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HALIFAX NOTES.

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Everyone was almost too busy with Christmas preparations for much gaiety last week, and every moment that could be snatched from shopping was spent in skating, which was perfect on the Dartmouth lakes. On Christmas day a great many people were out in the afternoon, cold as it was, and many were the new furs sported and at church. There were not the usual number of Christmas dinner parties; the R. A. and R. E. men had their as usual, and Mrs. Montgomery Moore had a small party, but for the most part people simply had their families gathered about them. In nearly every house the afternoon was given up to the children and a Christmas tree, for Christmas is the children's day of the year after all.

Miss Bligh gave a solo. Mr. Harvey, Berkshire regiment, played a mandolin accompaniment to a second song by Mrs. Crichton. Between the music people walked about and chatted and had refreshments. There were a great many smart frocks and people looked well as a rule, though the crowd was so great that no one's gown showed much. Mrs. Morris was looking very well in blue and silver; Miss Farrell, whose last appearance was in Halifax society before her marriage, looked nice in pink. The Misses Cady looked very pretty, one in black and the other in black and pale green, and one of the smartest gowns was worn by Mrs. Hardy. Mrs. Crichton wore a very pretty frock, and Miss Stairs looked nice in pale pink. There were some very pretty black gowns, one in particular of which the bodice was covered with sequins. This afternoon Mrs. Farrell has a large tea a farewell for Miss May Farrell, who is to be married early in January to Mr. Brush, Kings regiment, and leaves on Wednesday next with Mrs. Farrell for Baradoc, where the marriage will take place.

On Christmas eve there were fewer people than usual about, but the day before the shops were crowded. And the poor too, were not forgotten, nor the sick. There was a large tree at the hospital on which there was a present for every patient, and many other pleasant things. There may have been less money spent than usual taking things all around but there seemed to be the "peace and good will" everywhere which after all comes with every Christmas day.

Mrs. Montgomery-Moore had a large "at home" on Tuesday evening, which was the only party of last week. There were a great many people present and it went off capitally. There was no dancing, music being the amusement of the evening. Mrs. Kennedy-Campbell, among others, sang, and sang as delightfully as usual, leaving people longing to hear her again. Mr. Hill, of the Berkshire regiment, sang two comic songs, one of which, the "Four-horse Char-a-banc," was loudly encored. Mrs. Crichton and Miss Osborne sang a duet, and Miss Farrell has received a great many presents—some very beautiful ones of silver and jewelry and also some lovely work from her girl friends, with whom she is very popular. Mr. Brush is also much liked here, and several Halifax presents go to him, as it is now the fashion to let the bridegroom have his share of presents instead of giving everything to the bride. Miss Farrell will be much missed in Halifax, where the girls seem to grow up only to be married and leave us.

There was still a rage on the rink question, which seems absurd. We have very few winter amusements and to dispute about the only general gathering we have all through the winter months does not seem remarkably sensible. There is no doubt last year there was too great a crowd for comfort, and the committee this year decided that it was the children who were in the way, whereas the real disturbers of the peace seem to have been half-grown boys. Whatever may be the rights of the question the prices have been raised for men, lowered for ladies, and family tickets abolished. This last move seems to be keeping many people away, more for the principle of the thing than anything else, for the extra expense only seems to amount to a dollar or two. To raise the subscription for men means fewer partners than ever for the girls, and last year they were not exactly going begging. If as many ladies as usual go, not more than half of them will have any one to dance with, but on the other hand a great many dancing ladies are staying away on account of not being able to take their children. It will probably all turn out a tempest in a teapot and things go on much as usual but we shall know by the end of next week. Just now every one is going about much agitated on one side of the question or the other, and each side mutters darkly that they are not going to subscribe at all. In spite of which every one probably will in the end, and tea and dancing go on much as usual all winter.

WINDSOR.

[Progress is for sale in Windsor at Knowles' book store and by F. W. Dakin.]

"There's a minor in the carol,
And a shadow in the light;
And a spray of cypress twining
With the holy wreath to-night."

Dec. 30.—Never were the words of the beautiful poem more fully realized than this year in the home of Rev. and Mrs. Willets, when on Christmas their only daughter lay in her white flower-covered casket. Miss Willets some weeks ago underwent in New York a most serious operation for cancer which for a time seemed to be successful, but the disease was not entirely removed and she succumbed to it on the 24th Dec. after great suffering. Miss Willets who was only eighteen years of age will be much missed among her young companions with whom she was a great favorite on account of her amiable bright disposition, but oh! how sadly in her own home where she was the centre of

all that was loving and happy. The funeral took place from Christ church on Saturday when a large congregation assembled to attend the service which was most impressive, the pall bearers were Messrs. Dimock, O'Brien, Jones, Sutherland, Blanchard, and Lawson all young friends of the deceased. Much sympathy is felt for Dr. and Mrs. Willets and family in their sad bereavement.

Mr. Ray Carter who has for some past been the obliging agent of the D. A. R., here left this week for his home in Bridgewater from whence he goes to Springfield Mass., to attend college, on account of his good character and pleasant disposition, Mr. Carter made many friends in Windsor and he will be much missed particularly in the young people societies of the presbyterian church of which he has been a useful member.

Canon Brock of Kentville and Rev. Kenneth Hind of Wolfville were in town on Saturday. Rev. Y. J. Daley of Halifax spent Monday in Windsor.

Mr. W. Parsons of Midleton was in town on Sunday the guest of Mr. and Mrs. E. J. Morse. Mr. McCurdy and his daughter of Baddeck have been visiting Mr. W. H. Blanchard.

Mr. Reginald Lawson of the Bank of Nova Scotia, Halifax, spent Xmas with his parents Mr. and Mrs. Walter Lawson, King St.

Miss Madge O'Brien is visiting friends in Quebec. Miss Hewitt of 'Edgehill' is spending the holidays with R. v. J. C. and Mrs. Harvey.

Mr. Faulkner of Dalhousie college is with his sister Mrs. I. Fred Carter during the holidays. Mrs. Holland of Halifax is visiting her mother Mrs. Levi Curry.

Hon. M. H. Goudge spent Xmas in Halifax with his daughter Mrs. C. E. Hobart. Miss Amy Hobart returned to Windsor with him and is the guest of Mrs. Grant Goudge.

Miss Ball of the Kindergarten is spending the Xmas holidays with friends in Halifax. Miss Nora Blanchard is visiting her friend Miss Archibald at Moncton.

Miss Evelyn Kierstead of Wolfville has been the guest of the Misses Bennett the past week. Miss Burgoyne is spending the holidays with relatives in Halifax.

Mr. Clarence Morris of McGill college, Montreal spent Xmas with his parents Capt. and Mrs. D. H. Morris.

Mr. and Mrs. I. C. Stewart of Dartmouth were in town on Sunday the guest of Mr. and Mrs. J. Curry 'Curry Corner.'

Mr. J. W. Dimock, Mr. Roisin and Mr. Mills were in Halifax last week. Rev. G. Stewart of Halifax was in Windsor on Tuesday.

Mr. H. Mangston spent Xmas with relatives in Sackville N. B.

Mrs. W. O'Brien was in Halifax this week. Mrs. Fairbanks who has been spending several weeks with her mother Mrs. Wilson has gone to her home in Sherbrooke.

Miss Edith Johnston of Wolfville was in town last week the guest of Dr. and Mrs. Young. Miss Burnham leaves this morning for a visit to friends in Boston and New York.

Mr. and Mrs. Wilson of Lunenburg are in town the guests of Mr. and Mrs. H. Murphy Mrs. Wilson's parents.

Mrs. Bridge who has been for some weeks visiting Mrs. C. P. Shaw returned to Sydney on the 19th. Mrs. Bridge was accompanied by her sister Miss Edith Booth of 'Edgehill' who has gone home for the holidays.

TRURO.

[Progress is for sale in Truro by Mr. G. O. Fulton, and D. H. Smith & Co.]

Dec. 31.—Mr. Dan Hockin was here from Halifax spending Christmas with home friends. Mr. and Mrs. Adolphus Bishop, Canaan, Kings County, were guests of their son and wife, Mr. and Mrs. D. A. Bishop last week.

Messrs W. A. Spencer and H. C. C. Yell, spent Christmas day with home friends in Great Village. Mr. D. Budge of the cable staff, Halifax and Mrs. Budge spent Christmas and a few days succeeding in Truro, guests of Hon. F. A. and Mrs. Lawrence. A number of young people were entertained with an impromptu dance on Xmas night by Mrs. Yell-Loughhead.

Xmas day was very quiet about town, there being no snow; the good ice in the rink attracted a large number in the evening. Canons and edicts from the pulpit interspersed with ill-timed comments from some of our local press, to the contrary, society circles are looking up and the dancing and card party are again on. Beside the leap year ball, this evening. There is a large party of progressive whist, being: entertained by Mrs. Vernon who is indeed indefatigable in the capacity of an entertainer. This charming hostess also has cards out for another large party on Monday evening next.

Mrs. D. H. Smith gave a large party last night in honor of her niece, Miss Eva Murray, cards and dancing. Among the guests who were all looking charming were:—The Misses Somerville, Misses McMullen, Misses Butchart, Misses Thomas, Miss Ida Snook, Miss May McDonald, Miss Robins, Miss McIntosh, Miss Attie Fleming, Miss McCallum, Miss L. Hodkin, Miss C. Loughhead, Miss Sadie Smith, Miss Hanson, Miss G. Patterson, Messrs. H. Kaulbach, J. Bentley, G. and F. Hanson, G. Crowe, J. and L. Crowe, R. Crowe, J. Murray, F. Loughhead, A. Outten, J. Muir, H. and F. McDonald, N. Smith, Cotton, H. and F. Snook, H. Harding, M. Cunningham, J. Logan. An elegant supper was served about twelve, hot turkey, with all its attendant viands, both substantial and delicate, after supper dancing was resumed, and kept up until after two a.m.

Mr. Walter McKean is home again to the delight of his many friends, after a long visit with friends and relatives in New York. The Choral society made their initial appearance last night, to a small but appreciative audience in the Opera house. The work was all good. The choruses being especially fine. Their next appearance which will be in the opera about Easter, is eagerly anticipated, by a music-loving public.

Mr. Rod. Hanson returned to Bridgewater on Monday last.

Mrs. Geo. Donkin is visiting Halifax friends. Mr. Norman of the Halifax bank returned from a week's visit to St. John last Monday night. Fro.

PARSBORO.

[Progress is for sale at Parsboro book store.]

Dec. 30.—There were Christmas trees with appropriate music recitations and other exercises in the presbyterian, Methodist, and Baptist churches for their Sunday schools on Christmas night. The children of the 'methodist Sunday school' sang the cantata "Why We Wait for Christmas." Mr. Gibbons provided a tea, and a tree in St. George's school house for a few children who would miss the usual festivities enjoyed by St. George's Sunday school at Christmas.

The holiday season about students home, Mr. Norris MacKenzie from Dalhousie, Miss Ray Gillespie from Mt. St. Vincent, Mr. Cecil Townshead from McGill and Mrs. Gertrude Howard.

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Miss Fuller, Adela Kewton and Helen Bigelow, from Mt. Allison. Dr. and Mrs. H. Clay and their children came from Picton to spend Christmas with Mrs. Clay's parents.

Mr. Will Eaton who has been for some time in Toronto is at home again for a short time. Mr. and Mrs. E. R. Reid have returned from Masquodibolt.

Miss Aikman came home from Edgehill to spend the Christmas holidays. Mr. Stuart Jenks who spent Christmas with his mother returned yesterday to Halifax.

Mrs. Davis is spending the winter with her daughter Mrs. Brownell. Mrs. Whitman of Annapolis and Mrs. Armstrong of Rensselaire spent a short time with Mrs. MacKenzie.

The F. A. A. entertainment which was postponed two weeks ago on account of Mr. Gibbons' death, comes off to-night and is expected to be a success as they have an attractive programme.

Mrs. Dickinson entertained a large number of young people last evening, and her invitations are out for another party this evening. Miss Brown of Moncton is the guest of Mrs. Hunter.

Mr. and Mrs. Cecil Parsons and their children, came down to spend Christmas. Mr. Parsons returned to Springfield on Christmas morning when the appalling news was received here that the mines were on fire.

DIGBY.

Dec. 30.—After an absence of some years in British Columbia, Mr. Medley V. Hughes has been visiting his old home here. His many friends were delighted to see him. He was accompanied by Mrs. Hughes.

Mr. and Mrs. R. G. Monroe are receiving congratulations on the arrival of a little stranger, this time it's a boy.

Miss Lottie Gilpin spent Christmas with friends in Digby. Mrs. H. Green entertained the whist club Tuesday evening.

The death of Miss Annie A. Stalling, occurred on the 19th. Miss Stalling was a victim to consumption, and was but 32 years of age; always a bright leading spirit in the circle in which she moved, her gentle and kindly disposition endeared her to many. The family have the sympathy of all in their bereavement.

Miss Ruggles has gone to spend a few days with relatives in Annapolis. Mrs. H. B. Short is visiting in Hantsport.

Mr. J. B. LeBlanc of St. John spent Sunday in town. Rev. Mr. Bryant is spending a few weeks in Digby.

Miss Etta J. Jones is visiting her mother Mrs. Geo. Jones. Messrs. Otto, Brunswick, and Fred Tobin, also Miss Katie Tobin are here from Boston to spend the holidays with their parents.

Rev. E. M. Bacon of St. John spent Christmas at his home here. Mrs. Lowertown returned to Halifax last week.

Mr. J. Walsh and Mrs. Walsh, Mrs. Kinsman left Saturday for Florida, where they will spend the winter. Miss Mina Bishop is home from Normal school for the holidays.

NEW GLASGOW.

[Progress is for sale at A. O. Pichard and H. H. Hinton.]

Dec. 29.—Miss Florence Bailey who has been in Fall River, the past two years arrived home Tuesday. Miss Annie Campbell, Tatmagouche, is visiting Miss Jot McColl.

Mr. George Snook, Truro, is the guest of Mrs. C. T. Bent. Miss Annie Ferguson, Picton, is visiting Miss Jean Patterson.

The Methodist church "birthday party" was well attended Monday evening a good programme was provided, tea, coffee, and cake were served and a pleasant evening enjoyed by all.

Miss Musgrave, Sydney, C. B. is visiting her brother Hedley Musgrave of this town. Mr. Furney of Wolfville is visiting his college friend Mr. Stanley McNeill.

New St. Andrews church Sunday school held their annual Christmas tea Tuesday evening.

Mr. D. Solon is spending the holidays at his home in Windsor. Miss Jessie W. Fraser was visiting Mrs. Dr. Sutherland, Westville last week.

Invitations are out for a progressive whist party on New Years eve at Mrs. G. George McDougall's. JEAN.

ST. GEORGE.

Dec. 30.—The remains of the late Mrs. James McCormack were brought to St. George on Thursday for burial. The funeral took place from St. Mark's church in the afternoon, Rev. R. E. Smith officiating.

Mr. Will Johnson and Miss Spinney are home from Normal school for the holidays. Mr. Harry MacGowan of St. George and Miss Alice Black, St. Andrews were united in marriage at high noon on Wednesday by Rev. Canon Keithum at the home of the brides parents only immediate relatives being present. The bride was gown in a handsome travelling suit of Persian cloth and was the recipient of many beautiful presents. Mr. and Mrs. MacGowan drove to St. George in the afternoon to the residence of Mr. and Mrs. MacGowan where supper was served in the evening, they were serenaded by the St. George band.

Rev. Mr. Bell of Winnipeg, Manitoba gave two very interesting lectures in the Baptist church on Tuesday and Wednesday evenings.

Mr. and Mrs. Abram Young intend spending the remainder of the winter in Brighttown N. B. The funeral of the late Mr. George M. Johnston took place from the old home in Robb's on Christmas day. Mrs. Johnston has filled very acceptably the position of principal of the school for the past eight years. He was a member of the masonic order, a Forester and a great worker in the Division Sons of Temperance, in every way a worthy



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