

## Provincial Notes.

CHARLOTTETOWN, P. E. I.—Prince Edward Island is certainly a beautiful spot in summer. They call it the "Garden of the Gulf." Some people magnify the name until it becomes "The Garden of Canada." Let some such come to us when winter first seizes upon us, and we'll see what they will then call our tight little Island prison.

We were days without mails, and, when at last the "Stanley" arrived, we scarcely knew what to attack first of all our papers, letters and magazines. To be candid, it was OUR SOCIETY I first seized upon—a fact calculated to gladden you, whatever be the value you attach to my taste in selection. I only hope (as I anticipate) that Charlottetown Society will render the same verdict as I do, and that you will accordingly increase your circle of readers.

Oh! dear! how cold it has been!

One old couple, a farmer and his wife, on a journey of but four miles—and a perfectly sober old couple they were, too, — were storm-stayed forty-eight hours, a stone's throw from home, and so terribly frozen that the woman died a few minutes after being rescued, and the husband lies in the hospital, in a precarious condition between the alternatives of death and the loss of hands and feet.

In the face of such facts and the all-engrossing approach of Christmas, could society naturally be expected to thaw out into any gaiety? No dinners, no dances, as the little boys say "No nothin'."

Hon. L. H. Davies has gone to bring to the Island the Hon. Wilfred Laurier to address politicians and enjoy Mr. Davies' hospitality.

Mrs. Davies will not accompany her husband to Ottawa during the coming Parliament Session.

It is said that Mr. Justice Sullivan and Mrs. Sullivan intend to spend Christmas in Montreal, where Misses Sullivan are attending the classes of the Convent of the Sacred Heart.

His Honor the Lieut.-Governor started on our winter steamer, the "Stanley," to enjoy (?) "the round trip." The vessel was out in the Straits twenty hours, instead of four or five, and was provisioned for one meal only. The pleasure of the outing may be estimated, but probably not fully appreciated, by those of us who remained at home.

Miss Lottie Strickland returned on Monday, 15th instant, from her visit to Bangor.

The *Daily Examiner* prints the following item:—

"A Bangor paper reports 'A charming reception' at the residence of Hon. William H. Strickland of that town, and says that 'Miss Strickland of Charlottetown, P. E. I., who has been visiting at the residence of Dr. Strickland of Essex Street, leaves for home to-night.'"

There are two Church Societies in Prince Edward Island, which I must now introduce to your readers. First, the Diocesan Church Society, which collects and appropriate grants to Country Parishes, and secondly, the Clerical Society, which meets periodically in different parishes to discuss matters of interest to the clergy, and of estimated benefit to their congregations. These two societies combining, have invited Rev. Dyson Hague or Dr. Partridge to visit the Island during the Annual Meeting of the D. C. S. early in February, and address one or more gatherings. For the sake of our reverend friend, which ever one it be, and of his family, we sincerely trust that the several winds, thermometers and the boilers of the steamship "Stanley," will all combine to speed our clerical guest to our shores.

Should it be the Rector of St. Paul's who comes, we trust that his journey may not form a plural number of his singular shipwreck of a short time ago.

They are changing the retorts at the gas-house, for it is midnight. It is high time I subscribed myself.

YOUR CORRESPONDENT.

BRIDGEWATER.—The rain did come at last. At first we had magnificent skating, and Whitman's pond was alive with bright and pretty lassies and gay young men. Then came the snow, and such sleighing! Everyone that had anything in the shape of a horse was out; and the merry jingle of the bells was heard from morn till night. Now we can only sit and talk about it, and wish for more snow.

As for parties, well, I am afraid that the skating and sleighing and the nearness of Christmas has caused a "social stagnation."

Our "Quadrille Club" is going to start again. During New Year's week, I believe, we are going to have the first meeting. It is starting in good time, and promises to afford the members much pleasure during the winter. In my next I will give you a description of the opening dance.

Last week Judge and Mrs. DesBrisay and Mr. and Mrs. Wade entertained a number of friends at dinner.

Miss Cora Doyle, from the Sacred Heart, Halifax, and Miss Ruby Collill, from Wolfville, are home for the holidays.

Mr. J. A. McLean is visiting friends in Sussex, N. B.

During the past summer Cupid has been very busy here, and consequently the matrimonial reaping has been extensive. There are still a few of the interesting old bachelors left, but even these — Dame rumour says — are fated. Before the "swallows nest again" I hope I shall be able to tell you something more than a rumour, and perhaps be able to give you some account of the tying of these interesting knots.

Among other things, I must not forget to chronicle a delightful party given by Mr. and Mrs. Dawson. Allow me here to say that this is an example which I hope the other young couples will follow. Young married people are apt to be selfish in their happiness, and I, making the right use of the press, and on behalf of the unblessed single people, protest against it.



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