

LOCAL NEWS.

RATHER OVERWORKED.—The blacksmiths shops have been rushing this week, and the shops have been kept hard at work every day. The record given last week has been beaten, one firm shoeing close upon two hundred pair.

LOCAL MUSICIANS.—The Marysville cornet band is giving some entertaining rehearsals in view of the rink concerts at that place this season. David Little, of the R. S. I. band is the latest addition to this bright little company of local musicians.

REBUILDING HIS MILL.—The mill at Kingsclear, owned by Charles Chase, has been nearly rebuilt by Nehemiah Curry. The engine and boiler houses are completed, all the frame work erected, and should the weather permit, the work will be finished in a few days.

MAKING THINGS HUM.—The new captain of the Salvation army in this city is making things hum. The spectacle of religious enthusiasts marching behind a military of this bitter weather is interesting, and as an exhibition of holy zeal peculiar in his choice of penance.

A SCHOOL ENGINEER.—Fred P. Robinson, C. E. of Nashwahegan, who left here last spring to take a position on the great falls, Montana, has accepted a permanent position in Virginia. Fred was engaged on the ship railway last year and his rise has been rapid.

AN ELECTRIC LIGHT FIRE.—On Thursday evening last, the box connecting with the electric wires in front of Chestnut's drug store became ignited, in consequence of the insulating material becoming heated on the wires. The current was turned off at the main, and the light disaster remedied.

A PARLOR CONCERT.—A bright little concert by children was given on Friday evening at Mrs. Massey's residence on George street. The program was full of surprises, and the way the little ones acquitted themselves was wonderful. The proceeds, \$8.00, will be donated to the young memorial fund.

MADE HIS ESCAPE.—Private McLean, of the R. S. I., of the officer's servant who had his exit by striking his guard with a bottle over the head, has not yet been captured. He came here from "B" battery at Quebec, and was engaged to be married to an Irish girl who followed him here to this city.

PROPERTY BOUGHT.—The Glenendening farm near Marysville, which has been in the market since the death of the late owner, has been purchased by Jas. Boyd late of the Canada Eastern railway. Oshur White of Oshur succeeds to the vacant station agency caused by the retirement of Mr. Boyd.

A GOSPEL SERVICE.—The ladies of the F. C. Baptist church intend holding a gospel supper and dance at Keswick on Wednesday next. The proceeds will go to aid the improvement fund of the church. Everything will be done to make intending visitors comfortable, and a pleasant musical program has been prepared.

BURIAL PERMITS.—The record for the month of November shows a total of nine deaths from the following causes: consumption 2; inward convulsions 1; premature birth 1; inflammation bowels 1; congestion of brain 1; typhoid fever 1; apoplexy 1; and cancer 1. The health of the city continues good.

THE WOMEN'S AN UNION.—A large assembly of church workers attended the meeting of the women's aid union in church hall on Wednesday afternoon. Mrs. Medley occupied the chair, and an interesting address by the Rev. C. H. Parkinson of St. Mary's, on the work of the union, was listened to with great attention.

UNIVERSITY MATTERS.—E. H. Wilnot complains of ungentlemanly conduct on the part of the university students, and states that their misconduct will put a stop to contemplated benefactions on his part. According to that gentleman the students evidently ought to apologize for existing at all. They certainly will not look a horse gift in the mouth.

THE RIVER.—There has been splendid skating on the river this week and hundreds have enjoyed the pleasant glide across the ice. There was a fair sprinkling of the gentler sex at St. Mary's, the exercise bringing a glow to the cheeks, and a sparkle in the eye that was irresistible. Counting on the ice, as Dickens puts it, is by no means a cold proceeding.

AN OMAN DISPUTE.—There has been a dispute among a certain presbyterian congregation on the S. W. Miramichi respecting the desirability of adding an organ to accompany the singing in church. Old fashioned prejudices, however, have had to give way, and two gentlemen from the country were in the city to-day hunting round for a real live instrument.

STAR CORRECTION.—The following officers were elected at the monthly meeting of the star council on Monday evening: E. Ashford, select council; B. Morton, vice-council; K. L. Phillips, chap; F. E. Blackmer, sec; Miss A. Mitchell, rec. R. S. Ogden, finance sec; R. R. Carvell, treas; F. S. Creed, herald; A. Thompson, guard; H. Ashford, sent; and Wm. McFarlane, past S. C.

COLLEGE SOCIETY.—The ladies celebrated last long year in commemoration of their patron saint on Monday evening last at the Barker house, Dan Hassack of Stanley, giving a "squirrillididdle" in first class style on the pipes. T. Nesbitt, the acting secretary was presented with a handsome marble clock, and "tullohogran" with a "dochandroch" wound up a "real" good time.

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CHURCH CONVENTION.—The new church at Nelson near the bridge crossing the south west Miramichi was consecrated on Sunday morning last by Bishop Stanley. The church was filled to overflowing, and his lordship delivered an instructive sermon from the text "And the Lord whom ye seek shall suddenly come to his temple." On Monday the Bishop proceeded northward to Campbellton and Dalhousie where confirmation was held.

VERY DESTRUCTIVE.—The approach in front of the house on York street, near Edgecombe's carriage works is very deceptive especially in the dark. Two young men of the town on Thursday evening last managed to scrape acquaintance with this location. The sidewalk was in a treacherous state, and the way those young men clutched at the air and rolled over one another was immense. It beat all the sport on the river, but the boys will keep nearer to the river in future.

TRUCKS OUT DURING RECESS.—There has been considerable comment among the parents of the school children regarding the action of the teachers in turning the scholars out to play during this bitterly cold weather. With the thermometer at sixteen below on Tuesday last, several of the little ones suffered intensely during recess, not having the bustling tendencies of their older companions. It is to be hoped that some steps will be taken in the interests of the young scholars, particularly during the cold weather.

WOULD HAVE LIVED LONGER

An amusing local incident founded on fact. The Herald reporter, one breezy-sixteen-year-old morning, dropped into an office for the purpose of determining whether there was anything "new and fresh" upon the minds of mortals. The wood was cracking merrily in the stove, and a rosy-cheeked gentleman was cracking reminiscences. The narrator's style was irresistibly quaint and humorous, the beaming eye, the half wink, the sagacious nod spoke volumes, much to the satisfaction of the all-devouring reporter. The following little sparkle from the rascal of that gentleman's meanderings is presented, names and places of course being suppressed. The incident happened about a month ago, and the facts can be verified.

A town not very far from the celestial, has at the present moment a vigorous old party, who rejoices in the proud appellation of centenarian, and is in complete possession of all his faculties. He is talkative, happy, and recherche in his style, taking great stock in men and manners. This loquacious old gentleman had a relative in whom he was considerably interested. A few weeks since the young man was taken very sick, and a popular doctor of the place sent for, who found it imperative to stay all night in the house, and attend to the wants of his patient. Accordingly the doctor made himself as comfortable as possible under the circumstances, and after sitting up for some time, concluded to have a whiff at the fragrant pipe in an adjoining room, which he was joined by the centenarian. Pulling out his smoking apparatus, pipe, tobacco, and matches, the doctor was soon enjoying the balmy narcotic, the proceedings being watched by the centenarian, who was very much interested. With much satisfaction the old man squatted himself down beside bolus, produced his pipe, and soon the two were puff, puff, puffing away.

"Arrah now!" (puff) "Docther dear!" "Well really I don't know!" responded the doctor "certainly not injurious if indulged in lightly."

The old man heaved a sigh, then fixing his eyes upon the doctor, said gloomily: "Ah! well, docther dear if I hadn't used tobacco as I have don't ye think I should have lived longer?"

The speaker was one hundred and one years old. What the "docther" said is not recorded. Fact!

Death of Mrs. Bridges.—On Sunday morning last Mrs. J. H. Bridges, wife of Dr. Bridges, of St. Mary's, was found lying dead in her bed. The family had attended divine service as usual at the Kirk, and on their return home at about twenty minutes past eight, found deceased in her chamber, stretched unconscious on the bed, her right hand extended towards a bottle upon the table. This it was strongly suspected contained strychnine, which may have been used as an opiate, deceased having complained of sleeplessness and neuralgia.

On Monday morning Dr. Coulthard held an inquest at St. Mary's, when a jury of the following gentlemen was empanelled: John Staples, Winslow Tilley, L. Inch, Wm. Jeffrey, Rev. D. W. Manzer, and S. Dayton, foreman. Dr. and Mrs. Bridges were examined and from their evidence it appeared that deceased was in good health and spirits Sunday evening. She had performed her household duties in the usual way. Her husband noticed nothing strange about her, and was in her usual health before the witness departed for the Kirk.

After the inquest Dr. Coulthard and Coburn proceeded to hold a post mortem examination of the body, and as a result the jury on Tuesday afternoon last returned a verdict to the effect that the death had been caused by strychnine, which had been taken by deceased while in a fit of despondency.

The affair caused great excitement at St. Mary's, and on Wednesday afternoon, Mrs. Medley was largely attended. The Rev. A. J. Mowatt performed the ceremony at the residence of the deceased. The remains were afterwards removed to Upper Gagetown, and interred in the Baptist cemetery at that place.

Police Intelligence.—Jeffrey the umbrella mender has been making things lively at Moncton. He was imprisoned for drunkenness in that town last week and only released on condition that he had been sober, and had no money to pay. There are several people in this place who would like to hear from that slippery individual, people who have been swindled out of money, clothes, and umbrellas.

Chief of police Clark, of St. John, arrived in this city on Saturday last, when the man arrested for forgery as reported last week was identified as George Booth, residing at North St. John. Besides forging last week on the ice, as Dickens puts it, is by no means a cold proceeding.

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SCHOLASTIC AFFAIRS

Important Meeting of the School Committee with the Trustees. On Thursday evening the school committee of the city council met to discuss the important question of the receipts and expenditure for the past year. Mr. Ritchey, chairman, in his opening remarks, spoke of the conditions of the finances, that since 1886 the increase in the debit balance had been seriously noticed by the council, and that as perhaps some explanation might be forthcoming from the trustees this meeting had been called.

Mr. Randolph said it was a matter of gratification to himself to have this opportunity of speaking upon this important question. The amount, when properly collected, was ample, and sufficient to meet all requirements, and to maintain the schools in an efficient condition. But the amount was never collected, and for some years there was a deficit of over one thousand dollars. The expense had about reached the limit, but as there was a large sum to be collected, it could not of course be paid. Moncton could not compare with Fredericton, but her yearly expenses were greater than this city.

The question of a new building on York street was also discussed, and the legislature was asked to issue the necessary debentures.

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GAUGING ITS STRENGTH.

How he Walked Over the Course but "Died" with his Feet. There was considerable excitement on Queen street, two days ago. Men were seen running down the Queen street extension, and the cries of a man in the river brought a busy bustling crowd to the bridge. But it was a five minutes touch-and-go affair, the fun was soon over, and the dripping adventurer was quickly a new man. Then it was a matter of the boys' up-the facts in a warm bundle of pleasure. It appears that a member of the customs department had sold, very decidedly, that afternoon. He maintained that a certain air-hole in the ice could be crossed without any tribulation, and that his argument would bear any amount of weight at the time. Well, money was posted, and the boys too, to a certain box of observation where they could witness the fun.

Down to the side of the front-bound St. John went the airy official, he had a will, there was the way, and where manna leads on, there he would conquer. The air hole was reached but all deceitful appearance collapsed under the pressure of the man's weight. The man's body had a fearful ducking. George Miles who had the spot in his eye (a tear drop we mean) threw out his basty rope and with a cry of "hold on!" brought the adventurer to the landing stage at this stage, we will leave him. Moral: Don't throw away money on air but invest in a solid concern.

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OUR XMAS ADVERTISERS.

Some of the Attractions at the Principal City Stores. Winter has come in with a bang and already the city has assumed its winter garb. The stores are beginning to sparkle and glow with Xmas novelties, and our advertisers have done their work well. The following is a list of the principal attractions:

Xmas in The Air. Notwithstanding the prevailing cold and gloom there is in the air, if you want to be jolly this winter you must get reasonable comforts. They are all ready for you at W. R. Logan's, every requisite necessary for a good old fashioned winter gathering.

They Call Again. Visitors rarely forget to call at Lucy & Co's store of Queen and York streets, when once they call they call again. The quality of the goods sold at popular prices, is the secret of this success. The stock is most complete, and there are some very fine bargains for Xmas.

Useful Xmas Presents. At this merry season of the year a present elegant and useful commands attention. Adams Bros. have now in stock a fine assortment of table sets, brackets, and book racks, suitable for Xmas gifts. Their solid oak chair upholstered in plush is a bargain. Also parlour suits, chamber sets, and cabinet novelties in neat and attractive designs. Call and inspect these goods.

What a Week It Is. Yes, and those who are of the whirled, whirlied, can get all they want at Neill's hardware store. Those same skates will do the business for you. And the bitter-ness of this cold would succumb rapidly to the warm experience of the Currys when you put on, and the best thing you can do is to make a pair of Neill's skates. The notes of admiration will come afterwards.

Have You Seen It. Seen what? Why the best show case in the city, replete with every novelty for the season? If you should pop in at McMurray's book store, where you can see the finest specialties in leather, plush, and metal goods. A regular bonanza of toys on the second floor, the list is long, and some very desirable treasures too. There are pianos and sewing machines are marked down to popular prices. Don't forget to call at McMurray's book store, order a book and book your order.

Santa Claus. Where has the jovial old gentleman been? Why to Leonard and Sons, where he has left a large sackful of English and continental goods. Santa Claus is always popular and he has left his popular prizes behind at this establishment, also sixty sets of china and earthenware, and has dropped a line, yes, a special line of individual cups, saucers, plates, after dinner coffee and tea sets. Oh! he is a designing old boy, and always makes a fine display. Come and see the designs and the display. You will never forget it.

Seasonable Goods. The jingle of the bells remind one of the approaching festivities. The thermometer warns us that it is time to be up and away, for a breezy spin in the air. At this season it would be as well to invest in one of those stylish fur coats for gentlemen at McMurray's, and for ladies at Queen street. Neill's and Davis store on Queen street. The ladies fur lined cloaks and Astrakhan jackets are bargains. Then you will want some of those fancy gloves and mitts. Having selected your high roles and horse blankets, you will then be ready to take that spin in the air, and to sleigh time.

Just The Very Thing. You don't believe this do you? But it is true nevertheless, a fast thing in the way of furnishing good, ready made clothing and seasonal hats and caps. Just the very thing in boys and youths overcoats and ready made clothing at cost. "Why," said the gentleman on Queen street the other day, "it's just the thing for the boys," and in went father and in went the boys to see T. W. Smith, who gave the latter this in no time. Patrons found the custom tailor a specialty, just the thing also, and felt happy, for a thing of beauty is a joy forever. So don't forget to call on T. W. Smith this Xmas, and you will be sure to hit on the very thing you require.

Gospel Temperance Meeting. A very successful temperance meeting was held in York street hall on Sunday evening last. W. D. Crawford presided, the principal speakers being the Rev. A. J. Mowatt and Edward Jack.

Mr. Jack, who was well received, spoke of the influence of the church work, and contributed to this advancement. Temperance was the development of the refined tendencies of the day, and soon modern methods of the advancement of the church in the natural progress of events would surely come.

The Rev. A. J. Mowatt who was the next speaker, in a carefully prepared address, pointed out the advantages of the modern mission, Christianity and church work, and contributed to this advancement. Temperance was the development of the refined tendencies of the day, and soon modern methods of the advancement of the church in the natural progress of events would surely come.

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