

12th, 13th, 14th, 16th, 17th. Minimum temperature on 2nd,—6.°5; 3rd,—8.°5; 4th,—6.°1; 5th,—6.°1.

HAMILTON.—On 1st, at night, high gales to 7 or 8 velocity. 8, crow first seen. 9th, woodpecker seen. 14th, robin red breast first seen; in afternoon, fog, followed by hail, thunder, lightning and rain at 4.40 p.m. 16th, fog, hail, lightning, thunder and rain, two rainbows afterwards appeared. 18th, aurora, low arch. 21st, wild pigeons announced in great numbers. 24th, ordinary light auroral low arch, with a few streamers moving from E. to W.; also on 30th. The only important storm of wind was on 6th and 7th, but high wind also on 2nd, 12th, 17th, 24th, 25th. Snow on 1st, 18th, 19th, 20th. Rain on 5th, 6th, 7th, 11th, 12th, 13th, 14th, 16th, 17th. Thermometer during first week (minimum) indicated, on 2nd,—11.°2; 3rd,—16.°5; 4th,—11.°2; 5th,—6.°9.

PEMBROKE.—On 5th, hail. 16th, slight mist. 17th, fog. 21st, storm of wind. Snow on 3rd, 6th, 20th. Rain on 7th, 8th, 12th, 13th, 14th, 15th, 16th, 17th. Minimum temperature on 2nd,—32.°0; 3rd,—14.°5; 4th,—2.°5; 5th,—5.°0. Month unusually mild, mean temperature being 30.°06, while that of 1867 and 1866 was 23.°1 and 22.°02 respectively. Main channel of Muskrat and Indian rivers open on 30th. Snow all gone except in shade.

PETERBOROUGH.—On 2nd, wide halo round sun. 3rd, large indistinct lunar halo. 4th, at 9.45 p.m. a mass of auroral light of a green colour, resembling a large depressed dome, appeared over N.H., the top about 22° high, and a few streamers of same color over N.E.H.; the dome disappeared in about 15 minutes, but the streamers lasted about 35 minutes. 9th, crows heard. 10th, strong reverberations in the air. 15th, sultry; birds singing in the woods; blue backed birds seen. 16th, thunder and lightning from 8.45 a.m. until 9.05 a.m.; robins first seen. 23rd, at midnight, auroral arc spanning the whole heavens from E horizon to a point about 22° N of W. 27th, large bodies of passenger pigeons first seen, flying westward. 30th, a narrow arched rim of bright auroral light from about N N E to N N W.; about 14° above it another broad belt of light; very dark below lower rim; cluster of light streamers occasionally disappearing. High winds on 2nd, night of 17th, and on 21st. The first four days the minimum temperature was, on 2nd,—23.°1; 3rd,—19.°0; 4th,—3.°1; 5th,—7.°4; but the rest of the month unusually warm and at the end occasionally sultry.

SIMCOOK.—On 1st and 2nd, most severe snow storm (depth ten inches) of the whole winter. 6th and 7th, great rain storm, 14th, lightning and thunder at 4 p.m.; robin first seen. 15th, lightning in evening. 16th, lightning and thunder with hail at 6 a.m., and lightning, thunder and rain at 1 p.m.; large flocks of wild pigeons passed this day to S.W. Solar prismatic halo on 5th, diameter 30°; 25th, 50°; 26th, 60°. Wind storms on 2nd, 6th, 7th, 18th, 21st, 25th. Fog 16th. Snow 1st, 2nd, 20th. Rain 6th, 7th, 9th, 10th, 12th, 13th, 14th, 16th, 17th, 23rd. Minimum temperature on 2nd,—6.°9; 3rd,—18.°6; 4th,—8.°1; 5th,—8.°1. The 3rd was the coldest day of winter. Latter part of month very fine.

STRAFFORD.—3rd, coldest day of the winter, 8th, crows first seen and heard. 10th, large lunar halo at 11 p.m. 13th spring birds seen. 15th, lightning; wild pigeons seen; 16th, lightning, thunder, and rain storm. 18th, mill pond free from ice. 29th, frogs heard. Wind storms on 1st, 2nd, 5th, 6th, 17th, 18th. Fogs on 3rd, 12th, 15th, 16th. Snow on 1st, 2nd, 5th. Rain on 6th, 7th, 12th, 14th, 16th, 17th, 23rd. Minimum temperature on 2nd,—7.°7; 3rd,—20.°0; 4th,—1.°0; 5th,—5.°1.

WINSON.—The severest snow storm of the season occurred on 1st and 2nd; chiefly from 6 p.m. 1st to 9 a.m. 2nd, continuing to drift till sunset, when the wind, which had been continuously N.E., fell suddenly; barometer rose from 28.811 (in morning), to 29.382, and thermometer indicated—5° by 9 p.m. First thunder and lightning occurred on 14th with rain, and again on 16th and 23rd; double rainbow after rain of 14th. Wind storms on 1st, 2nd, 17th, 26th. Fogs 4th, 23rd, 31st. Snow 1st, 2nd, 5th, 19th, 21st. Rain 5th, 6th, 7th, 9th, 12th, 14th, 16th, 17th, 23rd. Minimum temperature 2nd,—5.°1; 3rd,—12.°0; 4th,—11.°0; 5th,—1.°0. This intense cold was followed by 45 hours rain, and milder weather.

N. JOHN, N.B.—N. Lat. 45°.17. W. Long. 66°.4. Height above sea, 135 feet. For the month of March, the corrected mean readings of the *Barometer* were, at 8 a.m., 30.007, 2 p.m., 29.070, 10 p.m., 30.000. Mean 29.992; highest 30.446 on 12th, lowest 29.226 on 22nd; range 1.22, greatest range between two days 0.609. *Temperature*: Mean at 6 a.m., 23°.08, 10 a.m., 29°.42, 2 p.m., 32°.68, 6 p.m., 30°.08, 10 p.m., 27.38; highest 46° on 27th, lowest, —7° on 2nd; range 53°. Greatest daily range 26°, mean daily range 10°.8. Warmest day 17th, mean 38°.7; coldest, 2nd, mean 0°.3. Monthly mean 1°.81 above 1867, but slightly below average of 8 years. *Tension of vapour*: Mean at 8 a.m., .123, 2 p.m., .157, 10 p.m., .132, mean .137. *Humidity*: Mean at 8 a.m., .81, 2 p.m., .80, 10 p.m., .84, mean, .81.7. Wind E to SW 15 days, and W to NE 16 days, 5 days southerly weather; force 8 a.m., 1.8, 2 a.m., 2.1, 10 p.m., 1.6. *Rain and Snow*: 6 days, 3 nights, 13 inches snow 2.038 inches rain. *Sky*: Clear 14 days at 2 p.m., and wholly clouded 14 days; at 10 p.m., 15 nights clear, and 14 wholly clouded. At same hours, 4 days and 3 nights were foggy, and mean estimated clouding over 5. *Aurora* visible 5 nights.

VII. Miscellaneous Readings.

1. KEEP THE BIRTHDAYS.

Keep the birth-days religiously. They belong exclusively to, and are treasured among, the sweetest memories at home. Do not let anything prevent some token, be it ever so light, to show

that it is remembered. Birthdays are great, even to children. For one day they feel that they are heroes. The special pudding is made expressly for them; a new jacket or trousers with pockets, or the first pair of boots, are donned; and big brothers and sisters sink into insignificance beside "six to-day," and is soon "going to be a man." Fathers who have half a dozen little ones to care for are apt to neglect birth-days: they come too often, sometimes when they are busy, and sometimes when they are "nervous;" but if they only know how much such souvenirs are cherished by the children, years after, they would never permit any cause to step between them and a parent's privilege.

2. SHOOTING AT PRINCE ALFRED AT SYDNEY.

Since his arrival in the Australian colonies Prince, Alfred in pursuance, probably, of instructions from home, has adopted a course of conduct singularly well fitted to win the attachment of the people. Instead of hedging himself round with courtly formalities, he has mingled in the freest possible manner with the colonists, and has behaved so very much like a man dependent wholly upon popular favor as to excite no little surprise. He has allowed himself to be approached by almost any one who was decently dressed. For some time efforts had been made to establish a permanent institution at Sydney, to be known as the Sailors' Home, for the benefit of distressed seamen. It was at length determined to endeavor to raise the necessary funds by a pic-nic, and the presence of the Prince was secured to lend *clat* and tone to the affair, and of course to enable the managers to dispose more readily of their tickets. Everything up to the time of the attempted assassination went off admirably; and the tickets sold like wildfire. The spot selected for the pic-nic was one of the most charming and lovely to be found in any part of Sydney harbor. The Prince arrived in a special steamer, and the people cheered lustily, while the Prince smiled and bowed his thanks, upon landing he was conducted to the luncheon tent, where he partook of some refreshments. Leaving the tent, the Prince led Lady Belmore to a special pavilion which had been erected for the ladies, and then sauntered away with Sir William Manning (an old resident of Sydney) to enjoy walk about the grounds. As he went along he met a gentleman named Allen, with whom he shook hands and chatted for a few moments, and then handed an envelope to Sir William Manning, saying that it contained a donation to the Sailor's Home.

Scarcely had he finished speaking, when O'Farrell, was observed to run quickly across to where he was standing and fired with a revolver, at the Prince, who immediately fell forward. Sir William Manning turning hastily round upon hearing the report of the revolver, and seeing that the man who had just fired had pointed his weapon towards him (Sir W. Manning) he stooped to get out of the line of fire and in doing so fell. This time the revolver snapped, and while O'Farrell was again levelling his pistol at the Prince, a gentleman named Vial, who had witnessed the whole occurrence, ran up and pinioned his arms to his body, thus changing the direction of the weapon, which however, exploded, the bullet hitting a Mr. Thorne in the foot.

Meanwhile the Prince had been raised from the ground and conveyed to his private tent. He was evidently in great pain, and once or twice asked the gentlemen who were bearing him along to carry him more slowly and gently. Although very weak from loss of blood he did not become unconscious, and noticing that the people crowded around the tent he desired a gentleman to assure them that "he was not much hurt and would be better presently."

Shortly afterwards the Prince was borne on a litter by the sailors to the *Morpeth*, a solemn silence being preserved by the people, who stood on either sides as the cortage passed. When the *Morpeth* arrived at Farm Core a barge from the *Galatea* came along side to bear the Royal sufferer to the shore. The Prince who was laying upon a stretcher, with a soft mattress under him, and his head supported by pillows, was lowered into his barge which was manned by his own sailors. He was then conveyed to the city and thence to the government house.

Immediately after the outrage meetings were held all over the Colony and addresses of condolence were sent to the Prince from the Municipal bodies Foreign Residents, (including the Chinese) &c. In these addresses the Prince returned the following reply:—March 19th.—"I have received with sincere satisfaction these numerous addresses, and desire to return my warm thanks for the expressions of sympathy which they contain. The cowardly act of one individual has not in any degree shaken my confidence in the loyalty of the people in this Colony towards the throne and person of Her Majesty, or in their affection for myself; and I shall gladly convey to the Queen the universal expression of horror and indignation which the attempt to assassinate me has called forth from Her Majesty's faithful subjects in Australia.

ALFRED."

At a large meeting held in Sydney, expressive of gratitude for