

THE DAILY EXAMINER

DECEMBER 24, 1896.

CHRISTMAS.

Fix for the boys and girls! Groping in the early morning for their well-filled stockings, exclaiming as each new wonder is brought to view, concluding that Santa Claus is not a myth but a jolly reality, tasting the sweets, comparing the gifts, romping throughout the house, turkey or goose and plum pudding for dinner, a lively family party in the evening, a whole day of happiness unalloyed. Happiness—also a quieter, fuller happiness—for the parents, content in the knowledge that their plans and labors have been realized in the happiness of their children, and filled with the blessed sense of love and gratitude which results from appreciation of the sublime fact that

Unto us a Child is born, Unto us a Son is given, And the government shall be upon His shoulder, And His name is called Wonderful, Counsellor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.

It is not necessary to enlarge upon this great fact, declared for it has been and is recognized throughout the world, and is to be more and more fully recognized as the years roll on. Someone has said that it is the "focal point of the ages. To it all lines of previous history converge; from it all subsequent history takes its measurements." Thus, the Christmas evangel strikes through our earthly pessimism with a power that renews and blesses our life. So we heartily wish all readers of THE EXAMINER, and all other readers and non-readers,

A HAPPY CHRISTMAS.

OUR BEST TREASURES

As a people, we are rich in the best blood, as well as the best traditions of the old lands of Europe, says Professor Robertson in the course of a recent address. Let us, then, he continues, sometimes forget the boundaries of our farm and of our parish and of our province, an rejoice in the fact that we are Canadian, citizens of no mean country. Let us believe in our nation and show our belief in it and hope for it, not by empty boasting and bravado about the flag, but by laboring as each one of us is able, and has a chance to labor for her prosperity and welfare. It is sometimes thrown up to us that we are only five millions all told, and what are they among so many on this continent! Yes, but if only five millions, then five millions of the very best opportunity and blood, which the world can show. And let us not stop here in our patriotic allegiance. Let us remember that we are part of the British Empire, whose flag is the emblem of freedom and liberty—that quality of liberty which has a push upwards for each one to make the most of himself where it is planted. While Great Britain is the lanker of all nations and has grown rich, it is by conquering other lands through force of arms, but by making things and doing things which they needed and wanted and by exchanging the skill and labor of her sons for their material wealth. Our nation has enriched the world while nourishing herself, and for at least two centuries has stood out alone to give her citizens and all who claim asylum within her bounds, the boon of heartiest, sacred and free, for the individual family. In doing our duty in our several places, by laboring earnestly, faithfully and wisely, we shall thus best advance the interests of the Empire and our common humanity, and prove ourselves in some measure worthy of the privilege of living in this favored land.

A DISCORDANT NOTE

We are reminded by the Patriot that "the mills of the gods grind slowly," and it is insinuated that the dismissal of all Conservative officials who did not give a "silent" vote at the last election will be "exceeding sure." This is not Christmas cheer for those officials who dared to open their mouths to express an opinion in favor of the Conservative policy. They are to be decapitated. The agony is only to be prolonged until the government, in secret conference, shall examine and decide upon evidence obtained in a Star Chamber Court. This is not Liberalism. This is not British fairplay. This is not according to the golden rule. This is not an expression of Christian charity. This, we repeat, is not Christmas cheer. It is a discordant note. There are surprised that such a note has been sounded on the eve of that day which is fullest of the spirit of peace and good-will towards men. We are surprised that it has been sounded by the Patriot which ought to be rebuking the greed of selfish party spoilsmen rather than encouraging them to hope that success will ultimately crown their unmanly efforts.

NOTES AND COMMENTS

—There was a good deal of complaining last night at the Post Office, owing to the lateness of the arrival of the foreign mail and the subsequent delay in distributing the matter after the lights reached the Post Office.

—We exported to England \$60,000,000 worth of products during the past eleven months—an increase of eighteen per cent over last year's trade. Wheat, bacon, lard, butter, cheese, eggs, fish, and wood were among our enlarged exports. The United States exports \$100,000,000 worth of products to Britain, and imports \$100,000,000 worth of British manufactures. The Mail and Empire wisely remarks that if our trade is properly pushed there is plenty of room for us in the market over the sea.

In connection with the recent Grit victory in Cornwall it is pointed out that last June the Conservative had 1838 votes, the Liberal, 1466, the Patrons 1073. This time the Patrons, who, by the way is a Liberal, stood out of the way and allowed his 1575 votes to go to the straight Liberal and yet he only beat the Conservative by 400 odd votes.

PREPARING FOR WAR.

Spain is Getting Ready to do Battle With the United States. The Madrid Correspondence is authority for the statement that the naval and military plans to be carried out in the event of war between Spain and the United States have already been formed and approved by Admiral Beranger and Gen. Alarcos, respectively ministers of marine and war. The policy of Spain, according to this statement, will be to act upon the defensive in Cuba, but to be in readiness to take the offensive if the forces of the United States should attempt to make a landing upon the island. The home dockyards have become the scenes of the greatest activity, and hundreds of additional men have been employed in each yard to carry out the orders of Admiral Beranger to expedite work upon the warships and transports which are being repaired and got in readiness for service. The minister of marine has also telegraphed to the Spanish fleet in the Atlantic to be ready to receive the orders of the Admiral Beranger to expedite work upon the warships and transports which are being repaired and got in readiness for service.

Although the hour was early and the roads almost impassable, a large procession followed her remains to Rollo Bay Church, where a solemn Requiem Mass was celebrated by the Rev. Dr. Walker, who afterwards conducted the services at the interment.

PROOF WANTED.

On Saturday's issue of the Patriot a correspondent signing himself "One who Knows" attempts to prove the Patriot's statement by hurling at me a choice number of epithets, such as scribbler, false statement, spite, willful misrepresentation, etc. Now, Mr. Editor, I propose to just scribble enough to show the public and "One who Knows" that he does not know enough to come in that rains; and further that he is not private secretary yet, and consequently fails to know just as much as he would have the public believe. He says I too profess to know something of applications for government positions. Will "One who Knows" please give the names of the unsuccessful applicants for the position of private secretary to the Hon. L. H. Davies. Possibly they would not like to have their names published any more than the applicants for the position as engineer, after being treated in such a shabby manner! "One who Knows" believes that no local man could be found to fill the position. No doubt, then, had the Coila still floated the Petrel would have been laid up for want of an engineer. Perhaps it would be just as well to meet a few more men in case of sickness or accident. "One who Knows" calls on me to give the names of the applicants I know of. This I decline to do at present, because some of the said applicants are not anxious to have their names mentioned in connection with the "water works," to the confusion of "One who Knows," and further without their permission I dare not do it. The shedding of crocodile tears originated with "One who Knows" and any person can see the Editor for his space in your valuable paper. I have nothing more to say, but shall look anxiously for the proof of "One who Knows's" statement.

NEWS NOTES

It is reported that the Dukes of York will be promoted to be rear-admirals on New Year's Day.

The three-year-old daughter of John Schleyer, Frederick, was terribly scalded by falling backwards into a pail of boiling water.

The Prince and Princess Charles of Denmark started on Saturday for Copenhagen, where they will spend several months.

Miles Kielor, farmer at Oxford, N. S., suicided last Thursday morning by hanging himself from a tree with a noose made of his own hand.

Eight anarchists convicted of complicity in the bomb throwing at Barcelona, Spain, in June last have been sentenced to death by court martial.

The Republicans carried Boston at the civic election on Tuesday. The board of alderman stands: Republicans 6 Democrats 5, reversing the state of affairs last year.

At Inwood, Ont., on Sunday morning last, Joseph Atkinson, an aged resident, shot his wife while she was asleep, and then turned the weapon on himself. Both are dead.

Private letters from Manila, the capital of the Philippine Islands, state that the Spaniards are resorting to torture to extract confessions and information from captured insurgents.

Capt. Sinclair, secretary to the Governor General, is disposed to accept the request of the Liberals of Fortarshire, Scotland, to contest the riding for a seat in the British House of Commons.

New York's hundreds of Baines law hotels are rushing business last Sunday, running wide open, with no apparent fear of the law. No man who wanted a drink had the price had to go thirsty.

Mr. Herbert Spencer, who, between the first and last volume of his work on Sociology, has considerably changed his opinion on the interposition of Providence in mundane affairs, claims the right of mental evolution.

Robert King, a Montreal laborer, has been sentenced to jail for two months at hard labor for having thrown out of his house at midnight, his stepson, aged 11 years, while the lad was in his bare feet and snow was covering the ground.

CITY SCHOOLS.—The City Schools closed today. The pupils of Prince Street Institution are named in the hall of that institution at noon, when Christmas exercises were given by the lower departments and Author's Day exercises by the advanced classes. Walt Whitman was the author.

Address: Robert Johnston, St. Augustine's College, Canterbury; John Smith, Bus College, Cumberland; Albert E. Andrew, B. A., King's College, Windsor; John Reeks, St. Augustine's College, Canterbury; Ernest R. Soames, B. A., Toronto university.

TURKEYS TAKEN.—A country woman had four turkeys stolen from her basket at the Royal Hotel, Richmond Street, yesterday. There were five turkeys in the basket, and the thief considerably left the woman one. Four bottles were also stolen from a cruet belonging to the house about the same time.

FIRST METHODIST CHURCH.—There will be services in the First Methodist Church on Christmas morning at 11 o'clock. Excellent and appropriate music will be rendered by the choir under the direction of Mr. Erlic. The offerings are for the poor of the church.

TEMPLES.—Charlotteville Lodge, No. 58, will meet this evening in Wright's Hall for initiation and other business. A good time is expected. Visiting Templars welcome.

JEVENINGS.—Excelsior Temple No. 12, I. O. G. T., will meet this evening. A special programme prepared for Xmas Eve. Every young Templar be on hand.

DEATH OF MRS. JOHN KICKHAM.

Deep and sincere was the sorrow felt all over the community of Souris West, and surrounding, when the death of Mrs. John Kickham was announced on Thursday morning. All classes and creeds received the sad news of her final summons with profound and universal regret, because she possessed and exercised all the virtues of a character of an extremely kind and charitable woman. Her sympathy and charity for those in need, or affliction was of so high an order that it was a real happiness to her to grant assistance, neither did she neglect to inculcate the same spirit in her family.

She had passed the allotted time, having reached the mature age of 74 years. She departed this life comforted by the last rites of the Holy Roman Catholic Church, and likewise by the parental feeling of happiness resulting from the fact that all her remaining family of seven sons and one daughter were comfortably provided for, and that very materially by her own untiring industry.

Although the hour was early and the roads almost impassable, a large procession followed her remains to Rollo Bay Church, where a solemn Requiem Mass was celebrated by the Rev. Dr. Walker, who afterwards conducted the services at the interment. To her sorrowful family we extend our most heartfelt sympathy.

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PERSONAL

Miss Fanning, of New York is visiting Charlotteville. She is the guest of the Misses Dawson.

Mr. Frank C. Cotton, of the Merchants' Bank of Halifax, Truro, N. S., is expected here this evening.

Mr. Stanislas Blanchard, of Charlotteville, has been appointed Grand Deputy of the C. M. B. A. for Quebec County.

Mr. Fred C. McLean, teacher of the seventh grade in West Kent Street School, has been appointed post clerk in place of Mr. H. D. McEwen, resigned.

John Anderson, Kensington; Joshua Groette, Bedouin; registered at the Queen Hotel this forenoon. Mary E. Wright, E. H. Wright, Squire, Miss Holland, St. Eleanor's, registered last evening.

STUDENTS HOME

—Another batch of Island students returned home for the holidays last evening. They include the following:

Dalhousie College.—D. A. McEae, Canoe Cove; Benj. Glover, Georgetown; J. A. Ewans and Ernest Ramsey, Hamilton; Ewan Macdonald, Uze; R. Coffin, Charlottetown; George McKenzie and H. D. McEwan, St. Peter's.

McGill College.—Fred. Hazard and Gordon Alley, Charlottetown; and Wilfred Forbes, Vernon River Bridge.

University of New Brunswick.—Frank Bayfield, Charlottetown.

Sacred Heart Convent.—Miss Faustina Sullivan, Biligton.

Miss Wilson.—Miss Weddall, Miss Wright, Summerside; Miss Helen Dawson, Charlottetown; Miss Holland, St. Eleanor's; Miss Matthew, Souris; Miss Baker, Cornwall; Miss Wright, Bedouin; Mr. Johnson, Montague; Mr. Champlain, Alberton.

AS OLD WAIL TRIED REMEDY.—Mrs. Winslow's Soothing Syrup has been used for over fifty years by millions of mothers for their children while teething with perfect success. It soothes the child, softens the gums, allays all pain, cures wind colic, and is the best remedy for Diarrhoea. It is pleasant to the taste. Sold by Druggists in every part of the world. Twenty-five cents a bottle. Its value is incalculable. Write for sample and ask for Mrs. Winslow's Soothing Syrup, and take no other kind 1/3 S.

ABSTRACTS.—The Abstracts will meet on Saturday night, at 8 o'clock, for practice, instead of tonight at 10 o'clock.

THE STANLEY LEFT PICTON for Georgetown at ten minutes past one this afternoon.

A despatch from Constantinople says the Sultan has issued a decree granting an amnesty to 2,000 Armenians convicted either of crimes against the government or against persons or property, or who were awaiting trial on such charges. In addition to this amnesty counts the death sentences passed on ninety Armenians to imprisonment in fortress, and promises that these prisoners will be given liberty, if they behave themselves, in three months. The amnesty is due to the intervention of Mgs. Ormalian, the new Armenian patriarch.

Rink is open this Christmas eve with band. Come in for an hour's skate when your shopping is over.

You don't know what to give. Perhaps it's Perfume—perhaps it's something else, we have both—the Central Druggeter.

Shop early, remember last year at our store. Shop early and have time to select.—Central Druggeter.

MY YULE-TIDE GUEST.

Come to my side, O memory dear, Come on this holy night, When childhood's laughter ringeth clear, And childhood's eyes are bright! Come close, so close that I may hear Thy spirit's accents sweet! Come close, so close that I may feel Thy breath upon my cheek!

Thy holy wreath hangs red and green, By the hough of mid-winter, And the Yule-light falls upon the scene Where childhood's faces glow; But the fairest face for me, I ween, Is a child-face under the snow!

'Tis a face so fair—as I see it now, With its light and sad and wise, With its eyes that light the holy brow, Those wondrous, radiant eyes! Only a baby's, sweet and true, Innocent, laughing, loving, true, With shadowy deeps I scarce could brook, For the sorrows of men for ages lay In a little baby's look!

O memory sweet, with the brows divine! And lips like the heart of a rose! And eyes with the light of Heaven's shine! As the empty arms o'er my bosom close, I love my God with a love unalloyed, With blessings and praises manifold, That my baby once was mine!

CHRISTMAS FOLK-LORE AND SUPERSTITIONS.

BY REV. W. J. KIRBY.

It ought not to be true, nevertheless it is a fact, that many young people at least have no very clear conception of the true meaning of Christmas. This may be largely accounted for by the many myths and legends which are connected with the Christmas story. The greatest of all Christmas attractions is the mythical Santa Claus. The childish mind never reasons for a moment upon the absurdity of the whole deception, but with an amount of astonishing faith they proceed the morning sun of the 25th of December and hunt in the dark for mysteriously-filled stockings. This child-like develops and grows with the development and growth of the individual until the position as private secretary to the Hon. L. H. Davies. Possibly they would not like to have their names published any more than the applicants for the position as engineer, after being treated in such a shabby manner! "One who Knows" believes that no local man could be found to fill the position. No doubt, then, had the Coila still floated the Petrel would have been laid up for want of an engineer. Perhaps it would be just as well to meet a few more men in case of sickness or accident. "One who Knows" calls on me to give the names of the applicants I know of. This I decline to do at present, because some of the said applicants are not anxious to have their names mentioned in connection with the "water works," to the confusion of "One who Knows," and further without their permission I dare not do it. The shedding of crocodile tears originated with "One who Knows" and any person can see the Editor for his space in your valuable paper. I have nothing more to say, but shall look anxiously for the proof of "One who Knows's" statement.

In Old England there are many curious practices observed and confidently believed in by the people. In the traditions of the Feterlands we read, on Christmas night, at twelve o'clock, all the cattle rise up and continue standing for some time, and then lie down again.

But we are told that watching the cattle on Christmas eve still prevails in parts of England, and the popular belief is that anyone possessing sufficient courage to remain in the cattle shed until the midnight hour has struck will behold the animals suddenly kneeling to him at the anniversary of the Babe of Bethlehem.

Something of a similar nature obtains in Sweden, Northern France and other parts. The Swede on Christmas morning would set little bowls of yule-porridge (jultrot) and other cakes on the eaves of the house, together with a jacket for the Tomtegenie, in order that he might continue to bring prosperity to the house.

In Brittany and other portions of North-west France, the farm servants and herdsmen are careful to provide the animals with plenty of fresh straw. Doubtless these superstitions are accounted for by the prevalent medieval notion that an ox and a cow which present at the manger on Christmas eve will be present at the manger of the Babe of Bethlehem.

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front of each house to provide them with a Christmas breakfast.

Many of the Christmas customs and pastimes derive their origin from the sacrifices which in the days of heathenism were appointed in order to make the gods propitious. Games and dancing were the attendants upon many a sacrifice to Odin. In Gotland, many an old practice, savouring of the heathenish, still exists. Of the manner in which the Trolls celebrate Christmas there are traditions throughout the whole North. Christian men were not supposed to be out that night, because the heathen gods and little Trolls, one on each roof, and another on a broom or a shovel, going to their assemblies, where they dance under the stones. These stones are then raised on pillars, under which the Trolls dance and drink. On the mountain, north, music, dancing and drinking are heard. On Christmas morn, during the time between cock-crowing and daybreak, it is highly dangerous to be abroad.

Some priests who were riding before daybreak by a mount on Christmas morning, and the Trolls were at the sports were met by a woman who came out of the Berg—or mount, and offered them drink in metal bowls. Instead of drinking, however, they cast the drink behind them, when some drops fell on the horse's head and turned the best of the bowls they carried away with them, and these are still to be found in several churches where, it is said, they were formerly used as chalices.

This drink, which the Trolls were in the habit of offering so liberally, was supposed to have the effect of obliterating from memory all the past, and of rendering the guest who partook of it contented with all the time of the present. We know another Christmas drink which has up to a certain point the same effects. When the drink has got past the stage of contentedness with all, it transforms into a fiend, and the drinker becomes dangerous to his best and most beloved. This is the wine of which this strange drink is known as Akol.

Another strange Swedish superstition is that the person who comes first home from church on Christmas Day will be the first to die, a strong encouragement either to stay home or later on return from church.

Throughout the North of Germany the custom is widespread of having a man on Christmas Eve to enter the stable, disguised with a long beard, and enveloped either in fur or in pea-straw, who asks the children whether or can pray, and if they stand the trial reward them with apples, nuts and ginger bread (peppercakes); and, on the other hand, punishes those that had learned nothing.

In the Middle Mark, the name most generally given to this personage, is Doll hele Christ, (the Holy Christ), or Knecht Ruprecht. In other parts he is called Hans Rapprecht, which is sometimes corrupted into Rumprecht; in Mecklenburg he is known as Ra Ras (Rough Nicholas). He sometimes carries a long staff and a bag of nuts or of coal. The children are told that he has the children who have not learned to pray, and is for that reason called a hard name. Sometimes he rides on a white horse with Jack Pulling attendants.

Whoever would know what kind of weather we would have during the year, will take onion on Christmas eve, cut it through and out of it make twelve cups, put salt in them and stand them with salt side in a row. The month corresponding to these cups in which the salt is found wet on Christmas morning will be rainy months, the others dry. If a man will have sound and fat horses let him take a bundle of hay on Christmas night and carry it three round the church at midnight and then feed it to the horses.

Christmas Eve is well known amongst loves of swains and laughing maidens as an excellent time for a look at the stars. This, a young maid will go into the garden and pick twelve sage leaves under the belief that she will see the shadowy form of her future husband approaching her from the other side of the garden. But serious consequences may happen if she bruises or damages the leaves.

Perhaps Canadians are freer from these many foolish myths and superstitions than we are in this country, but even now occasionally find some person avowing his belief that the cat he kneel down at midnight, or that Santa Claus is a name for some unexplainable impressions which affect the minds of our friends and lead them to purchase and present the very thing we so much desire.

"Love that person a grudge" said a young girl, "who undecieved me about Santa Claus." Old persons may well say: Thanks to the Devil for introducing this simple myth and pleasant superstitions to our homes and country, to give hopefulness to the young as they look to the Christmaside which will bring "Peace on earth and good-will to men" from the Holy Child who stooped to a manger cradle, and rose to a conquering God. Hang not a stocking only, but at the feet of Him whom we love, let us lay an empty heart to be filled with Heaven's best gifts, pure, unchangeable Love.

A rinky ticket peeping out of the top of the little one's stocking will afford a great deal of pleasure tomorrow morning, and no end of real enjoyment during the coming long winter.

Johnson's Baking Powder gives fullest satisfaction 25c a pound. Johnson & Johnson.

MARRIED.—At the manse, Charlottetown, on December 3rd, 1896, by Rev. John Sutherland, on the 15th inst., Mr. Charles McLean, Middleton, to Miss Annie McLean, Caledonia West, both of Lot 60.

DIED.—At Sea View, Lot 20, on the 15th inst., Nancy Daggan, in her 47th year.

At Grand River, Lot 55, entered into rest Dec. 10th, Margaret, widow of the late Walter Taylor, born in London, England, in 1815, leaving one son and six daughters to mourn.

At Appin Road, Nov. 14, after two years of suffering, John McQuarrie passed away, trusting in the merits of his Redeemer. He was 51 years of age.

At the 150 Mile House, Cariboo Road, British Columbia, on December 3rd, 1896, George Johnson, blacksmith, aged 58 years, a native of Murray Harbor, P. E. I.

At Boston Highlands, on the 12th inst., Joseph Lyons, aged 45 years, formerly of Prince Edward Island.

On the 15th inst. at Pownal, Lot 49, Ellen Loretta beloved child of James and Mary Ann McMillan, aged 2 years and 8 months.

This lovely lad, so young, so fair, Called before by early doom, Just came to show how sweet a flower In Paradise might bloom. Ere sin could harm or sorrow fade Death came with friendly care, The opening bud to Heaven conveyed, And bade it blossom there.

TELEGRAPHIC.

SPECIAL DISPATCHES TO THE EXAMINER.

A Disgruntled Grit.

QUEBEC, Dec. 24. Charles Angus, M. P. for Charlevoix, has declined to attend the Laurier banquet. It is said he will go into permanent opposition because of Laurier's school policy.

A Conservative M. P.

BARBIE, Ont., Dec. 24. William Bennett, Conservative M. P. for East Simcoe, is unseated for corrupt practices by agents. Each side will pay its own costs.

The Fatal Shot.

MONTREAL, Dec. 24. Annie Irish, who was shot seven days ago by John Harvey Howell, her disavowed lover, died yesterday.

A Merry Christmas.

We are sure this will be the experience of the children of this city on Christmas morning. Mr. Santa Claus has been making great preparations. WE KNOW HE HAS, because our store is his headquarters. We are not allowed to tell what he has for each child, but it will all be known on Xmas morning. This is THE DAY BEFORE CHRISTMAS. It is our busy day. The store will be crowded, and clerks will be busy, and goods will sell at a great rate.

Come Everybody.

We will see that all have proper attention. We have plenty of goods and a big crowd of attentive clerks; the goods are good and the prices low, and we are ready for a jolly, rushing trade, until 11 o'clock at night, and then for our customers and ourselves will follow.

A MERRY CHRISTMAS.

Geo Carter & Co. Santa Claus' Headquarters. Fancy Goods and Toy Bazaar.

WHAT MORE APPROPRIATE PRESENT

For your best girl than a RINK TICKET

It will also gladden the heart of a child.

BUY EARLY

And receive full benefit of long season.

The Same To You . . .

We wish you a Happy Xmas, a Bright and Glad New Year. We thank you for past favors and trust the present pleasant relationship will continue for a long time to come.

Yours sincerely,

A. W. REDDIN, Phm. B.

Central Drug Store.

"Sunnyside."

WE HAVE GOT THEM—HOCKEY.

Another lot of Men's and Boys' Hockey Boots just arrived by express. Get a pair at once before all are gone. Ladies' Strap Skating Boots at a big discount.

A. E. McEACHEN,

The