

THE WOODSTOCK DISPATCH.

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Editors and Proprietors.

WOODSTOCK, N. B., DEC. 2, 1896.

"EXTINGUISH THE LIGHTS."

One of the latest amiable fads is the "Curfew Bell." Every school boy knows of this institution. He is taught that it was rung throughout England as early as the days of William the Conqueror, that on hearing it all lights and fires were immediately extinguished, a severe penalty being inflicted on those who heeded not its summons. In the time of Cromwell the curfew was again revived and strictly enforced.

In many towns and cities in Canada and the United States a system known as the curfew bell is in vogue. It is not, yet, necessary for everyone to extinguish their lamps and fires on hearing it ring, but youngsters on the street are to hurry home when they hear its tones, on penalty of falling into the hands of the dreaded "cop." The object of the bell is to keep children off the streets after dark, and certainly no one can find fault with such a commendable desire on the part of philanthropic citizens. There is this to be considered, however. Where parental control is exercised the children have no need of the curfew, where there is no parental control it must be a matter of considerable ingenuity to enforce the by-law. In Woodstock, for instance the curfew system would either be a dead letter, or it would need an increase in the police force. Again, where children have only disreputable homes to go to, perhaps the street is as desirable a place for them as the home.

It is a great question, now-a-days, if we are not in danger of too much paternal government on the part of the state. At all costs, we must retain our individual liberty, and any encroachments by the state must be jealously guarded against.

It would not be a very great stretch from the curfew bell of modern to the curfew bell of ancient times, and, no doubt, there are those who would glory in a law compelling all lights to be extinguished after, say, nine o'clock.

Anything, to give us the appearance of being moral.

The death of Mr. John James Fraser, lieutenant governor of this province, which occurred at Genoa, on the 24th inst., was a shock to his many friends in this province and elsewhere. He had gone on the trip for the benefit of his health, which of late years had been fragile. Few persons expected he would permanently recover, but scarcely any that his death would occur so soon. Without regard to party or class the press has expressed regret over the death of the governor and appreciation of his services to the province, during a long and active public career. His life was essentially a useful life, and when death, the ever sure visitor to high and low, alike, came, it found him occupying the highest position in the province. Perhaps we can pass no higher encomium on the late governor than when we say he was a thorough good man. The remains have left Genoa on the same steamer that carried him there, and will reach New York, if all is well, on the 9th inst. The public funeral, in Fredericton, will probably be on or about the 12th inst.

A blue book dealing with the Inland Revenues for the year ending June 30th 1896 has come to this office. The accrued revenue was \$4,956,740 compared with \$8,041,086 in 1895. It is gratifying to find that the annual consumption of spirits shows a steady decrease since 1890. It was .623 gallons last year. In 1885 it was 1.126 per head. The consumption of beer shows an increase over 1895, and a general increase since 1869. The consumption of wine appears to be decreasing while tobacco shows a decrease since 1890 but the consumption of what Kipling calls the "great god Nick o'Teen," seems to have been fluctuating, one year being higher and the next being lower, etc., ever since 1869. The total revenue from spirits during the year was \$4,011,288; tobacco and cigars something over \$3000,000.

The chief cause of crime, throughout modern civilization is the inequitable distribution of wealth. If it were possible to equally distribute wealth, crime would almost entirely disappear. If everybody had more potatoes in their cellar than they could eat, you might leave a big bag of potatoes on the road side without any risk of their being stolen. If one class of the population are starving, and hungry for potatoes, and another class has millions of bushels in their back premises, is it surprising that some of those potatoes should be stolen? The social struggle of the future is between the very rich and the very poor. Should not wisdom be seeking for the means to more equitably distribute that wealth which is the sole product of labor?—Bob Ind.

Dr. Borden, Minister of Militia, favorably impressed the military whom he inspected at Toronto on Thanksgiving Day. The minister is sound on one point, anyway. He believes in annual drill. At a banquet in the evening of the day mentioned, Dr. Borden said: "I am going to take you into my confidence. I long ago became convinced that it was absolutely necessary if we are to have an efficient force in the country we must have annual drill. I said so once and I say it freely now, and if I don't succeed in having my own way with regard to this there is going to be trouble."

The principal reason why Denmark has such a large butter trade with Great Britain is the fact that she has a complete cold storage system.—Toronto World.

The latest figures give McKinley a popular plurality over Bryan of 708,639. McKinley's total vote was 7,053,102; Bryan's 6,344,463.

FIVE HUNDRED KILLED.

Another Armenian Massacre Reported Near Diarbekir.

LONDON, November 28.—The Daily News publishes a despatch from Constantinople, saying that another massacre of Armenians is reported to have occurred in the vicinity of Diarbekir.

It is rumored that more than 500 persons were killed.

Mr. John E. Brennan, the comedian singer and dancer, and Miss Eva Westcott, the dainty soubrette, supported by their own excellent company will appear at the Opera House commencing Monday Dec. 7th, for a week's engagement with a change of play nightly. The following taken from the Bangor News, Calais items, speaks for its self:—

CALAIS, Nov. 24.—St. Croix Hall was crowded to the doors on Monday evening to greet the John E. Brennan Co. in their first appearance in this city in the clever drama, "An Irishman's Love," in four acts. Both Mr. Brennan and his leading support, Mrs. Eva Westcott, were enthusiastically received on their first entrance and throughout the entire performance were the recipients of frequent applause. The company is under the personal management of H. C. Grant of Calais, whose long connection with the Opera House in this city has made for him many friends among the theatre-goers, and all wish him every success in his new venture. Mr. Brennan has surrounded himself with a clever company of players, a quantity of excellent scenery, and all in all this company is about the best ever seen in St. Croix Hall.

Lots of time to have your photos finished for Xmas if you have them taken at Watson's Studio.

NOTES FROM THE WOODS.—Although the recent fall of snow has been light in the woods, it has been a good thing for the lumbermen. Operations on the Upper St. John and the Tobique are now getting along well. A week or two ago the conditions were such that the cut was likely to be a small one, but the indications are, if the weather be not very unfavorable, that it will be fully up to the average if not better. In one of Mr. Hale's camps on the Tobique the men have been quite unlucky as to accidents this year. Several of them have been very badly cut, and two or three have been obliged to return home to lay up for a time. The Fredericton Gleaner says:—A young man named Grady, son of one of the firm of Grady & McLaggan, who are lumbering on the Dugargan, met with a very serious accident Thursday. He was standing on a log cutting it off at the top end, when, fearful of losing his balance, he stuck his foot out backwards. Just as he did, a swamper, who was directly behind him, making a cut at a bush, struck the young man a full swinging blow, making a gash the whole length of the foot from the toe to the heel. Mr. Crocker, a teamster, drove the young man all the way from the camp to Doaktown, over forty miles. He is now at Murray's Hotel. Ben Robinson, working at Alexander's camp for Mr. Jas. Robinson, M. P., also met with a painful accident. He got his finger burst with a skid and not being able to give it any attention in the woods proud flesh got into the wound and it became so painful that he had to go home to Doaktown. He also is attended by Dr. Weir. The doctor is kept busy, being constantly in demand along the line from Blackville to Boiestown. Mr. David Gilman returned a few days ago from the Quebec lumber woods. He says that when he left there was no snow, and lumbering was then hard work. It looked as if the cut in that section would scarcely be up to the average. The men were having a pretty severe time of it, and there had been one or two accidents. Since then, however, snow has come, and no doubt it has greatly changed the appearance of things.

Marry This Girl Quick.

I saw in your paper that a 13 year old boy made \$1.25 the first hour he worked selling the perfection Metal Tip Lampwick. I ordered a sample and went to work and the first week I cleared \$10, the second week I cleared \$15. I expect to run up to \$25 a week in the near future, as the Perfection Metal Tip Lampwick makes such a beautiful white light and does away with smoky chimneys and bad odor and saves oil, it is easy to sell. If you wish to try it send 13 two cent stamps to Miss A.M. Fritz, Station A, St. Louis, Mo., and she will send you sample outfit. This is a good way to make money around home.

MISS TINA W.

Dropped His Money.

In passing down the slip at the lower steamboat wharf to board the Rose Standish at St. Stephen one morning last week John Black, cashier of the Bank of Nova Scotia, slipped on the ice and in trying to save himself lost hold of a grip which he was carrying, and it slid down into the water and sank. The bag contained \$1,000 in Nova Scotia bank notes, also drafts and papers and \$30 in silver. The latter would probably weigh some six pounds and would have a tendency to sink the bag immediately. At low water it was proposed to grapple for the missing bag, but whether or not the effort will be successful is a matter of some speculation, as the current is strong at this point and the saw dust is constantly collecting and depositing from the bottom.

SCHOOL WANTED.

Female teacher holding Second Class License, having had several years experience in teaching graded and ungraded schools wishes to secure a school for the winter term. Address M. P. O. Box 329, Woodstock N. B.

Literary Notes.

"The Progress of the world," editorial department of the Review of Reviews, touches in the December number on a great variety of topics of national and international significance. After devoting several paragraphs to a lucid and instructive analysis of the results of the Presidential election, the editor proceeds to review the history of the efforts to obtain arbitration of the Venezuela boundary dispute with Great Britain, which have finally resulted successfully, explaining the attitude of the United States in the controversy; discusses the merits and demerits of the Cleveland administration now drawing to a close, criticising with especial vigor the President's Turkish policy; describes the late phases of the European situation, with reference to the Eastern question and the Franco-Russian alliance; comments on Lord Rosebery's resignation and the resulting complications in English politics—making altogether a most interesting and valuable summary of the world's important doings for the month just passed.

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A GENUINE BARGAIN.

Beats anything that we have ever before shown at the price. Suits still lower, \$2.95 and \$4.60; or, if you want a Still Better Suit, can supply you with suits made of better materials than we have heretofore shown—all good value—cut and style first-class.

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Shoe News

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