

SOCIAL and PERSONAL.

(CONTINUED FROM FIFTH PAGE.)

daughters, Mrs. D. Lee Street and Miss Bessie Babbitt, who are home for the holidays.

Mr. J. Fraser Gregory spent the holidays here with his father, Geo. F. Gregory, Q. C.

Mrs. McKinley of Picton, N. S., is here visiting her daughter, Mrs. T. G. Loggie.

The many friends of Mr. Jasper Winslow were pleased to see his genial face among them again, he spent Christmas at his home here and returned to Montreal on Tuesday evening accompanied by his sister, Miss Carrie Winslow who will visit her brother in Montreal for a time and then go to Kingston where she will spend some time with friends.

Mr. and Mrs. H. H. Hagerman are spending their Christmas holidays in Boston.

Professor and Mrs. Palmer of Sackville are spending the holidays here with Mrs. Palmer's mother, Mrs. Vandine.

Dr. and Mrs. Crockett of Dalhousie are at Marysville the guests of Mrs. Crockett's mother, Mrs. J. T. Gibson.

Miss Thea of Moncton is visiting her sister Mrs. McN. Shaw of Gibson.

Miss Daisy Weddall is spending her Christmas holidays with her aunt, Mrs. Collier, St. John.

Mr. and Mrs. J. H. Tabor of Wolfville spent Xmas with Frederickton friends.

Miss Lillian Burr is home from Dorchester for the holidays.

Mr. and Mrs. F. S. Williams of Marysville spent Xmas with St. John friends.

Mr. Roy Morrison is home from Kingston military college and is spending his vacation pleasantly among friends.

Mr. Walter Ryan is home from McGill for the holidays.

Mrs. Harry Robison of St. John is visiting her parents here.

HAMPTON.

Dec. 23—Mr. Victor W. Barnes of Baltimore arrived on Saturday to spend the Christmas holidays with his sisters at his old home here.

Miss Frances Frichard has returned from Fredericton and will spend her vacation with her aunt Mrs. Philip Palmer.

Prof. W. Morley Tweedie, arrived on Friday from Halifax and is spending the holidays with his parents.

Mrs. Edith Humphrey of Mount Allison is home for the holidays.

Prof. Wm. Raymond of the University, Fredericton arrived home on Friday and returned on Tuesday making a short visit.

Mr. and Mrs. J. A. Wakeling of St. John spent Christmas with their daughter Mrs. Cecil Travis.

Miss Annie Whitaker returned from Mount Allison, Sackville, on Wednesday and will spend the holidays with her parents Mr. and Mrs. E. L. Whitaker.

Miss Kate Bartlett of St. John is visiting her sister Mrs. P. Palmer of "Ravenswood."

Mr. V. W. Barnes and Miss Lillian Brown were to the city Monday and attended the performance of "Young Mrs. Winthrop" by the Valentine Stock Company at the Opera house last evening.

Mr. Wm. Langstroth who has been seriously ill with blood poisoning is improving.

Mr. P. S. Archibald of the Osceaga Stamping Co. went to Moncton on Saturday to spend Christmas with his family.

Mr. Stephen G. Ritchie of Boston returned last week and is spending the holidays with Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Ritchie at his old home here.

Mr. Gordon Whitaker of St. John is visiting with Mr. and Mrs. E. L. Whitaker.

FISH-BALLS PROVED DECISIVE.
They Were Tommy Denkle's Idea of What Ambrosia Was.

Tommy Denkle of Lower Hentley was slow in marrying, and the village and its vicinity took much interest in watching the progress of the laquid but irresistible current which bore him toward matrimony. He drifted up consecutively to each pretty girl in town; then to each attractive spinster; then to each capable widow; at last—his early valuation of mere beauty having waned as his corpulence increased—he eddied helplessly between two, both mature ladies of notable housewifely capacity. Indeed, Silura May and Annie Barkins were reckoned the two best cooks in all the region roundabout, and Tommy, who was unmistakably a gourmand, was popularly supposed to be unable to make up



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his mind which was the better, and consequently, which to invite to share his home, heart and kitchen.

At last he married Miss Barkins, rather to the surprise of his fellow townsmen, who were inclined, in view of Silura May's plum puddings and election cake, to think he had made a mistake. One of them, with a jocular manner which he tried to render both airy and delicate, ventured to hint as much. Tradition has preserved the reply of the loyal Thomas.

"No," he said, firmly. "No; I ain't made a mistake. I'll soon consider Silura. She's a fine woman. Silura May—a fine woman; and she's took prizes for that 'lection cake of hers at half a dozen fairs, and earned 'em, too. I don't believe gambog's itself could beat Silura May's 'lection cake!"

Mr. Denkle presumably meant "ambrosia," but his hearers found gambog's quite as impressive, and supposed it as classic.

"It was 'at undervaluin' of Silura's faculty decided me 't'her way," he continued. "It was logic—jest logic. Said I to myself, 'Llection cake and plum pudding are mighty good, but then they're mighty expensive not to say indigestible, and folks can't live on 'em. I don't say it I took Silura I mightn't have reason for extra thankfulness Thanksgiving's and Christmas's; but on the other hand,—and here's the logic,—if I take Annie Barkins, I'll be thankful I married them fish-balls every single Saturday all my life!"

A Good showing.

Mr. J. S. Currie, the manager of the Situation Department of the Currie Business University, is meeting with great success in placing students in good situations. The following is a list of positions recently filled, the majority of which were secured through the Situation Department.

Miss Mabel Lingley of Westfield, with L. G. Higgins & Co., wholesale Boot & Shoes, Moncton.

E. L. MacDonald of Alma, with Sydney hotel, Sydney, C. B.

Annie G. Laskey, city, with Nice & Nice, Counsellors-at-Law, Boston, Mass.

Chas. A. Seely, city, with Phoenix Foundry, city.

Geo. N. Duffy, city, with Mt. Morris bank, New York city.

Laura Parker, Aylesford, N. S., with Chas. W. Boyer, Mechanical Engineer, Somerville, Mass.

W. J. McGuire, city, with Alfred Heane city.

Gertrude McGowan, city, with A. A. McClaskey & Son, Confectioners, city.

Myrtle Waring, Amherst, with Cumberland Pork Packing Co., Ltd., Amherst, N. S.

Arthur Abbinette, Hillsboro, with Dufferin hotel, city.

Fred Patterson, city, with F. C. Colwell & Co., Confectioners, city.

Millie Williams, Kingston, with A. Mington's grocery, Worcester, Mass.

Ethel Wheaton, Norton, with Excelsior Lite Ins. Co., city.

Ethel Matthews, Clarendon station, with E. R. Chapman, barristers, city.

Howe Cowan, city, with Confederation Life Ass., Co., city.

C. T. Gard, Hopewell Cape, with E. J. Armstrong, printer city.

D. I. Buckley, Corn Hill, with F. E. Williams, grocer city.

Bertrand Beckwith, Sheffield Mills, N. S., with Dufferin hotel city.

In Chicago.

Pusher: "Gusher is not very happy in his choice of adjectives."

Usher: "Why so?"

Pusher: "Miss Gums fished for a compliment by asking him what he thought of her slippers."

Usher: "And what did he say?"

Pusher: "He said they were immense."

Lawyer—"You say the prisoner stole your watch. What distinguishing feature was there about the watch?" Witness—"I had my sweetheart's picture in it."

Lawyer—"Ah, I see. A woman in the case."

Chas. E. Seaton, Owner, Splint, Perforated, Duval, 17 Waterloo.

ELECTRICITY AND A PROMISE.

By its Aid it Helped a Man out of a Very Serious Difficulty.

Electricity is constantly performing new feats. One of its latest was to help out of a serious difficulty a man who had made a rash promise. It was at Clinton, Indiana. The old toll bridge over the Wabash, has been purchased by the county authorities, who intended to replace it by a steel struc are erected on the old piers and abutments. The owners agreed to remove the bridge in thirty days. The work was much greater than he anticipated, but the Western Electrician tells how he accomplished it.

The short time was the difficulty. From one bridge and house wrecker to another the owner went, trying to find one who would pull the bridge down in thirty days without injury to the piers. A declared the thing impossible.

He could blow up the structure with dynamite, but the explosion would destroy the piers. If he set the bridge on fire, the heat would crack and injure the masonry. The thirty days expired, and an extension of one week was granted.

The owner was at his wit's end, but at a juncture an electrician of Clinton proposed to use electricity, not to blow up the bridge, but to burn it apart. His proposal was accepted.

Each span of the bridge was composed of nine chords of three timbers each. It was proposed to cut the twenty seven sills simultaneously, so that the span would drop between the piers into the river. The cutting was to be accomplished by burning through the wood by loops of iron resistance, made red hot by the passage of electric current.

The attempt was made. Fifty four resistance loops were heated to wreck each span, and the spans were wrecked one at a time. Sufficient current was used to heat the iron wires cherry-red. The result was exactly the same with every span. Between the turning on of the current and the fall of the span, an hour and forty minutes elapsed. Then the mass of timbers fell into the water well inside the piers, so that they were uninjured.

The cut made by the hot wire was sharp and clean, and the wood was not charred more than an inch from the place of fracture.

The work took but a few hours. The cutter was first turned on at about five o'clock in the morning, and at two in the afternoon the last span crashed down to the river bed, and a great shout went up from the two thousand spectators.

THE ASTRONOMER ON EARTH.

A Predicament in Which a Scientist Once Found Himself.

The astronomer's disregard for things terrestrial has often adorned the comic story, but a tale which has the added virtue of truth is told of the famous Sir John Herschel in a volume by James Milne.

Sir John, who was living near Windsor, had been up to London and was to return for dinner. He wished to call for certain instruments which were being constructed for him. So off he set, carrying in his hand several parcels, the contents of which were probably intended for dinner. His quaint figure looked still odder than usual as he scudded along the streets.

When he had gone half-way, he was alarmed. It was clearly impossible that he could go on to the instrument-maker's, and still get home in time for dinner. He had a party of guests that evening and thus his punctual arrival became imperative. He wheeled about and started back, when suddenly the cry was raised, "Stop thief!"

A policeman had been watching the not very fashionable bearer of the parcels.

When Sir John came to his sudden halt, the fellow reasoned, "Ah! he observes me; my suspicions are confirmed." There could be no longer a doubt when Sir John set out to run in the opposite direction.

The policeman shouted, "Stop thief!" and rushed after the astronomer, a crowd of curious people gathering from all sides. Sir John jogged on, heedless of the noise, until the policeman brought him up. The man of the law looked awful things.

The astronomer explained that he was hurrying home to meet his wife and friends that to be detained in such fashion was a

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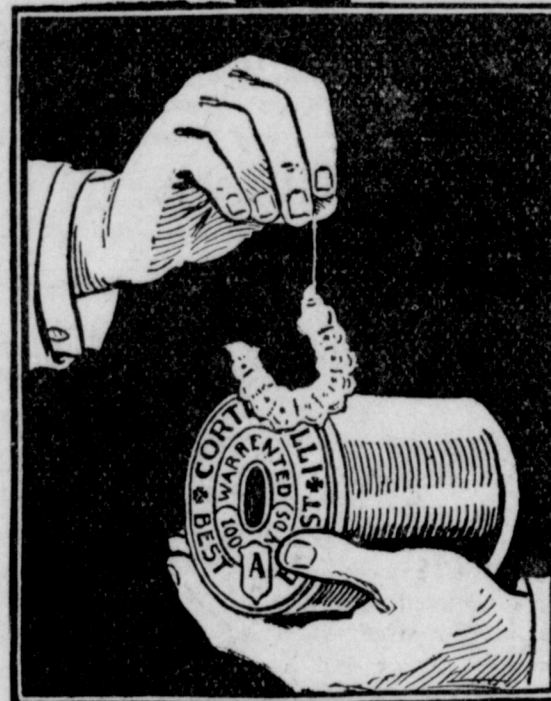
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trifle absurd, especially as he was Sir John Herschel.

"Sir John Herschel!" echoed the officer. He laughed and the crowd took up the cry.

In the end poor Sir John had to send for friends who could vouch for him. With many expressions of regret, the police then allowed him to depart.

He was late, very late for dinner, but the worst of it was that with an excellent excuse, he did not care to communicate it at the dinner table.

Husband—"Have you done your best to economise this Christmas, Mary, as I re-

quested?" Wife (brightly)—"Oh, yes; I spoke to the grocer, the butcher, and the landlord, and got them to put off sending in their bills till next month."

Lady interviewing servant—"I may tell you that we are vegetarians. I suppose you are not one?" Servant (anxious to be engaged)—"I've attended a vegetarian chapel all my life."

A contemporary, describing a recent religious function, said that "there was a very large congregation, almost every vacant seat in the cathedral being occupied."