

THE CASKET.

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THURSDAY, DECEMBER 22.

A new diocese has been created in Northern Ontario with Sault Ste. Marie as the see. Father Scollard becomes the first bishop.

In a current number of the *Messenger*, Father Benedict Guldner, S. J., corrects the *Tablet* for saying that Prince Max of Saxony had been made a bishop. He is still a simple priest-professor at Freiburg.

The New York *Herald* cannot understand how a Catholic like Sir Wilfrid Laurier has such a grip on a Protestant country like Canada. The Province of Quebec is not exactly Protestant, however, and only for that Province Sir Wilfrid would never have got his grip. Once in power, it is easy enough for a leader to tighten his grip, especially if he has Sir Wilfrid's sunny ways and personal magnetism.

It was not merely for his kindness to the negro congregation that President Roosevelt spoke so highly of Mr. Downey. The latter has for years furnished a lodging for tramps, hundreds of whom he has turned to a better life. It was to this the President referred when he spoke of Mr. Downey's "modesty and self-effacement in giving homes to the homeless and in being a friend to the friendless."

Germany's little war in Southwest Africa is growing bigger every day. It has cost \$25,000,000 already, and the Reichstag now meeting will be asked to vote \$20,000,000 more. The trouble which began with the Hereros in the north of this German colony or sphere of influence, is now spreading to the Hottentots in the south. The latter have risen against the Germans twice before, in 1893-4 and 1897-8, and are as dangerous to the Germans as the Zulus were to the British.

Dr. William S. Rainsford, of St. George's Church, New York, who among his other honours enjoys that of being Pierpont Morgan's pastor, writes as follows concerning a work in which many of his brethren are actively engaged: "The Italian ought to be reached, and can be reached by the Roman Catholic Church. I would engage in no effort to make him Protestant. He makes a very poor Protestant." The same may be said of the French-Canadian, or indeed of any other Catholic.

There is in Washington a livery-stable keeper named Downey, who is a Catholic. By extending his stable he would bring it into offensive proximity to a negro Baptist church. To prevent this the pastor waited on him and begged him to sell them a strip of land which would give them an air space of six feet between stable and church. Mr Downey agreed to do so. Later, the church committee found they could not afford to buy the land. Thereupon, Mr. Downey presented it to them. A few Sunday's ago, the stable took fire while the negro congregation was assembled. The preacher bade the men go at once and save their benefactor's horses, which they did. President Roosevelt referred to this in a recent address as a good instance of fraternal cooperation between Catholic and Protestant, between negro and white man. Washington has a right to be proud of Mr. Downey, he says, and if it can only develop enough citizens like him it will have the right kind of a community.

Few, if any, Catholic students take the Arts Course at McGill, Montreal; but many go there for the professional courses, such as Medicine, Engineering, etc. These have now one great advantage of which former Catholic students often felt the need, in a Club organized for their benefit by the Rev. Dr. G. J. McShane, S. S. The Columbian Club, as it is called, has its rooms in the Inglis Building, 2381 St. Catherine Street, and has already some sixty members. More than half of them are medical students. A graduate of St. Francis Xavier's, Mr. Hugh Chisholm of Harbor Boucher, is the President. Many leading citizens of Montreal have taken a practical interest in the Club. The Sulpician Fathers headed the subscription with a contribution of four hundred dollars, and Father McShane found himself in a position to spend a good deal over a thousand dollars in furnishing parlor, reading room, billiard room etc. If a new student going to Montreal will inform the President, the Secretary, or the Rev. Chaplain in advance, he will be met at the station, accompanied to the Club, and will receive all needed information regarding boarding house, admission to the University, the purchase of books, etc. Each member pays five dollars a year, a very small amount when compared with the many advantages which membership gives. The pleasant and spacious rooms are at all times accessible to members, and at examination time special coaching is arranged for them. The Rev. Chaplain will arrange for the members to assist at Mass on Sundays in a body and receive instructions better suited to them than they could hear in other churches.

What a vile creature a French infidel can be. One might suppose that a professor hearing one of his students read a glowing essay on Joan of Arc would say to himself that it was a fine thing for young men to have such enthusiasms. But the professor of history in the Lycée Condorcet, Paris, thought fit to remark that it was doubtful whether the heroine was entitled to be called La Pucelle. The students resented the gross insinuation in the fashion peculiar to their class: their indignation communicated itself to the man in the street; and the professor received a gentle rebuke for his want of tact and was removed to another Lycée. For this the Minister of Education has been bitterly assailed by the Socialists in the Chamber of Deputies. While Frenchmen were throwing mud at the noblest figure in their country's history, the cynical American humorist, Mark Twain, was writing for the Christmas number of *Harper's Magazine* a sketch of St. Joan of Arc which makes us willing to forget the offensiveness of his "Innocents Abroad." We shall lay the concluding portion of this sketch before our readers next week. James Jeffrey Roche once contrasted Shakespeare's and Mark Twain's treatment of the Maid,—the humorist had written a book about her under a pseudonym,—and explained the difference by the fact that Shakespeare was an Englishman and Twain an American. He did not take into account that Shakespearean scholars attribute that portion of "King Henry VI" to Fletcher. If he had done so we think he might have found a better explanation: Mark Twain is a clear-minded man; John Fletcher was not. And we think the same explanation fits the present contrast between the Frenchman and the American.

Though the people may be tolerant and good-natured in their treatment of unworthy men, yet a time comes for levelling up and filling in, and the unworthy or treacherous man meets his fate at last. During the lifetime of Senator Hoar of Massachusetts, many a popular idol had his rise, his brief authority, and his fall, nor left behind him when he went a single inspiration for those who should follow him. Such men do not achieve success. Listen to this estimate of Senator Hoar:

As long as the confidence and affection of all the people are given to such

a man, it is foolish and false to assume that the old standards are departing and the old ideals becoming broken. The people still know a man when they see him. Still they respect and honor a man who loves the republic better than he does himself, who never falters in his service, to whose fingers gold does not cling, and whose never forgotten ideal is the people's welfare. While they honor such qualities above all others, pure and able statesmen will continue to come to their service.

Is not such a tribute, when well-deserved, a greater thing to live for than the transient glitter of a momentary success? George F. Hoar sat in the United States Senate for thirty-seven years, and grew poorer the while. He was a strong party man, yet Cleveland unites with Roosevelt in his praise. The latter says to the deceased Senator's son: "The loss is not yours only, but that of all those who believe in the lofty standard of purity, integrity, and fearlessness in public life." Says Governor Bates: "He was not anxious to please men, but to serve them." This is a very suggestive statement. How many politicians of the day are strong enough to serve the people's true interests at the risk of displeasing them? Senator Hoar was a strong man; and to the deep discredit of American politics, many regarded him as an old-fashioned politician. Well, if truth and honor are old-fashioned, it is well to be old-fashioned. In his old age he was able to say: "If my life has been worth anything, it has been because I have insisted to the best of my ability that these three things—love of God, love of country, and manhood—are the essential and fundamental things." And in his "Autobiography of Seventy Years," he said: "I formed my opinions carefully in the beginning. I have adhered to them and acted on them throughout. I formed them in many cases when they were shared by a few persons only. But they have made their way and prevail. They are the opinions on which the majority of the American people have acted, and the reasons which have controlled that action, seem to me, on looking backward, to have been good reasons. I have no regret and no desire to blot out anything I have said or done, or to change any vote I have given."

We like to read the public addresses of President Roosevelt, not that they contain any fresh or new ideas, or even that they state old ideas in a new way, but because the manly personality of the speaker and his high position lend to his statement of what are truisms to us a weight which may check some of his countrymen in their swift career away from the old-fashioned truths which their fathers accepted without question. The idea is becoming very prevalent in the United States, and to a lesser extent in Canada, that the school must now do everything for the young, even that which the home and the church were wont to do. President Roosevelt does not think so. Speaking at the celebration of the 10th anniversary of the founding of St. Patrick's Church in Washington, he said:

I wish to-day to dwell upon this thought—that while in this country we need wise laws, honestly and fearlessly executed, and while we cannot afford to tolerate anything but the highest standard in the public service of the government, yet in the last analysis the future of the country must depend upon the quality of the individual home, of the individual man or woman in that home. The future of this country depends upon the way in which the average man and the average woman in it does his or her duty, and that largely depends upon the way in which the average boy or girl is brought up.

Mr. Roosevelt is a strong man and an admirer of strength, but he has no sympathy with the strong who push themselves ahead by trampling on those who are weaker,—the gospel of "hustle" as preached throughout the business communities of the "greatest nation on earth." He says:

I wish to see in the average American citizen the development of the two sets of qualities which we can roughly indicate as sweetness and strength—the qualities on the one hand which make the man able to hold his own, and those which on the other hand make him jealous for the rights of others just as much as for his own

rights. We must have both sets of qualities.

I wish to see in the man manliness, in the woman womanliness. I wish to see courage, perseverance, the willingness to face work, to face, if it is necessary, danger, the determination not to shrink back when temporarily beaten in life, as each one will be now and then, but to come up again and wrest triumph from defeat.

I want to see you men strong men and brave men, and in addition I wish to see each man of you feel that his strength and his courage but make him the worse unless to that strength and courage are joined the qualities of tenderness towards those he loves, who are dependent upon him, and of right dealing with all his neighbors.

In another address, delivered a day or two later, introducing the French Protestant preacher and writer, Charles Wagner, Mr. Roosevelt declared:

Mr. Wagner has well brought out the great fundamental truth that the brutal arrogance of a rich man who looks down upon a poor man because he is poor, and the brutal envy and hatred felt by a poor man toward a rich man merely because he is rich, are at bottom twin manifestations of the same vice. They are simply different sides of the same shield. The kind of man who would be arrogant in the one case is precisely the kind of man who would be envious and filled with hatred in the other. The ideal should be the just, the generous, the broad-minded man who is as incapable of arrogance if rich as he is of malignant envy and hatred if poor.

PEARLS OF THOUGHT.

The following brief extracts, made from "The Journal of Eugenie de Guerin," are here published in the hope that the reader may be led to look into a casket which holds many gems "of purest ray serene":

"The blind man prays and sings upon his wandering way, the soldier on the battle-field, the sailor on the seas, the poet over his lyre, the priest at the altar, the child as it learns to speak, the hermit in his cell, the angels in heaven, the saints throughout the earth, all pray and sing: it is only the dead who neither sing nor pray. Poor dead!"—August 27, 1835.

"I must not give myself up to gloomy thoughts that do me so much harm. They are to the soul what clouds are to the eyes."—Nov. 1835.

"I am thinking of the grave that opens to-day at Gaillactoswallow up the mortal remains [of my cousin] till the day when God shall raise her up again. It is the lot of all of us. We must be thrown into the earth and decay in the furrows of death before we attain to flowering-time. But then how happy we shall be to live, and even to have lived!"—Dec. 1, 1835.

"Do you wish, my friend, for this journal, written two years ago? It is old, but the things of the heart are eternal"—ever ancient and ever new.—Dec. 5, 1835.

"For a woman a pen is but the heart's plaything. With you men it is different."—May 3, 1837.

"St. John Damascene had been forbidden to write to any one, and for having made some verses for a friend was expelled from the convent. This seemed to me very severe, but how much wisdom one describes in it, when, after entreaties and much humility, the saint is pardoned, and we see him ordered to write and employ his talents in combating the enemies of Jesus Christ! He was found strong enough to enter the arena so soon as he was stripped of pride. Oh! if many distinguished writers had but begun by a lesson of humility they would not have made so many errors or so many books. [This is said with special reference to Lammenais, of whom her brother Maurice was a disciple]. Pride gives birth to numbers: hence see the fruits they produce. Into how many errors the erring lead us!"—May 6, 1837.

"As I was taking a big pot off the fire my father said he did not like to see me do such things. But I thought of St. Bonaventure, who was found washing the dishes of the convent by those who brought him the cardinal's hat. In this life nothing that is low, save sin alone, can degrade us in the eyes of God."—May 10, 1837.

"To manage children well we must borrow their eyes and their hearts, see and feel as they do, and judge them from their own point of view."—Feb. 14, 1838.

"R—came to pass the evening with us, to warm himself at our fire, to talk asses and sheep, and, what amused me

most of all, to show us his papers in order to find out his age. He was out of his reckoning by seven years. Happy man, unknowing his own life! These peasant-lives go on like the brooks, without knowing how long they have been flowing. They have their dates for all that, but not as we have. They will tell you: 'I was born when this field was under wheat; I was married when that tree was planted, or when they were building that house.' Grand and beautiful registers!"—Feb. 17, 1838.

"I am now going to hear a sermon: I go to read one by the fireside. One can make every place a church."—March 17, 1838.

"In all things we find at last a blank, a nothingness. How often do I hear this saying of Bossuet's! And this harder one follows: Place your happiness higher than the creature. It is always here below we place it, poor birds that we are, on some broken bough, or branch so pliant that it bends with us to the earth."—April 19, 1839.

"Health is like children, spoilt by too much care."—April 28, 1839.

"If life were to end in the tomb, the good God would be wicked, yes, wicked, to create us wretched ones for a day. Horrible thought! Tears alone make us believe in immortality."—Nov. 1, 1839.

"If the heart were all expended here, nothing of it would remain for heaven, and I wish to take that which loves with me into the other world."—Nov. 8, 1839.

"If God did not see everything, I would show Him everything."—Nov. 14, 1839.

"We are too small for heavenly things. We feel in ourselves the need of a mediator. Between God and man, Jesus Christ; between Jesus Christ and us, the priest, he who brings the Gospel within the reach of each one of us."—Dec. 10, 1839.

"The love that comes down from heaven and mounts up there again, is very strong. It is that charity which would lift a world for the sake of one of its elect."—Jan. 9, 1840.

"I see [my brother's] death. Six months have gone by, and they are as nothing at all, so close is it to my soul. For the soul there is neither time nor space, which shows us plainly that we are spirits."—Jan. 19, 1840.

"If all the afflicted believed in God, not with the world's belief, but with that of the catechism, we should not see so many suicides."—Jan. 26, 1840.

"There are memories that rend the soul more when they pass away than when they remain. Even grief makes itself some alleviation, and in time deposits at the bottom of the heart, as it were, a soft layer on which it falls asleep."—Feb. 11, 1840.

"Do you know where I love to be, in what world? In the church. There I am by myself. All my life long I have preferred a chapel to a saloon, the angels to men, and this inward speech with God to that which sounds without."—April 2, 1840.

"Since Eve all satisfied curiosity is disappointed."—Ib.

"The nothings of the heart have their charm."—Ib.

"Happiness is surrounded with thorns, touch it on what side you may."—Aug. 12, 1840.

Such are some of the thoughts of one who was at once a poet and a saint—thoughts that, for the most part, seem to have come to her straight down from heaven, they so tend to lift thither those who think them again. Her presence, as she puts it herself, was below, but her soul was above. "Can you hear me?" she cries out to the spirit of her departed brother. "So it seems to me. Heaven is not so far away. Sometimes I lift my arms as if to touch it; my hand is stretched out to grasp thine. A thousand times I could have wished to clasp it, invisible? cold? it matters not. I could have wished it. But wherefore crave to hold a hand that is dead? Thou art bereft of all form. Of all that thou wert to me naught remains but the spirit, that lofty spirit which has flown, freed from its vesture, like Elias from his mantle. Maurice! citizen of heaven, my relations with thee shall be as with an angel: heavenly brother, I hold thee as my angel guardian." Tennyson, too, yearned

for the touch of a vanished hand And the sound of a voice that is stilled. But his yearning had much more of earth, and less of heaven, in it.

A Christmas Wish.

O, to have dwelt in Bethlehem
When the star of the Lord shone bright!
To have sheltered the homeless wanderers
On that blessed Christmas night;

A VISIT TO SANTA CLAUS.

"Close your pretty brown eyes, my darling, and dream of the angels," said Mrs. Wyndham, as she smoothed back the dark curls from her baby's face and tucked her snugly in her little white cot.

debris of the awful wreck, almost unrecognizable, and died, leaving his wife and six year old little one to face the world.
Thanks to her good education, however, Mrs. Wyndham was able to accept a position as country school-teacher, secured for her through the influence of her husband's friends.

"And will you promise to tell him 'bout my doll and Christmas tree?"
"Tha't I surely will. I'll see him to-night and tell him all about you. Now, will you kiss me and take me to see your mother?"

Often, however, a person must work at night. In that case, he should stop some time before going to bed, and if he must work late, it is better to stay up a short time in order to secure an interval of rest before trying to sleep.

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There is what is called the wordly spirit which enters with the greatest subtlety into the character of even good people; and there is what is called the time-spirit, which means the dominant way of thinking and of acting which prevails in the age in which we live; and these are powerful temptations, full of danger and in perpetual action upon us.—CARDINAL MANNING.

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 22.

We wish all our Readers a Merry Christmas.

GLORIA IN EXCELSIS DEO.

In the Incarnation God manifested His perfections to the utmost, His almighty power and wisdom, His holiness and goodness, and thus the Incarnation gives Him glory. But it likewise gives Him glory because of the infinite value of the praise and adoration offered by the Word made flesh. Great is the adoration which the Creator receives from the multitude of heavenly spirits, the countless members of the nine choirs of angels who perpetually sing "Glory to God in the highest," and cry "Holy, Holy, Holy" for ever before His throne. But the Infant lying in the manger utters a feeble cry, heard only by Mary, Joseph and the shepherds here on earth; and that cry pierces the heavens, and reaches to the throne of the Eternal Father with an almighty power of adoration in its tones. It is the voice of a babe; but that babe is the Son of God, the Second Person of the Blessed Trinity.

Great was the sorrow for sin of the many holy men and women who lived on earth during the four thousand years after the Fall, and bitter were the tears which they shed. Yet, great as was their sorrow, and bitter as were their tears, these could not avail to blot out one single sin. But the Infant in the manger weeps; the sight of his tears strikes grief into his mother's heart; but it does more, it touches the heart of the Eternal Father sitting upon His throne in heaven. One of these tears which flow from the eyes of the Babe of Bethlehem is enough and more than enough to blot out the sins of the world, yea, of millions of worlds. It is an infant that weeps; but that infant is the Eternal Word made flesh. If the world is not immediately redeemed, it is because he himself desires to redeem it at a still greater price.

Such is the glory which God receives from the Incarnation. Every act, even the slightest, of the Infant Jesus, is an act of infinite value,—infinite adoration, infinite thanksgiving, infinite satisfaction for sin. Even though man had never fallen, even though he had remained in the state of innocence, glorifying God by his every thought, and word and deed, this tribute of glory would at the very best be a finite one. Man fell; and no thought nor word nor deed of his could give to the Creator even this finite glory. But man is redeemed; and, behold, his thoughts and words and actions are of more value than they were before the Fall. For we are now brothers of God the Son and therefore children of God the Father. While the bond of union exists between us and Christ our Brother,—and it will never be broken unless we wish,—God the Father receives every thought and word and act of Christ our Brother, as though they come from us, and every thought and word and act of ours as though they come from Him. Every morning when we utter from our hearts the prayer: "O my God, I offer Thee all the thoughts, words and actions of this day in union with the intentions of the Sacred Heart of Jesus," if we are only faithful to this offering, our every thought, word and action of that day will appear before God the Father, not as our own merely, but as those of His own Divine Son. Every time we ask a favour "through Jesus Christ our Lord," we are infallibly heard, because it is not then we who ask but Christ who asks for us, and the Heavenly Father can refuse nothing to His Divine Son. Every time we join in the Preface of the Mass: *Vere dignum et justum est, æquum et salutare, nos tibi semper et ubique gratias agere, Domine sancte, Pater omnipotens, æterne Deus, per Christum Dominum nostrum*, our hymn of thanksgiving ascends to the great white throne, infinite in value, giving infinite glory to the Eternal Father, through the infinite merits of Jesus Christ, our Brother and His Son.

Through man all inanimate nature and the brute creation contributes to the glory of God, since in serving man

they glorify Him Who made them for that purpose. And through Jesus Christ man contributes to the glory of God, by giving occasion to the marvellous display of the divine attributes in the plan of Redemption, and by having the merits of that Redemption applied to him so that God the Father sees as it were in each regenerate soul His own Divine Son.

Well might the angels on the first Christmas Eve sing "Glory to God in the highest;" for, if every one of the stars which we see were inhabited by angels, and if all these united in one grand chorus of praise and adoration to God, the homage would be less than a spark of fire to the sun when compared with the praise and adoration given Him by the Infant in the manger,—praise and adoration in which all those redeemed by the blood of the Lamb are able to share.

"Glory to God in the highest," sang the angels, "and on earth peace to men of good will." In glorifying God, man was to find everlasting happiness; in ceasing to glorify God, man lost all right to this happiness; in being redeemed, man regained the rights which he had lost. The Incarnation was for the greater glory of God and the greater good of man. Man had been engaged in rebellion against his Creator, and deserved to be eternally punished therefor; the Infant in the manger holds up his tiny hands beseeching his heavenly Father to have mercy and to spare. Man had been at war with his fellow man; Jesus comes upon earth, and for the moment all strife is hushed; it will never be so cruel again, for the lesson of brotherly love, of forgiveness of injuries, the lesson taught in the words "Forgive us our trespasses as we forgive them who trespass against us," has made a deep impression upon the world; the earth is not what it was before our Saviour came. Man had been at war with himself, a constant struggler between his higher and lower nature, a struggle resulting in a series of victories for the latter; the coming of our Saviour enables the higher nature once more to rule triumphant. Every one who so desires may now expel sin from his heart; and sin being driven out, peace will enter,—peace which the heart of the sinner can never know. Through the merits of Jesus Christ our Saviour, all men of good will are at peace with God; they no longer dread His anger. They are at peace with all their fellow men; how can they hate or wish evil to those whom Jesus Christ loves, whom he came on earth to save? They are at peace with themselves; they enjoy that peace which surpasseth all understanding, the peace of a good conscience.

"Glory to God in the highest." Not only during the thirty-three years of his mortal life did the Word made flesh give glory to his Eternal Father. Sitting at the right hand of God in his sacred humanity, he continues to offer infinite praise and adoration in heaven, and not there alone but from every altar on earth where Mass is said, He comes down upon the altar just as truly as he came down into Mary's womb. He, the Son of God, is just as truly present under the appearance of the Host as he was truly present in the manger at Bethlehem. He offers himself up as a living victim to his heavenly Father, and this offering is to God the Father a source of infinite glory. By uniting our hearts with the Sacred Heart of Jesus, we may have a share in the offering; we too may give glory to God in the highest.

If we assist in this spirit at the Christmas Mass, how full of meaning for us will be the words: *Laudamus te, benedicimus te, adoramus te, glorificamus te, gratias agimus tibi propter magnam gloriam tuam, Domine Deus, Rex cœlestis, Deus Pater omnipotens*. United with the offering of Jesus Christ upon the altar these words will cease to be words; every one will be an act, an act of adoration of the almighty power which gave us the Son of God as a Redeemer, an act of thanksgiving for the coming of the Redeemer not only for our own sakes but for God's own sake. Sinners that we are, the Babe of Bethlehem brings us the priceless boon of Redemption, if we will only accept it. "As many as received him, to them he gave the power to become the sons of God." Let us not reject the precious boon, offered us so touchingly at this Christmas season, but let us cry from the depths of our hearts: *Agnus Dei, Filius Patris, Qui tollis peccata mundi miserere nobis. Qui tollis peccata mundi, suscipe deprecationem nostram*. He will receive our prayer; He will have mercy on us, if we ask Him with sorrowful hearts ready to do His will in all things. He will lift the heavy burden of sin from off our souls. And then with light and cheerful hearts we shall be able to join in the

angels' song: *Gloria in excelsis Deo, et in terra pax hominibus bonæ voluntatis*. And the blessed season wherein we keep our Saviour's birthday will be indeed for us

A MERRY CHRISTMAS.

General News.

Steamer *Montcalm*, the new government ice-breaker, had her first real test on Saturday. The steamer sailed through fields of ice eight inches thick. When Cape Rouge was reached the ice was packed in a solid mass. The *Montcalm* also cut through this, apparently without difficulty. In some places the ice was almost a foot thick.

A damage suit which shows the danger of electric wires in modern cities, was opened in the superior court at Montreal with a special jury. Mrs. James Curtis claims \$15,000 damages from the Montreal Electric Heat and Power company, for the death of her husband. The public danger of highly charged and exposed electric wires in cities will be fully ventilated.

Canada and the United States have agreed to appoint an international waterway commission, which will investigate and report upon all waterways adjacent to the boundary line, so that there will be an understanding between both countries in respect to commerce passing through the waters of either within easy reach of the boundary line, thereby avoiding international difficulties in the future.

The Countess of Limerick is going on a grand tour in America for three months starting next February. She will play at concerts all over the United States for the purpose of raising a sum of money to endow and build a musical college in Dublin which will bring music into the homes of the people and where pupils can be trained for the musical profession.

Lord Mayor Pond has issued an appeal for funds for the relief of the unemployed of London. King Edward has contributed \$1,250, Queen Alexandra \$1,000, the Prince of Wales \$500, the Princess of Wales \$250. Lord Iveagh \$25,000, the Rothschilds \$15,000, the Duke of Westminster \$10,000 and the Peabody trustees \$25,000.

It is announced that four of the leading cotton companies in the Dominion, the Dominion Cotton Co., the Merchant's Cotton Co., the Montgomery Cotton Co. and the Colonial Bleaching Co. are to be amalgamated into one company, with a capital of ten million dollars (\$10,000,000). The Bank of Montreal is financially interested in the new company, which will pay for the four properties by the issue of bonds, preferred and common stock. The object of the organization is to reduce expenses, and stop rate cutting. A deposit of one million dollars is already made as evidence of good faith. Hon. L. J. Forget will be president of the new company.

In a week recently sugar has advanced twenty cents per hundred pounds and may go higher. The last advance was when the New York and Acadia refineries jumped ten cents per hundred. The latest advices of the present European sugar crop show that F. O. Licht has again reduced his estimates. A short time ago Mr. Licht thought the amount would be 4,950,000 tons and now he has cut this figure down to 4,715,000 tons. Last year's crop was 5,852,000 tons or 1,137,000 tons more than Mr. Licht's estimate for this season. The estimate by the Fabricants, as the controllers of beets are called, is 4,650,000 tons, but it is expected they will reduce this to 4,500,000 tons.

Although the steamship *Oceanic* as the Christmas boat fell behind in the number of sacks of mail which she took on the 15th inst., from New York as compared with her record of last year, she eclipsed by over 500 her previous record for registered articles. The decrease in mail sacks is accounted for by an official at the foreign branch of post office by the fact that the Canadian mail missed connections owing to the recent storm. But for this they say there would be an all around increase of mail of the *Oceanic*. About 1300 sacks is made up of mail from Mexico, the West Indies, and some for Canada. The rest is domestic matter. On her corresponding trip last year she had 1733 bags of mail; yesterday she took out only 1621, but she had 18,411 registered articles as against 17,938 last year. There were over 800,000 letters and more than 400,000 postal cards.

Orders were received from the British admiralty by cable directing that the naval dockyard at Halifax, be closed down at once. In accordance with this order the employees were given a week's notice that their services would no longer be required. This order is in keeping with Admiral Sir John Fisher's scheme for the reorganization of British naval methods, and for the establishment of a huge and powerful flying squadron instead of a fleet permanently stationed at Halifax and Bermuda. A rumor was current that a telegram had been received from London, ordering the withdrawal of the British troops from Halifax garrison, as a sequel to the closing down of the dockyard. A careful inquiry in official quarters showed that such a telegram had not been received, but the belief in military circles is that after March next there will be no British soldiers in Halifax, or, at least, that the infantry regiments will be withdrawn, and their place taken by Canadian troops. The regulars in Halifax, embracing all branches of the British army except cavalry, number 1600 men.

A. Kirk & Co. have just received 500 pairs Parsboro larrigans, two kinds, price \$1.50 and \$1.75.

HOLIDAY GOODS

JUST OPENED, a large stock of beautiful Holiday Goods, all most fitting for XMAS PRESENTS:

Leather Folios and Desks, Comb and Brush Cases, Cigar Cases, Collar and Cuff Cases, Handkerchief and Glove Cases, Wrist Bags, Purses, Card Cases, Manicure Sets in Cases and by the Piece, Fancy Mirrors, Work Boxes and etc. A nice lot of Ebony Backed Brushes, Mounted in Sterling Silver. Glass and China Ware, Toys, Dolls and Ornaments, Toy Musical Instruments, Etc., Etc.

C. J. MacDONALD,
MAIN ST., ANTIGONISH.

A Merry Christmas to All

Only a few days till Christmas, and think of all that's to be done. It will be easier for you to decide what to buy in Christmas gifts where assortments are complete and prices reasonable. Our invitation is hearty to come early and often.

EBONY GOODS,
EBONIED GOODS,
LEATHER GOODS,
FANCY VASES,
FANCY MIRRORS,
ORNATE GOLD GOODS,
TAPESTRY GOODS,
CELLULOID GOODS, ETC.

Ladies' Belts, Neckwear, Handkerchiefs, Perrin's Gloves, Lace Collars, etc., Ladies' Hand Bags, Purses and Cases, etc. Men's Dressing Robes, Gloves, Ties, Suspenders, Mufflers, Silk Handkerchiefs, etc.

Nothing short of a visit can convey any idea of our Christmas assortment.

Ladies' Winter Coats.

40 Ladies' Winter Coats regular prices from \$4.00 to 5.00 now

At Half Price While They Last.

10 LADIES' WINTER COSTUMES
AT HALF PRICE.

50 LADIES' SKIRTS,
Color Black, Grey and Blue.
AT 20 PER CENT. DISCOUNT.

Ladies' Flannel Waists at 15 per cent. Discount.

300 prs. Ladies' Rubbers at 30c pr.
200 Gents' Rubbers at - 45c pr.
200 prs. Men's Boots at Half Price.

10 PER CENT. DISCOUNT

Furs! Furs!

Our handsome furs are delighting careful buyers. We are the only firm in Town handling

THE CELEBRATED
Moose Head Brand Furs,

They are the best made, best to wear and guaranteed to give perfect satisfaction. We feel sure that our pretty furs at such tempting prices will be a big inducement for you to purchase

LADIES' FUR COATS,
FUR LINED COATS,
FUR RUFF, FUR MUFFS,
MEN'S FUR LINED COATS,
FUR COLLARS, FUR GAUNTLETS,
FUR LINED GLOVES,
FUR CAPS.

Remnants of Dress Goods, Flannelettes, Etc.

A. KIRK & CO.

General News.

The C. P. R. ordered 25,000 tons of rails from the Sault Ste Marie works. All the Liberal candidates were returned in the elections last week. Premier Peters of P. E. Island was counted out by a majority of one. Minneapolis, had an immense fire last week. Loss three million dollars. Mrs. Chadwick has been indicted at Cleveland, Ohio, on seven counts, chiefly for fraud. It is rumored that R. L. Borden will run for an Ontario county, live at Ottawa, and practise law there. An order has been made to prohibit smoking in the government offices in Toronto. At Sherbrooke, B. C., on 15th, Napoleon Fouquet, the Lapatrie child murderer, was sentenced to be hanged on the 27th of January next. The contract for the Winnipeg post office has been let, the amount being \$520,000. It is said the building will be the finest of its kind in Canada. A caucus of the conservative members of parliament has been called for the evening of January 10th at Ottawa, when the question of the leadership and other important matters will be definitely decided. By the burning of the Star Line steamer Glen Island in Long Island Sound, N. Y., Saturday night, nine lives were lost, and property estimated at a quarter of a million dollars was destroyed. A Milan, Italy, despatch says that King Edward has presented the monks of the Great St. Bernard monastery with a magnificent new piano to replace the one given them by Queen Victoria half a century ago. Alone and unassisted, paying his way, with money which he earned by lecturing last year, E. Ray, a blind student from the mountains of North Carolina, is pursuing his studies in the Harvard graduate school. A heroic rescue of a child from the front of an east-bound train was made by Robert MacKay, a former Toronto fireman on the C. P. R. Risking his own life, MacKay lifted the child from danger as the engine dashed by and a crowd cheered him. As the result of an investigation into the failing of the potato crop in the west of Ireland, the government has authorized the local government board to advance money to boards of guardians for the purpose of providing seed potatoes. A site has been obtained for the new Notre Dame Hospital, Montreal. Through the benevolence of Mr. Rodolphe Forget, M. P., its new quarters will be on Sherbrooke street, opposite the Lafontaine Park, between Maisonneuve and Champlain. At Sherbrooke, B. C., on 15th, Julien, the Marbleton burglar, was sentenced by Judge Mulvena to seven years in the penitentiary. The sentence was on the charge of breaking into the store of A. Barter, Marbleton. Sentence was suspended on two other similar charges. The C. P. R. has all but completed arrangements for the construction of three additional vessels for their Atlantic service. The vessels will doubtless be built by the Fairchild Shipbuilding Company of Glasgow, with whom negotiations have been under way for some time. Halifax merchants are engaged in the laudable endeavor to secure a lower rate of exchange on checks sent to them by their customers throughout the province. They are now called on to pay out, under the present system, an amount of money that becomes a real burden to the business man. The drowning of Sadie Locke of Lockport, is reported. She was sliding on the ice with another little girl, who also went through. A man saw the accident, but thought that only one girl had gone down. Her he saved and when told that Sadie Locke was in the water it was too late to get her. Five murderers in Canada are to be hanged during the month of January, if the Department of Justice does not interfere and commute the sentence they have received. Radcliffe, the hangman, is therefore likely to have a busy month, as he must travel from British Columbia to New Brunswick to perform his grim tasks. Dr. Thompson, the conservative candidate, has been elected member of Parliament for the Yukon by a majority of 550 over Congdon, the liberal candidate. Dr. Alfred Thompson is a Nova Scotian by birth, and a graduate in medicine of McGill. He married Miss Miller, a Sydney lady, a few months ago. The Czar has presented a silver bowl and ladle to the officers of the British cruiser Talbot, and a cheque for £500 to Royal Naval Fund, in recognition of the assistance rendered by the Talbot to the crews of the Russian warships Variag and Korietz, when they were sunk by the Japanese at Chemulpo at the outbreak of the war. The Danish steamer Peila, from Denmark for New York, was put in for bunker coal at Halifax. She was out eighteen days, and has three hundred passengers, two hundred and forty of whom are Russian Jews. Very rough weather was experienced on the trip, and running short of coal it was thought best to make for Halifax. The Ottawa Free Press has been served with notice of trial in the libel suit instituted by Mr. Latchford of the Ontario Government. The Toronto

papers recently announced the settlement of the action by withdrawal but no such announcement was authorized. The defence by the Free Press and the denial of any libel has already been filed. King Edward has approved the appointment of Admiral Sir Edward Hobart Seymour, C. S. B., to be admiral of the fleet on the retirement of Admiral Salmon in February, Vice-Admiral Sir Lewis Anthony Beaumont will succeed Admiral Seymour in the Devonport command. Prince Louis of Battenberg will become commander of the second cruiser squadron. Mr. J. C. Bourinot, of the Canadian Customs service, passed through Montreal on his way to the Maritime provinces. He had just returned from Regina, where he had been giving evidence in the case of the seizure of the Spencer cattle ranch in the North West Territories. The case was being heard before Judge Burbidge, in the Exchequer Court. This was the case in which the Spencers, Americans, in the ranching business in Canada, put up a deposit of \$10,000, when charged with having brought cattle from the United States into Canada without making customs entry or paying duty. In this matter the customs authorities were acting in conjunction with the North West Mounted Police, and the result of the trial will prove of material interest to ranchers of the West. It has been known for some time to the Canadian Customs authorities that Americans were driving cattle over into Canada, where the pasture is much richer and more abundant, and when the animals are fattened, driving them back to the United States for slaughter, thus utilizing Canada for the benefit of her neighbors. No such charge has been made in the Spencer case, however. A Present. — Nothing more appropriate for a gentleman than a nice cased pipe, and you can not see a finer line than at Bonner's. Price \$1 to \$5.50. War News. The Russian battleship Sevastopol which secured a sheltered position which saved her from destruction when the rest of the Russian battleships and cruisers at Port Arthur were sunk or blown to pieces by shells from the Japanese guns on 203 Metre Hill has been attacked by Japanese torpedo boats. The attack was made in the face of great difficulties and is reported to have been at least partially successful. The Japanese are continuing their effort for the reduction of Port Arthur, and have captured another fort called Kekewan Mountain fort, but it would appear that some hard work and heavy fighting must yet be done before their purpose is accomplished. A Japanese squadron of eight warships and fifteen transports is reported to be sailing south to meet the Russian Baltic fleet now on its way to the scene of battle. It is announced from St. Petersburg that the reserves are being mobilized in seven military districts, and 200,000 men will thus be added to the fighting force under Kurapatkin. No battles of importance are reported from around Mukden during the past week. Acknowledgments. Many acknowledgments crowded out. Angus J McNeil, Gillis Point, \$2.00 Rev E Walker, Souris East, 2.00 Duncan D McDonald, Cambridge, 1.00 Cassie Campbell, Mattapan, 1.00 Annie McDonald, Cambridge, 1.00 Wm D Grant, Berkeley, 1.00 Rev H Simon, St. Albans, 2.00 Wm McGillivray, South Bar, 2.00 John A McNeil, Sydney, 1.00 John C Cole, 1.00 Ronald McFarlane, Williams Point, 2.00 Annie McAdam, Providence, 50 Hugh A Boyd, Boyds P O, 1.00 Alex J McDonald, Nelson, 60 Angus Campbell, A risaig, 1.00 John McIsaac, Dunmore, 1.00 C H Wattle, Wattle, 1.00 J M Crispo, Harbor au Bouche, 1.00 J C McIntosh, Dunmore, 1.00 Allan McDonnell, Glenroy, 1.00 Annie McDonald, A rishonish, 1.00 Alex D McDonald, Harbor au Bouche, 2.00 Wm D Chisholm, St Andrews, 1.00 A W McDonald, Glen Alpine, 1.00 Louis Belfontaine, North River, 1.00 Mrs Geo Pitts, Pomquet, 1.00 Dan Gillis, Williams Point, 1.00 Mrs Margaret Bray, Lochaber, 1.00 Arch McAdam, McAdams Lake, 2.00 Daniel McDougall, Hingham, 1.00 A D McDonald, Halifax, 1.00 A McKenzie, Rogers Pass, 1.00 Ivo A McDonald, Iona, 1.00 D & J Saddler, Montreal, 4.00 A A McGillivray, No Cambridge, 1.00 Dr A J Ganon, Kansas City, 1.00 R L McLean, Antigonish, 1.00 Katie A McDonald, Lincoln, 50 Angus Fraser, Lynn, 1.00 Duncan McIntosh, Lower S River, 1.00 Angus McDonald, Heberton, 1.00 Andrew Chisholm, Summerside, 1.00 Ronald Cameron, I S River, 1.00 Augustus McGillivray, Pleasant Valley, 1.00 A J McDonald, Cherry Valley, 2.25 James N Currie, Sydney Forks, 1.00 Tompkin Bros, Little River Codroy, 1.00 Rev M Doyle, Lochaber, 1.00 Moses Doyle, Margaree, 1.00 J J McInnon, Christmas Island, 2.00 Key J J Walsh, St John, 1.00 Iva McDonald, 1.00 J R A McDonald, St Teresa, 1.00 Wm McKenna, Briley Brook, 1.00 Lyons Lochman, Sydney Mines, \$ 1.00 James A Lomey, Glenora, 2.00 J G Young, Sydney, 2.00 Rev J A B Biquiere, Laverniere, 1.00 Mrs Cong, de Notre Dame, Sydney, 1.00 Alex McDonald, Bethlehém, 2.00 Dr Daniel A Webb, Wyoming, 1.00 M J Katrick, Scrauton, 1.00 Alex R McDonald, Gillis Lake, 2.00 A D McSween, Glasgow, 1.00 William Chisholm, Greenwood, 1.00 W. Fraser, New London, 1.00 Stephen McLean, Grand Narrows, 1.00 Rev. Colin Chisholm, Port Hood, 1.00 John McDonald, Mira Ferry, 1.00 Mrs James Sullivan, Charlottetown, 1.00 Dan McAdam, Eskasoni, 1.00 John A McAdam, Sydney, 1.00 Hugh McDonald, Briley Brook, 1.00 Fred Bennet, Pomquet, 2.00 Dennis A rroil, Baraby River, 1.00 Mrs R Chisholm, St John, 1.00 John McIsaac, Georgeville, 1.00 Alex A McIsaac, 1.00 John Chisholm, S Side Harbor, 1.00 Dan J McDonald, St Andrews, 1.00 David Livingston, Cape George, 1.00 J G Chisholm, St Francis Harbor, 1.00 Henry Fraser, Pomquet, 1.00 Rev Neil McDonald, Whitney Pier, 1.00 Dan A Cameron, McPherson's P O,

C. M. B. A. Branch 332 of Reserve Mines, C. B., elected the following officers for the ensuing year, at the regular meeting held Saturday, Dec. 3rd: Rev. R. McLean, P. P., Chancellor; R. H. McIntyre, President; Bart Conners, 1st Vice-President; Peter D. McIntyre, 2nd Vice-President; Mark Peterie, Rec. Secretary; Roderick McNeil, Assist. Rec. Sec.; Ronald Nicholson, Financial Sec.; John McDonald, Treasurer; Murdoch Almond, Marshall; John Hines, Guard; George Nicholson R. Campbell, Sam Cooke, Richard Lunack, Trustees. Resolutions of Condolence. At the last regular meeting Branch 23, C. M. B. A., Canada, the following resolution of condolence was unanimously adopted: Whereas, it hath pleased the Eternal Father, in His infinite wisdom, to call unto Himself the dearly beloved wife of our worthy brother Alexander Keating, and sister of our esteemed brothers, Martin, James, John, and Robert Macpherson; Therefore resolved, that the members of Branch 23 tender our bereaved brother an expression of our heartfelt sympathy in the great and irreparable loss he and his family have sustained in the death of a faithful wife and loving mother, and to the dearer brother and sister of our affectionate sister; And be it further resolved, that a copy of this resolution be sent to Bro. Keating and the Bros Macpherson, entered on the minutes of this meeting, and sent to THE ASST. for publication. D. A. CAMERON, Rec. Secretary. At the last regular meeting of Branch 316, Port Mulgrave, a resolution was adopted expressing the sympathy of the members with Bro. Maurice Webb upon the death of his aged mother, wife of Michael Webb, Sr., of Harbour Boucher. Upon the same occasion the following officers were appointed for the next year: President, James McLean; 1st Vice-President, James Ryan; 2nd Vice-President, John McKinnon; Rec. Sec., E. M. Keating; Asst. Rec. Sec., T. Webb; Fin. Sec., M. J. Keating; Treasurer, Maurice Webb; Marshal, Archibald Forrestall, Guard, Allan McDonald. DEATHS At Fairmont, on Dec. 18th, MARTIN W. CARRIGAN, aged 24 years, son of the late Thos. Carrigan of New Glasgow. The deceased endured his illness of over two years with exemplary Christian fortitude. Consoled by the last rites of Holy Church he peacefully passed to his reward. May he rest in peace. At Bailey's Brook, on Wednesday, Dec. 14th, in his 19th year, DAN DONALD, son of Robt. L. and Catherine McDonald, after an illness of one month. Consoled by the rites of the Holy Mother Church he passed to his eternal reward, leaving a sorrowful father and mother, four brothers and three sisters to mourn the loss of an affectionate little son and brother. May his soul rest in peace. At Caledonia Mills, Dec. 13th, 1904, after an illness of over a year, the 56th year of her age, CATHERINE, wife of the late ANDREW CHISHOLM, and daughter of the late Angus Bevie of the same place. She bore her illness with true christian patience and resignation to the holy will of her Redeemer. She left to her dear memory seven sons and two daughters, besides an aged mother, five brothers and two sisters, to whom the sympathy of the community goes out in their great bereavement. Strengthened and consoled by the Sacraments of the Holy Church, of which she was a devout member, she peacefully passed away. After requiem High Mass by Rev. A. McPherson, D. D., her remains were laid to rest in St. Andrew's cemetery beside those of her husband. May she rest in peace. On Dec. 9, at Harbour, Boucher, MRS. ANNE WEBB, nee DECOSTE, wife of MICHAEL WEBB, nee eight sons, of whom Peter J. and David, came from Hyde Park, Mass., attended the funeral. Not since twenty-five years were the eight brothers at home at the one time. Two daughters, Mrs. Levandier of Milton, Mass., and Mrs. LeBlanc of West Arichat, N. S., were also present. The very Rev. Prior Eugene, Superior of the Trappist Monastery, Tracadie, were present at the levee du corps, and accompanied the remains to the Church, where a solemn High Requiem Mass was celebrated by the Pastor, the very Rev. Prior acting as canon and Rev. Brother William, son of the deceased, sub-deacon. Before the general absolution Prior Eugene pronounced the funeral oration. After the solemn chanting of the Libera and Benedicte, all that was mortal of a truly holy woman was laid away in the family plot to await that great day when all must answer the dread awakening call—"arise ye dead and come to judgment." Mrs. Webb was a model child of Mary, a frequent communicant and an almost daily attendant at holy Mass. She was also one of the most charitable women of the county. On the 8th, the Feast of the Immaculate Conception, at an early hour she hastened to the church to receive Holy Communion and later assisted at High Mass. Returning from church she remarked to one of her sons who had been to communion with her: "I am glad we have been to Communion together to-day, for I feel it's the last time." Whilst conversing with her children that same evening and remarking how singularly happy she felt over the day's work, as she called it, she began to give signs of feeling indisposed, and retired to rest. Some time after midnight her daughter-in-law, heard her call and hastened to her side. The household were immediately summoned to her bedside in time to see a gentle, loving mother close her eyes in death, but consoled in their sad loss that hers was the death of the just. R. I. P. Bigger than ever IS OUR STOCK OF XMAS SUPPLIES RAISINS IN BULK AND PACKAGES CURRANTS IN BULK AND PACKAGES CITRUS, LEMON AND ORANGE PEELS, FIGS, DATES, PRUNES, NUTS OF ALL KINDS, ESSENCES, ALL FLAVORS, BEST QUALITY, GRAPES, TABLE RAISINS, ORANGES, LEMONS, ETC., ETC., ETC. Quality the Best. Prices the Lowest. Quantity the Largest. BONNER'S GROCERY.

THE CANADIAN BANK OF COMMERCE. HEAD OFFICE, TORONTO Paid-Up Capital, \$8,700,000 Reserve Fund, \$3,500,000 HON. GEO. A. COX, President B. E. WALKER, General Manager. ALEX. LAIRD, Asst. Gen'l Manager. 110 Branches in Canada, the United and England. A GENERAL BANKING BUSINESS TRANSACTED SAVINGS BANK DEPARTMENT. Deposits of \$1 and upwards received, and interest allowed at current rates. Interest added to the deposit twice in each year, at the end of May and November. The depositor is subject to no delay whatever in the withdrawal of the whole or any portion of the deposit. ANTIGONISH BRANCH H. JEMMETT, Manager.

Chisholm, Sweet & Co. WEST END WAREHOUSE. Our Bargains Still Continue! We had such a rush for the past two weeks with our Bargain Sale that we have cleared out quite a number of lines. So we have decided to add several more this and the following weeks: Ladies' Mauve Taffata Silk Blouses, reg price \$7.35, now \$4.95 Ladies' Cream Taffata Silk Blouses, reg price 8.50, now 5.95 Ladies' Sky Taffata Silk Blouses, reg price 5.50, now 3.75 Ladies' Royal Blue Taffata Silk Blouses, reg 7.75, now 4.95 Ladies' Black Lustre Blouses, 32, 34, 38, reg 3.00, now 1.95 Ladies' Black Cashmere Blouses, 34, 36, reg 2.65, now 1.75 Ladies' Fancy French Flannel Blouses, 34 and 36, regular price 3.50, now 2.00 Ladies' Fancy French Flannel Blouses, 34 only, 2.25, now 1.45 We have a few more Ladies' Costumes left. They are now offered at \$5.50, 6.95, and 8.75. About 50 pieces of English Prints, mostly light colours, regular prices are 14, 15, 16 and 17c per yard. We have put these all at 10c per yard. Just the thing for comfortables and quilts.

CLOTHING. We have added some more lines to our bargains in Clothing. 10 Youths' Overcoats, sizes 31 to 35, regular \$6.00, now \$3.95 5 only Men's Frieze Ulsters, sizes 36 to 42 reduced to 4.95 25 Youths' odd Tweed Vests, sizes 28 to 35, all good Patterns. The prices are 1.50, 1.25, 1.00 and 90c, Now all at one price, 25c Some more of those Men's Serge Suits as advertized last week at 2.95, 3.95, and 4.95 Men's Suitings and Trouserings. A few more of those Bargains in Men's Suitings, and as they are moving fast, you better call early and get one before they all go. Prices 4.25, 5.95 and 6.95 per Pattern. English and Scotch Trouserings, in 2½ yds. lengths, at \$1.95, 2.25 and 2.75.

Millinery Bargains We are determined to carry no Millinery over for next season, have put all our ready-to-wear, Trimmed and Untrimmed Hats down to COST. You can get a beautiful ready-to-wear hat now at 1.50. Others at 75c and 1.00. WALL PAPER. 300 Rolls Wall Paper in odd lots of 2, 4, 6, 8 and 10 rolls to the pattern. Regular prices are 5, 8, 10 and 12c. Price during our bargain sale is 2c Roll.

FURS! FURS! Our extensive stock of Furs surpass anything we had in past seasons. Ladies' Fur Coats, in Raccoon, Black Dogskin, Australian Coon and Astrakan. Our Ladies' \$27.50 black Dogskin is a beauty. Ladies' Fur Collars and Caperkins. Ladies' Fur Ruffs in Alaska Sable, Ladies' Fur Ruffs in Raccoon and Mink, Ladies' Fur Muffs and Fur Caps. Gentlemen's Fur and Fur-lined Coats in great variety. Gentlemen's Fur Gloves and Mitts, Gentlemen's Fur Collars and Cuffs, Gentlemen's Fur Caps all prices and sizes. If you are contemplating buying a Fur Coat for Lady or gentleman, get our prices, as we can save you Dollars. Quotations on Furs and all other goods by Mail, given cheerfully, to out of town customers.

CHISHOLM, SWEET & CO.

Christmas With the Grey Nuns.

Midnight Mass ushers in the joyous Christmas Day in the vast building on Dorchester street, where the Grey Nuns and their charges form a community of their own—a city within a city.

mite-clutched the robe of the sister while he named some figures on the blackboard correctly in spite of a difficulty with the letter "r."

The fitting up of the building is excellent, and all the modern appliances are used. Enamel baths, and wash-stands, showers, and lockers are provided, and the dormitories have little iron bedsteads, which the children who are big enough make up.

The babies have a wing of their own, and the devotion, skill and care of a number of sisters is at the service of these tiny waifs and strays.

High up are the galleries in the chapel, and opening a door below one enters a quiet little private chapel, where a woman bowed with age was praying before a sacred figure.

Before "Adieu" was said the good sister who was found in a little office near the entrance showed the warm, red covered basket in which are brought in from the street the foundlings left at the door.

"MALTESE CROSS." Why no make a CHRISTMAS PRESENT of a nice pair of OVERSHOES, RUBBERS or RUBBER BOOTS to your friends, and if you do, get the GOOD KIND, "MALTESE CROSS." For sale by A. Kirk & Co.

Clothing and Common Sense.

It is impossible to estimate the amount of suffering to which young children are condemned by the fads of their parents.

The theory of the coddlers is that a breath of cold air is death-dealing to the tender child, and that the chief end of man is the avoidance of draughts.

Their children are apt to grow up weaklings, if they grow up at all, but their sufferings are light and their perils few in comparison with those that beset the victims of the toughening, or hardening, process.

The child of this system is brought up in accordance with the belief that all that is necessary to health and long life is to defy the elements and common sense.

Formerly fashion aided the toughening faddists, and tiny tots went around in the house, and often out-of-doors, with half-bar legs and arms and low-cut dresses hardly reaching to the knees.

It is hard in this changeable climate to keep the mean between the two extremes, but parents do not go far wrong who clothe their children in light flannels in all but the hottest weather, and who vary the outer clothing in accordance with the temperature.

She—"How is it that widows generally manage to marry again?" He—"Because dead men tell no tales."

Must be Quick.

Pains in the stomach and attacks of the colic come on so suddenly and are so extremely painful that immediate relief must be obtained.



We advise everybody to use Sunlight Soap - It makes child's play of work.

SUNLIGHT SOAP

We have used "Sunlight Soap," and we want to tell you that it is the best soap made, that's why we are writing.

ASK FOR THE OCTAGON BAR

Sunlight Soap washes the clothes white and won't injure the hands. LEVER BROTHERS LIMITED, TORONTO.

Trusts.

Trust, in its original meaning, is a good word and means a good thing. But it has got into bad company. Perhaps it would be more accurate to say that there is a party of well-born and well-bred words which are sowing wild oats, and which there is every reason to fear will go to the bad.

What is a trust? Let us define it as a corporation of corporations, or a corporation of the second degree.

The principle of the corporation is old; but its great development, a distinguishing feature of the nineteenth century, is what has made possible the great engineering, manufacturing and transportation industries of our time.

The "trust" is an extension of the principle of the corporation. But it does not follow that, because some of the early objections to corporations were unreasonable, therefore the hostility to trusts will be found to have been based on prejudice and passion.

A trust is a combination of corporations, banded together under one management for the purpose of controlling the manufacture of or trade in some article of extensive use.

The chief objection to the trust is that a practical monopoly may be created. In fact, if a monopoly is not established the purpose of organizing the trust fails of accomplishment.

For example—to take an illustration from a trade in which there is no trust—there are twelve hundred or more corporations, firms and persons in this country engaged in the cotton manufacture.

No harm results from the existence of these great corporations because, being scattered over the country and having diverse interests, they compete with each other.

Moreover, there is a strong feeling in the minds of many people who are by no means infected with socialistic views, that discouragement, and not encouragement, should be given to the practice of concentrating great capital, and consequently great power, in the hands of a few men, officers and managers of such aggregates of corporations.

"My Heart was Thumping my life out," is the way Mrs. R. H. Wright, of Brockville, Ont., describes her sufferings from smothering, fluttering and palpitation.

A bright countenance is the reflex of a luminous spirit.

Effect of Imagination.

In France, where learned physicians have lately been making experiments to determine the effect of the power of mental "suggestion" upon the human body in sickness and health, a gentleman who is not a physician recently made an interesting experiment on his own account.

During the prevalence of very hot weather, while people in general were complaining greatly of the temperature, he gave a garden party, and invited his friends.

The weather was very hot when the guests began to arrive. Perspiring, and fanning themselves, they consulted the thermometers, which were in plain view.

"Why!" they exclaimed, one after another, "it is growing cooler. This thermometer marks only twenty degrees."

Twenty degrees centigrade corresponds with sixty-eight Fahrenheit, and is a very comfortable temperature.

THE MASTER MECHANICS' PURE TAR SOAP heals and softens the skin, while promptly cleansing it of grease, oil, rust, etc. Available for mechanics, farmers, sportsmen. Free Sample on receipt of 2c. for postage. Albert Toilet Soap Co. Mfrs., Montreal.

Sore Throat and Coughs

A simple, effective and safe remedy for all throat irritations is found in

Cresolene Antiseptic Tablets

They combine the germicidal value of Cresolene with the soothing properties of slippery elm and licorice.

HOUSE FOR SALE.

House on College Street, containing seven rooms and kitchen. House in good repair. Apply to DAVID SOMERS, Antigonish, April 27, 1904.

INTERCOLONIAL RAILWAY.

FOR Xmas and New Year

Will sell round trip tickets to THE GENERAL PUBLIC LOCAL ISSUE—First Class One-Way Fare, good going Dec. 22 to January 2, inclusive, returning until Jan. 4, 1905.

TEACHERS AND SCHOLARS LOCAL ISSUE—First Class One-Way Fare, good going Dec. 3 to 31, inclusive, returning until Jan. 31, 1905.

COMMERCIAL TRAVELLERS Commercial Travellers can obtain excursion tickets to local points commencing Dec. 12, and 30 points beyond Montreal, commencing Dec. 22, 1904.



Advertisement for Bowels, Digestive Organs, McGale's Butternut Pills, and Stanton's Pain Relief.

Advertisement for The Golden Key to Success Practical Education, offering courses in Bookkeeping and Stenography.

Advertisement for Empire Business College, TRURO, N. S.

Advertisement for O. L. HORNE, Principal, TWO GOOD SCHOOLS.

Advertisement for KAULBACH & SCHURMAN, Chartered Accountants, Maritime Business College, HALIFAX, N. S.

Advertisement for FRASER'S MEAT MARKET, featuring HAMS and JOHN FRASER, Manager.

Advertisement for HAY! HAY! featuring GUNN & CO., Limited, and Cowan's Cocoa and Chocolate.

Christmas Carols and Customs.

A few years ago a number of church and glee singers—Englishmen, all of them, as one might guess—invited me to be awake at sunrise on a Christmas morning in the city of New York and hear them sing carols before the houses of their friends in the old-fashioned English manner. I did not choose to rise so soon after I had gone to bed, and so missed the only opportunity ever offered me to be a witness of the attempt to introduce an ancient and lovely custom into this modern and unromantic land of ours.

It seems to me a paradox, and yet it is a truth which I have observed in many phases, that for a survival of the amiable social customs of old one must look neither to urban communities nor to the cities and towns of the West, where they might be supposed to make up for the want of the thousands of diversions which the metropolis offers, but to the metropolis itself. London offers an example. There one may still hear the waits and carols on Christmas morning, and, though the custom is in its desuetude there likewise, Hone was yet able to gather together a collection of eighty-nine carols which were still annually printed for public sale less than a hundred years ago.

The commemoration of Christ's birth goes back to the first century of the Christian era, and since the days of Pope Telesphorus (died A.D. 139) the angelic hymn, "Gloria in Excelsis," which has been aptly described as the first Christmas carol, has been a part of the church service. When the performance of carols in the street by singers, who went from house to house giving out their music and receiving pence in return, had its beginning cannot be said; but it is plain that they had become extremely popular in England toward the end of the fifteenth century. The song "Nowell," printed herewith, comes from a manuscript collection dating back to about 1490. The collection is a rare one, because it preserves both words and melodies of its songs, and in this instance gives proof, if proof were needed, that the custom of using music indiscriminately for sacred and secular texts is very old, and did not come in with the Reformation.

"Nowell, nowell, nowell, nowell, This is the salutation of the Angel Gabriel."

was also to be used for a convivial song beginning— "Bryng us in good ale, and bryng us in good ale, For (our) blissed lady sak, bryng us in good ale."

Drinking and caroling were con-sorted as long as caroling remained general throughout England. In 1626 Nicholas Breton could still write: "It is now Christmas and not a cup of drink must pass without a carol."

Christmas plays and festivities flourished with great magnificence under Henry VIII. and Elizabeth, and until in 1647 Parliament, moved by Puritan influences, ordained that the Feast of the Nativity should have neither religious nor secular observance. Out of the old mysteries and miracle plays, however, came many of the carols which echoed down the centuries after the mummery of the plays themselves had ceased. The legend which gave rise to the so-called "Cherry Tree Carol," still popular in London a hundred years ago and the other parts of England where carols had survived, made up a part of the Coventry mystery entitled "The Miraculous Birth and the Midwives." In this play the suspicions of Joseph concerning the chastity of the Virgin, a favorite topic of the time drawn from the apocryphal gospels, play a large part. While Joseph and his virgin wife are traveling just before the birth of Christ, she spies a cherry-tree and is seized with a longing for some of its fruit. She asks Joseph to pluck it, but he replies discourteously and with a frank avowal of his suspicion concerning her chastity. In the carol expanding this incident the unborn babe speaks to its mother and bids her reach out her hands for the cherries. She does so, and the tree bows down to her knees so that she may eat her fill. Says Mary in the play:

"Now, I thank it god, yis tree bowyth to me down, I may now gader'y nowe, and eym my bylle."

Naturally, Joseph is impressed by the miracle. He humbles himself before his wife. In the play:

"Now I know wyl I have offendrd my god I trinyte Spekyng to my spowse these unkynde wurdys."

In the carol: "Then bespoke Joseph, I have done Mary wrong," etc.

To this quaint bit of apocryphal gospel the poet of the people who threw it into verse appended a second part which is a true Christmas carol, one deeply tender in sentiment and full of beautiful imagery:

"As Joseph was a-walking, He heard an angel sing— This night shall be born Our heavenly king; He neither shall be born In house nor in hall, Nor in the place of Paradise, But in an ox's stall; He neither shall be clothed In purple nor in pall, But all in fete linnen, As were babes all; He neither shall be rock'd In silver, nor in gold, But in a wooden cradle, That rocks on the moule; He neither shall be christen'd In white wine nor in red, But with the spring water With which we were christened."

The lullabies to the Divine Child may also be traced back to the mediæval mysteries and nativities. In one of the Coventry plays occurs what is plainly a cradle song to the Infant Jesus, which has been preserved in music as well as text down to to-day. Bach's "Christmas Oratorio" preserves a relic of antiquity in the ineffably sweet solo for contralto, "Slumber, Beloved," while in Calvisius's "Joseph, lieber, Joseph mein," we have an artistic setting of a famous German Christmas hymn which is certainly five hundred years old. The canticle recalls an ancient bit of ecclesiastical mummery which survived in Protestant Leipzig until into the eighteenth century, and then yielded but unwillingly to petition and protest. To-day there remains all the Catholic world over a relic of the nativities in the wax tableaux exhibited in the churches on Christmas Day. Five hundred years ago the mere picture did not suffice the faithful; the scene had to be enacted. The little play was called "The Cradling of the Child" (Kindleinwiegen). Standing on a platform above the manger, boys, representing angels, proclaimed the birth of the Saviour. Priests took the parts of shepherds, and gathered around the manger. The hymn was one of several, the rest being Latin, with which the dramatic scene was enlivened. At the manger stood Joseph, Mary, and the servant of Joseph. After the choir had sung some hymns, among them "Christus natus hodie," Mary sang the first verse of the German song, "Joseph, dear Joseph mine, help me rock my Babe, that God may reward me in heaven—the Babe of the Virgin Mary." Joseph answered with the second verse of the song: "Gladly, my dear nurse, will I help thee rock thy Babe, that God may reward me in heaven, etc."

"Rejoice, Christian multitude! The King of Heaven, who was born of the Virgin Mary, hath taken on mortality." And so it went on.—H. E. Krehbiel, in the Outlook.

A Good and Beautiful Family.

Mr. Wilfrid Ward, in his recently published "Memoir" of Aubrey de Vere, relates the Irish poet's first meeting with Herbert, afterwards Cardinal Vaughan. De Vere was looking for a suitable apartment in Rome, when somebody suggested that a young English ecclesiastic had an excellent sitting-room near the Piazza della Minerva, and would perhaps share it with him. De Vere knocked at the door, and hearing the Italian word for "Come in," obeyed the summons, and, as he often recalled to Mr. Ward, he stood transfixed by the beauty of the English boy of twenty-two, saying to himself: "Good Heavens, if you are like that, what must your sister be!" The young ecclesiastic and the young poet immediately became fellow-lodgers and friends. Later on, when Aubrey de Vere visited Courtfield, the home of Colonel Vaughan, he found that not only the sisters, but all the family were not merely paragons of physical beauty, but the simplest, noblest, most generous, devout and humble people he had ever seen. "The beautiful mother of twelve children cannot feel satisfied unless her six sons all become priests, and her six daughters nuns." But De Vere's count is surely less by one at least, if not two, than the real total of those remarkable children; for there were at least six sons who became priests, the Cardinal, the Archbishop of Sydney, the Benedictine Prior, Father Jerome, all three dead, and three still living, Father Bernard Vaughan, Monsignor John Vaughan, and Father Kenelon Vaughan, and there is a seventh son, the present Colonel Vaughan, Squire of Courtfield like his fathers.

While still in Rome, De Vere writes to his sister at Curragh Chase, in Ireland: "I like my companion better every day. I must have mentioned him to you; he is a Mr. Vaughan, the eldest son of one of the great old

Catholic families of England. He renounces prospects as brilliant as almost any man in England can command, to be a priest in some out-of-the-way village in Wales, and seems as happy as the day is long at his studies and devotions. He is very handsome and refined and as innocent as a child. He sits up half of the night reading Thomas Aquinas, and tells me the next morning that he has been dreaming that people had been burning him alive and that it had given him no pain."

Mr. Wilfrid Ward himself gives a graphic account of the effect of the Cardinal's personal appearance. "My own first meeting with Aubrey de Vere," he writes, "came in the year 1874 or 1875. It is stamped on my memory by an amusing incident which occurred on the same day. Aubrey de Vere was at Farringford, enjoying the daily society of his dear friends the Tennysons, and of Mrs. Cameron, who lived at Freshwater Bay. Cardinal Vaughan, then Bishop of Salford, was staying with my father and mother at Weston Manor, and Aubrey de Vere came to tea with us one afternoon, in company with Tennyson and Mrs. Cameron, to meet his old friend. Mrs. Cameron was at that time photographing various persons to represent the characters in the "Idylls," and I had heard her grumble at not being satisfied with her attempt at a representation of Lancelot—face, figure, age, or expression was wrong in every candidate. As Mrs. Cameron and Tennyson entered the drawing-room together, Bishop Vaughan was standing in the glow of the winter fire, looking, as he ever did, the most knightly of priests, and Mrs. Cameron stood for a moment transfixed, as Aubrey de Vere himself had done twenty years earlier in Rome. Then she cried out, pointing to him: 'Alfred, I have found Sir Lancelot.' Tennyson's bad sight prevented him from seeing at whom she was pointing, and he replied, in loud and deep tones: 'I want a face that is well worn with human passion.' The Bishop smiled and blushed, and the general laughter could not be suppressed. Tennyson and he were made acquainted, and their meeting, after this somewhat unpromising beginning, proved a great success."—Northwest Review.

The Ideal Christmas.

"A little child shall lead them."—Isaiah XL, 6.

Mighty forces do not shape and govern physical creation. The robe of beauty which hides the ugly scars inflicted on the face of nature by violent upheavals has been woven in silence and repose by the gentle power of the dews, the sunshine and the fecund earth.

Might does not uplift, nor upbuild; it destroys.

So, too, in the spiritual order. A moral cataclysm has marred and weakened human nature. Very many to-day, like Cicero of old, see the evil, but know not its cause; for, being ignorant of Scripture, or disbelieving its teachings, they know not of the primal fall. The voice crying in the wilderness—"All flesh is grass"—emphasizes the loss suffered in Eden. But the blessed Christmas bells ring out, year by year, as in the olden days. They bear a message of joy and hope to men of good will. Rut the feelings they wake are not those of yore. In a ruder age, when force was pitted against force as the elemental factor in founding kingdoms, that inevitably perish, the hush of reverent silence fell over the battle-field as the Christmas bells rang out, "Glorv to God in the Highest," and men dropped on their knees, recognizing and adoring the matchless power of the Babe of Bethlehem. Their puny kingdoms, their foolish pursuit after fleeting honours, or position, their unjustly acquired goods, were seen in the light that shone round about the watching Shepherds on the first Christmas night, and they realized, for a time at least, and often for the rest of their lives, the great truth, "What shall it profit a man to gain the whole world if his soul should suffer loss?"

As the bells announced, "Peace to Men of Good Will," the weapons were cast on the ground, the "Truce of God" was proclaimed, former hates were forgotten, and with one accord the foes of an hour ago followed the example of the Shepherds, passed over to Bethlehem—the nearest church—led thither by a "little child." They had their faults, but they had the saving knowledge of that Infant's all-subduing, gentle power. They knew that through Him there was atonement, the blotting out of the handwriting that was against us, by affixing it to the Cross,—pardon, also, for daily transgressions, strength against evil, and eternal life, if only they took up their cross and followed Him. Oh the grand moral uplifting, the ennobling spiritual influence of this belief in the new-born king. For a time the heavens were bowed down, men had a vision of the unseen, the mystery of life and its sufferings, of death and its aftermath of joys was understood, and peace filled their souls.

What sentiments do the Christmas bells awaken in our days? Feasting and good cheer hold a prominent place in our celebrations. The sweet humility of the Divine Infant, clad in "swaddling clothes," is mocked by self-conscious worshippers decked out in costly furs and silks,—too often the price of a husband's, or a father's wrong doing. The gentle mother, so simple in her awful dignity, is derided by the vulgar ostentation of wealth in the homes of the childless votaries of fashion. A deeper indulgence in the luxuries and creature comforts of life marks the holiday season, and constitutes, for very many, what we may term their Christmas cult. Christmas-tide is a season for spiritual not material joy, for moral, no:

for physical pleasure. It is a time for strengthening our Faith in our Divine Saviour, for renewing our loyalty to Him, for laying aside enmities, for restoring ill-gotten gains, for subduing our passions, and thus proclaiming in

our souls a real "Truce of God." Then for us, too, shall a great light shine around about, and peace ineffable shall fill our hearts.—Arch-bishop O'Brien in Montreal Star.

HIGHLAND NURSERY.

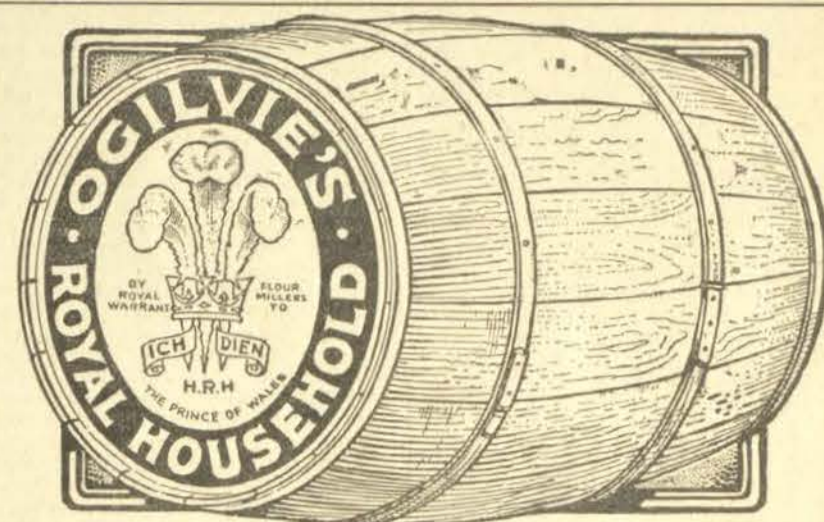
Cut Flowers and Potted Plants

CARNATIONS OUR SPECIALTY.

Orders for Funeral Designs in Crosses, Wreaths, Anchors, Pillows, Etc.

TELEPHONE 489.

WM. CHISHOLM, New Glasgow.



FOR COUGHS AND COLDS THERE IS NOTHING TO EQUAL AMOR'S ESSENCE OF COD LIVER OIL Tastes like Fruit Syrup Suits the most Delicate Stomach All Children like it FOR SALE BY ALL DRUGGISTS

E. R. O. Ethiopian Rheumatic Oil CURES Rheumatism NEURALGIA, SCIATICA, INFLAMMATORY, MUSCULAR, LUMBAGO, GOUT, STIFF NECK, SPRAINS, SORE THROAT, ETC., ETC. Sold by all Druggists and Dealers. PRICE 25 CTS. and 50 CTS.

COUGHS, COLDS, HOARSENESS. For Hoarseness apply the same as for Sore Throat, taking the Syrup, as directed for coughs, etc. Make a cupful of honey or molasses with 1/2 teaspoonful of Pendleton's Panacea, stirring it each time before you take it. Take as often as you feel you require. No Cough Syrup ever made can equal it for stopping a cough, and none so cheap. No remedy should ever be taken that immediately stops the cough.

PENDLETON'S PANACEA in the above form loosens the phlegm, makes coughing easy, and when the lungs are thoroughly healed, which is done in a very short time, the cough stops. Chills, Ague, Night Sweats, Wind around the Heart, Colic, Sleeplessness, Etc., Etc. Regular doses. A mild dose on going to bed, soothes the nerves and produces sleep. The only safe and positive cure for seasickness. Don't go on a journey, or keep house without it. A doctor always on hand for 25c.

ANTIGONISH WOOD-WORKING FACTORY. ESTABLISHED 1884. REBUILT WITH NEW MACHINERY, 1901. Doors, Windows, Mouldings, and Finish, All kinds. Birch and Spruce Flooring. Lime, Laths, Plaster, Etc., Etc. JOHN McDONALE, Proprietor

NEW ADVERTISEMENTS.

Season's Greetings—Palace Clothing Co. Fruit, etc.—C. B. Whidden & Son. Reasons Why—E. Lavin (circled). Auction—Ronald Smith. Seasonable Goods—A. Kirk & Co.

LOCAL ITEMS.

THE ORDO for 1905 has been received at CASKET office. Copies will be sent, postage paid, to any address for 25 cents.

DON'T FORGET the entertainments at McDonald's Hall to-morrow evening and Saturday afternoon by the Boston Comedy Company.

THE TREASURER of the Society of St. Vincent de Paul acknowledges with thanks the sum of \$1.00 from "A Friend."

THE MANY FRIENDS of Rev. Mother Faustina, Superioress of St. Martha's Convent, will learn with pleasure that she is convalescing from her recent illness.

THE SCHOONER CONGO left St. John's, Nfld., on last Saturday, and reached Liverpool, N. S., where she will remain for the winter.

A WASH-OUT occurred on the I. C. Railway at Leitch's Creek on Tuesday afternoon. It occurred just after a freight train had passed and half an hour after the Halifax flyer had gone by, so that a serious accident was narrowly averted.

FATHER BRADY'S LECTURE on "The Piets and Scots" in McDonald's Hall this evening, in aid of the poor, promises to draw a large crowd. The best Scottish music will be heard and choice home-made candy can be obtained in the hall.

LUMBER AREAS.—Messrs. J. D. Copeland, R. D. Kirk, and I. J. Soy, of Antigonish, have purchased 600 square miles of timber limits at Sandwich Bay, Labrador. The timber is wholly spruce. They propose going into the manufacture of lumber, and intend to commence operations towards securing the necessary buildings and plant next spring.

ON CHRISTMAS MORNING, at 5 o'clock, His Lordship Bishop Cameron will have solemn Pontifical High Mass at the Cathedral. This Mass will be immediately followed by two Low Masses. For the convenience of those who cannot attend any one of these, there will be another Mass at 8 o'clock. The usual Christmas silver collection will be taken.

THE CHRISTMAS VACATION began in the College yesterday at noon. Nearly all the boys have gone home, only a few remaining at the College. Some of the Professors are leaving to-day to spend Christmas with friends. Dr. H. McPherson is going to Grand Mira, C. B.; Father Barry to Reserve Mines; Father Tompkins to Harbour Bouchie, and Father Beaton to Port Hood; Drs. Thompson and A. Chisholm, and Father McIsaac are remaining at the College.

THE CHRISTMAS NUMBER of The Suburban News is a very handsome production of the printer's art. The cover is exceedingly chaste, being executed in three colours—gold, green and red. The design shows a boating scene and hockey at Rockingham, while the maple leaf in green and red is most prominent, yet appropriately used for ornamentation, the whole forming a well-balanced, neat and beautiful cover page. The contents include a variety of interesting articles, nearly all of which have fine, clear illustrations. Among the latter is a striking view of the statue of Joseph Howe which was unveiled at Halifax on the 13th inst.

THE HEAVY WIND and snowstorm which commenced Sunday morning and continued about six hours caused no serious damage in Nova Scotia or along the seacoast. About six inches of snow fell, and although the wind was extremely violent the snow drifts were not very high because of the mild temperature and consequent soft snow. The storm raged with great force throughout the New England States and on the Atlantic seacoast. The schooner Richard S. Leaming was wrecked on Long Shoal, Nantucket Sound, and her crew of seven were drowned. Three other vessels were wrecked, and some fifteen damaged.

TEMPERANCE SERMONS.—A series of temperance sermons by a Paulist Father from New York will be delivered at the following places on the dates given below:

- Sydney Mines, Jan. 29th and 30th, '05. North Sydney, Jan. 31st and Feb. 1st. Whitney Pier, Feb. 2nd and 3rd. Bridgeport, Feb. 7th and 8th. Sydney, Feb. 5th and 6th. Louisburg, Feb. 9th and 10th. Glace Bay, Feb. 12th and 13th. Min-a-Dien, Feb. 14th and 15th. New Aberdeen, Feb. 17th. Reserve Mines, Feb. 18th and 19th. Canso, Feb. 21st and 22nd. Inverness, Feb. 23rd and 24th. Port Hood, Feb. 25th and 26th.

All contributions to defray necessary expenses and for making a suitable remuneration to the learned preacher must be placed in the hands of the Rev. D. M. McAdam, P. P., Grand Treasurer of the L. O. C., Sydney, on or before February 18th 1905.

C. F. McKINNON, P. P., G. S. A. Sydney Mines, N. S., Dec. 19th 1904.

HINGHAM PROVINCIALISTS.—A most enjoyable gathering of former Provincialists, now residing in Hingham, Massachusetts, took place at the costly appointed home of Mrs. Annie Casey on Monday, evening, December 12. Miss Helen May Pettipas and Mrs. Casey were the sponsors for the very appropriate assembling of the Provincial colony. The rooms were taste-

fully decorated in honor of the occasion. The program in part consisted of a whist session at the end of which valuable prizes were awarded for the highest scores. After partaking of a beautiful spread, the remainder of the evening was pleasantly passed in listening to vocal and instrumental selections from several present. The following were among those present: From Tracadie, Mrs. Annie Casey, Mrs. John Burke, Miss Helen May Pettipas, Miss Ellen Delorey, Mr. Arthur Delorey; Heatherton, Miss Alice Rogers, Miss Elizabeth Rogers; Antigonish, Mr. and Mrs. John Shaughnessey, Miss Catherine MacDonald, Mr. Ronald S. MacDonald; Guysboro, Miss Margaret Delorey; Kings, Mr. Grant Rogers.

THE I. C. RAILWAY authorities have notified the Municipal Treasurer of the County, who is chairman of the Committee having to do with the importation of hay from Quebec, that after the 31st of December the Railway will exact freight charges on the carriage of hay. Should this decision be adhered to, it will cause widespread confusion and dissatisfaction. Many farmers ordered and paid for hay as far back as October, and are yet waiting for it; hundreds of others have ordered since and have kept their stock on the strength of the promise of free carriage of hay, so that if feed is not procurable it will be necessary to kill many head of stock. A large quantity of hay has been received, it is true, and many have been fully supplied, yet, it is estimated, notwithstanding cattle have been sold at ridiculously low prices in efforts to reduce the number in the County, fully as much more is needed. The Committee have made representations to the Railway people with a view of having at least the hay ordered carried free. The Railway having undertaken to carry the hay free, the farmers took advantage of the offer and immediately placed their orders, and it seems only reasonable that the Railway should live up to its undertaking. The Committee have written the I. C. R. Traffic Manager asking that this be done. Mr. McIsaac, M. P., has also written regarding the matter to Mr. Emmerson, Minister of Railways.

Wanted, a lot of nice plump geese and turkeys, at C. B. Whidden & Son's.

Personal.

Mr. J. Fitzsimmons, engineer, of Stellarton, spent Sunday in Town.

Mrs. Christopher Smyth of Port Hood is visiting in Town.

Miss Nan Munn, of Sydney, who was the guest of Miss Nellie Floyd, returned home yesterday.

Mr. D. McK. Gillis, teacher at L'Ardoise, C. B., was in Town this week.

Mr. Kenneth McKenzie, of Beech Hill, Ant., a resident of New Jersey the last five years, arrived home last week to remain.

Mrs. Daniel McLenan, a resident of Butte, Montana, the past twelve years, her two children, and her brother Mr. John Connors, arrived at their former home at Pleasant Valley, Ant., on Tuesday to spend the winter.

Miss Alice Welton, of Port Williams, King's Co., who is at present completing her musical education at Acadia Seminary, Wolfville, intends spending the Christmas holidays at Antigonish. She will be the guest of her sister, Mrs. J. G. Cunningham, Church Street, this Town.

Among the Advertisers.

Did you see the \$12.50 overcoat at O'Brien's for \$7.75?

A full stock of Xmas presents at C. J. MacDonald's.

Toys from one cent up at C. J. MacDonald's.

Fruit cakes, etc., at Mrs. McNeil's, West End.

O'Brien is selling a first class \$22.00 fur coat for \$14.00.

If you want an Xmas present for a friend go to O'Brien's. He has the best, at bargain prices.

AUCTION.

To be sold at Public Auction on the premises of Donald Smith, Antigonish, on the 28th inst., at 10 o'clock, the following, viz:

- 1 Horse, 1250 weight; 1 Mare, 2 1/2 years old, (Simon W.); 2 Milch Cows, 4 head Young Cattle, 1 Hauling Sleigh, 1 horse spring tooth harrow 1200 feet Hemlock Boards, 800 feet 1 inch Birch, shaft and Runners, 1 Threshing Machine, 1 Truck-wagon, 300 Poles and Posts, 2 tons Hay and Straw, 35 Bushels Oats, 10 Bushels Wheat, 1 Riding Wagon (new); Also a few Sheep and other articles too numerous to mention.

Terms—10 months, with notes and approved securities on all sums over four dollars.

DONALD SMITH, JOHN SMITH

Men's ladies' and children's over-shoes at slaughter prices at O'Brien's.

Received this week, 500 pairs of largigans at A. Kirk & Co.'s.

Go to A. Kirk & Co.'s to buy your Christmas gifts.

Have you seen the elegant range of Christmas goods at A. Kirk & Co.'s? Cranberries and celery with your goose, turkey or chickens at Bonner's. Apples.—\$2.00 to \$3.25 per barrel at Bonner's.

Xmas at Bonner's.—Candy in stockings, baskets and all shapes for the children; in fancy boxes from 25c. to \$1.50 for the ladies; also grapes, oranges, lemons and apples.

The drawing announced for Dec. 20, at Harbour au Boucher on Peabody mare, has been deferred to January 1st because all tickets returns are not in.

Don't stop me. I am going to O'Brien's. He is now selling ladies' rubbers for 25c. and children's at 15c.

Military brushes, clothes brushes, hat brushes, etc., in real ebony mounted in sterling silver at C. J. MacDonald's fancy goods store.

Reasons Why Farmers Should Insure :

I can insure a farm house at 1 1/2 per cent. for three years. A \$400 policy on your house will cost you only \$2 per year. Country churches and church property at same rates. And this in a first-class and thoroughly reliable English company.

E. LAVIN GIRROIR, Agent Norwich Union Fire Insurance Co. Also—Agent for Life and Accident Insurance.

Trespassing Notice.

Any trespassing on my property in future will be prosecuted to the fullest extent of the law. McLEAN CUNNINGHAM, West River

MERRY XMAS!

WE wish our customers a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. At the same time we beg to inform them and the Public generally that we have this year an ample stock of good reliable

Fruits,

including Malaga Grapes, Jamaica Oranges, Annapolis Valley assorted Apples, Valencia Raisins, etc.

Confectionery

in varied assortments of the best manufacturers.

NUTS, PEELS, ESSENCES, SPICES, ETC.

ALSO—Plump Turkeys and Geese, Nice Sweet Hams, Etc.

C. B. Whidden & Son

McDonald's Hall Friday Eve., Dec. 23.

BOSTON COMEDY COMPANY, H. PRICE WEBBER, Manager.

In the new sensational nautical drama "OCEAN WAIF," A story of the sea.

Grand Matinee Saturday afternoon, Dec. 24.

TENDERS WANTED.

Tenders will be received by the undersigned up to and including

Monday, 2nd Jan., 1905,

for supplying the Lumber required for the erection of the new C. M. B. A. Hall, Antigonish. Specifications can be had on application to the subscriber.

Lumber to be delivered on C. M. B. A. property, Antigonish, before April 1st, 1905. The lowest or any tender not necessarily accepted.

ALEXANDER D. CHISHOLM, Secretary. Antigonish, 5th Dec. 1904.

BELOW COST 200 Overcoats. 150 Suits. 300 Pants. 30 Dozen Shirts. I have decided to sell out my entire stock of Gents' Furnishings, and in order to do this promptly I am offering it below cost. This is your time for a Bargain. These goods must go. Come early and secure the best. Sale will continue till everything in my Gents' Furnishing Department is gone. J. S. O'BRIEN, - ANTIGONISH, N. S.

MERRY CHRISTMAS. Another year is fast drawing to a close with its sunlight and shadows; its withered leaves and fragrant flowers, joyous times, happy hearts, cheerful homes made bright by the glorious anticipations of expected pleasures, kind hearts, loving remembrances, tender recollections of "Home Sweet Home" it's Christmas time, let every heart be merry, accept our "MERRY XMAS" as a personal one from friend to friend, and our earnest and heartfelt thanks for the liberal patronage extended to us during the past year. We Certainly feel that we have every reason to wish all our friends A VERY MERRY XMAS. Our Store Will be Closed all Day MONDAY, DEC. 26TH. Palace Clothing Co. AND POPULAR SHOE STORE, MAIN ST. ANTIGONISH

Saskatchewan Buffalo Robes. Now is the time to buy saskatchewan Buffalo Robes, either for your friends or for your own use. They are more popular than ever, made in three sizes, three colours and lined with imitation Persian Lamb in black, scarlet and olive. Do not be deceived by taking anything else called just as good there are no robes that give the satisfaction that Saskatchewan Buffalo Robes do. Look out for the diamond trade mark on each Robe with the manufacturers name, Newland's & Co. in the diamond. BUFFALO COATS, GLOVES AND MITTS, IMITATION LAMB COATS, GLOVES AND MITTS. All guaranteed to give satisfaction or money cheerfully refunded. ALSO IN STOCK HORSE RUGS AND SURCINGLES, SLEIGH BELLS AND WHIPS. SKATES, HOCKEY STICKS AND PUCKS. PARLOR HEATING AND COOK STOVES. STOVE PIPE, COAL HODS AND SHOVELS. FLOUR, MEAL, FEED AND GROCERIES. CALL OR WRITE FOR PRICES. D. G. KIRK, Antigonish, N. S.

Shoes For CHRISTMAS and every kind of footwear can be purchased from our big stock. Most acceptable Christmas gift can be selected from our splendid assortment of WINTER SLIPPERS. We can suit you in style and price. In our gaiters and leggins we have the latest styles. CUNNINGHAM'S SHOE STORE. MAIN ST., ANTIGONISH, N. S. ... THE ... Mason & Risch Piano. Its marvelous sustaining and carrying quality, as well as the delicacy and evenness of action, make the Mason & Risch one of the truly great Pianos of the world. The price is fair, neither high nor low. Pay by the month if you prefer. MILLER BROS. & McDONALD Halifax, N. S., Moncton, N. B., Sackville, N. B.