

LETTERS OF MRS. BLAINE

Sidelights on Life of Her Distinguished Husband--Retells Garfield Tragedy.

New York, Dec. 18.—Messrs. Duffield & Co. issue on Saturday "The Letters of Mrs. James G. Blaine," edited by her daughter, Mrs. Harriet S. Blaine, Beale.

As excerpts from familiar letters that passed between the wife of one of the great historical characters of America and her children and relatives and friends they have a peculiar and intimate charm. For Mrs. Blaine, as the book proves, was an excellent letter writer, vivacious, keen witted and humorous. She draws excellent little vignettes of Mr. Blaine's famous contemporaries, his friends and his enemies and other scandals allusions to the great events of the day which are full of insight and acumen.

The letters begin in 1871, when Blaine was at the height of his popularity as the Speaker of the House, and end in 1889, when he was still a member of the Senate. The first allusion to political matters is under date of October, 1871. It is written to Walker, the eldest son, from Augusta, Me.

"Father," writes Mrs. Blaine, "is in Bangor, accompanying the president. I drove as near the depot as I dared Tuesday afternoon. There was a great crowd, and Grant was as miserable as is his wont on such occasions. I did not see him, as I sat high up in the carriage; neither did I see the other dignitaries who were present.

Five years later the Mulligan letters and other scandals had assailed the good name of Blaine and as a consequence he lost his chance to be the republican standard-bearer in 1876.

Bowed but not broken Mrs. Blaine wrote from Washington to her son Emmons at Harvard, hoping more on less during the winter which your father is passing. The defeat in the convention is as the small dust of the balance to him, though no one better knows than himself the prize for which he was contending. But the thought which takes him hood out of him is that you and Walker who are just entering life, may, perhaps, be forced to see, not only all your proud and happy anticipations disappointed, but yourselves put on the defensive.

Not for a moment indeed, does the wife's belief in her husband waver. She answers a letter of friendly sympathy from Mrs. Joseph H. Manley, in these words:

"My Dear Friend:—The only tears I have shed in all this bitter time have been over your letter. I could not read unmoved what you say of him, for those who know him most love him best. I dare to say that he is the best man

I have ever known. Do not misunderstand me, I do not say that he is the best man that ever lived, but that of all the men whom I have thoroughly known he is the best.

"You must not think, Dear Joe, from the tone in which I write that we are cast down, or, if cast down, discouraged, but can one tread the wine press so long alone and not some time give out?"

Here is Mrs. Blaine's account of the shooting of Garfield in a letter written to her eldest daughter on July 3, 1881:

"Dear M.:—Your father got up quite early yesterday morning in order to drive the President to the station, and at half-past nine Tom, the boys, Alice and I had breakfast. In the midst of it the door bell rang, and Tom was called out. Then he called Walker; but as the house is besieged all the time, we, who were so fortunate as to remain unscathed, paid no attention to the prolonged absence of the absentees; but shall I never forget the moment when Maggie Nurse came running into the room crying: "They have telephoned over to you." Mrs. Blaine, that the president is assassinated. Emmons flew, for we all remembered, with one accord that his father was with him.

"By this time I reached the door, I saw that it must be true—everybody on the street, and with Mrs. Sherman got a carriage and we drove over to the White House. Found the streets in front jammed and the doors closed, but they let us through and in. The president still at the station, so drove thitherward. Met the mounted police clearing the avenue, then the ambulance; turned and followed into the very gateway, where, on the 4th of March, we had watched him enter.

"I stood with Mrs. McVeagh in the hall, when a dozen men bore him above their heads, stretched on a mattress, and he saw us and held us with his eye. He kissed his hand to us—I thought I should die; and when they brought him into his chamber and had laid him on the bed he turned his eyes to me, beckoned, and when I went to him, pulled me down, kissed me again and again and said: "Whatever happens I want you to promise to look out for Crete, the name he always gives his wife. 'Don't leave me until Crete comes.' I took my old bonnet off and just stayed. I never left him a moment. Whatever happened in the room, I never bled, and the day will never pass unremembered. At six or thereabouts Mrs. Garfield came, frail, fatigued, desperate, but firm and quiet, and full of purpose to save, and I think now there is a possibility of succeeding."

THE MERCHANTS' BANK.

A Year's Successful Business Now Closed.

The directors of the Merchants Bank of Canada, in their report to the shareholders on the business of the year just closed, say with reference to the worldwide monetary stringency, that they had early indication and prepared in advance for the storm. As a result their course through the growing pressure was made easier, and this without inconvenience to the clientele of the bank. The precautions taken included the holding of a larger amount than is usual of the assets either in cash or in securities or loans that could be at once realized upon. The purpose was, of course, to enable the bank to quickly meet any and all calls which its commitments might give rise to in this the Merchants' and all other institutions which pursued a like policy, sacrificed something of their earning power, not for their own sakes, it may be said, but more than for the sake of the community. This caution was the more necessary because of the uncertainty of the future, and what imprudent banking might result in, and stable and conservative institutions had to be even more than usually conservative.

The course of the directors and of the general manager Mr. Hebdien, in the conduct of the business, will be approved of generally by wise financiers. The result of the operations as reported was also satisfactory. The profits, on a paid-up capital of \$6,000,000, were \$738,597. They were used, \$480,000 in the payment of dividend of 8 per cent, \$100,000 in reduction of the liability for interest on the assets, and \$25,000 was contributed to the officers' pension fund. The balance was carried to profit and loss. The bank, whose capital is supported by a rest of \$4,000,000, has assets of \$5,659,665, held, as said before, in shape to meet whatever conditions may arise. The likelihood of anything untoward turning up is, however, daily growing less. The directors were able in their report to say that a clearer financial outlook has supervened and they look for a general revival of trade. Their caution in the past has put the bank in a position to benefit to the full in the increased demand for bankers' assistance that improved trade conditions will bring.

AT THE GRAND.

To-Night, "The Bonnie Brier Bush" Is On.

"The Bonnie Brier Bush" comes to the Grand to-night. The original Kirke La Shelle production will be seen here, presented by a company which is a very large one. A carload of scenery is used. A pleasing feature of the performance is a quartette of male voices, the rendition of "Loch Lomond," "Mary of Argyll," "Annie Laurie," "Ye Banks and Braes."

Partello Stock Company.

One of the strongest repertoire companies travelling, both from a scenic and acting standpoint is the famous Partello Stock Co. The company is headed by that clever little comedienne, Miss Alice Kennedy, and her support this season is much stronger than that of last season. The plays to be presented in Kingston are selected from well known successes. The opening play on Monday night will be that great success, "The College Girl," written by Justin Adams, the man who wrote "Quincy Adams Sawyer."

Goderich Notes.

E. Pauline Johnson and Walter McRaye have given two entertainments to good houses. All were charmed with Miss Johnson's presentation of her own poems. By Mr. McRaye, Dr. Drummond's "Habitant" poems were exceedingly well received.

Our member for the house of commons, E. N. Lewis, is very ill of bronchitis, and congested lungs.

The eight teamsters wintering at this port are: Awaga, Capt. Jordan; Avim, from York; Capt. Strathcona, Capt. Cunningham; Pelletier, Capt. Irwin; Pelletier, Capt. McKay; Domacina, Tecumseh, Capt. Murdoch McDonald.

Donald McGillivray, son of engineer James McGillivray, of Kingston, has been one of the crew of the steamer "Luscarre," plying between Buffalo and Chicago. He will spend Christmas with his parents in Kingston. Miss Jessie McGillivray, of Kingston, whose dictionary powers are much appreciated, has given a fine recitation at Ballantyne Station.

Campbell Bros'. Furs.

Big values in mink neck pieces and muffs.

Rev. Canon Roberts has asked his people of Adolphustown and Fredericksburgh to celebrate with him the fortieth anniversary of his ordination on December 20th, 1868.

Bracelets, all styles and prices, at Keeley's.

Applause is forbidden in Russian theatres.

See Bibby's nobby \$2 umbrellas. Imperial Crown brand underwear is made in Kingston only by The Kingston Hosiery company.

A traveller's line of sample leather and fancy dressing and other cases at less than wholesale prices. Medley's.

See Bibby's nobby \$2 umbrellas. High-class perfumes and confectionery for Christmas. Gibson's Red Cross drug store.

If a woman is unable to preserve her complexion she begins to pickle it.

See Bibby's swell \$2 umbrellas. Beef, Iron and Wine. "Our own" make, pint bottles, 50c., at Wade's drug store.

Sale of black taffeta undershirts at Waldron's to-night, \$7.50 for \$4.98.

Try Bibby's \$2 umbrellas.

Moccasins for children 35c. to 75c., at Abernethy's.

Too much rest is even worse than too much work.

Try Bibby's 50c. knitted scarfs. Beautiful hand mirrors, from 75c. up. Medley's.

Lennox Iron Pills, regular price, 25c. each, 2 for 25c., at Wade's drug store.

Try Bibby's 50c. silk handkerchiefs. Money usually goes with the fast young man at the same gait.

Hockey boots for little boys \$1.25 and \$1.50, at Abernethy's.

Bibby's for men's Christmas toggery. Help to strengthen the Santa Claus faith.

See the hand mirrors at Medley's. See Keeley's \$1.50 solid gold rings. Bibby's for men's Christmas gifts.

This Store's a Mighty Christmas Tree

Gifts Galore! Look where you will in this store and you'll find gifts. Gifts to the right of you—gifts to the left of you—gifts in front of you. Gifts by the thousands. The bright, the beautiful, the dainty, the desirable, the useful, the serviceable, the lasting—all here. It would take pages to mention them all, but then the chief joy of giving is in the choosing. So come and see. Everything going at sale prices. Come early to-night and next week, and shop early.

- | Gifts for Women and Girls | Gifts for Men and Boys | Gifts for the Home |
|---|---|--|
| Beautiful net allover lace, silk lingerie and lawn blouses from .98c. to \$4.98 | Men's suits \$4.98 | Wool blankets for the cold nights, worth \$4 pair, for \$2.89 |
| Dainty French lace scarfs 69c. | Men's suits at \$7.98 | Japanese silk piano drapes \$1.48 |
| Cream silk shawls \$1.29 | Men's suits at \$9.98 | Tapestry curtains \$2.98 pr. |
| Handsome embroidered waist patterns \$1.29 | Boys' suits at \$2.98 | Tapestry tablecovers \$2.39 to \$3.48 |
| Up-to-date black beaver coats for ladies \$2.98 | Boys' suits at \$3.48 | Pure linen embroidered and hand-drawn five o'clock tea covers 75c. to \$1.50 |
| Ladies' fashionable walking skirts \$3.68 | Men's overcoats from \$3.98 to 10.98 | Traycloths 25c. to 75c. |
| Fancy winter waists 98c. | Boys' "Cadet" overcoats \$2.98 | Linen damask tablecloths, rich designs \$1.48 to \$3.50 |
| Dainty swiss embroidered and lace trimmed handkerchiefs 15c. to 35c. each | Men's marmot lined coats otter collars \$18.98 | Linen damask table napkins 90c. to \$3.50 doz. |
| Pure Irish linen hemstitched, handkerchiefs 2 for 25c. | Men's moon coats, selected skins \$49.00 | Pure linen towels 15c. to 75c. pr. |
| Fine silk embroidered handkerchiefs 35c. | Men's coon and fur-lined gloves and mitts \$1.48 | Turkish bath towels 25c. to \$1.00 pr. |
| Fur throw scarfs \$4.98 | Men's Dents' Perrins' and Clarke's silk-lined gloves 98c. pr. | Cotton down comforters \$1.95 to \$2.25 |
| Fur stoles in all popular fur \$3.98 to 20.00 | Combination sets—suspenders, garters and armlets, in fancy boxes 50c. to 98c. | Snowy white and colored bedspreads 85c. to \$1.98 |
| Comfortable fur muffs \$6.98 to 18.00 | Men's fur collars \$4.98 | Flanellette blankets at 90c. pr. \$1.15 pr. \$1.45 pr. |
| Warm fur collarets \$3.50 to 18.00 | Men's fine silk handkerchiefs from 25c. to \$1.00 | |
| Fur muffs, new styles \$2.98 to 15.00 | Men's Irish linen handkerchiefs from 15c. to 35c. | |
| Whitewear, including embroideries, all going at greatly reduced prices. | Men's fancy silk mufflers from 50c. to \$2.00 | |
| Flannellette underwear selling at very low prices. | Men's silk four-in-hand ties 12 1/2 to 50c. | |
| Fancy side and back comb sets from 23c. to \$1.98 | Men's "President" suspenders 39c. | |
| Ladies' fine elastic knit and natural wool underwear at 69c. | Men's sweater coats 98c. | |
| Pearl bead necklaces 10c. to 25c. | Men's sweaters 50c. up | |
| Dress suitings, fashionable shades 69c. yd. | Boys' knickers 6 38c. to \$1.00 pr. | |
| Fine French cashmere waists, &c. 42c. yd. | Men's cardigan jackets 75c. up | |
| Wool sweater coats 98c. | Men's cashmere socks 23c. to 50c. | |
| Cashmere, embroidered, stockings 29c. pr. | Boys' ribbed wool stockings 23c. pr. | |
| Warm woollen shawls 69c. | Men's fleeced underwear at 39c. | |
| Fine silk for waists and dresses at holiday prices. | Men's elastic knit underwear at 69c. | |
| | Men's Scotch wool underwear at 75c. | |
| | Men's fancy knitted vests \$2.48 | |
| | Men's fancy colored shirts 59c. | |
| | Silkene handkerchiefs 10c. and up | |

Come To-night—Come Monday—Come Every Day! This store will be open every evening until Christmas!

THE MONTREAL STOCK CO., 180--Princess St.--180

Between Redden's and Crawford's Groceries. Phone No. 844.

ALLIGATOR KILLED EAGLE.

Battle to Death in Mid-Air in San Francisco.

San Francisco, Dec. 19.—A fierce battle in mid-air between a baby alligator and a full-grown eagle was the unusual sight offered to a few spectators about the aviary at Golden Gate Park yesterday. Bismarck, the eagle, had been allowed the freedom of the place for months past.

In one of the ponds several alligators are kept, and it was with one of these that Bismarck started the fight that ended in death. A keeper had thrown a piece of raw meat to the alligator, and the reptile seized it and started for the water. From his perch above the pool the eagle spied the meat, and, swooping down on it, carried both meat and alligator into the air.

For half an hour the fight lasted, the big bird lifting the alligator from the water four different times, only to be beaten off by the armed reptile. Finally the alligator stunned its captor with a blow from the tail, then reaching up with its powerful jaws severed the eagle's neck. The alligator felt to the pool unhurt.

Don't buy Christmas packages of confectionery that have been shown in shop windows for three or four weeks. McConkey's and Huyler's high-class candies for Christmas have only been in Gibson's drug store ten days.

A pleasant event occurred at East Trenton on December 16th, when E. B. Mallett, Belleville and Miss Ida E. Brown, daughter of Mrs. Catherine E. Brown, Trenton, were married.

Havana cigars in boxes, 10, 75c.; 25, \$1.25; 50, \$1.75; 100, \$2 to \$18. A. K. Routley, 173 Princess street, is to run for mayor on the independent ticket. Imperial Crown brand underwear is the kind that suits.

MURDERED HER HUSBAND.

Grey-haired Woman Killed Him During Brawl.

New York, Dec. 19.—"He is my husband and I killed him," declared Mrs. Mary Davidson, the grey-haired wife of Christian Davidson, captain of the canal boat Shamrock, who was found murdered on board his boat at Corlear's Rock, N. J. A blood-stained capstan bar lay near the body of the captain, who was about sixty years old. Empty whisky flasks scattered near the cabin testified to the revelry which had taken place before the murder. Mrs. Davidson was hysterical, and the police had difficulty in overpowering her. She was charged with homicide.

What more appropriate Christmas presents than 5 lbs., 10 lbs., 20 lbs., or 50 lbs. of "Salada" tea in original cases? You can purchase this from your grocer in "Brown" label at 30c. per lb., or blue label at 40c. per lb., or the very finest quality in "Gold" label at 60c. per lb. Your gift will be appreciated three times a day as long as it lasts.

A quiet wedding took place on Wednesday, in Belleville, when Daniel Carr, a popular young man of Sidney, was united in marriage to Miss Lottie Hardwick.

Will positively cure sick headache and prevent its return. Carter's Little Liver Pills. This is not talk, but truth. One pill a dose. See advertisement. Small pill. Small dose. Small price.

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Ask Him

Ask your doctor about taking Ayer's non-alcoholic Sarsaparilla. Trust him. Do exactly as he says.

Ayer's Sarsaparilla

NON-ALCOHOLIC

Lips white? Cheeks pale? Blood thin? Consult your doctor.

Bad skin? Weak nerves? Losing flesh? Consult your doctor.

No appetite? Poor digestion? Discouraged? Consult your doctor.

Free from Alcohol

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SUCCESSORS TO

DRS. Kennedy & Kergan

NERVOUS DEBILITY

SPECIAL NOTICE. Owing to Dr. Kergan being deceased, Dr. J. D. Kennedy, Medical Director, has associated with him Dr. Kennedy Jr., who has been with the firm for several years, so hereafter business will be conducted under the name of

DRS. KENNEDY & KENNEDY

OUR NEW METHOD TREATMENT alone can cure you, and make a man of you. Under its influence the brain becomes active, the blood purified so that all pimples, blotches, and ulcers disappear, the nerves become strong as steel, so that nervousness and weakness, dependent and gloomy, specks before the eyes, with dark circles under them, weak back, kidneys irritable, palpitation of the heart, bashful, dreams and losses, seedling in urine, pimples on the face, eyes sunken, hollow cheeks, careworn expression, poor memory, listless, distrustful, lack energy and strength, tired mornings, restless nights, changeable moods, weak manhood, premature decay, bone pains, hair loose, sore throat etc.

BLOOD POISONS Blood Poisons are the most prevalent and most serious diseases. They sap the very life blood of the victim, and unless entirely eradicated from the system—OUR NEW METHOD cures them.

system may affect the future generation. Beware of Mercury. It only suppresses the symptoms—OUR NEW METHOD cures them.

READER No matter who has treated you, write for an honest opinion Free of Charge. BOOKS, FREE—"The Golden Monitor" (Illustrated) Question List for Home Treatment Sent on Request.

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We have Coal Oil, than which there is none better made.

Price in gallon lots 15c, 18c and 20c per gallon. Delivered to any part of the city.

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69 AND 71 BROCK STREET.

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Now line just arrived

Special all Brass Beds, \$14.50.

Others, \$24.00 \$65.00 and \$75.00.

Iron Beds, \$2.75, \$3.00, \$3.50, etc.

Mattresses, Marshall, Sanitary.

Best Mattress made, Ostermoor and Felt Mattresses, \$3.50, \$12.50, \$13.50, \$15.00.

Hercules Springs, \$3.50 and \$2.50.

Best made.

Leading Undertaker, **R. J. REID**

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Handsome China Closets with swelled fronts. Combination Buffets and China Closets. Extension Tables to match.

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Medicine Cabinets, Parlor and Music Cabinets, Floor Mats and Rugs, Screens and Easels, at

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For table or evening parties, containing Hats, Caps and Toys, one dozen in a box, at 15c, 20c, 25c, 50c, up to \$3 per dozen.

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