

SOCIAL AND PERSONAL.

CALVIN CHAT.

Calvin Chat. Dec. 17.—The social season is at last in full swing, and every evening, the past week, there have been dinners, receptions and dances, with a few teas and luncheons thrown in for the afternoons.

Mrs. Martha Downes' whist party, on Tuesday evening, was a charming success. About 50 ladies were present. The first prize, a silver candlestick and thermometer mounted on silver, were won by Mrs. Mitchell, wife of Hon. James Mitchell, of St. Stephen, and Miss Kate Washburn, of Colais. The progressive prizes, consisting of a Japanese vase and fancy paper knife, were won by Mrs. Sarah Purinton and Miss Carrie Washburn.

AN ENTHUSIASTIC LADY

Talks of What She Saw and Admired in Flood's. "I went into Flood's, yesterday," said a lady to Progress. "Do you wonder that I am here? Well, I am surprised myself, but then, after looking and admiring for hours and buying all I was able to, and I am afraid, much more, I thought of others equally eager to see the beautiful things and regretfully departed.

CHATHAM BRIEFS.

CHATHAM, Dec. 19.—Miss Jennie Devaux, of Bathurst, and Miss Jennie Fitzpatrick, of Campbellton, are visiting their friend, Miss Angie Henry. Miss Louisa Duffy has gone to Fredericton to spend her Christmas vacation.



CHRISTMAS MORNING.

Mr. and Mrs. Frank Woods entertained the Round Table club, Wednesday evening, at one of the pleasantest meetings yet held. An elaborate supper was served at 12, followed by dancing.

Miss MacNichol's rush whist party, Thursday evening, was a most delightful one, it being one of those social affairs in which many of our St. Stephen friends participated. The design for choosing partners was very unique and original. Candy canes tied with various colored ribbons were passed to each of the guests and the gentleman selected the lady carrying the cane of the color corresponding to his. Mrs. Hazel Grimmer, of St. Stephen, was the fortunate lady this time and bore away a handsome silver bon-bon dish, and her partner, Mr. Harry Graham, a very pretty instance. After a sumptuous repast, some fine music added the crowning feature of the evening.

The Browning club will meet with Miss Helen Foster, Friday evening, many new members having been added recently, among whom are Mr. Charles King, formerly of Johns Hopkins university, Baltimore, and Mr. Burton McAllister, of famous Munroe School of oratory.

One of our latest acquisitions in social and business circles will pass the holidays at his home in St. John. "Merry Christmas, Jack."

Miss Emma King will soon leave us for Athens, Georgia, where she will remain for some months with friends.

Miss Kate Washburn is visiting friends on Marlboro street, Boston. I regret to learn that Mrs. E. C. Gates is confined to the house with pneumonia. Invitations have been issued for a musicale to be given at the residence of Mrs. E. T. Lee, Jan. 2.

There are rumors of several dancing parties and numerous merry makings during the holidays. A crystal wedding is also soon to be enjoyed, Mr. and Mrs. W. H. Cole being the most interested couple in the affair.

Miss Clara Barnard left town Saturday morning for sunny Italy, where she will spend the winter months.

Hon. L. G. Downes and daughter took their departure for Boston, Monday morning, for a short visit.

WOODSTOCK WHISPERINGS.

Woodstock, Dec. 20.—Mr. and Mrs. L. F. Fisher intend going to Boston next week for an extended visit.

John E. Stewart, president of the Tobique Valley railway, was in town this week.

Mr. J. S. G. Vanwart, accompanied by Mrs. Vanwart, are visiting a few of their many friends in this vicinity. Mr. Vanwart carried on the dry goods business in Woodstock a number of years ago, and is now prospering in a like occupation in Helena, Mont. They will return to their home in a few weeks. A snow shoe party is talked of for next week.

Miss May Connell, who has been visiting her sister, Mrs. G. E. Fisher, has returned to her home at Woodstock.

Mr. William Murray has accepted a situation with his brother, C. E. Murray, of Woodstock, and leaves tomorrow. Mr. P. McGarrigle was presented by the pupils of school No. 9, of which he has been principal for the last two years, with a handsome dressing case on his retirement from that position. He carries with him the best wishes of the entire community.

Chief Justice Allan was in town last Sunday, the guest of Mr. F. E. Winslow. Mr. Charles Seargent and bride have returned from their wedding tour.

ROMEO.

Beautiful Books.

Among the many beautiful gift books that adorn Mr. Alfred Morrissey's counter are two worthy of special mention. When Europe Illustrated was shown Progress and the representative was asked what it was worth, "I should say five dollars," was the reply. "One dollar and a half," was the astonishing rejoinder. With that information Progress can say that there is no such book in the market for the money. Though standing there but a few minutes, in that time Mr. Morrissey sold three of them. The public is evidently of the same opinion. The illustrations of Europe Illustrated are good, giving a splendid idea of many of those grand old scenes and places so often read about.

Another choice gift book is a beautiful illustrated representation of Marching Through Georgia. Ticknor & Co. could have sent out no more popular holiday book. Every verse of that well known and ringing song is accompanied by a finely executed scene by that thief of nature, Chas. Copeland. Every engraving is beautifully worked out and the book throughout does great credit to the publishers and the artists. Mr. Morrissey has the book for sale and disposes of it for \$1.50.

Well Qualified to Teach.

Miss Lizzie B. Homer has returned to St. John from Dresden, where she has been perfecting herself in instrumental music, under the instruction of some of the best teachers in Europe. She will remain in this city, and will be prepared to receive pupils immediately after the holidays.

Children's Books, Annuals and Bound Books, all kinds, at the Reduced Rates during the Holiday Season, at D. McArthur's, 80 King Street.

Talks of What She Saw and Admired in Flood's.

"I went into Flood's, yesterday," said a lady to Progress. "Do you wonder that I am here? Well, I am surprised myself, but then, after looking and admiring for hours and buying all I was able to, and I am afraid, much more, I thought of others equally eager to see the beautiful things and regretfully departed.

"I do think," she continued, "that St. John people are fortunate. They have with them an establishment which cannot fail to supply every gift wish of the festive season. And what a hold Flood's has on the city at this season. Every [one] asks me, 'Have you been to Flood's?' and I

AFTER FORTY YEARS.

Some of the Sinclair Family Learn Some Facts About Themselves.

There was great excitement among the good folk of the Green of Invermay, Perthshire, Scotland, one day in the year 1818. Peter Sinclair, a stout young blacksmith, 18 years old, had decided to leave the "auld hame" for Canada.

It was a long and weary journey in those days. The voyage in a sailing vessel might take from one to three months. Little was known of Canada by the good people of Invermay, save that it was a cold country, where the Indians abounded, and where some of the adventurous Scots had already established settlements.

So Peter Sinclair bade his friends goodbye, and in due time reached St. John, New Brunswick. He appears to have liked the country, for, two years later, in 1820, his brother John, also a blacksmith, followed him to the new land. They appear to have corresponded with their relatives for some years, but after a time the letters ceased. The old folks were passing away, the young ones formed new ties. The Sinclairs of the old land and the Sinclairs of the new land bade fair to drift apart forever.

All correspondence ceased 40 years ago. John died in 1845, and 30 years later Peter was gathered to his fathers at a ripe old age.

Both of the brothers were married and their families grew up ignorant of the existence of their relatives in Scotland. Their relatives were equally ignorant of them.

Very recently, however, circumstances arose in Scotland which made it necessary to learn if any trace could be found of Peter and John, or their issue, if any. A letter to this effect reached Detective Joseph Sharp last Wednesday week.

Detective Sharp is not a man to lose time in any case, and he started on the case at once. By Wednesday night he had learned more about the Sinclair family than the members of it had known for the last forty years.

Sinclair is not an uncommon name, but only three of the number whose names are found in the directory are connected with the family in question. These are William Sinclair, who follows his ancestor's calling of a blacksmith, and lives at 176 King street, Margaret Elizabeth, who lives on Crown street and David who lives on Stanley street, Portland. These are the surviving children of Peter. John, a stone cutter, Peter, a machinist, another Peter and another Margaret are dead. The present Margaret was born the night the first Margaret died, and the name of the dead child was given to her.

William Sinclair was very much surprised to hear that he had relatives in Scotland. He had supposed they were all dead years ago. They had written to his father and uncle long, long ago, begging them not to stay and "die among the savages," but as the young men did not return time and distance began to separate the branches of the family forever.

Only one of the children of John Sinclair is living. This is Isabelle, who married Mr. Robertson, a tailor, and now lives in Boston. Her sisters, Jane and Margaret, are dead.

John Sinclair, who lives at New Lodge, Stannan, Scotland, will be very glad to hear that he has three cousins living, and that "the savages" are not likely to trouble them.

And Detective Sharpe by his prompt and satisfactory solution of the problem has shown that the grass did not grow under his feet this time any more than in the recovery of the missing Knight lad.

Blown In by the Wind.

Handsome and convenient blotting pads and calendars, with imitation porcelain covers, are sent out with Messrs. W. H. Thorne & Co.'s annual price list.

Two very handsome show-cards came from Messrs. Hunter, Hamilton & McKay. One of them represents "The Two Orphans." As Joe Knowles would say, we don't orphan see more attractive ones.

The useful calendar of the Etina Insurance company has been received from the St. John agents, Messrs. Geo. E. Fairweather & Son.

PEN AND PRESS.

The eight-page holiday number of the Albert Maple Leaf is a creditable production, good to look at and pleasant to read.

The Portland, Maine, Sunday Telegram, which is to that city what Progress is to St. John, was a day behind this paper in time, on the issue of its holiday edition, but neck-and-neck with it for excellence of matter and manner. The Telegram is the best Sunday paper ever printed in Maine, and when, as in this instance, it makes a special effort, the result rejoices the eye and delights the soul.

The prospectus of that sterling daily, the New York Sun, appears elsewhere in this number of Progress. The Sun gives all the news and in such form that the busiest man can find time to read it and take pleasure in the reading. Almost every other paper in the country patterns after it or steals from it and people who want to make sure of "getting the best" periodical literature should see that it visits them every day.

D. McArthur, 80 King street, is selling Ladies' Purse, Albums, Bibles, Church Services, etc. Miscellaneous Stock of all kinds at Special Reductions during the Holiday Season.

SKINNER'S Carpet Warerooms 58 KING STREET.

I have just received from the manufacturers the finest lot of

Turcoman and Chenille Curtains every imported to this city, and at prices that will astonish my customers. THE LOWEST PRICES EVER QUOTED.

A Beautiful Chenille Curtain for \$12 per pair; A Fine Turcoman Curtain for \$6.50 per pair.

A. O. SKINNER.

COME AND SEE THEM.

The Finest Holiday Goods I have ever shown.

Something for Everyone in Search of a Handsome and Useful Christmas Present.

Fancy Goods, Numerous Gift Books, Holiday Souvenirs. COME AND LOOK AT THEM.

ALFRED MORRISEY, 104 KING STREET.

LONDON HOUSE, RETAIL.

Christmas Sale! Special Prices During this Month.

FOR CHRISTMAS GIFTS AND NEW YEAR PRESENTS we offer the best collection of

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NOVELTIES IN LADIES' WINTER OVERCOATINGS, WRAPS, FUR CAPES and BOAS, HOSIERY and GLOVES, RIBBONS and LACES.

London House, - - - - Retail. CHARLOTTE AND UNION STREETS.

Boys' and Girls' Own Annuals; GIFT BOOKS; Photograph and Autograph Albums; POCKET BOOKS; CHURCH SERVICES.

A FULL ASSORTMENT AT

T. H. HALL'S, - - - 46 and 48 King Street HATS. HATS. MANKS & CO.

Would ask the attention of buyers to their Stock of

Men's Fine Felt Hats, OF LATEST STYLES.

BOYS' SCHOOL and DRESS HATS, in Straw, Cloth and Felt—all grades; CHILDREN'S Fine and Low Grades of STRAW SAILOR HATS, MIDDY CAPS, Etc., Etc. And a Full Assortment of ALL GOODS IN THEIR LINE.

57 - - - KING STREET. - - - 57.

ALFRED ISAACS, 69 and 71 King Street,

Wholesale and Retail Dealer in Choice HAVANA and DOMESTIC CIGARS.

A full assortment of CASE BRIAR and MEERSCHAUM PIPES constantly in stock at very low prices. Smoke MUSGO CIGARS.

You Will save Money BY CALLING AT 167 Union Street FOR YOUR BOOTS and SHOES,

Fancy Slippers bottomed and custom work promptly attended to. PRICES LOWER THAN THE LOWEST. S. H. SPILLER.

DELICIOUS HOT COFFEE

CREAM Rowntree's Elect Cocoa, SERVED FROM CHASE & SANBORN'S FAMOUS COFFEE URN.

AT GEORGE ROBERTSON & CO'S, Up-Town Store - - 50 KING STREET.

MENTAL and Physical Exhaustion, Weakened Energy, Consumption, Indigestion, Etc. Universally recommended and prescribed by physicians of all schools.

Its action will harmonize with such stimulants as are necessary to take. It is the best food known, furnishing sustenance to both brain and body. INVIGORATING, STRENGTHENING, HEALTHFUL, STIMULATING.

Put up in 6 and 12 oz. bottles, at 60 cts. and \$1.00, and sold by all druggists throughout the world.

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E. L. WHITTAKER, Resident Secretary.