



Though there seems to be plenty of news floating around the city, and while the war news from South Africa continues to be of such an exciting nature, there is no dearth of what is interesting from a conversational and news standpoint. Yet the society reporter finds life these days one dreary waste.

Lectures there are, and concerts almost every night, and these varied by an occasional sleighing party, are the only way in which society dispels itself this winter, always excepting the theatre. Tact of course absorbs the largest share of popular attention, and it really is a most interesting novelty for us to have a first class theatrical attraction to beguile the long winter evenings, to say nothing of the afternoons.

Usually at this season, one has but to remark that Lent is here, to account for the dearth of social events but that is hardly the case now for the entire winter has been lented in its quietness; the penitential season will no doubt cause a slight falling off in the attendance at the theatre—for one must make some sacrifice if only for appearance sake.

The Hon J. P. Burchill and the Misses Burchill were in the city on Monday of this week.

Mr T. A. Rankine has been confined to his residence recently through severe illness.

Mr Arthur McDonald of the Bank of New Brunswick, and Mrs McDonald left this week for England via New York. They expect to be absent about three months.

Mr. W. F. Todd and Miss Todd were here from St. Stephen on Monday.

Miss B. Heffernan has returned to Milltown after a very pleasant visit to Mrs. J. Ward.

Seldom has news of a death been received with such deep and genuine sorrow as was that of Miss Gertrude Allison, only daughter of Mr. Joseph Allison of this city which sad event occurred on Monday morning after a few hours illness. Last week Miss Allison contracted a slight cold, and while getting ready for church on Sunday morning complained of a severe pain in her side, which was shortly afterwards pronounced by her physicians to be pneumonia. It made such rapid progress on a constitution always inclined to delicacy, that, despite everything that medical science could suggest, and thoughtful love devotion, death occurred at nine o'clock the following morning. The sad tidings was everywhere received with expressions of regret for the bright young life so suddenly closed, and with heartfelt sympathy for the bereaved parents and brothers, and the young fiancée of the deceased.

Miss Allison was known to all classes in the city by whom she was beloved and respected, and was the idol of a loving family circle. Though bright, clever and accomplished, she yet avoided society, finding her chief happiness in ministering to those whose lives were less fortunately circumstanced than was her own. Of a quiet and retiring disposition, anything that bordered on publicity or ostentation, was particularly repulsive to her and only the recipients of her charity knew of her numerous kindly deeds, and in many instances even those who sometimes received timely aid were ignorant of the source from whence it came, so quietly and modestly was the service performed. Though an active and devoted member of Centenary church, Miss Allison's charity included the needy of any denomination, and creed was no bar to her kindly works.

The funeral which took place on Monday afternoon was one of the largest ever seen in this city, while during the service in Centenary the church was crowded to the doors. Solemn music was rendered by the choir and the words of the pastor moved many to tears.

The pall bearers were: Mr Arthur Bonaman, Mr. J. Angvine, Mr Percy Clark, Mr B. Purdy, Mr J. N. Ellis and Mr Ernest Barbour.

The floral tributes from loving friends were particularly numerous and beautiful. To the sorrowing relatives the deepest sympathy is extended.

Lieut Governor McClellan came from Fredericton this week and after a brief stay in the city proceeded to Albert where he will take a short rest before going back to the capital. The governor is not enjoying the very best of health just now.

Mr and Mrs E. H. Drury of Ottawa are spending the week in St John.

Mrs D. C. Cronin who was called here by the death of her mother, Mrs Margaret Fitzgerald, returned to Dorchester, Mass., the first of the week.

The friends of Miss K. M. Fitzgerald will be pleased to hear that she is recovering from her recent severe illness.

Miss Robertson is in Woodstock the guest of Mrs A. B. Carr.

Rev W. J. Armitage of Halifax, was the guest of Rev J. deBoyes for a short time this week.

Mr Hazen Drury and bride who were married in Montreal last week arrived in this city on Monday. Mr Drury formerly resided in St John.

Mr. George A. Munro was in Woodstock last week.

A very pleasant and successful concert was held in Calvin church school room this week and proved

a most enjoyable affair. The well arranged programme was as follows: Flag drill, young ladies; harmonica selection, Messrs Heans, Hamilton, Smith; reading, John Salmon; solo, Mr Tonge; reading, Miss L. Robertson; solo G. R. Craigie; violin solo, Miss O. Smith; military drill, young ladies; selection, quartette; recitation, Miss M. Richardson; duet, Messrs Tonge and Craigie; reading, Miss Barton; solo, Mr Hazlewood, duet Messrs Salmon and Hale.

The Monday evening skating club spent a very enjoyable few hours on Monday evening when the members had their waltzing competition the winners in the contest being Mr. and Mrs. H. R. Sturdee, Mr. H. E. C. Sturdee and Miss Fairweather.

A pleasant drive was enjoyed by the members of the Red White and Blue club a few evenings ago. After a drive out the Marsh road the party stopped at the home of Mr. Thomas Potts where a hot supper was served and greatly enjoyed, after which dancing and games were indulged in.

Hon. A. T. Dunn went to Fredericton last Saturday afternoon.

Miss Alice Philips of Estport, Me., is the guest of west side relatives.

Miss Alice Miles and Master Harry Miles of Halifax are spending two weeks with city relatives.

A small but very enjoyable whist party was held at the residence of Mr. and Mrs. Gilbert Sweeney, Main street, on Tuesday evening last when a very enjoyable few hours was spent, and supper served at midnight. It was well into the small hours when the guests, among whom the following departed: Mr. Hira Webb, Mrs. Webb, Miss Ada Baxter, Miss Elsie Evans, Miss Gertrude Sullivan, Mr. Walter Roberts, Miss George Carpenter, Miss Maude Sweeney, Mr. George Gray, Mr. D. H. Dunlop, Mr. Fred Barton, Mr. William Nagle, Mr. Shirley Flewelling, Mr. Lou Flewelling, Mr. Guy Watters, Mr. Fred Jones.

One of the pleasantest and prettiest costume balls ever held in this city was that under the auspices of the Oconomowoc Bicycle Club in the Assembly Rooms of Mechanic's Institute on Tuesday evening. In every particular the dance was a brilliant success, and the young men of the outing club with the unmentionable name have all week been receiving congratulations upon the manner in which even the least details of the fete were attended to by them, combining to make certain the whole affair a triumph. The assembly rooms were richly decked in patriotic colors, and about the walls and from the ceilings brand new, 1900 model bicycles were suspended, the O. B. Club's colors, heliotrope and white, being used very much in the decorations.

The supper table was resplendent in these colors as well, a huge bouquet of purple and white flowers serving as a pleasing centre for the festive apartment.

With the blaze of military costumes and pronounced shades of muslins, silks, satins, etc., and the softer colors, such as pink, light blue, heliotrope, and white, the ball-room scene was indeed very pretty. Dress suits with breast sashes predominated among the gentlemen, yet the many who appeared in fancy dress looked exceedingly well. The court wigs, breeches and buckle-shoe found great favor, and courtiers were many. A few original and humorous get-ups were on the floor. Of the young ladies it can be said they excelled themselves upon this occasion. White muslin, light blue muslin and all the summery tints of this airy material were in evidence; laces, nets, silks, satins, character costumes and original representations.

Natural flowers were used almost generally. The Lullian Orchestra discoursed delightful music for the following list of dances:

- 1. Waltz - 9. Waltz and Two Step
2. Waltz 10. Gallop
3. Lancers 11. Waltz
4. Militaire 12. Waltz
5. Waltz and Galop 13. Lancers
6. Berlin 14. Waltz
7. Waltz Extra 1-3
8. Lancers Extra 1-3

The chaperones were Mrs. Wetmore, Mrs. J. Currie and Mrs. Clark. These present were: -

LADIES. Miss C. Ross, heliotrope and white organdie, flowers.

Miss Walsh, bright red organdie.

Miss A. Nelson, white spotted muslin and carnations.

Miss Grant, black cashmere and light blue chiffon.

Miss Nagle, white muslin, flowers.

Miss Clark, white with red carnations.

Miss L. White, white and violets.

Miss Kennedy, colonial dame.

Miss McSorley, (West side) cream cashmere, flowers.

Miss Charlton, black lace over silk.

Miss M. Charlton, peasant maiden.

Miss S. Edmunds, green silk.

Miss Smith, (West side) green and white.

Miss Vaughan, yellow and black satia.

Miss N. Potts, white muslin and roses.

Miss Ellis, blue muslin, chiffon and ospreys.

Miss Cline, white muslin and red roses.

Miss E. Breen, gypsy costume.

Miss J. Ritchie, white muslin, feathers etc.

Miss Forgy, blue muslin.

Miss Henderson, white cashmere and popples.

Miss B. Collins, white lawn and carnations.

Miss Fanjoy, cream cashmere.

Miss Bessie Brown, heliotrope with white muslin overdress.

Miss G. White, pretty Japanese costume.

Miss E. Bradley, black silk with pink chiffon.

Miss Patchell, white with violets.

Miss Bessie Hammond, pretty peasant costume.

Miss Abinette, (Petitcodiac) pink cashmere.

Miss Patchell, black with white chiffon.

Miss Munro, black with white muslin. Miss Gregory, original costume, the firmament. Miss Carrie Barnes, white lawn and roses. Miss L. Gregory, white muslin and roses. Miss Winslow, colonial dame. Miss Winslow, pink and white. Miss Winslow, white and carnations. Miss Barton, white and pale blue. Miss Foley, colonial dame. Miss McFate, (Golda Grove) white organdie. Miss McSorley, (West End) Grecian maiden. Miss N. Dean, blue belle. Miss Pearl Clark, Lady Teasle. Miss Sinclair, pink and black. Miss Hollis, cream cashmere, pink roses. Miss Katie Munro, violets. Miss B. Seely, black lace and silver. Miss Violet Lamb, black crepon and red carnations.

Miss Smith, white satin and lawn. Miss Mary Barnes, white muslin and carnations. Miss Evelyn Clark, pink cashmere. Miss Pearl McJostey, white muslin and flowers. Miss Munro, Marguerite. Miss Munro, Bohemian girl.

GENTLEMEN.

Mr. R. Dole, courtier.

Mr. Ned McKay, full dress.

Mr. Wm. Clark, full dress.

Mr. Lou Spragg, gentleman of 17th century.

Mr. Holly Lingley, Gordon Highlander.

Mr. Arthur Jones, courtier.

Mr. A. Abinette, full dress.

Mr. J. Currie, yachtman.

Mr. Lou Brennan, full dress.

Mr. Robt. Baxter, soldiers of the Queen.

Mr. Ed Watters, soldiers of the Queen.

Mr. Arthur Brown, soldiers of the Queen.

Mr. William Lingley, soldiers of the Queen.

Mr. Harry Black, George Washington Jr.

Mr. Wm. Wetmore, yachtman.

Mr. Edgar Dixon, full dress.

Mr. Leberon Sharpe, full dress.

Mr. Tapley, yachtman.

Mr. Frank Greenay, yachtman.

Mr. Bliss Case, yachtman.

Mr. Girvan, full dress.

Mr. Austin McLaughlin, yachtman.

Mr. Joe Mathias, courtier.

Mr. Smailey, full dress.

Mr. George Smith, highlander.

Mr. A. Jorda, courtier.

Mr. Guy Tapley, fancy costume, heliotrope and white.

Mr. B. Patchell, Count of Monte Christo.

Mr. Mort Wilson, full dress.

Mr. George Price, ambulance service, (comic.)

Mr. Daniel McKinney, Sir Joseph Porter, K. C. S.

Mr. Frank Murphy, yachtman.

Mr. Fraser, full dress.

Mr. Herb Barton, full dress.

Mr. Water Taylor, courtier.

Mr. Walter Goddard, full dress.

Mr. Gregory, outing costume.

Mr. Hunter, courtier.

Mr. Lawson, courtier.

Mr. Charles Nelson, gentleman, 17 century.

Mr. Fred Cameron, courtier.

Mr. Brodie, Buffalo Bill.

Mr. Geo. Vaughan, Baron Munchausen.

Mr. Jack Vaughan, sailor lad.

Mr. William Dean, Pirate.

Mr. Raynor, Faust.

Mr. McGarigle, full dress.

Mr. Herb. Wetmore, Prince.

Mr. Wm. Kennedy, Robin Hood.

Mr. Oswald Charlton, courtier, George IV.

Mr. Fred Secord, courtier, George IV.

It would have been a hard task indeed to have carefully selected the belle of the ball for so many of the fair dancers looked so very pretty. However it can hardly be denied that Miss Pearl Clark as Lady Teasle, from Sheridan's "School for Scandal," was the best gotten up character on the floor. Miss Dean, as "Blue Belle" was also very pretty; while Miss Walsh as a bright red summery dress was particularly conspicuous. The organdies, lawns and muslins with natural flowers were about on a par in beauty, but special mention should be made of Miss Bessie Brown's heliotrope dress with white net overdress and child's trimmings. Mr. Daniel McKinney as Sir Joseph Porter, K. C. B. from Gilbert and Sullivan's opera "H. M. S. Pinafore" carried off the honors as best of the dance. He and Guy Tapley, Mr. Raynor and B. Patchell looked particularly well.

It was almost 2.30 a.m. Wednesday (the first day of Lent) when the Orchestra struck up "God Save the Queen" all voting the dance the best they ever attended. Many coaches were in waiting, the West End young ladies and gentleman having to drive around by the way of Douglas Avenue.

Progress congratulates the Oconomowoc's ball committee of whom were: - J. H. Wilson, president J. H. Vaughan, secretary, with W. H. Kennedy, W. G. Tapley, J. D. Belyea, F. W. Munro, H. V. Vaughan, W. G. Dean, R. T. Dole, Geo. A. Dickson, Geo Walker, G. S. Tingley, H. W. Wetmore Wm. Wetmore, Fred Secord, T. S. Baker, Geo. N. Price, as aides.

Mrs. LeBaron Thompson and Mrs. Horace King returned last week from a delightful trip to Boston. Mrs. A. P. Barnhill entertained her lady friends at a very pleasant "At Home" on Tuesday afternoon of last week. About one hundred ladies called.

A party of ladies, Mrs. Colby Smith, Mrs. Gregory, Mrs. Tilley with Dr. Wheeler are studying French of Mrs. Fiske preparatory to going to the Paris and Germany in April. Mrs. J. E. Cowan entertained about fifty of her lady friends at whist on Friday of last week from 4 to 7 o'clock. The ladies were all handsomely gowned. Gent's first prize was won by Mr. W. Watson Allan—a bottle incut glass—and the ladies first prize, a fancy plate, was captured by Miss Shaw. Consolation gentleman's prize, Mr. Jarvis Wilson; consolation ladies prize, Mrs. L. Thompson.

Mrs. W. B. Brown is spending a month in Boston Mrs. Barshay, Princess street, gave a most interesting "At Home" on Thursday afternoon week ago. Mr. and Mrs. Fred Beatley were in Boston and New York last week. So were Mr. and Mrs. Ned Murchie. Mrs. Colby Smith, of West side, has been very ill from vaccination. Drs. Wheeler and McLellan have been in attendance. Miss Mabel Thompson has returned from Moncton where she was visiting Mrs. T. Clinton Purdy. Mrs. E. K. Taylor, of West Side, has been visiting her mother, Mrs. J. V. Ellis, in the city proper for a few days. The Misses Tapley of North End, entertained their lady friends on Wednesday afternoon. Every lady present had a delightful time in that hospitable home. Mrs. Hea of Adelaide street has gone to Brooklyn to visit her sister, Mrs. Peck. Mrs. Robert S. Cowan, Princess street, entertained a small party at whist one evening last week, among those present being; Dr. Walker, Consul and Mrs. Myers, Dr. and Mrs. Smith. Mr. and Mrs. CONTINUED ON PAGE EIGHT.

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Chairs Re-seated Oano, Spinn, Perforated, Duval, 17 Waterloo.