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June 1 1887



Rockwood

Review.



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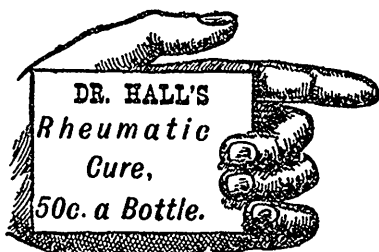
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# The Rockwood Review.

VOL. 4.

KINGSTON, JANUARY 1ST, 1899.

No. 12.

## LOCAL ITEMS.

**BIRTH.**—On December 13th, the wife of Geo. Coxworthy, Rockwood Hospital, of a daughter.

The Methodist Church Sunday School gave an Xmas Entertainment called the "Wise men from the East," and the Presbyterian Sunday School an old fashioned Kris Kringle display, in which Mr. Jas. Dennison, of Rockwood, played a prominent part. Both entertainments were highly successful.

Mr. and Mrs. Coxworthy are the recipients of many congratulations, and George declares that his Xmas box is more satisfactory even than if it had been a boy.

Mr. C. M. Clarke has been made captain of the junior Frontenac Hockey team. These lads have a good chance of winning the Ontario Junior Championship, as although young in years they are old in hockey experience.

Mr. William Shea will at an early date visit the Verdun Hospital, Montreal, and give one of his unique evenings. The "Baby Elephant" and "Slippery Day" will be among the attractions offered.

Skating and Curling began very early this year, the rink being opened on December 13th.

The friendless patients were well remembered at Xmas. The number of kind hearted people in the community has not decreased—pessimists and cynics to the contrary.

The Rockwood pheasants do not appear to object to low temperatures, and play in the snow when the thermometer is far below zero.

The Imperial postage two cent Stamp is variously criticized, the prevailing opinion being that it is beautiful before use, but hideous after cancellation. Very few Canadians are carried away by sentiment regarding it, and most would feel better satisfied if Canadian two cent postage were established. This would prove a boon all could appreciate. If Mr. Mulock wishes to retain the popularity he has established, he will give a general two cent rate.

The Beechgrove Hockey Club is to the fore as usual, and will give an excellent account of itself during the season.

A WHIG item states that the Kingston curlers cannot get games nearer than Perth. We always thought that Rockwood made it fairly interesting for them during the curling season.

The three days thaw just before Xmas was not a success, and proved a most unwelcome visitor.

Kingston Ladies Musical Club seems to be a flourishing institution, and is doing a good work in developing a better class of music than has ordinarily been cultivated in the city.

A few meadow larks, pine siskins and cherry birds have remained with us. The crows we always have, and chickadees have taken up their winter residence in the spruce trees near the summer houses.

Miss M. Hewitt Smart, of Toronto, is a guest at Rockwood House.

Mr. W. Mullin spent his Xmas in Hamilton.

## The Rockwood Review.

**DIED.**—At Portsmouth, on December 24th, 1898, Sarah A Battershill, beloved wife of Wm. Potter, Engineer of Rockwood Hospital.

It is our painful duty to record the death of Mrs. Potter, who for the last two years suffered uncomplainingly from a malady she knew to be fatal. Mrs. Potter was full of the domestic virtues characteristic of the best women, and is deeply regretted by all who knew her. That she should have been cut off in middle age, just when her children most needed her tender care, made her death seem more to be regretted than it would even under ordinary circumstances, and the event has touched the deepest chord of human sympathy in the hearts of all the Rockwood officials. Coming as it did at Xmas time, the occurrence seemed doubly sad, and Mr. Potter and his family have the sympathy of the whole community. The funeral took place on the morning of December 26th, and was largely attended.

Mr. E. C. Watson, recently Clinical Assistant at Rockwood, as President of the Æsculapian Society, presided at the Medical Dinner a few nights since. He was in excellent humor, and as the dinner was by far the best of a long series of such events, he has every reason to be satisfied.

Dr. Clarke and Mons. Andrieux took part in the service at St. George's Cathedral Xmas Day, playing two violin duets and assisting with the Anthem.

Reeve Fisher of Portsmouth is always a source of anxiety to the "ice-yacht" owners of Kingston. This season he will play the old role, and will be at the starting post for pennant races with a yacht that should be fast enough to win everything in sight. She's got the size, she's got the sail, she's got the captain too.

Mrs. Terrill, of Belleville, spent Xmas with her daughter, Mrs. Forster, Rockwood.

Mr. E. Beaupre, of Portsmouth, has become "mine host" at the Algoma House. Mr. Beaupre will be a success in this capacity.

We are in receipt of a dainty volume of poems by Miss Dorothy Knight, Lancaster. These poems will be reviewed in a future issue.

We would commend a course in Dickens' Xmas stories for the authorities in Ottawa who did away with the convicts Xmas cheer in the Penitentiary. It may be possible to make men good by main strength, and denying them the right to see one ray of sunshine from year's end to year's end. We are under the impression that the experiment has been tried before, but until we can change even the nature of the degenerate, and alter the circumstances of the unfortunate, we cannot hope much from such measures. A decided advance in the study of criminology is what Canada needs more than anything else, to enable her to rank as even nearly up to date in such matters.

Mr. T. Mooney, of Portsmouth, is very ill.

Large flocks of ducks are still to be seen near here. The birds are whistlers (golden-eyes).

The Rockwood Hockey Club has reorganized with the old officers re-elected. Mr. John Shea is manager. As John has enthusiasm and energy he should make an ideal Manager.

Mrs. E. Gilmour who has been very ill, is making an excellent recovery.

Mr. Bidwell Way, of Hamilton Asylum, called at Rockwood recently, and gave ample evidence of the benefits of living on the mountain.



## The Rockwood Review.

### XMAS AT ROCKWOOD.

This year the fact that Xmas fell on Sunday, made it necessary to change the usual method of celebration at Rockwood. The dinner was given on Saturday, and as usual it was extensive enough, elaborate enough and dainty enough to satisfy what the little boy called the most "fastidious." Never before has such magnificent poultry been secured, and as for the plum pudding it was a dream—or rather so rich that it would be conducive to the production of dreams. After dinner the presents were given out, and great has been the kindness of the friends in past years, this season they excelled themselves, and as much money was sent to purchase Xmas tokens for the friendless ones, no person was forgotten. Saturday afternoon was full of happiness, the opening of the packages, excitement over messages from home filling up the time.

On Sunday morning the Protestant service in the Amusement Hall was largely attended, and special music given by the choir and orchestra. A voluntary by the orchestra, Hope Sublime, Barnard, was particularly fine. In the Anthem the solo was taken by Miss Peirce. The Roman Catholics had a special service in their chapel.

On Monday evening the usual Xmas Entertainment was given, and as variety has to be considered a change from the past performance was indulged in. The usual evergreen Xmas Bell was hung in the centre of the hall, and was prettily decorated. The programme was opened by the Orchestra. After two or three selections had been played, Miss Ella Peirce sang Vandewater's appropriate Night of Nights with great feeling, John Shea contributed a tenor solo with effect, and the first part of Mrs. Jarley's Waxworks were produced. Mrs. Jarley will never grow out of date, and the vigorous and energetic old lady, as represented by

Miss Jennie Porter, did full justice to the traditions. The first series of Waxworks comprised many celebrated groups, which were described in classic terms by Mrs. Jarley, and exhibited with great enthusiasm by George (W. Shea), and his assistants Miss Dennison and Mr. Gilmour, Indian Prince, Bluebeard and his wives, Past and present, Little Jack Horner, the Maid of Athens, Lord Byron, Mermaids, Napoleon, Spanish Banditti and beautiful Signorinas, Indians, Jack Sprat and his wife, Jack Douns, Soap Advertisements, Policemen, and the other celebrities usually found in a well assorted collection of Waxworks were all there. George, the assistant, made no end of fun, particularly when the mechanism of the figures got out of order.

In the second part of the programme, Miss Mary H. Smart, so well known by the Toronto public, gave "A Song of Paradise," with violin obligato, and was rapturously encored. Dr. Clarke played a violin solo "Cavatina" by Bohm and "Berceuse" by Godard. Bandmaster Madill played a Clarinet Solo, and W. Shea gave his unique Crow Song. Mrs. Jarley's Waxworks (second part) concluded the programme.

Among those taking part were: Misses Macdonald, Stoness, Nicholson, Donaldson, Maloney, Jackson, Nugent, Ahearn, Bamford, Porter, Moxley, Davidsor. Messrs. Woods, Stephenson, Countryman, Carey, Shannahan, Harold and Herbert Clarke, Painter and Lawless.

Much credit is due Miss Gibson for the energetic manner in which she developed the entertainment. A large number of the friends of the patients were present, and were much pleased with what they saw.

On January 3rd a unique Cape Walk and Eccentric Quadrille are to be given by the young folks, who are at present spending their Xmas holidays. These entertainments are said to be quite new in all their features.

## The Rockwood Review.

### THE ONTARIO BIRTH RATE.

At the recent meeting of the Anglican Synod in Montreal, a good deal was said about the small birth rate in Ontario, and various causes were said to have operated to produce this. Very severe reflections upon the morality of a certain part of the population were indulged in by some, and imputations against the good name of our women, have since been brought to the front in various quarters. That evils exist, and always will exist in society, no one attempts to deny, that when they are obscure they are apt to be exaggerated out of all proportion is also true. The writer is a believer in the virtues of women in general, and Canadian women in particular, and that they are not half as bad as they are painted is undoubtedly true. There is nothing like the practical method of dealing with glowing general statements, and a few facts in connection with this matter may be of interest. The employees of Rockwood are a fairly representative class of the population of Ontario, and are generally taken into service at the age known as marriageable. The nurses entering the training school are single, and as a general rule single men are appointed to the vacancies occurring on the staff. A brief analysis of the facts at our disposal reveals the great factor at work in reducing the birth rate of Ontario. Defective registration may play a part, but the chief influence at work is that of emigration. Ontario produces hardy and energetic, young people, whose good qualities are

recognized by the Americans, and who find ready employment in the U. S. It is always a source of regret to true Canadians, that our own people are not content to develop our own resources, but are willing to be enticed by the glamor of Americanism. It is startling to find that of 240 employees engaged here, 33½ per cent. have left the Province of Ontario, and nearly all have gone to the U. S. These were all of the marriageable age, and have in the majority of instances, married and become American citizens. At the very outset we are faced by this reduction of our total of marriageable people by one-third, and although on the face it appears that these people added nothing to our population, they have increased that of Uncle Sam's republic very materially. As a matter of fact we can account for the marriage of 143 of those who were on our staff, 33 at present on the staff are still unmarried, and of the sixty odd remaining, of whom we are not able to speak, no doubt the greater proportion are believed to have married, thus very effectually disposing of the contention that marriage is avoided. In regard to the size of families it may be said that the families of those who have married, and who were married, are of such a healthy average size, that special sermons are not needed for the heads of families half so much as larger salaries to enable them to provide the food and clothing for the numerous juveniles. The best thing that could happen Ontario would be the rigid enforcement of the American alien law.

## The Rockwood Review.

### GRANDFATHER'S CORNER.

#### A CURARCAON COLLEGE.

The young Canadians, whose experiences have been related in previous numbers of our periodical, being full of the "go" which distinguishes the race, and determined to live a life of industry in preference to starvation or beggary, found employment which enabled them to maintain their self-respect, even if the remuneration was not equal to their expectations. The story will proceed in the language of its chief narrator:—

Across the arm of the harbor is a College founded by a Venezuelan professor, who was banished by Crespó. The building is surrounded by residences of like appearance, of two storeys, plastered outside with a material of brilliant yellow, roofed with red tiles, edged on the cornices, lintels, eaves and returns with dazzling white, windowed in Dutch style, and gabled to infinite excess. The front court-yard is enclosed with ponderous stone and brick posts, relieved by scanty railing. This fence does not lack color, the posts being white, the supports red, the railing yellow, all sparkling like crystals in the intense sunlight. Large red tiles pave the court, and over these we find passages to the lower storey through white folding doors, or to the upper apartments, by extensive exterior staircases on either side. Entering the schoolrooms below, we find a long open passage leading the whole extent of the building to the back court-yard, which in turn leads to the waters of the harbor. On either side of this aisle are seats, in all sorts of nooks, and by the side of them are red wooden desks for the pupils. Beyond open other rooms to the right and the left, some of which are schoolrooms, others music rooms, offices or dormitories. In each dormitory are some dozen cots of wood and iron, and to these the boys retire at eight p.m., à la Tom Brown, the bully, or Arthur as the case may

be. In the rear court-yard, which is like others paved with red tile, are arranged on either side small plastered houses, of varied colors, used by servants, workshops, bath-rooms, laundries, &c. By the rear a stairway leads to the upper storey, where are located other dormitories, the diningroom and the Director's private apartments.

One room is in the lower front, and is not superabundantly furnished. We cannot complain when we think how little furniture sufficed for Adam and Eve when they resided in Eden. People differ in their ideas upon such points. An Anglo Saxon, the truest house lover, thinks that every additional cartload of furniture or knick-knackery adds to his happiness. The Jap is abundantly satisfied with less furnishing for a whole household than would be thought sufficient for a single room of John Bull. So knowing that carpets, curtains and other trimmings, mean many undesirable insects in a warm climate, we are willingly convinced that the experience of our predecessors here is of more value than our artificial wants, and have gladly set to work to make the best of our surroundings. And "too much furniture" would speedily be a cry if we had it ever with us, for our room is constantly invaded by the pupils. Through it the seniors pass to their dormitories, and over them we have to watch. And associated with us is a graduate who has some teaching and other duties to perform. In the school are eleven teachers, some of whom are resident as we, while there are others who live apart. The pupils are in the majority the sons of Columbian and Venezuelan merchants, many of whom are very wealthy. Of course Spanish is the language universally spoken, but English, French and German are largely taught. The ambition of the Directorate is to make this one English school, in so far as that is possible, and already one half of the boys can speak a fair amount

## The Rockwood Review.

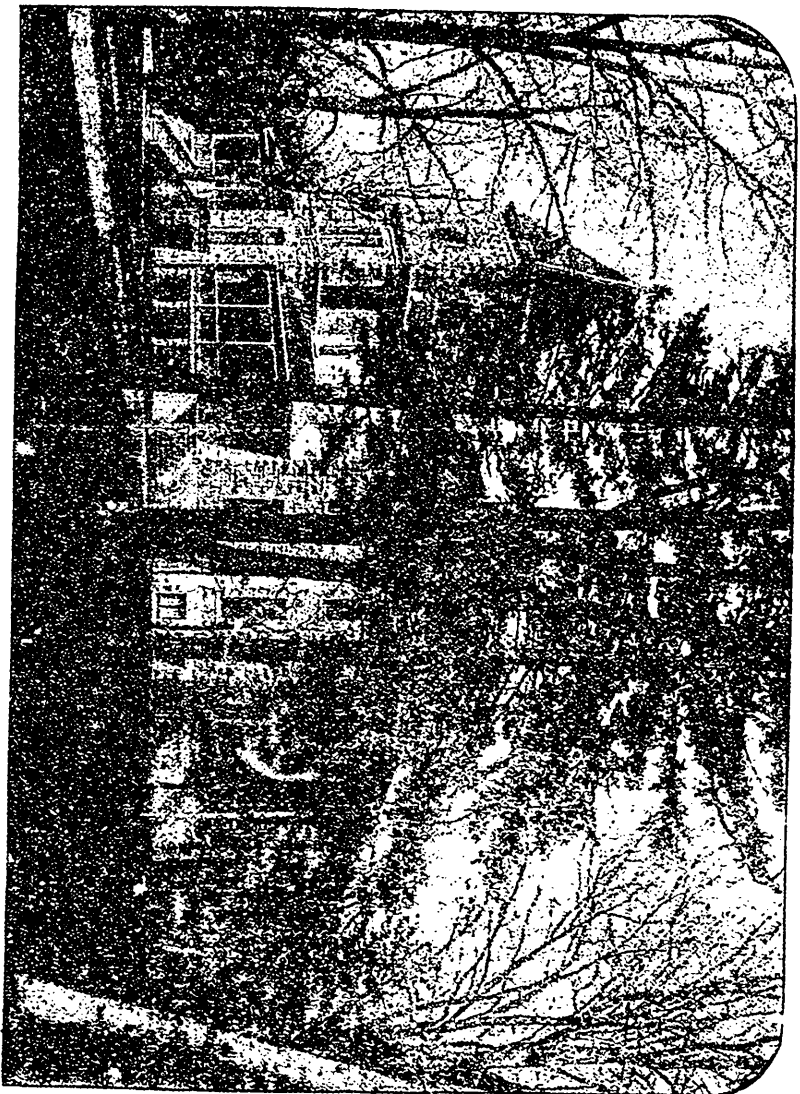
of English. The cost of maintenance averages about \$225 per annum to each pupil. Few holidays are given, but a week being permitted at intervals, and a month in December, while many of the pupils remain here for years without visiting their homes. The ages of the students range from 10 to 21, and many are fine manly fellows. All however have the Spanish characteristics of ungoverned passion, while many lack moral stamina, or possess the old moral standards of their forefathers—good in their way it may be, but not altogether conforming to moral ethics.

A bell is rung at half-past five each morning, when all the boys leave their dormitories, and proceed to the lavatories and bath rooms. At half past six we teachers rise, and prepare for the coffee and hot roll which take the place of a northern breakfast. From the diningroom all hurry down to the larger schoolroom, where the nominal roll is called and studies are entered upon. At eight o'clock the classes are arranged, and each teacher takes his charge. During the morning work, a barbarous din is maintained by the pupils, but who nevertheless are making a genuine effort to learn. The conception of order or of discipline seems never to have dawned upon them.

I take a class of young Spaniards, varying in age from ten to thirteen, and by the Berlitz method endeavor to teach them to speak in English. Many of them do not know a word of the language. While they learn something, I acquire much, and in this manner am afforded opportunity to improve my Spanish. I am forced to shamefacedly confess that up to this new experience, I have spent but little time in honest study of this very necessary language, although able to converse in it to some degree, and to understand most of what is addressed to me. Spanish is very difficult to master, but it is a beautiful lan-

guage, rich to luxuriance and in sound perfect. The pupils walk about the room heedless of reprimand, and often to understand one's meaning other than from the tone in which reproof is conveyed. All classes seem to attempt to drown each other's sound in the unchecked discord that floats—nay surges—from room to rooin. To maintain your balance you feel compelled to have your class exceed the others in the production of noise. It seems impossible to introduce modern methods of discipline, as we are not allowed to punish. I did of my own accord chastise one boy for telling me to "shut up" while we were in classment, and the young Don ran about wildly seeking a weapon with which to assail me. So fiery and uncontrollable are these young students, that they cannot be punished without the risk of an emeute, or worse, and life is too valuable to its possessor to be risked in an effort to do what the parent ought to have done before. In this neglect, or avoidance of trouble, rather the Spanish American fathers and mothers, have for generations laid the foundation of the turbulence, which ever and anon threatens the very existence of South American governments. But when not crossed and so aroused, the boys are really fine fellows, and one's heart warns to the better side of them, despite this social canker of "let alone," which is a blot upon the best interests of the country.

My comrade is teaching English to another new class, some of the members of which speak only Dutch, or Passiemento, the language of the lower class of people here, and a horrible patois it is, part French, part Dutch, part Spanish and the remainder Negro. Add to the noise and monotonous droning of the class, the continuous ringing of bells here and there, and you have a conception of an uproar which outdoes the confusion of a Babel. Lessons last one hour. From ten to twelve we rest in our



BEECHGROVE - HOSPITAL, A. J. ROCKWOOD.

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room, through the open door of which we listen and watch the Director teaching Spanish grammar or literature to a senior class. No real rest, no solitude, no peace. In the afternoon my comrade teaches classes of French and German, while I take charge of a third class, in English speaking and grammar, and a senior class in English idioms. In doing this my explanations and conversation are given partly in English, and partly in Spanish. Of the other teachers, one is a Dutchman, one a Curacaoan mulatto, one a New Yorker, one a Lutheran minister, while another is an English mulatto from the Barbadoes. Among the seniors are young men who aid in teaching.

At four or five in the afternoon, the sun has relented sufficiently to permit an open air walk. We often go, accompanied by a bevy of some dozen or so of pupils, on a trip to the back waters of the Bay, or climb over the coral cliffs, where we look down upon a scene of hills and valleys, stretches of water, and groups of houses which is almost beyond description. The time has been consumed in English and Spanish conversation, of which we gladly avail ourselves, and at six-thirty we return to the school-court, where we impatiently await the dinner bell. The sound of this is a signal for a rush up the rear stairway, and into the dininghall. The teachers are placed at heads of tables, to watch the feeding processes of the smaller fry. A band of ten negro servants bear porcelain trays of food, and place them before us. The first tray contains rice, and this we eat in dry expectation of the second course consisting of fried plantains. A third and a fourth course follow, consisting respectively of hard meat from Venezuela, and beans from Columbia, as a supplement, and with bread and surale fruit the menu is complete. Ten minutes later, black coffee is brought in. The bell rings, and to the sound of a not very reverently rendered

grace, we leave the hall. The meals are varied vigorously in one particular only, but the variety consists simply of giving No. 4 first to-morrow, with 3 and 2 in the lead on following days, until No. 1 is reached again.

Immediately after dinner the smaller boys are congregated in the main saloon, where they study until eight. After that comes bed once more. On Sundays we accompany the boys to church to hear mass. The teachers have a division of latin. Each morning, noon and night, holiday, Saturday or Sunday, we have watches in turn, and during his allotted period, each teacher presides over the play and studies of the boys. It is an acknowledged necessity, but none the less disagreeable for all, that for the continued noise of our juvenile charges is something indescribable and almost unendurable. Let me add a few more notes. Over each doorway is the warning sign—"No se sumar," translated into "No one an smoke," but notwithstanding this restriction, all the boys are inveterate cigarette consumers. The teachers too smoke in the classrooms, at the table, and even while teaching. Marbles is the only game played. All enthusiastically sympathize with the Americans in the present war. Old negro women, half naked, hang about the court, bearing on their head trays of "dulce," candy and fruit, which the boys buy.

Cups of black coffee are brought to us about ten o'clock at night, as a southern night cup. We sleep on wretchedly small cots, covered with a blanket, on which we lie. Over us is a sheet only. The nights are cool and hot, if you can understand such a seeming anomaly, and night air is decidedly malarial. Insects do not trouble here as they did in Curacao. The Dutch are cleanly in their houses and their habits. Much more could be added, but must await further opportunity. Meanwhile we keep up our pluck, and feel that we are doing some

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share of the world's work, and sowing seed which some day may bear better yield than we feel justified in anticipating.

### THE PLEBISCITE ON PROHIBITION.

Canadian society is largely built up on humbug, and people in Canada are very much afraid of speaking the truth about anything. They are all very much afraid of one another and of themselves. As an instance take the entirely fictitious way in which the Plebiscite on prohibition was treated by the public newspapers, and by those who spoke publicly on the subject. Everyone knows what the struggle nominally was said to be about, or what everybody pretended to himself that he believed it was about, but no one has ever ventured to hint in what it really consisted.

We have in Canada a new native aristocracy of wealth and professional or business position, it is a kind of Canadian upper Four Hundred. The names of this new aristocracy are continually published in the accounts of social functions at Ottawa, Montreal and Toronto, given by the newspapers. The families of the managing directors and officials of the great Canadian railways, banks, steamship companies, mercantile firms, of the Government officials, senate, parliament, great contractors, and even some boodlers, compose this body. They represent the wealth and political power of Canada. These people meet one another at all kinds of entertainments, balls, parties, and so on, at Ottawa, Quebec, Montreal, Toronto and other places, in private residences, club-houses and hotels, and the dinners and suppers are on a luxurious scale. An indispensable is a liberal supply of Rhinewines, champagnes, Burgundies, clarets, maderias, sherries, &c.

All through the country parts of Canada we have a class of struggling doctors, storekeepers, and farmers, who scramble along on about \$1000 a year more or less, which does not always come to hand when due. It is the voices of this class of men, together with a number of the older girls out of the Sunday schools, banded together in various religions and semi-religious cliques and organizations, who have pushed along the campaign called the Plebiscite. This poorer and more struggling class would have swept off the tables of the richer class all the wines necessary for their great dinners, suppers, balls, &c., and would have closed up their wine cellars and emptied their sideboards.

This is the pure, chrySTALLINE, square, unbreakable and unchipable truth of this matter. Some may say it is a side issue. It is not a side issue. The liquor firms are only a small part of the wealth and power of this Dominion, and a fight against them is only a fight against that sectional part, and this constitutes a side issue. The main issue is that the straightened and economical elements of Canadian society undertook to fight the society of all the wealth and power of the Dominion. Could anything be more absurd, or could there be a ghost of a chance of a success? Even Lady Aberdeen, with her PENCHANT for public speaking, was on this occasion obliged to repress it, and let the Plebiscite severely alone. Not only did the Plebiscite show an absence of common sense and judgment on the part of its promoters, but the idea was ridiculous. Mrs. Doctor Smith, Mrs. Farmer Jones, and Mrs. Storekeeper Robinson, together with various Miss Tailors, Miss Shoemakers, Miss Carpetweavers and so on, being formed into various clubs, known by the letters W. X. Y. Z. and T. O. O. G. O. O. D., and being decorated with ribbons and tinsel medals, got up various heter-

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ogeneous entertainments involving sonatas, hymn singing, pound-cakes, phonographs, prayers, tea and coffee, comic songs, stump speeches, taffy and other instruments of torture. By this means they expected to pass a Bill in Parliament, that would enable them to send a policeman to Lady Van Abbott Strathcona's house in Sherbrooke St., Montreal. He would go up the front steps, deliver a thundering knock on the door, arrest the footman who opened it, and all the other flunkies, then sweep all the Rhinewines and champagnes off the table, take down the names of the guests, and confiscate the stock in the wine-cellar. We presume the butler would be hanged, and perhaps that would be right. But there is no doubt that, reduced to dollars, the Plebiscite was a contest of \$1 against \$1000. In a country like this, that settles the matter for all practical purposes, the actual money status is the substratum of what exists. Why is it that people in Canada do not consider cold money facts? Humbug and hysterics will not achieve anything solid in the way of results. If the so-called intelligent people of Canada would only try to think for themselves a very, very little bit, they might come to the conclusion that the question of alcoholic products and compounds needs to be considered under at least three separate heads. The first relates to the use of fine wines and liquors by the rich people or aristocracy of Canada. The second refers to the use of alcohol in manufactures.

The third refers to the use and abuse of cheap whiskey and bad liquors by the poor farmers, labourers, shantymen and workmen. Each of these three sections requires special legislation for itself, embodied in separate acts or provisions, and enforced by separate officials.

The temperance party as now constituted in Canada is entirely unfitted to consider the first section,

as it is out of its province.

The temperance party has shown itself entirely unfit to consider the second section, because it does not know anything about it.

The third section would be suitable subject for the temperance party to handle, after the leaders had gone through a course of mental health treatment at Rockwood.

R. S. KNIGHT,  
Lancaster, Ont.

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### A LITTLE MISUNDERSTANDING.

A housemaid, after being a short time in her place, gave warning. Her mistress asked her what she had to find fault with—was the work too hard, or what? No; she had nothing to complain of on that score, but she could not stand being prayed at by the master at morning prayers.

Mistress (loquitur)—What on earth do you mean, Mary? Your master does not pray at any one.

"O, yes, he does, marm; he prays at me every day, and I won't stand it any longer."

"What does he say, then?"

"Why he says, 'O Lord, who hatest nothing but the housemaid.'"

Mistress, after a little reflection and further inquiry, ascertains that Mary has thus interpreted "O Lord, who hatest nothing thou hast made."—London Society.

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## **The Rockwood Review.**

### **A CANADIAN CHRISTMAS AND NEW YEAR.**

When frost is on the window pane, and snowflakes fill the air,  
And the jingle, jingle, jangle of the bells is everywhere,  
When all the halls and corridors are bowery and gay  
With wreaths of shining evergreens in honor of the day,  
And the fragrant scent of pines and firs comes mingled with the flow  
And flavor of the toothsome goose a-roasting down below,  
And spicy smells of pies and tarts and other Christmas cheer,—  
O then it is on every side the kindly words we hear,  
Of "a merry, merry Christmas and a happy New Year."

"There is a sound of revelry"—of children home from school,  
For the mercury's at zero, and the ice is on the pool,  
And the gleam of steel is shining, and the clear ring of the skates,  
And the schoolboy's shouts and laughter, halloing to his mates;  
While youths and maidens robed in furs along the country roads  
Are singing gaily as they pass in most hilarious loads:  
So then it is on every side the greeting kind we hear  
Of "a merry, merry Christmas, and a happy New Year."

I think it is in northern lands the warmest hearts are found,  
Where keen northeasters nip the ears and send the pulses round;  
The mercury drops down apace, the long nights early fall,  
But round the cheerful firesides in cottage and in hall  
With books and music, work and games the evening hours are spent,  
And Northern folk in Northern homes are blissfully content,  
For then the gladsome Christmas time is fullest of good cheer,  
And the merriest merry Christmas, and the happiest New Year.

K. S. McL.

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