

DARTMOUTH.—Mr. J. W. Allison's name has been very generally mentioned for the office of Mayor of Dartmouth, which becomes vacant in February next. He has, however, positively asserted his inability to accept the office on account of his name being now fully occupied.

Another resident of Dartmouth is tending towards Halifax. Dr. W. F. Smith has taken an office there. He has still, however, an office in Dartmouth. Probably he would desire to live in the middle of the harbor if he could manage it. A pleasant evening was spent at his house on the last evening of the year, when a few of his friends met to give him a good "send off."

There has been about a week's good skating on the Dartmouth Lakes this winter, all told. We are very glad that our Dartmouth skater won the St. John race.

TRURO, N. S.—Miss Calkin is home from Boston for the holidays.

Rev. Mr. and Mrs. McEhmon, arrived last week from Comox, W. T., U. S., to visit friends for a few weeks. While in Truro they will be the guests of John F. Crowe, Esq., and wife, Elm St.

Miss G. Dimock left Truro on Tuesday of this week for a winter's visit in New York, Brooklyn and other American cities. In Brooklyn she will be the guest of Mrs. Carl Von Pustau (nee Miss Muir of Truro). Her brother is a rising man in New York.

YARMOUTH.—The young people are having quite a gay week. They began on Christmas night with a small dance at Mrs. Pelton's. Friday evening they were entertained by Mrs. S. B. Murray, and Monday evening by Mrs. J. W. Bingay.

The fire Saturday night, is the all absorbing topic of conversation just now. Princess block, which was entirely consumed, was the handsomest block in town, the front being almost entirely of plate glass. A full length figure of a woman, presumably the "Princess" stood on the top with hands up-lifted, and when the flames reached her, curling up and wreathing her figure, she seemed invoking Heaven to save her. Almost before we could realize that she was not human, the whole structure fell in. The firemen worked nobly, and but for their almost super-human efforts, a larger part of the town must have gone. When one realizes that the building burnt was sandwiched in between a row of wooden buildings on one side, and a large brick block on the other, it seems a miracle that either of them were saved.

Mrs. J. L. R. Webster gave a Progressive Hearts party Monday evening, which was voted a success by those present. Mr. and Mrs. W. B. Ross were the successful winners of the Ladies' and Gentlemen's first prizes, and Miss Grey and Mr. Henry Killam win the booby prizes.

Miss Agnes Dodds has gone to St. John, to visit at Dr. Holden's

The Hoodman Blind of this play is one Jack Yeullet, a young village blacksmith, whose wife has an unknown half sister who has joined a Gypsy band. The sisters are as like as two peas. One of the villains, who is in love with Yeullet's wife, arranges that the Gypsy sister shall be seen sweet-hearting by Yeullet, who at once believes her to be his wife. On his jealousy and suspicion of his wife, hinge the action of the play. Of course other side lights are shown, including the customary murder of an old man in order to secure his papers: And moreover, of course, all is eventually put right in the last act.

During the progress of the play a novel plan of treatment to secure resuscitation of an apparently drowned woman was shown. It consisted of the hero placing his arms around her neck, and in varying tones of voice addressing her as "Nann," whilst her real name was "Jess." That plan was only partially successful. It had the effect of recalling the woman to a semi-conscious state for a few moments, after which she quickly passed away.

Jack Yeullet was played by Mr. Jas. L. Edwards. Mr. Edwards does not appear to be able to sink his individuality in the character plays. This has been noticeable in each and all of the productions in which he has played here. He has many mannerisms—their never vary, no matter what character he assumes. Mr. Lytell's "Ben Chubbless" was very like his Tom Dossiter in *Harbour Lights*, but it was a breezy and pleasing performance however. Mark Lezzard was an undeniable villain, almost ludicrously so. Kridge was only remarkable for the peculiar way he had of rubbing his hands together. As for the innkeeper, he was altogether too much in evidence.

To Miss Laura Alberta was allotted the dual role of Jess and Nann, the half sisters. She well maintained the differences between the two characters, shewing to a better advantage in the Gypsy part, though she played with true feeling as Yeullet's wife. Granny Quodding was a good representation of that stamp of garrulous old woman seen only on the stage. As the lame boy Miss Celeste did well, whilst the very natural acting of her "pup" was not to be despised.

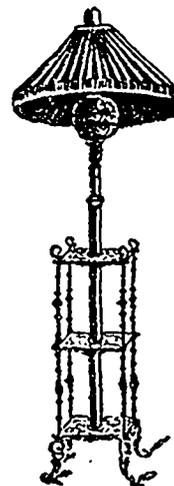
The performance on the whole went well, for the play is one of strong construction; but it might be pointed out that *Hoodman Blind* when played by Wilson Barrett, Miss Eastlake and company was not nearly so boisterous and noisy as it was on Monday night. Forcible acting is not quite the same thing as shouting and ranting.

JUNIOR IRVING.

Theatrical and Musical.

Would it not be a good plan if the titles of the music performed at the Academy by the orchestra were to be given in the programme? The hint is thrown out for what it is worth.

An average house was seen in the Academy on Monday on the occasion of the return of the Lytell Company after their visit to the rival city. *Hoodman Blind*, written by Wilson Barrett and Henry Arthur Jones, formed the bill. The advertised time of starting was 8 o'clock, but it was 25 minutes after that hour before the orchestra took their seats, being greeted with loud applause by an audience that was just beginning to show the slightest signs of impatience.



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