

Letter from "The Island."

CHARLOTTETOWN, Sept. 23rd, 1891.

For the time past our little city has been gay. A beautiful day with scarcely a rainy day, gave ample opportunity for out-
society and enjoyment. The greatest event, it is needless to say, was the visit of H. M. S. Canada with its attendant festivities. It arrived on Friday 14th ult. On the following Monday Mrs. Wil-
son was "at home" to a very large number of guests. The enlarged, refurnished and tastefully decorated residence of the Chief Justice was brilliant that evening; the grounds too, being many a cosy nook inviting to a *tete-a-tete* or quiet conversation.

There was a gay party, but at no time could more than two thirds of the ladies present have partners, for the fair sex predominated in the men in this ratio of 90 to 60. But could any one say it was "too much of a good thing"? On Tuesday His Honor the Lieut.-Governor and Mrs. Carvell entertained a number of guests at dinner. The next afternoon Mrs. Malcolm MacLeod was forme at her beautiful place, "Newlands." No finer day ever shined the heart of an anxious hostess, and no more delightful party was ever enjoyed by the society of Charlottetown.

A booth, tastefully decorated with bunting, was erected for dancing near the house, and here old and young danced to the infectious strains of a really good local band. This was only an organizer for the Ball at Government House the same evening. Miss Howes and Miss Howes had been spending part of the summer at Brackley Point, one of our most popular seaside resorts, where the major and his daughter entertained a goodly number of guests on the day following Government House ball. Everything was sumptuously provided, every convenience considered, the natural result—a delightful party. Then the ship sailed and the officers had issued invitations for a dance on board for Friday, but the sea was so rough the hop had to be postponed. For this reason alone the gallant ship returned on the last day of the month, sailing again on the 2nd instant. The number of guests was not large, but all enjoyed themselves. There was evidently a neglect about the lists of guests to be invited, but this and the fact that the music of a local band was not over good did not detract from the success of the good officers' generous entertainment. They left a goodly impression behind them by going out into the ways and highways of the city and compelling all their new friends to a feast well provided and duly honored.

On Sunday, August 23rd, was a fearfully hot day—the temperature in the vicinity of 100 degrees. It was a day to be remembered as the night of the 8th instant, when the terrific storm ploughed its way across the land with a deluge of rain, dealing destruction to life and property. One great satisfaction to a country so largely agricultural as our fair Island, was that no great damage seems to have been done to the harvest, and I may say *en passant* that no crop has failed. A bountiful result has blessed our farmers' every year.

But I am digressing.

Among late entertainments have been a dance at Mrs. Louis Davies', a small card party at Mrs. F. de St. C. Brecken's and a New Year whist party at Mrs. Strickland's. The mention of this lady's name reminds me of the greatest sensation that has disturbed Charlottetown society since the appearance of Tom Trim's offensive booklet—not that the lady in question was the cause of the sensation, for, on the contrary, she was aimed at as the victim of what was probably intended for a practical joke, but one which, as is well known in the case in such matters, is likely to rebound with violence on the ill-fated heads of the would-be jokers.

To be brief—bogus invitations were issued to a number of society people for an "At Home" at Mrs. Strickland's. It was, of course, long before that lady received a reply followed by several orders. Realizing the position, she took prompt steps to prevent a

gathering of those invited. The vulgar joke was the subject of conversation in market place, street, parlor and shop, and suspicion, soon whispered about, attached blame to a certain maiden not yet possessed of her wisdom-teeth and to her visitor, who long ago performed the painful operation of acquiring the same dental apparatus. It is only right that society should put its foot down upon such insults, else the time will come, and that soon, when all invitations must be verbal, or recipients of written invitations must make sure of their genuineness before venturing to accept them.

Now the "Bellerophon" is in port, but her advent does not seem to affect society much. No festivities are as yet spoken of, except what the ship will provide—viz., a review and sham fight in the Park (where, also, the beautiful band of the ship is playing as I write) and a hop to-morrow.

Among the people who have visited us this summer are to be mentioned Mr. and Mrs. Gane and Miss Pippey, of Nyack, N. Y., Mrs. Fred. and Miss Burpee, of St. John, the Misses Murphy (daughters of Senator Murphy, of Montreal,) the Misses McDonald, nieces of Mr. Wm. McDonald, of Montreal, Mrs. George McLeod and Miss Jordan, of Halifax, Mrs. Boulton and Mrs. W. Owen, of Ottawa, and Ven. Archdeacon Jones, of Windsor.

There has been a series of special services conducted by Rev. Mr. Bliss, of Chicago, in the Brick Methodist Church, and now the Rev. Father Huntington, of New York, is holding a mission in St. Peter's Church.

Tennis has been in full swing all summer. At a tournament of ladies' singles Miss Maud Ball carried off the prize—a gold watch chain presented by Judge Young. It must be reported to the credit of the lady who came off second best, that she returned to Judge Young the similar watch chain which he was generous enough to send her, and this because to have accepted the gift would have established a precedent calculated to do away with the satisfaction of winning a game in future. Miss Belle Newberry won much praise for her excellent play during the progress of the game.

The last contest took place on the 19th, when Miss Maude Ball and Mr. L. E. Brecken carried off the prize.

The new Lodge is pretty and very convenient—a comfort and ornament to the Park.

The athletic association gave a grand exhibition last night proving that the association is an established fact, but it would appear that the Philharmonic Society is doomed to an early death through divisions each favoring one or other of three different favourite conductors.

I must now close, else I'll have demanded all your space.

CHARLOTTETOWN.

Are you smoking Nova Scotia manufactured Cigars? If not why not?

"Divat  Regina."

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"The Cuisine is the best of any hotel in the Maritime Provinces."—*Globe*.

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