

A large number of children were entertained at St. Luke's Hall on Tuesday and Wednesday, when the children of St. Alban's and St. Luke's Sunday schools had their annual treats. The prizes to the Cathedral choir boys were distributed on Wednesday, being won by Masters Percy Taylor, Benjamin Bowman and Alexander Cameron.

Mr Mather Almon, Jr., after spending Christmas at Maplewood, will leave town shortly for Virginia.

A very pleasant card party was given by Mrs. Abbott at her residence in Hollis Street on Saturday evening last.

The Rev. W. B. King has left for New York on urgent church affairs. Mr. King will be absent a week or ten days.

The engagement has been announced of Mr. Kent, of the Royal Engineers, to Miss Tiffany of Washington.

Mrs. Hutchings, Queen St., had an "At Home" on Tuesday, more than a hundred accepting her invitation.

Capt. Hon. Jeffrey Vereker has been re-appointed to the Royal Horse Artillery, and leaves here for England on Saturday.

Captain C. H. Alexander, R. A., has been gazetted Inspector of Warlike Stores at this station, vice Colonel Will, R. A., whose 5 years tenure of the appointment has elapsed. Captain Alexander is expected out from England this month, and is to be married before he starts. Another bride for Halifax!

Mrs. Crowe gave a very pleasant little euchre party at Hillside Hall on Wednesday evening. The ladies' booty prize fell to Mrs. McGhee, of St. John's.

From Bermuda we hear that the civilians gave a dance at the Princes Hotel, Hamilton, on New Year's Day, at which Prince George, Admiral Watson, the Governor, the Guards, and the Navy and Army officers, were present. A fancy dress ball was arranged to take place last night. Every Tuesday evening the Hamilton Hotel is the scene of a little "hop." Our correspondent says that Christmas day was the most beautiful day he has seen, and makes our mouths water when he talks of the temperature being 79 F.

Mr. Edmundston, of the Bank of Nova Scotia, Montreal, is in the city on sick leave.

Mr. Whitlock, of London, England, is once more in the city, and has taken up his quarters at the Halifax Hotel.

Mr. Frank Hope, who has resigned his appointment in the Halifax Banking Company, sails in the *S. S. Circassian* for his Derbyshire home to-morrow. What will his many friends among the fair sex do now, poor things! Perchance, he may return to them.

The Academy of Music ought to be better patronized even than it is, though the management have had very little to complain of so far. When we consider the remarkably low prices charged, and the convenience of the house, we cannot help feeling ourselves better off than we should be in any town of the same size on the other side of the water. The Lytell Company have many strong points, and are well worth seeing; it should be remembered that we shall not have them—or their equals, perhaps—with us very long, and those who wish to while away an evening in this dull season of the year cannot do better than put it in at the Academy.

A new "fair contributor" made her appearance in the *Mail* on Wednesday, under the rather appropriate name of "Gaseous." While there is a certain amount of common-sense in some of her remarks, we cannot congratulate her on any display of tact in the

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wording of them. For example, it is all right enough to say that you do not believe in children's dances, because they tend to bring on a feeling of weariness almost before the girls are properly speaking "out"; it is quite another thing to start your remarks by saying that you "preferred your armchair pulled close to the glowing coals" to going out to the dance, which you choose to make the text of your little sermon. For if you *were* really invited it does not show a very great degree of refinement to intimate in a daily paper that you didn't care to go; and if you *were* invited—which is much more probable—you are a snob of a very high order to pretend you were.

**BEDFORD NOTES.**—Christmas and New Year's Day passed very pleasantly at the hotel. The children being entertained with a large Xmas tree, Mr. Santa Claus himself appearing in person to present the numerous presents; no one being forgotten. The guests enjoyed a real old-fashioned English dinner, table being served with all the courses, and a steaming punch of hot lemonade before retiring.

Mr. and Mrs. Morrison were the recipients of a very handsome piece of plate from the resident guests of the house, Major Bagot presenting the same on behalf of the guests with a neat speech. Mr. Morrison returning thanks (more hot lemonade).

The children of the Church of England Sunday school gave an entertainment in the Temperance Hall on Tuesday evening. The dialogues, readings, etc., rendered by the little ones, reflected great credit on the indefatigable exertions of Mrs. A. B. Wilmore in getting up so successful an entertainment. After three cheers for the rector, and the singing of the Doxology by the assembly the meeting came to a close.

A rink has been cleared on the ice in front of the hotel, and will be kept cleared the whole winter by the proprietor for the benefit of his guests.

Ice now averages 7 inches thick clear to the island.

Master Browne, son of Surgeon-Maj. Browne, left for England on the Vancouver.

Miss Evelyn Morrison leaves to-day for the new Church of England girls' school at Windsor.

BERNIE.

**HOCKEY.**—Our Montreal correspondent says that the hockey season is just beginning, and promises an analysis of the rules of the Montreal game, which differs considerably from ours. The only important match so far was played on Wednesday last week, when McGill University beat the Montreal A. A. C.

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DR. SCANDS:—Mrs. Smith, I understand your husband is suffering from a Curbuncle.  
MRS. SMITH:—Suffering, why he is delighted with it. He wears it in his scarf!

TOMMY:—(who had concealed himself under the sofa during the betrothal scene.)  
Sister, I'm sure see your ring.  
HIS SISTER:—Why Tommy?  
TOMMY:—I want to see if the galoot told the truth when he said his heart was in it.

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