

Correspondence.

Spicy News Items Gathered by Gazette Correspondents.

Cumberland Point.

Feb. 12.—The weather for the past week has been quite moderate and we are now enjoying a fine rain.

There was a special meeting held at the residence of Mr. James H. Reece on the 8th inst. for the purpose of discussing mail matters. There was quite a number present. Mr. Willard Colwell was chairman.

Mr. Beresford Babington, who is carrying on an extensive business, at lumbering, in Campbell Settlement, has engaged Mr. Rufus Phillips and his team to help him haul off the yards.

There is talk of Mr. Willard Colwell giving a portion of land off his farm for a burying ground.

Messrs. Howard and Robert Phillips, have been away for the past few days on a pleasure excursion, and express themselves as being well pleased with their trip.

Messrs. D. H. and W. S. Reece intend hauling coal from Newcastle in the near future, to run their factory during the summer.

Mr. David Phillips who carries Her Majesty's mail in this place is much liked and his work has proved satisfactory to all.

We receive only one mail bag here now as Mr. Fairweather keeps distribution office and makes up the mail bag for the office at Reece.

Lower Salmon Creek.

Feb. 12.—We have had several snowstorms which have made the time seem very dull but we are in hopes that the roughest of the winter is now over.

Miss Mary A. Baird left here this week for Peticodiac, where she intends spending a few weeks.

Mrs. John Harper and Mrs. Wm. Stevens were the guests of Mrs. Henry Fowler on Thursday last.

Owing to the recent snowstorm Mary I. Fowler, teacher of Hardwood Ridge, was compelled to snowshoe from home to her school a distance of about five miles.

Miss Ida McNeil is visiting relatives at Red Bank.

The children of Mrs. G. Wilson and Mrs. C. Baird have been very sick with chickenpox but are now convalescent.

Highfield.

Feb. 14.—This last week the weather here has been delightful. The snow that had piled up four feet is going down very rapidly under the south wind and warm sun.

The school in this place under the careful management of Mr. B. Parker is making good progress.

The Rev. C. A. S. Warneford last Sunday night preached an able sermon. He holds service in St. John's church here every Sunday.

We are sorry to have to record the death of Mrs. T. A. Muir, which took place Friday, Feb. 4th. She had been sick since last May with consumption, and was a great sufferer, but bore it all with Christian resignation. A large concourse of sorrowing friends and neighbors followed here to her last resting place.

There has been several meetings here to arrange for building a cheese factory in this place.

Mr. T. H. Pearson has lately moved into his new and commodious house. Mr. Arthur Vradenburgh has painted the outside of his house and it now presents a fine appearance. Both these houses were built by Mr. Arthur Vradenburgh and they reflect great credit on his skill as a builder and workman.

Our enterprising merchant, Mr. D. J. Hamilton, is doing a rushing business. He purposes building a store and dwelling house in the spring. Rumor has it that he intends taking a female partner as soon as they are completed.

Our mail service is giving general satisfaction. We have now three mails a week from Annadale.

David M. Pearson, Government surveyor and seizing officer has just returned from a visit to the head of Millstream in connection with his business, and reports a very small cut of lumber in that vicinity. He starts for Canaan on the 16th inst.

Mr. Medley Pearson of this place is breaking his Hackney colt. It bids fair to become a very valuable animal.

Mr. Robert Ward in moving our teacher over from Young's Cove Station is said to have driven one mile and a half below the station before he found out his mistake.

Brookvale.

Feb. 8th.—Owing to the heavy snow storms of late quite a number have come out of the woods and report the snow so deep that it is almost impossible to get through it with teams and in many places they have to shovel their roads.

Mr. Thos. Fowle arrived home on Sunday looking hale and hearty, and was warmly welcomed by his old associates who were much pleased to meet him after so long an absence.

We are informed that Captain Jocelyn has received the Secretaryship under Tammany's Boss, at Cole's Island and the Captain's many friends congratulate him on his success.

It is reported that our local game ward-

en has appointed a special for the protection of partridges in this place, which corrects a dark spot on the record.

Snow shoeing is by some pronounced a pleasure but to him who by special business is compelled to take a ten mile trip and return after a week's work is labor to say the least; and the expression on the face of one who lately performed the feat implied, plainly said: Its my last, next time I'll take the grey.

Narrows.

Feb. 15th.—Queens Own Lodge is in a very flourishing condition. Last night the following officers were installed:

George Robinson,..... C. T.
Gertie Robinson,..... V. T.
Clara Robinson,..... R. S.
Georgia Barnes,..... A. S.
Rebecca Robinson,..... F. S.
Mrs. C. W. Pearce,..... Treas.
Harry Smith,..... Chap.
Mamie Cox,..... S. J. T.
Amos Perry,..... M.
Hersey Wilson,..... D. M.
Frank McArthur,..... G.
Dr. McDonald,..... Sent.
T. C. McLean,..... P. C. T.

The Credit System was brought to a close. Mamie Cox's side won with a majority of thirty-nine marks. The opposition was led by Gertie Robinson. The winners are expecting a grand treat.

The many friends of Mrs. W. M. Taylor are glad to know that she is able to be out again.

Miss Lucy Belyea and Miss Olive Mott are visiting at the Narrows.

Mrs. Samuel White is very low and very little hope is entertained for her recovery.

Scotchtown.

Feb. 11.—E. Slocum, Esq., of the St. John City Market, paid a visit to the farmers of this place last week and bought a large quantity of beef, poultry, butter, eggs, etc.

Messrs. Joseph Denton and W. W. Marshall started for St. John on the 8th inst., with a heavy load of meat, etc.

That part of your correspondence from Douglas Harbor, in your issue of the 2nd inst., which refers to a strange animal, is somewhat of a humorous nature. Your reporter of that place generally writes pretty well, and gives a correct account of the little happenings there, but it would seem from his last, that he is inclined to be too facetious altogether. Had he not indulged in his own merriment, to such an alarming extent as to become completely intoxicated, and were it not that it would be extremely unfair to leave the minds of the public in the state of wonderment, into which they must have been thrown by his amazing account of a strange animal, we would certainly refrain from exposing his harmless inuendo. But, under the existing circumstances, and in justice to all who are interested in the FAUNA of our country, your correspondent feels it to be a duty incumbent on him, to explain that the animal, about which so much has been said, is a very respectable member of the GENUS HOMO—that he is "indigenous to this country"—that his voice has, until very recently, been regularly heard in the choir here, and that he has a very nice overcoat made of the fur of the Australian wombat. (See Solomon's song, 8th chap. and the latter part of the 6th verse.) The fact that I am correct in using the male gender in referring to this matter, completely destroys the grandest point in the reporter's inuendo; for the "most peculiar characteristic of the marsupialia" belongs only to the females of that genus. Thus hath the mighty fabric, built out of the versatile brain of the reporter, fallen beneath the invincible arm of Truth.

Young's Cove Station.

Feb. 1.—Mr. C. B. Parker and Alfred West have been obliged to send their men home from the woods the depth of the snow hindering lumbering operations. These men report the depth of snow in the Burnt Woods to be from 4 feet to 4 1/2 feet, and in the Green Woods about 3 1/2 feet.

Mr. L. D. Farris reports a large mail every day in the new Post Office at Young's Cove Station.

Mr. Lemuel Farris gets the mail through to Jemseg from Young's Cove Station on time in spite of the heavy snow. He is a manager.

A farmer reports that the bridge at Beaches swings to and fro, and up and down like a ship in a heavy sea. He was sea sick before he got over it.

An unknown driving a bay horse was seen to pass Young's Cove Station a few days ago. The horse had a knot in its tail. He was supposed to have come from Klondike to get clear of the snow. But he didn't!

Mr. Thos. Hughes is getting along finely in driving the daily mail from the Station to Coles Island.

The roads in Spring, Summer, Autumn and Winter between Cole's Island and Station are in a wretched state, and I am advised that merchants are obliged to order their goods sent to the stations on the Central Railway other than Young's Cove Station, because of the difficulty of hauling them over this piece of road.

Patterson Settlement.

Feb. 10.—Mr. D. L. Kelly of Duluth, Minnesota, and his sister, Mrs. Killoren and her daughter Bernice, of Lynn, Mass., have been visiting relatives here. Mr. Kelly, who is a son of Mr. T. H. Kelly of Blissville, Sunbury county went

West about 18 years ago to seek his fortune, and his friends are glad to know that he has been very successful. He has been engaged in lumbering, mining and real estate business. He carried on mining to some extent in Rainy Lake and La Siene River District, being the first man to open up a mining claim in that region. As the attention of men engaged in mining has turned to the Klondike, Mr. Kelly has concluded to join the ranks and is to start with a party for the Klondike about the last of February. Mr. Kelly is an enterprising young man and will no doubt be successful.

The dread monster "lagrippe" has been laying hold of some of the people in this vicinity. Mr. Martin Allen and his wife are among those who have been severely attacked.

Some of the young men who have been working in the lumber woods in Maine, have returned home. They report the snow as being five feet deep.

Miss Louisa Kelly of Blissville is visiting her sister Mrs. T. B. Roberts of this place.

The S. School in connection with the F. C. Baptist church here, has organized a Home Department.

Lawfield.

The people of Lawfield were very glad to see their old friend Mr. Lingley on Sunday. He held a very interesting service in the school house. The only drawback was the icy roads and if it had not been for the gallantry of a few young men that came quite a distance, the young ladies would have had quite a hard time to get home.

We are glad to see our neighbor George McKay out again. He has had a severe winter of it. Having had his leg broke.

Mr. William Law's family have been afflicted with the mumps this winter, but we are glad to hear that they are all well again.

We miss our pleasant neighbor Mr. George Allen very much this winter as he makes his home in Upper Gagetown.

The Messrs. Appleby's are talking of going to the Klondyke in the Spring.

The young people are glad to hear that Mr. William Graham is going to have a sawing frolic some of these days. They are expecting a big dance.

Mr. William Law has bought a handsome bay colt from his brother Thomas Law. He would like to get a mate for it.

The Range.

On account of the storm of the 2nd inst., the members of the Queens East County Lodge were unable to meet and hold their annual meeting at Newcastle, but met on Saturday, the 12th in the Orange Hall of this place. A short but interesting session was held, the officers for the ensuing year were elected and some important business transacted. The following is a list of the new officers elected:

Dr. T. J. O. Earle,..... W. M.
George Chase,..... D. M.
G. P. Barton,..... Chap.
P. Barton,..... R. S.
J. D. Barton,..... F. S.
A. F. McVicar,..... Treas.
S. C. Fraser,..... Lect.
Reuben Chase,..... Dept. Lect.
George Munroe,..... D. of C.

At the close of the meeting the members repaired to the residence of Mr. George Snell where they partook of a bountiful repast. Each and everyone did ample justice to the good things set before them, after which a hearty vote of thanks was extended to the ladies through whose efforts they had fared so well. At twelve o'clock the crowd with many a hand shake and the exchanging of many good wishes separated to return to their different homes.

J. L. Barton, general merchant of this place, lost a valuable horse a few days ago. The cause of its death is unknown. It was lively until a day before it died when it laid down, refused to eat and laid there until it died.

We are having good times here now. Everything seems to be moving along smoothly and without a hitch. Why! we have one mail a week now where we used only to have three, and in the event of a big storm we get that mail a week later.

The many friends of Andrew Barton will be pleased to hear that he is fast recovering from his late illness.

On Friday and Saturday last, a number of the people turned out at the earnest invitation of our teacher, Miss Small, and the inside of the school house was given a thorough overhauling. The ceiling was whitewashed, the walls newly papered, new blinds were put up to the windows, fresh paint was applied to the desks, and fresh water and soap to the floor. This, together with the addition of two new maps, gives the schoolroom a very pleasing appearance. Much credit is due Miss Small as she was instrumental in bringing about the above improvements.

Hampstead.

Feb. 21.—I. S. Vanwart and W. J. Cheyne put in their stock of ice on Monday. The ice is remarkably good being about 18 inches thick.

On Wednesday, B. S. Palmer moved the building from below Thompson's wharf to his place, where he uses it as a granary.

Mr. and Mrs. C. A. Golding of Cedar Cottage hotel are receiving congratulations on the arrival of twins.

Mr. Asa Slipp is busily engaged in hauling cordwood which he purposes

sending to St. John in the early spring. Arthur Vanwart of the "Hill" has been laid up with la grippe.

Mr. and the Misses Ross gave a ball at their residence on Thursday evening. A large number were present among whom were several from Evandale, Oak Point, Brown's Flat, Kingston, Queenstown and Wickham. A very pleasant evening was spent.

Mr. and Mrs. Geo. R. Carroll's home was made glad on the arrival of a daughter on Feb. 14th.

Chipman.

Feb. 18.—Ash Wednesday, the first day of lent was ushered in with a copious sprinkling of snow flakes which came whirling from the north east. The pure white snow was in beautiful contrast to the ancient custom introduced by Gregory the Great of sprinkling ashes upon the head of the penitent who presented himself for penance in those days.

Lent, the harbinger of spring has more particular reference to the forty days fast observed by certain churches as a reminder that the "Bridegroom was taken away"—hence it is regarded as a special season of penitence and self denial by a large portion of the Christian world. Public amusements, especially stage plays are therefore prohibited. The celebration of religious feasts, birthdays and marriages are held to be unsuitable. Dancing and other worldly practises are expected to give way to almsgiving and deeds of charity by the rules of the Greek, Episcopal, and R. C. churches. We learn from Stevens history of Methodism that even Whitefield during the forty days of lent, ate nothing but coarse bread and sage tea except on Saturday and Sunday.

Under the guise of scripture authority the Church of England service requires its clergy on Ash Wednesday to pronounce a series of curses against impenitent sinners; but the newer dispensation "Bless and curse not" is gaining the ascendancy, as we find that in the American rituals these comminations are expunged.

Some of the great lumber kings of the province are said to have risen from very small beginnings. We have men of ability today living in our midst, who have steadily forged ahead and overcome every obstacle that stood between them and success.

As an instance of what a young man of ambition may accomplish may be cited the case of a successful lumberman who is this winter engaged on his own account in an extensive scale in lumbering on Pleasant Brook one of the tributaries of the Gaspe river. Some years ago the hero of our sketch came to live not far from the scene of his winters operations. He was then a poor man without friends or money; but he was possessed of a robust body and a pair of brawny arms which formed the best safeguard against adversity in his wilderness home. His rude hut consisted of small logs quickly thrown together into the semblance of dwelling, without the aid of broad axe or carpenter's plane. The floor being carpeted by nature's best asphaltum required no labor in scrubbing and the green branches of the giant forest sufficed for a downy bed for this son of toil to rest his weary frame at night. This primitive hut was able to defy the wildest hurricane of those days for it was well banked with earth two feet in thickness from the ground to the eaves and the roof in like manner was covered to the ridge-pole with the same material as the sides. As spring set in the earthen covering was removed from the roof to save the structure from collapsing and the bark roof was kept in place by a plentiful supply of rocks that answered in place of nails.

All this is much changed today as a more modern structure affords shelter for our thrifty neighbor and his family who are progressing so well this winter.

Our correspondent is indebted to a friend in Boston for late papers from the Hub. They contain accounts of the late fire when 7 firemen nobly sacrificed their lives and 5 others were seriously injured in the discharge of duty.

Rev. Dr. Lorrimer of Trenton Temple paid a glowing tribute to the dead heroes and at the close several hundred dollars was collected for the bereft families.

GOOD SNOW-SHOEING.—A few days ago Miss Dorcas Burpee of Burton started out on a tramp of four miles on snowshoes and covered the distance in an hour. This would indicate that while each generation may be growing wiser it is not growing weaker.

Hibernia.

Feb. 21.—We have been enjoying the most beautiful weather that could be hoped for this season of the year and with it came some of our young men who sought their abode last autumn in the lumber woods. Among those returned are S. P. Davis, Wesley Gardiner, H. Brown, Fred Hamilton and Fred Flaglor.

John DeLong of Otnabog has recovered under the skilful treatment of Dr. Caswell.

Mrs. Frank Woods of Armstrong's Corner is visiting friends and relatives here. We are well pleased to see her looking so well. Mrs. Woods expects to remain here about a month.

Sylvester Rathburn of Brownstown started for your town on Saturday of last week on a business trip.

John Davis passed through Hibernia on Friday, en route to Gagetown.

Rev. C. B. Lewis preached an able sermon on Sunday from Philippians 1st and 23verses. He and Rev. G. W. Foster exchanged pulpits on that day.

Blown Up.

NEW YORK, Feb. 16.—A despatch from Havana, Cuba, on Tuesday evening said: At a quarter of 10 o'clock this evening a terrible explosion took place on board the U. S. cruiser Maine in Havana harbor. Many were killed or wounded. All the boats of the Spanish cruiser Alfonso XII, are assisting. As yet the cause of the explosion is not apparent. The wounded sailors of the Maine are unable to explain it. It is believed that the cruiser is totally destroyed. The explosion shook the whole city. The windows were broken in all the houses. The correspondent of the Associated Press says he has conversed with several of the wounded sailors and understands from them that the explosion took place while they were asleep, so that they can give no particulars as to the cause.

About two hundred of the sailors and two officers were either killed or drowned. A number of divers are at present working at the wreck trying to ascertain whether the explosion occurred from outside or inside the vessel.

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