



During the present week society and society folk have been almost completely taken up with the production of the pretty comic opera Nell Gwynne at the opera house on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday evenings.

At every performance the seating capacity of the building was taxed to the utmost limit and from a financial standpoint Nell Gwynne will no doubt compare favorably with Zephra.

The interior of the theatre was handsomely decorated with yacht club colors (red and white), patriotic colors and emblems etc. A corps of Neptune Rowing club members ably performed the duties of ushers. One great draw back on the first evening was the nonarrival of the programmes, which was a great disadvantage to those not familiar with the story of the opera and with the actors. The majority of people, however, had little trouble in recognizing the voices of some of our most popular amateurs.

The stage settings were artistic and that, together with the handsome costumes of the ladies and gentlemen of the court and the picturesque attire of the village peasants made a very striking picture.

Of course the bulk of the work and honors of the evenings fell to the lot of Mrs. Shephard Grigsby, who made a very charming Nell Gwynne. Mrs. Grigsby is the possessor of a beautifully clear and flexible soprano voice and her singing was much admired. Her best solos were Only An Orange Girl and First Love and at each evening she had to respond to an encore. Mrs. Grigsby ably illustrated that she could act as well as sing for she seemed to enter thoroughly into the character of the vivacious and spiteful, but still fascinating Nell.

Miss Constance Vall as Lady Clare (the King's ward) made a very favorable impression. Her voice is sweet and her stage presence good and she came in for a good share of the applause.

Miss Margaret Patton made a sweet and charming Jessamine and though she was decidedly over-dressed for her part and reminded one more of what Nell Gwynne must have been than what the niece of a village pawnbroker would be, still she both sang and acted well and entered thoroughly into the spirit of her part.

Miss Francis Rainie as the half starved servant of the wretch made a decided hit. Her acting was good and her enunciation splendid. Every word being distinctly audible even at the back of the theatre.

Little Miss Daisy Sears was, as usual, graceful as Ferrigno, Buckingham's page. She seemed perfectly at home on the stage and her sweet clear speaking voice was much admired.

Of the gentlemen who took part, Mr. Jack Kelly and Mr. Don Pidgeon in the leading roles, of course came in for a goodly share of the applause. Mr. Pidgeon has never before been heard in amateur opera and surprised many with his beautiful baritone voice. Mr. Jack Kelly was, as usual, in good voice and seemed more at ease in this role than he did in the part assigned him in Zephra.

Mr. Joe Rainie as the Beside, the local authority, carried off the honors and on each evening received many encores.

The other parts were all well spoken and sung and each performance passed off without a hitch and was to the whole most successful.

Mrs. E. A. Smith entertained a few friends at her residence on German Street on Tuesday evening, for the purpose of meeting Mr. Baker of England. Mr. Baker is a member of the firm of Baker Bros. of Liverpool and this is his initial visit to this country. He will remain here a few weeks as a guest at the Royal.

On Tuesday afternoon Mrs. G. Herbert Flood of Elliott Row was "At Home" to a large number of her friends. The parlors were prettily decorated for the occasion and the affair was indeed very pleasant. Dainty refreshments were served, the hostess being assisted in looking after the material wants of her guests by a number of young lady friends.

The Monday evening skating club waltzing competition held in the Quebecs Rink on Monday evening was an interesting event of the week. The first prize was won by Miss Daisy Fairweather and Mr. H. E. C. Sturdee and the second by Miss Mabel Thomson and Mr. H. F. Puddington. The judges of the occasion were Mrs. F. S. Thorne, Mr. E. A. Smith, Mr. Barclay Boyd, Mr. W. A. Lockhart, Jr. and Mr. H. Russell Sturdee and their decision met with the universal approval of the club. Tea and coffee and light refreshments were served in the tea room during the evening, adding much to the enjoyment of the occasion.

The many friends of Miss Mary Robbins of the Daily Telegraph editorial staff will be sorry to hear that she is quite seriously ill, and has been confined to her room for the past week.

Miss Mabel Fugley of Amherst is in the city, the guest of Mrs. J. R. Fugley.

Miss Gwendolin Main of Amherst is here paying

a visit to her brother Mr. Harold Main of the Halifax Banking company.

Miss Sharp of Queen Square gave a pleasant afternoon whist on Thursday last for the entertainment of her guest Miss Winslow of Fredericton.

On Monday evening a number of the intimate friends of Mr. and Mrs. C. S. Everett called on them at their residence on Garden street for the purpose of extending congratulations on the 15th anniversary of their marriage. Mrs. Everett received her guests in her usual hospitable manner and a delightful evening was spent with music and pleasant conversation. Mr. and Mrs. Everett were the recipients of many appropriate gifts in the way of cut glass.

At a meeting of the Ladies' Association of the Natural History Society on Thursday afternoon, Mrs. J. R. Culhoun gave a very interesting lecture on a coaching trip through England, Wales and Belgium. The delights of a trip by this peculiar mode of transit were described in an able manner.

The very sudden death of Miss Frances E. Murray has cast a gloom over the entire community and has made a void among the ranks of the women of Canada that will be hard to fill. Miss Murray was a woman of noble character and took an active interest in all matters connected with the Church of England, of which body she was an energetic and consistent member. She had also for many years been identified with the Women's Council, the Ladies' Auxiliary of the S. P. C. A. and deeply interested in all practical movements for the betterment of her sex and the good of humanity.

Although Miss Murray had very many friends throughout the city and indeed throughout Canada she had no relatives residing here. Her two sisters Miss Ellen Murray and Mrs. Riggles both reside in the United States.

The news of the death of Mrs. Mary Howe, which occurred at Montreal on Monday was held with sincere regret, by her many friends throughout the city. Mrs. Howe was the widow of Mr. Arthur Howe, a well known resident of this city. Mrs. Howe had resided in St. John until a very short time ago when she and her family removed to Montreal. Her body was brought here for interment. She is survived by her four children: two sons and two daughters.

Mrs. F. G. Harrison, mother of Mr. M. L. Harrison and Mr. Edward Harrison of Harrison's orchestra, is dangerously ill at her home on Celebration street.

Mrs. W. T. Stewart of Halifax is spending a short time in the city.

Miss Fiske of Montreal is here for a few weeks as a guest at the Royal hotel.

Mr. and Mrs. Foster of Elliott Row were surprised by a number of friends who called on them at their home on Monday evening and extended congratulations on the 12th anniversary of their marriage. An enjoyable evening was spent with music both vocal and instrumental. During the evening Mr. and Mrs. Foster were presented with a handsome oak sideboard as a small token of esteem in which they are held by their friends.

One of the most enjoyable social functions of the season was the dance given by Mrs. Henry Hilyard at her residence on Douglas Avenue. A very large number of invitations had been issued and it is safe to say that with a very few exceptions those privileged were in attendance. Many very handsome gowns were worn by the ladies. A programme of sixteen dances, with several extras was carried out. About midnight supper was served. The decorations of the parlors and dining room were very pretty. Mrs. Hilyard had the assistance of Miss S. S. Robinson in receiving and looking to the entertainment of her guests.

Mrs. F. G. Spencer went to St. Stephen this week, where on Thursday evening she sang at a concert given by the Harmony club.

Mr. James Dever of New York, son of Senator Dever of this city, is here and will remain until after the marriage of his sister, Miss Gertrude with Capt. J. Norman Leslie.

Mr. Arthur Brantcomb is in Fredericton paying a visit to her mother, Mrs. Samuel Owens.

Mr. and Mrs. P. J. O'Keefe have returned from a pleasant trip to Ottawa.

Mrs. H. Ahlborn and Mrs. J. Kearns have returned from Brockton, Mass., where they have been attending the funeral of their mother.

Mrs. J. Fraser Gregory was receiving her bridal calls at her beautiful home on Douglas Avenue, on Tuesday and Wednesday afternoons.

The many friends of Miss C. Bustin are pleased to hear that she has recovered from her recent severe illness.

Mr. and Mrs. Harry S. Smith of Windsor, were in the city during the early part of the week.

Mr. and Mrs. George Cushing went to Boston this week. They will be absent a couple of weeks.

On Wednesday evening about forty young ladies and gentlemen on the invitation of the Misses Rootes and Mr. Frank Nelson enjoyed a pleasant drive out as far as Torryburn. They left the city about eight o'clock and returning before eleven repaired to the home of the Misses Rootes on Horsfield street where supper was served and a few hours passed quickly with dancing, music and games of every description.

Another pleasant drive and dance of the week was gotten up by several young gentlemen of the city, who invited about thirty of their friends and drove to The Ferns at Duck Cove where the dance was held. The musicians were brought from the city and the large parlors of this popular summer resort were just the place for a dance and the young people thought so too, for they indulged in

this pleasant and healthful pastime to an alarming extent. Refreshments were served and the return to the city was made at an early hour on Friday morning.

Miss Ellis, Queen street, was hostess at a pleasant whist party on Tuesday evening. About thirty guests were present, and several intensely interesting games were played. Music was also a feature of the evening's entertainment. Dainty prizes were offered to the lucky players, Mrs. Geo. Reicker captured the ladies' prize, and Mr. Geo. Reicker that offered to the gentlemen. The consolation prizes fell to the lot of Mrs. Jack Davidson and Mr. B. Bartlett.

Those present were: Mr. and Mrs. Charles Ellis, Mr. and Mrs. George Reicker, Mr. and Mrs. Jack Davidson, Mr. and Mrs. Bert Griffin, Mr. and Mrs. Alfred Carsons.

Miss F. Braden, Miss L. Dunfield, Miss H. Baker, Miss C. Cline, Miss M. Pilkington, Miss A. Williams, Miss E. Baanister, Miss I. Bond, Miss M. Laurie, Mr. F. Dunfield, Mr. G. Kirk, Mr. F. Kee, Mr. B. Nugent, Mr. F. Stewart, Mr. H. Crawford, Mr. C. Bartlett, Mr. H. Bond, Mr. W. Irving, W. Seeley.

The management of the Mechanics Institute announces that the suite of ball rooms and reception rooms, having been thoroughly renovated, will be rented for any social functions. This announcement will cause much pleasure in social circles for since the closing of these rooms, during the early fall, functions of any importance have been out of the question.

BRIDGETOWN.

Feb 13—Mr. H. J. Crowe has gone to Boston on a business trip.

Mr. C. McLellan, Halifax, is in town this week looking up old friends.

Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Miller of Clarence spent a week with friends in town recently.

Miss Ethel Howes of Boston returned home last Saturday to spend the rest of the winter.

Mrs. Stephen Thorne, of Lower Grandville is visiting her mother Mrs. Edward Marshall.

Mrs. J. W. Brown and Miss Maribel Lee for Boston on Saturday last, where they will spend a few weeks.

Mr. S. K. Page, of Boston, manager of the Gold Eagle Mining Company of Mill Village and promoter of the Copper Crown Mining Company of Pictou, is in town.

Miss Lena Benjamin, Bridgewater were guests of Mrs. H. Healy over Sunday.

The marriage of Miss Mabel, daughter of James Hillis, of Halifax, to Ernest C. Scott of Charlottetown, P. E. Island, took place last Thursday afternoon at the residence of the bride's father. The ceremony was performed by the Rev. N. LeMoine, rector of St. Mark's, in the presence of a number of guests, principally relatives of the contracting parties. The bride was attired in a tailor-made suit of brown cloth with a hat to match, and carried a handsome bouquet of roses and carnations. She was attended by her niece Miss Alice Hillis. The happy couple left on the maritime express for a short tour and will reside in Sydney.

AMHERST.

FEB. 11.—The carnival postponed from last week came off Wednesday evening in the Aberdeen rink. These events do not now cause a ripple of excitement whereas in the early days of carnivals the locked for arrival of the costumer and the selection of an elaborate and costly costume were movements of much anxiety.

Miss Mabel Pugsley is visiting her friends, Mr. and Mrs. J. R. Pugsley, St. John.

Miss Gwendoline Main has gone to St. John to spend a little time with her brother, Mr. Harold Main, of the agency of her Halifax Banking Co.

Miss Beatrice Fuller goes to Truro this week to visit her aunt, Mrs. George Nelson.

Mr. Charles Hillcourt, late organist at St. George's church, Parrsboro, was in town for a week or two, visiting his mother, Mrs. George Hillcourt. He left last week for Sydney.

Mrs. Allen, of Fredericton, has been a guest of her sister, Mrs. Widder, Rupert Street.

Miss Maude Bent, of Puzwash, is spending a few weeks with her friend, Mrs. Fred Christie, Albion St.

Mrs. Bliss, of Mount Whatley has been spending a week with her son, Dr. C. W. Bliss and Mrs. Bliss, Church St.

Mrs. Henry S. Colwell, of Halifax was in town on Saturday last.

MONCTON.

PROGRESS is for sale in Moncton at Hatfield Tweedle Bookstore and M. B. Jones Bookstore.

Feb 13—A large number of friends gathered in St. Bernard's church at seven o'clock to witness the marriage of Mr. Camille Bondreau, bookkeeper in the Peter McSweeney Co. establishment to Miss Agnes Bourgeois, daughter of Mr. Phillip Bourgeois of the I. C. R. The bride, who was unattended, was prettily gowned in a navy blue travelling suit and Mr. and Mrs. Bondreau left on the maritime express for Halifax on a week's wedding trip, followed by the best wishes of their friends for a happy matrimonial voyage.

Miss Marjorie Hewson, of Oxford, Nova Scotia and Miss Edith McConnell, of Marysville, are visiting Miss Maud Crisp at the Wesley Memorial parsonage.

Miss Samster and Miss Trites, of Moncton, are visiting Mrs. H. H. Maceo, Esplanade.

The ladies of the mission hall connected with the First Baptist church have engaged Miss Lefurgey to give them a recital some evening next week. Miss Lefurgey will be assisted by Mrs. Lyman and others and will have full charge of the recital herself. Look out for further particulars.

WOODSTOCK.

Dr. A. D. Coburn, Canterbury station was at the Carlisle during the week.

Col. and Mrs. Vince have arrived home after a pleasant trip to Boston.

Dr. Sprague who was quite seriously ill with grippe is able to out again.

Mr. E. Pidgeon and Harry H. Webb of St. John spent a few days at the Carlisle last week.

Mr. Irvine R. Sprague and Mr. J. A. Maynard of Boston, Mass. were at the Carlisle Thursday and Friday.

Dr. C. M. Hay son of Mr. Hugh Hay of Woodstock, and Miss Louise Gordon Price of Philadelphia, were married in that city on the 7th inst.

At the children's Carnival on Saturday at the Ice rink the prizes were won by Miss Edith Dalling and Charlie Jones.

The Boys Christian Association will hold a Val-  
CONTINUED ON PAGE EIGHT.

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E. G. SCOVIL, — "Having used both we think the St. Augustine preferable to Vin Mariani as a tonic. JOHN C. CLOWES; E. G. SCOVIL, 62 Union Street.

Buotouche Bar Oysters. Received this day, 10 Barrels No. 1 Buotouche Bar Oysters, the first of the Spring catch. At 19 and 23 King Square. J. D. TURNER.

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