

SOCIAL AND PERSONAL.

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HALIFAX NOTES.

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APRIL 27.—The Dalhousie convocation, held on Tuesday, was slower than usual, and with the exception of one or two amusing incidents, dragged through several hours of weary existence. The Academy of Music (which is hardly a schola cantabile, and is certainly a dingy, dreary one, with the afternoon sun straining in and showing its deplorable condition) was crowded. The student was prominent, and it was certainly his day; he made his presence felt, as is the custom of the student on such an occasion, both here and elsewhere. At times he was funny, and the two incidents that enlivened matters were owing to his efforts. One was when the curtain slowly but surely descended, cutting off the graduates and the professor from the view of the delighted audience, but leaving the astonished Professor of Chemistry alone in front of the curtain! It was certainly a well planned scheme and I hope will not be productive of any trouble. The other occasion was when the secretary of the senate was reading Principal Grant's letter; when he read the part where he said "that though he could not be present in the body, he would be there in the spirit," some facetious student shouted out "what spirit," which brought down the house. The audience was chiefly composed of ladies, and I noticed many a pretty dress, but the light was such, as to spoil any dress or any complexion. The president opened the proceedings with an address, in which he introduced Dalhousie to Halifax. Then he proceeded to confer two degrees. First came the "B.A.'s" in their own swan down hoods, amongst them the ladies, Misses Archibald, Hanington, and Weston; they looked very well in their Academic robes and wore their dignity as though it was a common thing for a lady to be dubbed with a B.A. Then came a "B.L." with pale blue hood; followed by a B.Sc. with a white and crimson one. Then followed the lawyers or rather the "L.L.B.'s," a goodly company headed by the stalwart foot-ball captain, Bill, who was greeted with enthusiastic cheers by the athletic students. Next came the "M. and S." six in number, the largest class that has yet been; they looked imposing in their crimson and white hoods, and seemed ready to engage in killing or curing professionally. A lady, Miss Charlotte Thomson, received the high honor of M. A., she having taken the B. A. last year. Honorary degrees were conferred on Principal Grant and Sir Charles Thomson by the students, on A. H. McKay and Ed. W. Gilpin, Jr., who were there, but very wisely forbore to speak.

Next we had the valedictory addresses; that for the arts class was delivered by Mrs. A. R. Hill, who performed his task nicely and was certainly short. The latter can not be said of the law, Mr. Freeman, chosen of the lawyers, went into the history of common law from the time of Julius Caesar to the present and wandered on amidst flowery rhetoric about the glory of the legal profession and many other things which could not be understood till the students gave up listening and returned to their eating. Much to the surprise of any one he finished, and then followed Dr. Irwin—for the medicine. He read a very sensible and short address and deserved the applause he got. After a few remarks by Rev. Mr. McMillan and others the proceedings ended, and graduates and undergraduates poured once more into the light of day. "The winter is over and gone," and this week has given tangible proof of it. The "Madlower party" is in season; and a pleasant method of spending the long bright afternoons cannot well be imagined. Infinitely better than walking parties, they require only no exertion and afford far more enjoyment, especially to the lazy or those who are incipient slaves to the tender passion. Last week there were two which were very pleasant; but on Monday Miss Kenny gave a small one at the Dugald which carried off the pain from its predecessors. Today there is one at Walker's on the Preston road, a place celebrated for its Mayflowers which are eminent for their pink color and large size.

Tuesday afternoon was of course quite monopolized by the Dalhousie convocation of which I have written at length, but the evening was taken up by more frivolous entertainments. Mrs. Hesselein gave a large euchre party at her charming house in green street, which is one of the prettiest small houses in Halifax. She gave very pretty prizes, all silver, and the feast which carried day, and her party of five tables was very cheery and successful. Mrs. Hoak had also a euchre party on the same evening a farewell entertainment to Surgeon Major and Mrs. Grier. Among the guests were the Rev. F. and Mrs. Norman-Lee, Surgeon Capt. and Mrs. Fowler, Captain, Mrs. and Miss Clark, Mr. and Mrs. I. W. Starr, Surgeon-Major Dartman, Miss Slayter, Miss Storey, Mr. W. Thomson, Miss Thomson, and Miss Roberts. The prizes were very pretty and dainty. On Thursday afternoon a walking party composed of various energetic ladies and gentlemen went to Bedford by way of Dartmouth, walking a distance of about seven miles from the ferry here to the hotel at Bedford. Several of the chaperons drove on the Halifax side of the basin and returned while the walking party proper came down by train. A very excellent dinner was obtained at Wilson's and—as at the previous parties—every one paid for their own share, thus making the expenses fall on no one in particular. Some of the ladies walking were: Mrs. F. Jones, Miss Roberts, Mrs. A. Doull, and Mrs. Geoffrey Morrow; there were, of course, plenty of men.

The ladies' committee of the South End Tennis club met on Thursday afternoon to arrange the preliminary business of the year. I hear that the St. John players are to come to Halifax this summer for the tournament, instead of the Halifax contingent going over to St. John, as in former years. It is to be hoped we may have pleasant weather during their stay here, and some good entertainments for their benefit.

The ladies' hall is at last become a certainty. The committee is appointed, and the date will soon be settled, though very possibly it will be kept secret as long as secrecy is practicable. The subscription has been enlarged as was proposed, and the number of subscribers correspondingly limited. Only married ladies will now be asked to take part, and the committee is formed of the foremost ladies in the town. The place decided upon for the hall is at present Maplewood, which is an excellent choice in some respects, but to the economical minded with cab fares to consider, is situated a little too far away. Music will, of course, be supplied by the Leicester-street band, and the whole will be arranged for by various ladies. Given all these conditions a success is pretty well assured, and the ladies' hall now bids fair to be one of the events of the coming season.

Sir John Ross, with Miss Ross, is expected to arrive in Halifax about the twenty-fourth of May. I hear, on pretty good authority, that two large garden parties will be given at Bellevue house early in June, but that no large ball will take place there until the summer is well advanced. It will be exceedingly pleasant to have a hostess at Bellevue; Miss Ross is very young however, for the onerous duties which will fall upon her shoulders. A large review will be held on the common soon after the general's return, probably about the twenty-seventh of next month. Colonel and Mrs. Rolph return from Bermuda on the eighth; Captain and Mrs. Blackadder in the week following. The ships are to arrive early from Bermuda, and altogether it is to be hoped the summer gaieties will begin early.

Halifax society is to be augmented this summer by some very pleasant people from New York, who are endeavoring, through a private channel, to obtain a house on the Arm. As they are people who are in the habit of entertaining largely, contrary to custom of most Americans in our summer colony, they will doubtless be an acquisition to the place. The wedding of Mr. Henry Deeres Kirwan, late lieutenant R.N., with Miss Whiston of Fulham, England, took place at St. Luke's cathedral on Tuesday morning. Mr. Kirwan, after leaving the navy, settled in Sutton, Ont., where he returned with his bride after the wedding breakfast, which was given by Mrs. Stubbings, whose guest the latter had been since her arrival from England on Sunday last. The bride was extremely well dressed in simply made white benarise; her bridesmaid was Miss Blanche Stubbings, who looked charmingly pretty. Lieut. Hilbert, H. M. S. Pelican, was best man, and the whole wedding, though so small, was very pretty. Among the guests were Colonel and Mrs. Blackadder, Mr. and Mrs. Bloomfield, Mrs. Barry, Mr. Hibbert, Mrs. Charlton and a few others. The happy couple left by the two o'clock train for their future home.

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Mrs. Kirwan's going away dress was, I hear, particularly pretty. Mrs. Weatherbe leaves by today's steamer for England, as does also the rector of St. Luke's. Miss Lawson will go, next week, to Kingston to visit her relative, Mrs. William Lawson, who was for so long a resident of Halifax. I hear that Miss Troop has decided upon having an all white wedding, which is so much the prettiness in warm weather. I also hear that two of the many other prospective brides have settled upon, precisely the same dresses for themselves, and also for their bridesmaids, and that one of them is much disquieted thereby, as she had hoped to have an entirely original wedding as regards the dresses worn.

The Ladies Rifle club is to have a meeting very soon, and it is probable shooting will begin about the middle of May. Mrs. Grier will be missed in the ladies' matches, as her shooting was always most reliable, and her average for last season excellent. MORRIS GRANVILLE.

PROGRESS is for sale in Pugwash at Mrs. John Johnstone's millinery store. APRIL 27.—A beautifully situated island in the river above the town, known as "Richards" island, owned and occupied by a person of that name, has been purchased by the county, and it will be erected an asylum for the harmless insane belonging to the county, the authorities having been notified that that unfortunate class can no longer be cared for at the provincial asylum. Our summer visitors are already securing lodgings for the season. Mrs. Johnstone is home from a pleasant visit in Truro and Amherst. Mrs. Boyer is also in town again, after spending the Easter holidays with her friend, Mrs. Jenison, at New Glasgow. St. George's church was very prettily decorated with flowers for Easter, and very good music was a leading feature of the services. In the methodist church there was a good display of Bermuda lilies, which had been sent to the pastor, Rev. Mr. Giles, by a former parishioner. CLIMAX.

Characteristic. It is characteristic of the House to have only the very best, and never deal in what is known in the trade as cheap instruments. It is characteristic of the House never to ask unreasonable prices (as some dealers do, and come down if they have to.) Every instrument is marked in plain figures at actual selling prices, which is always the lowest, consistent with quality and a fair living profit. By these, and other strict commercial methods, I have built up one of the largest, if not the largest, retail Piano and Organ trades in the Dominion. I was awarded a special diploma at the late Provincial Exhibition for the best exhibit of Pianos, consisting of Chickering, Knabe, Bell, Dominion, Mason & Rice and Newcomb, which means the diploma of the exhibition in the Piano line.

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SMITH BROS. WHOLESALE DRY GOODS AND MILLINERY, Granville and Duke Streets, Halifax, N. S. A CHOICE OF Typewriters. SPECIAL TO THE MONTREAL HERALD. Washington, D. C. March 29.—The War Department desired to purchase 150 Typewriters and establish a board of experts to examine all typewriters in competition. After the examination the experts decided that the Smith Premier stood highest in point of improvements and mechanical construction. Consequently the order was awarded to the Smith Premier Typewriter Company of Syracuse, N. Y. —Montreal Herald, March 30, 1892.

G. J. HUESTIS, Agent, MARITIME PROVINCES, 24 Prince Street, Halifax.

Who Books? KNOWLES. Where? Cor. George and Granville Sts., Halifax.

AMHERST. [PROGRESS is for sale at Amherst, by George Douglas and H. A. Hilcoat. APRIL 27.—The general order of the day all over town seems to be spring cleaning, out doors as well as in and society can find no rest for the sole of its foot. Mr. E. T. Lay has resigned as the inspector of schools for Cumberland county and accepted the position of principal of the Amherst academy. It is needless to say the appointment is received with the utmost satisfaction, his value in that department being so well known by past experience. Mr. T. J. Craig succeeds him as inspector and I hear intends to reside in town. It is also currently reported that Mr. Biden, of Digby, who has recently started business here, has found it prosperous enough to guarantee moving his family here on the first of May. This week we have rather excelled in the line of social parties. Those who have pleasantly contributed to the social enjoyment of the younger members of society are Mrs. Brown, Mrs. Handford, Mrs. Munro and Mrs. Pindis. Dancing was the amusement of the evening at all the above places. A very pleasant surprise party was given Miss Florence Black on Monday evening, at her home, Victoria street. The promoters of the pleasant event were the Misses Sutcliffe. I hear some talk of a leap year dance being given in the near future. It is to be hoped it will end in something more tangible than talk and that divers opinions of the fair ones may not prevent a successful issue. Mrs. N. Rhodes has gone to Wolfville to visit her son, who is attending school there. The At Home given by the Free Masons in their prettily arranged hall, in Blenk's block, on the evening of the 23rd, called forth the elite of the town. The hosts of the evening were most attentive and the slightest thing pertaining to the pleasure of the evening was remiss. The history of masonry, as given by Mr. E. J. Lay, was more amusing than instructive, as he failed to give the exact date of the first administration to the order. The music by the orchestra was highly appreciated, as I understand it was their first appearance in that particular role, and the vocal work by a number of our favorite local artists was exceptionally well rendered. The generosity of the masons better halves was manifested by the ample supply of delicacies which they served throughout the evening; the little flower girls were also a bright point of attraction in the merry crowd. Miss Muriel Morse went to Moncton to attend the leap year ball given there. I hear she intends spending a few days with friends before returning to Amherst. Bateson and Barry were also guests. Mr. and Mrs. J. R. Lamy are busily engaged in the joys and sorrows of moving into their new home, it is just possible they will keep up the time honored custom of giving a house warming. Mrs. Kobb, Victoria street, entertained the younger members of St. Stephen church on Friday evening. Prof. Barnaby has postponed the grand recital of sacred music until the latter part of May. I hear there is to be a full orchestra in attendance. Rev. V. E. Harris went to Truro on Saturday evening in order to change places with Archdeacon Campbell who officiated here. Clifton Church. He was the guest of J. Medley Townshend while in town. The services by the Rev. Mr. Strothard in the Methodist church on Sunday evening was especially adapted to the spiritual welfare of the old fellows of whom he is chaplain. Their line of march to the church was a well kept up and very seldom were they allowed the pleasure of seeing those fine looking gentlemen in such pretty regalia, there is little wonder that they were gazed at with admiration. Mr. A. W. Bateson left on Tuesday for Ottawa. Mr. and Mrs. Ketchum's numerous friends are much pleased to welcome them home, after their long absence abroad. Mr. A. D. Provand, of Glasgow, vice-chairman of the Ship railway company, was their guest with a few other friends on Monday evening. Mrs. Sophia Ferguson, relict of H. Ferguson, died last week. Her funeral services were held on Sunday. She was the oldest resident in Amherst, having arrived at the advanced age of 93, this is the seventh of our oldest citizens who has died during the winter. Captain Munro spent a few days home last week. The military band went to Truro last night to assist in the reception given Mrs. J. Thomson. They returned in the "see-saw" hour, and had a most delightful time while there. Prof. Max Sterne arrived home on the first of the week to assist his brothers of the fraternity in receiving on Wednesday evening. MARSH MALLOW.

ANNAPOLIS. APRIL 26.—Mr. Kenneth Leavitt leaves for Halifax in a few days. There is to be a wedding here tomorrow morning, but it has been kept so quiet that I cannot say even what the bride is to wear until next week. The family of the late Prof. Porter intend returning to Halifax on Thursday. Miss Porter is a general favorite, and everyone is glad to hear that some day soon Annapolis will again become her home. I understand that in June one of our prominent citizens is to be married to a Dartmouth lady. Mr. Kennedy of the bank of Nova Scotia, Yarmouth, spent Easter Sunday here, returning on Monday, accompanied by his wife and child. Miss Leitch, who is here on a visit here, the guest of Mrs. T. S. Whitman. Miss Emily Dakin, of Digby, is visiting Miss Crocker at her home in a Dartmouth lady. Miss Crocker and the Misses Armstrong of St. John, spent the Easter holidays at the Moorlands, with their aunt, Mrs. Robinson. Rev. and Mrs. Lassidy, of Bridgetown, were in town last week. I am glad to hear that Mrs. DeBlois' little boy is out of danger. Mrs. W. Willett is at home again, after a long visit to New York. Mrs. DeBlair has been staying with her sister, Miss Crocker, who has been suffering from a severe attack of the grippe and neuralgia. Rev. Canon Maynard, of Windsor, preached in St. Luke's church on Sunday morning. Mrs. Lombard, wife of the agent of the bank of Nova Scotia, arrived last week with her little girl. Mr. and Mrs. Alex Campbell left on Monday for Banff, where the latter hopes to be benefitted by the springs. Mrs. Farish is able to be out again after her long indisposition. Mr. Frank Koop has taken Mr. Kenneth Leavitt's place in the Amherst drug store. Mr. Louis Whitman returned to Windsor college on Monday. Mr. Will McLaughlin left for Montreal last week. Mr. Will McLaughlin gave a peanut party on Easter Monday for her guests. The first and booby prizes were won by Miss Arnaud and Mr. Leavitt respectively. VICTOR, N. S.

[PROGRESS is for sale in Pictou by Jas. McLean. APRIL 27.—Last week Mrs. J. R. Davies gave a very pleasant whist party, there being four or five tables, and a very delightful evening was spent by those present. On Friday evening the "Ladies Glee club" gave a concert in Prince street hall, which was very well attended as is deserved by the object being a most worthy one, that of raising funds for a cottage hospital. Miss Annie MacDonald upon whose shoulders generally falls the heaviest part of the programme, acquitted herself in her usual good style, and Mrs. J. Cooke who is always a favorite singer, "Whistle and I'll come to ye my lad," very acceptably. Miss Olding and Miss Porters both sang very sweetly. The Pictou band kindly gave a number of visitors were in town last week from New Glasgow, taking advantage of the first trip of the steamer Edgerton. Mrs. Troop who has been visiting her daughter, Mrs. Henry Ives, has returned here on Monday. Mrs. Costley is visiting her sister Mrs. Wm. Gordon on Denoon street. Miss MacGregor is the guest of Miss M. Carmichael. Miss Edith Carmichael, who has been visiting friends at New Glasgow, returned home last week. Mrs. S. Holmes, of Halifax, was in town for a few days last week. Mr. W. Campbell, who is staying with his brother, Capt. J. Campbell, was seriously ill last Saturday. Mr. Fred Yorston is at home again from Dalhousie college. Col. Snow made only a short visit amongst us this time, coming home last week and returning to Cape Breton on Tuesday. On Tuesday night the oddfellows gave a delightful reunion to their friends in the spacious rooms occupied by the lodge. DABBY.

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