

SOCIAL AND PERSONAL.

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HALIFAX NOTES.

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"Sartout," said Monsieur de Talleyrand, who was reported wise in his generation, "Point de vue!" If there were a Talleyrand today at the head of the Baptist church in Halifax, he would be on the point of tears of deprecation at the tremendous zeal shown by a humble light in his church.

If the orator speaks "that which he does know" he must move in a curious society; if in the speech in which he indulged merely embodied little theories of his own, he has had the pleasure of having them made a subject of impolite derision and sarcastic report.

In the opinion of the speaker Halifax is a bad and corrupt town to live in—the profane at this are tempted to inquire why he left Yarabouth to come here—which is, perhaps, a similar story! But if Halifax is in such a bad way, it will take a great many righteous men to make it so.

The gist of Mr. Adams' remarks was that the garison of Halifax was injuring its social life. The men, he said, were bad enough, but the officers were the great evil. They were social parasites; they enjoyed the hospitaity of the citizens, and laughed at them behind their backs; he had never known an officer to be christians; he doubted if even the army chaplains were christians; and what could be expected from officers and men, in a religious point of view, when the chaplains set the example they did.

Society, he said, was morally corrupted by the officers of the garison in the case of the upper classes and in the lower classes. Things had come to such a pass that respectable young men were beginning to find it necessary to go abroad to find ladies whom they could wed.

It is impossible to take such a tirade seriously, but this last remark has almost lost the effect of making society do Mr. Adams that honor. No greater insult to the ladies of the place could be put into words. The many families whose daughters have married into the army who have sons in her majesty's service, are not people whom Mr. Adams is in a position to despise, if his remarks were not beneath their notice.

As to his objections to the army chaplains, perhaps they are a little like those of the Prince of Armenia to cream tarts; "he did not know anything about them."

In the opinion of Mr. Adams, no man who ever takes a drink, smokes, or reads a novel, will go to heaven. In which case the chance of eternal bliss for the civilized world is somewhat slight. In the society of Mohammed's, to whom wine is forbidden, of savages, who have not cultivated the art of reading; and of such of the righteous as inhabit this globe before the discovery of tobacco.

As for his saying that he had never known of an officer who was a christian, such a statement is beyond belief. It is not the quoting of such names as Gordon, Stewart, Hedley Vicars, which can lighten so darkened a mind. Perhaps some one owning lines of the above christian gentleman might lend his books to Mr. Adams, and since, if not convince him.

Appropos of the political combat of which we are now in the midst. The candidates of both parties are curiously unamused by the progress of the leaving their happy homes. One often indeed, said so much on the subject of his home being his proper place, that a gentleman here said "never fear, we'll keep you there!" A reassuring statement which is yet to be proved.

Miss Julia Arthur has been in an unenviable position during the last winter. Her position is not pleasant to be congratulated on a mythical engagement, even when the supposed fiance is an eligible one; but it is infinitely worse to have one's name and with that of a gentleman like Mr. Bagge, who gave out that he was Miss Arthur's prospective bridegroom.

His history, if any memory serves me, is somewhat peculiar and varied. He is an Englishman, and he married an actress some years ago in England. His wife, Miss Helen Forsyth, was very pretty and very clever. Mr. Bagge appreciated her, for the usual refrain of his conversations was "Miss Helen Forsyth."

He was not himself a remarkable actor, perhaps to be a "super" of the upper class was the limit of his ambition. But he was a very good actor. He was not himself a remarkable actor, perhaps to be a "super" of the upper class was the limit of his ambition. But he was a very good actor.

An engagement lately announced is that of Miss Grace Hill, youngest daughter of Rev. George Hill, for so long rector of St. Paul's church, Halifax, to D. de Mile, eldest son of the late James de Mile, whose books are a household name in Canada and the United States. Dr. De Mile has been for the past two or three years a surgeon on the Allan line, and though he and Miss Hill are both natives of Halifax and old acquaintances, they had not met for some time until they did so on the steamer in which Miss Hill came from England to visit her sister, Mrs. Froom.

I hear that the coming summer will see the marriage of one of the very prettiest of Dartmouth ladies, to a partner in a well known legal firm of Halifax; after what is for these days, a very long engagement.

A few days of cold weather, a taste of skating and sleighing, have had an invigorating effect on reality, and no longer a fog speculation; but I should the glory of the institution is departed. For a first course, there are not enough dancing men, and there is not that determination to learn which is usually displayed by "dancers" with a few brilliant exceptions. The genuine part of the skating world however, is not daunted by such a trifling as incompetent partners.

The carnival is announced for the ninth of February, and we are to have an interesting and a collation dined on the ice. Precisely what figures will be adopted is not decided; but if last year's minut was pretty, this year's carnival is expected to be more so. There is such scope for color, which is the great thing; ribbons, flags, flowers, favours, whips and reins—the list is endless. I hear that the same lady to whom was owed the success of the winter, has his successor in hand; the leader for the men has not yet been appointed.

Theatricals are promised us in the near future. Mrs. Daly, Mrs. Kenney, Mrs. Tobin, Mrs. Morrow and Mrs. F. Jones are the principal ladies on the committee which met on Thursday afternoon at government house. Mr. Fuller is the "star" in our firmament at present, rice Mr. Marshall of the West Riding Regiment, who has been worthy of better things than the amateur stage. His Orphea is not yet forgotten.

What piece is to be put on depends, of course, on where it is to be played. If the hall room at government house is to be turned into a theatre, nothing very serious will be chosen. But if the company are to appear in the Academy of Music, there must be something which admits of good dressing and pretty scenery.

Mrs. Reader, who is getting up Mrs. Jarley's waxworks for the benefit of a hospital in Leicester, has had the courage of her opinions, and plunged boldly in medias res at once.

The entertainment is to take place in the Academy of Music on the evening of February and will consist of a concert by the full band of the Leicester Regiment, some songs by various popular amateurs, and very far from the least attraction—Mrs. Jarley's show.

As far as beauty is concerned Mrs. Jarley will be worth seeing. It is not a new entertainment, even in the colonies, but perhaps the far manager has new features to present. Certainly she has secured a very pretty company! Miss Clarkson, Miss Worcester, Miss Sawyer, Mrs. Roberts, Miss G. Unisco, Miss Keoch and Miss Kenney are the ladies I have heard mentioned as taking part in the performance. The male portion of the company I am unable to name; perhaps they may not be quite so interesting.

On Thursday afternoon the Wanderers' amateur athletic club held a ladies' meeting at the Church of

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England Institute, to discuss a proposed plan of holding a national fair in June for the benefit of the club. There was a large attendance of ladies; the Wanderers' grounds are a very popular place in summer, and as the object of the fair is to improve them, and nearly every woman in Halifax has a friend or relation who is a member of that club, the meeting was most successful.

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St. Patrick's Ministers have been the amusement of the public on Monday, the Leicestershire regiment on Wednesday, and the first fortnightly mess dinner of the Halifax Garrison Artillery on Friday. The guest of honor at the Archbishop's was, suppose, Sir John Thompson; but the dinner was of a very non-political and impartial character.

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Mrs. J. A. Irving gave one of her delightful little parties in honor of Mrs. Ward. Mr. Geo. A. Noble and Mr. Charlie Hill, of St. John, and Mr. J. E. Leiden, of Quebec, paid their annual visit here this week.

Dr. R. G. Doherty paid a visit here this week. A missionary meeting is to be held in the Methodist church Friday evening.

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WOLFFVILLE. JAN. 26.—The event to which all have been looking forward for some time came off on Wednesday the 20th, in the marriage of Miss Annie Frances Brown, eldest daughter of Mr. Fred Brown, to J. W. Borden, of Canning. The ceremony took place in St. John's Episcopal church at 3 o'clock in the afternoon, and was performed by Rev. Canon Brock, D. D., assisted by Rev. J. O. Ruggles, of Halifax.

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TRURO, N. S. [PROGRESS is for sale in Truro at Mr. G. O. Fullerton's.]

JAN. 27.—The choir of the First Presbyterian church and a number of other intimate friends attended a complete surprise to Mrs. C. E. Catten on Friday evening the fifteenth, the occasion being the anniversary of Mr. and Mrs. Catten's crystal wedding.

Miss Maie Dimock left on Saturday last for a visit among Boston friends. Miss Eva Craig has returned from her visit among home friends in London, Ont.

Mr. and Mrs. C. E. Catten entertained a dinner party of twelve last Tuesday evening. The dinner party, a very pleasant evening was spent after enjoying and discussing the elegant repast which Mrs. Catten had prepared for her guests.

Rev. D. N. Dimock, who has very recently completed the fifteenth anniversary since his ordination, will be remembered as a very pleasant reunion. The reverend gentleman is a favored and highly respected among all classes and denominations, with but one or two exceptions, who were unavoidably absent, but from whom the choir had received letters of introduction.

PUGWASH. [PROGRESS is for sale in Pugwash at Mrs. John Johnston's millinery store.]

Mr. J. H. Black expects to go to St. John this week to visit to his friends, Mr. and Mrs. F. R. Barber.

PARSBORO. [PROGRESS is for sale at Parsboro Bookstore.]

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