

BAKING POWDER

pure and wholesome

enter the coach and was hurrying through it. "S'y, isn't it about time to have these birds made up?" "What do you take me for?" angrily replied the other, stopping and coming back. "Do I look like a sleeping car conductor, sir?" "No," slowly rejoined the tired passenger looking up at him wearily. "You do not. beg your pardon. My observation is that a sleeping car conductor is always a gentleman."

SHOOTING AT HAILSTORMS.

This means of preventing damage to crops is said to be a success in Europe.

The idea of destroying storm clouds including tornadoes, by firing cannon at them has been laughed at in this country, and experiments in this line have not been successful; but the scheme is taken more seriously in some parts of Europe, and even some of the scientific journals assert that it is practicable, and cite impressive instances to prove it. The following statements for example, are taken from Globus, one of the best known geographical publications of Germany.

"On May 30 last, the Minister of Agriculture in Italy suggested that the experiment be tried of destroying hail clouds by means of cannon discharges. He fortified his suggestion by copious quotations from Prof. Edward Ottavio's book on 'Destroying Hailstorms by Means of Cannon Discharges,' the third edition of which has just appeared. The Italian Government thereupon placed at the disposal of land owners the power in one of the Government magazines at a low price until the end of October, this year. The result was that many firing stations were established in regions where vineyards were peculiarly liable to damage and the results have been most gratifying."

This seems to prove that the theory of destroying hailstorms by means of cannon is not a humbug. Furthermore, the theory and the demonstration of its value are by no means new. Arago tells of a fleet anchored, in the seventeenth century, in Cartagena, South America, which by bombarding storms repeatedly prevented them. In the eighteenth century a French sailor also destroyed storm clouds in this manner at his country place in the neighborhood of Maceo. In Germany experiments were made in 1865. In Italy the theory has been tested on a much larger scale and the experiments there extended as far back as the sixteenth century.

Prof. Bombici, of Bologna, was one of the first to discuss the matter scientifically. In recent times, however, the decisive tests have unquestionably been made in Styria, Austria.

The Burgomaster of Windisch Feistritz, in Styria, has a very large and fine vineyard on the south slope of the Bachan Mountains. He sustained enormous losses every year from hailstorms. In 1896 he erected twelve shooting stations on the property, distributed over about two square kilometres. They were placed on the highest elevations. Each station had ten heavy cannon, handled by six men. Each charge consisted of 120 grams of powder. As soon as a hail cloud approached shots were heard from all the stations. The Vienna Imperial Meteorological Society thus described the procedure: "Heavy black clouds move forward from above the Bachan Mountains. At a signal shooting begins at all the stations, and after a few minutes the forward movement of the cloud ceases. Then the clouds open as if a canal divided them, and gradually disappear. Not one stone falls. The experiment was tried six times in 1896, always with the same result. Since then fifty-six stations have been erected around Windisch Feistritz, and it has paid well to support them."

The question is of great importance to Italy, where certain districts are regularly visited by hailstorms. This summer 70 stations were erected in the province of Treviso, 30 in Padua, 20 in Vicenza, 20 in Verona, 135 in Bergamo, and in other provinces stations are constructing under the supervision of Prof. Ottavio. The cannons used were brought from Styria, where a special industry in the manufacture of this article has developed. In Italy, also, some firms have begun to make the so-called 'Hungarian cannons.'

Robby—Pa, this book says St. Peter has the keys of heaven! has he? I believe so. Bobby—Is he the janitor, pa?



"Notwithstanding the fact that so many claim to be unusually busy, and assure one that they have not a moment to call their own, there has still been a goodly part of the week given up to social gatherings. The large dance at Mrs. Thos. McAvity's on Tuesday evening and which was a charming affair in every way, and large too. The rooms were prettily and conveniently arranged, and the supper table had lovely decorations of pink flowers and muslin. Mrs. McAvity wore black silk and jet with lace trimmings and diamonds. Miss McAvity's sister, dark beauty was accompanied by a lovely gown of amber silk gauze over amber satin, the bodice being trimmed with black ribbon velvet and heavy pearl trimmings. She wore a yellow ostrich tip in her hair.

The last meeting of the married folks whist club was held at Mrs. E. T. Sturdee's and a most enjoyable evening was spent. The club meets every Monday and the members manage to extract a great deal of pleasure from it.

Mrs. Charles Harrison entertained the sewing club at her residence last Saturday. Mrs. Harrison has been entertaining Mrs. Fish and Mrs. Chipman in her charmingly hospitable way.

There were several theatre parties at the Artillery concert on Wednesday evening, one of which was entertained after the concert by Dr. and Mrs. W. W. White. Very many of the ladies were in evening dress, and the house looked exceedingly bright and pretty.

Mrs. J. D. Chipman, of St. Stephen, made a short stay here during the week.

The first dance in the series of assemblies was held at the Institute on Thursday evening and was most bright and enjoyable. The rooms were comfortably and prettily arranged, and the floor was in excellent dancing order. A substantial supper was served about midnight after which dancing was resumed.

The order of dances for which Harrison supplied music, was as follows, with three supper dances and several extras.

1. Valse.....
2. Valse.....
3. Lancers.....
4. Valse.....
5. Two-step.....
6. Valse.....
7. Two-step.....
8. Valse.....
9. Polka.....
10. Valse.....
11. Two-step.....
12. Valse.....
- Supper.....
13. Valse.....
14. Two-step.....
15. Valse.....
16. Galop.....

There were several young debutantes present, all of whom, of course were gowned in white.

Mrs. E. T. Sturdee wore a pretty gown of pink silk, heavily trimmed with chiffon and black velvet; diamond ornaments.

Mrs. Edith Skinner looked very pretty in pale blue satin and white ruffled chiffon trimmings. Mrs. Walter White, pink net over satin, lace and chiffon trimmings.

Miss Bertie Hegon, whitesilk with ribbon and spangled trimmings.

Miss Seely, pale blue muslin gown, white trimmings.

Miss MacMillan, gown of white muslin with pale blue trimmings.

Miss Tabor, pink brocade silk, velvet trimmings diamond ornaments.

Miss Stead, looked exceedingly fair and dainty in pale blue silk with tulle overdress, corsage bouquet of red carnations.

Miss Vroom, a gown of pink silk with white lace trimmings.

Miss Robinson, looked very pretty in a gown of pale blue muslin trimmed with cream lace.

Miss Markham, striped pink and black silk with chiffon trimmings.

Miss Agnes Carr, pink silk gown trimmed with black velvet.

Miss George Scammell, pink silk with turquoise trimmings.

Mrs. J. Morris Robinson, ruby satin with velvet trimmings and diamond ornaments.

Miss Scammell, wore a black silk gown effectively trimmed with sequin net.

Mrs. Geo. F. Smith, a gown of black satin with chiffon and steel trimmings and corsage bouquet of carnations.

Miss Robinson, wore a very pretty gown of pink silk with white trimmings.

Mrs. Holden, black moire with lace trimmings and corsage bouquet of pink flowers.

Miss Grace Fairweather, wore a very pretty dress of pink muslin, corsage bouquet of natural flowers.

Mrs. Keator, black satin with bodice heavily



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R. J. ARMSTRONG, Manager.

Trimmed with cut steel.

Miss Elsie Robinson, pale blue and white silk, black satin and lace trimmings.

Miss Gladys Campbell, white muslin trimmed with lace and flowers.

Miss Grace Robertson, dainty white flowered muslin and flowers.

Miss M. Warner, blue silk trimmed with insertion and chiffon, a large bouquet of white roses.

Miss Louise Peters, white silk and large bouquet of roses.

Miss Muriel Fairweather, white silk with heavily worked chiffon overdress, pearls and roses.

Miss Carrie Peters, pale blue silk, chiffon and flowers.

Miss Louise Skinner, black satin with crimson flowers.

Miss Lou McAvity, handsome gown of amber silk gauze heavily trimmed with pearls and bows of black velvet with yellow ostrich tip in hair.

Mrs. T. E. G. Armstrong, pink brocade silk, diamonds and flowers.

Miss Fairweather, green muslin gown trimmed with black velvet and lace.

Miss Grant, yellow silk trimmed with black lace, and pink roses.

Miss Gertrude Seely, pale blue muslin prettily trimmed with white lace and chiffon.

Miss Keator, black satin, lace and flowers, with an effective arrangement of brilliant buckles and narrow ribbon velves down the front of the skirt.

Miss Dever, looked as the always does, stately and graceful in black satin, the bodice of which was covered with renaisance lace and chiffon, pink flowers.

Miss Edith Skinner, black silk, sequin net, and flowers.

Miss Thomson, a very becoming pink silk, with black lace.

Mrs. C. J. Coster looked charming in black satin the bodice of which was heavily arranged with jet insertion, and jeweled tulle sleeves.

Miss Charlotte Smith, black satin lace and roses.

Miss Mona Thomson had on a pretty flowered organdie over pink silk, trimmed with black satin and corse velvet.

Miss McKenzie, a very becoming cream silk with lace and ribbons.

Mrs. Katie Jones wore a handsome white satin with tulle sleeves, chignon and pearls.

Miss Gladys Campbell, looked bright and charming in a gown of blue silk, with sequin net trimmings, pearls and chiffon.

Miss Jessie Walker, white organdie, white lace, and violets.

Miss McMillan, flowered muslin, chiffon and pearls.

Mrs. F. E. Sayre, yellow satin and violets.

Miss Tuck, black and white silk trimmed with white gathered ribbons.

Miss Croop, yellow gauze, with over skirt of yellow and black silk.

Miss Vall, white silk trimmed with black baby ribbon and violets. Bouquet of chrysanthemums.

Miss Muriel Fairweather, white silk, chiffon overdress, pearls and roses.

Miss Kathleen Robertson looked daintily pretty in white chiffon over white silk, with roses.

Major Grant spent a day or two this week in Woodstock.

Mrs. David Hudson returned Friday from a short visit to Boston.

Mrs. and Mrs. R. A. Sinclair were in Woodstock for a day or two in the earlier part of the week.

Mrs. E. H. McLean returned Tuesday from a visit to Montreal.

Mrs. and Mrs. Willard Kitchen of Fredericton were in the city for a little while this week.

Mrs. James Quinn of the department of Marine and Fisheries, Ottawa, is visiting his father Mr. Geo. Quinn of the North End.

Mrs. Ernest Turnbull leaves today for an extended pleasure trip to the old country. Mrs. Turnbull and Miss Turnbull left this week for North Carolina, where they will spend the winter.

The Junior Glee Club of Brussels street church

held its annual sale and tea in the church school room on Tuesday evening, and though the weather was not so much as to make the affair was well patronized. The prettily decorated tables were in charge of Miss McKay, Miss Blanche, Miss Stammers, Miss Rogers, Miss Clarke, Miss Leighton, Miss Fells, Miss Evans, Miss Beck, Miss Rhodie, Miss Little and Miss Smith.

Mrs. G. Reardon of Halifax was in the city for a day or two this week.

Mrs. George M. Jarvis and Miss Jarvis of Truro, spent part of the week in the city.

Dr. and Mrs. Cameron of Antigonish, have been spending a few days here lately.

Miss Minnie Wright left Wednesday morning for New Brunswick to visit her mother.

Mrs. and Mrs. A. H. Henderson left the middle of the week for a trip to Boston, Newport, New York and Philadelphia.

Mrs. Sexton of New York has been paying a short visit to St. John during the week.

Lieut. Governor McMillan was in the city this week enroute to Fredericton.

The annual meeting of the ladies of the Women's Art Association was an event of this week and one that attracted a large number to the beautifully arranged and spacious rooms on the second floor of the Oddfellows' hall on Union street. The exhibition for purposes its predecessors and some beautiful pieces of art china, arg. shows, including many pieces from all over Canada, The St. John ladies who have some exquisite work among the exhibits are: Mrs. W. O. Baynard, Miss Minnie Stewart, Mrs. E. E. Emerson, Miss Marion Bojly, Mrs. George Murray, Miss M. Barry Smith, Miss C. O. McGivern, and Miss Ethelwyn Hall. The ladies from upper Canada who have some beautiful pieces in the exhibition are Miss Edith F. Hammar, Miss Howes, Miss Harrison, Miss Boller, and Miss E. Rogers of Toronto; Miss F. A. Watson of Galt; Miss Marion E. Nelson of St. Catharines, Ont.; and Miss Myra L. Schultz and Mrs. F. McLeod of Montreal.

There was a delightful social side to the exhibition and over cups of fragrant tea and the daintiest of refreshments the merits of the various artists were discussed, and the pleasantest and most informal intercourse enjoyed. The exhibition closes today and it is pleasant to note that it has been most successful in every way. The ladies who had charge during the week were as follows:

Mrs. T. Uman, Mrs. Mortimer, Mrs. deForest, Mrs. W. McAvity, Miss Perkins, Mrs. Geo. Murray, Mrs. A. S. Jones, Miss Hall, Miss Hamilton, Mrs. F. E. Sayre, Mrs. H. P. Timmerman, Mrs. George Fleming, Miss Tapley, Miss McCarrison, Miss Murray, Miss Holly, Mrs. Austin, Miss Stephenson, Miss Alison Jones, Miss Markham, Miss M. McKean, Miss Harding, Miss McKean, Mrs. Flood, Miss Jennie Crookshank left Wednesday for New York in which city she will in future make her home with her brother Dr. Fred Crookshank.

Miss Alicia Henderson of Millville, P. E. I. is in the city on a three weeks visit to her aunt Mrs. Herbert U. Smith of the west end.

Miss Hatt has returned to the capital after a stay of several months with her sister Mrs. Colter of this city.

ST. STEPHEN AND GAZETTE.

[Paraphrase is for sale in St. Stephen at the bookstore of G. S. Wall, T. E. Atcheson and J. Vroom & Co. in Calais at G. F. Treat's.]

Dec. 13.—Roy McAdam, son of Andrew McAdam, has gone to Newfoundland where he has secured a good position.

Hilda, the little daughter of Rev. Thomas Marshall, fell on the frozen ground while running one day last week and marred her bright little face by some severe cuts.

Miss Roberta Murchie is able to be out again.

Mrs. C. F. Beard and Miss Berta Smith are expected from Boston today.

Miss Winifred Todd has arrived from Andover Mass., where she attends school, to spend the holidays, and Miss Bessie Todd returns today from Roxbury, St. John.

Mrs. DeWolfe of Halifax, N. S., has been the guest this week of Madame Chipman.

Mrs. Geo. J. Clarke and her daughters, Pauline and Dorrie, have returned from Fredericton.

B. W. Dismore returned on Saturday from a trip among the islands.

Mrs. Bolton left yesterday for Jacksonville, Florida.

Miss Rita Ross is expected to arrive from Boston in a few days. Miss Ross has been quite ill at the Newton hospital where she had undertaken a course of study to be a trained nurse and has been obliged to abandon the work and return home. She is now in Boston, the guest of Mrs. W. A. Ross.

Miss Emily Laming has returned home after a delightful visit of seven weeks in Boston.

Miss Annie Marzer, one of our most estimable young ladies and a valued worker in the Baptist church, left on Monday morning for Boston to enter a hospital for the preparation for the work of a trained nurse. She was entertained at a gathering of friends at the residence of E. M. Ganson on Friday evening when a few very enjoyable hours were passed.

Mrs. Alice Bridges is continuing her studies in art from a well known artist in Massachusetts.

Albert McKinnon, one of our promising young men, who holds a good position with the Robb engineering company at Amherst, N. S., is at home with an injured hand. He will remain until after the holidays.

M. S. W. H. Fordman will observe her eightieth birthday anniversary on Saturday next. A number of elderly ladies have been invited to gather at her home.

Mrs. H. Q. Boardman narrowly escaped serious injury last night by a fatal burning accident by falling down the cellar stairs at her home on Saturday evening. As it was the untimely severe bruise. Fortunately the lamp was extinguished in the fall which broke it into many pieces.

Mrs. Davidson Grimmer of Chamcook has been the guest this week of Mrs. Frederick Grimmer.

John M. Stevens has been in town for a few days.

Mrs. Margaret Stuart went to Mrs. Edward Price's on Saturday to remain during the winter months.

Mrs. A. E. Neil is in Jacksonville, Florida.

Mrs. T. A. Vaughan arrived from Chatham on Saturday evening and is the guest of Miss Kate Grant.

Miss Bertha Phillips of Bangor is visiting her sister, Mrs. Geo. F. Ryder.

The home of Walter J. Connine was brightened last week by the arrival of a new boy.

The engagement is announced of Miss Molly McOney, the talented young songstress, and Vern Whitman of the Odessa teaching staff. Mr. Whitman was in town last week.

The Travellers club held the first of their pleasant sessions for this season at the residence of Mrs. Elwell Lowell on Monday afternoon.

Miss Marion Rockwood has returned to Houlton. George Riddett has gone to Bangor.

Miss Alice Boardman is visiting Boston.

Miss Berrie and Mr. Charles Berrie, of St. Andrews, have been guests for several days of Rev.

CONTINUED ON EIGHTH PAGE.

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