

AT THE ACADEMY.

A Lively Basket Ball Game and a Successful Reception.

Something of the old time interest in basket ball was manifest Friday evening, when a crowd, which filled the gallery and available floor space at the armory, gathered to witness the game between the Academy team and the Edmunds High School team, of Burlington.

Miss Alice M. Sherman, who was quite ill last week, was so far recovered that she went to her home in Newport Friday. She expects to return to school next week.

When the Academy students of a decade or so ago attend a class reception of today, they are struck with the transformation that the old time "interview" has undergone. In those days the walls of the chapel were as bare and cold as a forest in winter, and the "interview" was usually in keeping with its surroundings. But during later years, class after class has been at work beautifying the big naked room until now it is really an attractive place, and at the same time the social functions held in it have caught the spirit of improvement and the stiff, formal affairs of the past have given place to delightful gatherings where the entire class unite in making their guests happy and everyone seems to enter thoroughly into the spirit of the occasion.

A good illustration of this was given Friday evening, when the class of '03 received the members of the school and an unusually large number of outside friends. The affair was arranged as a St. Valentine party and everything was in keeping with this idea.

One of the most enjoyable features of the evening was an excellent presentation of the dramatic sketch entitled "Love in a Lighthouse" by the following cast:

Mrs. Maria Capel-Robinson, of Quabog Light, Clamshell Island.

Miss Mildred Drew, Edith Capel, a Daughter of old Virginia.

Miss Armida Gilbert, Polly Potts, the Bound Girl.

Miss Pearl Davis, Philip Ross, the Indispensable Lover.

Leitch Noyes, Sam Robinson, Philip Robinson, Jem Robinson, Keepers of Quabog Light, Ralph B. Hooker.

Alexander Durnett a Dissenter.

During the past week the St. Albans Messenger has devoted considerable space to publishing the opinions of prominent Vermonters on the question of Cuban reciprocity, and almost without exception the stand taken by Senators Proctor and Dillingham on the matter was heartily endorsed.

Representative Bundy believes the policy is a step toward free trade and heartily endorses it. He says: "Certainly, we've got to do it. We are under moral obligation to do everything possible for Cuba. It is Blaine's doctrine, but Republicans turned it down. It was McKinley's doctrine, but a little ring of protectionists want to hold back the tide. It's settling toward free trade. You've got to come to it."

The views of Hon. Alexander Durnett do not coincide with the majority, according to the following statement: "I think when we have freed Cuba from Spain, and helped her to establish a stable government, we have done all we ever promised, and all that the highest dictates of humanity can reasonably ask. I do not understand that we are under any obligations to enrich them. We should pursue the same commercial policy toward Cuba as towards any other foreign nation as long as she remains such."

Uncle Terry's Popularity.

"Uncle Terry" the delightful novel of New England life from which the play to be given at Howe Opera House tomorrow evening is taken, is one of the most fascinating stories of New England life that has appeared in recent years and it is unfortunate that the play comes at the same time as the Choral Union festival, for there is no doubt that it will be the best dramatic production of the winter thus far. There is no better commentary on the success of the play than to give the following figures representing the amount of business on the first night, and on a return date in the following cities:

Table with 4 columns: City, First Night, Return Date. Rows include Holyoke, Keene, Gardner, Fitchburg, Concord, Nashua.

FESTIVAL ARTISTS.



FREDERIC MARTIN, Soprano, Boston



ANITA RIO, Soprano, New York.



DR. ION JACKSON, Tenor, New York.

FESTIVAL PROGRAMS.

The following programs prepared for festival week tell their own story, and promise a rich treat for all lovers of music:

Wednesday Evening

From 8 to 9:15 a public rehearsal by the chorus.

At 9:15 a Pinnola and Orchestral recital, introducing something novel and extremely entertaining.

Thursday Afternoon at 3:30.

Oberon Overture, Weber. Aeolian Orchestral. Wedding March and Bells, chorus from "Midsummer Night's Dream." (Paraphrase by Liszt). Pinnola. Soprano Solo—Selected. Mabelle Hill True. Staccato Etude, Rubinstein. Soprano Solo—"Ave Maria," Gounod. Mrs. Constantineau. Trueman, Aeolian Orchestral. Amoureux, Aeolian Orchestral. Contralto Solos—"Good Bye," Tosti. "Rosary," h. "Rosary," Ethel Galbraith Stiles. Bartlett. Aeolian Mournings, Thomas. Gavotte from Mignon, Pinnola. Symphony No. 1. Andante, Scherzo, Hadley. Aeolian Orchestral.

Thursday Evening.

Grand Selection from "Faust," Gounod. Suite from Tannhauser, Wagner. Act I—Scene III—Solos, Shepherd and Tannhauser. Chorus of Departing Pilgrims. Male Voices. Act III—Scene I—Elizabeth's Prayer. Chorus of Returning Pilgrims. Male Voices. Act II—Scene I—"O Thon Sublime, Sweet Evening Star." Mr. Frederic Martin. Hall Aria, "Elizabeth's Greeting," Anita Rio. Scene IV—Chorus, "O Fair Abode," Choral Union.

Friday Afternoon. Artists' Concert.

Overture—"Merry Wives of Windsor," Orchestral. Songs—a. "Dunkel wie dunkel," Brahms. b. "Scottish Cradle Song," H. A. Beach. Duet—"A Night in Venice," Arditi. Anita Rio, Ion Jackson. Songs—a. "Ho Messo Nuvve," Gounod. b. "The Message," Blumenthal. Samuel J. MacWatters. Selections—a. Bridal Song from "Peramors," Erma Bach. b. Wedding Procession from "Peramors," Erma Bach. Waltz Song from "Sa Saran Rose," Arditi. Anita Rio and Orchestral. Songs—a. "O Let Night Speak of Me," Chadwick. b. "Who Treads the Path of Duty," Hatton. c. "Bid Me to Live," Frederic Martin. Inskl. "Berceuse," Ion Jackson. Czibulka. Selections—a. "My Dreams," Noel Johnson. b. "My Dreams," Ion Jackson. Trio from "Faust," Gounod. Miss Rio, Mr. Jackson, Mr. Martin, Orchestral.

Friday Evening

Will be devoted to the presentation, by soloists, orchestra and chorus, of Verdi's Requiem, one of the grandest works ever interpreted before a St. Johnsburian audience.

RECENT DEATHS.

Jenness.

After four weeks' illness with grip, and much suffering during the last few days, Mrs. Lucy Jenness entered into rest on Thursday, Feb. 13, at the age of 75 years. Mrs. Jenness was born in Glover, March 3, 1827, and, with the exception of four years spent in West Burke, had always lived in Glover until coming to St. Johnsbur twenty years ago. Her maiden name was Lucy Cook, and she married Mr. Jenness October 10, 1848, her husband dying nineteen years later. Two daughters and one son survive her—namely, Misses Laura A. and Mattie A. of this place, and Duer W. of Lawrence, Mass. Mrs. Jenness was a devoted member of the Universalist church, always interested in its work and giving to it whatever services her strength would allow. She had been in poor health for some ten years, but was not considered seriously ill and in need of a physician's care till about four weeks ago. The funeral services were held at the house, Central street, on Saturday morning, Rev. A. F. Walsh officiating; music being furnished by Mrs. F. A. Field, who sang two hymns. Among the floral tributes sent in were a handsome wreath from the pupils of Miss Mattie Jenness' school and a bouquet of beautiful roses from the teachers. Brief services were held also at the chapel in Glover, whither the remains were taken for interment.

Paige.

Mrs. Mary B. Paige died on the afternoon of February 12, in Rutland, where she had been for nearly two years, in the home of Mrs. M. J. Townsend, an old-time friend. She had been in failing health for some time, and the end came to her as a blessed release from physical and mental suffering.

Mrs. Paige was born in Lyndon, October 16, 1820, and was the second daughter of Charles and Sarah Wells Stone, and a sister of the late C. M. Stone. Her death removes the last member of that generation. She united with the Congregational church in Lyndon in early life, and was for many years after, and at the time of her death, a loyal member of the North Congregational church of this place. She was brought to St. Johnsbur for the last rites, and owing to the absence of Mrs. C. M. Stone and family—her only surviving relatives—the funeral service was held at the residence of Dr. H. C. Newell on Saturday afternoon, Revs. Edw. M. Chapman and Edw. T. Fairbanks officiating. "He giveth His beloved sleep."

Amazeen.

Ephraim Amazeen died at his home on Portland street Monday morning of pneumonia after an illness of about one week. The funeral will be held at the First Baptist church this afternoon at 2 o'clock. Rev. Dr. Edward T. Fairbanks will officiate, and the services will be in charge of Passumpsic Lodge, No. 27, F. & A. M., of which he was a member.

Mr. Amazeen was born at Newcastle, N. H., September 26, 1859. In his earlier days he was an expert wood engraver and spent several years in Boston. He came to St. Johnsbur 12 years ago and entered the employ of the Standard Electric Co. of Vermont, as an electrician, and when that business was given up he was given charge of the plating work at the scale factory, which position he has since held. October 5, 1895 he married Mrs. Carrie Randall, who died last July. Besides his stepdaughter, Miss Mildred Randall, he leaves two sisters and four brothers, of whom Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Amazeen of Portsmouth, N. H., and Mrs. Chapman of Somerville, Mass., are in town to attend the funeral.

Belfast.

John Belfast died at the home of his son Henry J. Belfast, Friday morning aged 72. He had been suffering from a mild attack of pneumonia for about a week, but the end came very suddenly. At the age of three years Mr. Belfast was left an orphan and was adopted by a miller in Quebec, with him he lived until 18 years of age and learned the miller's trade. He came to Barton and run the mill at that place 32 years. Leaving Barton in 1878, he was in the Ide mill at Passumpsic several years. He retired from active work about ten years ago and came to live with his son. Mr. Belfast has always been a remarkably well man, and until his last illness had never employed a physician. He was a member of Notre Dame church and Rev. Father Boissonault conducted the funeral services at the house Sunday afternoon. Aside from his son with whom he lived he leaves one daughter, Mrs. Joseph Paquet, of Barton.

Forbes.

Mrs. Ellen Forbes, mother of William J. Forbes of this place, died at her home on Railroad street, February 6, aged 67. She was a native of Quebec but has lived in St. Johnsbur about 25 years. She leaves three sisters and one brother. The funeral was held February 7. Rev. M. C. Henderson officiating.

Mackey.

The many friends of Samuel A. Mackey will be pained to learn of his death of hemorrhage of the brain, at his home, Sitters, N. Y., Feb. 3. Mr. Mackey was a brother of David Mackey, and formerly a resident of this place for many years.

He will be pleasantly remembered by many for his quiet, unassuming manner and generous disposition. He was a member of Co. A, 11th Vermont regiment.

McCuig. Ruth, the two and one-half year old daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Duncan McCuig, died at their home on Cliff street Sunday of pneumonia. The funeral was held at the house yesterday at 2 o'clock, Rev. G. T. Colwell and Rev. E. Ward M. Chapman conducting the service.

"Such Stuff as Dreams."

This is the title of an attractively printed and bound volume of poems historical, patriotic, personal, descriptive and sentimental, by Charles E. Russell, a graduate of St. Johnsbur Academy, class of '81, and now at the head of the Chicago American. Many of the poems are of special merit as regards both the thought and the manner of its development. Mr. Russell has long been a contributor of verse to the magazines and daily papers, is a widely known newspaper man, and married Miss Abby O. Rust, a daughter of J. R. Rust, who will be remembered by many of our people in connection with the Portland and Ogdensburg road. The book is published by the Bowen-Merrill Company of Indianapolis.

At the Y. M. C. A.

Rev. R. L. Daston addressed a good audience at the 4 o'clock meeting Sunday on "The Foundation and the Structure." Next Sunday, Judge Walter P. Smith will have charge of the meeting and there will be special music by Mrs. Ralph Parker, contralto, and H. E. Dean, concertist.

The new bath tub was put in last week and the improvement is greatly appreciated by all patrons of the gymnasium.

Good Hearted Busybodies.

There are thousands of good people in this world who, having very little trouble in managing their own affairs, spend their leisure hours in making plans for their neighbors and constitute themselves self appointed general managers of other men's lives. Anything more positively aggravating than the disclosures of these schemes can hardly be conceived when they are made to reticent, thinking persons who are using every effort to control the circumstances which surround them to the best advantage. To have concentrated every energy to the amendment of adverse influences and then have some eager, energetic friend come upon you suddenly and ask you, much as if waking you from a lethargy, "Why don't you do this and so?" is a severe test of your temper and your affection for the speaker. But, after all, it was kindly meant, and these good hearted busybodies, whose "fad" is the regulating of their friends' families, meant to lend you a helping hand. We are taking away what stands to them in the place of a full purse and the use of an uplifting lever when we refuse to listen.—New York Post.

A Riddle Making Epoch.

There have been epochs at which riddle making has been more especially in vogue, and such epochs would appear to occur at seasons of fresh intellectual awakening. Such an epoch there was at the first glimmering of new intellectual light in the second half of the seventh century. This was the age of Aldhelm, bishop of Sherborne, the first in the roll of Anglo-Latin poets. He left a considerable number of enigmas in Latin hexameters, and they have been repeatedly printed. Aldhelm died in 709. Before his time there was a collection of Latin riddles that bore the name of Symphosius. Of this work the date is unknown. We only know that Aldhelm used it, and we may infer that it was then a recent product. The riddles of Symphosius were uniform in shape, consisting each of three hexameter lines.—Cornhill Magazine.

Dumas, Father and Son.

A story is told about the two Dumas, father and son, which illustrates the pleasant relations between the two. The son had written his first successful novel, and the father wrote him a letter of congratulation, which he began in the formal manner of "Dear Sir." This letter throughout read as though addressed to a total stranger and merely thanked the author for the pleasure the book had given him. Dumas' ink answered in this manner: "Sir—I thank you most heartily for your kind letter. Praise from you is especially appreciated by me, as I have always heard of you as the most enthusiastic admirer of my father, who also makes some pretension of being a novelist."

The Highest Balloon Altitude.

Dr. Bersen and Dr. Surling of the Berlin Meteorological Institute reached in a balloon ascent the highest altitude on record. They first went up to the height of 30,000 feet, losing consciousness for brief intervals. In spite of the risk they continued to ascend to 33,700 feet, when one of them became completely unconscious and could not be aroused. The other aeronaut, after making a great effort in opening the valve to descend, also became insensible, and neither of them recovered till the balloon dropped to 36,000 feet, at the end of an hour's time.

Marriage in Arabia.

With the Arab a first cousin of the gentler sex holds an option on the young man, and if he desires to wed outside of the family he must first renounce her and secure his release. The next in line is his deceased brother's widow. As Arabia and Turkey are polygamous countries there is often a chance to provide for several who may have first claims on the bridegroom.—Woman's Home Companion.

Thumb Rings.

Men's thumb rings are no rarities to collectors. Some of the Roman specimens must have been cumbersome wear, one in the Montfaucon collection bearing the bust of Trajan's consort, Plotina, measuring over three inches across. Mediaeval churchmen of high degree did not allow "the largest, first and shortest of the fingers" to go undorned. A massive gold ring was found upon the thumb of the supposed skeleton of Hilary, bishop of Chichester, who died in 1169, and the recumbent effigy of Bishop Oldham in Exeter cathedral is remarkable for the pressed together thumbs being inclosed by a single ring.

When the shrine of St. Thomas a Becket was robbed of its treasures, the famous archbishop's thumb ring, given to him by the king of France, graced with a ruby the size of a hen's egg, found its way to the thumb of bluff King Hal, and as the humor of the king is always voted just the thing we may be sure the royal hand was not the only one so decked at court. Mayors and aldermen imitated their betters. "When I was about thy years, Hal," says the fat knight, "I was not an eagle's talon in the waist. I could have crept into an alderman's thumb ring."—Chambers' Journal.

Building Superstitions.

In remote times a sacrifice of some kind was always offered at the completion of a building, either public or private. Sacrifices were not only offered at the completion of structures of all kinds. The foundations themselves were usually laid in blood, whether the structure was a castle, bridge, cottage or church. Originally—tracing the subject back to heathenish times—the sacrifice was offered to the god under whose protection the building was placed. In Christian times the bloody rite was retained, but was given another significance. In those days it was generally believed that no edifice would stand unless the cornerstone was laid in mortar mixed with blood. Usually the blood was obtained by sacrificing a dog, a pig, a wolf, a black cock or a goat, and not unfrequently some malefactor's blood was poured out to make the ceremony more impressive.

Clark Russell's Start.

When a young man of one and twenty, Mr. Clark Russell, the well known novelist, was present at the trial of a dozen seamen who had mutinied because the food provided for them was of the most abominable description. He was disgusted to find that the mutineers were actually sentenced to several weeks' imprisonment for refusing to be poisoned with the provisions dealt out to them. From this sprang the idea of a story of mutiny caused entirely by the shipment of bad food for the crew. The result was "The Wreck of the Grosvenor," by which Mr. Clark Russell made his name.

A Corkscrew Steeple.

The steeple of the parish church at Chesterfield, England, is often called the "corkscrew" steeple, for it has got a big twist. This is due to the action of the sun on the wooden and iron materials, and the warping is more pronounced in the case of Chesterfield church than in any other church in England. Barnstable and Bristol and one or two other places have leaning steeples, but their tendency is decidedly to "lean" and not to "twist." The church at Chesterfield is the nearest rival in the United Kingdom to the leaning tower at Pisa.



Love is unequally yoked with sickness. Labor is lightened by love, but love cannot lighten pain or relieve suffering. Many a man looks on at his wife's suffering willing to do anything to aid her and able to do nothing.

Sometimes, however, the husband's attention is directed to Dr. Pierce's Favorite Prescription and its remarkable cures of womanly diseases. He may not have much hope of a cure, but he is led to try the medicine, with the result that in almost every case there is a perfect and permanent cure. Dr. Pierce's Favorite Prescription cures irregularity. It dries the drains which weaken women, heals inflammation and ulceration, and cures female weakness. As a tonic for women who are nervous, sleepless, worn-out and run-down "Favorite Prescription" is unequalled. "In answer to your letter I will say, my wife commenced to complain twenty years ago," writes Lewis A. Miller, ex-Chief of Police, of 33 Prospect St., Weisport, Pa. "We have tried the skill of twelve different doctors. She took gallons of medicine during the time she was ill, until I wrote to you and you told us what to do. She has taken eight bottles of Dr. Pierce's Favorite Prescription and six of the 'Golden Medical Discovery.' She can do her own work now and can walk around again and is quite smart."

Twenty Dollars

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A. M. GOODRICH, Local Dealer, St. Johnsbur.

I Want Your Measure for a WINTER SUIT AND OVERCOAT.

Are you going to give it to me? CARL J. GREENE, Tailor and Repairer, 54 Main Street

California Fortune Oil Company.

Concerning the stock of the California Fortune Oil Company which Sparhawk & Co. have recently been placing about here, the United States Investor of Feb. 15th reports as follows: "S419. (St. Johnsbur, Vt.) Will you kindly give us what information you can in regard to the California Fortune Oil Company, situated in the northern Sunset District, California, and of which E. Denicke is Secretary, 605 Parrott Building, San Francisco? Do you consider its stock a good investment, and what is it selling for now? Is it true that brokers in San Francisco are advertising its stock at a very low price, with a view of injuring the company by that means? How many producing wells has it, and are they large producers? Has it good transportation facilities for shipping its product? If not, what is the prospect in the near future of its having it? Your valuable paper has already saved us many unprofitable investments by its timely advice.

ANS.: The California Fortune is operating on good, proven land, in a portion of the Sunset district, in which the present greatest difficulty is the transportation question, which, we understand, will soon be solved by a pipe line. The management of this Co. is thought to be reliable and competent. The company has three good wells, all of which are now flowing. The actual production of these wells cannot be given at this time, as, in common with all Sunset wells, they have not yet been thoroughly marketed. The stock of this company is now selling at 75 cents. It is claimed that a small block of shares was recently employed in an attempt to depress the price by means of advertisements, offering them at 25 cents, but we understand that this block was bought up, and we have heard of no later offerings at less than 75."

The remarkable progress made in science by Americans in recent years may be due to coffee drinking. Because all men of great intellect drink coffee, it has long been estimated that Americans drink 2,000,000 cups a day of Chase & Sanborn's coffee. This firm is the largest distributor of high-grade coffee in the world.

YOUNG MAN!

Next Sunday evening take that young lady a box of Imperial Kisses or Walnut Caramels from Atwood's. She'll be happy if you do. You'll be happy because she is, and we'll be happy because you both are.

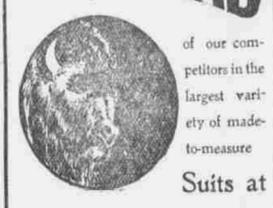
S. D. ATWOOD, The Caterer.

Ranney & Gady, Stock Brokers,

Pythian Building.

Securities of all descriptions bought and sold. We have a list of Investment Bonds netting from 3 to 4 1/2 per cent. Having sold the block of Fairbanks stock recently advertised, we have secured a second lot, which we now offer. This carries the March dividend. We also offer, subject to previous sale, one \$500 St. Johnsbur Aqueduct 4 1/2 per cent. Coupon Bond. We have a small block of Reece Folding Machine stock which we can sell at a bargain. Correspondence solicited. N. E. Tel., 19-2.

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