

THE CASKET.

General News.

A London telegram says that it is expected here that the C. P. R. will declare no dividend for the past last-year, the road not having earned a penny.

It is announced from London that Stanley, the African explorer, is to issue in a few weeks, a book entitled "My Early Travels and Adventures."

British imports from Canada, says a London despatch, declined 25 per cent. in January. The largest decreases were wheat, bacon, cheese, fish and wool. The exports to Canada declined 10 per cent.

John Davison, a Halifax man who had been absent eight years and had just written that he would visit his people, was one of the persons lost in the wreck of the schooner E. P. Dixon at Vineyard Haven in the recent storm.

A fine brigantine, the Nelson Rice, built in 1893, at Weymouth, Digby County, and owned there, went ashore on the Isle of Man on the 21st inst. Her crew, mostly Nova Scotians, were drowned, and the vessel became a total wreck.

A. Underdonk-to-day, says an Ottawa despatch of February 13, signed the contract for the construction of the Lake Simcoe and Balsam Lake division of the "Front Valley canal. The contract contains a stipulation that no aliens shall be employed in the work.

The correspondent of the London Daily News at Constantinople says that the foreign ambassadors in the city have expressed to the Sultan that foreigners have taken alarm at the large number of murders, and other acts of violence committed in the streets.

The distress in Nebraska is very acute. The State committee charged with the distribution of supplies is accused of negligence in its work, as well as of religious and other favoritism in bestowing relief. Last week a blizzard with intense cold added to the hardships of the situation.

One of the victims of the Erie disaster was a young doctor named Albert E. Lockhart, who was returning from Heidelberg, where he had just completed his medical studies. His mother, who is now married in the State of New York, formerly belonged to Moncton, N. B., where his father died a number of years ago.

John Clancy, Parson, Member for North Dublin in the House of Commons on Wednesday last week moved an amendment to the Address declaring that it was time to release Irish prisoners convicted of dynamite outrages. Mr. Asquith, Home Secretary, spoke against it, dwelling upon the atrocious character of those crimes. John Morley, Chief Secretary for Ireland, denied that he had ever held out any promise of amnesty. Clancy's amendment was lost, 259 to 111.

Boston's Public Library.

Boston's new public library is finished. It was open for public inspection last week, and in a few days the regular work of delivery will begin. During the process of erection the exterior of the building called forth much criticism. It is really classical, and forms a striking contrast to the warm coloring of Trinity Museum and the ornate style of Trinity Church, two of its companion buildings in Copple Square. For the interior there has been nothing but praise. At present there are one million books in the stacks and there is space for as many more.

Bates hall is the apartment that has housed all the descriptive writers. It is so grand, so immense and so noble in conception and effect, that it is beyond the limitation of words.

Suffice it to say that it contains about 30,000 reference books placed in cases which line the walls, and which are open to selection by the readers in the hall at the massive yet simple tables which run across the hall.

Opening from this room is the catalogue room, for the exclusive use of the library force, and supplied with 100 or 200 books on bibliography for their use.

At the top of the building are placed the special libraries. Here are the collections on architecture, medicine, congressional and British parliamentary documents, and many more. In the alcoves formed by the book cases are cabinets for art books, and a branch of the delivery railway runs round the galleries.

In smaller rooms opening to one from another, are placed the special collections which have been given to the institutions from time to time. The Boston Library is especially rich in this specialty, and each one is well provided for.

The Barton collection is one of the most famous of them all, and contains invaluable editions of Shakespeare and American poets. Then there is the Lewis collection of Americana, the Old South collection, which contains the old colonial books, which are so valuable, and the Brewster musical collection, containing 2000 operas and technical works of the great masters.

In the Barton room is the statue of Sir Henry Vane, who lost his head at 45 years of age, the second royal governor of Massachusetts. It is the work of MacMonnies, the designer of the famous fountain of the World's fair court of honor.

Other special libraries contained on this floor are the Tinknor, Spanish and Portuguese collection, the Howditch collection of mathematical works, the collection of

presentation copies issued by Pres. John Quincy Adams. One thing up over this floor, the average man might see. That is a room fitted as a photographic gallery, with a skylight. When a man working on a book wishes to get a picture or facsimile from a work contained in the Boston library, he may have it photographed here without taking it out of the building.

There is not a sign of a book in the delivery room.

At one side runs a long and rich counter-like table. Behind it are oak shelving panels. When a visitor wants a book he strikes the slip number on a slip and hands it to the attendant. He in turn hands it to the attendant in an inner room, through the panels. This attendant notes the "stack" which the book is in, and sends it to that particular "stack" through a pneumatic tube. In each "stack," which is but another term for book-room, there are three pneumatic stations, and the slip is delivered at the station nearest that part of the "stack" where the required book is.

When the boy at the stack station finds the book he places it in a car of a railway, which is a duplicate of the endless cable car carriers in the dry goods stores, and switches it on to the right cable, an away goes the book to the room behind the delivery room, in much less time than it takes to write about it—Boston Globe.

The Pilot says:

There is nothing finer on the continent than the new building, the new wing, and the beautiful enclosed court. The genius of St. Gaudens has decorated the stairway with two colossal lions in marble, denoting monuments to the valor of two Massachusetts regiments in the Civil War. Beauty, delicacy, and grandeur are everywhere. The practical value is enhanced by every device, many of them employed only in this building for the accommodation and comfort of the reading public. Boston has just reason to be proud of its public library; there is none better, if there be any as good, in the world.

Feb. 10, 1895.

J. C. C.

Halifax Happenings.

The C. M. B. A. propose holding an "At Home" for themselves and lady friends at their rooms, Barrington St., on Monday, February 25th.

St. Mary's T. A. & B. Society's annual meeting took place Sunday, Feb. 10th. Various reports were handed in, showing the society to be in a flourishing condition and finances in a healthy state. Election of officers proceeded very quietly. There was no opposition to any of the names proposed, and the following officers were elected for the ensuing year by acclamation: President, Rev. E. F. Murphy, D. D.; Vice-President, R. J. M. Mann; Asst. Vice, W. H. Powell; Treasurer, D. Carroll; Secretary, Jos. P. Foley; Asst. Sec., Thos. Griffin; Board of Trustees—F. J. McManus, Chairman, John Pitt, D. P. Sullivan, D. O'Neil, S. S. Squires, J. Trainor, Thos. Chambers, John Dalany, Chairman Room Committee, Thos. Pickles; Secretary do., F. Campbell; Auditors, J. J. H. Powell; Jas. O'Connor, A. Norcotte; Marshall, Wm. Doxney; Messenger, E. Power; Janitor, G. Haganan.

The Mock Parliament will convene on Thursday 21st. Subject for discussion: "Woman Suffrage.—That it is expedient that as soon as possible the women of the Province of Nova Scotia possessing the necessary property qualification should be allowed a voice at the Polls." This is a very interesting subject. The only difficulty appears to be that no married man can be induced to accept a portfolio in the Government, and the unmarried members are too much inclined to give the ladies their way without looking into the merits of the case. They assert that if the ladies say they are going to vote, they (the ladies) will vote; but of course those young men are very incompetent to judge, and later on in life they will admit that if ladies always did what they at various times said they were going to do, they would have done more than can be placed to their credit to-day.

St. Mary's Y. M. Society celebrated its twenty-first birthday on Friday, 15th inst. The 21st annual meeting was held on Sunday, 10th, and election of officers proceeded with. The meeting continued from 2 p. m. to 6 p. m., and was then adjourned for one month. Reports of officers presented in due form showed a membership of 330. During the past three years the society has received and paid out the large amount of \$11,000. A very satisfactory balance still remains on hand, and prospects are brighter for 1895 than they have ever been before. The following is a list of officers for 1895-6, as far as elections have proceeded. The remaining officers will be balloted in next month: Spokesman, Rev. W. J. Foley, D. D.; President, Thomas J. Brown; Vice-President, James P. Flannigan; Assistant Vice President, Richard Saxton; Recording Secretary, Fred W. Smith; Asst. do., Jos. P. Carey; Financial Secretary, Charles Blagden; Asst. do., Thomas Foley; Treasurer, W. B. Maloney; Marshal, J. J. Burns. There was a hot contest for the position of Marshal, which is tacitly considered as a vote for the finest looking man in the society. Mr. Burns' superior charms carried the day.

Humorous.

Father: "Yes, I admit your lover has a good income, but he has very expensive tastes, ve-y." Daughter: "You amaze me, what does he ever want that is so very expensive?" Father: "Well, you, for one thing."

Mr. Gusher (a self-satisfied bore): "I can just tell what the people are thinking of me." Miss Pert: "Indeed! How very unpleasant it must be for you."

"How many ladies have you invited?" "Twenty-five." "But I thought you were going to invite fifty?" "But consider the fashion in sleeves."

Mr. Scripp: "My dear, I don't see how you had this countess' bill passed on you?" Mrs. Scripp: "Well, you don't see me enough of real money to enable me to tell the difference."

Mrs. Benedict: "Now, what would you do, Mr. de Vatch, if you had a baby that cried for the moon?" De Vatch (grimly): "I'd do the next best thing for him, madam; I'd make him stars!"

Lady (widow): "Do you know that my daughter has set her eyes upon you, Herr Muller?" Gentleman (flattered): "Has she, really?" Lady: "Certainly; only to-day she was saying: 'That's the sort of a gentleman I should like for my papa.'"

Just in Time.—A husband who had been out shooting, but who had not been successful, rather than turn home empty-handed, stopped into a shop and purchased a hare. "There, my wife," he said to his wife, on returning home, "you see I'm not so awkward with the gun, after all."

"Let me see." "Isn't it a fine fellow?" "My dear," said the wife, as she carried the animal to her nostrils, and put it down with a grimace, "you were quite right in killing him to-day; to-morrow would have been too late!"

RHEUMATISM CURED IN A DAY.—South American Rheumatic Cure for Rheumatism and Neuralgia radically cures in 1 to 3 days. Its action upon the system is remarkable and mysterious. The first dose greatly benefits. 75 cents. Sold by J. D. Copland.

RELIEF IN SIX HOURS.—Distressing Kidney and bladder diseases relieved in six hours by the "GREAT SOUTH AMERICAN KIDNEY CURE."

Specks in Butter.

In response to an enquiry as to the cause of white specks in butter, Mr. C. P. Goodrich answers in the *Brokers' Gazette*:

A frequent cause of white specks in butter is the cream drying on top so that it does not churn out. These cannot all be washed out, but many of them can be got rid of in working the butter, especially if it is worked a second time. The salt being worked in the first time dissolves many of the specks which are worked out the second time. The second working may be done in from six to twelve hours after the first.

Another cause of white specks is too much milk being skimmed in with the cream. This milk settles to the bottom, and if it is kept too long and gets too sour forms a hard curd which is broken up in churning and remains in the specks. These are prevented by having specks in each butter to strain the cream when putting it into the churn.

I have never known butter that was solidly packed to settle down an "inch or two" in the tub, and do not understand why it should be. It is true that it butters is packed warm, when the temperature is much reduced the butter shrinks to a certain extent, but not "an inch or two."

A better way to prepare butter is to place them over a steam jet for a minute, then fill them with cold water. After an hour empty out the water and sprinkle in the inside of the tub with salt, throwing out all except what sticks to the tub. Then immediately pack in the butter. In this way the tubs do not get out of shape, as they would by soaking a long time, and the hoops are unlikely to burst.

"A Thousand Thanks."—Rev. M. E. Nible, of Whitesville, Ont., writes, July 24th, 1894:—I had suffered indescribable torture for two years or more, that is at times, from dyspepsia. Fearful food and pains in the stomach, pain between shoulders, and sensations as if burnt, and at night in two, in small of back. I dieted, used various medicines, and different doctors' medicine, all to no use. Your K. D. C., third dose, completely relieved me, and four I believe, have cured me. A thousand thanks. I can stay, preach, and do my work now with energy and satisfaction, as of yore."

In sixteen months the great drainage canal of the city of Mexico will be opened. The canal is over thirty miles long, and the tunnel through the mountains six miles. The total cost will have been \$30,000,000, and they have been footing with the thing off and on for 300 years.



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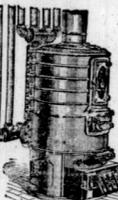
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