrow's Gratitude to a Boy.

It is a rare occurrence for animals in a wild state to select man for a companion and friend, yet well-authenticated instances when this has been done are a matter of record.

Wanted an Heirloom.

"I dess," said Maud, watching a black and brown caterpillar in the path, "that caterpillar dot burnt on before he dot done." —Judge.

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