

The two letters lately published in the *Evening Mail* by a Dartmouthian abroad, Adam Smith, are very interesting. We are only sorry that Adam, with his ability and geniality, has met with such ill-fortune and so little appreciation since his departure for San Francisco.

The professors of Kings' College, Windsor, were "At Home" on Thursday evening of last week at the Church of England Institute. The rooms were crowded with guests, with whom it was a matter of regret that Professor Roberts did not arrive from New York in time to be able to be present at the gathering. The band of the 63rd Rifles furnished a musical programme.

Mrs. W. B. Torrance of Inglis Street, has cards out for a dance on Wednesday next.

Among the passengers who arrived here in the *Sardinian* last Saturday, was Mr. W. H. Smith, who has joined the civil staff at the Dockyard. Mr. Smith will shortly leave for Jamaica on business connected with his department, after which he will return to Halifax.

Mrs. Slayter had a large afternoon tea on Thursday afternoon. Sir John Ross and all the leading Society people were present.

Out door skating was the order of the day during the first of the week. On Monday it was not very good, only a few enthusiasts were out. On Tuesday it was better, but on Wednesday it was so good that man could not have wished for better. Many people journeyed out to the Arm and enjoyed the remarkable ice. A large party went up to Windsor Junction by the train and skated down. Sounds a big order, but really is not far. The ice was not good except on the last two lakes. Some people were rather late getting home.

Miss Ethel Stairs had a very narrow escape from drowning in the Arm on Wednesday. There are always a lot of "cracks" in the ice, caused by the periodical thaws that take place throughout our Nova Scotian winter, and anything that looks like fresh ice should be given a wide berth, even when skating is at its best. It was while passing over one of these "cracks," which had already been crossed by several skaters, that the ice gave way under Miss Ethel Stairs, and had it not been for the pluck and coolness of Miss Anna Stairs, who was with her, it is highly probable that this winter would have been remembered for a long time as a fatal one by residents on the Arm. Master Willie and Miss Jennie Doull also went to the rescue, and both got a ducking. How they all managed to scramble out is a wonder.

Mrs. J. F. Kenny gave a small dinner on Tuesday evening, — and Mrs. Daly one on Monday.

We have not yet received any answer from Capt. Dopping Heppenstal to our Liverpool correspondent's queries, but through the kindness of Mr. Freeman, Edison's agent here, we are enabled to give the following information. —

There is already a portable lamp in great requisition, but there is not one yet invented, which can give light by a motor contained within the lamp itself. The one in use now is moveable, but the power of course comes from the station.

Professor Hynd has the the whole of his house lighted by these lamps, the portability being allowed by their connection with a cord which conveys the light.

Therefore, it is only necessary for the cord to be made long enough for the room or passage required to be lighted. The difficulty in getting a light such as wished for by our correspondent, will always lie in the fact that the power required could hardly be enclosed in such a small space.

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The preliminary circular for the formation of a company under this title was issued during the week. The scheme is a bold one, but there is no reason why it should not succeed, and the company in time become a very paying concern. Of course the first object in view of the promoters is the interest of the Yacht Squadron, but a very significant clause in the circular reveals a far broader aim, that of providing facilities for executing any possible orders, and restoring to Halifax a share of the ship building industry of Nova Scotia. If this object be steadily kept in view, the concern may some day assume larger proportions than even the most sanguine of its promoters at present anticipate.

The engagement is announced of Mr. Stephen Harlow, of Lockeport, the designer and builder of the "Wenonah." The capital of the company to be subscribed for is \$10,000, in shares of \$50 each: first call of 10% on February 1st, second call of the same amount thirty days after, and subsequent calls as required by the Directorate.

The Annual Meeting of the Yacht Squadron last night, was a very long and fairly interesting one. There was an enormous lot of business to be got through, and very few long speeches were indulged in on any of the motions before the meeting. The only technical resolution of any general importance was one to abolish the rule preventing centre-board yachts from using their boards during races. In its place an amendment is inserted to the effect that they "shall not raise their boards for the purpose of crossing shoals;" which is really no restriction at all on the use of the centre board, simply obliging all yachts alike to sail over the course intended, without taking short cuts through shallow water.

The old question of admitting ladies to the Club House in the evenings was discussed at some length, and finally a very sensible compromise was agreed on, which seemed to satisfy all parties. Ladies are to be admitted to the Club grounds, but not to the hours, after 8 o'clock in the evening. This gives the bathers a chance, and will not interfere with the freedom of those who like their evening pipe and yarn to themselves, unaided by the charms of the fair sex. At the same time, it will make the club grounds a very pleasant resort for an evening stroll for wives and friends of members whose tastes incline in the opposite direction.

Last year's officers were all re-elected.

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DR. SCAM: Mrs. Smith, I understand your husband is suffering from a Curbuncle.
MRS. SMITH: Suffering, why he is delighted with it. He wears it in his scarf!

TOMMY:—(who had concealed himself under the sofa during the betrothal of his Sister, let me see your ring.
HIS SISTER:—Why Tommy?
TOMMY:—I want to see if the kaboot told the truth when he said his heart was in it.

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