

This week has been one of the dullest on record. In the early days of "Our Society" we used to say, "Just for a little while, kind readers, bear with our want of news, wait till the Fleet comes again, and see what a variety of sports and pastimes we shall have to chronicle." And behold! The Fleet is with us, and things are slower than ever.

Of course, the rain has a great deal to do with it, after all. Last week we simply couldn't squeeze in all the sporting news,—cricket, lacrosse, racing, tennis, in fact, everything. And now for seven blessed days no one in Halifax has handled bat, ball, quoit racket, oar, or in fact anything but the handle of his umbrella.

And then, as to society and shopping, and all that sort of thing, it's simply no use mentioning them; society consists is one long monotonous wail about the weather, and extraordinary scientific investigations into the exact phase of the moon; while shopping, considered as a fine art, is practically extinct. Some few brave ladies have ventured as far as Mahon's and Crowes and Le Bon Marche, but whether they have returned home yet has not been ascertained.

What a grand thing it must be in these days to be a tobaccoist! Indeed, we envy Mr. Sarre; one can do without many things rather than get a wetting, but who ever smoked less than usual just because it rained all day? It is a common experience for a man to find his tongue just as hot after a spell of bad weather as though he had had a half-a-dozen Sundays running.

To return to our muttoms, there's no society in Halifax this week, though no doubt, to-morrow will bring forth the usual columns from the usual spinners of fine yarns, who would find themselves in the vortex of a whirl of gaiety in the Sahara. We must own to having found more interesting matter abroad.

All who had the pleasure of being at the undermentioned entertainment will appreciate the rich humor of the clipping which we give. It is taken from the last week's *Progress*, and we would advise the charming young lady who writes this paragraph in that paper to be more thoroughly up in her news and more partial in her comments on parties at which she was not present, before she writes about them. This is the clipping:

"Mr. and Mrs. A. G. Jones, gave a very delightful at home at their residence, North West Arm, on Monday of last week. The afternoon was spent by the guests in wandering about the charming grounds; there was tennis for those who cared about it, and during the afternoon ice cream and refreshments of all kinds were served in the large summer house on the grounds, and also in the spacious dining-room within doors. Among the numerous guests were, Sir George, Lady and Miss Watson Mr. and Miss Lynch, Mr. James, Mrs. and Miss Thompson, Dr., Mrs. and Miss Farrell, Miss Stairs, Mr. MacDonald, Capt. and Mrs. Mullins, Dr. Barefoot, Capt. and Mrs. Rolphe, R. N., Mr. and Mrs. Corbett, Dr. and Mrs. Grier, Mr. and Mrs. George Franklin."

Invitations are out for a dance at "Gorse Brook" next week. We are glad to see Mr. and Mrs. Uniacke amongst the hosts, and hope that will be only the beginning of many entertainments. "Gorse Brook" is one of the most charming and beautiful places in or about Halifax, with its old-fashioned but comfortable house, its well kept lawns and beautiful trees and vines. It always reminds us more of the beautiful English country mansion than any other property in this peninsula.

At last on Wednesday the Polo club got a good day and had an excellent game, in spite of the somewhat heavy ground. Capt. Jenkins has got down from Toronto three new ponies, they are of the cabby kind, and ought to make servicable ponies for polo, although they will want some schooling. We believe it is his intention to let them out to those members of the club who have not animals of their own or who are in need of an extra nag.

It is reported that Lady Macdonald is to be made a Peeress. It has been suggested that the Baroness Johnhay would be a good title for her to adopt.

Mr. McGowan has sent "The Tramp," the well-known pony, down to Barry Woods' to be trained, we believe, for the Autumn races. It is evidently with him win or die. But we would advise him to give it up, for "The Tramp," no matter how fit, never was, and never will be a match for "Mignonette."

We hear that the latter has been sold, and to a military gentleman, and is to be sent on to Boston and Newport for the races. We don't know if this is true, but we should most certainly doubt it.

It is said that a well-known Society lady has an extremely valuable chair made by Louis Quatorze, an exceedingly, she says, well-known Parisian maker.

We hear of many of our readers who backed our tips in the races having made quite a lot of money.

H. M. S. Pylades, Capt. Young, left for Hayti on Wednesday. Mrs. Young leaves for England on Monday.

There is no doubt that by the gradual progress of events "Dominion Day" is becoming more and more recognized and kept here. The generation that knew not the stirring times of "Confederation" are springing up, and their sympathies are not so keen, nor their hatred, one might say, so marked. To the older generation July 1st, instead of being a general holiday and day of rejoicing, will be, and always will be, a day of mourning and sorrow. It comes hard on Government officials and operatives who were not allowed a holiday on June 22nd, when there was plenty for them to do and to go to. All turned loose on a day which is not a civic holiday with absolutely nothing to do or nothing to amuse themselves with, therefore we think it would be better if we in Halifax tried to bury the old feeling and make up our minds to celebrate a day which is celebrated over the whole of Canada to which we belong.

Mrs. John Duffus is having a large and fashionable tea this afternoon, (Friday), the invitations are numerous and we believe the guests are asked to meet the charming American bride, Mrs. John Miller. Mr. and Mrs. Miller are staying at the Waverly where she has been receiving the visits of "all society" during the last ten days. Mr. Miller is quite an addition to Halifax society, and we can only hope that she will either stay here for good or will make an exceedingly long visit.

Mr. Sandford Flemming and Miss Flemming arrived from Ottawa last week to spend their usual pleasant summer at "The Lodge." Mrs. Eeskaw is to arrive shortly, and we hear she will take up her abode at "Maple Wood," which has become quite a fashionable place this summer.

Everyone who passes along Tower Road must have noticed two exceedingly striking houses, that have been built on the left hand side, near Inglis St. One is to be occupied by Mr. and Mrs. John Naylor and the other by Mr. and Mrs. James Lyons. Mr. and Mrs. Lyons will be quite an addition to the South-end, having hitherto lived in the "far north."

SUMMER HOLIDAYS.

Tuition, with or without Board.

MR. H. M. BRADFORD has made arrangements to take 8 resident pupils through the Summer Holidays, in the Cottage on the North-West Arm, which affords excellent Bathing, Boating, etc.

With the assistance of a competent resident Master, Mr. Bradford will continue with about a fortnight's break to take private pupils both in town and at the Arm. Two or three more non-resident pupils can be taken if arrangements are made at once.