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	per inch.	half col.	Full column.
1st insertion	\$1 00	54 00	86 00
Subsequent	50	2 00	3 00
Per month	2 10	9 10	13 00
Per quarter	5 80	24 00	36 00
Per half year	10 00	40 00	60 00
Per year	17 00	60 00	91 00

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St. John, N. B.

The Torch will be for sale at the following places:

H. R. SMITH, Charlotte street;
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Single Copies—Two Cents.

TORCH.

JOSEPH S. KNOWLES,..... Editor.

ST. JOHN, N. B., MARCH 9, 1878.

THE NEW ALARM BELL was tested with unsatisfactory results, on Thursday evening.

MR. J. HOWE ALLEN opposes Mr. Gleeson for the Councillorship of Prince Ward.

THE HARBOUR COMMISSION delegates do not appear to have accomplished much. They are expected home next week.

THE UNITED STATES Congressmen, who passed the Repudiation Silver Bill, ought to be paid for their services with the 90 cent dollars.

THE Torch-light comes to us from Oxford, N. C. It strives to shine with steady flame, reserving its extra blazes to scorch Republicans.

DEXTER SMITH's for March contains: "Secret Love," a lively gavotte, by Johanna Resch; "Star of my Life," a serenade from "Alhambra"—the words by Dexter Smith, and the music by Woolson Morse; and the anthem, "The Earth is the Lord's." The other departments are all up to the mark.

LAW AND GOSPEL are arranged against each other, at the present Circuit for King's County, represented respectively by Mr. Wm. Pugsley and Rev. Mr. Woodman, Rector of the Episcopal Church at Westfield. The lawyer says the Parson slandered him. A special jury are to decide the matter.

BURGLARY.—Peter Ogden, the colored gentleman, who broke into Mr. Alden's house at Nauwigewauk, and stole a large sum of money, has been sentenced to 15 years in the Penitentiary. This is a long sentence, yet we understand the prisoner is quite willing to decline it. He is not good at parsing either.

It must be awful easy for a wooden headed man to get his hair shingled. [Detroit Free Press.

What part of the head should be shingled? The roof of the mouth of course.

A Salmon has been chosen chief engineer of the Port Henry fire department. Mr. Salmon ought to make a good of-fish-al. [Whitehall Times.

It would probably depend upon whose souse was on fire.

In spite of the Temperance movement money has been as tight as ever it was. [Summerside Journal.

Too many draughts perhaps. Or is it caused by a run on the McKenzie Banks?

ALBERTON, P. E. I., makes known its views and tells its news to the world through the columns of the Pioneer, a first-class weekly, of which Mr. J. L. Mackinnon is editor and proprietor.

Ed. Manning, Esq., the P. E. Island Superintendent of Education, delivered a lecture on "The Spirit of the Age," at Mount Stewart. The Patriot says, "The lecture was scholarly, chaste, eloquent and practical." Mr. Manning's numerous friends in St. John will be pleased to hear of his success on the platform.

The concert given by the Reform Club on Friday evening last was well attended. Mr. Teed's singing took immensely. His rendition of "Rock me to sleep" was excellent. R. T. Holman's reading was also rendered in a manner that would do a professional no discredit. The concert on the whole was one of the best ever given by the Reform Club. To-morrow evening the Rev. Theo. Ritchie lectures under the auspices of the Club. [Summerside Jour'l.

We congratulate friend "Harry" on his success as a "singer," especially in such a good cause.

BENGOUGH, caricatured and lectured for the Carletonians, at the City Hall, on Tuesday night last. The Algerines seemed much tickled by the jokes and pictures, and rewarded the lecturer with laughter and applause, as the various local celebrities appeared on Mr. Bengough's magic easel. Few people can so easily banish care, for an evening, as Grip's genial cartoonist.

THE CONCERT given by our local colored vocalists, at the Institute, was well attended and was, in a musical point of view, a great success. Miss Carrie Young, who has a voice of great sweetness and good compass, was loudly applauded in her solos. Mr. Hawkins, a popular favorite, sang "The Three Fishers" and "Rocked in the Cradle of the Deep," in first-class style. Miss Patterson played a piano solo, showing a delicacy of touch and a brilliancy of execution rarely seen among performers of more pretensions. Mr. Washington, the conductor, deserves credit, for the admirable manner in which he carried out the arrangements; and Mrs. Hartt merits a word of praise for her artistic accompaniments. The Concert would bear repetition.

Mrs. Mangle Wordswell, speaking of her children, says she doesn't know whether she prefers a buoyant gal or a gallant boy.

PITHY PERSONALS.

Olive Logan says: "Mr. James Gordon Bennett is now reported to be engaged to a brilliant French countess, of old family and large possessions."

Daniel Lambert, of West Farmington, aged 90 years, committed suicide by hanging Tuesday. Cause unknown.

Jubilee Gilmore sails for Europe with his band next May, for the purpose of giving concerts.

Albert D. Brown, of Princeton, N. J., has paid \$10,000 in settlement for the seduction of Alice Noice, the "gardener's pretty daughter."

At John Murray's benefit in Lewiston he was presented with a gold watch and chain and a receipted bill for the use of the hall on the benefit night—all the gift of the proprietors of Music Hall.

William Workman of Montreal leaves property valued at \$600,000. About two-thirds is bequeathed to public charities.

The N. Y. Herald's obituary of Pope Pius IX. was written five years ago by Mme. Mundt, better known as Louisa Muhlbach.

A lady in Lowell owns the original MS. of Poe's poem, "The Bells."

Elizabeth Stuart Phelps is soon to deliver her lecture upon George Eliot before the Rhode Island Woman's Club, in Providence. Gail Hamilton should be presented with a complimentary ticket.

Mr. Edmund Chase, 93 years old, the oldest Mason in the United States, is very sick at his residence in Minot. He was made a Mason of St. John's Lodge, Newburyport, Mass., in December, 1808, thus making him a Mason for seventy years.

Says the Chicago Herald: "Annie Louise Cary, ever popular though she is, should remember that there is such a thing as 'guying' on the stage entirely too much. In the abundance of her good nature, she is inclined to frolic on the stage a trifle more than is absolutely necessary."

The Gazette says Col. Morrill of Dexter has been offered \$3000 for his trotter "Camors."

Kate Claxton, the well known actress, has gone into voluntary bankruptcy under her real name, Kate E. Lyon, before a register in bankruptcy and a warrant for her adjudication has been issued.

At Oakland, Cal., Saturday, Dr. Carver with a rifle broke 885 glass balls out of 1000 tossed from a point thirty feet distant. Time, including all stoppages, 3 hours, 3 minutes.

STAGE SPARKS.

Blind Tom is in Texas.

Modjeska is a Polish Jewess, and is 42.

"Master" Coker has made a fine operatic debut in Italy.

Manager Chas. H. Thayer is preparing to take several strong stars over his New England Circuit.

Cowper's Comedy Company made a failure in the Provinces, and no wonder!

Maggie Morrison is the right name of Clara Morris.

Rachel Noah has joined Booth's company.

Marie Roze says she considers Patti to be the best soprano, and Cary the best contralto, in the world.

Who says a woman cannot keep a secret? Betty Rigi has been married three years and didn't tell anybody of it.—Dexter Smith.

Here's a Savory bit of news. Miss Ida Savory has returned to the stage again. [Porepine.