

ST JOHN, WEST

The fine winter weather prevailing at this writing and after a truly severe variety during a week or ten days past, is more than compensating. It reminds one of how prone is humanity to grumble at the existence of disturbed or unpleasant weather for even two successive days, causing with such people entire forgetfulness of the beautiful autumn weather bestowed upon the land this year. Well, we are all liable to prone and after all one is little different from the other. Reading the weather records in the other sections of the province recently makes one inclined to rejoice that he or she dwells in "St. John by the sea."

This goodly city of Saint John contains within its limits some odd people. Its business is done in grooves and if anyone ventures in a new direction there ascends a howl that he is "speculative;" that such a step is ruinous. They potter along despite the advantages for enlarged business, possessed by the city in situation and steamships and railway connection, and when some more energetic individual suggests the introduction of some enterprise or business which in its nature and operation must entail benefit to the City and citizens generally, the majority of those who are approached about it are solicitous not to provide abundant capital to make the project successful from the start, but rather to figure out the least possible sum by which it can be operated. This was well exposed by Senator King the other day when speaking at a meeting called for the purpose of establishing a car works in St. John. Some of the individuals seem to require treatment in the line of ex-amsion evidently, but physicians whose specialty might be on that line are not very numerous among us. Regretful reference to the Harris Car Works removal seems now to be waste of breath.

It has frequently been remarked that there is a noticeable provincialism about our people as a whole—there are exceptions of course—and not a little of what is commonly recognized or used to be recognized as "rusticity." A late instance came to the writer's notice a short time since on this West Side. A lady visitor from the east side was inquiring her route to the immigration building. Incidentally, west side people know that there are three land routes there from Rodney Wharf—at Sand Point. She desired to go there very much especially if there were any immigrants there, and, perhaps with a view of explaining her anxiety, she assured the party—it was a west side young lady—from whom she sought information that she had "never seen an immigrant." What an awfully sad story! How deplorable! The fact, as stated, is amazing to a degree. The idea that any east sider, male or female, could have been so remiss, during all the years that immigrants have been coming here, as not to have seen a sample, is more than remarkable. If an outsider could judge aught from the numbers of east side people, who block the windows of the "sheds" with their faces pressed to the glass staring at the new comers within, as each passenger ship disembarks them, then the whole east side population has seen them. Rusticity? Well! rather. The lady referred to may console herself in the fact that though the style of dress, affected by some of the immigrants, is not of the Paris or New York style, none of them have horns. The horned cattle come from Texas like the bronchos.

Among the other amiable characteristics or peculiarities, perhaps the most noticeable is their patriotism, their love of country, their content and all round happiness in that the land we live in forms a not unimportant part of the British Empire. They always rejoice in their loyalty to His Majesty the King and Queen Alexandra. These sentiments are frequently expressed in the halls of legislation, at meetings of trade

boards, on the public platform, even in the daily press, on occasions, by correspondents who affect publicity in that line. When the late good Queen Victoria died, the whole British Empire rejoiced that Queen Alexandra succeeded her and the people, amid their sense of immediate loss, rejoiced in the existing fact. Queen Alexandra is a noble woman in the fullest sense of the words, considerably sympathetic and interested in the poor, and well deserves the heartiest and truest loyalty of her subjects. Yet, mirabile dictu! on the occasion of her 62nd birthday, in the loyal city of Saint John, this city founded by the Loyalists, there was not a flag to be seen flying from a public building in honor of the day or as a token of rejoicing in a delightful national event.

FINGER BOWLS.

It might at first seem unnecessary to say anything of the correct use of finger bowls after the years in which they have been daily put upon tables but as one observes the way some people seem to be imbued with the idea of using them as wash basins for the hands it is really necessary to make a suggestion—that is, to remember that only the tips of the fingers are to be wet, and, if one wishes, it is permissible to rub the fingers across the lips. This latter is not often done, however. Drying the fingers afterward is done on the napkin as daintily as possible.

PRESENTATION.

Following the custom of some years back, Senator J. V. Ellis was this morning presented by the staff of the Globe with a bunch of 45 carnations, this being the forty-fifth year of the senator's editorship of the Globe.—Times, Thursday.

A. O. H.

At the regular meeting of the Ladies' Auxiliary, A. O. H., Woodstock, held in their rooms on Tuesday evening the following officers were elected for the ensuing year: President, Mrs. T. L. McCafferty; Vice-President, Miss Carrie Caldwell; Recording Secretary, Miss Annie Riordan; Financial Secretary, Miss Minnie E. Hall; Treasurer, Mrs. Frank Kelly; Mistress-at-arms, Miss Sadie J. Brown; Sentinel, Miss Tressa Hughes.

OLD LITERATURE.

The book of Job is believed to be the most ancient literary work in existence. It is known to have been written prior to the Pentateuch and prior to the promulgation of the law. In profane literature the poems of Homer are the most ancient that have come down to our day, though the names of others still older are in existence.

LATIN.

Latin, once the speech of a petty district by the Tiber, became the standard medium of intercourse for a mighty empire, absorbed into itself the spirit of the institution, became its outward embodiment and survives today as a monument to the essential character of that institution better and truer than Coliseum or Forum. Its present place in education, in literature, in law, is determined by the place that Rome still holds in the organized life of Europe and in all organized life whose sources are in European civilization. A visible emblem is the place it still holds as the language of the Roman Church; for the Roman Church is in all reality the Roman empire expressed in terms of the things of the soul. The school-boy learns from his Latin, if he learns it well, more than words, rules, paradigms, maxims, bits of history or scraps of mythology; he drinks in the life of old Rome and the spirit of its institutions—law, order, organization, authority. There is nothing left us, now that the Romans are gone, so Roman as Latin.

YOUNG WOMEN WHO SUCCEDED.

A recent paper in an educational journal calls attention to the number

of comparatively youthful women who have achieved notable things in their different callings. Joan of Arc at nineteen led the army of victorious France; Patti sang in public before she had entered her teens—how many years ago it was that she made her first great triumph it is not for us to say. At 22 Mme. De Staël accomplished an essay on Rousseau; Jane Austen had completed her life work at 42, and all of the Bronte sisters died before they were 40. When "Uncle Tom's Cabin" appeared Harriet Beecher Stowe was only 39, and George Eliot gave "Adam Bede" to the world at 38. Miss Grace Lathrop Collin and Onoto Watanna, two of the most successful of contemporary novelists, are both considerably under 30.

EAGER TO LEARN.

It was Winifred's first day in school. She had five words to learn, and each was spelled with three different letters. It was really very confusing. They danced before her eyes and kept slipping into one another's places whenever she looked away from the page. After an hour of earnest effort, however, she felt sure she had mastered them, all but the last, of which she was still a little uncertain. In the book, and when her stubby, forefinger was glued to the page just beneath this refractory syllable, the letters obediently assumed the order of B-E-D. But a minute after, finger in mouth and eyes on ceiling, they sometimes seemed to be "deb," "deb" and various other perplexing combinations. It happened that Winifred's associates kept their places during recitation, and somehow the class was called and in "full blast" while the newest and littlest girl in the school was still struggling with the difficult word.

"Winifred," suddenly called the teacher, "how do you spell 'bed'?" "Why, Miss Em'ly," returned the small scholar, "that's just 'actly what I wanted to know!" And she couldn't imagine why all the little girls about her laughed and the teacher bit her lip and gave the word to some one else.

OPERA HOUSE.

Commencing on Monday night, the Gans-Nelson fight, in moving pictures, will be the attraction, running four evenings. The next week the famous Robinson Opera Company, in new and bright operas, will open on Monday evening, Dec. 24.

MILLTOWN, N. B.

On Tuesday evening the A. O. H. elected the following officers: Geo. Hefferman, Pres.; W. J. Haley, Vice-President; James Purcell, R. S.; M. Kelley, F. S.; W. J. Graham, Treas.; Jos. Casey, Jan. W. J. Graham has held the office of treasurer for the past eighteen years and this will be M. Kelley's third term as financial secretary. The following officers were elected by the O. M. E. A. on Tuesday evening: Edward Haley, Chan.; Thomas Martin, Pres.; Fred Shannon, First Vice; Michael McCarroll, Sec. Vice; William Buckley, Rec. Sec.; Charles Buckley, Ass. Rec. Sec.; Thomas Cody, Fin. Sec.; James Ryan, Treas.; James Corbett, Marshal; Florence Vassar, Guard; Jas. Corbett, Thomas Martin, Thomas Cody, Fred Shannon, James Ryan, Trustees.

Furniture for Xmas Gifts.

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—OF—

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In order that Repairs may be effected.

This will be the best opportunity to secure Furniture Bargains ever offered in St. John. Goods stored until wanted. Open evenings.

SALE STARTED THURSDAY, DEC. 20.

BUSTIN & WITHERS, 99 Germain St.

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A Christmas Store that is Complete in Every Detail. Bring the Little People in, and Let Them See What We Have.

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Thomas J. Flood, 60 King street
Opposite Macaulay Bros. & Co.

We Wish All Our Customers and Friends
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New Year.

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