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## Poetry.

### TIME HOW SWIFT.

While with ceaseless course the sun  
Hasted through the former year,  
Many souls their race have run,  
Never more to meet us here;  
Fix'd in eternal state,  
They have done with all below;  
We a little longer wait,  
But how little—none can know.

As the winged arrows flies,  
Speedily the mark to find;  
As the lightning from the skies  
Darts, and leaves no trace behind;  
Swiftly thus our fleeting days  
Bear us down life's rapid stream;  
Upwards, Lord, our spirits raise,  
All below is but a dream.

Thanks for mercy past receive,  
Pardon of our sins renew;  
Teach us, henceforth how to live,  
With eternity in view;  
Bless thy word to young and old,  
Fill us with a Saviour's love;  
And when life's short tale is told,  
May we dwell with Thee above.

### The Lover's Serenade.

Dry dawns again in rosy hue,  
And yet thy slumbers have not flown;  
The rose awakes, then wake thou too,  
And shame its freshness by thine own.  
Then from thy pillow, dearest,  
From thy pillow of down arise,  
For the strain that now thou hearest  
Is a lover's song and a lover's sighs.

All nature now calls unto thee,  
You sun that gilds the sky above,  
You bird that sings its melody,  
My heart that tells thee of its love.  
Then from thy pillow, dearest,  
From thy pillow of down arise,  
For the strain that now thou hearest  
Is a lover's song and a lover's sighs.

An angel in a woman's form,  
Worshipp'd no less than loved thou art,  
Mine eyes adore thy beauty's charm,  
My soul adores thy noble heart.  
Then from thy pillow, dearest,  
From thy pillow of down arise,  
For the strain that now thou hearest  
Is a lover's song and a lover's sighs.

## Interesting Tale.

### MILLIE'S DREAM.

A STORY OF NEW YEAR'S EVE.

It was New Year's eve, and the bells from all the churches were ringing merrily. Mildred Seymour, a little girl of twelve years of age, was lying snug and warm in bed in a comfortable room of a good old-fashioned house in one of the best parts of London. She was lying awake listening to the bells, and thinking thoughts which made her face very grave, and even now and then caused tears to fall from her eyes on the soft pillow where her curly head was lying. Mildred's papa and mamma were in India, and she was spending her Christmas holidays at school, but this did not make her cry. She had been with kind Mrs. Lawrence ever since she had come home from India seven years ago; and though there were times when she longed very much to see her dear parents and little brother, she was very, very happy at school; and the very last mail had brought her joyful news, that in the spring they would most likely come to England, and further than that she did not care to look. She was not crying with the cold for she was very warm and cozy. Nor was she so grave because she was poor, for she knew very well there would be plenty of presents for her to-morrow, as there had been on every New Year's Day ever since she could remember. What then made her cry?

It was this. The Holy Spirit of God had for some time been whispering gently into Mildred's young heart sweet thoughts of God's great love towards her, and she had been trying in her imperfect way to show she was grateful for that love by being more patient and kind and good in every way; and it was the thought of her frequent failures that made her cry. Looking back on her efforts and the numberless times in which she had broken her good resolutions, her heart failed her, and she began to feel she should never do better. "She was always trying and never succeeding—was it any good?" she thought. "Oh! if she could but be good all the new year how nice it would be!" And with this thought drowsiness overcame her sorrowful musings, and before she was struck to sleep, she was fast asleep.

Towards morning Millie had a dream. She thought she was in an ordinary looking room very much like the study down stairs, and on the table by which she sat there was suddenly placed before her a beautiful book. It was bound in white and gold, its leaves too were of the purest white, and at the top of each, like the heading of a chapter, there were the words, "Glorious to God." It was a very large book, and so heavy that she could not turn over more than one leaf at a time. Something told her the book was hers and she must fill up every page; so full of glee she began to write.

It was a great variety of things she wrote about, but to her great trouble before she had done half a page she made a great blot, and in trying to remove it smeared the paper and her fingers, and left a great grey mark on the beautiful white cover. The lines too were very uneven, and by the time she had written three or four pages she felt inclined to stop, but she knew she must go on, and so began to try again, but there was no improvement. The writing was straggling, the lines more uneven; and when she thought she had made one page look better than the last, down would come a great blot and spoil all. Then, at last, she was discouraged and began to write at random. "She had to write," she thought, "and she might as well be careless, for with all her care she spoilt the book." And so the next pages were very bad indeed.

By the time she had come to the middle of the book she was much disheartened and began to shed bitter tears; but this was of no use, she must write, and yet she only wrote so as to spoil the book—what was she to do? Then gently and very lovingly a Voice from some one she could not see, said, "Here is a copy," and then she saw a book on the table before her far more beautiful than her own. Its cover was rich and heavy with ivory and gems, and inside all the writing was in letters of pure gold—so beautiful and yet so simple that there sprang up in Millie's mind a great ambition to copy it, so she began. But what with trying very intently, and her hand suddenly feeling very weak, she could not get on at all; and when the same Voice said to her kindly, "Shall I guide your hand?" she answered very willingly, "Oh, yes, please;" and it was wonderful what a change thereon was. At first the letters were shaky, but still very much better and straighter, and she found that the more she trusted to her guide, and the less she depended on herself, the better she wrote; and so two or three pages went on very fairly.

But after awhile she began to tire of going so slowly, and copying from the beautiful book seemed more tedious than it had at first, and the letters were more difficult to form; so she tried to withdraw her hand; and because it was held tight by her unseen Friend, she began to fret under it, and so the writing grew straggling and uneven again; and, at last, snatching her hand away down fell a worse blot than ever and the page was spoilt!

She went on again by herself till—only writing worse and worse—she grew humble enough to ask to be guided again, and in due time the book was finished, and she turned over the leaves to review her work.

The first part of the book was almost too dreadful to look at, and she hurried on to the page where she let her hand be guided. There was an improvement here; but still there was many a blot and uneven line, which she had made when in her unwillingness she had striven to write by herself. The last few pages were better; but oh so different from the copy! Poor Mildred felt very disheartened. The sweet Voice had just said, "Shall the next be better?" when she woke, and was musing over her dream, when Phoebe, the housemaid, came to call her.

There were kind new year's greetings for Mildred when she entered the breakfast room. And oh, such nice presents! They banished for the time all sad thoughts from her mind; and she was so occupied with admiring them, that Mrs. Lawrence had to remind her it was nearly ten, and she must be at her Aunt Barbara's by eleven, before she could resolutely put them away, and run upstairs to dress for her walk to Mrs. Warburton's.

Aunt Barbara was Major Seymour's eldest sister. She was a widow, and had no children; but she was so warm-hearted, and made so much pleasure for all her nephews and nieces, that a visit to her was a great treat. There were no cousins to-day to play with Millie; but Aunt Barbara took her for a walk, to distribute some warm things to some poor children; and then there was dinner, and afterwards—best of all, when the curtains were drawn, and the lamp not yet lighted—there was a cozy talk with dear Aunt Barbara as they sat by the fireside, Mildred on a stool by her aunt's feet, with one little hand held tightly in her aunt's, which the little niece stroked affectionately from time to time. And then Millie said, abruptly, "Aunt Barbara, do you believe in dreams?"

The tone was so earnest, that Mrs. Warburton said quickly, "What do you mean, my dear? Has anyone been telling you any foolish dreams?"

Oh no; but I wonder what they are. They have a meaning sometimes, I think. I wish I knew!

I think we usually dream about what has been most in our mind during the previous day, and before we go to sleep. But why do you ask, Millie?

Because I had such a strange dream last night," said Millie; and then she related it.

I cannot say whether this dream has a meaning or not," said Aunt Barbara, after listening attentively; but I think we may make out a meaning for it. Suppose we call your beautiful book the new year, with all its pages white and pure, for you to write on, in spite of yourself. And what shall we call the writing, and the blots and smears, Millie?

Oh, I know, aunt, said Millie, sorrowfully. The book was last year, and all the bad writing and blots mean when I got cross, and tired of school, and selfish. It is just what I was thinking of last night. I seem always to be trying, and never succeeding.

What made you wish to try, Mildred?

I was thinking about God, and his loving us; and sending his Son to die for us, and I began to try to please him; but I only got worse and worse, till I asked him to help me, and then I did not do much better," she added, half afraid it was wrong to say so.

That was when you first allowed your hand to be guided; and the blots and smears afterwards were when you took it away, and thought you should do better by yourself,—eh, Millie?

Yes.

Ah! you see we are very weak, and can do nothing by ourselves. The last part of the book was better, where you trusted less to yourself, was it not?

Yes, aunt.

And the beautiful book given you to copy must mean the life of Christ, who is our master, and who has given us an example that we should follow in his steps.

But how was it my best writing was so unlike the golden writing? The letters were shaped a little like it,—but so little!

My darling, said Mrs. Warburton, we cannot reach perfection on earth, we can only strive after it. Would you give up learning to draw, because you cannot do it as well as your master?—or learning French, because you cannot speak as well as Monsieur? In the same way you must not be discouraged in trying to do right. You cannot reach perfection on earth; but you must strive after it, and do your very best, with God's help, to set forth his glory on every page,—that is, on every day of your life. Do you understand it now, Millie?

Yes, Aunt.

But give up your hand more entirely to be guided, Millie; for be assured it is only when we trust to God's loving guidance, and work in dependence upon him, that we can truly glorify him.

And so Millie's dream became a lesson to her, to be pondered over and acted upon. In weakness often, but in ever growing dependence upon Christ, she strove to follow him.

Her papa and mamma and little brother came home, school went on, and Christmas came again. This time the holidays were spent at home at Richmond; but Aunt Barbara claimed Millie for New Year's Day, and there was a very pleasant talk.

Well, Mildred, and how about your book?

Oh, auntie, it is not neat yet. There are ever so many blots, and the lines are uneven still; but I have tried, aunt, and failing so often, I have thought me one thing.

And what is that?

That I can do nothing by myself, and that the work is all God's from beginning to end. I could not be saved because of my life, it is so full of sin; and then it makes Christ much more dear to me, added Millie, in a low voice.

Aunt Barbara drew the thoughtful face towards her and kissed it. You are not sorry that you began to serve God as you told me last year? she asked.

Oh no, aunt, said the little girl eagerly. I only wish I had begun sooner.

And this is what Mildred feels now. She has been grown up a long time, and has happy children round her; but her curly hair is hidden under a widow's cap, and there are traces of much care and sorrow on her face; but she has never repented of her childhood's choice—far from it. It makes her very thankful when she thinks how lovingly God has helped and guided her all these years, through much joy as well as much sorrow and perplexity; and if there is one thought from the holy book which she loves to dwell upon more than another, when she thinks of her fatherless children, and all there may be in store for her and them of temptation, sorrow and difficulty, it is this—

This God is our God for ever and ever; he will be our guide even unto death.

Dear young friends you have reached the close of another year,—what sort of a year

have you made of it? Very soon the New Year will be before you, like a new book full of white leaves, which you must fill; for you cannot leave them untouched. What will you write? Shall it be full of the straggling lines of self-will, and the blot and smears of irritation, temper, pride, and ignorance?—or shall there be inscribed on each page earnest desires to fulfil its heading, "Glorious to God?"—and more still patient endeavours to follow, in humble dependence on your Master's guidance, the rules of his most blessed life? Oh, make up your mind! Think of this great love—ask him to show it to you, and you will not feel your life too much to give up to him. And begin to serve him now,—now, while your hearts are warm with young hopes and affections, and the world looks so full of flowers, you cannot notice its weeds,—begin now; for before me, though happiness may come to those who begin to serve God later in life, there is a special blessing for those who remember him in their youth. Do not refuse him your best days. If you feel unequal to the work before you, take courage!—that is a hopeful sign. Ask for the promised help of the Holy Spirit. Christ's strength is made perfect in weakness. Only lean on Him, and trust Him entirely and He will be your guide,—not only in youth, but even unto death.

### Honesty the best Policy.

Where money is the universal object, the possessor of money will be practically honored. The honor will undoubtedly be secured in some degree by the method of obtaining the money. If it is a prince's method or a high woman's, if we know that thieves have been cut and bludgeoned used to obtain it, or if we see the thief actually rilling his neighbor's pocket, we shall hardly invite him to dinner, and that money will not become respectable until the next generation. But if the process is morally unobjectionable; if the money is not labeled offensively, but is quietly converted into such Danish and Champagne; if we do not read on the bill and on the tables and on the walls an inscription stating that this beautiful work of art was taken out of the throat of a Spanish trader opened for that purpose, or upon the in-laid ebony lounge that it was extracted from the pocket of a ridiculous old widow who had nothing else—it is nothing of this gross kind, so, our well bred curiosity is not impertinent, and we sit upon the sofa and quaff the wine without further thought.

It is in this way that honesty has ceased to be considered that respect to which it is proverbially entitled. Indeed to look at many a social congregation, recognizing many of the persons, and knowing their careers, and hearing the precepts of integrity and self-denial of personal holiness and even of martyrdom it need be which are frequent y urged upon them, is vastly sadder than the admission of Carlyle, to the hypocrisy which is so confounded when it is supposed to be being hypocrites. Men measure conduct by the real esteem in which it is held. If a fool mounted profane Thersites, who flings his dinner plate upon the floor at a public hotel to express his dissatisfaction with the banquet, evidently forfeits no social consideration, profanity and ill behavior will not seem to be things to be strenuously avoided. If a sharper who gambles in stocks and cheats his neighbors daily is laughed at and pleased only as an eccentrically queer fellow, an immoral impulse is given to the resolution to be eccentrically queer in the same way. If a politician with the conscience of a fox and the honor of an adler bellows his devotion to the dear people and vociferously appeals to the moral sentiments, while his career insults them all, it is thought first of all a confirmed smart fellow who may not be too wise upon some points, but who always falls upon his feet such politicians will abound, and public affairs falling into their hands will inevitably suffer.

All these figures are well known to us in this country; and when the eloquent preacher exclaims, "Beyond peradventure brethren, honesty is the best policy," we all turn and look at the richest man in the congregation, whose invitations we do not dare to refuse, who leads us unchanged to his triumphal chariot as the Roman generals led Dacian Kings, and whose money was all stolen, not earned. And near him sits another whom we should not care to invite to our houses, but for whom we vote, upon some theory that a political intriguer and trick will make good laws. And in the next mood, some friends, whose health we publicly drink in his own wine when he sends it to us at table. We see them, we delineate their careers, we consider their prosperity, and we gaze at the good preacher who repeats, "Once more, dear brethren, lay it to heart, honesty is the best policy." Might he not as properly murmur "Mesopotamia?"

But when circumstances, as lately in New York, suddenly scatter the glamour of prosperity and reveal the naked dishonesty, then the old truth which is lodged in the very substance of things appears, that honesty is the best policy, and that indeed, that there is no other. The time comes when, as we seat ourselves in the dazzling drawing room, upon the luxurious

sofa, we suddenly see the inscription frightfully legible, "Stolen from poor widows." And as we rise in trepidation and move toward the bull cabinet, the legend flashes out all over it, "Stolen from starving orphans." The moment that is seen the proverb is vindicated. The bull remains, but contempt stays with it. Dishonesty has bought money at the cost of every thing that makes money valuable. The prosperous good man at whom we all look down when we heard that honesty is the best policy is recognized and branded as a thief. Was not the preacher right? Is not the dishonesty bad policy? The great national benefit of the developments in New York is moral. Events there have destroyed the prestige of smartness and have shown practically that mere money is not enough even for success, and that prosperous swindling is not good policy.—[Harpers's for December]

### Beecher on Lying.

Henry Ward Beecher, in a late amusing article discusses the questions whether men can remember what never happened. He shows that such a stretch of memory is possible by one or two instances. We extract a part of the article:

Some eighteen or nineteen months ago, soon after coming to Brooklyn, I heard the following story told of the now venerable Dr. Samuel Cox, the father of many brilliant sayings, and as well as Bishop Cox of Western New York. The story ran thus: On a Sunday morning in August, Dr. Cox rising to the pulpit, without waiting or preface, began, "It is a-d-d hot!" Looking around in a calm and pious way, he wiped his forehead, and again said "It is a-d-d hot!" Waiting until he proceeded, "These words my brethren, I heard from the lips of a pious young man as I entered the doors of the church." Thereupon the story goes, he proceeded to give an edifying discourse on the sin and folly of profane swearing.

When I first heard it, I recognized the story. It was an old acquaintance. It had been doing service in England. It was told of Rev. Rowland Hill, only in this case the topic was not the weather, but the theatre, on which the young man's profanity was expended. But it took stories, like countries, live to change horses. Before I knew it the saddle was shifted to my back, nor have I ever been able to shake it off. I have derided it twice in print, many times by letter, and a hundred times in conversation, all in vain. The saddle sticks, and every month we find a new fool riding it.

Denying one of these stories is like fighting Canada thistles. If you cut them up, ten more will spring from each root, and if you let them alone, a million will spring from the seed. The only way to exterminate the Canada thistle is to plant it for a crop and propose to make money out of it. Then worms will gnaw it, bugs will bite it, beetles will bore it, aphids will suck it, birds will peck it, heat will scorch it, rains will drown it, mildew and blight will ride it. All nature lifts its weapons and runs down crops. We are afraid to deny it. It would start off walking like Webster. A new batch of letters would come mounting and inquiring at our door. Five vigor would be given to its withered limbs, and like the wandering Jew, it would go tramping up and down creation till the last day. No, for safety's sake, we do not propose to deny it any more! It would be the ruin of innocent souls, as this narrative which I now shall give will prove.

And the narration of the incident brings me back to the question whether one can remember what never happened. It will be seen that he can.

Sitting at a friend's table one evening, I was telling an incident that befel me, in this wise.

A young man from Buffalo called to see me today. He said that he had heard a young lady in a large company relating the story of my beginning a sermon with the phrase, "It is a-d-d hot." Heat once contradicted it. She affirmed it positively. He replied, "I have lately read a published denial of the story from Mr. Beecher himself." She answered, "Why I was present at his church and heard it with my own ears." Of course he could not say what he thought but replied, "I am going to New York, and will myself call and ask Mr. Beecher."

The case seemed so flagrant, that I said to him: "When you go back I wish you would take occasion, before witnesses, to say to this lady, from me, that she lies, and she knows that she lies, and she knows that I know that she lies."

This was very improper language, but I was angry, and, besides, had been reading the Tribune.

Pistol Shot.—Wound in the heart generally result in almost immediate death; but they are not of necessity or invariably fatal. There are many well authenticated cases of men and animals living after a wound in the heart.



# Telegraphic News.

**London, Dec. 22.**  
The Pall Mall Gazette has a special from Windsor, which states that reports received at Windsor Castle from Sandringham to day, are not quite so favorable; that the pulse of the Prince is higher, and that there is considerable anxiety at the Castle.  
Edward Law, Earl of Ellenborough and former Governor General of India, died last night, aged 81.  
Rear Admiral Edward A. Inglefield, has been appointed naval attaché to the British Legation at Washington.  
A notice has been received from the American Legation that it is desirable that all citizens of the United States intending to travel on the Continent, should provide themselves with passports.

**London, Dec. 23, 5 a. m.**  
An alarming despatch in the Pall Mall Gazette yesterday relative to the Prince of Wales has no foundation. The Prince continues to progress and there is no increase in the fever.  
The noon bulletin from Sandringham to day announces that the Prince passed a pleasant night. The progress of convalescence is slow and gradual.

**Toronto, Dec. 23.**  
The Ontario Parliament is prorogued to January 18th, when the vacant seats of the new ministers and those created by contested elections will all be filled.

**London, Dec. 24.**  
The Prince of Wales passed a quiet night and is gradually gaining strength.  
New York, Dec. 24.—Gold 108 1/2.

**Boston, Dec. 24.**  
The train on the Hartford and Erie road met with a serious accident this afternoon. The train was 1 1/2 hours late, owing to the storm, and when near East Douglass the engine struck a large rock which had been washed into the center of the track, breaking the cow catcher in two, breaking an axle of the tender and smashing every break of the train, which consisted of baggage car, smoking and passenger cars, which fortunately was not thrown from the track. Where the accident happened was a hill, 30 feet high, and if the train had gone off serious loss of life would probably have resulted. A new train was made up at Blackstone, arriving at Boston at half past seven this evening.

**AN ENTERTAINING PAPER.**—The Telegraph & Journal, published at \$5 a year in advance, has attained a circulation, and influence not hitherto reached by any paper published in New Brunswick. This has been due to its spirited and able management and to the large sums expended in procuring telegraphic and other news for its columns. The arrangements made for the publication of the paper in 1872 promise to carry the paper to a higher pitch of excellence than it has yet attained. The Weekly Telegraph, published at \$1 a year, enjoys the benefit of all the news procured for the daily paper, and has in consequence, obtained the large circulation of Nine Thousand copies. This circulation has rarely been reached in Canada and never before in the Maritime Provinces. It is likely to be increased, as the proprietor offers great inducements for getting up clubs, which any body is authorized to form. The pleasant tales and stories, original and selected, published in this paper, are also a great attraction, and its market reports are very valuable. The Weekly Telegraph is likely to take great strides in 1872. Both the Daily and Weekly are owned and edited and published by Mr. William Elder, St. John, N. B., to whom all names of subscribers, and all letters enquiring for information as to clubs, prices, advances to canvassers &c., should be addressed. Mr. Elder also publishes the "Presbyterian Advocate," issued weekly at \$1 50 a year.

**DIVORCE—A STORY OF ROMANTIC LOVE.**—In the divorce suit of Jane N. Burrows against Thomas Burrows. In giving his decision, Judge McCann revealed some very romantic facts in connection with this case. The plaintiff, Mrs. Burrows, was the daughter of a wealthy landed proprietor in the County of Cavan, Ireland, who was also a leading member of the Bar in that country. The defendant, her husband, in the year 1847 was working as a carpenter in her father's house, and an intimacy was springing up which ended in the plaintiff leaving her happy home to follow the defendant to the States, where they subsequently got married, and by her ability as a seamstress she earned sufficient to enable her husband to start in business for himself. A happy state of conjugal affection lasted until they became wealthy. Then the defendant broke his marriage vows which necessitated the present suit for divorce.

**Times change.** During the year 1841, there appeared in the New Orleans Picayune the following advertisement, prefixed by the usual cut representing a runaway slave:—  
\$5 Reward.—Runaway from the subscriber, on the 20th of November last, the negro boy Oscar Dunn, an apprentice to the plastering trade. He is of a gruff color, between twenty and twenty one years of age, and about five feet ten or eleven inches high. All persons are cautioned not to harbor said boy under penalty of the law. WILSON & PATTERSON, corner of St. John and Common streets.  
This same Oscar Dunn has been Lieutenant Governor of Louisiana. His death was recently announced.

**The "Georgie Todd."**—Captain James McDonald of Cape Ann, recently received from Washington, a splendid patent chronometer gold watch, of Jules Jurgensen's manufacture, together with a heavy gold chain with gold anchor attached. The inside case of the watch bears the following inscription:—"The President of the United States to Cap. James McDonald for the rescue of the crew of the

# American schooner Georgie Todd, 1870.

**OUR PUBLIC SCHOOL SYSTEM.**—There is nothing in the United States in which we take more pride than our free school system. We have so long been accustomed to speak in a common place way of the public schools as the palladium of our liberties and the foundation stone of republican institutions, that we fail to properly appreciate their practical importance. Intelligent foreigners, on visiting them, look with wonder and amazement upon the spectacle of the children of high and low, rich and poor, sitting side by side, drinking from the same intellectual sources and learning to look upon each other as equals and brethren.

It is stated that nothing that the Grand Duke saw in this country, pleased him so much as the scholars in the public schools—all classes seated together on the same forms, only such classification as their relative age and progress might require. We have in New England nothing to show to Old World Princes, more suggestive of more worth than their seeing that the children at their lessons in our public schools. [Lewiston Journal.]

**U. S. Postmaster General's Report.**  
We gather from the report of the P. M. General, of the United States recently published the following statistics:

The revenue of the Department for the year ending June 30, was \$24,037,000, the total expenditure \$24,390,000. The total number of postage stamps, stamped envelopes, and newspaper wrappers issued, was upwards of six hundred millions, value \$17,022,000. Total length of mail routes, 38,339 miles, of which 49,834 were by rail, 29,234 by steamboat; during the past year 6197 miles of new railway routes have come into operation. The average time taken in the conveyance of the mails from New York to San Francisco, was 7 days and 3 hours.

**REMOVAL.**  
The "STANDARD OFFICE" has been removed to the large rooms over the Store of Mr. Stevenson, and Mr. J. I. Street, on Water Street, Entrance from Van Henry Street.

# The Standard.

SAINT ANDREWS, DEC. 27, 1871.

We tender to our readers the compliments of the season, wishing them a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

Complaint is made in a Calais paper of "the mail train upon the N. B. & C. Railway" having been seriously delayed several times recently. We assure our contemporary that the "delay" did not arise upon the N. B. & C. R. train, but trains from the West. Twice recently, we were delayed several hours at McAdam Junction for the Bangor train. In each instance the trains from St. Andrews and St. Stephen were up to time.

We cannot undertake to publish all the letters, poetry, and essays, sent us; the space at present at our command will not permit of their insertion, and many manuscripts are neither well written, to the point nor interesting. Any question affecting the public welfare, discussed by correspondents will always receive that attention which it merits.

**SCHOOL EXAMINATION.**—The R. C. School taught by Mr. Meagher, underwent an interesting examination on Thursday last. Rev. Mr. Verrier, P. P. and other visitors were present. Owing to business engagements we were unable to accept the invitation to witness the exercises, but learn that there were upwards of thirty-five pupils in attendance, who generally acquitted themselves creditably in the several English branches, reflecting credit upon themselves, and particularly upon their Teacher, who has had only charge of the School for a few months. Towards the close some of the pupils gave recitations, in an artistic manner. The school was dismissed for the holidays which extend to the 15th of January next, when it will be resumed as a free School under the new Act.

**EDITOR'S REMINDER.**—What a pleasing custom obtains in St. John, Fredericton, and other places in the Province, of merchants accompanying their "compliments of the season" to the editors, with some handsome article from their establishments. Such recognitions have a two-fold pleasing effect. A few years ago we read of a Provincial contemporary being presented with a whole lot out of new type.

**CHRISTMAS DAY** was generally observed. Services were held in the R. Catholic, Episcopal and Methodist Churches; the stores were closed, and the day being fine and warm, pedestrians enjoyed a walk in the streets which are bare of snow and dry.

The weather last week passed from one extreme to the other. Thursday last was the coldest day experienced during the season; several persons were frost bitten. On Friday night considerable snow fell and on Saturday afternoon, the wind shifted to the South-east, and rain fell during the afternoon and evening, when the wind veered round to the south-west and blew a gale during the night which lasted longer and was nearly as heavy as the Saturday storm.

**VICK'S ILLUSTRATED CATALOGUE AND FLORAL GUIDE** for 1872 is received, and is a really useful work to those interested in the cultivation of flowers, and who have any taste for the

beautiful is not. It is beautifully printed on tinted paper, and has three hundred engravings of flowers and vegetables, with two colored plates. The photo of Mr. Vick, is well executed, and the subject is a credit to the "craft" of which he was formerly a member. Mr. Vick is a successful florist.

**THE NEW DOMINION MONTHLY** for January has been received, and is well filled with interesting and amusing articles. Accompanying the magazine is a copy of the Canadian Almanac for 1872 issued by the publishers—John Duggall & Son, Montreal.

**WOOD'S HOUSEHOLD MAGAZINE.**—The tenth volume of this periodical opens with the January number, which is before us. Like its predecessors, it is full of substantial home reading which is admirably adapted to promote knowledge, virtue and temperance. Its contributions for the month include a story by Virginia F. Townsend; "The Dead Year of Disaster," by Geo. S. Burleigh; with numerous other interesting articles by popular writers. This excellent Magazine is but one dollar a year. Subscriptions received at this Office, where copies may be seen.

The Schooner "E. K. Brown" lost on Rigger Rocks, Florida, is what is known as a white washed vessel, and is not owned in St. Andrews.

**THE DAILY TRIBUNE**, issued by Mr. Livingston, at St. John, has been received. The editorial is written in its editor's vigorous style; and its appearance is creditable.

**Cromwell Family.**  
Continued.

# THE TOURNAMENT.

Store this describes in the incident of its close is given in Fuller's Church History. Here are Stowe's words. On May day was a great triumph of joustings at Westminster, which pests had been proclaimed in France, Flanders, Scotland and Spain, for all comers that would, against the chivalry of England, which were Sir John Dailly, or T. Seymour, Sir T. Playnings, Sir Geo. Carew, &c. this; Anthony Kingston and Richard Cromwell, &c. which said challengers came into the lists to-day, richly apparelled and their horses translated all in white, gendarme riding before them apparelled all with velvet and white samet, and all their servants in white doublets and hose; and all in Burgundian fashion, and there came to just against them the suit, of defendants; and Sir John Dailly, the Earl of Surrey being the first Lord William Howard, Lord Clinton, and Lord Cromwell, being the son and heir to T. Cromwell, Earl of Essex and Chamberlain of all England, with others, which were all richly apparelled, and that day, Sir John Dailly was overthrown in the field, by mischance of horse, by one Andrew Breme, nevertheless. The brave divers years valiantly after that, and after the said just done, the said challengers rode to L. dham place, where they kept open household, and leaved the King and Queen, and all the court.

The second May, Anthony Kingston and Richard Cromwell were made Knights of the same place. The third May, the said challengers did journey on horseback with swords; there came against them twenty-nine defendants, Sir John Dailly and Earl of Surrey running first, which, the first course, lost their gaudiness, therefore defeated, and that Sir Richard Cromwell, overthrew M. Palmer off his horse, to the great honour of the challengers. The fifth of May, the said challengers fought on foot at the barriers, and against them came thirty defendants which fought valiantly, but Sir Richard Cromwell overthrew M. Culpepper in the field, and the sixth of May, the said challengers broke up their household, in the which time of their householding they had not only feasted the King, Queen, ladies, and the whole court as was aforesaid, but on the Tuesday in rogation week, they feasted all the Knights and burgesses of the common house in the parliament, and on the morrow after, they had the Mayor of London, the Aldermen and all their wives to dinner, and on the Friday they broke it up as aforesaid. Sir Richard and the five challengers had each of them, as a reward of their valour 100 marks annually, with a house to live in, to them and their heirs forever granted out of the Monastery of the Friars of Saint Francis, in Stamford, which was dissolved Oct. 8, 1538, and his Majesty was the better enabled to do this, as Sir Wm. Weston, the last prior, who had an annuity out of the monastery, died two days after the just.

Fortunate King and fortunate Knights, to have a prior die so opportunely. But to break a heart is not a bad recipe for death at any time.

**LOSS OF THE BRITISH STEAMER "DELAWARE" AND ALL HANDS.**—A brief telegraph despatch received at Boston on the 21st, reports that the steamer Delaware, from Liverpool to Calcutta, had been lost off the Scilly Islands, entrance of the English Channel, and all hands had perished. She was an iron propelled of 2120 tons register, when in the American trade, but since then she has been lengthened and otherwise improved. She was built at the Isle of Man, in 1863, and owned in Liverpool, from where she sailed, by C. Dickson, Esq., and was classed as a first rate vessel.

—And now an exchange wants to know, since work is pronounced work, why work is pink? These queries are very ridiculous.

# COMMON SCHOOLS ACT.

## NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN:

1. That public moneys will not be granted in aid of schools taught between Dec. 30th, 1871 and January 15th, 1872.  
2. That the Boundaries of School Districts established under the authority of "the Common Schools Act, 1871" will shortly be posted in each School District of the Province.  
3. That the first Annual School Meeting will be convened in the School Districts of the Province on January 11th 1872, at 10 o'clock, A. M., by notices issued by the County Inspectors, and may be continued till 4 o'clock, P. M.  
4. That the duties and powers of the Annual School Meeting, as prescribed by "the Common Schools Act, 1871," are, in brief, as follows:

- (1) The election from among the qualified voters present (or persons resident in the District and rated in the Parish Assessment List in respect of real and personal property or income, and persons non-resident in the Parish but rated on property in the District) of a Chairman to preside over the meeting. The Chairman is to determine all questions of order, to take the votes of qualified voters orally, to decide according to the majority of votes, and to give a casting vote in case of an equality of votes.
- (2) The election, from among the qualified voters present, of a Secretary, to record its proceedings.
- (3) The election, from among the qualified voters of the District, three Trustees. Teachers cannot be Trustees.
- (4) The election of an Auditor of the School Accounts for the ensuing year.
- (5) To determine what amount shall be raised by the District during the ensuing year in supplement of the moneys provided towards Teachers' salaries by the Province and County, and for the purchase, rent or improvement of school grounds and buildings, the purchase, erection, repair, furnishing and care of school-houses and out-buildings, the purchase of fuel, maps or apparatus, and prescribed text-books for the pupils of indigent parents, the payment of interest on moneys to be borrowed by the District, or any other expenses required in providing an efficient school.
- (6) On the sum voted by the meeting, One Dollar is to be collected from every male resident 21 years of age, and the balance is to be apportioned upon the property and income of qualified voters.
- (7) Any sum is voted for the purchase or improvement of grounds, or for the purchase or erection of school buildings, or the purchase of furniture, the meeting is to authorize the Trustees to borrow the money (if so desired), and to fix the period (not to exceed seven years) within which the amount borrowed shall be collected from the District in equal yearly instalments.
- (8) To authorize the Trustees to dispose of any School property owned by the District (if so desired).
- (9) To authorize the Trustees to insure the school buildings and furniture (if so desired).
- (10) To adjourn to the next day at 10 o'clock, A. M., and to continue till 4 o'clock, P. M.
- (11) That the Minutes of the School Meeting are to be signed by the Chairman and Secretary, and deposited by the former with the Trustees.
- (12) That in case a District fails to exercise its right of electing Trustees, the County Inspector is to appoint them on the requisition of seven qualified voters of the District.
- (13) That the funds for Teachers' Salaries is to be provided from THREE SOURCES, viz:—  
(a) From the Provincial Treasury, at the following rates for the School Year:  
First Class Male Teachers, \$150  
Second Class, " 120  
Third Class, " 90  
First Class Female Teachers, 110  
Second Class, " 80  
Third Class, " 70  
(Class-room Assistants regularly employed four hours a day are to receive one-half of the above amounts, according to the class of License held.)  
Teachers and Class-room Assistants employed in Districts entitled to special aid as poor Districts, are to receive for the following school year, at the rate of one third more than the grants above named.
- (14) In all cases, one-half of the Provincial Grants are to be paid to the Teachers and licensed assistants semi-annually, or ratably according to the number of pupils in attendance at School, and the number of teaching days the School has been open. The Trustees of Districts recognized as poor Districts in any year, to receive, in this latter apportionment, special aid not exceeding one third more per pupil than the Trustees of other Districts within the County.
- (15) One-half of the County fund is to be apportioned and paid semi-annually.
- (16) No public moneys will be received by Districts which fail to establish Schools under the Act. It will be observed that the amount of Provincial and County moneys to be expended in any District in aid of Schools, will depend almost exclusively upon local exertion, or the direct efforts made by the people of the several Districts in maintaining their own Schools. The sum to be received by the Teacher from the Province, is definite, but the exact amount that will be received by the Trustees from the County Fund on account of the average attendance of pupils, cannot be known at the time of the School meeting. The meeting should, therefore, be careful in voting its estimates to authorize a sum amply sufficient to enable the Trustees to meet the liabilities of the School year. Any balance remaining in the hands of the Trustees, is, of course, to be carried to the credit of the next School year, while any deficit arising from an authorized expenditure may be carried forward and provided for in the estimate of the following year.
- (17) The first disbursement of the County Fund will be apportioned on the School attendance made between January 15th and April 30th, inclusive.
- (18) That the Board of Education has prescribed the following Regulations respecting contracts with Teachers:—

# (1) FORM OF TEACHER'S AGREEMENT:

Each Teacher and assistant before entering on duty in any District, is to make a written agreement with the Board of Trustees, (each party retaining a duly executed copy of the same), in accordance with the following form:—

**Contract made this** day of A. D. 18, between [Name of Teacher or Assistant], holding a valid License of the Board of Education of New Brunswick, hereinafter referred to as the Teacher, of the one part; and "The Trustees of School District Number" in the Parish of in the County of, for "The Board of School Trustees of Saint John," or as the case may be, hereinafter referred to as the School Corporation, of the other part.

The Teacher, in consideration of the below mentioned Agreement by the School Corporation diligently and faithfully to teach School in the said District during the School year [for Term] ending on the day of A. D. 18, or as such thereof as is undecided, And the School Corporation agrees with the Teacher licensed as aforesaid, to pay the Teacher in half-yearly instalments, (or quarterly, or monthly, as may be agreed upon) at the rate of \$— dollars for the School Year [for Term] exclusive of the Provincial allowance to be received by the Teacher from the Chief Superintendent. And it is mutually agreed that the Contract shall continue from School Year to School Year, unless notice in writing of an intention to determine the same shall be given by either of the parties hereon at least one month before the time herein limited, or the time to which the same may be so renewed.

And it is mutually agreed that both parties to this Contract shall be bound to observe the provisions of the Common Schools Act, 1871, and any Acts in amendment thereof, and the Regulations thereunder made by the Board of Education.

In testimony whereof, the said parties have hereunto set their seals.

A. B. [Name of Teacher.] [Seal]  
C. D. [Name of Trustees, or a majority of E. F. them; or, in Cities or incorporated Towns, of the Chairman.] [Corporate Seal]

Witness—J. K.

**2) FIXED SALARIES.** The amount which the Board of Trustees of any District is to receive from the County Fund, being largely dependent on the results of the year in which the pupils are kept at School, and therefore unknown at the date of the written agreement to be made with any Teacher or assistant, the Chief Superintendent is not to require any contract by which a Teacher or assistant may agree to receive such unknown sum as a condition, or the whole of his or her remuneration from the Trustees, but shall require that he or she shall not receive less than the sum named in each year's agreement.

9. That Corporate Seals and School Registers will be distributed by the Inspectors to all the School Districts, previous to Jan. 15th.

10. That each School District will be supplied with copies of the Common Schools Act and the Regulations of the Board of Education, during the present month.

11. That copies of the Statutes of Examination prescribed by the Board of Education can be procured by Teachers on application to the County Inspectors.

By order of the Board of Education,  
THOMAS DODD, Esq.,  
Chief Superintendent of Education.

Education Office, Dec. 18, 1871.

• If there is anything additional, as the use of a dwelling or field free of rent, it should be specified here in continuance, as in the following "Teacher's Agreement."

**Capt. McDonald** formerly belonged to Georgetown, P. E. Island, and it will be remembered that he received the crew of the "Georgie Todd," of Calais, Me., on the 10th December, 1870.

**RAILROADS IN MAINE.**—The poor showing of Maine in the census returns, as compared with other States with fewer natural resources and a less self-reliant population, has very naturally aroused the pride of her people, and occasioned the taking of many retrospective glances with a view to the discovery of the causes for this state of things, and if possible, to remedy the same. The spirit of the citizen of Maine remembers that in 1820 the white population was 238,335; in 1830, 293,455; in 1840, 510,793; in 1850, 583,160; in 1860, 628,276; in 1870, 626,915. Thus showing a steady increase in the per centage of population with each decade since 1820 down to 1860, while for the ten years reaching down to 1870 there has been an actual decrease of 1361 souls. Now, in apparent contradiction of these figures the citizen aforesaid looks over his native State and beholds within territorial limits 20,000,000 square acres of which less than 3,000,000 are under cultivation, while there are at least twice that number of acres capable of being made productive with the ordinary system of tillage, and of sustaining a population many times as large as that now within its borders. He beholds further, in the valleys of its great rivers, a soil not surpassed for productive capacity in New England; a water-power altogether unequalled in the United States; timber land and virgin forests as yet but partially explored, from which the navies of the future are to be constructed; harbors, many, safe, capacious and accessible; a mineral wealth beyond computation, the extent and richness and variety of which is just beginning to be understood, and by means of railroad facilities, to be developed a variety and beauty of landscape unequalled in this continent; a climate given to extremes of heat and cold, but healthful and invigorating. [Journal.]

—Sundry journals are discussing the question:—"Can we cultivate rain?" Doubtful, says the Evening Post, but we can "raise thunder."

# Ship News.

## PORT OF ST. ANDREWS.

### ARRIVED.

Dec. 13, brig Florence, Waycott, Boston, 232 bags meal, &c. R. Ross.  
Matilda, Stinson, St. Stephen, gen. cargo.  
26 Julia Clinch, Maloney, Boston, Flour, hides &c. R. Ross & others.

### DEPARTED.

Dec. 18, schr. Only Son, Peacock, Eastport, iron &c.







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