...SOCIETY...

THE LEAP YEAR BALL.

It's only once in four years that the Bachelor Maids, have the opportunity usurp man's privileges, and even the past eight years. The end of the century cut out leap year which was a rather unkind cut on the part of the man who made the centuries. He should have had more gallantry and more consideration for the ladies. who waits and also to her. Among the many splendid features of the year 1904 is the privilege it conveys to year 1904 is the privilege it conveys to the fair members of the social world to play the man, and all who had the privilege of attending the leap year half given by the hachelor maids of Chatham, have every reason to feel most grateful to the year 1904. That the ball was a great success, it is unnecessary to state, because the girls had the management of it.

That it was the best and most entrancing social entertainment ever offered in Maple City society, it is still more needless to add. The leap year ball marks an epoch in the social calendar and for the future the Chatham young men will mark events by the dance that the young ladies gave.

gave. When the young ladies undertake to do anything they can always give their male adm ters painters and make their attempts at social entertainment look like a cheap and contraband edition of a favorite master-

pand edition of a favorite masterpiece.

The I. O. O. F. Auditoroum was
daintily decorated. The waving festooms of red and blue seemed to close
in the expansiveness of the hall and
make it appear more homelike and
pleasant, and bring the guests and
charming hostesess closer together.
Then the decorations in addition,
were tasty in the extreme. Colors
harmonized with dresses and the
stationary colors of the room.

The girls, always thoughtful and
dear, had provided a retreat for the
swall-flowers. A bower had been fitted up for infortunate youths in
the eastern corner. A Japanese umbrella made the roof and down stuffed
chairs and cushions provided one soft
spot for unfortunates. How kind and
considerate the girls were in contrast
with the men; all who had occasion
to seek the retreat, realized to the
full. But to do the girls justice,
there was seldom if ever occasion for
and to enjoy the comforts provided.

The Chaperones received equal con-

full. But to do the girls justice, there was seldom if ever occasion for and to enjoy the comforts provided. The Chaperones received equal consideration. The dais was furnished in parlor effect and from this point of vantage, the chaperones and patrons, who danced not, enjoyed watching the fair backelor maids and their charming partners worshiping at the altar of Terpsichore. From this pleasing oasis in the desert of waxed floor, the chaperones smiled on the merry makers and occasionally descended to join in the dance. Among the number of those were noticed Mr. and Mrs. G. W. Witherspoon, Mr. and Mrs. G. W. Witherspoon, Mr. and Mrs. Gow. Stephens, M. P., Mr. and Mrs. G. W. Witherspoon, Mr. and Mrs. Robert Gray, Mrs. Greening, Mrs. Hugh Malcolmson, Mrs. W. J. Taylor and many other social leaders. Mrs. Gov. T. McKeough, homorary secretary, received the guests, and the young ladies exhibited the same eleverness in selecting their honorary secretary that they evinced in all their other arrangements in connection with the ball.

The bachelor maids left the young men not long in doubt, and as the baskful and timid youths entered the ball-room, they were welcomed with bright smiles and invited to dance, Programs were soon filled and many

swell, just as everybody knew it would be.
During the whole night everybody enjoyed themselves and drank deep from the pleasures provided. Nobody was tired and, when the last dance had been ended and a rousing cheer had been given for the bachelor maids, even the guest felt inclined to linger. There was a great deal of rivalry among the young men as to who would be the first to be asked for a dance. C. H. Kent, John Bray and Norman Harper ran all the way from their respective residences to be the first, but when they got to the ball they found George Heyward already there, with his program half filled. The school trustee said he had to go without his supper to do it, but he did. He always was a gallant.

Among the additional poetical acknowledgements received by the honorary secretary are the following, which were courteously loaned to The Planet by the ladies:

To Chatham maids fain of the

day night,
For he's anxious to make your ac-To be at your shime, precise as its

time,
He'll endeavor as lay in his power,
He'll do any old dance, even get up
and prance
Rather than be a wall-flower.

Now list ye, I prittee maidens fair, Who give the ball this new Leap

Billie -- accepts your kind invitation,
To dance with the paettiest girls in the nation;

the nation;
If your program's not full please give him a dance,
And you may be sure he will jump at the chance.

I write to say
That John
Will be with you to stay.
From night till day. Unless, as expected, He is a wall flower, When he wild probably leave At an early hour.

Although the opera "Robin Hood"

Shun every other thang—
Bill ———— is invited
To attend your Leap Year ball,
And if you think he'll slight it,
Then you don't know him at all.

But, business first; then pleasure

comes,
Is how the old adage runs.
Sorry that absent from town I will be,
So no wallflower you make of me.

young ladies were heard expressing regrets that their programs were not of greater capacity.

Mrs. Geo. 1. McKeoughe and Mr. Robert Gray opened the evening's galeties, by leading off in the grand march. In this all of the 160 guests participated and the evolutions which the leaders devised formed one of the unique and pretty scenes of the night.

The luncheon served at the bewitch-ing hour of midnight was dainty and swell, just as everybody knew it would be.

Year;
If I accept as doth become my fin-chimation,
Shall I be left against the wall as on

paintul,
If indeed I might not also add most
shameful;
But faint heart, they say, had never
won faire lady,
So I'll accept and hope at least ho
have a dance with (?) Sadie.

To bachelor maids,

Just now is in full swing.

And every person in it should
Shun every other thing—

Dear Maids, your favor came to hand; I am sure your party will be grand; Thanks very much for being invited. The thoughts of going made me ex-cited.

Dn Yuesday next he will be there, And thus enjoy a pleasure rare, To dance, and chass away dull care, With the Bachelor Maids of Chatham,

Ahi distinctly I remember my first dance in yore's December,
When each separate, flick'ring ember of ambition on the floor Died within my very being, as I could not fail from seeing
That for clumsy, awkward fellows there was nothing else in store—That to partners fair and dainty he must always be a Bore;
—Only this—and nothing more.

Only this—and nothing more.

On your invitation peering, long I stood there, wondering, fearing, Doubting, dreaming;—dare I venture to inflict myself once more?

But the silence was unbroken and the stillness gave no token,

That in search of selfish pleasure I might once again explore

All the goodness of long-suffering maidens as I'd done before.

Quoth my conscience, "Nevermore."

So on Tuesday midnight dreary,

shall ponder, meek and weary,
Reading many a quaint and tedious
editorial utterance o'er;
Yet my thoughts—at times entrancing—will be with the maids adancing While they tread to music mystic

the shrine of Terpsichore.
And if mirth at anchored wall-flowers (other fellows) o'er me pour,
You'll forgive me just once more.

May I hope for pardon's token for reply so poorly spoken;
Words of mine seemed weak and faulty, so your kindness I'll implore,
And confess I caught Poe napping when I went out poetry trapping.
But naught found in bards' creations,
nor in literary lore,
To the maids of Maple City can express my boundless store

press my boundless store Of Good Wishes-Evermore! Harry ———

To the Bachelor Maids of Chatham's and Mrs.
Profound, After pondering long as to what they

should say, Are compelled to decline for next Tuesday, Your kind invitation to the Oddfellows' Hall,
To tread a measure at the Leap Year
Ball.

"The writer regrets
That his Leap Year debts
Il prevent him from treading measure;
For his clothes are in pawn,

Tho' he hopes before long
To redeem them or bust his suspenders."

TO DISQUALIFY MEMBER

Thomas Joseph Haller, of Bothwell, egan proceedings on Saturday to have Wesley Sussex, a member of the Bothwell council disqualified, O. L. Lewis, who is acting for Haller, appeared before Judge Bell to-day and asked that a fiat be issued. The equest was granted.

request was granted.

The grounds on which this action is taken are that Sussex is not assessed for the amount required by statute, which requires that the councillor shall be assessed for \$600 free of senoumbrances. Sussex is assessed for \$300 in Bothwell, but there is a mortgage on the property and a farm in Zone (valued at \$1400) for \$750. It is also urged that Sussex hasn't paid his taxes for 1903.

The third ground on which the disqualification is asked for is that Sussex last year, acting under orders from the Charity Committee, furnish-

GOOD CONCERT

The benefit concert that was given by local talent under the management of Miss Emma Lawronce was a grand success. Solos were rendered by Miss Annie Johnson, Charles Lynn and Mr. H. Bud. Miss Lena Burton made a decided hit as an ellocutiomiste. The celebrated entertainers was a nealty and rendered tales. tainers was a novelty and rendered number of selections and encore

repeatedly.

We wish to thank the ladies and gentlemen who so kimdly assisted, rendering their services toward making the concert a success.

TRAIN SERVICE

The trains on the Lake Erie are running very irregularly to-day. For the last few days the track has Yesterday the snow an on time. Yesterday the snow and wind blocked up the tracks north. A freight train is stuck in the drift at Tupperville, and Piercee' train has not yet left Sarnia. No train went morth this morning. Whiteley's train from the south came through all fright as everything is clear between Chatham and Blenheim. Whiteley went back again to Blenheim, this morning instead of making his trip morth.

TO ENFORCE BY LAWS

"The police start out on Monday next to enforce the by-laws to the letter," said Chief of Police Holmes to ictics, said Chief of Police Holmes to a Planic treporter Saturday morning. Enforcing the by-laws to the letter will mean big doings in the city; snow on the sidewalks for instance will keep citizens busy for a time at least. Then a number of lumber dealers have cedar posts in the street—not in the way, of course, but then the by-laws.

There are many other things that citizens must get used to—not after seven p. m., on Saturdays, you know.

INQUIRIES AS TO THE TARIF

Questions Sent out to British Manufacturers By Chamberlain's Commission

Answers Will Form Besis of Tariff Bill to be Submitted to

London, Jan. 30.—Joseph Chamber-lain's tariff commission to-day mailed to all manufacturens appearing in trade directories in the United Kingdom an inquiry form with regard to trade conditions as affected by foreign tariffs. The replies are designed to form the basis of further inquiry on which the commission intends to for-mulate a tariff bill which it will sub-

mit to the country.

The form contains 11 questions, The what is the proportion of your output for the home market?
What is the proportion of your output for foreign markets?
What is the proportion of your output for foreign markets?
What is the proportion of your output for the colonial markets?
What branches of your home trade have suffered from competition?
Are any articles similar to those you manufacture imported into your country below your cost price?
Are such articles placed on the Brit-

is considered the dullest month of the year in the clothing business. . .

However we do not allow dullness to enter here during this melancholy month of trade, but keep the volume of business up by marking regular prices down.

Everything that belongs to winter is receiving special attention now with the sole object of clear ng all stocks in their season. We never carry goods over. Here are some of the reductions we are making:—

Men's striped union underwear, full sizes, regular 350, per garment now

Men's fine imported black cashmere sox, all sizes, regular 25c goods, now

Men's wool and fleece lined underwear, shirts and drawers egular 50c each, now

Little boys' reefers of black and colored frieze, warm little coats that were \$3 and \$3.50,

Youths' fancy cheviot overcoats, Raglanette style, long,
loose with vertical pockets,
velvet collars, sizes 30:0 32,
that were \$6.00 and \$7.00,
reduced to \$4.95 and

Any men's \$10 winter over-coa's in the store, and we have a good showing in all sizes, reduced to 7.50

25 per cent. off all fur caps and all fur lined coats are greatly reduced.

THORNTON & DOUGLAS, Limited.

How about your wants in CROCKERY AND CHINA?

Special January prices should attract you to the China Hall.

\$15.00 Dinner Sets for - - \$12:00 \$5.00 Tea Sets, China, for \$ 4 20 \$5.00 Toilet Sets for - - \$ 4.00 \$ 8.50 Parlor Lamps for - \$ 6.25 6.00 Dinner Sets for - \$8.50 6.00 Dinner Sets for - \$5.00 6.50 Toilet Sets for - \$5.00 6.00 Parlor Lamps for - \$4.25

Come here and get suited, the price and the goods will be right. GRAY'S CHINA HALL,

Upp. Merchants Bank.

The dose is one, just one pill at bedtime. Sugar-coated, mild, certain. They cure indigestion, billiousness.

ish market below the normal cost of production in the country of origin? Is your trade suffering from the adverse competition of foreign coun-tries, owing to difference in wages, hours, etc.?

Has your export trade suffered in recent years owing to the tariff of any foreign country? What reduction in the tariff of an

What reduction in the tariff of any foreign country would enable you to compete successfully within that country with commodifies made therein similar to those you manufacture?

What is your experience in respect to foreign competition in the colon-

in your trade do you suffer from the operation of patent laws or regis-tration laws of other countries? DUNDONALD NIGHT, for Robin Hood, Thursday, Feb. 11th.

Two only, Men's Dressing Gowns, regular price \$122.50, for \$8.50, at The 2 Ta

Ask for Minard's and take no otl



NEW METHOD SUITS

Uur Great Clearance Sale of Men's Fine Clothing

is proving conclusively every day that the unprecedented values offered in order to quickly reduce our stock to its proper level are appreciated by discriminating Chatham shoppers and that high-grade clothing at these prices is a better investment than putting money in the bank. If you have not taken advantage of this opportunity, do so at once.

: : : Men's Fine Furnishings at but a Fraction of Their Value : : : :

Men's 50c all silk neckwear, four-inhands, puffs and flowing ends, pick them out at only Men's tine wool undershirts and draw-

ers, 50c quality for 1 37C Men's fine fleece undershirts and draw-ers, 50c quality for ers, 75c quality for

55C

75C

- \$1.00

Men's Silk and Wool Lined Kid and Mocha Gloves at Clearance Sale Prices.

1.00 and \$1.25 Gloves \$1.55 Mufflers at Cut Prices oc Silk Mufflers at 5c Silk Mufflers at 51.25 Silk Mufflers 51.50 Silk Mufflers

Men's Monarch and W. G. & R. Color-ed Shirts at Clearance Sale Prices

Men's Fine Wool Sweaters at Clearance Sale Prices Men's Corduroy Vests \$2.00 quality \$1.25 Men's heavy wool shirts \$2.00 quality \$1.25 Hats

One lot of \$1.50 and \$1.75 hats for \$1 each.

Every suit and overcoat altered to fit

Your choice of all our \$10.00 and \$7.50 suits and overcoats for \$5.50. Think of it, most of these coats and suits cost \$11.00 to \$14.50 at the factory.

See Window

Startling Offers in Men's Pants,—Your choice of any pair of trousers in this great house. It is admitted that our stock is the largest and best and most varied of any in Chatham, so you can easily see what this offer means, especially as in this sale. It matters not whether the former prices were \$4.50,\$4 or \$3, your choice \$2.50.

Sweeping Reductions in New Method Suits and Overcoats.—An offer impossible anywhere else but at THE TWO T'S., the fountain head of all clothing values. Choice of any fine suit or overcoat that sold readily all season at \$12.50, \$17.50 and \$18.50, now offered for the astonishing low price of \$10.00.

\$1.50 quality for

\$3.00 quality for

Trudell & Tobey.

GARNER BLOCK