"The matrons ball"—that's how the event of Monday evening was spoken of, and the term simply conveys the idea of the ordinary dance, with its accompanying pretty gowns, good music, and a well served supper, doesn't it? The social life of the smart set is always a source of deep interest to those outside the charmed circle, and next best to being one of the elect is in hearing how the members manage to pass their time, the forms of amusement most affected among them, and in fact no incident in society's daily life, however small is without interest for the average individual. Even men, staid dignified business men, turn with unfailing regularity to the society columns of the newspapers though they wouldn't have you know it for the world—if they could help it. It's the fashion with some people you know to disclaim against society papers, but—men and women—they read them just the same and can tell you much better than the one whose duty it is to glean such news, who are the most popular hostesses, what young ladies are going out most this winter, how many new evening gowns Mrs. or Miss Blank has exhibited during the season and all the rest of it.

All this though has nothing to do you think, with the German at the beginning of the week and though I've gone a long way around it to be sure I wished to say that though one may be deeply interested in the movements of society people and their amusements it grows just a trifle monotonous to read week after week the conventional description of a ball that differs in not the slightest particular from the one that preceded it. True there have been one or two departures from the usual custom this winter, the ball poudre being an interesting innovation, but it was left to the matrons to plan and carry to a successful issue one of the brightest and most enjoyable functions that has been given for a long time. It wasn't a very large affair, for of course it is undersood that at a dance of this kind the number invited must necessarily be limited, but in spite of the awful storm which prevailed there was hardly an absentee.

The promoters, and, I believe the most indefatigable workers for the success of the German were Mrs. F. Herbert J. Ruel and Mrs. George West Jones, and they are certainly to be congratulated upon the brilliant result. Their enthusiasm communicated itself to the other favored matrons and maids, and everybody did what they could to make the dance one to be long remembered.

The assembly rooms presented a bright appearance though there was nothing very elaborate in the way of decorations, but the music was particularly good, and I believe some of it was prepared especially for the occasion, the favors lent a brightness and beauty to the scene that made up for the absence of the usual decorations.

In the little alcove off the ballroom these bright-hued trifles were in charge of Mrs. Grant who distributed them; they were made of various colored crepe papers and were different in each figure. The cotillion was led by Mr. George West Jones and Mrs. F. H. J. Ruel, and the former is spoken of as an ideal leader. Mrs. Ruel wore a lovely turquoise silk, with numerous little tarltan ruffles of the same shade, roses and violets. The ladies as a rule were very prettily gowned, many of the dresses making their first appearance on that evening. Mrs. Geo. W. Jones had on a very handsome pale blue satin, that was most becoming, and the patronesses who were as follows: were looking exceptionally well, Mrs. Tuck, Mrs. J D. Spurr Mrs Morris Robinson, Mrs. Robert Thomson, Mrs. F. Stetson, Mrs. F. S. Barker, Countess deBury, Mrs. R. M. Hazen, Mrs. Keator, Mrs. Barclay Boyd, Mrs. T. Walker, Mrs. Chas. Holden, Mrs. J. C. P. Burpee, Mrs. Sears, Mrs. Dever, Mrs. J. McMillan, Mrs. Vroom, Mrs. S. T. King.

As the dance was on the eve of St Valentine's there was a little touch of sentimentality apparent everywhere, but more especially in the supper room were the table decorations had a decided tendency in that direction. In the centre were three large scarlet hearts outlined in smilax, and a large cupid lamp. Smilax was trailed over the table and on it were scattered numerous tiny crimson hearts. A pretty idea was carried out in regard to the selection of supper partners. A large tissue pie was provided, the filling of which consisted of valentines each one bearing the name of a lady guest. Attached to them were different colored ribbons, the ends of which were held by the gentlemen. At a given signal, the ribbons were drawn and the lady, whose name appeared on the valentine which came forth was taken into supper by the gentleman who drew it.

A description of the different figures and the favors will doubtless be of interest.

The first number was a general favor dance and in it the ladies wore crepe butterflies in their hair while poppies were the decorations worn by the gentlemen.

In the first figure large fluffy tissue ruches of different shades were worn by the ladies, and chrysanthemums by the gentlemen.

A very pretty figure was the second—and was a Scotch reel, with a piper to help make things merry. The favors were tartan scarfs and buckles for the gentlemen; and tartan rosettes and eagle feathers adorned the ladies hair.

In the third which was a modified Sir Roger de Coverley with military music, the ladies wore red, white and blue cockades in their hair, while the men were resplendent in three cornered hats in which were also colored cockades. In this figure both ladies and gentlemen carried wands twined with red, white and blue and trimmed with rosettes. In the mazes of the pretty figure the graceful wands were brought into effective play. The driving figure was one of the prettiest and for it the favors were pink and blue whips and reins trimmed with tiny tinkling bells. Perhaps this particular figure caused more merriment than any of the others. The fifth figure entailed a complicated search for partners who were finally triumphantly identified by the red paper hearts, which the ladies wore. In the sixth figure the sunflower was the favor.

The seventh and last represented the seasons and in this every one took part. The flowers that bloom in the spring had something to do with the case, in this particular instance for in the shape of pretty wreaths they adorned the ladies and blossomed gaily as boutonniers for the gentlemen.

Large pink hats trimmed with chrysanthemums, marked the summer girl while the gentlemen wore roses. Autumn brought forth big yellow hats for the ladies and tiny apples for the men. The prettiest thing of all though was grim old Winter who fully sustained his reputation for variability, for while he raged and stormed outside he was represented in the ball room by the fairest of daintily gowned maidens who wore white tissue muffs trimmed with sprays of holly, and the most harmless and fluffy looking of snowballs worn by the gentlemen There was a veritable storm of flowers when the ladies threw their wreaths in the air, and the effect was exceedingly pretty and bright. The favors were made by the ladies and showed much taste, and originality and their manufacture was doubtless the source of much pleasant amusement. At any rate they furnished plenty of it at the ball and the ladies felt amply rewarded.

Among those invited were:

Mr. H. Puddington,	Mrs. Puddington.
Dr. W. W. White,	Mrs. White.
Mr. Gordon Blair,	Mrs. Blair.
Mr. Roy Campbell,	Mrs. Campbell.
Mr. E. Fairweather,	Mrs. Fairweather.
Mr. Geo. Coster,	Mrs. Coster.
Mr. Sherwood Skinner,	Mrs. Skinner.
Mr. J. F. Robertson,	Mrs. Robinson.
Mr. Andrew Jack,	Mrs. Jack.
Mr. James Jack,	Mrs. Jack.
Mr. Chas. Coster,	Mrs. Coster.
Mr. F. E. Sayre,	Mrs. Sayre.
Mr. Sturdee,	Mrs. Sturdee.
Mr. G. Taylor,	Mrs. Taylor.
Mr. John Thomson,	Mrs. Thomson.
Mr. Walter Trueman,	Mrs. Trueman.
Mr. S. Alward,	Mrs. Alward.
Mr. F. Herbert J. Ruel,	Mrs. Ruel.
Mr Geo. West Jones,	Mrs. Jones.
Mr. R. Keltie Jones,	Mrs. Jones.
Mr. H. P. Timmerman,	Mrs. Timmerman.
Mr. M. S. L. Richey,	Mrs. Richey.
Dr. Murray McLaren,	Mrs. McLaren.
Mr. D. C. Clinch,	Mrs. Clinch.
Mr. Wm Green,	Mrs. Green.
Mr. Malcolm McKay,	Mrs. McKay.
Mrs. George McLeod,	Mrs. L. R. Harrison.
Judge Tuck,	Mrs. Tuck.
Mr. J. D. Spurr.	Mrs. Spurr.
Mr. Morris Robinson,	Mrs. Robinson.
Mr. Robert Thomson,	Mrs. Thomson.
Mr. F. Stetson,	Mrs. Stetson.
Mr. F. S. Barker,	Mrs. Barker.
Count deBury,	Countess deBury.
Mr. R. M. Hazen,	Mrs. Hazen.
Mr. Barclay Boyd,	Mrs. Boyd.
Dr T. Walker,	Mrs. Walker.
Mr Keator,	Mrs. Keator.
Dr. Holden,	Mrs. Holden.
Mr. J. P. C. Burpee,	Mrs. Burpee.
Mr. James Dever,	Mrs. Dever.
Mr. J. McMillan,	Mrs. McMillan.
Mr. Vroom,	Mrs. Vroom.
Mr. S. T. King,	Mrs King.
Mayor Sears,	Mrs. Sears.
Miss Adams,	Miss Allison.
Miss Burpee,	Misses Domville.
Miss Dever,	Misses deBury.
Miss Furlong,	Misses Holden.
Miss Harrison,	Misses Hamilton.
Miss Allison Jones,	Miss Keator.
Miss McMillan,	Misses McLaren.
Misses Nicholson,	Miss Oatram.
Miss Robinson,	Miss Robertson.
Misses Skinner,	Miss Louise Skinner.
Miss Maud Skinner,	Misses Smith.
Misses Thomson,	Miss Troop.
Miss Tuck,	Miss Vroom.
Misses Walker.	Miss Warner.
Miss McLaughlin,	Miss Smith.
Miss Turnbull,	Miss L. Burpee, Bangor.
Mr. Adams,	Mr. Armstrong.
Mr. Albutt,	Mr. A. G. Blair, jr.
Mr. C. E Burpee,	Mr. F. Burpee.
Mr. C. M. Bostwick, jr.	Mr. Walter Clinch.
Mr. Charles deBury,	Mr. Lucien deBury.
Mr. Fred Daniel,	Mr. Stuart Fairweather,
Mr. Percy Fairweather,	Mr. H. H. Fairweather.
Mr Foster,	Mr Freeman.
Mr. Gordon,	Mr. W. F. Harrison
Mr. Bert Harrison,	Mr. J. T. Hartt.
Mr. Fred Hartt,	Mr. J. Harrison.
Mr. E. F. Jones,	Mr. Fred Jones.
Mr. Simeon Jones,	Mr. D. R. Jack.
Mr. J. G. Keator,	Mr. Fred Keator.
Mr. A. McMillan,	Mr. Walter Purdy.
Mr. Patterson,	Mr. R. R. Ritchie.
Mr. J. M. Robinson jr.,	Mr. Jack Robinson.
Mr. Guy Robinson,	Dr. Skinner.
Mr. E. D. N. Sears,	Mr. Shannon.
Mr. Spinney,	Mr. Troop.
Mr. Percy Thomson,	Mr. W. H. Thorne.
Mr. Ernest Turnbull,	Mr. Hebor Vroom.
Mr. Jack Wetmore,	Dr. T. Dyson Walker.
Mr. John Warner,	Dr. O'Reilly.
Mr. Campbell,	Mr. Hal Robertson.
Mr. Earle,	Mr. Ward Hazen.

Mr. Redmond.

A very congenial party was entertained at dinner at Caverhill Hall on Monday evening, the young hostess, Miss Caverhill Jones dispensing hospitality with that charm of manner and graciousness for which she is noted and which goes so far towards making an invitation to this stately home so desirable. The table was artistically arranged and in the centre was a silver bowl of daintily arranged pink carnations and maiden hair fern. All of the guests, who were as follows exclusive of the house party, went later to the German in the Institute.

Mr. Sherwood Skinner,	Mrs. Skinner.
Mr. F. Herbert J. Ruel,	Mrs. Ruel.
Mr. Geo. West Jones,	Mrs. Jones.
Miss Burpee,	Mr. Fred Hartt.
Miss Nicholson,	Dr. O'Reilly.

Miss Louise Burpee, Bangor.

Mrs. Charles R. Harrison has been spending a little while with friends in the upper provinces.

The At Home given by Mrs. Manchester and Mrs. Tillotson on Friday afternoon of last week brought together an unusually large gathering of the smart set, at one of the most enjoyable functions of the season. The heaviest and warmest furs were in evidence for the day was one of the very coldest of the season, though inside the handsome Sydney street home all was warmth and light, and the dainty viands, hot tea, coffee and cocoa were particularly acceptable after the walk in the piercing air. That the weather did not interfere with the attendance was evident from the fact that over two hundred ladies called during the afternoon. Every room had a different color scheme, that of the reception room being prettily carried out in yellow. The dining room was a mass of green and white, and smilax was festooned everywhere with graceful effect. The daintily decorated table was in charge of light prettily gowned young ladies while Mrs. H. Puddington and Miss Fairweather also lent assistance. Throughout the rooms upstairs and down, flowers were used in great profusion, and Mrs. Tillotson's pretty conservatory was a source of admiration to the guests. The view from the dining room was particularly lovely, the numerous plants in full bloom, tall palms and ferns making an artistic mass of coloring. Mrs. Tillotsons home is furnished throughout with exquisite care and taste, and is admirably adapted to large functions.

The following marriage notice from the Boston Traveller of February 9th. will be read with interest here where the parties mentioned are well known:

"The marriage of Margaret Maude only daughter of Mrs. Catherine Cotter of 709 Tremont street, and Gilbert Patterson of Pitts, Kimball & Co., took place last evening at the Cathedral of the Holy Cross. The ceremony was conducted by Rev Father Dolan, and was of the simplest form of the Catholic ritual. The bride wore a skirt of white moire, with an overdress of embroidered mousline de soie,, and a white picture hat adorned with ostrich plumes. She carried a bouqet of bride roses. Miss Emma J. Moore of New Bedford attended the bride. She was becomingly gowned in geranium pink tafteta under white dotted pink muslin. She also wore a white picture hat with black plumes, and carried a large bunch of Lawson pinks. Charles Fred Winter was best man. At the conclusion of the exercises at the Cathedral a brilliant reception was held at the home of the bride, 709 Tremont street.

An event of interest this week was the marriage of Mr. A. Gordon Cowie of the Bank of British North America, Fredericton, and Miss Blanche Jones daughter of the Hon. T. R Jones, banker and broker, which took place in St. Pauls church on Tuesday afternoon of this week. The ceremony which was performed by Rev. A. G. H. Dicker was witnessed only by immediate relatives and friends, among them being Mrs. and Miss Cowie of Halifax, Mrs Thompson of Montreal sister of the bride and Miss Thompson. The bride who was unattended wore a very becoming fawn covert cloth travelling dress with turquoise trimmings, with hat to match and looked extremely stylish and pretty. Mr. D. Russel Jack and Mr. Bruce Scovil acted as ushers. After the ceremony lunch was served at the residence of the bride's parents on Elliott row and later Mr. and Mrs. Cowie left on a wedding tour of the Upper Canadian cities.

Mr. and Mrs. Belding of Pitt Street were given a pleasant surprise on Tuesday evening when a party of friends invaded their cosy home and spent the hours in dancing and various popular games. The ladies had provided dainty refreshments and when the contents of the various baskets were spread the feast was a most tempting one. Among those present were.

Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Foster.
Mr. and Mrs. B. A. Stamers.
Mr. and Mrs. Will Simpson.
Mr. and Mrs. Morris.
Mr. and Mrs. Andrew Foster.
Mr. and Mrs. J. A. Smith.
Mr. and Mrs. Essington.
Mr. and Mrs. Colwell.

Miss Elliott,	Miss Cunninghan.
Miss Belding,	Miss McFarlane.
Misses Foster,	Misses Austin.
Misses Marsh	Mr. Jack Kirk.
Mr. Charles Everett,	Mr. Arthur Foster.
Mr. H. Underhill,	Mr. Harry Darling.
Mr. Will Darling,	Mr. Will Hudson.
Mr. Walter Belding,	Mr. Robertson.

The marriage took place in Brussels street church last Wednesday evening of Dr. Howard D. Fritz, and Miss Ida Rootes, daughter of the late James Rootes. The bride who was attended by little Miss Jean McNaughton niece of the groom and Miss Kathleen Golding the bride's tiny niece, was attired in white satin and chiffon and looked extremely pretty and graceful. Rev. Dr. Carey performed the ceremony, which was witnessed by many friends of the contracting parties. Dr. and Mrs. Fritz are residing at 26 Crown street.

Mr. Duncan R. Smith of this city and Miss Jean Tate daughter of Mr. Moses Tate of Calais were united in marriage Tuesday at the home of the bride. After a tour of the large American cities Mr. and Mrs. Smith will return to St. John and make their home on King street. Mr. Smith has a very large circle of friends in this province and in Nova Scotia who will wish him and his bride every happiness in their wedded life.

GREENWICH.

Feb. 14,—The death occurred last week at the residence of Mr. William P. Belyea of Mrs. Phoebe Belyea widow of the late Mr. Elias Belyea formerly of St. John. The funeral sermon was preached in St. James church by the Rev. H. A. Cody. Mrs. Belyea was ill but a short time. She leaves four daughters and a son. The son resides in California. One daughter in Tennesse a daughter in Liverpool, Eng., and two other daughters Mrs. Armstrong of Cody Station and Miss Alice Belyea of Boston, who were with their mother at the time of her death.

On Wednesday evening of last week Mr. and Mrs D. A. Richards entertained a large number of their friends at tea and a most enjoyable time was spent. Whist was the order of the evening and conversation for those who did not care to play Those present were, Mr. Walton and Mrs. Walton, Mr. Zebulon Richards and Mrs. Richards, Mr. McLeod and Mrs. McLeod, Capt. Peatman and Mrs. Peatman, Mr. W. S. Belyea and Mrs. Belyea, Mr. J. A. Richards and Mrs. Richards, Mr. D. Bogle and Mrs. Bogle, Mr. Marley and Miss Marley, Mr. Ford Walton and Mrs. Walton, Mr. H. B. Belyea and Mrs. Belyea, Mr. Fowler and Mrs. Fowler, Mr. C. C. Richards, Mr. J. Campbell.

Attorney General White of Sussex, was the guest of Capt. and Mrs. Peatman on Thursday and Friday.

On Thursday evening Mr. and Mrs. Wm. McLeod entertained the members of the Young Women's Guild and the members of St. Paul's church choir. Those present were: Misses Lillian and Jessie Flewelling, Misses Bessie and Annie Balmer, Miss Flossie Marley, Miss Bessie Richards, Miss Sadie Belyea, Miss Ada Jones, Miss Blanche Richards and Messrs Rev. H. A. Cody, Fred Flewelling. Dufferin Richards, Clarence Belyea, Roy Richards.

On Friday evening Mrs. Zebulon Jones gave a very pleasant party in honor of her daughter Miss Ada Jones birthday; a very pleasant evening was spent in dancing and whist. At eleven o'clock refreshments were served and the party broke up at a late hour all having spent a most enjoyable evening. Those present were: Mr. and Mrs. McLeod, Mr. and Mrs. N. S. Belyea, Mr. and Mrs A. L Peatman, Mr. and Mrs. E. D. Whelpley, Mrs. C. Short, Mr. and Mrs. Bogle, Mr. and Mrs. Seeley Miss Blanche Richards Miss Annie Balmer Messrs Roy Richards, Everard Whelpley, Dr. J. B. Gilchrist, Geo. Whelpley, Geo. Seeley, Frank Seeley, Frank Short, Dufferin Richards.

Miss Helen Picketts' friends will be sorry to learn that she is still confined to the house from the effects of her recent accident.

A number of gentlemen went from here to Hampton on Saturday to be present at the nomination of candidate for the coming election.

Miss Jennie Seeley who has been ill such a long time of typhoid fever is now able to leave her room and is slowly recovering.

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E. G. SCOVIL, Agent Pelee Wine Co., Gagetown, July 26, 1897.

Dear Sir:—My wife had been afflicted with nervous prostration for several years, using every kind of medicine recommended, but obtaining no relief until I procured some of your Pelee Wine, which I am delighted to say, has had the desired effect It is the greatest tonic of the age, I think too much cannot be said in its praise and no house should be without it. We have recommended it to several suffering from la grippe debility, with like good results.

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