

SOCIAL AND PERSONAL.

EVENTS OF THE WEEK IN CITY SOCIETY CIRCLES

And the Happenings Elsewhere in New Brunswick—Celestial Talk—Moncton Society—St. Stephen, Chatham, Woodstock, Newcastle, Dorchester and Calais News.

We cannot look for much social gaiety during this holiday season, when families are all enjoying their home pleasures, but I fancy we can count on next week being a little more lively.

A quiet wedding that was rather a surprise to many St. John friends, took place Thursday evening at the residence of Rev. J. Bennett, D. D., whose eldest daughter, Letitia, was married to Major J. A. Boak, of St. Paul, Minn.

The Misses Josie Troop, Bessie Bostwick and Lizzie Gilbert, who are being educated at Bradford academy, are among the young people spending their holidays in the city.

Miss Harrison, daughter of Principal Harrison of Fredericton university, is expected to arrive in the city today, to visit her cousin, Miss McKeowan, King street east.

Rev. Mr. and Mrs. Saer spent their Christmas in Halifax.

Master Percy Thompson, son of Mr. Robert Thompson, will shortly leave for Poughkeepsie, to attend the military school.

Hon. R. Boak and wife, Mr. and Mrs. Geo. Boak and Miss Louise Boak, all of Halifax, arrived in the city Thursday morning, to attend the wedding of Mr. John Boak.

A dinner party given by Dr. Wm. Bayard, Christmas evening, will be remembered as one of the most enjoyable social events of this year.

Last evening, Mrs. Fred Titus entertained a small party of little folks at her home on Main street.

The Half-hour Reading club are making out their lists of books read during the past year. The quarterly, which will also be the annual meeting, will be held the second Thursday in January.

Dr. and Mrs. Lawrence of Boston have been spending their Christmas holidays with Mrs. R. C. Skinner.

"Fan-tan," the great Chinese game is going to be immensely popular in society circles in the larger cities this winter and in order that St. John may be fully informed on the subject I give the following authentic rules for playing it:

The dealer draws a handful of coins from a pile of Chinese money and places it beneath a brass cover. Then he proceeds to draw out four coins at a time until less than four remain of the centre handful.

The ladies are all in a twitter over New Year's day. They are expecting a revival of the good old times when they received pleasant calls from all their gentleman friends.

FREDERICTON, Dec. 26.—Christmas was a lovely, mild day, and the sleighing excellent, and every one who was the happy owner of a horse and sleigh or could obtain one, enjoyed it to the utmost.

Mr. and Mrs. A. F. Randolph will give a party tomorrow evening at their residence, Frogmoor, for their youngest son Charlie.

Mr. and Mrs. Fred Richards went to St. John on Monday to spend Christmas with friends in that city; they returned home today.

Mr. Goodridge Roberts came home on Saturday from King's college, Windsor, to spend his Christmas holidays with his parents at the rectory.

Miss Dawson, from Charlottetown, P. E. I., is here visiting her friend Miss Jeannie Logan, on York street.

Mr. Harry Fenety is home from Harvard college spending his holidays.

Mr. Spencer Estey and Mr. Will Biggs, from New York, are visiting friends here. Mr. Biggs is a son of Mr. Charles Biggs, of this city.

MONCTON SOCIETY.

MONCTON, Dec. 26.—Yesterday was a more than usually quiet Christmas day. In most of the churches the Christmas services were held on Sunday so as to give those members of the different churches who wished to spend their holiday out of Moncton a chance to do so with a clear conscience.

The only evening services were in St. Bernard's and in Church of England mission chapel. Father Cormier of St. Joseph's college assisted Father Meahan in the day's services.

Mr. and Mrs. John McSweeney spent Christmas in Westmorland.

Mr. Wallace, of the Bank of Montreal, and Mr. Metzler, of the Bank of Nova Scotia, spent their holiday in Halifax.

Mr. and Mrs. J. H. Wetmore spent the day in St. John.

Mr. E. S. Jarvis, of the Bank of Montreal, spent his holiday at his home, in St. John.

Dr. C. F. H. Campbell, formerly of this town, is back among his old friends, spending his Christmas vacation.

Mr. John Hickman, of Dorchester, was in town, Friday.

Chief Superintendent Pottinger, his private secretary, Mr. H. A. Price and Mr. Thomas Williams, treasurer, of the I. C. R., spent last Thursday in St. John.

Dr. P. R. Steeves, who has been ill for nearly a year, died Monday morning, of hemorrhage of the lungs.

Mr. and Mrs. E. A. Record, of Boston, are in town, visiting Mr. and Mrs. C. B. Record, at their residence on Main street.

I noted what Progress said last week, anent amateur theatrical performances, and while agreeing very heartily with those sentiments in most cases, I must make an exception in favor of last Thursday's representation of Hazel Kirk, or The Miller's Daughter, as it was called by Moncton's amateurs.

Indeed I shall be doing them scant justice when I say that I have seen very many professional companies who did not act nearly so well. Mrs. Butcher's interpretation of the title role, the charming "Hazel Kirk" was beyond all praise, and Miss Harley's "Dolly Dutton" was so vigorously natural that one found it hard to believe she had ever been anyone else but the miller's lively niece.

Mrs. Stavert made a grave and dignified "Mersey," and Mrs. J. R. Bruce ably supported the difficult part of "Lady Carrington," her daughter, a sprightly maiden of fourteen, winning warm commendation as the parlor maid "Clara." The gentlemen's parts were all so well taken that it is hard to particularize.

Mr. Paver, Mr. Butcher, Dr. Murray and Mr. Stavert took the principal parts.

Mr. Paver as "Dunstan Kirke," was not Mr. Paver at all. He was the hot tempered, hard-hearted, iron-willed miller. Mr. Butcher covered himself with glory as the ever-whimsical, outwardly silly, but inwardly sensible "Pittacus Green," and Dr. Murray's appearance on the stage was invariably the signal for a round of applause, his sorrows as "Squire Rodney" the rejected lover of Hazel, seeming to have endeared him to the audience, so well did he portray his suffering. Mr. Stavert as "Arthur Carrington," was so attractive a representative of the English nobility that one does not wonder at poor little Hazel giving her heart to him.

Among the minor characters I can not help speaking of Mr. Bowers, of the Merchants' Bank of Halifax, as "Barney O'Flynn." He was simply imitable, looking and acting the part to perfection. Indeed, when one thinks of Irishmen one has been forced to listen to the professional stage, it is a relief to listen to an amateur like Mr. Bowers.

The Opera house was filled, the orchestra played delightfully and, I fancy, the shakels that the entertainment realized were many.

Mr. and Mrs. F. M. Cotton came up from Halifax for the performance, and were the guests of Mr. and Mrs. J. H. Beddome. Mrs. Cotton went on to St. John next morning, Mr. Cotton returning to Halifax by the night train.

Mrs. Harley and Miss Sargent, of Newcastle, also came down for the play, and I regret to say that, on their return Saturday morning, they took Miss Harley with them.

A great number of strangers paid our amateurs the compliment of coming to Moncton to see them act, amongst whom I noticed particularly Mr. Wells, of Dorchester; Mr. Hawkins, of the Merchants' bank of Halifax, an old member of the club; Mr. M. G. Teed, of Dorchester, and Mr. Neals, of Fredericton.

Mrs. Arthur Dickey, of Amherst, spent last Thursday and Friday in Moncton, visiting her mother, Mrs. K. B. Boggs, who is spending the winter at the "Brunswick."

Mr. and Mrs. H. A. Whitney returned last week from Boston.

Mr. and Mrs. S. F. McKean gave a large and very successful dance, last Friday evening; the costumes of the ladies were unusually fresh, and beautiful. I have not time to describe them all, but a few of the most noticeable were: Miss Harris who wore a charming dress of red cashmere, cut decollete; Mrs. Bruce who wore black lace and silk; Miss Weldon whose gown was a bright lovely pink, a combination of satin and nun's veiling, and fair "Isult of Ireland" who was robed in pure white lace, and looked more lovely than ever.

Mrs. P. S. Archibald returned from her visit to Rockland, Maine, Saturday.

Miss Hanington of Dorchester, spent some days in town, last week, the guest of Mr. and Mrs. McLean.

Miss May Smith, of Salisbury, paid a short visit to Moncton last week, the guest of Mr. and Mrs. J. S. Trites.

Mr. James Taylor, of the Short Line railway, spent Monday in town. Mr. Taylor was on his way to Springfield to spend Christmas with his sister, Mrs. A. J. Cresswell.

CECIL GWYNNE.

Go to "The National," No. 22 Charlotte Street, for Oyster Suppers.

WOODSTOCK WHISPERINGS.

WOODSTOCK, Dec. 26.—The usual pleasures of Christmas day were greatly enhanced in the one just passed by the enjoyable temperature. Sleighing was the pastime par excellence.

Mr. R. E. Guy Smith, who has been for about a year in a banking office in New York, is home for the holidays.

Dr. Fred. Cotter, who is practicing at Debec, paid his uncle, Dr. N. R. Cotter a holiday visit.

Miss Ida Baird, who has been teaching music the last three months at Vanceboro, returned home last week.

Mr. Charles Appleby is spending his college vacation at home.

Miss Mary L. Connell, who has been visiting at Chatham for five months returned home last week.

The many friends of Miss Ella Smith will regret to hear that she has been confined to her home for two weeks.

George Baker goes to Quebec this week to attend the military school.

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The why doesn't matter to you. The saving does. You will do your best friend a good turn to show what you got from us for so

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TURNER & FINLAY.

DORCHESTER DOTS.

DORCHESTER, Dec. 27.—Christmas has brought to Dorchester quite a number of familiar faces, and this, surely, is not the least pleasing feature of the festival.

Miss Peters, who has charge of one of the Boston hospitals, is spending a short holiday with Mrs. D. L. Hanington. Her brother, Mr. Lee Peters, of the C. P. R. offices, Winnipeg, is also spending his vacation here, the guest of Mrs. G. W. Chandler. He intends taking a bride from among us, when he returns to his western home.

Mr. R. W. Hanington returned, Christmas, from his visit to Fredericton.

Mr. Charles Hickman, now engaged in the study of French at St. Thomas, Que., and Mr. J. W. Y. Smith, of Bishop's college, Lennoxville, are home for their vacations.

Mr. W. R. Racey, for some time agent of the Merchants' bank here, and now of Bathurst, spent Christmas in Dorchester, where he still seems to find some attractions.

Mr. Stanley Chandler, of Boston, is making a short visit to Dorchester with Mrs. Chandler, at "Rocklyn."

(Continued on Eighth Page.)

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