

LOCAL MATTERS OF INTEREST.

SATURDAY

Registrar Jones reports seventeen births during the past week. Twelve of the number were females. There were five marriages.

There were eight deaths in the city during the past week. The causes were as follows:—Typhoid, bronchitis, collapse, maramus, diphtheria, consumption, heart disease and cerebral apoplexy.

Rev. Edward Skagen, a native of Norway, and for some time past rector of the Danish Church of England at Grand Falls, N. B., died yesterday at the General Public Hospital. The late Mr. Skagen was 38 years of age and came to this city about two weeks ago for treatment of his health.

Oscar Roberts, a would-be passenger on the Sueder train, made things lively around the Union Depot Christmas eve. Roberts made himself so objectionable on board the train before it left that J. C. R. Officer Smith was compelled to take a hand. Roberts objected strongly to this proceeding and started a scuffle with Officer Smith. After a tussle the man was taken to the lockup, although Officer Smith had his shoulder badly sprained and several other minor injuries.

Contrary to the usual custom none of the prisoners in the county jail were released Christmas Eve. Judge Riddle in conversation with The Star, said that he had never gone over the list, and had decided that it would be better for the inmates of the jail and the public at large if they were kept in confinement.

At the conclusion of the services in Tabernacle Church last night the pastor, Rev. W. J. Kierstead, baptized three candidates. This makes a total of fifty-five who have joined that church since March 1, under the pastorate of Rev. Mr. Kierstead.

The Young People's Society of Christian Endeavor will hold their anniversary meeting tonight and elect their officers on Tuesday night the choir will give a concert with interesting programs.

Mrs. James Hogan, mother-in-law of Pully Granpan, fell on Main street yesterday while carrying a bundle of goods from church, and broke her thigh. The ambulance was summoned and she was conveyed to Mr. Granpan's residence.

Friday's rain took away the greater part of the snow on Lily Lake and left the ice in fairly good condition. Over a thousand persons went out to the lake yesterday and there were many who enjoyed a spin. The ring for the speeders was set in motion for lovers of fast skating. Logan and Evans were present and some friendly spirits were indulged in.

The Norwegian steamer Aro arrived in port yesterday morning from South Carolina with a cargo of hand guns consigned to Rhodes Curry & Co., Amherst. As the river is frozen at Amherst, the steamer will be obliged to discharge her cargo here. The steamer had a rather rough voyage but received no damage.

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TUESDAY

A pretty wedding took place at Malden, Mass., Christmas Eve, when Miss Gertrude White, formerly of St. John was married to Chauncey S. Williams of Dorchester, Mass. Rev. W. E. Dooley, rector of St. Paul's church, performed the ceremony and only the immediate family were present.

The children of the Fairville Methodist Sunday school enjoyed a real treat last evening, when Santa Claus in all his glory came down the chimney, distributed the platform and distributed the gifts from the tree. Stanley soon the church organist, was presented with a well filled purse. A large number of the little ones were in attendance.

The announcement of the death of Miss Margaret C. Sharpe, who passed away at her residence, 58 Pitt street, yesterday, was received with regret by a large circle of friends and acquaintances. Miss Sharpe was one of the ablest and most widely known teachers in the public schools of this city, where she has taught for upwards of thirty years, or ever since the free school system was established.

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STARVING THOUSANDS IN ITALIAN CITIES IN MURDEROUS STRUGGLE FOR FOOD

(Continued from Page One)

water, there are no drugs or surgical supplies. Heart-breaking appeals for help are heard on every side, to which only the most inadequate response is possible. The survivors of the earthquake are suffering from cholera, typhoid, and malaria. A physician named Conde, a native of Messina, said he is being carried to the straits for help after the first shock, but that he will not be able to return from that side until he has carried the news that Reggio, too, had perished.

Some of the fugitives aboard the Therapia had left the ship when she reached this port, in some cases abandoning their children. They were seen to arrive here within the next day or two and every effort is being made to prepare shelter for them. Naples is the centre of the relief organization and the social functions have been postponed.

The few refugees who have arrived here from Calabria are almost too unwell to be taken care of. One man, who had been on the road from Reggio to Naples, was brought to a stop by the presence of cholera. He was carried along the line in his journey. The passengers demanded that they be taken back to Reggio, where they found a scene of desolation. While searching for friends, fresh shocks occurred and practically all the passengers were killed.

Despatches from Catania, described Messina as appearing like a huge island, the buildings that had not fallen, completing the work of destruction. The straits of Messina is now choked with corpses of men and animals. At the present time there are twelve warships at Messina—four Italian, four British and four Russian—as well as a number of destroyers and steamers, the latter belonging to the Italian General Navigation Company. The injured are being carried aboard the warships and will be removed to Naples.

The relief work now is well begun, but hundreds of persons are wandering about the ruins like madmen. They are being given food and clothing as fast as it is possible.

NAPLES PROSTRATED. NAPLES, Dec. 30.—Times only confirms the appalling horrors of the overpowering catastrophe. Messina will perhaps never divulge its supreme individual tragedies, for earth and sea being claimed thousands of human beings, and the names mercifully completed the names of the victims.

Naples, vibrant with the memory of Vesuvius, is prostrated alike by the misery and woe from Messina, confined to her own island, hotels and homes are crowded with refugees, and the people are vying with one another in aiding the stricken.

A graduate in organic chemistry who has made a study of many of the best-known patent medicines on the market, has written a book, "The Art of Choosing a Patent Medicine," which is a valuable guide to the public. The book is published by the author, Mr. J. H. Thompson, of St. John, N. B.

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BRUGHT MANY REFUGEES.

The Therapia brought thirty German and 600 other refugees. During the voyage to Naples, several injured women died, and one child was born.

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TEN SUNDAY SCHOOLS TO MEET AT CENTENARY

Unique Gathering at Church On New Year's Morning

On New Year's morning in Centenary Church in this city, at 10.30, there will be a gathering of a most unique character. It has been referred to as the "Centenary of the Protestant Reformation."

All the Methodist Sunday schools of St. John and also those of Courtenay B. district, numbering ten in all, will meet at 10.30 and will have a splendid programme of song, some short addresses, and will exchange greetings with similar gatherings in Montreal and Toronto.

These gatherings have been held for a number of years, first in St. James' Church, Montreal, and afterward some of the other points taking up the scheme, until today this is done in Montreal, Toronto, Hamilton, Winnipeg and Vancouver, and the gathering in our city this year completes the chain right across the continent.

The body of the church will be reserved for the different schools and it is expected that quite a large number of the friends of the different schools will be present.

An offering will be made during the service to defray the necessary expenses in connection with the work.

ANALYTICAL CHEMIST TELLS OF PATENT MEDICINES

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CASTORIA

The Kind You Have Always Bought, and which has been in use for over 30 years, has borne the signature of Dr. J. C. Fletcher and has been made under his personal supervision since its infancy.

All Counterfeits, Imitations and "Just-as-good" are but experiments that trifle with and endanger the health of Infants and Children—Experience against Experiment.

What is CASTORIA Castoria is a harmless substitute for Castor Oil, Paregoric, Drops and Soothing Syrups. It is Pleasant. It contains neither Opium, Morphine nor other Narcotics and it is a safe and reliable remedy for Children and all the Family.

It cures Colic, Wind and Flatulence, Stomach and Bowel Complaints, Teething Troubles, Cures Constipation, and all the ailments of Infants and Children. It is the most reliable and safe remedy for Children and all the Family.

Bears the Signature of Dr. J. C. Fletcher The Kind You Have Always Bought In Use For Over 30 Years.

COMPLETELY SWEEP AWAY. NAPLES, Dec. 30.—The sea front at Reggio has been completely swept away, according to statements of refugees. It is a mass of wreckage from the harbor. It is impossible to approach Reggio by sea or by land. The city is a mass of ruins. The sea front has been completely swept away.

PRISON COLLAPSED. MONTELEONE, Dec. 30.—The local prison collapsed and all the convicts, calculated to number 1,000, lost their lives.