

SOCIAL AND PERSONAL

(CONTINUED FROM FIFTH PAGE.)

Mrs. Stone of St. John was here for a day or two last week on her way to the closing exercises at Sackville. While in Dorchester Mrs. Stone was the guest of her niece Mrs. R. P. Foster.

Mrs. T. W. Bell of St. John arrived last night to spend the summer. Mrs. Bell is stopping at the Windsor.

Among those who graduated in the commercial department at Mt. Allison last week were Mr. Edward L. Bowes of Dorchester.

Mrs. J. S. Benedict and Miss Sallie Benedict are in town visiting Mrs. Gallagher.

Mrs. M. B. Palmer, and her niece Miss Birdie Robb of Brooklyn formerly of Dorchester, expect to sail for England the last of the week. They expect to be gone about three months. Their many friends

Miss Alice Butler of St. John is visiting Miss Nellie Palmer.

Mr. A. E. Massie the popular commercial man is at the Windsor.

Mr. J. D. Brown's many friends are glad to see him able to go out again.

Miss Gertrude McCann and Miss Bertie Collins of St. John visited Dorchester last week.

Mrs. J. H. Hickman has gone to Boston on a visit. During her absence Mrs. D. W. Douglas of Amherst is keeping house for her.

Mr. Allan Chasman spent the 24th, in Moncton with her sister, Mrs. Kinder.

Mr. Silas Cole of Moncton was here yesterday attending the funeral of her brother Mr. Ed. Cole.

Among the visitors to the shiretown last week were Judge Parker, A. G. Blair, Jr., Dr. Fugle and W. H. Fry of St. John.

AMHERST.

[Progress is for sale at Amherst by H. V. Purdy.]

June 3.—The marriage of Rev. J. L. Miner and Miss F. M. Blackader of South Ohio, Yarmouth County, took place on Wednesday evening. Mr. Miner is assistant pastor of the Baptist church here and Miss Blackader has many friends in town who will welcome with pleasure the rev. groom and his bride.

Mr. H. A. Hilloat returned last week from the Pacific side of the continent. His return trip from California was through the Southern States, coming north via New York and Boston, arriving at his old stand looking good as new, which is most satisfactory to his hosts of friends in town.

Miss Brown of St. John is the guest of her aunt Mrs. James Moffat.

Mrs. Weiling spent a few days in Sackville and returned on Wednesday.

Mrs. Arthur Moffat has returned from New York. Latest reports from Mrs. C. Trueman who is in the Montreal hospital are quite encouraging and unless something unforeseen occurs she will be able in a few weeks to return home.

Dr. Allen spent the week at Point du Chene.

Mr. and Mrs. Laggar of Parrsboro paid a short visit to Mr. and Mrs. Geo. Cooke.

Miss Hilloat has returned from visiting friends in Moncton.

Mr. L. H. Crocker came back from St. Stephen last week where he had been competing in athletic sports and as usual got a large share of the honors.

The death of Mr. Arthur Davison clerk of the county court, occurred on Saturday, the funeral took place on Monday afternoon. The band headed the long procession which included the Masonic, royal arcana, Foresters and temperance societies. The pall bearers were Messrs. A. B. Eiter, D. T. Chapman, E. J. Lay, D. W. Robb, W. F. Donkin, and Dr. E. L. Fugle. The death of such a prominent citizen is deeply regretted and Mrs. Davison and family have the sympathy of the entire community.

Miss Nelson of Truro is the guest of her aunt Mrs. R. C. Fuller Havelock street.

The town is literally on wheels and not a solitary indoor event to report and nothing in anticipation which is very unusual for Amherst. The season is so very late that exodus to the various summer resorts will be much later than usual so one may yet hope for a few minor festive events.

Dr. Morris is the guest of his sister Mrs. A. McKinnon.

Miss May Quigley, Miss Bessie Hickman, and Mrs. Wyckoff Rogers are in Wolfville attending the Acadia closing.

Mrs. H. J. Logan M. P. has returned from Chicogo.

Umbrellas Made, Re-covered, Repaired Dural, 17 Waterloo.

ABOUT MICA MINING.

Where the Mineral is Found and Mining Methods.

For many years the mountains of western North Carolina were the principal almost the only source from which we obtained our commercial supply of mica. There are few sections in that region where the soil does not carry a glittering admixture of more or less minute mica grains, while holes in the ground, surrounded by shining dump piles, are almost as numerous as the houses. Mica mining, as a profitable industry, has been less wide-spread,

than it is today. The mica comes from the mines in block form of varying thickness. These blocks range in size from the most abundant of four to eight or ten inches measurement across the face, up to those of very rare occurrence, of 24 to 30 or even 36 inches. A block was recently obtained in Mitchell county which measured 34 inches by 26 on its face, with a thickness of 18 inches. Its weight was 450 pounds. The points of color, clarity and freedom from flaws are all important in the question of market value.

The blocks after being cleared from their feldspar matrix, are split into sheets of proper thickness, and the sheets are sorted into grades. The sheets are sometimes sold in the rough, but usually are cut into certain fixed sizes, ranging from small bits of two inches by three up to the largest size obtainable. As so large a percentage of the product is used for stove doors, there are certain sizes for which the demand is greatest. The sheets are sold by the pound, the price being based upon the size and quality, and ranging from about forty cents up to almost as many dollars.

The mica is cut and trimmed by means of large shears. Here is presented a curious claim, which my observation leads me to accept as true. It is said that these shears really, if ever require sharpening, and are practically kept in sharp-cutting condition by abrasion of the material through which they pass.

During the last few years the American mica industry has greatly fallen off. From 1881 to 1885, inclusive, the demand for mica was good and prices were high. A large army of men were tramping the hills and digging holes in the ground in search of what is locally known as 'glass.' This is doubtless a contraction of 'inglass,' under which mistaken name the material is commonly known. During that period the output of mica from North Carolina amounted in value to a million and a quarter of dollars. For the same term of years, from 1861 to 1865, the value of the output was but a little over \$300,000. This was owing both to the production of a smaller quantity and to reduced prices, due to competition with the mica imported from the East Indies.—New York Post.

FACE HUMORS

Pimples, blotches, blackheads, red, rough, oily, mothy skin, itching, scaly scalp, dry, thin, and falling hair, and baby blemishes prevented by CUTICURA SOAP, the most effective skin purifying and beautifying soap in the world, as well as purest and sweetest for toilet, bath, and nursery.

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Soap is sold throughout the world. POTTER DRUG AND CHEM. CO., Sole Props., Boston, U. S. A. 25¢ How to Prevent Face Humors, mailed free.

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however, than the indications of possibly profitable mines. Although there is perhaps no county in the mountains without at least two or three mines that have paid for the working, the most remunerative district has been in the counties of Mitchell and Yancey, in the northwestern part of the state. It is there that the bulk of the work now being done is carried on.

Mica, as is well known, is one of the component parts of granite rock. Examination of any true piece of granite shows it to be a mingled mass of three minerals, quartz, feldspar and mica. In the ordinary granite, used for the constructive and other purposes, these substances occur in small and closely mingled particles. In the rock from which commercial mica is obtained, the formation is upon what may be termed a gigantic scale. The quartz and the feldspar occur in huge masses, and the mica in blocks of varying size, from those weighing but a few pounds up to rarely occurring specimens of four to five hundred pounds weight.

I visited not long ago a mine of the larger formation. I entered through an underground passage cut straight into the hillside. I noticed here, and there, in its walls and along its roof, large blocks of mica, which had not been removed, for fear that their displacement would bring down more than was desirable. The candle which I carried enabled me to note the places from which there had been removed the masses of mica-bearing feldspar, often as large as a good-sized room.

As has been said, the mica comes from the mines in block form of varying thickness. These blocks range in size from the most abundant of four to eight or ten inches measurement across the face, up to those of very rare occurrence, of 24 to 30 or even 36 inches. A block was recently obtained in Mitchell county which measured 34 inches by 26 on its face, with a thickness of 18 inches. Its weight was 450 pounds. The points of color, clarity and freedom from flaws are all important in the question of market value.

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WHY THE GREEKS LOSE.

A Side Light Thrown Upon Their Fables in Tennessee.

Aversion to mechanical discipline, writes Professor Wheeler in the North American Review, shows itself in the drill of the Greek troops, as would be naturally expected from all that we know of them outside the army. As a people they always create the impression of disorderliness. Men who walk together on the street do not keep step. A Greek funeral procession presents to our eyes a most disorderly and individualistic appearance.

The people who compose it go on foot, and each one seems to be strolling along on

his own account. On arriving at the grave there is likely to be no fixed order procedure. If there is, people do not conform to it. Every one does what seems to him good. Absence of previous plan or sense for order is apparent on every hand. If there occurs a halt in the proceedings through any uncertainty or lack of preparation a debate may ensue. Three out of four of the bearers will prove to be orators. There is no one person in authority. Five or six different ones are giving orders or making suggestions at the same time. The same popular trait shows itself wherever masses of people are assembled. Any single man is a potential marshal and master of ceremonies and may develop into such without warning. All this represents a deep-seated national characteristic and one that renders the application of strict military discipline in the form known to the armies of the north extremely difficult.

Herein lies the chief ground of apprehension regarding the fitness of the Greek to meet the demands of modern methods of warfare. A German battalion is a firmly compacted machine in which the individual has lost the sense of autonomy. Panic cannot resolve it into its constituent elements, because steady discipline and persistent drill have made machine action a second nature. In the moment of emergency a Greek battalion is liable to become 'many from one.'

A Signal Victory.

It is a comparatively easy matter to acquire a local or national reputation, in either the arts or sciences or as a manufacturer; as the press through the daily papers and periodicals very soon bring before the public any new achievements of real interest in the above branches.

It is, however, quite another thing to have one's talents recognized and endorsed in any of the great centres of civilization, and it is a very difficult matter to gain the approbation of the public of one of the European Capitals, especially that of artistic enterprise.

A Parisian success is the highest honor one can aspire to; but how low obtain it? We are happy to be able to record at least one Canadian industry which has made its mark in the Parisian world, and established for itself an enviable reputation there.

The following letter from a celebrated Parisian firm, which lately received a piano from the Pratte Piano Co., of Montreal, addressed to a luminary in the musical world, will no doubt be of interest to our readers:

'Paris, January 23rd 1897.
'During the two days that the Pratte piano has been in our ware-rooms since its arrival from Montreal, I have shown it to some of the principal Parisian piano manufacturers. They were simply astounded, not only at its magnificent tone and agreeable and responsive touch, but even more so by its careful workmanship, which is carried to the highest point possible to attain to in this branch.

'One of them, who was a member of the jury at the Exposition of 1889, could hardly recover from his astonishment at the fact that there was a factory in Canada capable of turning out an instrument of such excellence.

'If Mr. Pratte, had been present at the time, hidden in some corner of the ware-room, he would certainly have run away to escape from the flattering remarks and compliments which were showered on him from all quarters.

'I am aware of the interest you take in Mr. Pratte, and am sure that you will be much pleased to hear of the first impression which his piano produced on the French piano manufacturers.'

(Sgd) 'J. HERBURGER FILS.
'We wish to add our congratulations to those of Mr. Herburger fils.

HIS PRESENCE OF MIND.

How a Stage Carpenter Averted a Probable Tragedy.


'In time of an emergency,' remarked an elderly man in a group of talkers, 'I would rather have presence of mind than a gun.'

'I fancy the gun might do more harm than good if there were no presence of mind with it,' admitted another.

'Which reminds me of a story corroborating the wisdom of the first statement,' said a third, who on an appeal from the others, continued: 'Something like ten or a dozen years ago,' he said, 'I was in a Western town of 10,000 people or so, and it happened that a show was billed for that night. Having nothing to do and not knowing anybody in town, I took in the show. It was a barn storming troupe of Thespians doing a repertoire of blood-and-thunders, and the consequence was they had nearly a full house. Everything went along very nicely except the peculiar actions of the leading man, who seemed to

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be drunk, or getting that way very fast.

'As no effort was made by the management to suppress him, the audience after a while took a hand and began to hiss. This brought matters to a climax at once, and with an oath the actor stepped to the centre of the stage, and whipping out of his clothing a pair of revolvers, he announced to the audience and the people on the stage in the calmest and coolest manner possible that the time had come when somebody had got to die, but that he was not yet decided who it should be. Somebody started at this, but he said that the first person who rose to go out would be shot. Everybody in the house seemed to be paralyzed by the man's coolness and nobody moved. I know I sat well down toward the front, and would have given up my place willingly to anybody who asked for it, but when I looked up at that cold face and those two guns pointing down my way I preferred to take chances on remaining as I was.

'For at least a minute the actor addressed himself to his trembling audience, and then deliberately selecting a conspicuously white-haired man in the very centre of the house, he commanded him to rise and be shot. Otherwise he would shoot promiscuously into the crowd. At this point in the proceedings, I am willing to state without bias that I never was in the midst of so much suppressed excitement. For a second the house was as still as death, and then as the white-haired man began to twist about as if he were going to obey the actor's command, a woman shrieked, and as a half dozen followed suit and fainted the actor suddenly disappeared from the stage, nobody knew where, but he was gone and the panic averted, though everybody made a break to get out as fast as possible.

The curtain went down quick then, and the manager, white and scared, came out and announced that the actor had gone crazy over the loss of his wife, and that thanks to the presence of mind of the stage carpenter, that gentleman had hurried under the stage and pulled the trap on which, fortunately, the crazy man stood. The fall had rendered him helpless, and he was then waiting at the stage door to be taken away by the authorities.

'Which proves what I said in the first place,' said the elderly man with an air of pride, and the proof was accepted.

LAYING A SIBERIAN GHOST.

The Process Employed and how Well it Finally Resulted.

Mr. George Kennan tells a Siberian ghost story in St. Nicholas. After describing the visitation of the mysterious ghost (it afterward proved to be a half-starved dog) Mr. Kennan says: 'For two or three days after this, Yegor took refuge in the house of a neighboring friend and left me to tackle the ghost alone, but neither in the garret nor in the kitchen did I hear the faintest sound to indicate that the mysterious somebody who walked in the darkness was abroad. Meanwhile, however, the news that a ghost had appeared to Yegor in the baron's kitchen, and that even the skeptical baron himself had heard the "unclean spirit" pacing the floor of the garret at midnight, spread to every house in the village, and the next Sunday afternoon who should appear at my door but a Russian priest, dressed in all his robes, and followed by one of the church choir boys, with a basin of water and a small bundle of long flexible twigs. The reverend father came in swinging a smoking censer and reciting sonorously a selection from the old Slavonic psalter. He marched solemnly around the entry, the kitchen and the sitting room, fumigating every nook and corner where a ghost might lurk, and then took the basin and the brush of twigs and sprinkled the whole house with water after the manner of the Greek church. Having thus performed his official duty, he greeted me courteously, apologized for the intrusion and said that it was his custom to conduct a ceremony of that kind once a year in every house in the village. I was not, of course, a member of his church. But he had taken the liberty, he said, of coming to my house because there were reports in circulation that mysterious noises had been heard in it, and the minds of his parishners were disturbed.

A COOL SCOT.

How he met the Agreement of a San Francisco Foot pad.

Mr. McGregor, a Scot who resides in San Francisco, is said by an exchange to be one of the most argumentative of men, and one of the calmest. Early one morning, as he was returning home, he was addressed by a man who emphasized his words with a pistol:

'Throw up your hands!'

'Why?' asked Mr. McGregor, calmly.

'Throw them up!'

'But what for?'

'Put up your hands!' insisted the footpad, shaking his pistol. 'Will you do what I tell you?'

'That depends,' said Mr. McGregor. 'If you can show me any reason why I should put up my hands, I'll no say but what I will; but yer mere request wad be no justification for me to do so absurd a thing. Noo, why should you, a complete stranger, ask me at this oor of the mornin' on a public street to pit up ma hands?'

'If you don't quit gassin' and obey orders, I'll blow the top of your head off!' cried the robber.

'What? Faith, man, you must be out o' yer head. Come, noo, poor buddy,' said McGregor, soothingly, coolly catching the pistol and wresting it with a quick twist out of the man's hand. 'Come, noo, an' I'll show ye where they'll take care o' ye. Heck! Dinna ye try to fecht, or eood, I'll shoot ye! By the way, ye might as weel put up yer ain hands, an' just walk ahead o' me. That's it. Trudge awa', noo.'

And so Mr. McGregor marched his man to the city prison and handed him over to Captain Douglass.

'It wudn't be a bad idea to put him in a straitjacket,' he said serenely to the officer. 'There's little doo; but the buddy's daff.' And he resumed his homeward walk.

A Velocipede Bath.

Among the curiosities of a recent bicycle exhibition in Paris was a stationary bicycle frame without wheels, but provided with seat, handle-bars, pedals, chain and sprockets, fastened upright in a shallow tub. The driving machinery was geared to a pump by which the rider could force water up through a tube to a sprinkler above his head, thus getting a shower-bath while exercising his muscles.

Oil to Propel War Ships.

Oil is now used on war ships for partially heating the boilers. This is one of the most notable departures from the modern method of producing heat in boilers for many years, and if it proves the success anticipated it will probably be used by every nation possessing a fleet of war vessels. This new oil is a product of the distillation of lignite and is dark brown in colour, the flame being very bright and absolutely smokeless.

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