

IN BERMUDA!

How To Get Ashore—Politeness Personified.

TOWN AND COUNTRY I

Another Interesting Letter from Rev. W. R. Franks.

I parted with your readers when on the deck of the R. M. S. "Beta," in the harbor of St. George's; and shall again introduce myself to them by describing the "ways and means" provided to get us ashore. I should do this if it were only to show that P. E. Island is not the most primitive and antiquated place in the world, as some who visit it are wont to assert.

On account of the depth of water which the "Beta" required, instead of being able to come close alongside, she was obliged to lie off about two rods from the wharf. After waiting in vain to see a gangway run out to the boat, we noticed a number of colored men dragging from the head of the wharf towards us, what appeared to be a schooner's mast. A rope was fastened to the end, and thrown on board, and soon an end of our supposed mast rested on the steamer's deck, and the other end on the wharf. In due time a similar beam was put across from the wharf to the boat in the same way, the two being four feet apart. Those were the stringers of

A BRIDGE about to be constructed, over which Her Majesty's mails, the passengers, etc., were to be conveyed out to the wharf. The further construction of the bridge was to me entirely novel, comical in a high degree. A colored man from the wharf got astride of each stringer, and moved slowly and cautiously out to the distance of six feet, and then drew up from the water a piece of timber with a rope attached to each end, and bound it securely across the stringers on the lower side. Moving on towards the boat, with due deliberation and caution, they thus continued their labors, until all the cross pieces were up. Planks were then laid over them, and, in process of time, the bridge was finished.

When the work was going on I wondered why the cross pieces were not thrown on the top of the stringers, which would have saved time, and what seemed unnecessary labor.

It was not, however, till I was crossing over, that I saw my own ignorance of the subject, and also the true genius of the architect or inventor, who, by having the cross pieces on lower, instead of the higher side of the stringers, thereby made the latter serve the important part of a railing to the bridge.

I am not unmindful of the adage which forbids speaking lightly of the bridge which carries us over safely—as this one assuredly did. Who the designer was, and whether he secured a patent, I did not want to enquire, but conclude that the invention belongs to a period long known to the age of patents. I found the

CUSTOM HOUSE OFFICER a most gentlemanly official, who readily passed our trunks through without the useless trouble of having them opened and searched. I may hear also speak of the uniform and marked politeness of the Bermudians, of which I had heard before.

The directors of the Citizens' Skating Rink advertise their annual Skating Carnival, to be held in the Rink on Wednesday, the 16th January next.

Bremner Bros. announce that previous to closing their branch store they will clear off the large stock of fancy goods at a reduction of twenty per cent. for cash only.

Peake Bros. & Co. inform all interested, that the remainder of the cargo of the "Alpha" will be sold at auction at Port Hastings, C. B., on Wednesday, the 2nd January.

A Buffalo Dynamite Fiend. HE THREATENS OTTAWA OR TORONTO. A Buffalo despatch, dated Dec. 25, says: The following paragraph appeared in the Buffalo News on the 26th: "John J. McBride, a prominent Fenian, states this afternoon that a meeting of Irishmen was held in this city last night to take action regarding the hanging of O'Donnell. McBride is very mysterious, and refuses to disclose the plans of what is believed to be a branch of the Invincibles. McBride is a skilled manipulator of chemicals, and has experimented at East Buffalo with dynamite for several days. He is about forty years of age, sleek and well fed. Has been connected with several Fenian scares, and before O'Donnell was hanged he sent telegrams to Governor Cleveland and President Arthur, urging them to do their duty, and have O'Donnell pardoned. McBride refused point blank to tell who was associated with him, and said he had a grievance against the Canadian authorities. He explained as follows: "John Quinn was a companion of mine, and he was so treated in Kingston prison, where he was confined, when captured after the Fenian raid, that he was never good for hard work after he was liberated. He was a warm friend of mine, and his ill-treatment, which broke down his health entirely, made him a pitiable object. John finally took to drinking and hanged himself in a cell in a police station, where he had been arrested for being intoxicated. So you can see that I do not feel very friendly towards the Canadian Government, and that I don't propose to put myself in their clutches." McBride is the O'Donovan Rossa of Buffalo, and is a very shrewd fellow. Whether or not much reliance is to be placed in what he says is another question, but there seems to be something in the wind, for secret meetings of Irishmen have actually been held, and their proceedings kept away from the public. He says a blow will be struck at Toronto or Ottawa in a few days.

There are some things which forcibly strike all strangers who visit Bermuda for the first time, and one is:

THE SPLENDID ROADS. They are by far the best for driving on that I have ever seen. Much of the country through which they pass is very rocky. These roads, "coral limestone" as they are called, often rise above the surface. They seem about as hard, or rather as soft, as P. E. Island sandstone. The cuttings through the solid rock in the building of these roads are in many places ten and twelve feet deep. This cutting down and leveling, which must have cost an immense amount of money, has been constantly going on for over two centuries. In olden times much of the work on the public roads was done by slaves, and I think also that convict labor was employed on them. They may be said to be always dry, for the rain soaks away nearly as quick as it falls. These roads are a credit to the colony, and a constant source of advantage and comfort to the people. But there are certain grievances, as usual. I have heard the complaint made

that some of the commissioners expend an undue amount of the public money in improving the roads near their own residences, and those of their special friends. This complaint, however, is not peculiar to Bermuda, for it appears to me that I have heard a similar one made—of course without a particle of ground—even in P. E. Island.

ELEGANT MANSIONS. In passing through the Island the traveller sees, on every hand, elegant mansions, nesting on the hill sides, amidst trees, shrubbery, and flowers, and the question naturally suggests itself: How are they maintained? What is the source of their owner's wealth? It can hardly be derived from the cultivation of the soil, as only small patches here and there are tilled, and only one-sixth of the land in the whole Colony is under cultivation. Even when taking into consideration that the cultivated land is very productive, and that the crops raised are of great value, I still confess my inability to solve this problem, which, I learn, is also a mystery to nearly every stranger, and at present I offer no opinion on the subject.

I may here mention, for the benefit of at least some of your readers, that all the structures erected in the Bermudas, whether churches, dwelling houses, barns, fences, and wharfs—with the exception of a few iron sheds—are of stone, grey coral limestone. While the houses and grounds of the wealthier classes, show evidence of great taste, the same is true in a good degree of the humbler dwellings of the poorer people, whether white or colored. I have not yet seen a shabby looking house with slovenly surroundings in Bermuda. The buildings here have all an outside coating of waterproof cement, and they are white-washed from the top of the roof downward every spring, retaining this whiteness for most of the year. All the houses have green Venetian blinds on the outside.

These blinds are in one piece and fastened by hinges to the top of the window, and of course open outward from the bottom. They are arranged by fixtures so as to form a roof for the window, thus excluding the sun while admitting the light and air, for the windows are open nearly every day in the year. The windows have no blinds on the inside, and but very few have curtains. The well-polished pitch pine hall floors and stairs have no oil cloth or carpets, and the same is true of many of the rooms—even of elegantly furnished drawing rooms.

No room-paper is used here, and both the walls and ceilings of the houses are always of snowy whiteness, as they are never blackened with smoke from grate, or stove or fire-place. The cooking apparatus is often apart from the house, and always as far away as possible, so that the heat may be excluded.

As there are no wells or springs in Bermuda, rain water is used for all purposes, and every householder is required by law to have a water tank. When well filtered, this water is pleasant to the taste, and wholesome for drinking. But I must not weary your readers further at present.

W. R. F. East Warwick, Dec. 7, 1883.

Our Advertisers. St. Peter's Boys School will re-open, after the Christmas holidays, on Monday, January 7th, next.

A Quadrille Party will be held at Terpsichore Hall on New Year's evening, commencing at eight, p. m.

The directors of the Citizens' Skating Rink advertise their annual Skating Carnival, to be held in the Rink on Wednesday, the 16th January next.

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SUDDEN DEATH.—The Halifax Chronicle reports that on Christmas morning Mr. Edward Wilson, painter, residing at No. 37 Grrish Street, woke up to find his wife, Phoebe, cold in death in bed beside him. He had enjoyed customary good health and retired about 11 p. m., in hopes of spending a merry Christmas among her friends here as usual. Coroner Somers held an inquest at the house yesterday forenoon and a verdict was returned of death from apoplexy. Deceased was a middle aged woman and was highly esteemed by the neighborhood. The Moncton Times reports that Reuben Stiles, aged about 78, died at his residence at Albert, Hopewell, N. B., on Saturday morning. He retired to rest the previous night, apparently in as good health as usual, but not rising in the morning some member of the family went to his room and found him dead.

New Tweeds just received at J. B. Macdonald's. A lady of St. Thomas, Ont., tells the following strange incident in connection with the drowning of Benjamin Folds, a Burlington Beach fisherman, on Tuesday last. Folds' widow, it appears, was married in her younger days to a man named Shephard, and on December 11th, 1862, or just twenty-one years ago, her husband who was a fisherman, was drowned in the Grand River between Caledonia and Middleport. She subsequently married Folds, who now has met his death in the same way and on the very anniversary of her first husband's taking off.

The eldest daughter of Sir Hector Langevin will be married at Quebec, on the 10th of January, to Mr. Thomas Casais, son of Senator Casais, and private secretary to Lieutenant-Governor Robitaille.

NOTICE. Wreck Sale Continued. BRIG. "ALPHA."

We are advised by telegraph from Mr. Lemuel M. Poole, Agent Port Hastings, that the Brig. "Alpha" materials, and about one-half of the damaged portion of cargo were sold on Friday the 28th inst.; and that the Balance of Damaged Cargo WOULD BE SOLD AT

Port Hastings, C. B., Wednesday, 2nd January, 1884. PEAKE BROS & CO. Dec. 29, 1883.—21.

BARGAINS! PREVIOUSLY to closing our BRANCH STORE, we offer all our FANCY GOODS such as

Photograph Albums, Autograph Albums, Card Cases, Frames, New Year Cards, Writing Desk, &c., Also, Gift Books, Toy Books, Bibles, Prayers, Hymns, at a reduction of TWENTY PER CENT. from marked prices, for CASH ONLY.

This offer to remain good only a short time before we move back the balance of our Stock into the Old Stand. BREMNER BROS. CH'OWN, Dec. 29, 1883.—17.

GRAND CARNIVAL! THE Directors of the Citizens' Skating Rink have pleasure in announcing their Annual Skating Carnival, TO TAKE PLACE AT THE RINK, Wednesday, 16th Jan., AT EIGHT O'CLOCK.

REGULATIONS. All parties intending to take part must enter their names with the Committee not later than Saturday, 12th inst. Each person in costume must be provided with a legible card bearing name and "character," such card to be handed to the person in waiting, upon entering the Dressing Room. The Committee reserve the right to reject any objectionable character. Admission—Ticket-holders in costume, free; non-ticket-holders in costume, 50 cents. Spectators to promenade, 35 cents; children, 25 cents. Tickets to be had at Apothecaries Hall. CH'OWN, Dec. 29, 1883.—2aw.

TERPSICHOIRE HALL. ON NEW YEAR'S EVENING a general Quadrille Party will be held at the above Hall, commencing at 8 p. m. No special invitations. CH'OWN, Dec. 29, '83.—21 s&m.

ST. PETER'S BOYS' SCHOOL WILL RE-OPEN ON MONDAY, Jan. 7th, Subjects Taught:—All English branches thoroughly, Latin, Greek, French, or German, if desired. Applications may be made to the Rev. G. W. Hodgson, or to W. B. KING, St. Peter's Clergy House, CH'OWN, 29, '83.—dly 11 jan.

NEW YEAR'S GIFTS!

Grand Show of Silver-Plated Ware. SPECIAL ATTRACTIONS IN BRACELETS.

We have all the samples of a Manufacturers' Agent, and offer at Reduced Prices. Children's Misses' Ladies' and Gents' Rings, all styles and all prices; Fine Gold and Silver Locketts and Chains, Initial Pins and Studs, Fancy Pencils, Patent Watch Keys, Silver Thimbles, Scarf Pins. Decorated and Mounted Vases, Satin Lined Jewel Cases, Novel Napkin Rings, Ink Stands, Thermometers, Card Trays, Biscuit Boxes, Cream and Sugar Dishes, Tea Sets, Salvers, Spoon Holders, Pickle Dishes, Cruets. Just received, the largest stock of Silver Necklets and Locketts in the city.

Gold and Silver Watches, Spectacles, Fancy and Useful Clocks, and a great many other articles which, if given for PRESENTS are likely to remind one of the giver a lifetime. Having enlarged and filled up our store, we can show goods to better advantage and give better satisfaction. We will be happy to show you whether you buy or not. Call early at

E. W. TAYLOR'S. CH'OWN, Dec. 27, 1883.

NEW GOODS! NEW GOODS! —FOR— Xmas and New Year's Gifts, —AT— G. H. TAYLOR'S!

NEW PATTERNS in Silver Ware, Gold Locketts and Necklets, Colored Gold Sets, Gold-Plated Brooches, Ear-rings, etc. Bargains in Silver Jewelry, as I am closing out this line of Goods. North Side Queen Square, Charlottetown. CH'OWN, Dec. 19, 1883.—6i wed fri sat wkly li

THE CHARLOTTETOWN FLOUR, FEED AND PROVISION STORE, South Side Queen Square, near Queen Street, HAVE to announce that they have on hand the following goods, which they are prepared to sell at reasonable prices and in quantities to suit purchasers:

Flour (Superior Extra, Strong Bakers' and Patent) OATMEAL, CORNMEAL, BRAN, SHORTS, OATS, CRUSHED FEED, either Oats and Barley or Oats, Barley and Corn. APPLES, which will be sold by the barrel or by the pound, at rates very little over barrel prices. CH'OWN, Dec. 18, 1883.

CHARLOTTETOWN BOOT AND SHOE FACTORY. COME! COME! COME! —AND GET YOUR— XMAS AND NEW YEAR'S PRESENTS AT LOWEST PRICES.

VELVET, Carpet and Kid Slippers, French Kid and Oil Goat Button Boots, Grain Calf Skating Boots, Overshoes and Rubbers, and a large assortment of all kinds of Boots and Shoes, from 50 cents upwards. Warranted to fit and best qualities. DORSEY, GOFF & CO., Queen Street. CH'OWN, Dec. 20, 1883.

GRAND SALE OF DRY GOODS AND CLOTHING. JOHN MACPHEE & CO. will, during the HOLIDAY SEASON, give special bargains in Dress Goods, Knit Wool Goods, Mantles, Shawls, Flannels, Hosiery, Gloves, &c. CLOTHING. CLOTHING. Men's Overcoats, \$3.90, \$5.00, \$6.50, \$7.75, up. Men's Ulsters, \$4.95, \$6.25, \$7.00, up. Men's Reefers, \$2.95, \$3.50, \$4.50, \$5.50, up. Fur Caps, Kid Mitts and Gloves, Cardigan Jackets, Worsted Tweeds, Under-clothing, Buffalo Robes, Horse Rugs, Small Wares, etc. PARKS' WARP, CHEAP. Cash Buyers can depend on getting REAL BARGAINS in every Department. WHOLESALE AND RETAIL. JOHN MACPHEE & CO., ROBERT ORR'S OLD STAND, CH'OWN, Dec. 12, 1883.—2aw wkly pres pat.

V. M. C. A.

LECTURE COURSE. THE Fourth Lecture of the Winter Course, before the Young Men's Christian Association, will be delivered by

L. H. DAVIES, ESQ., M.P., —IN THE— Y. M. C. A. HALL, —ON— Thursday Ev'ng, January 3rd, SUBJECT—"GREAT MEN IN COUNCIL." Chair to be taken at eight o'clock. Admission ten cents. HENRY SMITH, Secretary. CH'OWN, Dec. 27.

Y. M. C. ASSOCIATION. THE Annual sale of Papers, Magazines, &c., will take place in the Reading Room on the evening of Wednesday, January 2nd, at 8.20 o'clock. HENRY SMITH, Secretary. Dec. 27, 1883.—5. col.

CURLING. A MEETING of gentlemen interested in forming a Curling Club will be held at the Bankin House, on Saturday evening next. Chair will be taken at eight o'clock. All interested in the "Roarin' Game" are invited to attend. CH'OWN, Dec. 24.

VALUABLE FARM FOR SALE. THE Subscribers offer for sale by private contract that valuable farm and Business Stand belonging to the Estate of the late Edward Roberson, situate at Belfast, Lot 57. The farm consists of one Hundred acres, about sixty of which are covered with a growth of hardwood unequalled in the Province. There is on the premises, a Dwelling House, Store, Warehouse, large Barn, Horse and Cow Stable, Coach House and other out-buildings, all in good repair. This property offers great inducements to intending purchasers. Terms easy and made known on application to either of the undersigned. An undoubted title will be given. GEO. DAVIES, Trustees and Executors F. L. HAZARD, late E. Roberson, CH'OWN, Dec. 27, 1883.—44i col wkly 21.

CHOICE TEAS, VERY CHEAP, —AT THE— LONDON HOUSE, —BY THE— Chest, Half-Chest and Quarter-Chest, ALSO IN PACKAGES OF 5, 10, 5 AND 26 POUNDS. CH'OWN, Dec. 24, 1883.—1m eod wkly

LONDON HOUSE. During December we will clear the balance of our Stock of Ladies' Sacques and Mantles at a large discount. GEO. DAVIES & CO. CH'OWN, Dec. 10, 1883.—eod 2w wkly 21

WANTS, LOST, FOUND, &c. STRAYED.—On Friday evening a Red and White Cow with white face, Information thankfully received. JOHN McKENNA, Sidney Street. [de29, 2i pd

WANTED TO RENT about lat April, a House containing seven or eight rooms within 5 minutes walk of the post office. Enquire at this office. [dec29 4in.

FOUND.—In our Store yesterday a sum of Money. Owner can have the same by proving property. GEO. DAVIES & CO. [dec29 2i.

WANTED.—A Situation this winter as Can Maker, also as Foreman for the coming Lobster Season by one who thoroughly understands the business. Address: J. I. M. Charlottetown, P. E. I. [dec29.

WANTED.—A Carriage blacksmith and a Carriage Painter to go to Halifax. To the right parties steady employment and good wages will be given. Address: H. W. L., Dartmouth, N. S., P. O. Box 90. [dec28 2i.

WANTED TO PURCHASE.—A pair of medium sized Snowshoes (second hand). Apply at this office. [dec27.

WANTED.—To Lease for a term of years, a Cottage, centrally located. Enquire at this office. [de21 tf

TO LET.—Warehouses to let on Lord's Wharf. Apply to W. W. CLARKE. [de20

TO LET.—Part of House opposite Railway Station. Enquire at this office. [de19

BOARDERS.—Mrs. Robert Rodd, has removed to the house of Mr. C. Hearts, Euston Street, where she can accommodate number of Boarders, on reasonable terms. [de23