

Middle Simonds Items.

July 24, 1889.

Nearly everyone in this district is busy haying, and as the weather has been favorable, a large quantity has been stored in good order. The crop, however, is lighter than usual and will be at least 40 per cent less than last year. The other crops are looking well, and harvesting will be on hand before many of the farmers are done haying.

G. F. Foster, and H. Stoddard who had barns blown down by the late gale, have already rebuilt, in each case making a marked improvement in their places. Mr. John Kelley has also erected a fine large barn, all of which goes to show that Simonds is a thriving farming section.

The Second Adventist congregation have a flourishing Sunday school, of which Elder Hutchinson, who is pastor of the church, is Superintendent, and W. C. Rideout, Esq., Assistant Superintendent.

Mr. Corey is holding a series of meetings in the Baptist church, and much interest is being shown.

Our day school opens again after vacation on Aug. 6, Mr. S. B. Orchard of Queens Co. being in charge. He takes the place of our former efficient and successful teacher, Mr. John Farley, who has lately removed to Grand Manan.

Mrs. Wood Kelley of Pennsylvania, who was here during the illness of her late husband, has returned home. Miss Elwilda Raymond is spending her vacation at home.

There is to be a Grand Picnic on August 10th on the beautiful flats of A. D. Shaw, Esq.; all are invited to come, and a good time may be expected. Don't forget your best girl, nor neglect to bring a basket.

According to report, an interesting social event is soon to occur, of which a prominent elderly resident of Landsdowne and one of our fair widows are the principals.

Mr. Manson Shaw had a narrow escape from drowning by his canoe capsizing while crossing the river, one evening last week.

Rowe Shaw, who has been attending the Deaf and Dumb Institution at Fredericton, is spending his vacation at the home of his mother, Mrs. Alfred Shaw.

Benton Items.

July 25th, 1889.

Mr. Thomas Mowbray, aged 91 years, died at the residence of Mr. James Edwards on Monday the 15th inst.

Mrs. John Chittick is very ill, and fears are now entertained for her recovery.

Mrs. Wm. Speer and Miss Lizzie Speer started yesterday for a two weeks visit up river.

Mr. James Hendry of Cross Creek made his friends here a short visit last week. Mrs. Hendry accompanied him, and is still visiting here.

Mr. Wm. Gibson and J. L. Speer went to St. John Monday morning to take in the carnival and electric exhibition.

A band of Gypsies tented just outside of the village on the 12th, and furnished amusement for large numbers of young folk during the evening.

A supper and sale in the Hall on the evening of the 12th, proved a decided success. The proceeds, which amounted to over \$95 dollars, are in aid of the Episcopal Church.

Mr. Donald Hendry arrived at his home here in company with Rev. C. Woodcock on Monday evening last. They went to Florenceville yesterday, and are expected to return here this evening; it is not yet known how long they intend to remain.

Mrs. Swan of Lowell, Mass., is spending a few weeks with her relatives here.

Mrs. Maddox, who has been visiting here, returned to Boston Tuesday morning.

Grand Falls Items.

July 29, 1889.

Very few of the people here and vicinity visited the carnival in St. John. The fare was altogether too high. The railway company made a mistake when they placed the fare at one unlimited fare. There were not half a dozen tickets sold at this station for the carnival, and a large number would have gone had there been cheap excursion rates.

The statement in your paper that Rev. Mr. Johnson would preach here on the 21st inst., was made in accordance with the announcement made from the pulpit by Rev. Mr. Clements to that effect. However, no harm has been done by the statement.

Farmers are busily engaged haying, and if the weather continues fine this week, the hay crop will be pretty well harvested.

Station Agent Hallett, and Mrs. Hallett and Collector Armstrong attended the carnival; they have not yet returned home.

Richmond Items.

The farmers are about all done haying, the crop being rather light.

Mr. D. Tompson has lately put ten thousand salmon trout in his boundary-line lake.

Mr. L. Purington has placed a finger-board at the junction of the roads near Mr. I. Kilburn's, which is very convenient for the travelling public.

Mr. G. E. Tracey, one of our popular merchants, has moved his place of business to the store formerly occupied by George Whitehead as a tailor shop. Mr. Whitehead now occupies the Tracey store.

Crops are looking well; potato bugs are not so numerous this season as they usually are.

Mr. Charles Noyes, son of Rev. William Noyes of Waterville, Maine, who has been visiting at D. L. Park's and was so dangerously ill, under the skillful treatment of Dr. F. A. Nevers has now recovered and returned home.

Several seizures have been made of late; it is rumored that the informer has gone west for his health, this country's air being too thick for him; a wise move.

Mr. Frank Currier of Boston is spending a few weeks vacation at D. L. Park's. He is very much pleased with what he has seen of this country.

Lumbermen Moving.

At a meeting of the North Shore lumbermen held at Newcastle on the 25th inst., to consider upon a line of action with regard to the question of stampage on crown lands, it was resolved to insist upon the Government's complying with the following demands:—

1. Renewal of present ten year leases.
2. To reduce the stumpage from \$1.25 to \$1 per thousand.
3. To reduce the mileage from \$8 and \$4 to \$2.
4. To adopt the Quebec scale.
5. To make an expenditure on the streams to facilitate driving, and towards constructing portage roads.—Sun.

Well Worthy Consideration.

Lady Habberton, in the *Woman's World* for July, calls attention to a grave matter and makes an eminently wise suggestion, she writes:—

"Much might be done towards abolishing the custom of mourning by means of arbitrary methods of clothing if people, when making their wills, would add a few words to the effect that they wished their relatives to make no change in their dress. It is quite impossible to believe that anyone can derive pleasure from the thought that his or her death will entail a certain amount of discomfort on their dearest friends. True grief would also be more fittingly shown by people going about in their quiet every day garments than by suddenly budding out in fresh dresses. This would also have the advantage of doing away with the absurdity of seeing people who, though relations in blood, are in reality strangers, pretending to be distressed by the demise of relatives they have either never seen or at least not known, in the common acceptance of the term. Why a pretense of mourning under these circumstances is considered so peculiarly gratifying and consolatory to the immediate family is one of those things that must forever remain a mystery; and though there is every reason why those who have lost one who is dear to them should be left in peace until time has somewhat deadened the pain of grief, there is no reason why a system should be upheld which practically sacrifices the living for the dead."

Job line of Ladies Kid Boots at half price, at R. B. Belyea & Co.'s.

No Flies on Them.

According to the *Aroostook Herald*, the Aroostook girls must have the true grit in them, if the two ladies spoken off in the following are fair samples of the rest. The *Herald* says:—

"Last year Mr. West, of Portage Lake, caught a young bear and kept him in confinement until early this Spring, when he escaped to the woods with a piece of chain about his neck. A few days ago Miss Rosa West was out after the oows, when she got sight of the bear. She returned to the house and, with her sister Nellie and the dog, went back for the bear. Mr. Bear resisted all their persuasions to accompany them to the house. The ladies then got a long pole and succeeded in driving him into a hole under a log. They then secured the chain to the middle of the pole and, one lady at either end, bore the struggling and ferocious brute in triumph to the house. Score another for smart Aroostook girls."

Ladies should not miss the great bargains that are being offered at R. B. Porter & Co.'s.

Equals the Mulcahy Story.

La Presse relates the following circumstances of an alleged diabolical plot which was frustrated by a Montreal lawyer:—

A young girl named Fannie Briggs, belonging to a respectable family of Odgensburg, N. Y., some time ago made the acquaintance of a debauchee named Hallon, a man of prepossessing appearance, but poor. Fannie soon fell in love with her new acquaintance, who led her into the following plot to "raise the wind." It was arranged that the young girl would go to Omaha, Nebraska, and there make the acquaintance of Mr. H. C. Barton son of Guy Barton, the millionaire, whom she would marry. So far the plot worked admirably well and the marriage took place with great éclat. The next move was for the bride to drug her husband on their marriage tour and then have him placed in such a compromising position that she would obtain a divorce, and afterwards marry her lover.

Montreal was chosen as the place to carry out the infernal scheme, and Hallon came here last week to make the necessary arrangements. The "happy couple" were to take up their quarters in one of our fashionable hotels, and a house on St. Urbain street was chosen as the resort wherein to place the unfortunate bridegroom when drugged.

Unfortunately for the conspirators, a lawyer in Odgensburg, said to have been in the plot, broached the matter to a confrere, who induced him to hand over the whole correspondence of the young people to Mr. Barton's father. The latter at once proceeded to St. Louis, where he met his son with his wife. The young woman was easily dealt with, and left her unfortunate and unsuspecting husband. In the meantime, Hallon had disappeared from Montreal.

Great bargains in Dress Lengths, all shades, all wool, and below cost, at R. B. Belyea & Co.'s.

Disastrous Storms.

St. Louis, Mo., July 30.—A special from Fayetteville, Ark., says: This section was visited on Sunday night by the most terrible rain and electric storm ever seen here. Several residences and the livery stable of Kell & Hagen, in which one horse was killed, were struck by lightning. The large barn of Capt. Thomas Brooks, editor of the *Fayetteville Republican*, was set on fire and destroyed, with a large quantity of grain and five fine horses. The residence of Thos. Holland, three miles from here, was blown to atoms and that of E. Graham, in the same neighborhood, was partly destroyed. The Frisco Railroad bridge, over White River, is washed away, and the crops along the river are generally destroyed. The loss to farmers in this county will be many thousands dollars.

LITTLE ROCK, Ark., July 30.—At Clarksville on Sunday night the streets were flooded by a heavy rain, and the town was in danger of being swept by Spadra Creek, which was out of its banks. Many people took to the hills and did not return until after daylight, when the stream had gone down. It is feared the Arkansas river will overflow and ruin the fine cotton crops in the bottomlands.

SPRINGFIELD, M.J., July 30.—A terrible thunder storm, accompanied with hail, occurred here yesterday. The fruit and corn crops were badly damaged.

A citizen of Chicago has taken out a patent for an invention by which molten metal can be rolled into any desired shape without intermediate processes. It is said the device will revolutionize the tin and steel industry.

Canadian Railways in the States.

The investigation at the present going on in the United States with regards to the traffic done in that country by Canadian roads is bringing to light some important information. In the first place it is demonstrating that the Canadian roads are a welcome addition to the American system in New England. In the second place it has attracted the attention of Boston and New England generally to the fact that but for the Canadian lines, New York with its water communication and its railroad lines from the west would have a great advantage over New England. Boston at present is put into communication with 560 points in New England by the connection of the Canadian Pacific with the Boston and Maine road. The Maine Central, Concord, Connecticut River and Central Vermont railroad interests are to some extent involved in those of the Canadian lines as their prosperity depends upon the connection being kept up between Portland, Boston and other New England points and the west by way of Niagara Falls, St. Albans or Montreal.

When the Senate Committee of Investigation reaches Boston it will hear a different tale from that which it heard at New York. Already it is patent that the commercial interests of "the Hub" are almost entirely in favor of giving the Grand Trunk and Canada Pacific lines the fullest possible freedom.

Now is the time to buy your Winter dry goods, while the great Cheap Sale is going on at R. B. Porter & Co.'s

Plague of Sand Flies.

TONAWANDA, N. Y., July 26.—This village has been visited by a plague of sand flies, compared to which the one that visited King Pharaoh fades into insignificance. When the sun went down Wednesday night a heavy cloud was noticed hanging over the Canadian shore of the Niagara river, and many thought a storm was brewing. As soon as the street lamps were lighted, the nature of the storm became at once manifest. Billions of Canadian sand flies, that live but a day, having a wide spread of wing and a caterpillar-like body, descended on the town. In an hour it was impossible for pedestrians to walk the streets. Stores had to be closed and houses were shut. Yesterday morning most of the flies were dead, their bodies covering the streets and housetops to the depth of three inches. The canal and inner harbor were thick with their remains. The principal streets are now free, but from a thousand other places the decay of their light bodies fills the air with a horrible stench. The oldest inhabitant remembers nothing similar, although the flies, which breed in the shallow water on the Canadian shore, often annoy people to a certain extent.

Northern Maine Railroad.

The Mattawamkeag correspondent of the *Bangor Commercial* writes: "Arthur Sewell, president, Payson Tucker, manager, Hon. F. W. Hill, Exeter, and other prominent Maine Central and Boston & Maine railroad officials, arrived at Mattawamkeag Monday afternoon by special train. They were met there by Houlton parties with teams and at once started for Houlton by carriage and will view the proposed route of Northern Maine railroad. The party numbered 16 in all and will return from Presque Isle by special car. The Canadian Pacific railroad has run but one through freight train east as yet. A few freight cars are hauled each way, by the Maine Central regular trains from Mattawamkeag, Canadian Pacific taking their cars from there through to points on their road via Brownville Junction. Their passenger traffic as yet is small, an average of from 15 to 25 per day each way. I am creditably informed that the Canadian Pacific is desirous of purchasing the Maine Central between Mattawamkeag and Vanceboro. If the Maine Central becomes interested in the northern Maine, as they seem to be, such a transfer would be likely to occur, as the business of northern Maine is more desired by the Maine Central than of the Provinces. Railroad men here think this will be done some time."

The Irish Question.

LONDON, July 31.—In his speech yesterday at Birmingham, referring to the many remedies proposed for prevailing discontent in Ireland, Lord Randolph Churehill recommended as a final solution of the question, an imperial loan of not less than £100,000,000, to enable tenants to buy their holdings, local bodies controlling the rate, the collected revenues to become security for payment of the loan. He pointed out that this scheme made it necessary that Ireland remain under the imperial parliament.

The *Standard*, in commenting on the speech, rails on him as a hack politician of no school. It says he has not the same opinion on any political subject for six consecutive weeks. The *Times* and other papers also ridicule Lord Randolph's speech.

A remarkable phenomenon is reported near Petersburg, Va. Some six acres of land sunk suddenly on Saturday from 40 to 60 feet. The tops of trees which stood on the level with others are now standing intact, and some few feet only above the level of the bluff where the sinking has occurred. The sunken area is seamed with fissures of various lengths and depths. The most noteworthy feature of the phenomenon is the formation of a bar in the river. This bar is 70 feet long, and in it, too, are many fissures. The phenomenon was preceded some weeks ago by something like an explosion, the noise of which was heard for miles.

The aggregate trade of the Dominion for the twelve months ending 30th June, 1889, exclusive of the Province of British Columbia, showed an increase of six millions of dollars, this increase being derived chiefly from imports.

Newfoundland despatches say that Mr. Thorburn, the premier of that island, publishes a manifesto in which he declares that Confederation with Canada is not a practical issue, and that the government will not bring it forward, nor take action upon it, until called upon so to do by the people.

One man in Western Australia owns and controls nearly 4,000,000 acres of land.