

## STILLMAN GOTT

and other articles of commerce from Boston or Portland to the village stores.

It was in no sense true that the people were ignorant or narrow-minded. Far from it. Most of them read a daily paper, selected according to their respective political beliefs, and what was more, believed every word therein. This paper and a weekly "County Clarion," which contained all the local news, a few agricultural suggestions, a little poetry by local talent, and a short story comprised all the literature which in their opinion was necessary to keep up with the times. They knew nothing of the stock market, except the one controlling the price of cattle and sheep; opera and symphony concerts were unknown words; their vocal music was the liquid note of the robin, the creak of the gull, the miniature watchman's rattle of the red squirrel and the lonesome cry of the loon calling to his mate; while the breeze softly whispering through the tops of the spruces, and the ever constant sound of the waves beating against the rocky shore were symphonies far more beautiful than any ever conceived by mortal minds.

Even in the matter of religion they were not