

THE REUNION

The free September wind blew Ed's skirt about her as she stood reading the letter which she had just taken from the wayside box. From the first sentence her face had gathered trouble and perplexity. She read the last paragraph: "We want to come, Mildred, Louise, and I. Being so near we feel we cannot go away without seeing you. Of course we can only stay the one day, but so much may be said in one day. We can motor out quite early and go back by moonlight."

There had been four of them in New York—Louise Brown, Mildred Blair, Katherine Crosby and herself. Louise wrote, Mildred painted, Katherine played, and she taught. They had been very valiant, very full of enthusiasm and ambition. But success failed. There was one winter when they were very poor together. Still they had clung to their hope determinedly. Then she fell ill of a cold contracted by tramping sodden pavements in thin shoes. When spring came it was evident she must go to the country to recuperate. She had just money enough to keep her for one season on a farm.

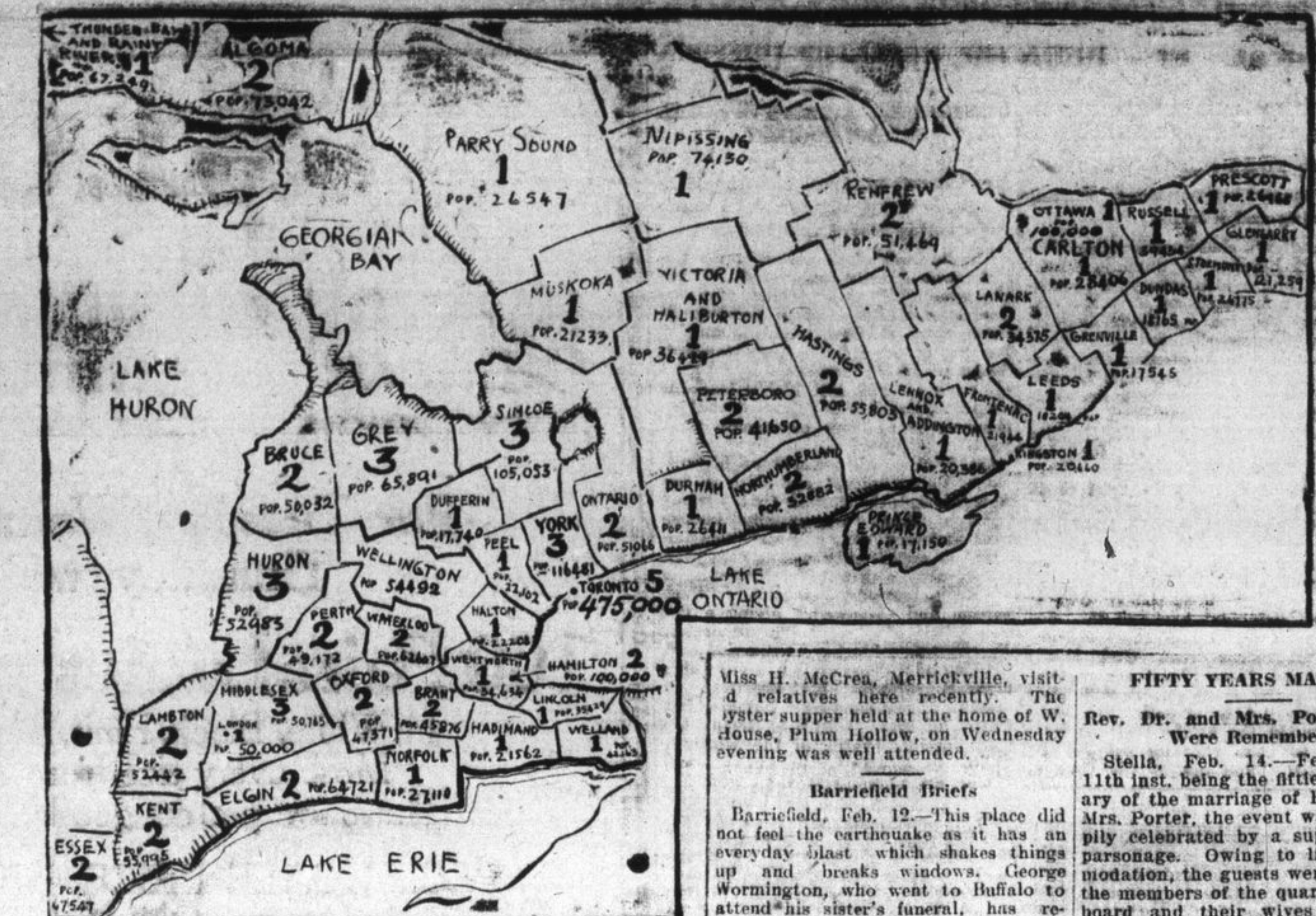
One day she was tramping home from the village, a farmer overtook her. He pulled up his horses and asked her to ride. She climbed into the wagon beside the farmer. She was too tired just at first to see that he was young. Afterward she came to like his face. They got acquainted during the ride. So it began. Before the summer ended she was engaged to him. She loved him and the prospect of the future lived with him in the old house which he showed her seemed better than anything she had hitherto known. She wrote to her three friends about her coming marriage. Would they write to her? They would not. They could not bear to look at such consummate sacrifice.

Love, forsooth! They could live without it. They could avoid what she had done. Months afterward Ed answered the letter. From that time she heard from them infrequently—sometimes by way of the newspapers. She knew that they had succeeded, but she had been too much engrossed in her home, her husband and her children to send them a passing regret after her own lost career. But now of a sudden she was brought face to face with their achievement. They were coming fresh from conquest to her. There was but one thought to avoid her. "They can only stay one day. One day is not eternity. It will soon be over. And I shall endure it some way."

Yet the night before that eventful day she scarcely slept with the chill and quiet of the dawn she fell into a profound slumber. When she awoke her little daughter stood smiling in the doorway. "Papa said you had a hard day before you, and we must let you sleep long as we could," she confided. "He and Charlie got breakfast. And I helped."

"Darling!" Ed murmured. At ten minutes past 11 Louise rushed in, her curls flying. "They're coming. It's a red car. It's just coming out of the woods," she cried excitedly. Ed turned pale. Then, calmly, holding Louise by the hand, she went down to the gate to meet her guests.

The big red car came to a pause. Three women, shrouded in silks and chiffon, alighted. One after another they took Ed's hand, kissed her and looked into her face. Then they shifted their regard to the child. "Four little daughters!" "Yes. This is Louise Mildred Katherine."



MAP OF ONTARIO SHOWING DISTRIBUTION OF MEMBERS IN HOUSE OF COMMONS AND POPULATION OF THE VARIOUS CONSTITUENCIES OF PROVINCE.

That was sweet in you, Ed. She's such a beauty, too. Mildred went on her knees before the child. "Oh, I must get this face on ivory," she murmured. "Come into the house, girls," Ed said. "You'll have just time to rest before dinner."

Somehow that dinner was not the ordeal Ed expected. The table looked very well with its central mass of asters and golden rod. Afterward Charlie helped his mother wash the dishes, while Louise and her father cleared the table. In the meantime the guests sat admiring the view down the valley.

They were silent when Ed finally joined them, but it was not the silence of confidence hastily concealed. She sat down in their midst and unwound her crochet work. "A sweater for Louise," she explained. The older Louise leaned forward across the arm of her chair. "You are always busy?" "One way or another I am."

"You got tired?" "Dreadfully tired, sometimes. Don't you?" Louise turned away her eyes. "Oh, yes, we all do. And sometimes I wonder if it pays."

"If it pays?" Ed repeated. "For, after all," it was brilliant Katherine who spoke. "We don't seem to get anywhere. Here we are, over 40, running our little squirrel cages as fast as we can. It seemed such fun at first. But now when the delight in mere effect has given place to an increasing weariness it troubles one to think one's squirrel cage is built more for amusing the public than for any gain one is likely to derive from it one's self."

"Pessimist!" Mildred laughed, but there was a subtle sob in her soft voice. "You can pour out your soul in divine harmonies and Louise can pour out hers in unspeakable fancies, but I must paint other people's children." She became strangely silent. For a long time nobody spoke. The three friends looked down the valley. Ed looked at them wondering very much. At last Louise said: "Experience is a great teacher and that's not so hackneyed as it sounds. We've had 14 years of cars, and you've had this. You wouldn't change with us, Ed?" Ed shook her head gently, but positively. "No, I wouldn't. But would you change with me?" They laughed, but on different notes, discordantly. "It's too late now," they said. And Louise added: "Don't you understand? We've got used to our squirrel cages."

COUNTRYSIDE TIDINGS

WHAT WHIG CORRESPONDENTS HAVE TO TELL

News From Villages and Farms Throughout the Adjoining Counties—Rural Events, and Movements of the People.

Funeral at McLean. McLean, Feb. 13.—The funeral of the late Mrs. Waldron Babcock was held at the family residence on Wednesday, February 11th at 3 p.m. The service was conducted by Revs. S. Carr, of Mountain Grove and George Richmond of Arden, after which the body was laid to rest in Mountain Grove cemetery.

Event at Plum Hollow. Plum Hollow, Feb. 12.—On Wednesday evening, February 11th, the Ladies' Aid, Mitchell's appointment, held their oyster supper and entertainment at the home of Mrs. Wm. House. Over 150 sat down to supper. The young ladies of the Aid furnished a fish pond. The programme consisted of vocal solos by Mrs. M. Phillips and W. Chapman and C. Nixon. A duet by Miss B. Leverette, and W. Chapman and a very amusing reading by Miss Leverette. During the evening A. Kilborn and W. Chapman gave several violin selections. Rev. A. Hagar filled the chair as chairman. The proceeds amounted to \$43.

At Washburn's Corners. Washburn's Corners, Feb. 13.—Joseph Tye, of Long Point, assessor, made his trip through here this week. Claude Laforty is moving from Chantry to the farm he purchased here last fall. Mr. and Mrs. L. Washburn were recent visitors at the home of M. B. Holmes, Athens. A. Richards, Chantry, is a guest here at the home of his grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Earl. A Valentine tea will be served in the basement of St. Paul's Presbyterian church, Athens, this evening. On invitation, thirty-five friends assembled at the home of Philip Yates, Hard Island, on Tuesday evening. Refreshments were served and a very enjoyable evening was spent. Mrs. William Gifford, of Plum Hollow, celebrated her 87th birthday on the 10th of February. Mrs. Gifford is remarkably smart and enjoying good health.

Sunbury Felt Earthquake. Sunbury, Feb. 13.—This locality was visited by a heavy shock of earthquake on Tuesday afternoon. A number of residences was badly shaken up and the inmates greatly alarmed. It was about 30 seconds' duration. On Tuesday evening the "Macabees" Locusts village lodge gave an oyster supper and tea in its spacious rooms in the village. A number took part and a pleasant evening was spent. William Smith, of Saskatoon, formerly a member of this lodge, was present, and many were glad to again have a friendly handshake with him. The Sunbury hockey club held a carnival at the rink in the village on Tuesday evening. Some very nice costumes were worn. Mrs. Giles Stenness continues quite unwell. James Fisher, who disposed of his store some time ago, will in a few weeks take up his abode at Moscow, having purchased a general store there. A number attended the races at Battersea on Wednesday and Thursday. Communion service was observed at the Methodist church on Sunday last and a goodly number were in attendance. S. Stenness and wife visited friends in Battersea on Wednesday. The town ship will have another nomination on Monday, as a certain assessment seems to be necessary for qualification.

Phillip McLeod was elected for Victoria County, N.S., having the provincial legislature, the first conservative to win the seat in more than thirty years. During removal sale—special prices quoted on "Newcomb," Canada's leading piano. Dutton's. Sir William Macdowell, the Montreal manufacturer and financier, will be elected, chancellor of M-G-O university.

Big Work Possible when body and brain are properly nourished. Then the human machine runs smoothly. Grape-Nuts FOOD made of wheat and barley, supplies the power-making body elements. Also certain mineral salts (Phosphate of Potash, etc.) often lacking in the every-day diet, but which are vitally necessary for balanced brain and nerve up-keep of active men and women. If you expect to accomplish something worth while, prepare for it by feeding right. "There's a Reason" for Grape-Nuts —sold by Grocers. Canadian Postum Cereal Co., Ltd., Windsor, Ont.

Miss H. McCrea, Merrickville, visited relatives here recently. The supper held at the home of W. House, Plum Hollow, on Wednesday evening was well attended.

Barriefield Briefs. Barrie, Feb. 12.—This place did not feel the earthquake as it has an everyday blast which shakes things up and breaks windows. George Worthington, who went to Buffalo to attend his sister's funeral, has returned home. Miss Irene Stanton, who was visiting her sister, Mrs. Douglas, city, has returned home. Mrs. Rogers, city, spent Sunday with Miss M. Turner. Mrs. Newson, visiting her sister, Mrs. Farley, has returned home. Mrs. Salisbury, city, visiting her daughter, Mrs. N. Stanton, Jr., has returned. Mrs. W. Hunter, Isle of Man, and little son, Bert, visiting with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Norman, have returned home. Mrs. L. Tisdale, city, visited old neighbors here. Mr. and Mrs. Hanna, city, spent Sunday with friends here.

Bath Resident Dead. Bath, Feb. 12.—Miss Glass and Miss Lewis, both of Trenton, are visiting at Norman Ribley's the week. The thermometer being about twenty-five degrees below zero. A concert at the hall will be held by Messrs. Hall in aid of the library, on Feb. 13th. Abram Irish, who has been ill for some time, died in Toronto on Thursday last. The remains were brought here and the funeral service was held on Monday by Rev. Mr. McLean. St. James' church. The deceased leaves two sons, John, of Toronto, and George, of Hamilton, who, with their families, were here for the funeral. Born, on Feb. 5th, to Mr. and Mrs. James Young, a son.

A Wedding at Ardoch. Ardoch, Feb. 13.—The roads are in good condition again after the heavy storms. A pretty wedding was solemnized Tuesday, February 10th, in the Roman Catholic church at Ardoch. The contracting parties were Lillian McLean and James G. Galt, of Fernleigh. The bride wore a becoming gown of cream tulle with bridal veil and orange blossoms. After the ceremony, all returned to the home of the groom, where a sumptuous repast was served to the many friends of the happy couple. The bride's trousseau was costly and numerous showing the high esteem in which the young couple are held. The people here are looking forward to better times as there are two stores here now. M. Davy, who has been in the hospital at Kingston, is recovering and will be home shortly. George Salmon has received a visit from the stork and is the father of a bouncing baby boy. Wm. McKinnon has been ill for a week. Mrs. M. Davy has been visiting at the home of her daughter, Mrs. Wm. McKinnon, who is at the hospital at Kingston. Mrs. E. Babcock at George Salmon's; Miss Evelyn Bauder at her sister's, Mrs. Thompson's; Mrs. V. Babcock at M. Davy's. W. Davy spent a few days in Kingston with his father, F. Lyons at her home at Wensley.

Breakfast Before Bed. The latest freak of London's night life is the evolution of the breakfast brigade, whose motto is to breakfast before bed.

When the last night club closes at five o'clock in the morning, instead of going home to bed, the latest craze now is for the light-headed restaurant to charge on the nearest restaurant or hotel for a cold-gray-dawn breakfast, sometimes visiting two or three places before the streets begin filling with the crowds going to work.

Several west end restaurants report that they have never known such an insistent demand for bacon and eggs and the ordinary working hours of west end restaurants are now being rearranged to supply the early morning rush of the merry night hawks.

Couldn't Be Done. Lord Sheffield was once walking down Piccadilly with a friend, to whom he explained that it was impossible for anyone to pick his pocket without his knowledge. Lord Sheffield's pocket-handkerchief was hanging out, and his friend, having diverted his attention, quietly abstracted it. Instantly Lord Sheffield collared a seedy-looking man who was passing and charged him with the theft; but, the friend producing the handkerchief and explaining the joke, the unfortunate individual whom his lordship had so unceremoniously seized was released with many apologies. The man beat a hasty retreat, and shortly afterwards Lord Sheffield discovered that he had lost his pocketbook.

Fortunes For Boys. Earl Cawdor's death leaves his two sons, Lord Emlin, aged 13, and the Hon. Andrew C. Campbell, aged 6, the wealthiest brothers in England. By the time the boys are 21 years of age each will have \$5,000,000 at his disposal. A romantic figure in history has passed away, the death of Earl Cawdor at the age of 42 years, after a long illness, at the Kingston-on-Thames Nursing Home, recalling the name of the Thane of Cawdor in Shakespeare's "Macbeth." He succeeded to the title on the death of his father in 1891.

Britain's Wires. The British postoffice has 2,610,000 miles of single wire, made up of 313,805 for telegraph, 2,242,215 for telephone, and 62,930 for private and leased wires.

Granite Statue Erected. The granite statue of King Edward VII, recently dedicated at Aberdeen, is believed to be the first granite statue of a ruler erected since the days of the Pharaohs.

Removal sale! Buy your suitcase now. Special, \$1.25. Dutton's. An entire progressive ticket will be placed in the field at the next New York state elections, in the fall of this year.

Removal sale! Short corsets, 35c, while they last. Dutton's.

FIFTY YEARS MARRIED

Rev. Dr. and Mrs. Porter, Stella, Were Remembered. Stella, Feb. 14.—February the 11th last, being the fiftieth anniversary of the marriage of Rev. Dr. and Mrs. Porter, the event was very happily celebrated by a supper at the parsonage. Owing to limited accommodation, the guests were limited to the members of the quarterly official board and their wives and a few other special friends, making a company of twenty-eight in all.

After a sumptuous supper had been served and appropriately disposed of, a magnificent three-story wedding-cake (the gift of Mrs. Filson and Mrs. Montgomery) was distributed. Before the company rose from the table, the reverend doctor, on behalf of himself, from Messrs. Filson and Montgomery) and a beautiful gold cameo brooch for Mrs. Porter (from Messdames Filson and Montgomery) were also presented. From other friends on the island and from old friends and relatives beyond many warm congratulations and tokens of remembrance were received.

At the meeting of the official board held the same evening the pastor's salary was paid in full to date and a resolution requesting his continuance as pastor, unanimously adopted.

Close to Nature. Oh! let me live close to Nature. Far from all turmoil and strife, Away from the city's disasters and pains. Let me know what it means to love life. Let me breathe the cool air of the mountains. Let me dream where the brook winds its way. Where the perfume of hemlock, of spruce and of pine Grows sweeter as day passes day.

Let me drink the cool water of bubbling springs. Let me tramp o'er the foothills green sod. Where the wild flowers bloom, untrampled and fair. Close to Nature's eternal and God. Let a camp-fire burn bright, by day and by night. In the haunts of the Wilderness King. Where the beasts of the wild, enchain'd draw near. Where the lark and the whippoorwill sing!

Sweet is the Breath of Morn by John Milton. Sweet is the breath of morn, her rising sweet, With charm of earliest birds; pleasant the sun, When first on this delightful land he spreads his orient beams, on herb, tree, fruit and flower. Glistening with dew; fragrant the fertile earth After soft showers and sweet the coming-on Of grateful evening mild; then silent night, With this her solemn bird, and this fair moon, And these the gems of heaven, her starry train.

Progressive leaders are planning to name Colonel George W. Goethals for governor if Theodore Roosevelt should decline the nomination.

MOTHER! THE CHILD IS COSTIVE, BILIOUS. Don't Hesitate, a Laxative is Necessary if Tongue is Coated, Breath Bad or Stomach Sour. Give "California Syrup of Figs" at once—a teaspoonful to-day often saves a sick child to-morrow.

If your little one is out-of-sorts, half-sick, isn't resting, eating and acting naturally—look! Mother! see if tongue is coated. This is a sure sign that it's little stomach, liver and bowels are clogged with waste. When cross, irritable, feverish, stomach sour, breath bad or has stomach-ache, diarrhoea, sore throat, full of cold, give a teaspoonful of "California Syrup of Figs," and in a few hours all the constipated poison, undigested food and sour bile gently moves out of its little bowels without gripping, and you have a well, playful child again.

Mothers can rest easy after giving this harmless "fruit laxative" because it never fails to cleanse the little ones' liver and bowels and sweeten the stomach—and they deeply love its pleasant taste. Full directions for babies, children of all ages, and for grown-ups printed on each bottle.

Beware of counterfeit fig syrups. Ask your druggist for a 50c bottle of "California Syrup of Figs" then see that it is made by the "California Fig Syrup Company." Don't be fooled.

COMMENTS BY ZACCHUS

Who Awards Poultry Palm to "Street Strutting Dove." A—After redistribution there will be some 234 deputies at Ottawa. B—Being quite a lot to look after eight million peaceful citizens. C—Country is a good much cooler. D—Death has claimed very prominent man of late, leaving this sad earth quite a bit the poorer. E—Epidemic of sickness severe just now with politicians, particularly, Whitney, Ross, Forster, White, Pugsley being among the stricken. F—"Purcans" forcing "tango" to recede before adverse opinion. G—Get something now that will gobble up "turkey trot" and cleanse society on step further. H—Holding a suffragette ball does not, of course, mean that total abstinence shall be enforced. I—Island of Prince Edward is getting rich raising Renards. Foxy insulars! J—Just found in bed of river bank, a diamond of 17 karats, far surpassing the world-famed "Kobinoor" itself. Great set back this to mud cat fishing. K—King of Bavaria, evidently, has some as well as station. L—Ladies of the realm who wish to retain in royal favor must, henceforth, devote their moments and money to something less silly than sleek felines and such like. Plenty of other fields for the exercises of sympathy. M—Man who lived for years without brain and whose cranium was injected with two ounces of the precious material by an expert surgeon, died an instant after in great agony. N—Not used to it! O—Old Tiberius who had no care for others' lives, himself would slide into a cellar when a storm came. Great one to rule over a living people! P—Poultry and pigeon show revealed some fine specimens, but when it comes to fancy birds, give us the "street strutting dove!" Q—Quite modish are becoming eugenic fair falls, too. R—Reason, improvement of the breed! S—Soul can take care of itself! what matters it? Edinburgh bishop was not so far astray when he said America was people by "pagans." T—The price of wheat will not "go down" so long as you keep putting up "elevators."

Unprecedented the flood of graft scandals now deluging the land. V—Venality strangling vitality! W—Wearing a halo, if world continues to wag as it now does, will, we fear, be very much limited. X—X-pensulating, not perhaps the most pleasing occupation. Y—Yet a little medicine, now and then, will do the best of us no harm.

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The Skin Troubles of Childhood

School Records Show Much Time Lost From Eczema. Chafing and skin irritation, whether from changing temperature, rough winds, strong soap or the action of the clothing, naturally develop into eczema, spread over the body and defy ordinary treatments. Most doctors do not give much attention to skin diseases, and, consequently, it is necessary for parents to select some treatment which has proven a cure for such ailments. If records of cures count for anything, then you can turn to Dr. Chase's Ointment with fullest assurance that in this you will have the means of controlling itching skin diseases.

By affording prompt relief from the terrible itching, Dr. Chase's Ointment puts an end to suffering, and removes the cause of scratching. As the fires of eczema die away the ointment sets up the process of healing and brings about thorough and lasting cure. As a treatment for the skin troubles of children nothing has ever proven so satisfactory as Dr. Chase's ointment.

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New York Fruit Store. Sweet Oranges, 15c, 20c and 30c a dozen. Malaga Grapes, 20c a lb. Bananas, 15c and 20c a dozen. Dates, 15c a lb. Figs, 10c a lb. 814 Princess St. Phone 1405

SPECIAL SALE OF BOOTS AND SHOES FOR 15 DAYS. All our fall and winter stock must be cleared at prices that will greatly astonish you. That we can save you 25 to 50 per cent on every pair. Men's Box Calf Blucher, leather lined, worth \$2.50, our price \$1.50. Men's strong working Boots, worth \$2.50, our price \$1.50. Men's extra coarse fine Blucher boots, really worth \$2.50, our price \$1.50. Women's Fine Vici Kid Blucher worth \$2.50, our price \$1.50. Women's Fine Vici Kid Blucher worth \$2.50, our price \$1.50. Women's slippers, worth \$1.25 and \$1.50, our price to clear this lot \$1.00.

H. B. WARTELL 888 KING STREET Phone 1372

MID-WINTER FURNITURE SALE Everything reduced 10 to 20%. Grand opportunity to save money. Iron Beds, \$2.50, \$3.50, \$4.50 and up. Brass Beds, \$11.50, \$15.00, \$18 and up. Springs and Mattresses, Dressers and Washstands, Chiffoniers in oak, mahogany, walnut, white enamel, at sale prices.

R. J. REID. Four teams in the New Brunswick hockey league and the four of the Inter-Provincial league. St. John's, Sussex, saskville and Amherst, have been suspended for three months. Dr. Hammerfeld will accept the task of forming a Swedish cabin.