ly descended on her heart from Heaven.

'She could not have liked him,' cried the wondering squire.

'She did not,' said Mrs Orde.—'She liked Tom Clavering too well to like him.'

And the squire frowned a hideous frown at the unwelcome name.

Real grief fell on Beechhurst in February. Awful grief. While Lady Lydia was praying her heart out for the restoration of Sir Bede—who still lying incapable, unable to write, or very well to understand what he was wanted to write, and her son, the gallant captain, was, in consequence, unrescued from his miserable prison—news arrived of the death of the two brothers, Bede, the heir, and his brother Charley. They had been drowned in one of the Scottish lakes. A pleasure party of ten set sail in the brightness of the early spring morning, and but two of them lived to land again. Bede and Charles Clavering were amidst the drowned.

Lady Lydia was as one stunned. Oh, if her best beloved son, Jarvis, could but be there, to take, as it were, Bede's place with the old man, to establish himself firmly at Beechhurst! That horrible prison! Reginald had hastened down—but who was he?

'Send for him; send for him!' moaned Sir Bede, upon whom the unhappy news had struck as with a deathblow.

'I *can't* send for him,' bewailed Lady Lydia, dropping hot tears.—'That is, it's of no use my sending; he could not come. He is in the King's Bench, Sir Bede. I have told you so every day for these two months.'

Sir Bede looked up with questioning eyes.

'Not he, not Jarvey,' he said, when understanding dawned upon him; 'I don't want him, my lady. I want my own boy; my heir; Tom.'

'Tom!' shrieked Lady Lydia.—'*Tom* the heir! Tom!'

'Of course he is the heir, mother,' put in Reginald. 'He must come. What are you thinking of? I wrote for him before I left London.'

'He never shall come! he never shall be the heir!' returned my lady in a storm of passion. 'I won't recognize him as such. I'll not receive him at Beechhurst.'

Reginald Clavering wondered whether grief was turning his mother's brain. 'Tom is the heir in the face of man and the country,' he quietly said. 'Exercise your common sense, mother. A few days—I see it in his face,' he added dropping his voice as he indicated Sir Bede; 'and Tom will not be the heir, but the master of Beechhurst.'

She sank down on a low chair with a desperate cry. Was *this* to be the ending? Had she schemed, and plotted, and toiled underhandedly all these long years only for this? Even so. For once, right had been stronger than might, and had come out triumphant.

The squire and his daughter were sitting together at the Hall, a few days afterward, in the dusk of the evening, talking in a subdued tone of the fresh trouble that had fallen on Beechhurst that day, when the sound of a visitor was heard in the hall.—The squire supposed it was Reginald, who often came in; but *her* ear was quicker; *her* ear had recognized the voice and footstep; and her heart beat as though it would burst its bounds.

'It's Reginald, I think,' remarked the squire, as a servant opened the room door.

'Not Reginald, not any one so short and slight; but a tall, fine, commanding—Oh, was he who came in;' his unconscious step the step of a chieftain, and a sweet smile upon his fair Saxon face. The squire peered at him in the dusk, not recognizing him; and then peered at the man who was showing him in.

'Sir Tom Clavering.'

Aye, it was he; the *master* of Beechhurst. Reginald had been right in his fears, and poor stricken Sir Bede had passed away, That same day, before Tom's arrival, the bell had tolled out for him.

'His last word was of love for you, Tom,' said the squire. 'I believe he never cared for anybody as he cared for you.'

Tom Clavering tried to speak, but his voice was husky. 'I wish I could have got here in time!' was all he said. 'He did not love me more than I loved him.'

'You are the heir to all, Sir Tom,' observed the squire, after a pause. 'It's a vast deal: the two poor lads were not of age, you know, and Sir Bede inherited.—He did not make a will: he talked of doing it often, of leaving legacies to different people; but he never did it—Lady Lydia and her children have nothing.'

'I'll make it all right for everybody,' said Tom, with his warm-hearted smile. 'And what about myself, squire?' he continued, the smile becoming broader. 'Am I still looked upon as a wicked scape-goat, with a peck of general sins on my shoulders?'

The squire's voice was rather subdued as he answered; his countenance somewhat crestfallen. 'Tom, I don't think that anybody believed aught against you in their consciences; even Lady Lydia. Sir Bede would have had you home again as soon as you left, had he dared. As to that bag of money that disappeared—'

'Never mind about that bag of money,' interrupted Sir Tom.

'I was going to say that I have now a very nasty suspicion about that,' persisted the squire. 'A day or two ago, in talking with Cole, the farrier, he hinted that he knew how it went; he had seen somebody in the room that night; and he said that you knew of it, for he had written to Bristol to tell you. What do you know?'

'Never mind,' repeated Tom. 'We will let bygones be bygones.'

'I suspect it was Jarvis Clavering. You may trust me, Tom, I shall be as careful of his reputation as you. Cole—he's a trusty man, too—says it was him. He saw him at the escritoire as he passed the window—Have you known it all along?'

'I have known that Captain Clavering was in the room. As Sir Bede went out at one door, I flung out at the glass doors, I'm afraid, in a passion, and came upon Jarvis Clavering, looking in. He murmured some excuse, which I did not wait to hear, and he passed into the room. Later, after I had seen you at Bristol, I got a letter from Cole, who must have been passing the window directly afterward. It seems Cole took up a notion that I was suspected, and he wrote to tell me he had seen somebody else at the escritoire. I wrote back and silenced him. What did it matter? I knew that *Sir Bede* would not suspect me; nor would any one else that I cared for. For the rest, my back was a tolerably broad one in those days: the appropriating of a little money, when I was starting out to see the world, was but a trifling addition to its hump.'

'How forgiving you are, Tom!'

'It is in my nature to be so, sir; I don't take credit for it. Let bygones be bygones in all ways,' he emphatically added, rising and grasping the squire's hand. 'For my part, I mean henceforth to believe that the bag never vanished at all; except in poor Sir Bede's imagination. I hope to do all I can for everybody: I hope to welcome Jarvis to Beechhurst ere the funeral; Reginald goes up to-night to release him.'

'Tom, we have never known you; never valued you!'

'Then I hope you will value me all the more in the future,' answered Sir Tom, laughing. 'May I see Millicent?' he pointedly added. 'She ran away when I came in.'

'Go and look for her. Ah me, how blind we have been! Tom, my dear nephew, I trust you'll forgive me! I worked against you with her just as much as the rest did.'

In the adjoining room, cowering before the fire on the hearth-rug, her hands hiding her face, her head bent on her knees, was Millicent. She started up as Sir Tom came; she put her hands in deprecation of his anger; she felt faint in her [illegible] of shame and repentance.—[illegible]able of reproach; he [illegible]rms and held her to his [illegible] cheek soothingly upon [illegible]—'

'[illegible] I will not let you breathe a word of excuse to me. I know how it was. The battle against you waged fiercely; you held out as long as your strength allowed, and then yielded in very weariness. It is all over now, and I am here to claim and protect you. My darling!—my darling!'

As she lay peacefully on his breast, crying happy tears, the remembrance of the recent Christmas day, covered with darkness as a pall, flashed over her; and her whole spirit went up in thankfulness to God. How *soon* it had become light!

My friends! Dark days have passed for some of us. They will dawn again. Days when we look yearningly into the far corners of the wide earth for a gleam of comfort, and look in vain; there's not a ray in the sunless sky, not a star in the black, overshadowing firmament. But above this dreary earth, higher than the laden sky, is HEAVEN. *There* sits One who sees our cares, hears our sighs, pities our tears; and who will surely, in His own good time—it may be very near—cause the darkness to merge away in bright and loving light. Let us ever trust in Him!

The Union Advocate.

Established 1867.

NEWCASTLE, MIRAMICHI, N. B.

WEDNESDAY, DEC. 29, 1875.

"A Happy New Year" to our Friends, Patrons, and the Public generally.

MIRAMICHI VALLEY RAILWAY.

THE plans, profiles and estimates of this contemplated undertaking have been completed in full. The plans, which have been prepared with considerable care by Walter M. Buck, Esq., the Engineer in charge, exhibit the proposed and probable location of the line, 108 1-2 miles in length, although the traverse survey embraced 112 1-2 miles. The grades, on the whole, are most favorable, the steepest being in the direction of the down traffic; the curvature has for its shortest radius 1150 feet.—The profile, which measures 125 feet in length, is furnished with every requisite detail of the work of construction. The quantities of earthwork, masonry, &c., have been elaborately prepared, including also, the superstructure or "permanent way," station buildings, &c., and rolling stock; likewise an appendix giving diagrams of earth and rock cuttings, and sketches of culverts and bridge superstructure, the whole of which covers some 40 pages of foolscap in book form.

Mr. Buck is at present engaged in preparing traced copies, in duplicate, of the plans and profiles, (the second profile being that of the Chatham Branch extension to the Bartholomew river, 19 3-4 miles,) by order of the Board of Directors, and at their next meeting, which will be shortly notified by the Secretary, Mich'l Adams, Esq., the whole of the documents, completed, and in course of preparation, will be submitted by their Engineer, and we have no doubt will afford them much information and satisfaction.

School Examinations.

The half yearly examinations of the schools in District No. 7, Newcastle, commenced on the 17th inst., and terminated on Wednesday last.

The first on the list was the upper school, taught by Miss Russell, who has always borne the reputation of a painstaking teacher, the evidence of which is exhibited in the readiness of the pupils to perform their alloted tasks. The examination in the various branches was in every respect satisfactory to the Trustees and visitors who were present on the occasion.

While referring to this school we might call the attention of the Trustees to the want of a suitable porch or room in which to hang the children's clothing. It is very much needed, and we hope that the required accommodation will speedily be provided.

The examination of Miss Reid's school, in the upper part of the District, commenced at 2 p. m., on the 17th. This school was formerly taught by Miss Knapp, an excellent Primary instructress, who had to resign her charge by reason of declining health. The examination in the various branches showed that the little ones had made considerable progress in their studies, under the direction of a teacher whose ambition appears to be to have her pupils thoroughly grounded in the rudiments of education.

The Chaplin Island Road school, taught by Miss Kavanagh, was examined on the 18th, at 10 a. m. The day was stormy, and there was only a small attendance. The exhibit made at this school was not in every respect the most satisfactory, which may perhaps have been the result of the limited attendance. Considerable allowance has also to be made for schools in country districts, where parents too frequently keep their children at home to assist in farm work, which is a serious drawback to the proper advancement of the children, and acts as a drag to retard the efforts of the teacher.

The examination of Mr. Sivewright's school took place at 2 p. m. of the same day. We were much pleased with the greater portion of the work performed. The reading was not quite up to the mark, but in geography, dictation, mental and slate arithmetic and other branches, the pupils generally acquitted themselves in a very creditable manner. Mr. S. has only had the school in charge for about four months, and the progress already made leads us to the belief that the teacher is doing his utmost to advance the children in their studies.

This examination terminated in a very pleasant manner. After the delivery of several short addresses, and the children had dispersed, several visitors sat down to an excellent repast prepared by Mrs. John Robinson and daughter, who take quite an interest in the school. (Mr. Robinson, it will be remembered, gave the land on which the school house is built.) After the good things had been tested in the most satisfactory manner, a vote of thanks was tendered to Mrs. and Miss Robinson for their unexpected kindness in providing the refreshments, and the visitors retired.

On Monday, the 20th, the examinations of the various departments in the Hawkins' Seminary commenced. The first on the list was the High School, taught by Principal Hutchison, the examination of which commenced at 10 a. m. There was a gratifying and marked improvement in the various branches taught, particularly in reading, which at the last examination was not so good as might have been expected. The simultaneous reading was particularly good. In grammar and analysis, and mental and slate arithmetic, the exhibit made was very creditable to the pupils and teacher. Progress has also been made in composition. Letters written by several of the pupils and read at the examination were in general very well prepared, showing the channels of thought in which the various minds were running, some taking up the descriptive, others revelling in a little fun, not unmixed with quiet sarcasm, while others exhibited a love for the practical. The lessons in Industrial Drawing were excellent, the symmetrical designs on the blackboard by several of the scholars being neat specimens of handiwork. The specimen of symmetrical work, in pencil, by one of the scholars, was very much admired, and deservedly so. The senior and junior classes in Latin made a fair exhibit. Master Ferguson is the only pupil at present studying Greek. An interesting and general examination in Botany brought the exercises to a close. The improvement in the High School may be attributed to increased diligence on the part of the Principal, and also to the fact that the course is now plainly mapped out, and which we understand is strictly adhered to.

On Tuesday the advanced departments taught by Mr. Parlee and Miss Hickey were examined. That of the former commenced at 10 a. m. Mr. Parlee's excellent work was manifested at the last examination, and we can only say that the late one furnished ample testimony of the thoroughness of the teaching. The reading was excellent.

The pupils seemed to be thoroughly conversant with grammar, and also displayed an intimate acquaintance with geography, the map of New Brunswick being principally under review. The dictation was also good, and the lessons in Industrial drawing created considerable interest. For lack of time several branches were not examined.

Miss Hickey's department (which is one of the most difficult to manage in the Seminary), was examined in the afternoon. The proficiency displayed by the pupils in reading and grammar was very creditable. In spelling they were scarcely up to the mark. The specimens of industrial drawing were good, and in arithmetic, both slate and mental, a very good exhibit was made, some of the exercises being performed with considerable rapidity. This department is divided into two grades, of which the senior is well advanced, and is very even in its composition. Miss Hickey is an excellent teacher, but owing to the overcrowded state of her school is not in a position to work her department as successfully as she otherwise would. The Elementary departments taught by Miss Sinclair and Miss Parker were examined on Wednesday last. That of the former commenced at 10 a. m., and consisted of exercises in reading, slate and mental arithmetic, geographical definitions, spelling and industrial drawing. The reading was very good, as also was the exhibit in the other branches. In arithmetic the pupils displayed an aptitude for that branch, which was alike creditable to themselves and their teacher. Miss Sinclair's speciality appears to be a thorough grounding in arithmetic principles, although in other respects she is a most excellent teacher.

The department taught by Miss Parker, where the first principles of education are taught, and which might also be termed a nursery establishment, is rather crowded, both as regards the health of the pupils and teacher, and the progress which is expected to be made. Considerable interest was manifested in the examination, which embraced reading, spelling, arithmetic, &c.—The children seemed to understand clearly the first principles of industrial drawing, consisting of angles, lines, circles and surfaces, the lessons being illustrated with sticks to show the angles, and a wooden ball cut in halves to show surfaces, circles, diameter, circumference, &c. The reading was very good, and in fact the display made was certainly as good as could be expected from such young children, particularly with such a large attendance under one teacher, the average being about 50 per diem.—Several recitations by some of the small fry were admirably rendered, and created considerable amusement.

Next week we shall have something to say concerning school matters generally in this district.

Fire.

Between one and two o'clock on Sunday morning last the house owned by James Mitchell, Esq., and occupied by Mr. Wm. H. Russell, opposite the Methodist Church, was discovered to be on fire. About one o'clock Mrs. Russell was awoke by a roaring sound and at once aroused her husband who went to see what caused the noise. He discovered the fire to be in a room on the ground floor, and is supposed to have caught from a spark from the front room flue falling into some soot in an unused grate in the room in which the fire was discovered. The floor on half of the room was on fire and was extinguished by Mr. Russell and a man boarding with him, but the fire had made its way up stairs through the partitions, and the upper floors catching it was found impossible to extinguish the flames. By this time the alarm was given and the engine got out, but before she could be got to work the house was burned down.—The night was very calm, and consequently there was not much danger of the fire communicating to the buildings adjoining. The house is insured for $800. Mr. Russell had no insurance on his furniture and is a heavy loser, having only saved the furniture out of one room, losing all his wearing apparel, provisions, and winter supplies.

New Publications.

PARKWATER. — From Messrs. Belford Brothers, of Detroit & Toronto, through Messrs J. & A. M'Millan, St. John, we have received a copy of a pleasantly written and interesting Novel, by the well known authoress, Mrs. Henry Wood, entitled "Parkwater, or told in the Twilight." All who have read Mrs. Wood's well known literary productions, such as "The Channings," "East Lynne," &c., will peruse this latter effort with equal interest. Price fifty cents.

JOSH BILLING'S ALMINAX for 1876 has also been received from the same publishers. The author's comical view of the various subjects upon which he writes is amusing in the extreme, and we are certain that 25 cents can not purchase more genuine humour than is to be found in this annual.

EVERLASTING PUNISHMENT. — We have also received a pamphlet of 75 pages, published by the same firm, bearing the following title—"Everlasting Punishment. Is the Popular Doctrine de Fide? and if not, is it True?" considered in a letter to the Right Hon. W. E. Gladstone, M. P., by the Rev. F. N. Oxenham, M. A. Price 25 cents. Messrs. J. & A. McMillan, St. John, will forward these books, postage prepaid, upon receipt of price.

J. B. PARKIN, ESQ., Q. C., an eminent and illustrious member of the Bar of Quebec, died at Quebec on the 16th of inflammation of the lungs, aged 59.

Bazaar at Douglastown.

It is not often that the inhabitants of the unpretending little town situate between Newcastle and Chatham undertake to face the difficulties incident to holding a Bazaar, but having entered into the laudable undertaking of erecting a Church edifice and needing funds, they have come to the front in a manner which does them credit. To the Misses Hutchison, who took such a particular interest in getting up and conducting the Bazaar, as also to many others, ladies and gentlemen of the town, who displayed such a laudable energy in working up the matter, great credit is due for the handsome display made at the Bazaar on Wednesday and Thursday last. Many of the articles displayed exquisite workmanship. Among them were two chairs, the wood work being most creditably done by Mr. John Brown, of Douglastown, the backs representing respectively the Royal Arms of England in silk and gold, and a rich bouquet of flowers on a dark ground, worked in a style equal to anything of the kind done abroad. The show of articles generally was very creditable to all concerned, being equal to anything of the kind we have ever seen in Miramichi. The hall was handsomely decorated with evergreen, which in several places encircled mottoes suited to the time and season, the most prominent being that which faced the visitor immediately on entering the hall—"A Thousand Welcomes." The "Picture Gallery" was a valuable acquisition, being a *bona fide* affair. It should have been called the "Curiosity Corner," for seldom have we seen so many rare curiosities crowded into so small a space. The excellent organ music by little Ellie Haviland, (daughter of Mr. Thos. Haviland), and the drum accompaniment by her brother, added very materially to the attractions, which were many.

The little organist was presented with a very handsome doll by Hon. R. Hutchison, as a slight recognition of her services, which were really worthy of notice.

The proceeds of the two days' sales amount to between six and seven hundred dollars. There being quite a number of articles remaining, an effort was made to auction them off on Friday evening, without success, and we have not yet heard whether any steps have been taken to dispose of them in any other way.

☞ The particulars of the Railway accident mentioned last week are as follows. The No. 24 train going south on Monday of last week had just passed through some heavy snow drifts at New Mills, and when about a mile from New Mills station the train, which was drawn by two engines, suddenly came to a stand still. The snow plough had left the track and remained across the same, forcing the leading engine into a gravel cut on one side, the tender taking the ditch on the opposite side. The forward trucks of the second engine were off the track, but the locomotive remained on, with her head light forced into the cab of the first engine. McNeil, the driver, and the fireman, sprang back into the tender, but the driver instantly sprang back to his post and shut off the steam which was forcing round the driving wheels at a tremendous pace. The first engine was badly smashed but the second one escaped with the loss of the cow catcher. The main line was not cleared until 10 p. m., the next day. The usual connections were made, by transferring the mails and passengers at that point. Fortunately, no one was injured.

EXPLANATORY.—The *Freeman* of the 20th contained a communication from Bathurst, signed "J. R. B." in which it was stated that when some of the witnesses in the late trial were being paid off in the County Treasurer's office, some one entered and said "pay the boys well, and we'll get them again when we want them," and also that Harry Banister, who was then picking up his money, said that he would see both him and the Government in h—l before they would get him into such a scrape again. Mr. Banister requests us to correct the statement. He, with many others, had been annoyed at the delay in paying the witness fees, and remarked to the Clerk of the Peace, who was in the office, as follows:—"I'll see you and some others far enough before you'll get me into such a scrape again." Mr. B. acknowledges that he was a little excited at the time, but admits that should the country again need his services in a similar capacity, that he would be found to the front.

SCHOOL HOUSE BURNED.—The school house in district No. 8, Upper Little South West, was destroyed by fire on the night of Monday, the 20th instant. Origin of the fire unknown. The building was erected this summer at a cost of $400, and as it was not insured the loss is a serious one to the people of the district. Efforts will be made to erect a new building next spring, and as the people are, generally speaking, in poor circumstances, it is to be hoped that outside aid will be obtained. Contributions in cash, boards or nails will be thankfully received by the Trustees. Until a new building is erected, the school will be carried on in a private dwelling.

DEATH OF REV. W. A. CRANDALL, (BAPTIST,)—Thos. Todd writes from Moncton to the *Visitor* as follows:—

DEAR VISITOR,—Brother Crandall passed from earth to heaven on last Friday the 17th, after a short illness of about three weeks (typhoid fever). He was engaged in a revival at Lutz Mountain. No doubt he overtaxed himself in the work. But he finished his course, and has gone to receive the crown. He leaves a sorrowing widow and eight children.

☞ On the 1st of January, 1876, the *Christian Visitor*, with its subscription list, and debts due thereon to that date, passes into the hands of the Rev. Geo. Armstrong, A. M., (a graduate of Acadia College) as his own personal property, with the distinct pledge on his part, that the paper is henceforth to be conducted by him as heretofore, in the interests of the Baptist denomination of this country.

THE ST. JOHN "WATCHMAN" pays its agents the most liberal commission of any New Brunswick paper. An active Agent is now wanted for Northumberland and the other Northern Counties. 24 4w

Christmas Decorations.

The Episcopal Churches in Chatham Parish, St. Mary's and St. Paul's, were very hand omely decorated for Christmas, the festooning and lettering being most tastefully done.

ST. ANDREW'S, Newcastle, on Christmas morning presented a very fine appearance, in which condition it still remains. The Altar is vested in white, having the usual lights, over which is an illuminated text, "Glory to God in the Highest." The rood screen at the entrance to the chancel is covered with crimson cloth, wreathed with evergreen, extending across which, white letters on red ground, is seen the inscription "Emmanuel, God with Us." Around the arch, colors reversed, "The Dayspring from on High hath Visited Us." Over the organ, red, on white ground, "Glory be to God." Extending across the West end, red on white ground, appear the words—"Glad Tidings of Great Joy," under which is seen an illuminated text, "Unto Us a Son is Given." The sides of the Church are taken up with Isaiah 9th chap., latter clause of the 6th verse (white letters on red ground) "His Name shall be called Wonderful, Counsellor, The Mighty God, The Everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace." The Font is covered with red cloth, tastefully festooned with wreaths of evergreen, given it a very picturesque appearance. About the Pulpit, are seen festoons of evergreen, while hanging over the front is seen a banner, displaying a rich, illuminated Cross on a pure white ground. The windows are also wreathed with evergreen. Never has St. Andrew's presented a handsomer appearance.

The Sermon on Christmas Day was from Luke ii, 10th verse, "Behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people."

A "SHOCKING AFFAIR."—We haste to apologize to our friend the Manager, the "Black Crook" gentleman with the "long" ears, for having shocked his educated ears by making a mistake of *one* word in a poetical quotation in our Christmas article. Dear me, who would have thought the Manager's ears were so very sensitive, and how terribly has the poor fellow been misrepresented if the public *can* believe his statement. The Manager's ears shocked! Well after such a revolution as that, we shall not be surprised to hear at any time of an earthquake somewhere in the vicinity of the *Advance* office, or that even within the sacred precincts of the *Advance* sanctum a volcano has burst forth, belching out its sulphuric eruptions. Tell it not in Gath, breath it not in Chatham, that the Manager's ears have been shocked. In very pity for the misguided and discomfited Manager we ask that such an incredible statement shall be buried in the sea of forgetfulness, whither the *Advance*, its scribe, and all connected with it are rapidly hastening.

☞ The Tea and X'mas Tree Entertainment held at Campbellton on the 22nd, in aid of the Restigouche Methodist Mission Fund, reflected great credit on the ladies in connection with the Methodist Church, and the lady friends of other denominations, who freighted the Tea Tables so richly and abundantly, and decorated the X'mas Tree with such a variety of useful and fancy articles. We need hardly say that those who patronized the entertainment were delighted with the pleasing display, and that the affair was a decided success. The net proceeds amounted to $115.00.

SAD AFFAIR.—A Chatham correspondent informs us that Mrs. Holland, who lived on the Richibucto road, a mother of several children, hanged herself in the barn adjoining her residence, on Christmas morning, while labouring under a fit of temporary insanity. The husband was attending service at the Chapel at the time. The deceased was out shopping in Chatham on the previous Monday.

NORTHUMBERLAND LODGE, No. 17, F. & A. M.—Officers for current Masonic year:—

Chas. S. Ramsay, W. M.; Wm. P. Bishop, S. W.; Robert Copeland, J. W.; Wm. A. Park, Secy.; James Johnstone, Treas.; Rev. Wm. Cruden, Chap.; Dan'l M'Gruar, P.M., D. of C.; C. F. Bourne, P. M., S. D.; Jas. M. Troy, J. D.; Chas. Crammond, S. S.; S. Y. Mitchell, J. S.; Wm. Smith, I. G.; John Cassidy, Tyler.

☞ At a regular meeting of St. John's Lodge, No. 27, F. and A. M., held in the Lodge room, Bathurst, on the evening of the 27th inst., the following officers were elected for the ensuing year:

G. Gremley, W.M.; T. H. M'Ginn, S.W.; A. R. Ferguson, J. W.; G. M. Duncan, Sec.; A. E. Alexander, Treas.; H. Barclay, S. D.; A. G. Harris, J. D.; H. C. Carter, S. S.; R. Miller, J. S.; P. Walsh, Tyler.

☞ Telegraphic advices from New York on Monday night state that the *Queen of Hearts* has been towed into Bermuda by the Gov't steamer *Spitfire*. We understand that Mr. Wm. Muirhead, Jr., is on his way to Bermuda to attend to business in connection with this vessel.

☞ The Rev. Mr. Hogg, of Moncton, delivered a lecture at Chatham last evening before the Y. M. C. Association, on "Jerusalem and its surroundings."

☞ The names of Mr. Turgeon, Madisco, and Mr. Ryan, of Caraquet, are now mentioned as likely to be candidates at the coming Gloucester election.

☞ The sum collected in the Quebec Roman Catholic Churches on Sunday, the 12th, in aid of the Caraquet prisoners, amounted to $435.

☞ M. C. Clark, Dentist, was in town on Monday, on his way to Dalhousie, where he will remain for a short time.

☞ The Bachelors' Ball at Bathurst last week was a very enjoyable affair. Excellent music was furnished by Colby's Quadrille Band.

POSTPONED.—Messrs. L. T. Joudry & Co's Grand Premium Sale is postponed until Tuesday, the 18th Jan'y. See advertisement.

RAILROAD FORMS.—Bills of Lading, form No. 18, for the use of persons forwarding freight by the Intercolonial, and Railroad Manifests, form No. 4, for Customs use, for sale at this office.

☞ The Writ for the new election in Albert has been issued. It is returnable the 2nd of February.

☞ It will be seen by an advertisement in to-day's paper that a Sociable will be held in the Temperance Hall on New Year's Eve.

Church Services.

There will be services in the Wesleyan Churches, Chatham and Newcastle, on Sabbath next, morning and evening. Watch Night Services in the same churches on Friday night, in Chatham commencing at 10.30, and in Newcastle at 11 o'clock.

Service in St. John's Church, Chatham, on New Year's Day, at 11 a. m.

St. Andrew's, Newcastle, New Year's Day, 11 a. m.

☞ The *Freeman* and the *Advance* are at it, tooth and nail. The former says that the *Advance* (or its Manager) is cross-grained and peevish, and wishes it a better temper and a Happy New Year. Mr. Anglin must not be too hard on the Manager—he has had a good deal to sour his temper of late.

☞ The Newcastle Skating Rink is now in full blast. Patronize it.

☞ Read the Holiday Advertisements.

☞ Monday was St. John's Day.

Died.

On the 6th August last, at the Black Hills Goldfields, Dacota Territory, U. S. A., EDWARD R. NEWMAN, aged 44 years.

At Newcastle, on Sunday, 26th inst., after a protracted illness, MR. JAMES WHEELER, a native of Newcastle, aged 37 years. *Requiescat in pace.*

At Kouchibouguac, on the morning of Sunday, the 12th inst., ISABELLA C. PUGSLEY, aged 16 years.

General Intelligence.

The Dynamite Explosion.

CONFESSION OF THE PASSENGER, THOMASSEN—THE PLAN TO DESTROY THE VESSEL.

Bremen, Dec. 15.

It is now ascertained that the passenger who owned the case of dynamite which exploded at Bremerhaven is named Thomassen, and not Thomas, as given heretofore. He confessed that he constructed the chest which exploded, and arranged a clockwork attachment to cause the explosion after a certain time. He was occupied for a fortnight in filling the chest, and worked in a coach-house in one of the most frequented parts of Bremen.—The police examined the house alluded to, and found some of the packing material, but no explosives of any kind.

London, Dec. 16.—A special from Berlin says Thomassen has repeatedly torn the bandage from the wound he inflicted in his attempted suicide, and is now securely bound. He seems to be a Swabian by birth, but has been naturalized in the United States. He passed a week last October in Liverpool trying to ascertain whether it would be better to put his infernal machine on board a steamer there or at Bremerhaven. The number killed by the explosion already reaches 80, and others of the injured are not expected to recover. Forty corpses were buried on Tuesday, together with some chests filled with unidentified fragments of bodies.

William King Thomson, the principal culprit in the terrible affair at Bremerhaven, was the commander of the blockade running steamer *Old Dominion* during the American war. He procured a quantity of dynamite or other similar explosive material in New York, and forwarded it to Bremerhaven. He had made at that place a barrel, one part of which contained the explosive article, the other part contained a clock work apparatus to run eight days, so that at the end of that time the pressure on the dynamite would cause it to explode. He was to put this on board the *Moselle*, and was to go on board the steamer himself as far as Southampton from Bremerhaven. At that place he would leave her. Then, in Liverpool or London, he was to effect a fictitious insurance upon some cargo his confederates had shipped. After the vessel left Southampton the dynamite would explode, and in all probability the ship and all on board would be destroyed. The machine exploded on the wharf at Bremerhaven and the result was the loss of quite 200 lives. Thompson has promptly paid the penalty of his crime. Some of the bullets lodged in his head, but he lived long enough to tell so much of the story as detailed above. He is a man about 40 years of age, a native of New York, and married a New Orleans lady, by whom he has four children, one of them an infant.

THE DYNAMITE BARRELS.

According to the information now in the possession of the police agents the barrel prepared for the shameful work was specially constructed of the strongest material by a Bremen cooper, and divided into several parts or compartments.

Another barrel, having a large hole in one of the divisions, has been discovered. This, it is presumed, was the barrel in which the apparatus for igniting the dynamite was to be placed.

It is considered probable that he had all the machinery with him at the time of the explosion. Having filled one barrel with dynamite, his plan was to adjust everything so that it should be ignited by the clockwork when the vessel was at sea after he had landed at Southampton.

As it was distinctly understood he was to leave the *Mosel* at Southampton, and as he did not put any cargo on board at Bremen, it is probable that he intended shipping the goods at the English port, so as to avoid all suspicion or prevent detection.

The ill-fated *Deutschland* was to have carried the hellish machine; but it was not ready at the time she left, and hence its transfer to the *Mosel*. Had the *Deutschland* escaped the Kentish Knock, with this apparatus on board, she would doubtless have been sent to the bottom after going fairly to sea.

DEATH OF THE DEMON.

Thomassen died at Bremen on the 16th, from the effects of the injuries inflicted by himself. Just before his death he made a full confession, revealing the names of his accomplices. He stated that his true name was Wm. King Thomson and he was a native of Brooklyn, N. Y. His age is believed to be about 35. He confessed that he was once captain of the vessel *Old Dominion*, and changed his name to avoid being prosecuted for running the blockade during the civil war in America; that he bought the explosive material in the United States and had it forwarded to his address, and that the clock-work attachment was made in Germany and was set to explode the charge in eight days.

London, Dec. 21.

It is now correctly ascertained that the number of persons killed by the Bremerhaven explosion will amount to 128 and 56 wounded. Twenty of the injured are hopelessly maimed.

The following are the amounts awarded by the P. E. I. Land Commission for the several estates hereinafter mentioned: Estate of Rev. J. A. S. McDonald, $34,000; John A. McDonald, $7,592; Amy Winsloe, $5,515; Isabel Winsloe, $5,515; Arthur Winsloe, $5,515; Alice Hyndman, $5,515; Mrs. Montgomery, $4,500; Miss Stewart, $8,500.—*Argus.*

A Bremen paper contains the following:—We have bad news from Abyssinia. An expedition of about two thousand men, sent by the Khedive under command of General Abrendrop, a Dane, to subjugate Abyssinia, was drawn into an ambush and nearly every man slaughtered. General Abrendrop, Reuf Pasha, a nephew of Nubar Pasha, and many other officers, were literally hacked to pieces; their heads stuck on spears before the Abyssinian tents and their bodies left to wild beasts. Mackillop Pasha is said to be alive and a prisoner. Of Colonel Routh, the American, nothing is known, and only one officer named Schwertzer, escaped.

An expedition comprising twenty thousand men, infantry, cavalry and artillery, is to set out from Cairo, without delay, and will be joined by every American officer in the Egyptian service, including Col. Stone.

Galveston, December 23.—Heavy rains have fallen throughout the Southern and Western Texas. The rivers and bayous are higher than for years. No trains left for the North yesterday on account of the unsafe condition of the trestles. The roads north of Houston are reported broken, and trains are blocked. Steamers could not leave Houston to-day on account of the flood in the bayou. It is feared that much damage is done to the different roads and bridges.

Thos. W. Piper, the alleged murderer of Mabel Young in the vestry of the Warren Avenue Baptist Church, Boston, last summer, has been brought to trial, but though the circumstantial evidence pointed to him strongly as the culprit, the jury disagreed.

New York, Dec. 22.—Raids of Mexicans and Indians upon Texas border are assuming a serious character, and the most horrible outrages and extensive robberies have been perpetrated within a few days.

There was an earthquake at Porto Rico on the nights of the 8th and 9th, and the town of Arecibo was almost destroyed. Of the churches only six remain, and they are so damaged they may fall at any moment.

Lord Advocate Edward Strathairn Gordon, Conservative, is re-elected to the English Parliament by the Universities of Glasgow and Aberdeen.

New York, Dec. 18.—Three colored murderers were hanged at New York, this forenoon. One of them clung to the rope with both hands and screamed in terrible agony.

It is rumored that the Khedive of Egypt is negotiating for the sale of further shares in the Suez Canal, and that England and M. Lesseps are bidding for them, the latter offering nine million dollars.

Messrs. G. R. Lutz, D. M. Steeves and Lafayette Somers returned on Monday from a fortnight's hunting expedition on the Canaan river, bringing with them four fine carcases of moose.—*Moncton Times.*

The *Borderer* states that Rev. Geo. Steele, of Upper Sackville, has been presented with a new sleigh by his Bible class. Elder Lawson, of Dorchester Cape; Rev. W. McCarthy, of Dorchester; and Rev. Mr. Brown, of Moncton, have also received donations in money.

Boston, Dec. 23.—A severe gas explosion occurred shortly before 7 o'clock last night in South Boston, near Federal st. bridge. Two persons were killed and ten wounded.

Advices from Bermuda of the 22nd inst. state that a fearful tornado passed over Tuckertown and St. David's Island on the evening of the 17th inst. The dwelling house of David A. Smith, a well known pilot in Tuckertown, was blown into the harbour, with all the inmates. Capt. Smith was hurled into a clump of trees and saved. His wife was carried across the harbour, where she was found clinging to a plank; she died in a few hours on St. David's Island. The storm levelled everything.

Berne, Switzerland, Dec. 27.—News has been received here of a dreadful calamity which occurred in the little village of Hellikon, in the Canton of Aargau, on Saturday. Christmas festivities were being celebrated in a school house, when the flooring gave way, and 80 persons were killed and 50 more or less wounded.

Bathurst, 27th Dec.—The small-pox report from Shippegan, to-day states that the six of the LeBlanc family are recovering, but the oldest boy is now very ill. The priest and other. are assisting them.

No other cases are known, outside of the LeBlanc family.—*Telegraph.*

THE GREAT FEMALE REMEDY.

SIR JAMES CLARKE'S

PERIODICAL PILLS.

THIS invaluable Medicine is unfailing in the cures of all those painful and dangerous diseases to which the female constitution is subject. It moderates all excesses and removes all obstructions, and a speedy cure may be relied on.

In all cases of nervous and spinal affections, pains in the back and limbs, fatigue on slight exertion, palpitation of the heart, hysterics and whites, these Pills will effect a cure when all other means have failed, and although a powerful remedy, do not contain iron, calomel, antimony or anything hurtful to the constitution.

Full directions in the pamphlet around each package, which should be carefully preserved

JOB MOSES, New York,
Sole Proprietor.

$1.00 and 12½ cents for postage, inclosed to Northrop & Lyman, Toronto, Ont., general Agents for the Dominion, will ensure a bottle containing over 50 pills, by return mail. Sold by all Druggists.

October 11, 1875. 13-1y

SPECIAL NOTICES.

MOMENTOUS ENQUIRY.—No diseases are more trying to the temper or more exhausting to the constitution than diseases of the pulmonary organs, brought about often, but not always, from exposure to wet and cold. Whenever we feel the first symptoms of a cough it will only be necessary to take Dr. Wilson's Pulmonary Cherry Balsam to obtain immediate ease. All lung complaints are speedily removed and cured by the use of this unequalled remedy. Whenever persons subject to pulmonary disorders feel exhausted or out of sorts, they should immediately resort to the wonderful restorative. All tender chested persons will save endless misery by adopting this remedy.

Dr. Wilson's Family Anti-bilious Pills are the best medicine now on sale in this city, the ingredients of which are so uninjurious that they cannot harm the most delicate constitution. They are compounded entirely of medicinal herbs. They are the production of a doctor who has made it his study to alleviate the ills to which the human family are all liable. They must therefore be hailed with delight as supplying a want long felt in this country.

Extract of a letter from a respectable druggist, ordering a quantity of the celebrated Clark's Derby Condition Powders