

ST. JOHN, N. B., SATURDAY, DECEMBER 10, 1892.

BOSTON'S LATEST FAD.

TRYING TO CREATE AN INTEREST IN ANNEXATION.

The Newspapers Interviewing Alleged Canadians but the Yankees Take but Little Stock in the Discussion—Objecting to a Baby Show and its Advertising Matter.

Boston, Dec. 7.—Annexation has had a boom on this side of the line, recently. The aggressive Mr. Myers started it by his speech at Montreal, and the people who tried to hoot him off the platform helped it on. It was a lively speech and a lively meeting, and made a good story for the Boston papers. Then the Herald followed it up with several columns of interviews with Canadians in Boston. The majority of those who talked were French Canadians, and, quite naturally, they all predicted a grand union at some time in the future. They were red hot for annexation, and willing to lend their efforts to bring it about. As an offset to this enthusiasm, the president of the Canadian club at Harvard, speaking for all his fellow members, said that annexation was neither probable nor desirable. The men at Harvard who expect to go home again when they know it all, ridiculed the idea of it.

And now a St. John man who has been in Boston a year or so signs his name to a letter in the Transcript, in which, he gives figures showing the number of packages of household furniture brought to Boston from St. John in seven months, by one steamship company, and supposed to be the property of exodians. The figures are so large as to almost give the impression that the steamers, on their western trips carried "household effects," and nothing else.

A peculiar phase of the annexation question is that the talking is all on one side of the fence. Canadians have it pretty much to themselves, and the people of this country seem disposed to let them agitate as much as they have a mind to, without interfering. They take very little stock in it.

Some of the American newspapers, however, have been giving considerable space to interviews with leading statesmen and politicians of the Dominion, and what is now called the continental party is beginning to receive some recognition. "Continental" sounds good. The New York Sun is, I think, responsible for it. Some of Canada's greatest thinkers have been giving their views to the Sun, and the number of able men who are drifting into the continental party is growing larger all the time.

Annexation is not likely to become a question to vote upon this year or next, and the average American cares little about it. His knowledge of Canada is not very extensive any way. All he knows is that in winter the people skate to church and go to work on snow shoes. These old notions, however, are wearing out.

But if the continental movement is growing, those who are doing most to help it are the loyal Canadians who never tire of abusing the advocates of annexation. They are making martyrs, and that is a sign of success. No great movement was ever brought to a successful end without men being offered up as sacrifices, and the annexation agitation has reached that stage.

But there are martyrs and martyrs. Some people like to attain this distinction, and in these days when there is no danger of being burned at the stake, it is an easy way to gain notoriety.

Lieut. McDonald, of Toronto, was here a few months ago, and made several addresses in favor of annexation, but just why he came and what sent him, I do not know. However, he got into the newspapers and had his picture printed, and I presume went home satisfied. When he reached Toronto he was dismissed from the militia, and a despatch said he felt proud of it, because some other great man had had a like experience.

Mr. John V. Ellis, of the St. John Globe, was also in Boston not very long ago. He stayed at the Adams house, and had his name printed in the hotel arrivals. That seemed to satisfy him. Yet Mr. Ellis has done more to advance the annexation movement, than Lieut. McDonald ever dreamed of. If he has been made a martyr on account of his honest convictions, it has not been of his own seeking.

Meanwhile the people continue to annex in the way that would make the loyalists shudder. Erastus Wiman has been making some inquiries at the United States census office and this is what he finds.

The number of Canadians in the United States at the taking of the census of 1890 was 983,000 compared with 717,000 in 1880, an increase of over 37 per cent. The natural loss by death for the 10 years should aggregate about 180,000, making the total increase about 444,000, showing a percentage of exodus from Canada equal to more than 60 per cent.

In 1880 the New England states contained only 175,000 Canadians. In 10 years the number had reached 380,000, an increase of more than 100 per cent. Of this latter number 205,000 were French and 175,000 English.

In Massachusetts the total number of

Canadians in 1890 was 207,000, as against 74,000 in 1880. Information gleaned from outside sources, indicates that since 1890 the exodus from Canada to the United States has been in much larger proportion than in the previous 10 years, and at present there cannot be less than 1,000,000 Canadians in the United States. The figures for the past four decades are as follows: 1860, 249,000; 1870, 493,000; 1880, 717,000; 1890, 983,000.

There you are. Nearly one million of people without a spark of loyalty, deliberately earning their daily bread under the stars and stripes, and a large per centage of them voting for Grover Cleveland. And of nearly 400,000 Canadians in New England, 175,000 are English!

These people evidently do not believe in sentiment buttered with loyalty for breakfast seven times a week.

I was talking to a man the other day, who happened to be in New Brunswick during a Dominion election. The Canadian view of the annexation question seemed to amuse him.

"Why," said he, "the people down there seem to think that the United States should be annexed to Canada! We don't care whether Canada comes into the union or not, but it would be a great thing for them. They want money to develop the country and there is lots of it here. Look at Chicago. Why nearly the whole city is owned by eastern capitalists. That is what built it up, and it is eastern money that is building up all the western towns. If Canada came into the union it would offer a new field for investment, and as it has many advantages which the New England States have not, its development would be a matter of a very short time. But I do not think the United States is overly anxious to take a country with a national debt as large as that of Canada, and the thought of being annexed to that country is amusing."

The good people of Boston seem to think that the "Babes in the wood" as played in the Boston Theatre is good game for them. First they objected to the children who appeared in it, and they were taken off. Now they have found fault with the lithographs, and, as a result, all show paper before being displayed in Boston, in future, must receive the approval of a committee of aldermen.

The objectionable picture, which the Boston Theatre people were obliged to take from the bill boards, showed a young woman in a pair of yellow tights and very little else. She was leaning on a large mirror, in which was reflected a number of other young women, who all seemed to be making a concerted effort to touch with their toes something several inches above their head. Leaning on the other side of the frame was his Satanic majesty, who was dressed in close fitting red, and had his ears on top of his head. He was not unlike the gentleman shown by Lewis Morrison at the St. John Opera House a few months ago, except that the Boston Superintendent of trades, was the other eye at the young lady in pink tights. The aldermen made a tour of the theatres and frowned upon a number of very attractive lithographs which will have to be displayed in cities of a lower moral standard than Boston. The continent is spotted with them, and Boston used to be a pretty big spot.

I saw Bob O'Shaunessy the other day, at the Crawford house, where he has made his headquarters ever since his first visit to Boston. He was up on business, but met a good many St. John people while here. R. G. LARSEN.

The Deadly Cross of Corsica.

The cross is a threat of death, and the Corsican who finds it drawn upon his door knows that he must look for no quarter. In decrees forbidding the carrying of arms in certain districts exception is officially made in the case persons notoriously *en état d'inimite*. The vendetta neither sleeps nor knows where it may stop. It is not confined to two persons. The quarrels of individuals are taken up by whole families.

Not even collateral branches are exempt, and women must take their chances with the men. Indeed, revenge is more artistically complete when the blow falls upon the beautiful and gifted. In 1856, one Joseph Antoine injured a girl named Sanfranchi. Thirty years passed and the story was forgotten, but on Aug. 14, 1886, the nephew of Sanfranchi encountered Antoine on perhaps the first occasion he had ventured from his house. He shot the man down like a dog. Threatened persons remain shut up for months, or even years, in their houses, built, as all Corsican houses are, like a fortress. If they wish to go out for a moment to breathe the fresh air from the threshold, a scout goes before and reconnoitres. In the district of Sartene bands of armed men are sometimes met within the road. It is a man en inimite travelling from one village to another. The vendetta between the Rochini and the Tatan resulted in the death of eleven persons and the execution of one of the principal criminals. In this extraordinary case two entire families took to the maquis and waged guerrilla war upon each other; each in turn was assisted by gendarmes, who had made disgraceful alliance with bandits in order to effect their arrests.

Contrary to custom, some of these bandits became brigands. As a rule persons outside their quarrel are never molested by them. They are merely outlaws. The Rochini who was guillotined in 1888 (the first execution in many years), boasted that he was only 22 and had killed seven persons with his own hand. Confident of reprieve, he continued to regard himself as a hero until the day of the execution. When, all hope was gone he sank into the most abject state of cowardice, which lasted until the end.—National Review.

LIFE IN A SILENT WORLD

YET HAVE THE ONLY UNIVERSAL LANGUAGE ON EARTH.

Deaf Mutes and Their Ways—More Than a Million Speechless People—The Advance in the Education in Modern Times—Facts of Interest.

There are in the world a greater number of deaf-mutes than people imagine. Ask any person of average intelligence how many deaf-mutes there are in England, and he will usually answer—generalizing from the few he has known—"Oh, I suppose a few hundred; possibly one or two thousand." Yet there are nearly 13,000 in England, and over 20,000 in the United Kingdom. In the United States of America there are quite 40,000 deaf-mutes. India has 197,000; France 22,000; Austria 26,000. And when we consider the enormous population of China, take into account the vast amount of sickness and disease caused by want and famine, it does not seem unlikely that there are at least 250,000 deaf-mutes in China. It is believed that one in every fifteen hundred of the population of the globe is a deaf-mute. This would make the whole number much more than a million deaf-mutes in the world.

It is only within the last hundred years that the education of the deaf and dumb has been seriously thought about. The first school for these afflicted people was founded in England in the year 1760, in France 1763, Germany 1778, and in the United States of America 1817. At the beginning of the present century there were only ten small infant institutions throughout the world, and these were in Europe only. At the present day there are 500 at least in every division of the globe.

We have been unable to find out who invented the manual alphabet as used by deaf-mutes. There are several versions—the double-handed, as used in England; the single-handed, as used in France and the United States; and a complication of letters and signs, as used in Italy. The sign language—now used by the deaf—was in its inception the adoption of the Abbe De L. Eppe, of natural gestures observed by him in the intercourse with each other of two deaf-mute sisters, and is closely related to the sign language in common use among the North American Indians. It has been supplemented and enlarged by many conventional signs and inflections, so that at present there is no difficulty for a good master of the sign language to translate to an audience of intelligent deaf-mutes an address delivered orally upon any subject as quick as any good speaker.

In fact, it lays claim to being the nearest approach to a universal language the world has ever seen, enabling its possessor to carry on conversation with an educated deaf-mute in any country in Europe, and with many tribes of savages.

Deaf-mutes have been found to communicate readily with Laps, Chinese, and natives of the Sandwich Isles; and it is on record that the instructor of the Washington Deaf-Mute College visited various tribes of Indians, and made himself understood without difficulty, though ignorant of the words of the vocal language.

Considering the steady advance of modern society in general intelligence, it is surprising that the hearing people should have so many crude, not to say nonsensical, notions respecting the deaf. These need to be corrected. The deaf-mute is not a fool, either idiot or imbecile; he is not "queer" or "strange"; he does not need raised letters to read by (as some people oddly enough suppose), neither does he excel in music. He is neither a blockhead nor a genius. A deaf-mute institution is not a hospital, or an asylum, but a school. Its pupils are not "patients" or "inmates" but scholars.

While on the subject, perhaps it would interest readers to know a few of the curious experiences encountered when teaching the deaf. Owing to the deaf and dumb being unable to hear spoken sentences, they get a very poor idea of grammar, and so often make funny mistakes, known as deaf-mutisms.

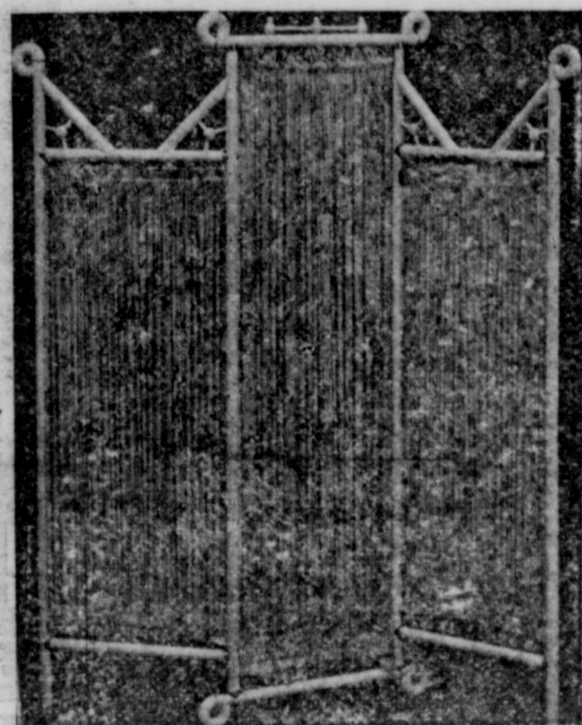
"His mother whipped the boy," was rendered: "His mother was a sad accident to the boy."

"Your house going I am tonight," "I was delighted to see you," are common mistakes. A deaf-mute who wished to say "He intended to get married to a certain young lady," said, "Five months I will getting she married." But, of course errors of this sort they soon learn to correct. It one of our deaf-mute schools the instructor had been teaching the negative force of the prefix *dis*, giving as examples the words obey, disobey; regard, disregard. Soon he called upon the pupils for illustrations of the same principles, and an unsophisticated youth innocently wrote on the board, "Boys love to play; girls love to display," hardly a correct answer, yet truthful reply for all that.

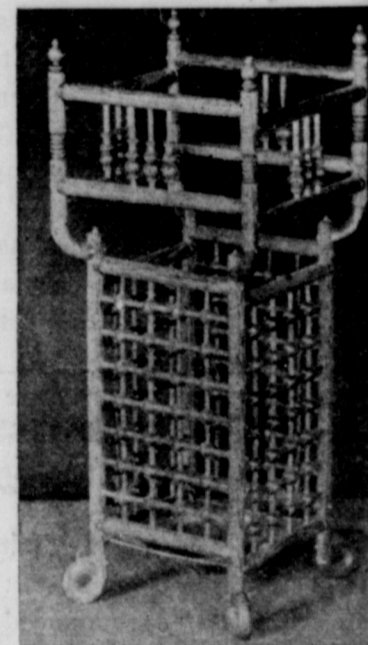
There are many causes of deafness—one is doubtless the intermarriage of blood relations. Besides fevers, measles and other diseases, cases are known to have resulted from fright, convulsions, teething, lightning, vaccination, and boxing on the ears. Damp houses are also said to be a cause of deafness.

It is not generally known that King Henry III. had a deaf-mute daughter. Nevertheless it is a fact; her name was Katherine. She was born at Westminster, November 25th, 1253, and died at the age of three years. When King George IV. visited Ireland a deaf and dumb boy sent a letter to His Majesty. The following ex-

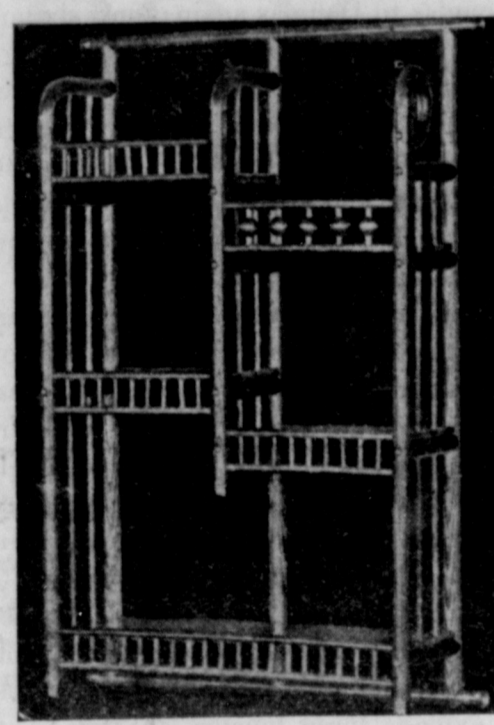
For Christmas Presents



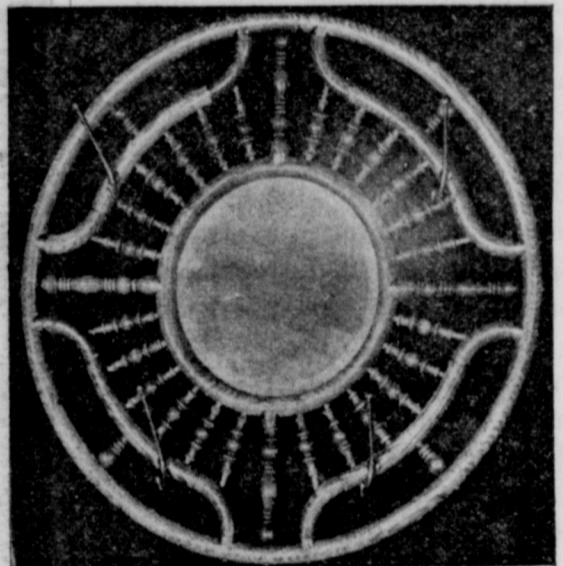
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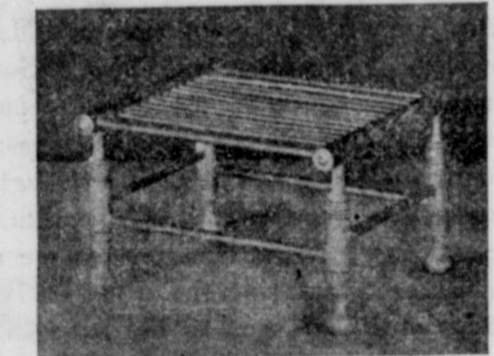
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STOOL (White Enamel).

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