

Correspondence.

Spicy News Items Gathered by Gazette Correspondents.

Chipman.

Feb. 25.—Hugh Peters, an old resident of the Harley road, dropped dead in his home last Sunday morning. Mr. Peters, who moved from St. John some 35 years ago, was in failing health for some time past and is supposed to have died from heart failure. The deceased, who was upwards of 70 years of age, leaves an aged widow. His remains were interred in the Catholic cemetery.

Coleman Fraser, son of Angus Fraser of Briggs Corner, while cutting fire wood at the door inflicted a deep gash in the side of his instep which required several stitches as a preliminary to dressing the wound.

Pat McNally, who had to return from Timothy Harrington's camp on Coal Creek on account of a large abscess extending from his jaw to his neck is able to officiate again as cook. His son James is doing some tall chopping this winter—getting ready his 75 logs a day for the yard. His claim to be easily the champion chopper of Coal Creek is not disputed in that region. He is eager to measure blades with any chopper on Salmon river or its tributaries and is willing to try his skill with the best axe-man in Queens. He thinks he will be in good shape after this winter's operations are adjusted. He and his brother Frank for two months and a half have been cutting logs at 5 and 6 cents a stick and beside paying the cook and the wages of the hired man out of the proceeds, by way of a rider they have to help off with the yards for the rest of the winter—all for the foresaid 5 cents a stick. By this whittening process they expect to be sharp enough to hew down the huge proportions of the god of mammoth whose votaries which grinds the face of the poor and needy and thus lesson in some small degree that inordinate greed and love of gain which generally follows in the wake of the lumber business.

The Central railroad has been badly blockaded with snow this week. No mail since Monday has arrived here and it is doubtful if the train will reach Chipman today. Since the change of the mails by train, the people of Briggs Corner and Gaspereaux receive the QUEENS COUNTY GAZETTE a day later than before, as they were not considered worthy of a daily mail although the train comes within a few miles of those enterprising villages. These places are competing with Chipman village for the trade of this section and the proper authorities should see that this mail obstacle under which the former labor should be immediately remedied by the service of a daily mail. If not, the people will know the reason why.

The many friends of Deacon McGregor were pleased to learn that he is doing well in Boston and that Aunt Rachel's health has been benefited by the change of climate. "Try again" has been a useful maxim in the Deacon's case but his friends' fortitude has been equal to the emergency and matters are again assuming a settled condition in his native home.

The friends of Mrs. Henry Prince of Hardwood Ridge are pleased to learn that she is recovering from her recent severe attack of sickness. Her mother-in-law, Mrs. Prince from St. John, carefully nursed the invalid through the trying ordeal of a desperate case which at one time gave but little promise of recovery.

George Washington's natal day was last Tuesday. He was not only the first President of the United States, but was first in war, first in peace, and first in the hearts of his countrymen.

On the same day John Gutenberg died 430 years ago. He is credited with being the founder of the art of printing which is the greatest of all human inventions.

Feb. 28.—The Central line is open again to Norton. The train that went out last Tuesday did not get back to Chipman till Saturday evening, being five days in making the round trip. The snow was so densely packed together that the engine left the track and ran up on the bank of snow and obstructed the track. To add to the difficulty the snow plow was broken in twain and the two halves fell, over one, on either side of the track completely demolished.

The wrecked snow plow was set on fire as being the easiest way of getting rid of the obstruction and the train hands finally succeeded in getting the derailed engine upon the track once more to finish their tedious journey homeward.

On Friday Mr. Andrew Darrah the popular mail carrier drove down from Chipman 12 miles to Cumberland Bay to get the mail from the train delayed by the snow blockade. Mr. Darrah returned with the four days' mail matter which had accumulated during the blockade and had the satisfaction of going to Upper Gaspereaux before night and serving every post office along the way to the great pleasure of his many friends.

Mr. G. G. King is home from Ottawa. Many are the surmises respecting two spicy articles by "Up To Date" and "Young Hopeful" in recent issues of GAZETTE. Without expression of opinion pro or con, the GAZETTE may state that its regular correspondent here is not the author of either.

Central Burton.

Feb. 23.—We have had another heavy fall of snow in this section making about

four feet in the woods.

Mr. George Shanks of Shirley while chopping wood for Mr. Asa Burpee had the misfortune to get his leg badly jammed by a tree. He is laid up at present.

Mr and Mrs. Ettenger and family of Shirley are selling out and are about to move to Florida U. S. A. in a short time.

Messrs. Gilbert Smith and Michael Monahan, of Burton, are doing a large stroke of lumbering on Black Brook, they are hauling with two teams.

Times are very quiet here at present, the snow is very deep on the roads and the hauling is bad.

William Dillon is getting out cordwood and brackets for Emery Sewell.

Herbert Lindsay is hauling wood for Parker Glasier for his tug boats.

James McFadgen is also getting out wood for Mr. Glasier.

Fred Allen, of Swan Creek passed through here on Tuesday on his way home from the lumber woods.

Parish of Brunswick.

Since my last letter there has been some of the worst and most severe snow blizzards ever known in New Brunswick. Also some weather so severe that the so called cold Friday would be considered quite mild, the coldest day being about 12° colder than cold Friday, but we are now enjoying beautiful weather. The blow since last Sunday has completely blocked the roads and travelling is almost suspended. Our mail for Thursday did not come on account of bad roads.

Mr. Samuel Martin of Thornes Brook, Kings Co., has his teams hauling spiling to Canaan River at the Forks. He hauls a distance of about 7 miles.

Mr. H. Ryder of this place also has his team hauling spiling on the same road.

Messrs. Kenneth McKenzie and Jacob Staves, of Elgin, Albert Co., passed through this place. Mr. McKenzie is not a stranger to this place having visited it before.

A party from Cole's Island passed this place some two weeks ago on their way to the Big lakes, Forks stream with nets to catch fish, out of the lake, of which there is an abundance, but how they expect to catch fish and their nets hanging up in a lumber camp is a mystery to me. They also had their snowshoes so I have been informed.

Mr. David Ryder passed through this place last week what course or destination he was bound for no one can tell.

Mr. Regan of Havelock is putting the lumber on the ground for the new school house at Canaan Forks.

There has been a great of sickness here this winter and on account of this this church had to refuse the quarterly meeting which was appointed to be held here in March.

Mr. Alfred Humphrey has been sick all winter and is still failing, and no hopes are entertained for his recovery.

Some time ago the neighbors turned out at a wood frolic of Mr. Humphrey's and got him up a year's fuel.

Mr. Joseph Keith, son of Deacon Lewis Keith, is home on a visit. His many friends are pleased to see him.

Mr. Lockett is teaching school in Dis. No. 1; Miss Northrup in No. 2 and No. 3 has no school.

Mr. John Moser is busily engaged this winter mounting birds and hawks. He is quite an expert at the business.

The snow is quite deep enough for good hunting and some of the sports of the place would like to break on the traces but the vigilant eye of S. E. McDonald, game warden, keeps them in bounds.

Now that our Legislature is in session would it not be a good plan to amend the game laws so as to give us a chance to hunt a short time when we have a winter like this, say a week or ten days when the snow is the deepest.

The Klondike fever has reached here and some of our inhabitants are talking of starting in the spring, among them are Messrs. David Corey and Herbert Alward. Our weekly papers publish hardly anything else and now that the government is about building a railway to the Klondike we do not expect to see anything else in the papers for some time. We all like to be kept informed on the public questions of the day but I think it is going too far when the public press makes a hobby of any one question and rids it to death. We are glad to know that the QUEENS COUNTY GAZETTE is not among the number. The GAZETTE is highly prized by the people in this place as a news paper. No doubt there is plenty of gold in Alaska but where one gets a fortune in going 99 lose all they have in getting there, as it costs quite a fortune to go. It is about time to cry a halt for doubtless numbers who start never reach their destination. We are sorry to lose Messrs. Corey and Alward and intend to do all we can to discourage them from going.

Brookvale.

March 1.—We have been enjoying very mild weather for the past week. Although rendered disagreeable by the alternate rain and snow squalls, yet the rain with the warm weather has settled the snow, thus assisting the lumbermen in their operations.

The ice in the river is already beginning to weaken on the rapids, a true indication of the approach of spring; but on the dead water it is sufficient to permit of travelling for some time yet.

Your correspondent is much pleased to see the interest being manifested by the

Good Roads' Association, and sincerely hopes that every assistance will be given them in order to make their efforts a success, for it is high time that interest in this matter was taken by some one, and the handful of suffering humanity in this locality will be pleased to welcome anything in the line of good roads. Having been deprived of that privilege for so long a time, so long in fact, that we had begun to feel that the days of our forefathers were fast upon us when we would be compelled to follow the course of the stream on horseback or else take the canoe, in fact some more timorous ones began to despair. But since the press informed us that an organization was on foot for the improvement of the roads, the weekly papers have been watched and every item devoured that pertained to that subject; and already one can notice an improvement in the people here, in the expression of countenance, in ambition and many other ways for we feel confident from our acquaintance with some of the principal members, and their perseverance, that it will prove successful. Therefore we will with patience await the effects of its power in this locality.

Messrs. Sidney Perry and W. Carpenter who have spent the greater part of the winter trapping, returned home on Saturday, bringing with them a beautiful mink skin as the result of their labors.

Young's Cove.

Feb. 27.—On account of the recent heavy storm we have had only two mails this week. The trains on the Central Railway were blocked.

Service in St. Luke's church this morning was well attended despite the nasty snow storm which prevailed. Although suffering from a severe cold the Rector preached an excellent sermon.

Miss Allie Wiggins and Miss Nellie Gale assisted by Messrs. Charles and Budd Gale and Ed. Snodgrass removed the beautiful Christmas decorations in St. Luke's church on Saturday—it being now the holy season of Lent.

Mr. E. C. Lockett is storing a large quantity of ice for summer use. He has engaged Mr. Mark Cole and Mr. Burnham Maiston to cut the ice and Mr. Alex. Gale is hauling it.

Miss Martha Fowler of Chipman is visiting her sister Mrs. Gale.

Mr. Geo. Brannen, the popular steward of the Star, May Queen and his genial friend Mr. Thos. Black of St. John passed through here recently. They were the guests of Mr. W. H. Gale.

Mrs. Murray Starkey has been spending a few days here with friends. She was the guest of Mr. and Mrs. J. E. McLean.

Mr. John M. Snodgrass and Mr. Budd Gale were the guests of Mr. and Mrs. Christopher Elliott on Friday.

Miss Effie Wiggins is at Mrs. Howard Elkins, Coal Creek assisting Miss Maud Lipsitt in the care of her mother who has been severely ill during the past four weeks. Mrs. Lipsitt's many friends will be pleased to hear she is now recovering.

An Essay on Alcohol.

Many kinds of fruit such as grapes, cherry, apples and others contain a quantity of sweetened water or juice being rendered sweet by the amount of sugar they contain.

The grape juice for example can be changed into alcohol. When the juice is drawn off and allowed to stand in a warm place, bubbles soon begin to rise and cover the top of it with froth. It is turning into alcohol and carbonic acid gas that rises in the liquid and goes off in the air. The alcohol is a thin liquid which mixed with water remains in the grape juice, so we see the sugar has changed to alcohol. Cider, a drink formed from the juice of apples, contains at first a small quantity of alcohol but get stronger after being allowed to stand for some time. It has been called the "devil's kindling wood," as many people drink it thinking it harmless.

Then again much liquor is made from grain, contains a large amount of starch, this is artificially changed to sugar, then the sugar is changed to alcohol. All liquor contain more or less alcohol, and by distilling wine, cider, etc., are made to contain much more. Alcohol looks like water, it is a thin, colourless liquid, lighter than water and more easily evaporated, and boiling makes it into a vapour at a lower temperature than water. It burns with a blue flame producing much heat but little light. As I have stated it looks like water but differs very much. The Bible tells us that a cup of cold water given in the Lord's name to a disciple shall not lose its reward, while it also says, woe unto him who putteth the glass to his neighbor's lips. The day schools are doing much important temperance work which is so needful to put down this fearful enemy alcohol. We are glad to say the Board of Education has deemed it necessary that a part of the time should be spent in the school room dealing with this that is doing and has done so much to ruin our fellow creatures. Sabbath schools and all temperance organizations are also doing a vast work, yet there remains much to be done. The boys and girls that fill the school rooms today will be the men and women of our province, and may we ever strive to rid our country of the King Alcohol.

Thanking you, Mr. Editor for the privilege, I am,

Yours, etc.,
MILLIE WIGGINS.
Young's Cove.

Johnson.

I saw a letter in the GAZETTE of February 19th from Chicago, written by one of our Queens Co. boys, hailing from Thornetown on the banks of the Washademoak. I thought a short sketch of that place might be interesting to the readers of the GAZETTE. The name Thornetown originated from the following circumstance, one Malancton Thorne, a Loyalist, who settled on the south bank of the Washademoak about eighteen miles from its mouth. Being a fertile track of upland and well situated for a new settlement, his four sons settled in the same locality, and from that the name Thornetown was derived, and the settlement is known by that name yet, although there is no town neither any compact village, only a farming locality. The hand of time has wrought marked changes, whereas once it was a compact settlement of Thornes, now there is not one person of that name living in that part of the settlement I am about to describe. I will confine my remarks to a small portion of the Washademoak, commencing at John Armstrong's and ending at Long Creek, including both sides of the river. First the Central R. R. runs through this section, having stopping places on both sides of the river, and giving us a daily mail. In summer we are served with steam boat accommodations three trips per week. We have two large steam saw

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