

## Keeping Cool.

British Statesmen Not Wor-  
rying Over the Venezuelan  
Trouble.

Enjoying the Holidays in Their  
Country Homes.

How the Queen and Royal Family  
Will Spend Christmas.

Present for the Queen's Servants—The  
Maybrick Case May Be Re-heard  
—Pilgrims for India.

(Special Saturday Cable Letter to the  
"Advertiser.")

London, Dec. 21.—An example of this state of calm in political circles here, in the face of the Venezuelan complications, is shown in the absence from London of the leading politicians most interested in the affair. They are all holiday-making in different parts of the country, which would seem to show that there is no apprehension among the Ministers of anything but a pacific end to the Venezuelan troubles. The Marquis of Salisbury, Prime Minister, came to town for the regulation reception at the Foreign Office, but he returned to Hatfield the same evening. The Right Hon. Joseph Chamberlain, Secretary for the Colonies, is at his home in Birmingham, and all the other Cabinet Ministers are also at their homes, preparing to enjoy Christmas in the usual happy manner. This absence of the Ministers from London, however, does not lessen the gravity of the situation which is generally recognized as most serious, although it is not looked upon as likely to cause an outbreak of hostilities. On the other hand, disastrous disorganization of the money market in America was anticipated, causing uneasiness efforts to realize upon American securities, which badly affected all lines of stocks.

**ROYALTY AND THE SMART SET.**  
In addition to the fact that Ministers, everyone who could possibly get out of town for the holidays has already done so, and so far as the "smart set" is concerned, London is practically deserted. There will be for another ten days. All those who have houses in the country have gone to them, and large parties are being entertained at nearly all the large places, like the Duke of Devonshire's and Lord Salisbury's. At several of these places enormous bags of pheasants are expected, as the best ovens have been reserved for Christmas week.

The Queen is at Osborne, where her Christmas Day will be celebrated with customary splendor. The Queen is especially thoughtful and liberal to all the servants on these occasions, and always has a generous Christmas tree, in the decoration of which she is deeply interested. Every servant and member of her Majesty's household receives some present, and most of these are decided on by the Queen herself. The servants also have a splendid dinner, which is followed by a ball on Christmas night.

The Princess of Wales and her daughters have been in town since early in the week and have had a busy time selecting the hundreds of presents which they always make at Christmas. The tradesmen, as a rule, send a collection of the choicest Christmas wares to Marlborough House, where they are displayed as they would be in a store. A price mark is carefully attached to each article, but in addition to this, the princesses themselves make several early expeditions to the best stores in Bond Street. The Prince and Princess of Wales and the princesses will leave town today for Sandringham, where Christmas festivities on a large scale will be in order next week.

**THE PRINCE LIKES BILLIARDS.**  
The Prince of Wales, by the way, has always taken a keen interest in billiards, and while visiting the Earl and Countess of Carnarvon, at High Clere Castle, Newbury, on Wednesday last, Eugene Carter, the American billiard player, who has been giving brilliant exhibitions of his skill at Egyptian Hall here for some time past, easily defeating the English champions, was summoned to High Clere. There, in the billiard room of the castle, Carter's clever hand strokes delighted the company present, and earned for the expert billiardist the warm praise of the Prince.

**MRS. CLEVELAND'S DOLL.**  
Truth's sixteenth annual exhibition of dolls and toys was held during the past week at Albert Hall, and was as successful as ever. Among the contributors was Mrs. Grover Cleveland. An anonymous donor has again sent 11,000 new expenses, amounting to \$1,775, to be distributed among the workhouse children.

**THE CASE OF MRS. MAYBRICK.**  
It is now once more understood that soon after Parliament meets, the Home Secretary, Sir Matthew White Ridley, who has been conducting the numerous documents in the case of Mrs. Maybrick, the American now undergoing a sentence of imprisonment for life, after having been convicted of poisoning her husband, will announce his decision; but there is little reason to suppose that the case will be reop-

**thinness**  
The diseases of thinness are scrofula in children, consumption in grown people, poverty of blood in either. They thrive on leanness. Fat is the best means of overcoming them. Everybody knows cod-liver oil makes the healthiest fat.

In Scott's Emulsion of cod-liver oil the taste is hidden, the oil is digested, it is ready to make fat.

When you ask for Scott's Emulsion and your druggist gives you a package in a salmon-colored wrapper with the picture of the man and fish on it—you can trust that man!

50 cents and \$1.00

Scott & Bown Chemists, Belleville, Ont.

ened. In the meantime Baroness De Roques, Mrs. Maybrick's mother-in-law, is indignant at rumors which have been circulated in America, and more especially to the grossly sensational statements, contained in a London letter to the New York Times, published Nov. 24, referring to the alleged confession of a released prisoner. Baroness De Roques, in a letter to the Associated Press on the subject, says: "I desire to state in the most positive manner, on my personal knowledge and authority, that there is not the slightest truth in any one of the sensational, defamatory and cruel statements which have been made at regular intervals about my daughter, Mrs. Maybrick, and I ask that such shall, when repeated by the press, be under reserve, and that the names of the authors be revealed to me to deal with. I appeal to the ohivry and fair press to refrain from these lying statements. Innocent of crime, and already deeply wronged, at least there should be no endeavor to cover her with unworthy confessions."

**THE PILGRIMAGE TO INDIA.**  
Some attention has been aroused in London by the statements in the American press in regard to the pilgrimage which Dr. Barrows, of Chicago, would undertake to India. Dr. Barrows, who was severely criticized by Truth for his connection with the Grinde-wald conference, states that he will not undertake the business arrangements of the pilgrimage, which will be conducted by a tourist agency, his efforts being confined to securing the party of pilgrims. It is proposed that a company of 50 or 60 shall leave England in the autumn after holding meetings in Exeter Hall. They will proceed to Rome, where it is hoped Dr. Barrows will obtain an audience with the Pope. From Rome the party will journey to Palestine, and then on to India. Krishna Menon, a leading Hindu of London, who recently secured the silver medal of the Society of Arts for a paper read before that society, stated to a representative of the Associated Press: "I am conversant with the scheme of Dr. Barrows' proposed lectures in India. I am surprised that he should be selected for the undertaking, because, while he is known through his connection with the Parliament of Religions, Swamivive Khandana and other leading Indians who attended the Parliament do not regard him as a particularly profound thinker. In fact, the men told us in India on their return that apart from the admirable organization of the churches and religious orders in America, they were not particularly impressed by any of the things there, although India is a country of speculation in all religious matters, and Dr. Barrows will be most cordially received; but I doubt if his lectures will have much effect. We believe in India that there are many precepts and truths in the Hindu religion that might with profit be grafted upon the western world."

**THACKERAY'S "VANITY FAIR."**  
Mrs. Patrick Campbell denies the story that Dorchester House, in Park Lane, where the Shazha lately resided, would be made into a theater, of which Mrs. Campbell would undertake the management. It has frequently been asserted that this was the house which Thackeray described in "Vanity Fair" as the residence of the "Marquis of Elysia." A careful perusal of the text will, however, convince anyone that the great novelist had in mind the residence of the Earl of Crawford, in Cavendish Square.

**A NEW OPERA HOUSE.**  
So much time has been lost over the disputed title lease of the new Imperial Opera House that Col. Mapleson says the opening night will have to be deferred. The materials for the building are all ready, and the work will be rushed in order to secure as much of the London season's patronage as possible. The Opera House will have 100 more parquette stalls and fourteen boxes than the Metropolitan Opera House. Col. Mapleson will manage the new venture.

## Sparks from the Wire.

Lord Salisbury spent the entire afternoon Thursday at the Foreign Office.

The cruiser Charleston is lying temporarily disabled at Nagasaki, Japan. Both pistons of the engine are broken, and it will be several weeks before it is able to move.

Premier Boveil has received word that the Parliament of New South Wales has renewed for three years the subsidy to the direct Canadian-Australian steamship line.

A portion of the barracks at Buenos Ayres collapsed with disastrous results. Twelve soldiers, who were in the building at the time, were killed, and 60 were injured.

**MONTREAL CENTER.**

The nominations for Montreal Center were held on Friday without the usual speeches. Hon. James McShane was nominated by the Liberals, and Sir William Hingston by the Conservatives.

**ARCHBISHOP LANGEVIN'S ATTITUDE.**

Speaking at Edmonton, Archbishop Langevin vigorously attacked the present Northwest Territorial school system. He said that Roman Catholics would never be satisfied with the meager half-hour daily for religious exercises spoken of in the address, but every hour and all day long, to make their children first good, then learned."

**THE YULE LOG.**

In some parts of Germany the Yule log is placed on the hearth on Christmas Eve, and, if possible, kept burning for two or three days. Then a piece of it is laid aside for the purpose of lighting the next year's log, and of guarding the household from fire. Pieces of fir-wood charred, but not quite burned out in the Christmas fire, are also placed under the family bed in some German villages to avert the dreaded lightning which appears in this relation to be the type of fire in its evil aspect, in contradistinction from the solar orb, the representative of beneficent light and warmth. The custom of burning a Yule log for three days and nights in each house is almost certainly a survival from the adoration once offered to the sun at the Winter solstice.

Three centuries ago the Christian era sun worship was still maintained in Brittany; and in Normandy not more than a hundred years ago, the household fire was extinguished on Dec. 24, and the Christmas log was ignited by the aid of a flame procured from the lamp burning in the neighboring church. This fact affords a curious instance of the probable transference of respect for a purely heathen creed to the ecclesiastical lights of Catholicism. When the pagan rites for procuring unslaked fire were forbidden, or fell into desuetude, the ideas to which they owed their origin and development, instead of perishing, continued to exist more or less perfectly, by attaching themselves to usages and ceremonies having no direct association with them.—Gentleman's Magazine.

## Right Around Us.

Retirement of Dr. Cline of Belmont.

Plenty of Teachers Looking for Places—Christmas Festivals and Entertainments.

There were 73 applications for the position of primary teacher in the Alisa Craig school.

Walter Evans, a former citizen of Exeter, and who married a Miss Baisden, has opened a grocery in Alisa Craig.

A consignment of cheese from the Pond Mills factory, consisting of 175 boxes, was shipped from Belmont station this week. The price obtained was 9 1/4 cents per pound.

The Glencoe Academy of Music has been removed from the Clannahan house, and is now located in Mr. Hildebrand's building, McKellar street, two doors east of Main street.

Dr. C. A. Cline, who for nearly seven years has practiced his profession with great success in Belmont, has sold his practice, drug store etc., to Dr. Mel-trum. For some time Dr. Cline's health has been failing, and he has been unable to attend to his extensive practice without endangering his own health.

A very pleasant afternoon was spent on Friday afternoon at the Belmont school, on Friday night. The pupils had prepared a good programme of songs, recitations and dialogues. A sack of good things was given each pupil, and the party will journey to Palestine, and then on to India. Krishna Menon, a leading Hindu of London, who recently secured the silver medal of the Society of Arts for a paper read before that society, stated to a representative of the Associated Press: "I am conversant with the scheme of Dr. Barrows' proposed lectures in India. I am surprised that he should be selected for the undertaking, because, while he is known through his connection with the Parliament of Religions, Swamivive Khandana and other leading Indians who attended the Parliament do not regard him as a particularly profound thinker. In fact, the men told us in India on their return that apart from the admirable organization of the churches and religious orders in America, they were not particularly impressed by any of the things there, although India is a country of speculation in all religious matters, and Dr. Barrows will be most cordially received; but I doubt if his lectures will have much effect. We believe in India that there are many precepts and truths in the Hindu religion that might with profit be grafted upon the western world."

**WHITE OAK.**

White Oak, Dec. 27.—A very interesting and highly interesting programme was rendered at White Oak schoolhouse on Wednesday evening, Dec. 15. The programme consisted of readings, recitations, dialogues, vocal and instrumental music, and a grand finale. The principal participants were Misses Dicey, Miss Annie McDonald, Miss M. Murray, Master and Miss Hunt, Mr. Mann and others. The programme was a grand success, and brought forth bursts of applause. After this the pupils presented their teacher, Mr. John McWilliams, with a beautiful writing case and dressing case. Mr. McWilliams replied, thanking the pupils for their beautiful present. The trustees, Mr. H. Shore, and Mr. James Crinklaw, also spoke, expressing regret at losing their teacher. The chairman and those who so ably assisted.

**STRATHROY.**

"Advertiser" Agent, J. D. Meekison. Strathroy, Dec. 21.—On Thursday last, Dec. 19, a happy event took place at the residence of Mr. James Thompson, Victoria street, when Miss Hattie Harkness, was married to Mr. Richard Humphries, of Glenboro, Man. The ceremony was performed by Rev. W. G. Jordan in the presence of a few intimate friends and relatives. The happy couple left on the evening train for Sarnia and other points. They intend taking up their residence in Glenboro, Man.

A runaway accident occurred immediately after the funeral of the late Mrs. George Buttery, White Mr. J. J. of Napperton, and Mr. W. S. Dryden, of this town, were sitting in the funeral rig, in front of John Ivor's produce store, when a team coming along collided with Mr. J. J.'s rig, overturning it and throwing the two gentlemen out. Mr. J. J. was dragged for some distance, getting badly bruised and considerably shaken up. He has been a cripple for a number of years, so was unable to help himself in any way. Mr. Dryden escaped with a few cuts on the face.

A serious fire had had his store recently painted and repaired, and was unable to help himself in any way. Mr. Dryden escaped with a few cuts on the face.

Camp No. 9, C. O. W. O. W., elected the following officers for the year 1896: Commanding officer, R. H. Clout; adviser, Lieut. F. Robinson; banker, Charles Grist; clerk, F. L. E. Evans; physician, O. L. Berdan, M.D.; escort, Thomas Collins; watchman, J. L. Liddell; sentry, Joseph Smith; janitor, W. H. Murray; Henry Owens; John Berdan; delegate, F. L. E. Evans; alternate delegate, A. J. Avery. Mr. R. B. C. Thompson, of Toronto University, is spending the holidays at his home in this town.

Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Rapley, of Yale, Michigan, are the guests of relatives in Strathroy.

Carac Bix, of Brantford, was in town the other day.

Last evening the Christian Endeavor of St. Andrew's Church held a Christmas service, the subject being "The Good Things of Christianity."

Zachary Stewart, an old resident of Poplar Hill, died on Tuesday morning, at the age of 84 years. He was a member of the Society of Friends, and was buried at their burying ground in Coldstream on Thursday morning at 11 o'clock.

**LAMBETH.**

Dec. 21.—A successful entertainment was held in our public school yesterday afternoon. Rev. Mr. Quance occupied the chair and gave the school an entertaining address. The programme consisted of recitations, readings, songs, etc., all of which were creditably rendered by the pupils of the school. Certificates were also presented to those who passed the mid-summer examinations. The following pupils were presented with certificates: Public school leaving Fred Piper and Gus Evans; entrance, George Bennett, Lena Mann and Chaney Martin. A special prize was also awarded to Nel-

lie Vandermade for having stood first in a class of seventeen. Short speeches were made by local gentlemen interested in education, and by our old resident, Mr. Robinson, in which he contrasted the educational advantages which the children of the present day enjoy with those enjoyed by boys and girls 50 years ago, was especially interesting. The singing of the National Anthem brought the entertainment to a close.

The regular meeting of the R. T. of T. was held on Wednesday night. Owing to the weather only a few were present. It was decided to hold the next two meetings on Thursday, instead of Wednesday. Tempers please take notice. Installation service takes place on Thursday, Jan. 2, 1897. The St. Thomas lodge will be present and a thoroughly good time is expected.

The Lambeth Hockey Club is organizing and expects to repeat some of its old-time victories during the coming season.

Lambeth is putting on its holiday appearance. Our shops are making a fine display of Christmas goods, and all save the weather speaks of cheer.

**DELAWARE.**

Dec. 21.—Yesterday afternoon a pleasant time was spent by the teachers and pupils of our school. A number of visitors were present. The pupils were treated to candy by the teachers, and Lockwood stepped to the platform and read a very kindly address.

It was signed on behalf of the school by Nettie Lockwood and Maud Ackland. Mr. Lockwood presented Mr. Brauder with a beautiful and costly parlor lamp, while Hettie Lockwood presented Miss M. Robertson with a beautiful leather album and a very pretty hand mirror. The teachers replied with much feeling in a few suitable words. Mr. Brauder goes to Dorchester to take charge of the senior division of the school there, while Miss Robertson goes to Toronto Normal. We wish every success in their new field of labor.

**AILSA CRAIG.**

("Advertiser" Agent, C. Walker.) Dec. 21.—Mr. and Mrs. Menzies, of Wheatley, North Dakota, formerly of East Williams, are visiting Mr. Menzies' father, Mr. Wm. Menzies.

Hugh I. Kennedy returned home from Toronto, where he has been studying dentistry.

S. Gilles & Sons purchased a sawmill in Loran, Ont. Mr. Gilles has gone to take charge of the business.

James F. Stewart, deputy reeve of East Williams, is ill at present.

Miss Sade Rosser, from the Ladies' College, Toronto, is home on her Christmas holidays.

Some of the farmers in this vicinity are plowing.

Mr. Sinclair Smith, of Toronto, formerly clerk in Dr. D. A. Stewart's medical hall, is spending his vacation with his parents in McGillivray.

John and Jean Gunn came home to spend their Christmas holidays.

John Buchanan, of Parkhill, who attended the High School, Strathroy, has secured a school in London township at a salary of \$300.

**NEWBURY.**

("Advertiser" Agent, James Connely.) Dec. 21.—The annual public examination of the school was held yesterday afternoon. A large crowd was in attendance, and was highly entertained by teachers and scholars. Speeches were delivered by James Douglas, John Herring and John A. Robinson. The teachers, Mr. Armstrong and Miss Blott, were highly complimented on their work and system of teaching.

The Kikapo Medicine Company are giving entertainments here.

Callender, teacher of the school section No. 7, has had charge of the school here during the examination.

The special meetings held in the Methodist Church were closed last night.

Presbyterian Sunday school gave their annual entertainment next Monday.

Mrs. John Whitteker visited her parents here last week.

Mr. R. L. Moorhouse was in London yesterday.

Merchants report business unusually quiet for this season of the year, owing to the warm weather.

Large quantities of poultry are being shipped from here for the holiday trade.

**ABERLIN LADY CURED LIKE MAGIC**

By the Use of South American Nerveine—A Miraculous Cure Told of by Mrs. J. Hallam, of Berlin, Ont.—Established Facts That Cannot Be Controverted.

REAT risks do not always come most calamitously with great calamities. Hairbreadth escapes and miraculous freedom from disaster are not uncommon. It is in the common ways of life that serious consequences most often follow. Men and women will battle with some of the worst forms of disease, and come out conquerors. But the outcome of some light indiscretion, or a lead in the wrong direction of the system, and there will follow general debility and break-up.

It is in cases like this that great discovery and wonderful 19th century remedies, South American Nerveine, get in some of the greatest work. Mrs. J. Hallam, wife of a well known produce merchant of Berlin, Ont., found herself a short time since completely run down in health. Strive as she might, she could not gain strength. Medicines were taken in generous quantity, but terrible weakness remained. She secured a bottle of South American Nerveine, and in her own words: "The result was like magic. It restored me to perfect health, and I have never felt better in my life. Some time ago my little girl was troubled with summer complaint, and this left her weak and nervous to a degree that seemed to indicate an undermining of her system. I used Nerveine in her case, and in one week she was as well as ever."

There is nothing artificial about South American Nerveine. A stimulant will help the system for the time being, but Nerveine cures permanently in all cases.

Velvet and thick Indian silks are the handiest materials for winter tea gowns.

**Piles! Piles! Itching Piles.**

**SYMPTOMS.**—Moisture; intense itching and stinging; mostly at night; worse by scratching; if allowed to continue tumors form, which often bleed and ulcerate, becoming very sore. Swelling, inflammation, itching and bleeding, heals ulceration, and in most cases removes the tumors. At druggists, or by mail, 50 cents. Dr. Swayne & Son, Philadelphia, Lyman, Sons & Co., Montreal, wholesale agents.

For family outdoor wear, a light goat and Korean fox look extremely well on dark-colored cloths or brocades.

Call at TRAFFORD'S and select the cover for a parlor suite, Turkish chair, Spanish couch, divan, fancy rocker, for Christmas presents, and save money now and worry at the last moment!



**R. C. Macfie & Co.**  
LONDON, - - - ONT.

**WE HAVE A LARGE STOCK OF**

Fur Coats, Capes, Gauntlets, Caps, Goat Robes, Black Texan Cow Robes, Lined Kid Gloves, Saranac Mitts, with one finger, Children's White

Boas, Tam O'Shanter's . . .

**YOUR ORDER SOLICITED. - - - RAW FURS WANTED.**

**WILLIAMS PIANOS DO YOU WANT A WILLIAMS PIANOS**

—ARE— **PIANO** —ARE—

The Queen's Choice **PIANO** THE BEST.

**THEN GET AN**

**R. S. WILLIAMS PIANO.**

**PRICES RIGHT. TERMS EASY.**

Special for This Month Only \$350 Piano for \$300

**THIS IS THE BEST VALUE EVER OFFERED.**

COME AND SEE FOR YOURSELF.

**WILLIAMS PIANOS R. S. Williams Sons Co WILLIAMS PIANOS**

—ARE— **171 DUNDAS ST.** —ARE—

Canada's Favorite **J. A. CRODEN, Manager.** Strictly First-class

**PETROLEA PICKINGS.**

**Enniskillen Orangemen Indorse Clarke Wallace—A. O. F. Election.**

Dec. 21.—At the meeting of Court Imperial, No. 8,092, A. O. F., held on Wednesday evening, the following officers were elected for the coming year: F. C. R., F. Ireland; C. R., George Boty; S. C. R., Joseph Cheney; secretary, F. Church; treasurer, John Rodgers; S. W., George Penfold; J. W., Alexander Ewing; S. B., James Berry; J. B., A. Grisdale; trustees, S. D. Abell, Dr. McKee and G. Penfold; auditors, J. Belasco, J. Kedwell and C. Wylet; physician, Dr. McKee; Cor. to official organ, C. J. Denham. Three prizes are to be given by the court to the members taking in the most applicants up to June.

A special meeting of the District Orange Lodge was called to make arrangements for the holding of a celebration in Petrolea on July 12, 1896. A committee was also appointed to draft a resolution to Clarke Wallace, signifying that the District Lodge heartily endorsed the action he took in the Manitoba question. Below is the resolution: "We, the members of a committee appointed at a district meeting of the township of Enniskillen, Lambton West, held in the town of Petrolea, Dec. 18, desire to convey to you our hearty appreciation of your action in regard to the Manitoba school question. We also bespeak for you the hearty co-operation of the Orangemen of the Dominion. (Signed,) J. O'Hara, Charles Richmond, W. A. Brock, J. E. Armstrong."

In the article referred to in the columns yesterday the price given was \$15 a foot and should have been \$75 a foot.

Hoyt's "A Trip to Chinatown" held the boards in Victoria Hall last night, and the encores and laughter showed that the performance was very much enjoyed. A very good house was played to.

The Ladies' Auxiliary of the Y. M. C. A. are going to hold a reception in the rooms for the young men on New Year's day, from 10 a.m. until 10 p.m. The auxiliary are making big preparations and a most enjoyable time is anticipated.

Mr. R. O. Hughes, inspector of weights and measures, is in town this week.

**MARTHAVILLE.**

(Agents, Will and John Gregory.) Dec. 20.—Miss Minnie Wickett, Miss Minnie Dube and Miss Nelly Rawlings are busy preparing a fine programme and training the children for the Christmas entertainment in the Methodist Church, which is to be held on Christmas eve.

The little 3-year-old daughter of Mr. Arvon Brown died yesterday morning.

Mr. Duncan, who has returned home to spend Christmas with relatives.

**Children Cry for Pitcher's Castoria.**

**Children Cry for Pitcher's Castoria.**

When Baby was sick, we gave her Castoria.

When she was a Child, she cried for Castoria.

When she became Miss, she clung to Castoria.

When she had Children, she gave them Castoria.

That some men live long in spite of moderate drinking no more proves the practice safe and healthful than that some warriors who fought through Napoleon's wars are still alive proving fighting a vocation conducive to longevity.—Horace Greeley.

THERE IS NOT a more dangerous class of disorders than those which affect the breathing organs. Nullify this danger with Dr. Thomas' Electric Oil. It cures soreness and lameness when applied externally, as well as swollen neck and croup in the back; and, as an inward specific, possesses most substantial claims to public confidence.

The oldest member of the Academie Francaise is M. Legouve, born in 1807, and elected in 1855.

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