

The Review.

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RICHIBUCTO, N. B., DEC. 5, 1895.

POKER.

A prominent citizen of New York, having been asked for his opinion of the game of poker said: "I despise the whole idea of poker. Look at it! What are the qualities which make a successful poker player? The ability to deceive, a cold, calculating, Indian cunning, which makes a man hold his dagger behind his back and pounce down upon an unsuspecting and defenceless adversary; a brutal skill in tempting your opponent to make a false step, and then hurling him over the precipice the instant he has done so. Poker is a game of cruelty, of treachery; not like chess, or whist, or billiards, where the battle is fought fairly on its merits in an open field, but a game which stimulates the most unlovely qualities in a man in the heart of man or woman—rejoicing over the misfortune of another, smiles and frowns which mean just the opposite of what they seem, and lying from beginning to end, for what is the triumph of poker playing but the bluff, and what is a bluff but falsehood? No, sir; I answer your question without hesitation. Played with money or without money, for high stakes or for low stakes, in the parlor or in the gambling hell, or under any other conditions you may imagine, I regard the great American game of poker as something which deserves to be classed along with drunkenness as one of the great American vices."

NEWS VS. HISTORY.

Some of the St. John papers are poking fun at editor Hannay of the Telegraph for the rather musty flavor he has imported to that journal since he took it in charge some years ago. For a year or two, columns of its space were filled almost daily, with what was called a history of the Loyalists. Just as it was promised that the long story would be made more interesting by giving account of the more recent fortunes of the Loyalist families settled about the province all was stopped for some unexplained cause, and the history has not since been resumed. But the policy of publishing historic matter, often to the exclusion of the news of the day, was continued, and instead of the story of the Loyalists, a long account of the Fenian raid of 1866 was given. This in turn was followed by a still unfinished tale of the Trent Affair of 1862. These later serials are mainly made up of clippings from old files of the St. John and London papers.

The desire for news has long existed in the world. The swift runner of old came with scant ceremony even into the presence of the sovereign himself when he had news to tell. "Tidings! my lord, the King!" was the sufficient passport. We are told that the Athenians in Apostolic days delighted to tell or to hear of some new thing. This desire has grown with the age of the world and with the growth of civilization. It has created the modern newspaper with the vast network of throbbing wires and the multitude of alert correspondents behind it, bringing from the very ends of the earth the news of the day. Even in Cowper's time, when newspapers were but in their infancy, he wrote of the daily journal, "What is it, but a map of busy life!" This idea has always been to the front with successful newspaper managers. No cost is too great, no effort too laborious that the latest important news may be secured for a metropolitan newspaper. Mr. Dana, the veteran editor of the New York Sun, has boasted that his is "a live newspaper, for people now on the earth." Editor Hannay for some reason, appears to hold the New York Sun and Mr. Dana in cordial detestation, and fills his own columns with history.

"The people now on the earth" want news in their newspapers; history, poetry and other literature on their library shelves. It is the main function of a newspaper to give the news of the day in its news columns with judicious and intelligent discussion thereof and of the questions of the day in its leading articles.

IN THE POL.

There is a great... In federal affairs... Parliament is very... by-elections are in progress in North Ontario and Cardwell and other... Remedial legislation is inevitable unless Greenway gives way, which his newspaper organs say he will not do, but the terms of the new bill are not known.

The opposition press is painfully without a policy on the school question. Some Conservative journals in the west have spoken out against remedial intervention, many in its favor as a measure of necessity. The opposition press is mainly dumb on the subject. Mr. Laurier has sometimes hinted at a commission of inquiry, but his newspaper organs such the proposition lightly and without enthusiasm. They are all at sea on the school question. And when did a policy of timidity and indecision ever prevail in attack?

The other point at issue between the contending parties is the tariff. Every feature of this ground has been fought over, discussed and argued since 1877 and always with one result. Beyond question the necessity for more revenue now than in 1878 strengthens the position of the government. Business ventures and vested interests are chary of sudden and sweeping changes. There is nothing new in the opposition press attacks upon the Conservative fiscal policy. It may be that the scribes lack their old-time inventiveness, or have grown dispirited and dull. Certainly the attack along the opposition lines is rather spiritless and indicates a barrenness of resource. Here a Liberal journal rings the changes on the exodus, or the census; there another pipes a complaint about bad times or the decay of shipping, and still another pines for the good old times before confederation. The walls of Jericho did fall before the blast of ram's horns, but the citadel at Ottawa still stands firm amid the weakening walls and despondent toots of the prophets of despair. Perhaps it is that the age of miracles is past, or that there is a want of faith in the circling processionists. Certain it is that the opposition must change their methods before they can succeed. It is perhaps fortunate for the government if not for the country that the leading spirits of the opposition press in the maritime provinces are such true Bourbons. "They learn nothing and they forget nothing." THE REVIEW would like to see a livelier fight, but of late there is hardly spirit enough in the opposition press to make the contest interesting.

THE TURK IN EUROPE.

It has been long the custom to speak of Turkey as "The sick man" and of the Turk as the "unspcakable." The first phrase refers to the decrepitude and decay of the Turkish empire; the epithet "unspcakable" is intended vaguely to set forth the vice and wickedness of the followers of Mahomet. But the sick man lingers long on his dying bed and the Mussulman has found a recent defender of some ability.

Beyond question Turkey in Europe exists merely on sufferance, either of the great powers if given a free hand, undisturbed by the others, could probably drive the Turk out of Europe. But the Greek Church in Russia, Catholic Austria and Italy, Lutheran Germany and Protestant England, cannot agree as to the division of the spoils. A congress of the great powers holds the Sultan and his administration under a sort of police surveillance. Years ago they stripped him of the Danubian principalities. England occupies and "protects" Egypt. But the Grand Turk is still proud, vindictive and fatalistic. Proud that his conquering sword drove the "infidels" out of the Holy Land; that successive crusades in the Middle Ages failed to dislodge him; that he still holds in his hands the keys of the Jewish capital, the hill on which the Founder of Christianity was crucified, the sepulchre in which he was entombed, and whence he rose; and that at Constantinople he sits in the seat of the ancient christian Empire of the East. After all viewed from his standpoint, what wonder that the Mahometan is proud?

He is vindictive too, as we have said. From time to time he persecutes and massacres Christians, now in Bulgaria, now in Armenia. The great powers intervene, remonstrate, threaten. He denies responsibility, delays, eventually promises amendment. But the atrocities break out again and again. Once in a while he is stripped of a principality, his capital threatened by an allied fleet, or occupied by a hostile army, but he remains implacable and vindictive still, as the nameless horrors in Armenia recently attest.

The Turk is a fatalist, believing that "what is written is written" and must come to pass, and that he will yet again in God's good time drive his enemies before him and triumph over them all. Probably there is yet many a dark chapter to be added to the world's tragic annals before he is disposed of. But just now in the midst of his atrocious persecution of the poor Armenians, it strikes one strangely to read of the defence of the Turk by an able American writer. He is the most religious of men, we are told. Five times in the day he prays, to the one living and true God,—the God of Abraham, Isaac, Jacob and Mahomet! He is cleanly, too,—none washes himself so often, and is not

...and his notions and creed are a... and creed of total abstinence. He... to shame the drunkenness of Christian England, America, Germany and Russia! He is honest, too, and the shops in his country are often left open without an attendant, relying on the honesty of the customer, who takes what he wants and leaves the purchase price in its stead. True, he is a polygamist, as Abraham, Jacob, Joseph and Mahomet were, but the "social evil" as it is known in London, Paris, New York and Berlin, to the shame of Christian governments, is unknown among the followers of the Prophet of Mecca.

Such is the defence in outline. After all, the "unspcakable" Turk can have something said for him. Bad as he is, is he not still a man and a brother?

A Paris woman confesses to having attended 732 balls to catch a husband, and only to have caught instead bronchitis fourteen times, pleurisy thrice and 120 colds in the head.

A medical commission inquired not long ago into the cause of the alarming increase of insanity in Ireland, and came to the conclusion that tea drinking was a most potent factor in inducing the prevalent type of melancholia.

Nominations in North Ontario December 12th; elections, December 19th. Nominations in Cardwell, December 17th; elections, December 24th.

Kingston Notes.

Mr. Geo. Jardine has returned home with his crew.

Mr. George Beatty left last week for Buctouche and points in Nova Scotia.

Mr. Robt. Girvan is improving and hopes to be out again in a few days.

We are also pleased to hear of the convalescence of Miss Serena Doherty.

Miss Marion Robertson, accompanied by her nephew, left last week for her new home in Bathurst.

Our school is preparing for a concert to be given in the near future.

We welcome among our number Mr. Gough, of P. E. I., who has engaged with Mr. George Wilson.

Mr. Andrew Loggie, of Chatham, has purchased a building lot near Nicholas River Bridge and purposes to erect thereon a building in which to pack smelts. Mr. Richard O'Leary, of Richibucto, is not far behind in securing a suitable place for a like purpose. Opposition is the life of trade and no doubt the fishermen gladly welcome such a move.

We congratulate our tonsorial artist upon the important step that he has taken and take this opportunity to wish him and his bride much joy. Come boys, delays are dangerous, for next year is leap year, and then you may lose your chance.

Among the sale records for the past month we notice that of Mr. George Robertson to Mr. John Robertson which includes the buildings and all land under cultivation held in part by Mr. George Robertson.

Maude, daughter of James Elward, fell over the bridge the other day, and but for her presence of mind and a floating log she would have been drowned. Where it is necessary that small children cross a bridge so often, another guard should be placed on the railing. Nor is the roadway any more of an honour to our Government and we would urge upon our noble representatives that they call the attention of the Government to the condition of this bridge. And we trust that before many days we shall see who it is who holds the patronage which was so much talked about on Nomination day.

The first of a series of dances was held in the Hall on Friday evening last and was an unqualified success. Music was furnished by the "Kingston Orchestra" and to its pleasing strains they tripped the light fantastic until the midnight sounded. It is useless to say that all enjoyed themselves, and look forward with pleasure to the "next." Much credit is due Mrs. Jardine and Mrs. McDonald on behalf of the ladies, and Messrs. H. M. Ferguson and J. Stothart on behalf of the gentlemen, for the way in which they have tried to furnish enjoyment for the winter evenings, and we trust that everyone will feel it a duty as well as a pleasure to attend.

JIM.

Two Cleveland surgeons have brought to complete recovery Erwin Keidel, a fourteen-year old boy who sustained a fracture of the cervical vertebrae. There is no case on record where this has ever been accomplished before.

THE OLD, MIDDLE-AGED AND CHILDREN.

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Kent Junction. Dec. 3.—It is some time since you heard from me, but if the truth must be told, society in this little town has of late been very quiet. And not very much transpired last week, but such as it is I will narrate.

We have had one or two snow storms, and thought that winter had come, but Old Jack seems loath to stay this year.

Since last I wrote we have had a change in the night agency here. Mr. L. P. McMichael has been permanently appointed in place of Mr. Stevens, who has been removed to Beaver Brook.

Quite a number of the residents of this place attended the Presbyterian supper held at Harcourt on Thanksgiving day, and all expressed themselves as much pleased with the entertainment. Also on the afternoon of that day a shooting match was contested between the Harcourt and Kent Jet. team. Kent Jet. won by a majority of 22 points. Well done Kent Jet., we offer you our hearty congratulations.

We have much pleasure in announcing a pleasant call from Rev. Mr. Hamilton, of Richibucto, on his way to Halifax.

Mr. and Mrs. James Horton are receiving congratulations—a daughter.

Miss Lillian Morton spent a week's vacation at her home in West Branch; she enjoyed herself very much and is as gay and lively as ever since her return. All are pleased to see her back again, especially the male portion with whom she is a great favourite.

We have much pleasure in announcing a visit on Saturday last, to Mrs. Morton, from Miss Ramsay of Buctouche, at present teaching at West Branch, and the Misses Neta and Bessie McMichael, sisters of our night agent. The only fault was their visit was too brief.

I hear whisperings of a party in the near future.

Mr. Benj. McLeod, of Harcourt, was at the Depot House yesterday.

Rev. Mr. Freeburn, Episcopal minister at Harcourt, spent last Monday visiting among the people. He was the guest of Mr. and Mrs. Morton.

Mr. and Mrs. Edward Warman were visiting a few days at Molus River.

There has been quite a little sickness here lately, very few of the inhabitants have escaped the cold that is making the rounds. But we are glad to say all have recovered.

This is all for the present, next time I may possibly be able to make a definite statement of a very interesting event about to take place.

GIP.



CURWIN.—At Richibucto, Nov. 27, to the wife of Capt. Rufus Curwin, twin-son and daughter.



WALKER.—At Minneapolis, Nov. 23rd, 1895, David Jasper, infant son of Wright and Mary Walker, aged 3 months. Asleep in Jesus.

HARNETT.—At Richibucto, December 2, John W. Harnett, aged 53 years.

JOHNSTON.—At Buctouche, November 24, Eva Johnston, aged four years.

CHURCH SERVICES.

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH.—Rev. Wm. Hamilton, pastor. The usual services will be held on Sabbath first, viz:—Kingston at 11 o'clock a. m., and Richibucto at 7 o'clock p. m.

Rev. J. S. Allen will preach at Nicholas River Bridge on Friday at 6.30 p. m.; Pine Ridge, Saturday, at 6.30 p. m.; Sunday, West Branch, 10.30 a. m., Kingston, 3 p. m., Richibucto, 7 p. m.



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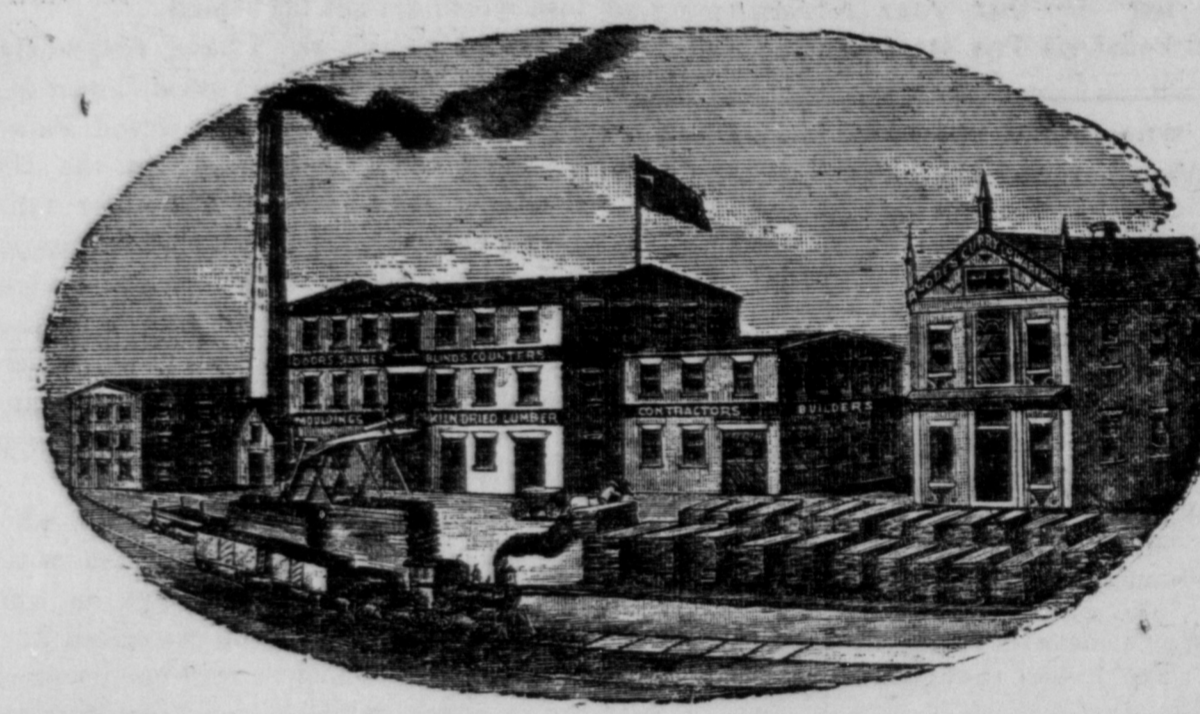
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