

SOCIAL AND PERSONAL.

EVENTS OF THE WEEK IN ST. JOHN AND HALIFAX

And the Happenings in Social Circles of Fredericton, Moncton, Woodstock, Chatham, Dorchester, St. Stephen, Newcastle, Bathurst and Shediac.

Wednesday was the first day of Lent, a fact which many only began to realize the early part of this week, as the two days that preceded it showed dances being given on each evening.

Now it is incumbent on us to mortify the flesh, which I fear is a mere form of speech with the majority of us, for, though I doubt not many good resolutions are formed on Ash Wednesday, some of them are sure to be broken ere the 40 days have expired. Certainly many of us are apt to "weary in well doing."

While I am on the subject of keeping Lent strictly, it often amuses me immensely when some of my friends religiously refuse invitations to dances during that season, but think it no harm whatever to attend card parties or social evenings where dancing is indulged in. Now, I know of many who enjoy a game of whist or euchre very much more than a ball, still those people would not be censured for participating in the former, but hands would be held up in holy horror if he or she was guilty of the awful crime of accepting an invitation to a dance.

Far better would it be if one could consider their own feelings in this matter, and judge for themselves what or what not to deny themselves during the Lenten season.

On Friday evening, March 1, Mr. Frank Jones and Miss Edna Jones entertained a number of their young friends to a driving party. On account of the indisposition of their mother, Mrs. Simeon Jones, the party was chaperoned by their aunt, Mrs. Skinner, and Mrs. McLaughlin. After enjoying a very pleasant drive, the young people returned to the residence of Mr. Simeon Jones, where supper awaited them, after which the guests entered with great zest into the enlivening pleasures of a dance.

Mr. and Mrs. E. T. Sturdee arrived home on Sunday morning from their visit to New York. Mrs. Sturdee received her friends this week and a great number called to offer their congratulations and to welcome her home. Mrs. Sturdee was handsomely attired in a gown of terra cotta silk and plush made *en train*. Her bridesmaids, Miss Bessie Scovil and Miss Mary Sturdee received with her.

A small dancing party, given by Mr. and Mrs. F. T. C. Burpee on Monday evening, was one of the very pleasant social events of this week. The ladies were all charmingly attired, and the guests of the evening all availed themselves of the hospitality so freely extended. In the absence of professional musicians the ladies present took it in turns to play for the dancing, and all agreed that amateur music compared very favorably with professional. Supper was served late in the evening and dancing was kept up until 2 o'clock.

Another very pleasant evening was spent by some young people at the residence of Mr. and Mrs. Charles Kinnear, on Monday. The first part of the evening progressive euchre was played and the usual prizes competed for. After a sumptuous supper a programme of dances was gone through and the guests did not disperse until a late hour.

A party was also given on Tuesday evening by Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Howe, at their suburban residence, Glenora, when a number from the city drove out, notwithstanding the bad weather, and spent a most enjoyable evening. Mr. and Mrs. Howe making the very best of host and hostess.

The rector of Trinity church was on Ash Wednesday the recipient of a handsome gift, for use in the church, including a magnificent purple altar cloth embroidered in gold, with stoles, alms bags, book-markers, pulpit and reading desk frontals to match. These were donated by members of the congregation, and the work was done by ladies in St. John and compared most favorably both in taste and design with that done in England and the states. They were used in the church on the first day of Lent and will be throughout the season.

Notwithstanding the many other attractions on Monday evening, the closing concert of the Institute course was well attended, the house being very well filled. Miss MacLellan is to be congratulated on the very excellent programme that was rendered, considering so short a time had been given her to get it up. The selections being chiefly well known operatic airs, could not fail to please these present.

The wet weather on Tuesday evening interfered very much with the attendance at the carnival at the Victoria rink. I heard some of the costumes were remarkably good, Mrs. Thorne's representation of a rainbow being both original and beautiful.

I often wonder why some of our energetic society members do not give a fancy dress ball, or even small dance in costume. It is some six or seven years now since one has been given. Many say, "Oh, it is such an expense and trouble getting up a costume," but would not a calico ball, given in Easter week, be a good idea, when the expense of the costume would be greatly lessened? I am afraid I am not inculcating very good thoughts in our young people's minds for this season, but I doubt if my words would have any weight one way or another.

Miss Belle McLearn and Miss Bertie McLearn left on Wednesday for Bangor, where they will pay a short visit.

On Thursday evening Lieut.-Colonel Blaine and the officers of the 62nd Fusiliers, all in uniform, called on Major and Mrs. Sturdee at their residence, Camarthen street, and after offering their congratulations to the bride, the colonel made a very happy speech, referring in most complimentary terms to Maj. Sturdee's long connection with the corps, and presented them with a magnificent silver tea service, the tray bearing the following inscription:

Presented to Major and Mrs. E. T. Sturdee, by the Lieut.-Col. and officers of the 62nd St. John Fusiliers, Feb. 20th, 1889.

Maj. Sturdee, who was completely taken by surprise, made a very neat speech, expressing his heartfelt thanks on behalf of himself and Mrs. Sturdee. After partaking of light refreshments, complimentary speeches were made by several other officers of the battalion.

On Tuesday evening, Mr. Barclay Robinson entertained a number of his gentlemen friends at a whist party.

HALIFAX, N. S. "Progress" is for sale in Halifax every Saturday noon, at Knowles' bookstore, corner George and Granville streets.

Brunswick, in town a few days ago. She has been visiting friends here.

Rumor has it that Miss Geraldine Stewart, daughter of Col. Stewart, is engaged to Capt. Boleau, of the Royal Artillery.

Dame Rumor also talks about the prospective marriage of a well known Fort Massey church lady to a Hollis street broker.

I hear that Miss Lewis will not go to England on Saturday, owing to the unfortunate illness of her father, Dr. Lewis.

I am glad to notice the genial face of Mr. Belloni, popularly known as Lord Carbon, on our streets again. He is here as usual on some coal mining business.

A Halifax paper published recently a so-called list of Halifax aristocrats or blue bloods. The appellation was unfortunate, and the list was received with something like disgust by the community. Had the paper published the names as a list of well-known society people of the city, then objection could not be so strong, but when it called them bluebloods and aristocrats, it overstepped the bounds of prudence, and made those whose names were printed feel exceedingly uncomfortable. Much comment was indulged in upon the right of those whose names appeared in the list to rank as aristocrats, and necessary incidents of this comment were many severe reflections upon many of those persons and their immediate ancestry. Of course this was very unfair to those whose names were published. They were printed without their consent and I can assert that lots on the list felt the publication to be a piece of impertinence. Now as to the list itself. Out of the 300 there are many entitled to be placed on the list of society people; not one of them, however, is entitled to be in a list of bluebloods. A number on the list are not even residents of the city, and the strange part of the whole thing is that over 100 of our well known society ladies and gentlemen are not on the list at all. Taken therefore as a society list only, it is most incredible and unauthentic. But allowance must be made for these defects. The promoter, who writes over the non de plume of Dehbert, Jr., knows as much about Halifax society as Halifax society knows about him, and that, it is needless to say, is not much. A society list, as I take it, would be made up of those ladies and gentlemen who have education (principally) and some wealth, sufficient to enable them to indulge in the dances and festivities at from government house down, or who are recognized as being socially respectable and worthy of regard in the community. With but few exceptions those on the published list would come under this head somewhere. To say, however, that all the *creme de la creme* of Halifax society is on that list, is a libel. The subject was hardly worthy of a note from me were it not that I felt it necessary to explain the matter to our New Brunswick friends. Some who may have seen the list in your province, may possibly have contracted the idea that these were the only people worth knowing in Halifax. Let me, once for all, assure you my comments are absolutely correct. I am on the list myself, and know just what I am talking about when I am discussing Halifax society.

Miss Josie Schaefer has left for Berlin. Her many friends will anxiously await news of her safe arrival.

Mr. Joseph Seaton, who has been visiting her daughter in the Western States, has returned to Halifax. Mr. and Mrs. Seaton are quartered at the Queen hotel.

WELBY. "Progress" is for sale in Fredericton at the bookstores of W. T. H. Penety and James H. Haethorne.

MARCH 6.—The party given last Thursday evening by Mrs. Hilyard, in honor of Mrs. Forrester and Miss Stevenson was a very delightful affair. Mr. and Mrs. Hilyard make model hosts, doing everything in their power to insure a good time for their guests. The house looked very pretty, the hall being illuminated with Chinese lanterns. Three rooms were prepared for dancing and the music was excellent. There were about 50 present. The following is the list of invited guests:

- Mr and Mrs Forrester, Hon. D McLeilan, St. Dr and Mrs Pugsley, St. John, Major and Mrs Gordon, Capt and Mrs Hemming, Mr Black, Mr H Tilley, Mr and Mrs Sewell, Mr Gelbrand, The Mayor and Mrs Hazen, Misses Dever, St John, Mr and Mrs T C Allen, Mr and Mrs Geo Allen, Miss Allen, Mrs R Wetmore, Miss Winslow, Mrs Stopford, Miss Milner, Sackville, Mr and the Misses Powers, Dr and Mrs McLearn, Miss Jack, Mr and Miss Glasier, Mr and Mrs C Beckwith, Mr and Mrs A G Beckwith, Mr and Mrs W Yanwart, Dr and Mrs Bridges, Mr and Mrs Forgan, Miss Brown, Mr Bristowe, Mr Barker, Mr R Randolph.

There were a number of very pretty costumes. Mrs Hilyard received her guests in white striped tulle over white satin, with mignonette green trimmings.

Mrs Forrester wore an exquisite dress of heliotrope satin striped with draperies of tulle the same shade, corsage bouquet of pansies, pearl necklace. Miss Stevenson; White china silk with mignonette green ribbon. Mrs Harry Beckwith; A very handsome amber silk, trimmed with plush same shade. Mrs Major Gordon; Black silk and jet feathers. Mrs Yarn; A rich gold satin with overdress of black Chantilly lace, corsage bouquet of Marcehal Niel roses. Mrs Hazen; White broad-satin, cut square neck and short sleeves, lace trimmings. Fraulein Von Kratch; Black silk with pink trimmings. Mrs Hillyard; A very handsome black lace dress, with gold buckles on the shoulders. Mrs W Allan; Black silk and jet. Mrs Geo Allan; Heliotrope poplin with black lace overdress. Mrs John Black; A rich white corded silk, long train and pink feathers. Mrs John Black; Black lace bunting, handsomely trimmed with lace and jet. Miss Wetmore; Blue velvet and white lace; silver ornaments. Miss Powers; White India muslin. Miss O'Malley; White china silk. Miss M K Tibbits; Lavendar silk and cream lace. McLearn; Black velvet, with blue trimmings. Miss Jack; Terra cotta cashmere, with old rose trimmings. Miss Glasier; Black lace, pink trimmings. Mrs C Beckwith; Heliotrope silk, cream lace trimmings; ornaments, pearls. Miss Green; White satin.

The drive and dance given by the Star social club at the Springhill hotel, last Friday evening, was a very enjoyable affair. The party comprising about 50 couples, drove up from the city in the "Colossus" and other teams about 8 o'clock. The weather was delightful and the drive was greatly enjoyed. Dancing was begun about 9 o'clock, and continued into the wee sma' hours, the large dining hall presenting a lively scene. The music was excellent, and a very fine supper was served during the evening.

Mr. and Mrs. Albert Edgecombe are to give a large party tomorrow evening. The Girls' Mission band have every reason to feel proud of their successful entertainment of last evening. In spite of the down-pour, about 130 people attended. The church hall was hung with gay colored bunting and flags, rows of Chinese lanterns hung from the pillars, pink shades subdued the gas-light; little tables were placed here and there, and handsome rugs were upon the floor. There were 20 gayly attired Japanese maidens and burning perfumes gave a very oriental flavor to everything. At the right on entering was a dainty booth, presided over by three little maids, Blanche Tibbits, Nellie Wetmore and May Whelpley. They sold delicious walnut creams and other good home made candies, and this was emphatically a sweet corner. On the

opposite side was another gay stall presided over by Mrggie Allen, Bessie Hunt and May Stratton. Their wares were all made of tissue paper, flowers, lampshades, sachets, etc., which found a ready sale. An excellent programme of music was presented by Miss Burchill, Mrs. Black, Mrs. Cameron, Mrs. George Miller, Mrs. John Black and Messrs. Bristowe and Bridges. After the music, coffee and cake were served by Pitti-Sing and her many sisters, and upstairs pancakes were served in true Shrove Tuesday style. There was an eager search for the magic ring—I have not heard who the lucky maiden was. The proceeds of the affair will be in the neighborhood of \$40.

Sir John Allen was presented with an address in the church hall, last Friday evening, by the rector, wardens and vestry of St. Ann's church, congratulating him on his knightly honors. Sir John made a very happy reply, and was warmly applauded. He has been a member of St. Ann's corporation for 47 consecutive years. Sir Leonard and Lady Tilley presided during the evening.

Mr. W. H. Robinson, of the Bank of Nova Scotia here, who has been transferred to St. John, leaves for his new duties this week. The best wishes of his many friends will follow him. He is to be succeeded as teller and accountant here by Mr. Geo. W. Babbitt, whose promotion has been very rapid in the bank service.

Capt. D. Douglas Young, adjutant of the infantry, will leave Fredericton in a few days to take command of the London, Ont., school. Capt. and Mrs. Young have made very many friends here, who will regret to hear of their departure.

Capt. Hemming will succeed Capt. Young as adjutant here, and it is to be hoped, for the sake of the young ladies, that his successor will be a young and handsome unmarried officer.

News reached here yesterday of the death of Capt. W. S. Myhrall, son of the late Joseph Myhrall, at Shanghai, China. The deceased, who is well known

TURNER & FINLAY, 12 KING STREET. THERE isn't in all the land such another gathering of rich Novelty DRESS STUFFS. We hear it from all around. No odds whether the visitor is from about town or from New York, or where not, that's the word we get.

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Make New Rich Blood! THE JEWELRY BUSINESS heretofore conducted under the name of PAGE, SMALLEY & FERGUSON, will, after this date, be carried on under the name and style of FERGUSON & PAGE. Dated at St. John, N. B., Feb. 15, 1889. J. R. FERGUSON, H. C. PAGE.

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