

CORRESPONDENCE.

Andover.

FEB. 19.—Since last heard from, several storms have visited us, but the weather has been beautiful for the past few days. Sunday especially was like a day in May. Quite a number were out driving. The roads are for the most part fair, but in some places bad drifts are reported.

Travelling on the C. P. R., which for some time past has been at a very low ebb, is reviving. There is a large number of commercial men in town.

A travelling dentist is visiting us just now, who of course extracts teeth without pain. Aided by a small company, he also puts up a comic show each night in the hall. Dr. Parker seems to understand his business, and, judging by the number who call upon him, is just the person the people have been looking for.

Last Friday night a dance got up by the young folk took place in the Temperance hall. Quite a number were present and thoroughly enjoyed themselves.

Mr. Farrell, agent for Indian affairs, is in town. People are getting in their stores of ice for summer use. There are very few mills here and sawdust for packing purposes is at a premium.

Hartland.

FEB. 18.—Hartland is getting on well with its new band. Last week \$112.00 had been subscribed, and \$175.00 was wanted. It was decided to purchase the instruments from the Carleton Cornet Band, which seemed to meet the views of a majority of the fifteen bandmen. A meeting of those interested in the band was held on Thursday evening last, Dr. Estey presiding. There was a good attendance and everyone who spoke strongly favored the new departure. A resolution was put and carried that each of the bandmen contribute two dollars towards making up the balance of the money needed.

R. W. Richardson is about to build a roomy and snug tenement house, near the railway station.

The benefit concert in Burt's hall, on Monday evening, for Miss Annie Shaw, was a good success. The following are the names of the ladies and gentlemen who took part: Miss Stephens, Mrs. J. T. G. Carr, Mrs. W. T. Kerr, Miss Tracy, Mrs. F. A. Good, Mrs. Shaw, Miss Laura Watson, Mrs. W. D. Keith, Miss Cassie Thornton, Mrs. Benson, Mrs. McFarlane, Miss Sharp, Misses Etta Thistle, Dora Thornton, Clara Matheson, Maud Cox, Sadie Currie, and Ethel Peoples; Messrs. Dr. Estey, Arthur Estabrooks, Edward Morgan, G. W. Cox and H. P. Kerr; A. McFarlane, W. Tracey and H. Brown. The program was well carried out, and \$32 were realized from the affair. Several of the pieces in the programme were supplied by Mrs. W. T. Kerr, who has taken a great deal of pains with the musical education of the young people while she has been in Hartland.

Good Corner.

FEB. 16.—Hugh London, who has been sick for the past eight weeks, is still in a critical condition. He is attended by Dr. McRae.

The Women's Aid Society held their first meeting in the Bloomfield church, Thursday afternoon. Miss Clara Gray is visiting friends in Waterville.

The farmers have had to stop hauling their hay and wood on account of the recent storms.

Miss May Peterson, Tracey's Mills, spent last week with her sister, Mrs. J. A. Good.

Miss Jennie Clare, Woodstock, is the guest of Mrs. J. A. Good.

While Rev. Joseph Cahill was crossing a lumber road on his way to Bloomfield, on Thursday, he had his punn badly broken by coming in contact with a tree.

Mrs. Willard Gray has gone to Woodstock to spend a few days with her mother, Mrs. Charles Baker.

Mr. C. A. Long is on a business trip to Bairdsville.

East Florenceville.

FEB. 18.—As I have not seen anything in your paper from this place for a long time, I thought it would not be a bad plan to write a few words to let the readers of THE DISPATCH know that East Florenceville is alive yet.

Mr. Baker, of Woodstock, preached in the Baptist church on Sunday.

Riverside Council No. 98 is doing very well. It has doubled its membership since November last, but most of the temperance men of this place are not what they are cracked up to be.

The pugilistic craze has reached this place, and some of the boys are not too slow, especially Pat.

C. P. Hill, of Presque Isle, is making a visit to D. Semple.

Benjamin Banks is home from the States on a short visit.

Geo. Banks is improving, and Mrs. Styles, we are glad to hear, is getting around again.

Bristol.

FEB. 18th.—The dancing assemblies held in the new hall at Bristol are proving very satisfactory to all those who attend them. The assemblies are held under the immediate patronage of the most prominent ladies of Bristol and the surrounding country. The attendance each evening has been good, the young people heartily entering into the spirit of the occasion. The best of order is kept, and there has been no disposition on the part of anyone to violate the rule of good order. Among the surrounding places which send delegates is Florenceville, a number being present from that point every evening. It is the intention to continue these assemblies without postponement for anything, until further notice. Dancing commences at 7.30 each Tuesday evening, and the entertainment closes at 11 o'clock. Very excellent music is furnished, and all the latest round and square dances are on the programme.

Bedell Settlement.

FEB. 18th.—The weather for the past week has been very stormy.

William Montgomery has returned from visiting his sister Mrs. Valaise at New Jerusalem.

Miss Ethel and Edith Moores, spent a few days with Mrs. John W. Montgomery.

Mr. Wesley Slipp's family are recovering from an attack of la grippe.

Miss Susan Kennedy, is visiting her sister Mrs. Montgomery.

Miss Alice Montgomery, has returned from visiting her sister Mrs. Ray.

Mr. and Mrs. Wesley Delong spent a night with Mrs. Delong's mother Mrs. Kirk.

Edward Kirkpatrick and his sister Jennie are visiting relatives in York County.

Northampton.

Our school opened on February the first, under the management of Miss McCosh of Newcastle.

Some of our young people took advantage of the fine roads on the evening of the 15th and went to Richmond and returned at an early hour in the morning sadder and much wiser.

The farmer has changed his occupation from farming and gone to lumbering.

Miss Blanch Clowes is at present very low.

B. H. Chase is busily engaged in the lumber operation in these parts.

The long talked of race between Warren C. Bull's trotting mare, Jennie, and Allen Rogers' black mare, Maud, came off on the 16th and resulted in an easy victory for the former.

Richmond.

FEB. 18th.—Miss Bertie Speer, has returned home after a visit to her uncle Mr. Charles Fleming.

Miss Parent, is visiting Mrs. B. Hoyt.

Miss Kate Hay, is visiting friends in Woodstock.

There was a ball in Montgomery's hall last Tuesday evening.

A driving party from Northampton spent Friday evening at Mr. Thomas McIntyre's.

The Baptists intend holding a missionary concert in the church at McKenzie Corner.

LOCAL LEGISLATURE.

The legislature got through a good deal of work during the past week, but there was of course a good deal of delay, by reason of the love which many members possess of hearing themselves talk.

Among the bills introduced was one by Mr. Dibblee repealing section twenty-three of the law incorporating Hartland village for water and fire purposes.

Mr. Powell gave notice of the following motion:

Resolved, That in the opinion of this house the offices of judge of probate and registrar of probate in the different counties should be abolished. The duties now performed by the judge of probate in respect to contentious business should hereafter be performed by the judges of the county courts, without any fees other than travelling expenses, and all other duties now performed by the judges of probate and all duties now performed by the registrars of probate should hereafter be performed by the clerks of the county courts, and that the fees allowed to said clerks therefor be according to the table of fees allowed by the Consolidated Statutes to the clerks of the county courts, and the fees of proctor in the probate court hereafter be taxed as nearly as possible in accordance with the table of fees to attorneys in the county.

Dr. Atkinson has been on the war path, after the scalp of Dr. Steeves, superintendent of the lunatic asylum, and has made some serious charges against that gentleman, of incapacity for his position. He thinks that Dr. Steeves showed this incapacity by allowing two lunatics, named Owens and Sargefield, to be sent home to their people, when they were in no way fit to be at large. The government defended the superintendent from the attacks made by Dr. Atkinson.

Dealing with the question as to just when Hon. H. A. Connell resigned Mr. Blair said on Friday that during the discussion the other day regarding Mr. Connell's connection with the government up to and including the night before the opening of the house last year, he had sent a note to the chief superintendent of education, asking if there had been a meeting of the board of education the day before the house met last year. The superintendent sent back the reply that meetings of the board had been held early last year, as follows: January 17th, March 14th and April 27th, and that the house had opened last year March 9th. His (Blair's) statement to the house was founded on that note from the chief superintendent, and he now desired to say that the journals of the house showed that he was in error. As the house met on March 15th last year, he felt that in justice to all parties this explanation is due.

Dr. Stockton said he had a letter from Mr. Connell on that very point. He would take occasion to refer more particularly to this letter.

Imperial Parliament.

On the resumption of the debate on the address in reply to the Queen's speech at the opening of the session on Friday last Joseph Chamberlain offered an amendment declaring it was contrary to the public interest for the time of parliament to be occupied in the discussion of measures which, according to the minister's statements, had no prospect of passing into law, while proposals involving grave constitutional changes have been announced, on which the judgement of parliament should be taken without delay. In speaking to his amendment, Mr. Chamberlain said that the unionists in the house desired to impugn the latest electoral device, consisting of wasting the time of the house in the discussion of measures which were not expected to pass, but had been introduced in order to confuse the issues now before the people and delay the inevitable condemnation which awaited the primary policy of the government. The refusal of the government, declared Mr. Chamberlain, to disclose the terms of their proposed resolution against the house of lords was disrespectful to the house of lords. The government was tottering and could no longer represent the interest of Great Britain in the councils of Europe. Neither could it enact measures of the enfranchisement of its domestic policy.

The Right Hon. Herbert Asquith, the home secretary, in reply to Mr. Chamberlain, said that it would not be the government's fault, but the fault of the house of lords, if the measures did not become a law.

Mr. Labouchere, the radical leader, said that the members of his party were dissatisfied because a leader (Lord Rosebery) who was a member of the house of lords, had been plucked upon them. Mr. Labouchere blamed Lord Rosebery for pandering to the "Jingo" party. Continuing, he said there had undoubtedly been a change in the attitude of Liberal officialdom since the retirement of Mr. Gladstone, both in regard to home rule and the position of the house of lords. The change was due to the influence of Lord Rosebery.

Against the Scott Act.

Progress is being made with the circulation of the petition for an election for the repeal of the Scott Act in Westmorland county. Some 1,700 names have already been secured by a canvass of less than half the parishes, and only 1,300 more are required. The work of circulating the petition is in the hands of Coun. Leblanc of Shediac.

Liberal Organization.

The Liberal party in this county appear to be taking time by the forelock and are working up a strong organization in the shape of a Liberal club. Enthusiastic meetings are held every Tuesday evening in Cole's hall. At the meeting on the 11st inst. there was not only a good local attendance, but a considerable number from the parishes of Woodstock, Wakefield and Northampton were present to testify to their loyalty to the principles of liberalism and reform. Interesting speeches were made by John Harper, pres. of the Liberal Association of Carleton Co., and by Dr. Colter. The meeting was also addressed by W. T. Drysdale, C. P. Bull, U. R. Hanson, officers of the club and others.

The report of the officers, which was received and adopted, is as follows:

GENTLEMEN,—In accordance with a resolution passed at the meeting held in this place on the evening of the 5th inst., we beg to recommend that the following named persons be members of the executive council of this club: John McCormac, U. R. Hanson, Frederick Moore and W. P. Jones, of the town of Woodstock; C. L. Scott, Woodstock Parish; John Colter, Northampton, and Albert Brewer, Upper Woodstock. We would also recommend that Charles McLean be appointed corresponding secretary of the club and ex-officio member of the executive. We would suggest that it is advisable at an early date to arrange for holding a series of meetings throughout the county for discussion of the prominent political questions of the day, and especially for the spreading of information relating to the platform adopted by that grand convention of representative Liberals at Ottawa in June 1893. It can scarcely be doubted that large numbers of both political parties are agreed, (1) That there is great need for reform in the management of various departments under the control of the Dominion government. (2) That the disclosures made at Ottawa in 1891, of mismanagement and political corruption were a disgrace to the fair name of Canada. (3) That our national debt is being increased at a rate out of all proportion to the increase of population. We do not claim the attribute of perfection for the Liberal party, but we do claim that it has a policy which if honestly and fairly considered will commend itself, in many of its features at least, to the good sense of the people of this country, whatever their past political views. Now, gentlemen, while we deprecate the use of any unlawful measures in the coming contest (believing that we are at one with earnest and true men of all shades of political thought in regarding bribery at elections as one of the crying evils of the day), we would urge upon all members of this club, as loyal citizens, to do what lies in their power to advance the cause which we are banded together to advocate—the success of the Liberal party—and the introduction of a policy which we regard as calculated to promote the honor and prosperity of the Dominion of Canada.

F. H. J. DIBBLEE, President.

M. McMANUS, Vice-President.

C. L. S. RAYMOND, Sec.-Treas.

A copy of the bye-laws of the St. John Young Liberals' Club, kindly procured by J. Troy, was placed on the table, and upon motion, W. T. Drysdale, Dr. Hand and Chas. McLean were appointed a committee to prepare and submit a code of bye-laws for the Carleton club.

Japan and China.

A despatch dated February 14th from Field Marshal Oyama who is in command of the Japanese forces at Wei-Hai-Wei announces the complete surrender of the Chinese on land and sea. He also announced that the Chinese soldiers garrisoning the forts on the Island of Liu-Kung-Tao, the last of the defense of Wei-Hai-Wei to hold out against the Japanese, and the sailors of the Chinese fleet were to be taken beyond the Japanese lines and liberated, while the captured officers and the foreigners will be conveyed away by ship before they are given their liberty.

The Japanese seem to have solved for themselves the question as to the relative merits of the battleship and cruiser which is now agitating the U. S. congress in connection with the proposition to provide for the construction of three new battleships. While three cruisers, owing to the superior strategy in their management and great wariness in attack, supplemented by the disposable torpedo boat fleet, have managed to obtain victories over the Chinese fleet in two cases, the battleships of the Chinese, even with inferior management and personnel, have given such a good account of themselves as to make it apparent to the Japanese that if ever they hope to meet another naval power in combat with a chance of success, they must themselves possess some of the great battleships. It is regarded as a foregone conclusion that they will acquire the Chinese battleships Chen Yuen and Ting Yuen (if the latter can be raised by conquest). But the Japanese government is not content to rest there, for advices received by the navy department show that they have placed contracts for building two great ships that will exceed the best American ships in offensive and defensive. One of the contracts has been placed with the Thames Iron Works of Blackwell, England, and the other with the Thames Iron Ship Building company of London. The battleships will be 12,250 tons displacement, 370 feet long by 73 feet beam.

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