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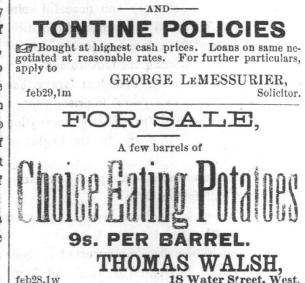
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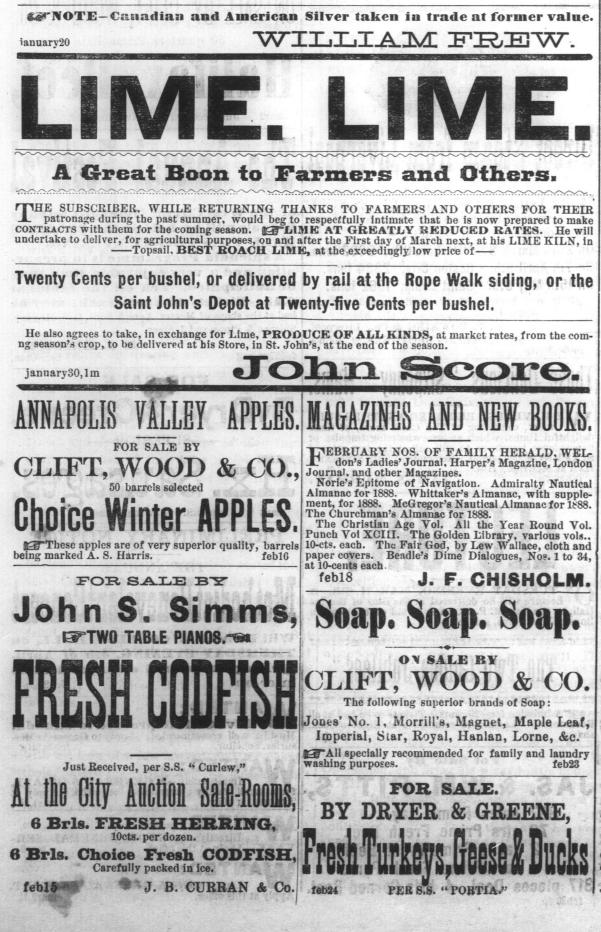
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of the magic country, waiting for Christian I must begin by declaring that many towns need mariners to come along that they might feast more than they have and not "e misunderstood off their carcases, and make merry with their as an enemy of clubs altogether. But for the souls. There was no limit to marine human credulity, and the first voyage of Columbus abounds in illustrations of it. The most remarkable, indeed, of his minor achievements was the control he acquired over his people when they had floated out of sight of land, and were beginning to vary their Salve Reginas, lot and place." their Aves, and their Litanies with mutinous

murmurings against the impracticability of the scheme, and with yearning glances into the North and East, where stood their old home, the only actual thing their minds could find to hold on to. Their terrified eyes found portents and dire omens in the veriest commonplaces. The sight of a meteor sent them to prayers. the movement of a long swell running through a glassy sea without a breath of air to wrinkle it terrified them with imaginations of an enchanted ocean. There was the variation of the compass, too, to increase the general bewilderment and to sharpen doubts of unearthly influences into convictions. Yet this was not all. The superstitious fears

of the sailor of Columbus are to be supplemented by the inadequacy of the nautical appliances of that day. The height of the sun was to be measured by the astrolabe; but here were the three little ships steering westward into sheer visionary distance, with nothing beyond, if the conclusions of the haughty, vigilant, sleepless Genoese should prove with out foundation. And what should a degree of longitude signify to a crew who had nothing but a line and a sandglass to measure it with : Nervous and full of ludicrous misgivings as were the crew, yet a correct estimate of this wonderful first voyage can certainly not leave the mind empty of admiration for them. Such courage as they exhibited is overshadowed, dwarfed into insignificance, by the superb selfconfidence, by the heaven-inspired faith in his own convictions, of their mighty captain. His men were without his enthusiasm to support them, they had embarked on what was unquestionably to them a very eccentric voyage, and, though their hearts often failed them, yet in the end they discovered spirit enough to furnish a glorious fulfilment to the hopes and expectations of Columbus. The great navigator's first expedition was made in three ships. Their size has been variously represented, but, ousiness. The quiet home life was reduced though the subject has been frequently disto a fragment of time; I wonder if this is not cussed, it has never been satisfactorily settled.

most part we have got the idea of organization so thoroughly into our minds, the value of joining what one person has learned or can think to do with what another person knows or plans or does, that we have to guard against what oldfashioned people call " not standing in our own The clubs are good for us, just so far as they help us as individuals to grow and become as valuable as we can be to ourselves, our families, and the town and country where we live. There

is an undoubted value of the club as a club, but this depends of course upon the value of the persons of whom the club is formed. And sometimes, perhaps always, we can develop ourselves better alone, from the outcome of our own thought, than in the best of company. Growing wiser and more able to do our work does not invariably depend upon the stimulus we get from others, even from those who seem to be climbing the same hill and aiming at the same mark.

I know two or three girls who live in a large, wide-awake town where there is a fine school, and the teachers, of course, and all the studying that goes on, gives an intellectual tone to society in general. There are some book-clubs and reading-clubs, of course there are clubs for discussion of the topics of the day, and, besides this, sewing societies connected with the churches, and benevolent associations to which my young friends give a good proportion of their time. But I was startled to find they also had not only a theatrical club and a boat club and a French club and a walking club, bat a picnic club, and that they seemed to have almost no personal existence. And after a few days of listening I heard one dear girl deplore her lack of time for practicing, though she has a remarkable gift for music, and if left to herself would naturally put it first of all her pursuits. Another dear girl seemed to be neglecting her gift for drawing in the same way, protesting piteously that she hated to be doing nothing but scratching a hasty sketch now and then at one of the club picnics. There was no idleness, for the clubs involved various committees, and these girls were being appealed to and interrupted constantly in the routine or emergencies of so much general

The vessel on which Columbus hoisted his flag so in many other wide-awake towns ?- Sarah -namely, the Santa Maria-is represented as | O. Jewett.





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