

SOCIAL AND PERSONAL.

"MARY" TALKS OF THEATRES, TENNIS, CHOIRS AND FESTIVALS.

"Lynn" has an interesting Moncton Letter and "Stella" plenty of Celestial gossip—Woodstock and St. Stephen Society News.

MY DEAR JANET: What could I have been thinking of when I made the rash promise to write a newsy letter once a week—as if one could write anything interesting at this time of year, when house-cleaning is the order of the day, when white-washers reign supreme, and the air is redolent with—dust.

To such an extent does the epidemic rage, that some few persons (in order to secure themselves from interruption) have adopted the sensible plan of putting cards on their doors, with the words "cleaning house" written on them. News, indeed! Why, if it were not for the Mewcaber club (which, by-the-by, has, I believe, resolved itself into a solitary member), I'm afraid we should have all gone to sleep this last week. They (or rather it), for you can't very well call a club that consists of only one person "they," and to call "it" "he," doesn't seem right, although, perhaps, "it" is hardly flattering to so imposing an organization. Well, now, that we have settled that question, I will tell you what it has done for us. It brought quite an interesting and clever actor here. His name is Whitecar, and heavy (very heavy) melodrama is his line. One very important thing about him is, his ability to read books in three or four different languages, all in the same afternoon, and carry about a sufficient amount of bric-a-brac to furnish his hotel rooms. This we learned from one of our editors here. Of course we saw all the plays, beginning with Victor Mont-d'air, which is a strong, ugly, confused medley of the most utter baseness, lit up with an occasional struggling ray of real nobility. I will say nothing about Othello, except to tell you Mr. Whitecar has played Iago to your dramatic hero, Salvini's Othello.

By the way, talking of the drama we are really going to have the Lalla Rookh tableaux that were so successful in Fredericton. A meeting was held on Wednesday night in the Institute library rooms to arrange things. Mrs. Temple is of course managing the affair. The gentleman whom you will remember at the cricketers' fair as the Spanish Hidalgo, will take a prominent part. The 62nd band has been promised, and everybody seems inclined to be energetic.

We are all looking forward to beginning tennis very soon now, probably next Saturday, when I suppose we shall have a grand opening affair, tea, talk, and tennis.

You complain of church and particularly of choir difficulties in the country. Here there has been lots of stir and some change. In one church the rector—newly arrived—has instituted or tried to institute a system of congregational choir practice which he described as a sort of "service of praise."

So you are studying botany. Well I envy you your long walks in the country. I wish the girls here would get up a walking club so that we could go out and really enjoy something of the true spring feeling that only the woods can give one, together with an opportunity to learn something of the detail of nature, "those endless repetitions of beauty, graduated imperceptibly from the largest to the most microscopic."

That was your phrase I think, and the only way to truly understand "the largest" is by studying the smallest in the pleasant sympathetic humor that one is likely to find on one of these spring days.

I am so glad you are going to trust me to choose your dress for that wonderful wedding, for I have been longing to get some of the lovely things that Macaulay Bros. are showing now, and if I cannot have them myself, the next best thing is to have the pleasure of choosing them for someone else. Really some of the contrasts and combinations are the prettiest I ever saw. I always have to stop and look in the window, if I go no further. In spring and summer fashions a host of details are borrowed from gentlemen's dress. I know you will agree with me in thinking this rather a mistake. There are narrow and flowing cravats, both plain and colored; plaited shirt-fronts, thin jewelled studs, scarf pins and other things copied from the masculine toilet. Lace flouncing will be quite as popular as ever, but if you are tired of yours, why don't you make it over with either cambrie lawn, or mull and trim it with ribbon which will be used in the greatest profusion on all these dresses?

Oh, before I forget it (though it is not likely I shall, as it is such a surprise to find myself more correct than you), you are wrong in your use of "gown." I have been told on good authority that the word really means a loose garment and can of course be applied to tea gowns and half-fitting things, but not to tailor-made or any other tight-fitting dress. Aren't you glad pokes are coming in again? if they only keep them a moderate size. Do you remember the absurdly large ones we used to wear a few years ago?

I am sorry I cannot give you the recipe you ask for, but will try and have it by next week. Yours, MARY.

IN TOWN AND OUT.

Miss Frances Murray, of Wellington row, is visiting at the residence of her uncle, Senator Botsford, Sackville.

The Advocate tenders its congratulations to Mr. Allen Falconer and Miss Mann, who were married in Portland, a few days ago.

Howard Fritz, M. D., who recently graduated from McGill college, Montreal, has settled at Joggins mines, and begun the practice of his profession.

Sackville tennis players have elected Josiah Wood president, G. A. Thompson, secretary-treasurer, and Prof. Hutton, A. G. Smith and J. McDougall as managing committee.

Mr. W. Southerland, of Newcastle, has chosen a life partner, Miss Boddy, from Owen Sound. Mrs. Southerland goes to Newcastle laden with numerous kindly addresses from her late companions in social and church work.

The Vanceboro ball was a success, chiefly through the efforts of Mrs. Thaxter Shaw, Mrs. G. W. Ross, Mrs. J. Holt, Mrs. H. Kellogg, Mrs. A. F. Letarte, Mrs. F. A. Little, Mrs. L. F. Moreau, Mrs. W. R. Finson, Mrs. R. E. Law and Mrs. M. L. Young.

Halifax society supports amateur theatricals so long as its purse holds out, and it is credited with quite a plethora of one. The cast of Silken Fetters, produced in the Academy of Music Tuesday, was as follows:

Earl of Windermere.....Capt. Blackburn, R. E. Mr. Herbert Trevanion.....Capt. Russell, R. B. Mr. Caleb Codrill.....Major Bagot, R. E. Mr. Hazleton.....Capt. Folien, R. A. John, servant to Trevanion.....Capt. Folien, R. A. William, servant to the Earl.....Regt. Countess of Windermere.....Mrs. Rose Miss Clara Hazleton.....Miss Stewart Lucy.....Miss F. Meynell

CELESTIAL GOSSIP.

FREDERICTON, May 18.—The Church of England temperance society had a decidedly interesting entertainment in their hall, Monday evening. Rector Roberts presided, and Wm. Wilson, Esq., M. P. P., was the principal speaker of the evening; there were also short addresses delivered by Messrs. Mott, Barker, Harrison and McNiel, college and normal students. The speeches were interspersed with music, the musical programme including a song, "In the Cloisters," by Miss Boyce; instrumental duet, by Miss Bailey and Mr. H. Tilley, and an instrumental quartette, by Misses Boyce and Tibbets and Messrs. H. and L. Tilley. Miss McMinn and Miss Tibbets each read a nice selection. At the close Sir Leonard Tilley, Mr. George R. Parkin and Mr. John Bebbington briefly addressed the meeting. Sir Leonard congratulated the society on having among its workers so many of the young men.

The Chautauqua literary circle met this week at the residence of Mr. Leonard Johnstone, and a very pleasant and profitable evening was spent. The Chautauquans will very soon be thinking of having their first picnic for this season.

Judge and Mrs. Fraser have gone to Charlotte county where the judge attends court, after which they intend taking a trip through parts of the United States.

Dr. Bailey leaves for Ottawa this week, where he will spend about ten days.

Mr. Will Scovill, from New York, is visiting his friends in this city.

Mr. William Black, from the North Shore, is visiting his brother, Mr. John Black, Brunswick street.

Mr. Charlie Thomas, who has been for many years in the dry goods store of Mr. F. B. Edgecombe, intends leaving Fredericton the last of May, to take a situation in Boston. His many friends wish him every success in his new home.

Miss Young, from St. John, is visiting her sister, Mrs. Inglis, in this city.

The new residence of Mr. F. B. Edgecombe, at the lower end of King street, will soon be ready to occupy.

Mr. John Black has bought a strip of land from the Pennyfather property, facing his residence, on Brunswick street, and a three-cornered piece from Judge Steadman's lot, which will make quite an addition to his pleasant grounds.

The Lawn Tennis club meet this week to make arrangements for their summer play. The tennis court in the officers' square is now looking very inviting.

Invitations have been received by the friends of the intended bride in this city for a fashionable evening wedding, which is to take place in St. John, on the 23rd of May.

The many friends of Mr. and Mrs. Vivian Tippet deeply sympathize with them in the illness of their little boy, Herbert Tippet, who is very low with diphtheria, in St. John.

Several ladies of the W. C. T. U. visited the jail on Sunday, and held a short praise and prayer service with the prisoners. Editor Hawke took part in the service, leading in prayer.

Mr. and Mrs. C. W. Beckwith have gone on a short visit to New York.

Mrs. and Miss Leonard have left this city for Vancouver Island, where they intend making their permanent residence.

Friday will be Arbor day, and the young folks are making extensive preparations for it: Trees and flowers are to be planted during the morning, in the different school yards, and in the afternoon there will be a

literary entertainment for the teachers and scholars of the model school held in the principal's room.

Mr. A. C. Brydone Jack, barrister-at-law, leaves this city for British Columbia on Saturday, where he intends to practise his profession.

A little two-year-old son of Baron Winslow, Esq., fell into the river Thursday morning, but was speedily rescued by his sister. A fright and a cold bath were fortunately the only results.

Mrs. Barron, who has been visiting at Rev. F. Alexander's for the past three months, will return to her home at Lake Rice about the 29th inst.

Mrs. W. J. Davidson, of Newcastle, a former Fredericton lady, is here on a visit to her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Hunt.

Mr. Chas. Bramble has removed with his family to Doak settlement for the summer.

Mrs. Jaffrey, wife of Rev. Wm. Jaffrey, of St. Mary's, is very ill.

Mrs. Capt. Powys and Miss Giles, of Kingsclear, have gone to England. The former has a daughter attending school there. The latter, who has been living with her brother at Kingsclear the past few years, will remain in England.

The most fashionable promenade at present is the new railway bridge.

STELLA.

MONCTON SOCIETY.

MONCTON, May 16.—On Thursday evening last, one of the most delightful parties of the season came off. Mrs. Webton was our hostess, and her efforts in behalf of her guests were crowned with success. Handsome rooms brilliantly lighted, excellent music, and a *recherche* supper. What more was required?

The ladies looked charmingly, all of them, but I hope to be forgiven if I mention a few that seemed especially worthy of note. Mrs. Archibald wore a handsome dress of white India silk with yellow velvet panels and trimmings; bodice cut square, with large bunch of yellow feathers.

Mrs. Hickman, of Dorchester, looked very sweet in black lace and pale blue trimmings.

Mrs. Alliston Cushing wore a handsome combination, lemon silk petticoat with hand-painted stripes, and lemon cashmere over-dress.

Mrs. T. V. Cook: A copper silk, with quantities of iridescent passamentre. This was one of the handsomest dresses there.

Mrs. John Harris: Black rhadame, with white lace trimmings.

Mrs. Estey: A very pretty dress of plain and brocaded salmon satin, with bunches of feathers, and sprays of pink jessimine for trimmings.

Miss Addie M. Kean in maize cashmere and black lace, and Miss Maggie, in navy blue surah, looked marvelously well.

"The trio" looked as charming as usual. Miss Harris wearing heliotrope silk with white lace over-dress, Miss Weldon black silk with jet trimmings, and Miss Cook, black lace with large bunches of ribbon that had a crimson and blue effect, the combination being very pretty.

The masculine voice gave a verdict in favor of Miss Cook, being the belle of the evening; but the ladies were unable to decide which gentleman carried off the honors. Mr. Benedict, our new consular agent and Mr. John Hickman of Dorchester, being rival claimants. Nor must I forget in this connection Mr. Wallace, Bank of Montreal. However, like all other pleasant things, this delightful dance came to an end all too soon, and by 3 o'clock the most tardy guest had bidden her hostess good night, and truthfully assured her of our appreciation of her hospitality.

The Weber quartette gave a most enjoyable concert last Friday, the drawback being a small audience. Really one feels ashamed of one's town, when you think that an affair of the *Aleis Joslin* stamp will draw a crowded house, while the merits of such a company as the Weber quartette, with the addition of Miss Hunt, fails to draw more than two or three hundred. Those who were there were more than repaid, every piece being charmingly rendered.

We have the prospect of a drive whist-party for next week, and that I am afraid will end them for this season.

Mrs. George McSweeney, accompanied her father, Hon. John Lefurgy, to Prince Edward Island, last Tuesday. Mrs. McSweeney will remain till June.

Mrs. P. S. Archibald has gone east to spend a week with her sister, Mrs. Len Archibald, of Antigonish.

Mrs. T. V. Cook, hoping to escape our wretched spring weather, leaves today for Boston. She will be accompanied by her daughter, Miss Mona Cook. They will remain four or five weeks.

Our hopes in regard to having the military camp located in Moncton are "fading, still fading," and it really is too bad. The girls were looking forward with such delight to having the officers to flirt with, it only for a few days. Girls will be girls (the darlings!) all the world over; while merchants and others who expected to reap a golden harvest sigh, and say, "blessed are those who expect nothing, they shall not be disappointed."

Mrs. C. C. Hamilton, Shediac, is spending a few days with her aunt, Mrs. McAlister.

(Continued on Eighth Page.)

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