

THE ACADIAN,

WOLFVILLE, N. S., DEC. 19, 1884

EDITORIAL NOTES.

Before our next issue another Christmas, with all its tender associations and happy reunions, will have become a memory, and we wish to all our readers who have so kindly borne with our short-comings and imperfections, all the joy and happiness that the season usually brings.

The shops have put on their holiday attire, Christmas cards and toys occupy a front seat. The groceries are enough to make one's mouth water, the Christmas goose hangs in an elevated situation. The small girls and boys have forgotten the day of the month and only reckon so many days to Christmas.

While the rich have all the year, we have to remember

"The poor have only Christmas."

Christmas has always been the poor man's festival from the time

-When opened wide the barons hall
To vassal, tenant, serf and all."

When the Great Hall of William Rufus was filled for one week from Christmas day with poor people who were feasted there, and when

"A Christmas gambol oft would cheer
A poor man's soul through half the year."

to the present, the poor have always had a large, if not their full, share of good cheer.

While we are sure that those who have will give of their abundance to comfort their poor neighbors it becomes us, as a practical people, to take practical measures to secure the well-being of those dependent on our care, as a community.

At a recent meeting of the King's County Agricultural Society, and while celebrating with a dinner its ninety-fifth anniversary, the following resolution was unanimously passed:

That this Society through its Secretary requests the Councillors for Horton to use every legitimate means to have but one poor farm for the whole county with provision for the insane paupers.

The scheme suggested by this resolution is not new, but it is a good one, and its being unanimously passed by this Society, which is composed of representative men of all professions, can be taken as a sign of awakened interest in this matter.

The benefits of such a scheme are obvious. At present we have in the County three poor-districts each with their poor-farm and staff of officers, and although no one can deny that the condition of the poor has been changed for the better since the establishment of poor-farms, still the system has not worked to the entire satisfaction of its well wishers.

By uniting the three districts, most, if not all, that is at present unsatisfactory could be remedied. A larger and better farm could be purchased, better and more suitable buildings erected, provision could be made for the harmless insane paupers, thus saving the County a large sum annually. Trades could be taught and a school could be kept in connection with the poor farm, the pauper children could be taught, to become useful members of society and not as in the past turned out to reproduce their kind to become in turn inmates of the poor house, thus retarding on the town or county a race of hereditary paupers if not criminals.

It is always comforting to do right when we gain by it, and surely the benefits would not all be confined to the paupers,—and this scheme if properly carried out must effect a large saving. One staff of larger, and better paid would not cost as much as the three do at present, while the cost for tools, repairs of buildings, etc. would be little more than it is at present for one.

We would like correspondence on this subject, and shall probably return to it again.

The Port Williams Bridge has been closed at last. The result of this to Wolfville can be computed in several hundred dollars loss of Xmas trade.

If the bridge is in as bad a state as reported the commissioners have done perfectly right; but we have always

and still doubt that it is anything approaching it.

The question comes up very naturally; why is a public bridge, in so important a public highway, left until it is just ready to totter, and fall into the river before it is repaired?

Some tell us it is because the government had not money enough to commence the work; but we do not believe any government could be so lax in its duty or so slow in getting its machinery of accomplishment in operation.

The time when this work should have been done was in the summer when travel was comparatively light and when a drive of some twenty miles around could be undertaken under much more favorable circumstances.

One thing is certain, it is a gigantic blunder of some one's, and Wolfville and Cornwallis will probably have to suffer very severely in consequence.

We are very sorry that no one has called our attention to this infamous Royal Family swindle before. We will have it attended to, and if they wout consent to a reduction of three or ten percent. we will discharge every one of them.

We know lots of people now who would gladly take the positions at that figure, and do their best to occupy them.

Meanwhile our time just now seems to be fully occupied with King's Co., Nova Scotia, and we cannot take any decided action until after Christmas. If the *New Star* man can wait that long we think we can safely promise him the position of Jester with lucrative wages.

"No Irish need apply!"

A beautiful illustration of the "Eternal fitness of things" can be found in the matter referred to in another column by our correspondent, "W. P."

It is doubtless intended also as an illustration of the "Freedom of the Press."

Our attention has been called to the fact that a person in this place is contemplating building and operating a snow-plow this winter if the property holders on each side of Main St. will subscribe a reasonable sum for the purpose. The work proposed to be done is that a space four feet wide be cleared from the east line of the Cricket ground down as far as the people will contribute toward it. It is estimated that about twenty-five cents from each one will pay for this work. The snow will be cleared off immediately after each fall of snow. It is a good move, and all it wants to start it is a little substantial encouragement. It should be done at once. The benefit to be derived from this, particularly to the ladies, can hardly be estimated. While a few are willing to clear in front of their property, the majority are too lazy or haven't time. When it can be done for 25c. we see no good excuse why it should not be started immediately.

The following are the minutes of a public meeting held on Monday evening last, Dec. 15th:—

A meeting of the merchants, tradesmen, and others, of Wolfville, interested in having the Port Williams bridge open for traffic, was held in the office of Messrs. F. L. Brown & Co. this evening.

There were present Messrs. R. F. Reid, G. H. Wallace, John Palmeter, C. H. Borden, J. L. Franklin, J. W. Hamilton, D. A. Munro, J. S. Morse, G. V. Rand, S. R. Sleep, J. W. Caldwell, F. Rockwell, Jas. Elderkin, F. L. Brown, A. S. Murray, A. M. Hoare, B. O. Davison, and A. J. Pineo.

Moved by J. W. Hamilton, seconded by Mr. S. B. Sleep, that the chairman and secretary of the meeting be a committee to correspond with the Commissioner of Public Works as to the state of the Port Williams Bridge. Passed unanimously.

Moved by Mr. A. S. Murray, seconded by J. W. Hamilton that the putting of a draw in the new bridge is a useless expenditure of public money and that this meeting respectfully ask the Government not to sanction it. Passed unanimously.

A. S. Murray, Sec'y.

We take pleasure in directing the attention of our readers to our advertisers. They represent the business men of the village and county, and we can safely recommend them as thoroughly reliable. Our shortness of space prevents us from mentioning each separately, and we would like all our readers to call on them and see for themselves, as we could not describe their goods and do justice to them.

CORRESPONDENCE.

We do not hold ourselves responsible for the opinions of our correspondents.

To the Editors of the *Acadian*.

Dear Sirs:—Will Grand Scribe Temple or some other official of the Grand Division of the Sons of Temperance kindly explain why the advertisement of a wine merchant is allowed to appear in the official organ of that respected organization? Yours truly,
W. P.

To the Editors of the *Acadian*.

Dear Sirs:—I noticed in your last issue an advertisement of a certain firm saying they had in their window a log cabin scene resembling my birth place. I have seen it and would just say I do not see any resemblance at all, and that I do not thank them for their insinuations. Hoping they will stop to think before they commence personalities again, I am yours truly,
P. P. O.

SLANDER.

Scripture saith the Devil is the father of liars, and if we dare add to Holy Writ we would pronounce slander the mother of liars and closely related to every evil genius under heaven. A slanderer is far worse than a good square honest liar, for a lie can be met fair in the face—but a slander, who can trace it? or what mathematician can sum up the evil wrought by an envious person in a community, or who can number the tears of the victim of these busy bodies?

Slander in some cases is the result of careless speaking on the part of some thoughtless, although kind-hearted, person, who repeats what he hears for the fun of it; yet how deeply these careless words cut into the hearts of sensitive people, the truly sensitive only know. This represents only a small class of those who are gifted with gossiping propensities. Class second are cruel of heart and often under a cloak of religion go from house to house spreading their scandal and adding to it as they go, until perhaps a slight imprudence on the part of someone (whom they profess to highly esteem) is magnified, until the whole village is ringing with evil reports.

We consider this class the most dangerous human monster of the snake tribe to society. Sometimes we find this reptile to be a man, but more frequently they are of the gentler sex. One who perhaps through long years of sickness has lost her health, youth, and all prospect of presiding over a household of her own, this evil takes possession of her weakened mind and they settle down to be chronic, gossiping grumblers; and yet in society they are such adepts at deceit, they can make themselves really agreeable until they are known. Strangers are often led to exclaim "What a lovely person; sickness has almost made her a saint." But as "Evil communications corrupt good manners," so those who bide them at home fall into the same style of conversation, and soon the house is known as the seat of gossip, the home of every evil report in the neighborhood, the propagating house of scandal; but as truth is mighty and must prevail, one after another of the falsehoods is traced back to the nest from whence it came. And soon they lose caste, as one after another of their former friends drop off the list of visitors, and they are left comparatively isolated from good thinking people, who would not like to be classed in their set; and so some fine morning we look forth and behold, like the storks, they have flown—south, north, east or west to seek new pastures to gratify their insatiable desire for gossip.

Nice line of Walking Sticks at Western Book & News Co's.

GROCERY.

J. E. PALMETER

Bags to inform the public that at his New Store may always be found First Class

Groceries,

In all the staple lines. Buying only for cash, and in comparatively small quantities, he is always able to offer goods New and Fresh.

Family Flour and Meal

of best brands, and **SALT**, coarse and fine, always in stock in ample quantities.

Merchandise produce taken in exchange for goods at the highest market rates.

Cash paid for Eggs.

WOLFVILLE.

Dec. 10th, 1884.

G. A. PATRIQUIN,

HARNESS MAKER.

Carriage, Cart, and Team Harnesses

Made to order and kept in stock

ALL ORDERS PROMPTLY ATTENDED TO

None but first-class workmen employed and all work guaranteed.

Opposite People's Bank, Wolfville

AUCTION!

All persons are cautioned against trading or bartering with my sons or paying them money for the products of my farm, as I will not ratify any bargains made by them and will collect the pay for anything sold from off my premises.

REBECCA FARRELL.

Etna, Sept. 20th.

The subscriber would like to say right out loud to the public that he is selling the **CELEBRATED ACADIA COAL** very cheap. Also that he is taking orders for **HARD COAL**, which he will supply at hard pan prices.

D. MUMFORD,

W. & A. Ry Depot, Wolfville, N. S.

DENTISTRY!

E. N. PAYZANT, M. D.,

DENTIST.

WOLFVILLE.

Dr. P. will remain in Wolfville during DECEMBER to wait upon patients in Dentistry.
Sept. 8th, 1884

Burpee Witter

Has received this week another lot of

LADIES'

Mantles & Ulsters,

BLACK

Peacock & Victoria Yarns

GENTS'

Underclothing!

HORSE RUGS!

WHITE AND COLORED

FLEECY COTTONS.

Wolfville, Dec. 3d, 1884.

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—OF—

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PUNCTUALITY.

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Nothing to offend the taste of the most fastidious will be found in its columns.

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Places it within the reach of all and all should have it.

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