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# WOLLESTOCK GAZETTE.

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## The Wollestock Gazette,

PUBLISHED MONTHLY, IN CONNECTION WITH THE SAINT JOHN GRAMMAR SCHOOL.

### EDITORS

F. B. ELLIS.

H. E. GOOLD.

G. S. SINCLAIR.

L. M. JEWETT.

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All communications should be addressed to  
THE WOLLESTOCK GAZETTE,  
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IN this, the last number of the GAZETTE, under the present management, we would apologize to our subscribers for the lateness of its issue. The Editors having left school, and some of them the city, and taken upon themselves the sterner realities of life, have not been able as heretofore to look after its publication.

We must, at the same time, return our sincere thanks to those who have so kindly assisted us during the past year, both by their subscriptions and contributions.

While we have not been as successful, as editors, as we desired, we hope that our errors will be passed over lightly, and we feel confident that the experience we have had will be of great advantage to us.

We trusted when we took upon ourselves the responsibility of publishing the GAZETTE, that our schoolmates would have contributed more largely to our pages.

We hope, however, that our successors, should it be deemed advisable to continue the GAZETTE, will be more successful in this respect than we have been.

As the Girls' High School has become part of the Grammar School, we would suggest that the Young Ladies be invited to take part in the editorial management.

### From the WOLLESTOCK GAZETTE:

DEAR SIR,—Your September number, which has just reached me, contains an article headed, "Boys of To-day," which deplores the lack of moral training in our public schools, and complains that religion is never taught there; that, so long as boys "are smart and business-like," it matters not how depraved they may be. Let me quote from one passage in that article. The writer says: "Boys who are young in years, are old in the use of all the filthy and immoral sayings which flood our streets, and what are they taught in school? Are they taught to shun such, as they would a serpent? No, they are taught to be smart, to have their wits about them, that is all, it does not matter if they are swearers as long as they are sharp, business-like."

The inference here is, evidently, that moral and religious instruction is not incumbent upon the teachers, or that they are neglecting this very important part of their work, and are shamefully careless about the moral and religious welfare of their pupils.

Reg. 22 of the Board of Education requires that each and every teacher shall maintain a deportment becoming his position as an educator of the young, and strive diligently to have exemplified in the intercourse and conduct of the pupils throughout the school, the principles of Christian morality. To this end it shall be his duty to give instruction to the school, as occasion may require concerning such moral actions as the following: "Love and hatred; obedience, willing and forced; truth and falsehood; dissimulation; selfishness and self denial; gentleness and cruelty; courtesy, cleanliness, loyalty and love of country; generosity and covetousness; order and punctuality; perseverance, forgiveness of injury, patience, justice, self-control, contentment, industry and indolence; respect for the aged, self-conceit, destructiveness, tale bearing, when right and wrong; forbearance and sympathy due to misfortune and deformity."

The city Board of School Trustees, on page 56 of its last report, draws special attention to the above requirement. It is quite clear then that neither the Board of Education nor the city Board

of Trustees is responsible, if this lamentable state of affairs exists in our schools. And now let us see if there is any real cause for complaint against the teachers. In the Roman Catholic schools religious instruction is a part of the daily work. Their clergymen hold the teachers responsible that it is duly performed; and that the duty is faithfully discharged, no one but the writer of "Boys of To-day" will deny. That the work is equally well done in the other schools, satisfactory proof can, I think, be obtained at the office of the Board of Trustees, where, I believe, the papers of a recent written examination on "Health, Morals and Manners," are still to be seen, and are of sufficient merit to prove that *daily* instruction in these subjects must have been imparted. I am afraid that the writer of "Boys of To-day" does not know what he is writing about, or else he is making wilful mistatements. In either case he falls rather below the "high standard of morality" to which he is so desirous that others shall attain.

By publishing this letter in your next issue of the WOLLESTOCK GAZETTE you will confer a favor upon  
A SUBSCRIBER.

#### "THE CASKETS."

MERCHANT OF VENICE.

Portia, a young lady who lived at Belmont, was bequeathed a large fortune at the death of her father. There was a condition, however, upon which the bequest was granted. It was enacted by the will that Portia, in order to receive the property, should marry the man who might choose the right one out of three caskets, made respectively of gold, silver, and lead.

Rumor spread this abroad, and, as a consequence there were many suitors for the hand of Portia, who was thus placed in the very delicate position of doing justice to all parties. The majority of the gentlemen who desired to marry her, she did not like at all, but there was one young man, Bassanio by name, upon whose suit she was disposed to look with favor. That the above is true we learn from her conversation with the maid Nerissa.

The character of each suitor was fully shown when the time arrived for making a choice of one of the three caskets. The Prince of Morocco, judging by the outward display of the golden casket, chose it. Great was his disappointment to find that he had chosen the wrong one, and lost Portia for his bride.

The Prince of Arragon having read the inscriptions, thought the casket made of silver most likely to be the proper one to choose. When he opened it the portrait of a blinking idiot met his gaze, and the scroll contained within the casket informed him of his failure to win Portia.

The next suitor was Bassanio. Portia feared that he should choose wrongly, and begged him to wait, if only for a short time, before making a choice. But he assured her that the suspense was so great that he wished to learn his fate. Accordingly Portia gave him the key to the leaden casket, which he chose in preference to the other two, with great joy; as she knew he had met with success. Bassanio, when he found that Portia was really to be his bride, was greatly over-joyed at his good fortune. The scene is brought to an end with the announcement that Nerissa, the maid of Portia, is to be married to Gratiano, a friend of Bassanio, who asked permission to have the ceremony performed on the same day that the wedding of Bassanio was to take place. Leave was granted, and uniting congratulations extended.

#### CLASSIFICATION OF INSECTS.

At this season of the year very little collecting can be done, as all the insects have either transformed or gone into their winter quarters. So the young entomologist must bestir himself to preserve and arrange the collection he has made in the last season. In a former paper I have given you some hints as to cases, and the preservation of the specimens, so, supposing that you are all prepared with material, we will now start on the work, which, unless you are a very apt student, will engross all your spare time this winter, namely, that of arranging your insects. For which purpose of classification seven great divisions are generally adopted by naturalists.

1. *Coleoptera*. Insects with jaws. Two thick wing covers, meeting in a straight line on top of the back, and two gauze-like wings folded transversely, such as the tiger beetles lady birds, (*Coccinelladae*) water beetles, etc.

2. *Orthoptera*. Insects with jaws, two opaque upper wings, and two large thin wings. Under this head would come grasshoppers, crickets cockroaches, etc.

3. *Hemiptera*. Insects with a horny beak for suction, with four wings, which lie flat and cross each other on the back. Under this head would come locusts, plant lice, bugs, etc.

4. *Neuroptera*. Insects with jaws, four netted wings, of which the hinder ones are largest, and having no sting, such as the dragon flies, may flies, white ants, etc.

5. *Lepidoptera*. Mouth with spiral sucking tube, wings four, covered with scales. such as all butterflies and moths. I would recommend in arranging this order to place the larger butterflies of such as the *papilirs*: first, then the next largest group, and so on.

6. *Hymenoptera*. Insects with jaws, four veined wings, and a sting at the extremity of the abdomen, such as the bees, saw flies, ants, wasps, etc.

7. *Diptera*. Insects with a horny or fleshy proboscis, two wings only, and two knobbed threads called balances, behind the wings. Under this head would come the mosquitoes, gnats, flies, etc.

#### THE ORIGIN OF THE DRAMA.

The English drama may be traced to the *Miracle* plays of the twelfth century. The people of that time, as may be supposed, were very ignorant and credulous, and in order to teach them, the clergy introduced plays founded on scenes and incidents from the Bible. These were performed with true zeal and simplicity by the monkish actors, and at the same time were made both interesting and instructive for the people.

They were generally played on feast days, when three stages were erected in the church representing Heaven, Earth, and Hell. The time occupied in the performance of a play was considerable, that of the creation lasting, of course, for six days.

As the people became better acquainted with these plays they were taken up by the laity and, losing much of their religious tone, they were *Moral* plays. The chief characteristic in these plays was the continued warfare between vice and virtue, resulting in a victory for virtue.

The *Interludes* next appeared on the scene. The character of these is uncertain. They were either short scenes of the play on the stage, or else short plays by themselves, introduced between the acts of a long play, or between the different courses of the feasts, which in those days were of great length. When more modern plays were first enacted in England, the actors usually performed in the court-yard of an inn, the guests coming out of their rooms and sitting on the balconies, and the rabble from the street standing around the rude stage. This place in which the common herd con-

gregated, corresponded to the modern pit or parterre.

The puritanical corporation at first refused to allow any theatres to be put up in London, and they were built outside the city, but when Shakspeare wrote his plays, he had the good sense to refrain from ridiculing the Puritans in his plays, and confined his subjects to history and social life. He was rewarded by being allowed to build the first theatre, Blackriars, in London, and since that time the mode of producing plays upon the stage has been improved, and the language and style of these made fit for the people of the present day.

C. F. K.

#### EXPEDITION TO MANAWAGANISH.

Early last autumn, in accordance with the suggestion of Mr. Jack, a number of boys from the Grammar school, accompanied by Mr. McLean, Mr. Hay, and Mr. Emery, visited Manawaganish Island. The excursion was arranged for a Saturday in September. We decided to meet at the floats at half past seven in the morning. I went down to the Ferry at about seven, and waited for nearly three quarters of an hour before I saw any one. Then the others came, dropping in one by one, and it was almost eight o'clock before we were all assembled. We then went to Mr. Hay's boat house, where we got two boats, which could be used either for sailing or rowing, one his property and the other borrowed. Mr. Hay took charge of his own boat, and Mr. McLean of the other. As the tide was going out, we rowed close beside the wharves till we reached Reed's Point, and then struck off towards the end of the Breakwater. As we approached it the swell became quite heavy, rocking the boat up and down with a delightful motion. But, however pleasant this might be for the passengers, it made harder work for the rowers, so we were glad to get under the lee of Partridge Island. We reached the Breakwater, where we put up sail and scudded away with wind abeam. the weather was cloudy and rather cool, and the wind south-east. Having both wind and tide in our favor, we went quite fast, passing Duck, and Sand Coves and Sheldon's Point. We held a nearly straight course till we reached Manawaganish Island, which was our destination. It is about seven miles from Reed's Point.

Landing at a sheltered beach, we walked up through a field, to an uninhabited house, where we amused ourselves by exploring the rooms and

cutting our names on the walls with jack-knives. We then went through the woods to the south side of the island, a solitary sheep following us ("Birds of a feather flock together.") during all our walks round the island. Scrambling down the steep rocks, we came across several anemones and limpets. In a little pool was a large anemone, which we tried in vain to pull off the rock. We saw a great deal of dulce hanging to the sides of the rocks, and in one place there was a little pond, connected with the water outside by a channel about a yard wide and a foot deep. We jumped across the channel and tried to climb up the rocks on the other side, but could not succeed for they were too steep; so we recrossed immediately, for, if we had waited any longer, the tide would have risen so high that we could not have got across. The sheep which I mentioned as having accompanied us, stood at the top of the cliff. When we returned across the island, it still followed us, and when we set off again in the boats, it stood at the top of the beach and watched us as we departed. Perhaps, like Mary's little lamb, it wished to follow us to school, "but that was against the rule." We rowed over to Little Manawanish, which is a small flat-topped Island, high out of the water at low tide, and surrounded by steep cliffs. Up these we climbed, and found, as a reward for our exertions, plenty of raspberries. We also found several holes in the earth, where persons had been digging for Captain Kidd's money, which was said to be hidden here. We crossed to the side of the island opposite to that on which we had landed, and then returned round the rocks. On our way we found some ore in quartz veins, which we thought to be manganese. We managed to break out enough to serve as specimens to take home with us. One of our companions found some sea urchins on the rocks, one of which was very large. After this we rowed to Taylor's Island, where we hauled the boats up to the top of the beach, on rollers, to get them out of reach of the tide. A curious object there is a bank of gravel, about ten feet high, and running the whole length of the beach, which was thrown up by the Saxby gale. A little way back into the woods was a ready-made table, on which lunch was spread. Having rambled a good deal by this time, we had great appetites for the good things provided. All kinds of eatables were in plenty, and were enjoyed in true school-boy fashion. We then started for the "Marsh," to get some cat-tails. When we reached the marsh we walked up to the dyke, and then

crossed to the other side of the creek, where we found a couple of dozen more, and carrying these spoils, we set off to the beach to have a swim. The water was bitterly cold, so we did not stay in long, but soon went to the boats, put everything on board, and, while some of the party went to get a drink, the rest rowed up to meet them as they came back. Mr. Hay's boat was now far ahead of Mr. McLean's, so she was run ashore to wait for the other crew. Mr. Emery fell in with a wasp's nest, and had to fall out again pretty quickly. By this time the other boat-load had come up, so we started afresh for home, and rowed to the Breakwater. There we put up sail, and, landing Mr. Emery in Carleton, we went down the Carleton shore to the Ferry landing, where we crossed to Mr. Hay's boat house. When we arrived there it was nearly 8 o'clock. We had expected to visit Partridge Island, but had not time. However we were all very satisfied and we went home saying that we had had a jolly time. X X X.

#### Letter to a Lad in England Descriptive of Winter Sports

ST. JOHN, N. B.,

Nov. 26th, 1884.

*Dear Edward:*—I received your letter on the 18th, and as you asked me to give you a description of our winter and its sports, I thought I would do so this evening. Our winters are not so terrible as you suppose, and we don't go round in bearskins and live like the Esquimaux as some Englishmen think; but sometimes we have some severe winters, and the snow in the country is very deep, perhaps five to ten feet, and even over that in narrow gorges and valleys. But in the city it is not so deep, being either carried away or trodden down by the horses and sleighs. We have different kinds of sports, such as skating, sleighing, snowshoeing, tobogganing, etc. There are now two skating rinks in the city, the Victoria Skating Rink, and the Lansdowne Skating Rink, the latter is a new one, which is just being completed, to which I expect to go this winter. Last year there was a large number of carnivals held in the Victoria Rink, besides a grand tournament. The tournament consisted of fancy skating, a potato race, a snow-shoe race, a barrel race, and two or three mile races.

We have a great deal of sleighing here, the sleighing season beginning about the middle of December and ending about the first of April. During this time we have lots of fun riding down

hill on our own small sleds. These sleds are made especially for boys and girls, being of different lengths and sizes, besides going out into the country with our toboggan where there are long steep hills, and ride over the surface of the snow, which is far more pleasant, and safe, than that of riding on sleds. A toboggan is a kind of a sled, but it is made of two or three long slim boards fastened together, and turned up at the front, but to make it more plain I have drawn a picture of one of them, which you will find enclosed in the letter. Large numbers of these tobogganing parties composed of grown up persons often go out into the country on moon-light nights and spend part of the evening in tobogganing, and return in a large sleigh.

We also have snow-shoeing which is enjoyed by a great many, and persons have to have these snow-shoes if they go into the woods, or else they will sink in perhaps up to their necks, and be buried in the snow. As I have told you about our sports in this country, as many as I can think of at present, I think I must close.

Your affectionate cousin,  
H. S. C.

#### UP THE NASHWAAK.

One day last August I accompanied a party of boys on a trip up the Nashwaaksis river, which empties into the St. John, opposite Fredericton. There was about a dozen of us in all and the means of conveyance were a canoe and two boats. We started from the St. Ann's boat house at about half past eight and reached the mouth of the river 10 minutes afterwards. Before going up we thought we would take in a small part of Hot Water Creek, which we did and had not gone over half a mile when we stopped by the boats running aground, the water at that time being very shallow. We then rowed back to the mouth of the creek and proceeded up the main river. We had not gone far before a challenge was issued by those on the canoe to race either or both of the boats, to a tree which was about one quarter of a mile distant. The challenge was accepted by both of the boats crews, and they accordingly arranged themselves in line and at a given signal started. The smaller boat took the lead and kept it for about three quarters of the distance when it was passed and beaten by about one length by the canoe which was quite a victory for the latter, as there were four oars to a boat and only two paddles to the canoe.

After this we proceeded on but had not gone far

before we began to feel the effects of the race, and a bath was proposed by one of the party. While we were in bathing another race was agreed upon, but this time a swimming match. There was five contestants, myself among the number. We proceeded to get in line and one of the boys having given a signal we started. We kept very close together for about half of the distance, when I who had been used to salt water thought I would stop and see one of the others win; this I did and helped the other fellows to cheer the lucky one, who turned out to be the smallest member of the party. We then proceeded up as far as the mills where we had that which we enjoyed better than anything we had yet seen or done—a dinner. After looking around we started for home, and as the tide was with us we made the return trip far more quickly than the up voyage. We arrived at the boat house at half-past seven. Before separating another match was made between the two boats, but as I had to leave before the race took place I cannot state the result. E.

#### The Average Age of Animals

The average age of cats is 15 years; of squirrels and hares 7 or 8 years; rabbits, 7; a bear rarely exceeds 20 years; a dog lives 20 years; a wolf 20; a fox, 14 to 16. Lions are long-lived, the one by the name Pompey living to the age of 70. Elephants have been known to live to the age of 400 years.

When Alexander the Great had conquered Porus, King of India, he took a great elephant which had fought valiantly for the king, and dedicated him to the sun, and let him go with this inscription: "Alexander, the son of Jupiter, dedicated Ajax to sun." The elephant was found with the inscription 350 years after. Pigs have been known to live to the age of 20, and the rhinoceros to 29. A horse has been known to live to the age of 62, but averages 25 or 30. Camels sometimes live to the age of 100; stags are very long lived; sheep very seldom exceed the age of 10; cows live about 15 years.

Cuvier considers it probable whales sometimes live 1,000 years. The dolphin and porpoise attain the age of 30; an eagle died at Vienna at the age of 104; ravens have frequently reached the age of 100; swans have been known to reach the age of 300. Mr. Masterton has the skeleton of a swan that attained the age of 200. Pelicans are long-lived. A tortoise has been known to live to the age of 107 years.

EXCHANGES.—The usual number have been received.

## WELSH NAMES.

Welsh names are proverbially of a crack-jaw tendency; but perhaps the palm may be given to the following, which casually occurred in a conversation between a Welsh maiden and an English visitor in a village at the foot of Snowdon. The visitor inquired—"What is the name of your little cottage, my dear? Welsh girl—Lletyllifylifynwy, sir. E. V.—Oh. And are your parents living? W. G.—Yes, sir; but my father works at Chwared Caebraichycafn. E. V.—Well, well. Any brothers? W. G.—Yes, three sir. One at Rhosllanerchrugog, one at Llanenddwynwmllanddwywe, and one lives between Penmaenmawr and Llanfairfechan. F. V.—It's growing worse, I see. How many sisters? W. G.—Only two, sir; one is with my aunt at Llanfairmathafarneithof. E. V.—My word, what a name! And the other? W. G.—Oh, she is in service, sir, at Llanfairpwllgwyngyllgogerychwyrndrobwllgerdrobwllllandysiliogogoch." This agreeable name signifying—"Llanfair," St. Mary near; "Pwll Gwyngyll," White Hazel Pond; "Goger," near; "Y Chwyrn Drobwll," near the Whirl Pool; "Dysilio," Saint; "Ogo," cavern; "Gogo Goch," ancient hermit.

Algebra is by no means a new science, for as early as the fourth century a Greek Mathematician wrote an extensive work on that most interesting science, a portion of which has come down to us. During this century, however, greater attention than heretofore, has been paid to Algebra, and it has taken a long stride forward. Canada has produced many Mathematicians of great repute, and now she has received an additional honor through one of her sons. Prof. G. Paxton Young, of Toronto, has succeeded, he believes in solving equation of the fifth and sixth degrees, which for the last hundred years have been held to be insolvable. His solutions have been submitted to the best Mathematicians of America, who, after applying every conceivable test, have decided that his solutions are correct.—*The Sunbeam.*



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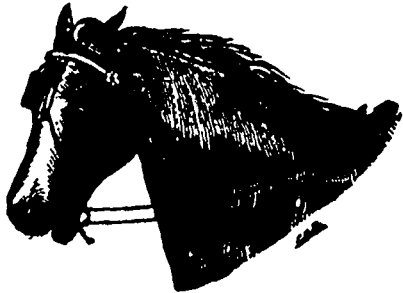
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