

CANADIAN AND LITERARY NOTES.

Quite a delicious bit of character-sketching was that illuminated sheet of McLennan in the Christmas number of the Dominion Illustrated. We all spelled it out, and read, and laughed again and again at the humor of it. I am much interested in sketches of French-Canadian character, and am half in love with the amiable habit as he appears in literature. "The Land we Live In," published in Sherbrooke, Quebec, gives us some market lingo of Pat and Sandy, and Jacques. We could not help some broad smiles over "Baptiste Tranchmontagne's" speech—What is de Politique? He is the candidate we want. "De good time is always coming, but we don't never see dem. De farmer she want de prosperite, and she fin' nothing but de boodle by de politiqe. Well, I say, she must be change. I will go hon. 'Ottawa merself, and I will guarantee dat I will arrange dat. As I say before, you don't know me. I come from St. Basile, nine mile from St. Lambert, but, if you want send me hon. de parliament for represent you, I will guarantee dat de time will come when de rich man will be poor, and de poor man—well—de poor man she will be poor, also." Dear fellow! I would almost feel like electing him, if I had power, though I fear he is one of the "politiques" who, if the people have not formerly known him, they will afterwards have occasion to regret the knowledge.

The portraits of Stanley and his bride draw the eye. His is a sturdy form and face, quite impressive, and suggestive of romantic history. Her face bespeaks nobility of mind and spirit, and consists with that episode at the bridal, when she turned aside from the procession to drop a wreath on Livingstone's tomb. The name of Stanley we write beside that of the illustrious Scotchman, and of Speke, Baker, Park and others, the explorers of that wild, wonderful land. Canon Farrar refers to him in a recent sermon preached in the abbey:

"Have you read the experiences of the great explorer who last week we wedded here among so many thousands of well-wishers? Could a man be brought to lower depths of anguish than he was at Starvation Camp in the bonanza forest of Darkest Africa? 'Vain it was for me,' he said, 'to seek the sleep which is the balm of hurt minds. Too many memories crowded around me; too many dying faces haunted me in the darkness.' The stark forms lying along the path were things too solemn for heedful oblivion. The poor hearts around were too heavy for aught save groans of despair." Stanley may be a tough-fibred, hard-headed man, and such he needed to be, but I cannot believe him dishonorable or hard-hearted. He may not be inclined to softness or romanticism, but he can write vividly, and has had a most romantic history. I was much interested in the report of his speech in vindication, uttered at New York city. He speaks with much of dignity, and in a judicial and impartial manner. I fear that the Bartolot family are as vain and heady as the scion who by his own follies was lopped off. If Stanley is to blame, let the blame be shown, and he must bear it; but no frantic cries of wounded family pride will cause the world to discredit its hero.

Our friend and the gifted litterateur, J. M. Lemoine, has been elected delegate for Quebec of the recently established Alliance Scientifique Universelle of France. The society, for some time existent, is to be constituted on a new basis. The following statement concerning it may be of interest: The Universelle Scientifique Alliance is about to open its quinquennial ballot in the five divisions of the world for the election of its president and of its first vice-president. It is known that this association, which numbers delegations in more than 400 localities, scientific consults, as it were, has for its end to furnish men of science, litterateurs and artists, who travel, at their arrival in each city, all the information they may require, and to bring them at once into relations with the most important persons of the place who add themselves to the same studies. In case of sickness abroad, its members are cared for by the medical men connected with the institution. For information, address, J. M. Lemoine, F. R. S. C., delegate of the Alliance Scientifique Universelle, at Quebec.

They deemed he had attained something, and that he still strove higher. He was here, or was poet; but they said, "He is ambitious and a supplanter; his name and fame may prevent us. He has tasted praise, and it is sweet to his lips." So his little light provoked envy, and they wore weary of him. Then some spoke lightly to depreciate deed and song, and here and there, one shot an arrow at him.

He deemed that he had failed. To his eye, his hero-wreath had faded, his post-laud was thin and sore. All the hopeless, unscathed height shone above him; nor did he ever fancy that if there was place for him another could be excluded. Rather would he stay down and make way for a worthier. He delighted in commendation of others, and blamed only in the interest of art and truth. But as for his own accomplishment, it had mocked all his youthful believing. He had dreamed, and awakened; he had hoped, and been disappointed. From the heights of his youth he had looked upon a beautiful country lying afar, whose capital beckoned to him with its golden gleam; but had he ever found the place he would be fit subject of envy. Instead, dimness and tears. His best arrows had fallen from the mark, and lay broken at his feet. Weary, sore, perplexed, bewildered sometime he sat and consider the way; and then he marched on with resolute feet—no plaudits in his ear, no recompense in his hand. Only he said, "Sometime—sometime, we shall understand."

Dr. Holmes affirms to the top that the trouble lies not in the cup, but in his poor weak head. Verily; and since there is no hope of easily mending the head, let us put the cup far from it. But shall we likewise say, let us put Longfellow's pure poetry far from the weak heads that see prurience in it—since the cause of offence is not in the book—but in their brains? Dr. Hamilton's word we credit, that one takes from a book according as he brings thereto. Is not our age altogether too prurish in the matter of reading? and are we really any praver in spirit therefor? I remember a saying of Dr. Brown, in his marjory story, when the litterateur confesses in one breath to having read "Elzevir" and "Tom Jones,"—a "ZLIG" because they cannot read "Tom" is a "Jharmed?" The Doctor maying the dixer as much a guardian of the sometimes preals as the gentlemen of the and writers I great cause

SOCIAL AND PERSONAL.

[FOR ADDITIONAL SOCIETY NEWS SEE FIFTH AND EIGHTH PAGES.]

MONCTON.

[Progress is for sale in Moncton at the book-stores of W. W. Black and W. H. Murray, Main street.]

Dec. 31.—Christmas is so essentially a home festival that it is hard indeed for even the most enterprising newspaper correspondents to penetrate behind the veil of home life, and describe the scenes of hilarity there to be witnessed. The day was outwardly very quiet, but there were many family gatherings, and in the usual amount of Christmas jollity. One delightful feature of the day was the negative one of seeing Main street comparatively empty, and the usual amount of Christmas jollity. One delightful feature of the day was the negative one of seeing Main street comparatively empty, and the usual amount of Christmas jollity. One delightful feature of the day was the negative one of seeing Main street comparatively empty, and the usual amount of Christmas jollity.

The young people of St. George's church deserve special praise for their work in "The little church on the corner," as it is to be sojournally called. It is a marvel of beauty and brightness; no pains have been spared in the decorations, and the young people have worked early and late. Especial credit is due to Mr. J. S. Benedict, American consul, Mr. B. B. Peters, and the Messrs. W. Melly and Abner Metzger, who have worked valiantly in the good cause, and been ably assisted by the ladies of the congregation.

The Christmas music in the Methodist church is always worth noting. More trouble is taken in its preparation than most of the other churches can devote to their programmes, and the choir, which possessed is also of a high order, and under the painstaking leadership of the choir-master, Mr. J. H. Wetmore, it perfects a condition very nearly bordering on perfection. The service was almost entirely choral, and the solos were beyond all praise. Mrs. Denier, Mrs. Taylor and Mr. Wetmore being heard to greater advantage than usual.

The music in St. Bernard's was very fine indeed, the well-trained choir doing excellent work under the leadership of their talented organist, Dr. Bourque. The Rev. John Walters, of St. John's, held service in St. George's, both at early morning and midday. Mr. Walters is the guest of Mr. George Taylor, of the L. C. R., during his visit to Moncton. Immediately following the chaste excitement of Christmas, came the distracting news that the Hon. Wilfrid Laurier was in our midst, and on Friday evening he and his colleagues, held service in the Opera house to a large audience. So many distinguished visitors at once proved almost too much for our ready-going natives, but we managed not only to survive, but to give them very cordial reception. Now all is peace once more, and will be "Commiss-joué" of the Zoues should you go north again. What is a commissioner, please? Such numbers of strangers were in town on Friday. Amongst others I noticed Dr. J. E. Leduc, president of the Mount Allison Institutions at Sackville, Dr. Thorne and Mr. Charles Moore, of the Hon. Wilfrid Laurier's private secretary, Mr. A. J. Chapman and Mr. J. W. Smith, of Dovercourt, and many others from different points. I suppose the Liberal meeting had something to do with their presence.

Amongst the many young Monctonians now absent, who spent Christmas at their former homes, were Mr. Arthur Nasse, whose many friends were glad to welcome him back. Mr. Nasse will spend a week in town, visiting his friends; Mr. Harry Robb, of St. John, who, accompanied by Mrs. Robb, spent some days of the holidays, and Mr. Tom Wran, who has been making his home in Boston for nearly a year past, is spending a week or two at home.

Mr. James Chandler, of the Halifax Electric Light Co., is also in town, spending a few days with his brother, Dr. E. B. Chandler. Mrs. P. S. Archibald returned from Antigonish in time to spend Christmas at home. Mrs. Archibald was called to her former home some little time since by the illness of her mother. Mr. H. C. Charters, of St. John, with Mrs. Charters spent Christmas day in town. Mr. W. Jarvis, of the Bank of Montreal, spent Christmas day at home in St. John. Mr. and Mrs. K. A. Borden, and their visitors spent the holidays at Sackville, the guests of Dr. and Mrs. Borden, of Mount Allison Academy. Dr. C. F. H. Campbell, of Amherst, Nova Scotia, spent Christmas with his family in Moncton. And that, I think, concludes my list of Christmas visitors. At least that as far as I know. And I have no doubt that they spent a very happy time.

The many friends of Mrs. C. A. Steeves, who has been so ill, will be glad to hear that she is somewhat better, though far from being restored to health yet. I hope to be able to give a much better account of her very soon. Amongst the Christmas presentations which seem to be the order of the day at this time of the year, I note two in particular. The guests of the Com mercial hotel presented Mrs. A. C. Jones with a very handsome silver jewel case on Christmas eve. And on Sunday the pupils of Mr. George Ackman, of the Methodist Sunday school, presented him with an address, and a very handsome bible.

WELDFORD STATION.

[Progress is for sale in Weldford at Gordon Livingstone's.]

Dec. 30.—Mrs. Hale of St. John is visiting at the Central. Mr. William Lawson and family of Richibucto have taken up their residence at Mortimore. Mr. Frank Patterson, of the Richibucto Review was in town yesterday.

Mr. E. E. Phair, manager of the K. N. Railway, succeeded to Richibucto to day. Mr. Isaac B. Humphrey, station agent has been confined to his home from serious illness for the past ten days.

Mr. Herbert M. Buckley is acting station agent during Mr. Humphrey's illness. Mr. Sicastrero, of Chatham Junction is acting night operator on the team.

Mr. Frank Humphrey is at Chatham Junction in the L. C. R. service. Mrs. Henry L. Wilson fell on the ice on Christmas eve and gave her face a bad cut. Mr. William Nicholson returned last week from visiting his relations at Woodstock, and other places on the St. John river.

Mr. J. Warren McDermott, of the Eureka, has been laid up for some time with a sprained ankle. Mr. Gordon Livingston is still confined to his room, his illness of a more serious nature than his relations and friends are aware of.

PARRSBORO.

[Progress is for sale in Parrsboro at A. C. Berryman's book-store.]

Dec. 30.—After the carol service in St. George's church, on Christmas eve, Mrs. Gibbons was presented with a very pretty gold watch, and the appreciation of her service as organist, during the past year.

The annual Masonic dinner was held at the Grand Central hotel, on the evening of St. John's day, after service in St. George's church. It was largely attended by members of the fraternity, accompanied by their lady friends, and was a very enjoyable affair.

Miss Agnes McCabe, and Miss Clara Kirkpatrick, are at home for the holidays, from Ladies' College, Halifax, and Miss Cora Lonsby, from St. Mary's, Halifax. Messrs. Harry Woodworth, Percy Holmes, and Fred Carvel, from Sackville College. Messrs. Stuart-Jenks and Frank Gillespie, from the Academy, and Master Cecil, from Lennoxville, Que.

Mrs. Black, of Amherst, is visiting Mr. and Mrs. F. L. Jenks. Mrs. Alloway, Mr. Dick Alloway, and Miss Darcie Alloway, of Spring Hill, spent Christmas in Parrsboro, guests of Mr. and Mrs. Akman.

Mrs. Vickers' many friends are glad to know that she is recovering from her serious illness. Mr. and Mrs. Atkinson, of Amherst, came to spend Christmas with their son, Dr. Atkinson, and Mrs. Atkinson.

The English and R. C. churches are both beautifully decorated. Mr. Dil went to Windsor to spend Christmas with friends there. He returned on Saturday.

CONSUMPTION CURED.

An old physician, retired from practice, having had placed in his hands by an East India missionary the formula of a simple vegetable remedy for the speedy and permanent cure of consumption, Bronchitis, Catarrh, Asthma, and all throat and Lung troubles, also a positive and radical cure for Nervous Debility and all Nervous Complaints, after having tested its wonderful curative powers in thousands of cases, has felt it his duty to make it known to his suffering fellows. Actuated by this motive and a desire to relieve human suffering, I will send free of charge, to all who desire it, this recipe, in German, French, or English, with full directions for preparing and using. Sent by mail on addressing with stamp, naming the paper, W. A. NOYES, 520 Powers' Block, Rochester, N. Y.

ST. STEPHEN.

[Progress is for sale in St. Stephen at the book-stores of C. H. Smith & Co., and G. S. Wall and H. M. Webber.]

Dec. 31.—Christmas day was spent very pleasantly here. There was a grand and imposing Christmas church, which was prettily decorated with green emblems, and texts suitable to the season. As it was the only church in which Christmas day was observed, all church-going people attended, and a very large congregation was present. I heard of several dinner parties and Christmas trees that were very happy affairs. In the afternoon the streets were filled with people, and despite the intense cold, everyone who could command a horse and sleigh was on Main street, Calais, which was the scene of real sleighing parties. Fast driving and trying the speed of the various noted horses, was the chief amusement, and crowds gathered to witness them and admire. In the evening, several of the churches gave Christmas trees to their Sunday schools, and to the poor. In Milford a most unfortunate and serious accident happened on one of our most popular streets. Mr. E. W. Whitlock while taking the part of Santa Claus at a Christmas tree, the cotton wool of which he contains a trick. Sunday is our day on the road, and that is what all the complaints have been made of. Through the presence of mind of some gentleman present Mr. Whitlock was saved from a fatal death, yet very badly burned.

Very early in the morning the literary class in Christ church Sunday school, enjoyed a tree and treat in their schoolroom. This evening Trinity church has a tree and feast in the vestry, the church choir, Carolers are to be sung, and the scholars anticipate a very jolly evening.

Mr. Leonard and Lady Tilley, accompanied by Messrs. Leves and Leonard Tilley, spent Xmas day at the "Cedars," with Mrs. Chipman, Lady Tilley's mother.

Mr. Esau McElroy, one of our oldest and prominent citizens, died at his residence, on Friday afternoon. The funeral ceremonies were on Sunday, and were conducted by the Rev. O. S. Newburn, of Christ church.

Miss Nellie Smith, left on Tuesday, for Moncton, to visit her friend, Mrs. C. J. Butcher. Miss Smith also intends to visit friend in Halifax before she returns.

Miss Ida Berryman is visiting friends in St. John. Mr. E. Snow, of St. Andrews, has been in town during the past week, the guest of Capt. T. J. Smith.

Mr. A. A. Ladin, who has been in British Columbia for several months, returned last week. Miss Thelma Stevens arrived from Sackville, and will spend her vacation with friends here.

Mr. and Mrs. John R. Henry's silver wedding, on Tuesday last week, was a most successful and pleasant affair. The silver gifts and remembrances were very elegant and numerous. There were a large number of guests present, among whom were: Hon. James Mitchell, Mrs. Mitchell, Mr. and Mrs. George J. Clarke, Mr. and Mrs. Frank Smith, Mr. and Mrs. John Han, Mr. and Mrs. John R. Henry, Mr. and Mrs. James Murray, Mr. and Mrs. B. Short, Mr. and Mrs. S. Hyslop, Mr. and Mrs. Mack, Mr. and Mrs. John Bonness, Mr. and Mrs. L. Shaugnessy, Judge and Mrs. Criley, Mrs. Harry Mowatt, Mrs. F. A. Grimmer, Mrs. Edwards, Mr. and Mrs. J. McClure, Mrs. J. A. Grimmer, Mrs. Watley, and Mrs. B. Todd, and many others.

Mr. and Mrs. Vincent, Mr. and Mrs. Elliott, Mr. and Mrs. Dutch, Mr. and Mrs. Frederick Stoddard, Mrs. Albert Four, Mrs. B. Todd, Mrs. Beckett, Mr. W. C. H. Grimmer, Mr. Jas. Vroom, and Mr. W. H. Edwards.

Friday evening Mr. and Mrs. Henry entertained a large party of young people. Miss Mollie Clewley has been spending a few days in St. John.

Capt. Newell Clarke, of St. Andrews, has been in town during the past week. Mr. Charles McKeznie, who met with such a painful and serious accident in Phillips, Me., last December, was able to return home to spend Christmas with his friends and is now the guest of his sister, Mrs. David Maxwell.

Mr. Arthur Moran, of St. George, spent Sunday in town. Mrs. George E. Sands is visiting relatives in St. John.

Mr. and Mrs. Frederick Stancliffe, left on Monday evening for their home in Montreal. Mr. Melville Cockburn, of St. Andrews, spent yesterday in town.

Mr. James G. Stevens gave a party to a number of gentleman friends at his residence on Saturday evening. I hear the party was given chiefly for the entertainment of Mr. Frederick Stancliffe of Montreal, who has been a guest of Mr. John Black.

Miss Bessie Magee of St. Andrews has been spending a few days in town, the guest of Mrs. F. A. Grimmer.

Mr. James Topping and his sister Miss Alice Topping, returned from Florida yesterday, having spent some time in that beautiful land.

Mr. John Seville is spending the holiday season in Shediac, visiting his parents and friends.

Mr. and Mrs. George Gibbs, of Cambridge, Mass., spent Christmas in Calais with Mr. and Mrs. Charles W. Gibbs, of this place.

Miss Annie Harvey, of Fredericton, is visiting here, the guest of Mrs. C. A. Steeves.

Mr. and Mrs. W. F. Todd entertain a number of friends at dinner at their residence, tomorrow, New Year's day.

Mr. Harry Ryder, of Boston, is spending the holiday season with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. John Ryder.

Miss Ella Vessey and May Holt have been visiting relatives here during the past week.

Mr. and Mrs. D. Taylor went to Halifax on Christmas Eve to spend Christmas with Mrs. Taylor's parents, Dr. and Mrs. Read.

Miss Blackader, student of Wolfville, has been spending her holidays with her grandmother, Mrs. G. F. Miles.

Mrs. A. J. Hickman, of Dorchester, has been spending a week with Mr. Douzla, of Victoria St.

Mrs. Horace C. Wiggins, Rector of St. Paul for a few weeks, visiting her relatives. Mr. Eaton was here for Christmas.

Among the young people who are home for the holidays I omitted mentioning last week are: Messrs. Casey and Logan, of Dalhousie law school, Halifax, and Alfred Rogers, of Wolfville, also the Messrs. Christie and Egg. Wolfville.

Mr. and Mrs. J. Inglis Bent, and Mr. Moran and Miss, spent Christmas day in Dorchester. Mrs. W. D. Linn, who has returned home from an extended visit in Truro. Mr. Lorenzo Chapman, medical student, at Harvard, Cambridge, is home for the holidays.

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