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ABNER SMITH.

Chignecto Post.

Sackville, N. B., December 26, 1878.

Christmas!

Another Christmas season has fallen from the urn of Time and has brought the people of earth one year nearer that unknown Eternity that lies beyond us. But this is not the season for gloomy retrospection; it is rather one for joyous hope; it is not one of sadness and gloom, but of gladness and joy; the Saviour of Mankind came to bring Peace and Good Will to earth, and this is the time of all others when the most generous and holiest feelings of the human soul ought to be drawn forth. To every human, to every creature, this is the season when the God-like virtue walks abroad and old enemies are healed and old friends clasp hands, a fore-runner of that time when Universal Forgiveness shall reign and gladness and peace shall be the portion of all. This is the season of Charity, when commencing that sublime act whereby the Son of God made himself infinitely poor for our sakes, those who have plenty make the light dance at their poor neighbor's fireside and his table gleam with good things. Alas! Alas! The poor and the needy were never so plenty as now—there was never such wide-spread distress throughout the world—bad crops, poor times, stoppages in mills and factories—commercial disasters have all tended to make the rich poor, and the poor, beggars! Sackville, perhaps of all places in this Province, is the most free from the helplessly poor, but even here the generous hand needs not to be withheld from those who are in need of such gifts that pile up riches to the given.

REPORTS come from Ottawa that demands are made upon the Government for the removal of Mr. Brydges. It is not strange that such reports should be raised, because the moral sentiment of the country would be deceived, were the Government to stultify itself by retaining a man who has so completely lost his position as a political agent to defeat its party. Mr. Brydges may be willing now to cringe and lick the feet of the men whom, previous to the 17th of September, he had affected to despise, but his new found deference to Dr. Tupper is nothing but the base servility of the whipped slave. After making that celebrated report of 1874, denouncing the railway management of the Macdonald-Tupper Government, and after running the railway in Grit interests for five years, Mr. Brydges' own delicacy and self respect ought to have taught him the propriety of retiring from a position in which he would be brought into confidential relations with his political opponents. But since he is determined to transfer his allegiance to the victor's party, and is quite sure he is sincere in his new found convictions, there is no longer any necessity of the party subsidizing him to the extent of \$12,000 a year. Mr. Brydges' management of the Intercolonial was one of the issues—one of the most important issues at the late election—because nearly the whole of the year's deficit of a million arises from the mismanagement of Government Railways. From end to end of Nova Scotia Dr. Tupper raised the issue in his speeches. We say Mr. Brydges' management, because, in 1874, he was charged with the mission of reporting on the condition of the line; he did report and made numerous recommendations, which he was afterwards given full and absolute authority to carry out. If the elections determined anything at all, they condemned in the most unmistakable manner Mr. Brydges' management, and it is now the duty of the Government to respond to the popular wish expressed at the polls, by relieving him of his high office and thus justify the fair and reasonable expectations of the country. For the Government to retain Mr. Brydges would be to pronounce the most unequalled assent to his report of 1874 and to his partisan course since a proceeding that the administration cannot do without endangering the respect and confidence of the public.

THE GREAT REACTION.—The Grit papers are in ecstasies over the Toronto election that took place last Saturday. Mr. M. C. Cameron, the leader of the Ontario Liberal-Conservative Opposition, was elevated to the bench, making a vacancy in the Conservative and Mr. Morris in the Grit interest. Mr. Morris beat him by only about fifty votes, whereas the Conservatives mustered some three hundred majority in September. This is now regarded as an extraordinary victory by the Grits, but the Toronto Globe of Friday pointed out clearly Mr. Morris' weakness. It said: "Mr. Morris is, or was ten days ago, a perfect stranger to Toronto, knowing no person in the city except the few with whom he came in contact while prosecuting another and a distant constituency in Parliament. What practice he has had in his profession has been confined to Toronto or any other part of Ontario. What property he owns is in the town of Perth or the city of Winnipeg, not in Toronto. He knows nothing by practice or experience of our civic requirements, of the peculiar position Toronto occupies in the municipal system of the Province, or of the nature of the attempts made in the past to perfect our municipal machinery. He comes here because he is told, for, as he himself has announced, he did not seek the Conservative nomination—he never sought that he did not want it. He is a very free choice of the Conservative party, and many of the leaders, to say nothing of the rank and file, make no secret of their dissatisfaction with his nomination. Mr. Morris, on the other hand, has resided in Toronto nearly all his life. He has acquired a large amount of property here and elsewhere, and from his investments Toronto derives a large amount of benefit. He is personally well known to a very large number of the electors, and he is extremely popular wherever he is known."

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The "Jacobite."

A gallant young adherent of the ill-starred House of Stuart ventured to return from the Continent, although outlawed and had been pronounced against him and a price set upon his head. What drove him to risk his neck? The old story. Ah! there was a woman in the case. He cherished a passion for Lady Somerford. He had a rival—Sir Richard Wroughton. The scene opens in a country inn, where a secret meeting has been arranged between the outlaw and his lady love, and the interest centers in the efforts of Sir Richard to capture his rival, and the efforts of Lady Somerford and Patty Pottle, daughter of the widow Pottle, who kept the inn, to save him. Subsidiary to the main plot, are the love episodes between Patty and John Duck—the "hoosie" of the hostelry—whose passion like that of their august friends, culminates in happiness. The following was the cast:—

Patty Pottle.....Miss Hall.
John Duck.....Miss E. Kerr.
Lady Somerford.....Mr. C. W. Main.
Sir Richard Wroughton.....Mr. J. A. Mackenzie.
The Widow Pottle.....Mrs. J. A. Mackenzie.
The Widow Pottle was a most perfect piece of acting—it was nature herself reproduced. The tendency to overact to noticeable in nature was quite absent; the widow's anxiety to get pay for her board was fully proportioned to the horror created in her mind when the impetuous Duck demanded the hand of her daughter. Patty Pottle was sustained with great spirit—that giddy-headed, prevaricating, light-hearted young woman was intensely amusing, and in strong contrast to the stately dignity and self-possession of Lady Somerford, whose manner throughout was unexceptionable. John Duck—excepting some minor faults of enunciation—was a capital exhibition of a rattle-headed, good-natured and good-for-nothing young man. The "Jacobite" Mr. Murray was scarcely ardent enough and Sir Richard ought to have been a little more terrible. The drama as a whole was exceedingly creditable and will, we trust, lead to other and more frequent plays by the same talented company.

Burning of the Brigantine Otacilus.
For about ten days the brigantine "Otacilus," of Sackville, has been undergoing repairs on Quinn's blocks, at the foot of Germain street. She lost her keel while on her way from Sackville to the Dominion with a cargo of hay and lumber, by going ashore on the Ship's Bay flat. Changing her destination, after discharging the cargo, which was sold, she came to St. John and the repairs had been completed. While on the blocks a new keel, chiefly new, was brought to this city and placed on board the vessel. She had been ready to sail, last evening, but was prevented and it was the intention of Capt. Towse to leave port today.

About 11.45 last night, one of the men went aft and soon learned that the bay beneath the galley was on fire. An alarm was rung from box 45, which the fire department readily answered. The flames spread so rapidly that it was absolutely dangerous to remove the hatch and therefore none of the cargo could be removed. After the hosemen had worked a short time without the aid of the engines, Nos. 2 and 1 were taken to the scene and the hold was flooded. The cargo was destroyed, the vessel badly damaged. The "Otacilus" registered 232 tons and was owned by Josiah Wood and Messrs. Ogden; they are uninsured. The cargo was shipped by Messrs. Wood & Ogden and they are also without insurance.—Telegraph, 20th.

Amherstism.
The Carnival at the Rink takes place to-night (Thursday).

Mr. J. C. Cole exhibits a curiosity in the musical line. It is one of Needham's Patent Cabinet Organs. Any tune can be played on it without a performer. A role of perforated paper passes over the pipes; the sounds emitted corresponding to the curves of the air permitted by the perforations. These perforations are made on the principles of the pins on the drum of a musical box, to produce a concord of sweet sounds. The organ is manufactured by the Dominion Organ Company, of which Mr. Cole is agent, and ought to have a sale in households where time is too precious and life is too short to secure a musical training.

Hiram Black, Esq., ex-M. P., has been appointed a member of the Legislative Council.

The movements of the armies in Afghanistan cease to have any particular importance, as England has practically secured all that will be of permanent value to her, when she at the outset took possession of the passes. She has only two objects to serve by invading the country, viz., to secure the passes and to make the Afghans realize the futility of resistance. The first was gained when the very first blow was struck. The second is now being done. England has no intention of occupying the country or buying herself about its internal concerns. When her relations with it are established on a good footing, her troops will retire from the whole country except the passes, which will hereafter be held as advanced outposts and fortified garrisons.

The war has been a singularly successful one, and one that pretty effectually crushes Russian ambition in the East.

The chief charm of Mr. Easty's readings is they are not readings; his characters appear upon the platform and talk and act their little parts, unconsciously to the presence of an audience. Mr. Easty is a very successful character delineator; he possesses not only an exquisitely nice conception of literary creations, but great resources as an imitator. He is exceedingly natural; none of his attempts are strained or artificial. Inspiration from such a master of the art of reading cannot but be beneficial to students. He gave three readings at Chignecto Hall last week to appreciative audiences. He may again read at Sackville at an early day.

THE NEW TEMPERANCE ACT.—Mr. Gales says: "Frederick has not yet had the devotion within fifty of all available votes in Fredericton for or against the Act, resulting in a majority of two to one in its favor. York County votes on the 28th. A petition from Charlotte is on deposit in the office of the Registrar. Petitions are being circulated in King's, Albert, Sanbury, Carleton, Victoria, and Queen's and Northern berland are moving. Westmorland has a Committee to initiate a campaign. Prince County, P. E. I., votes on the 28th."

Christmas-Motif.
Peace and Good Will—give generously to the poor and needy—Christmas cards cost only a cent now.

Happy is the man whose Christmas joys are doubled by the possession of a receipted subscription bill to the Post.

The day has arrived when every young man has to consider whether it is cheaper to pick a quarrel with his best friend or buy her a Christmas present.

The Union Advocate started no less than three Barons in its last issue. One of them, the "Shore Line" is acquired a large amount of property here and elsewhere, and from his investments Toronto derives a large amount of benefit. He is personally well known to a very large number of the electors, and he is extremely popular wherever he is known."

Lumber Shipments, 1878.

Shippers.	Tons.	dols.
Geo. McLeod,	13,677	11,875,000
Ed. Walker,	3,336	3,032,000
J. & W. Brant,	3,076	2,917,393
J. B. Wright,	1,829	1,747,000
J. & T. Jardine,	1,619	1,498,200
Cushing & Clarke,	775	684,000
Others,	644	610,000
51 vessels,	28,956	22,263,310

Shippers.	Tons.	dols.
J. B. Wright,	1,205	1,224,000
Carroll, McKee & Co.,	947	869,160
Jas. Duncan & Co.,	646	607,430
J. B. Foster,	748	775,500
G. A. Girouard,	333	335,500
G. McLeod,	340	332,000
12 vessels,	4,539	4,456,620

Shippers.	Tons.	dols.
W. Richards,	1,336	1,169,160
Smith & Barnes,	842	717,600
D. S. Harper,	241	217,800
7 vessels,	2,419	2,104,560

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Paling, sleepers, timber, knees and shingles to a small extent were also shipped.

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Farming and its Profits in England.

Written for the Chignecto Post.
There have been great improvements in the British Isles during the last twenty years, the high price of meat having given a great stimulus to the raising of stock. The great question at the present time is how to make every acre grow as much as possible, as the English farmer is sure of a market, and always cash; no harter, or if I might give a name known in England, no Tommy Shop. What would your most respectable store-keeper think if his store was called a Tommy Shop.

The size of farms vary in different countries. In manufacturing countries, they are much smaller than in non-manufacturing countries, being from 20 to 50 acres. The 20 acres farms are let for £2 10s. to £3 10s. per acre, a 100 acres farm for £2 per acre. Small farms are often let for more than they are worth; there being great competition in England for small farms.

The cultivating of lands vary in different countries. A farmer is expected to have less capital than £10 per acre, and in many cases he is required to have £15 per acre, as capital for the working of his farm. He is not only obliged to sell at the proper time, when all land, as well well. He sells in a crowd, markets and buys in the country.

The returns that are given every year by all farmers, to the Board of Trade, of the number of acres cultivated, what crops are raised, the number of cattle, sheep, &c., form a record of the country's decrease or increase of tillage land and crops. The rateable value of property is generally 25 to 30 per cent. below the rental. In Scotland farms are usually let on a 19 years lease, and their extent vary from 400 to 700 acres. East and West Lothians are the finest farming districts in Great Britain. Cattle, by the hundred, are fed during the winter on straw and turnips, the feeding of the Scotch farms being greatly superior to the English. Cattle are fed sooner with straw and turnips in Scotland than in England, with oil cake in addition to the turnips. After a long series of inquiries it was found that the Scotch farms were much richer in sashar matter and finer than those grown in England. I have seen a turnip thrown against a wall, in Scotland, and while break like a glass bottle, while a Swede turnip in England would not break like that.

The question arises, is the climate of Scotland that produces the difference? Science has not yet determined it; or how it is that whiskey is the beverage in Scotland and one gallon per head is consumed in Scotland more than in England. The influences of climate are only now being investigated. The profits are the same as in all pursuits: sometimes they are very little after deducting the expenses of farming. Ten per cent. is usually the return for the capital on farming in England. There are many different methods of farming in England. The Norfolk four course shift, and the five and six course shift. The Norfolk course is usually adopted for highland farms, where barley, wheat, grass and clover. The five and six course is extended, so that wheat and barley do not grow so near, nor barley, clover and grass seeds, oats and peas, is the six course farming. The five and six course is extended, so that wheat and barley do not grow so near, nor barley, clover and grass seeds, oats and peas, is the six course farming. The five and six course is extended, so that wheat and barley do not grow so near, nor barley, clover and grass seeds, oats and peas, is the six course farming.

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