HIGHLAND
SECOND SIGHT.

Have you read the Wonderful Sayings of the REV. JOHN MORRISON of Petty, known as THE PETTY SEER? We have published a New Edition of this interesting work. PRICE 3d; by Post, 4d.

THE HIGHLAND NEWS OFFICE
HAMILTON STREET, INVERNESS.

THE
HIGHLAND NEWS

No. 1056. **21ST YEAR.** {REGISTERED AT THE GENERAL POST-OFFICE AS A NEWSPAPER.} INVERNESS, SATURDAY, DECEMBER 26, 1903 **EIGHT PAGES.** PRICE ONE PENNY

MACEACHEN'S
Gaelic-English DICTIONARY.

Revised and Enlarged by Alexander Macbain, LL.D., and John Whyte. A few copies left of Second Edition will be cleared out at the reduced price of 2s 6d. A P.O. for this amount will ensure Dictionary being sent on by ollowing post to any Address in Great Britain. Copies for Abroad 2s 9d.

THE HIGHLAND NEWS OFFICE,
HAMILTON STREET, INVERNESS.

Births, Marriages, and Deaths.

The charge for insertion of a Notice of Birth is 1s 6d; for a Marriage Notice, 2s 6d; for a Death Notice, 1s 6d—with Funeral Intimation, 2s 6d.

BIRTHS.

At 18 Branhuie, Stornoway, on the 23rd inst., the wife of John Fraser, U.F. Manse, St Kilda, of a daughter.

At 30 Wells Street, Inverness, on 22nd inst., the wife of John Gordon, H.R., of a son.

At Brucefield, Ross Avenue, Inverness, on 24th inst., the wife of John Callum, Fort-Augustus, of a daughter.

At Bangkok, Siam, on the 19th inst., Mrs A. J. Corbett, of a daughter.

At Maxwell Cottage, Glen-Urquhart Road, Inverness, on the 19th inst., the wife of Peter Fraser, of a daughter.

At St Duthus Hotel, Tain, on the 20th inst., the wife of Roderick Cameron, of a son.

MARRIAGES.

At 5 Carden Place, Aberdeen, on the 25th inst., by the Rev. C. H. Todd, M.A., East U.F. Church, Kenneth Mackenzie, Inverness, to Catherine Mackenzie, third daughter of the late Donald Mackenzie of Nuckernich, Ross-shire.

At the Caledonian Hotel, Nairn, on the 18th inst., by the Rev. Mr Macechern, Gaelic Church, Inverness, Donald Macdonald, hotelkeeper, Ardersier, to Maggie, sixth daughter of John Mackinnon, Dalcross, and widow of the late George White, Fortrose.

DEATHS.

At 29 Friar's Street, Inverness, after a lingering illness, borne with Christian patience, William Miles.

At the Northern Infirmary, Inverness, on the 19th inst., Donald Munro, lately at Rhynie, Fearn, Ross-shire.

At 24 Huntly Street, Inverness, on 20th inst., Hugh Morrison, watchmaker.

At 7 Telford Road, Inverness, on the 19th inst., Donald Cameron, ship carpenter.

At Jemimaville, Invergordon, on the 21st inst., Murdo Campbell, merchant.

At Seapark, Nairn, on the 19th instant, Elizabeth Macnaughton.

At Culags, Lochcarron, on the 20th inst., Christina Maclennan, widow of the late Murdoch Maclean, tenant, Culags.

At 58 Haugh Road, on the 23rd inst., Wee David, aged 5 months, third child of David Murray, traction-engine driver; deeply mourned.

At the residence of her son-in-law, W. B. Oliphant, 10 Telford Street, on the 22nd inst., Mary Ann Smith, widow of the late Alex. Alexander, V.S., Foveran.

At Viaduct Cottage, Culloden Moor, Inverness, on the 23rd inst., Marjory Macqueen, widow of the late Alex. Cameron, Aitinlea, Carr-Bridge, Duthil.

At 6 Nicol's Court, Dingwall, on Saturday, the 19th inst., John Duncan, aged 21, eldest and beloved son of the late Alexander Davidson, schoolmaster, Plockton—Deeply mourned.

At 28 Sutherland Terrace, Dowanhill, Glasgow, on the 23rd inst., Elizabeth Mary (Tottie), aged 23, only surviving daughter of Kenneth Mackenzie, wine and spirit merchant, and grand-daughter of the late John Mackintosh, shipowner, Lyon's Court, Inverness.

DIED, at 18 George Street, Inverness, on the 25th inst., James Beaton, Fitter, late of H.R. Funeral arrangements in to-night's "Football Times."

IN MEMORIAM.

To the memory of John, beloved son of M. and J. Maclennan, who died at Seaforth House, Stornoway, 28th December, 1900.

"For of such is the Kingdom of Heaven."

MEMORIAL Wreaths, Tablets, Angels, Shells, Crosses and Marble Stands. Cameron, painter, Ness Walk

JAMES L. HORNE, 45 CASTLE STREET, FUNERAL UNDERTAKER.

WREATHS, Anchors, Crosses—Newest Designs—a large selection to choose from; also all kinds of Inscription Tablets, at MATHESON'S, Fruiterer and Florist, Castle Street, Inverness.

MEMORIALS of all kinds in Granite, Marble, and Freestone may be had from Messrs J. & A. FRASER, sculptors, Inverness, who give best value in Memorials to be got in the North. 65 ACADEMY STREET. Designs and prices on application. Send for patterns and compare prices.

EDUCATIONAL CONGRESS,
28TH AND 29TH DECEMBER.

NOW READY.

THE SCOTTISH EDUCATIONAL YEAR BOOK AND DIARY
FOR 1904.
INVALUABLE FOR TEACHERS.

To be had in the Congress Hall and from all Booksellers.

Price, in Limp Morocco..... 1s 6d
Do., with Pockets..... 2s 0d

MAY WE
direct the attention of
SANTA CLAUS
to the following. It may be of great service at this Festive Season in the solution of the momentous question,
NEW-YEAR PRESENTS,
what are most acceptable and where to get them.

JOHN FORBES
HIGH STREET AND INGLIS STREET,
INVERNESS.

Is showing endless variety in the Latest Novelties for

LADIES' AND GENTLEMEN'S WEAR.
LADIES' JERSEYS, BLOUSES,
UNDERSKIRTS, COLLARS, BELTS,
SCARVES,
HANDKERCHIEFS, UMBRELLAS,
GLOVES, &c.
GENTLEMEN'S KNITTED WAISTCOATS from 10s 6d to 23s 6d.
Novelties in NECKWEAR, HANDKERCHIEFS, GLOVES, &c.

Everything New and Up-to-Date.

Presents to Suit all Purses.

Very Special Lines in all Departments.

300 Pairs Kid Gloves, perfect fit and finish. Cheapest prices. See Frasers', Union Street.

200 Umbrellas, our own selected sticks and Frames, properly finished. Cheapest prices. See Frasers', Union Street.

200 Furs to choose from. Cheapest prices. See Frasers', Union Street.

30 New Jackets, smartly cut, perfect fitting, all offered at cheap prices to clear. See Frasers, Union Street.

PUBLIC NOTICES.

PRIZE-DRAWING at Lairg. Gent.'s Hunting Watch. Winning No 199.

INVERNESS MASTER BAKERS' ASSOCIATION.

Those of our number who have been in the habit of giving NEW-YEAR PRESENTS have unanimously agreed to DISCONTINUE same for the FUTURE.

MUSIC HALL.—Inverness Children's New Year's Eve Variety Entertainment, on Thursday, 31st December, at 3 o'clock in the afternoon. Mrs Fraser Sutherland wishes to inform parents that this Entertainment will take place in the MUSIC HALL, and NOT in the Market Hall as was formerly announced, the Music Hall being more convenient for the children.

P.S.—The People's Promenade Entertainment will take place at night, in the Market Hall, at 7.30. (See Advertisement.)

ALL Parties having Claims against the late John Robertson, Esq., tacksman, Orbost, Dunvegan, Skye, are requested to lodge the same with the subscriber within Fourteen Days from this date; and all Parties Indebted to the deceased are requested to make payment within the like period.

J. SIMPSON.

North of Scotland Bank,
Portree, 19th December, 1903.

EXECUTRY NOTICE.

All parties having Claims against the late Murdo Campbell, draper, &c., Jemimaville, by Invergordon, are requested to lodge the same with the Subscriber within 14 days from this date; and all parties indebted to the deceased are requested to make payment to the Subscriber within the same period.

GEO. ROSS, Solicitor,
12 Lombard Street, Inverness,
Agent for representatives of deceased.
26th December, 1903.

MANITOBA & THE CANADIAN NORTH-WEST.

MESSRS KIRCHHOFFER and MUNN, who have had 20 years' experience in the Canadian North-West, have prepared a list of
SELECTED FARMS FOR SALE
suitable for intending settlers with ample or limited capital. They have also tracts of land from 10,000 acres upwards at low prices. Money invested. Estates managed. Settlers located. REFERENCES permitted to the following:—
THE EARL OF ABERDEEN, G.C.M.G.
(Late Governor-General of Canada);
HAMMOND & CO., BANKERS, Canterbury;
COL. ROBERTS, C.B., 92 Philbeach Gardens, Earl's Court Road, London.
Apply to the Hon. J. N. Kirchhoffer, Senator of the Dominion of Canada; or H. T. Munn, Esq., Branden, Manitoba, Canada.

EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTE OF SCOTLAND.

THE THIRTIETH
ANNUAL CONGRESS
WILL BE HELD WITHIN THE
TOWN HALL, INVERNESS,
On the 29th and 30th DECEMBER,
Commencing at 10.30 a.m.

Members of all Educational Boards will be welcome, and are invited to meet the President in the Council Chamber at 10 a.m. of the 29th December
Official or Academic Dress is recommended to be worn at Opening Ceremony and Receptions.

GEORGE A. CAMERON, Congress Secretary.
JOHN LAWRENCE, General Secretary to E.I.S.

Enquiries should be addressed to the Congress Secretary, Central School, Inverness.

NORTHERN COUNTIES BREEDING AND FAT SHOW CLUB.

BULL SALE.

The Thirtieth Annual Show and Sale of Pure-bred Bulls and Heifers takes place on Friday, 19th February, 1904, in Messrs Macdonald, Fraser, & Co.'s Sale-Yard, Inverness.

Entries close 2nd January, 1904.

Prize-lists and Entry Forms from the Secretary.
F. URQUHART.
1 Union Street, Inverness.

ENTERTAINMENTS,

BURNS' ANNIVERSARY CONCERT, by Inverness Select Choir, on Monday, 25th January; 6d and 1s.

P.S.E. MUISC HALL,
TO-NIGHT (SATURDAY), 26th December.

GRAND FREE CHRISTMAS PRIZE DRAWING.
50—PRIZES—50.

Handsome Pictures in good frames, worthy of a place in any home; Electro-Plated Cruet Stands, Opal Vases, Claret Decanters, a handsome blue and gold china Tea Set (40 pieces), two magnificent Electro-Plated Tea Trays, and a great many other articles too numerous to mention. Purchasers of a 6d ticket will be presented with two drawing tickets; those buying a 3d ticket with one drawing ticket.

MISS HILDA CHISHOLM, Soprano, supported by a Company of Best Local Artistes.

Grand Re-opening on Saturday, 9th January, 1904.

Popular Prices—3d; Reserved Seats, 6d.

MUSIC HALL.
MONDAY, 28th DECEMBER.
GRAND EVENING ENTERTAINMENT
BY THE
MACECHERN FAMILY,
ASSISTED BY
Mrs Herbert C. Woolf, London.
Miss M. M. Macechern, Edinburgh.
Miss V. Stewart-Richardson.
Miss Lang.
Miss Wallace.
Miss Medlock.
Herr Stolz, &c.
COMEDIETTA,
"CASE FOR EVICTION,"
By Colonel and Mrs STANLEY DOBIE.
Rev. John Macechern in his latest
MUSICAL SKETCH.
Also Harp, Violin, 'Cello, Mandoline, and Guitar Band.
Tickets, 2s 6d (Reserved), 2s, and 1s.
Booking and Plan of Hall at Cornets', 21 Lombard Street.
Doors open, 7·30; Concert at 8 p.m.; Carriages at 10.

NEW MARKET HALL.—Great Promenade Variety Entertainment, for the people. Hogmanay Night, Thursday 31st December, commencing at 7.30 p.m. Admission 3d. Long and varied programme including Mr Andrew's String Band Orchestra and other instrumentalists, solo dances, panoramic views, Mr Mowat (Mod Gold Medallist) and many other vocalists, &c., &c.

NEW YEAR'S DAY AND SATURDAY, JANUARY 2nd, 1904.

CALDER'S FAMOUS CINEMATOGRAPH AND CONCERT COMBINATION.
MUSIC HALL, INVERNESS.
Friday and Saturday, January 1st and 2nd.

Absolutely the greatest show of up-to-date pictures now in Scotland, all new and interesting.

The concert party includes—
Miss MARY JARVIS, Mr SAMMY SHIELDS,
Miss DORA LINDSAY, Miss FLORENCE, and
Mr GEO. A. PARK, Mr BURWOOD NICHOLLAS.

Admission—Reserved, 2s; Balcony, 1s 6d; Unreserved, 1s; early door to all parts 3d extra, at 6.30.

Doors open 7·15; commence at 7·45.

DRAMATIC RECITAL—
"BESIDE THE BONNIE BRIER BUSH."
MISS JEAN HOWISON,
PERTH,
QUEENSGATE HALL, FRIDAY, 8th January, at 8 p.m.
Reserved, 2s; Back Seats, 1s.
At Macbeths', No. 1 Market Brae, Inverness.

DANCING.—Miss Alice Todd will hold a Late Assembly in the Northern Meeting Rooms on New-Year's Night. Admission, 1s 6d. Grand Band by Band-master Andrews.

DANCING CLASSES.—Miss Alice Todd's Private Class is now forming Session of 10 Lessons, 15s. Names enrolled at 9 Drummond Street, Public Classes open in January in the Music Hall.

DANCING.
A GRAND ASSEMBLY
Will be held in
ROSE STREET DRILL HALL
On FRIDAY, 1st JANUARY, 1904.

Tickets can be had from the Doorkeeper at the Weekly Assemblies on Thursdays. See bills.

MIDLAND RAILWAY.

IMPROVED WINTER EXPRESS SERVICE TO THE MIDLAND COUNTIES, WEST AND SOUTH OF ENGLAND.

Passengers are requested to ask for Tickets "by Midland Route."

FROM SCOTLAND—Weekdays.

	Breakfast Cars Edinburgh to Carlisle.	Luncheon Cars Carlisle to Hellifield, & Dining Cars Leeds to London.	Dining Cars Edinburgh to London.	Car Perth and Edinburgh to London.	Sleeping Cars Glasgow, Aberdeen, and Edinburgh to London.
INVERNESS ... ... depart	p.m. 10 30	a.m. ..	a.m. 8 40	p.m. ...	a.m. 11 10	p.m. 3 50	p.m. ...
PERTH ... ... ,,	a.m. 6 30	8 25	p.m. 12 30	...	p.m. 4 10	7 55	...
ABERDEEN ... ... ,,	...	6 20	a.m. 10 20	...	1 25	5 30	7 45
DUNDEE ... ... ,,	6 4	8 10	p.m. 12 15	...	3 35	7 30	9 35
MALLAIG ... ... ,,	...	...	...	..	7 25	1 15	..
FORT-WILLIAM ... .. ,,	...	...	...	...	9 25	3 15	...
OBAN .. .. ,,	...	...	a.m. 6 0	...	12 35	4 10	...
EDINBURGH (Waverley) ,,	9 30	10 30	p.m. 2 15	2 35	6 0	10 0	11 30
MANCHESTER (Victoria) arrive	p..m	p.m. 4 40	8 5	9 20	a.m. 12 10	...	a.m. 5 20
LIVERPOOL (Exchange) ,,	3 25	4 45	8 15	9 20	p.m.	a.m.	5 20
BRADFORD ... ... ,,	3H 0	4P20	7 40	9G 5	11 40	3 20	...
LEEDS ... ... ,,	2 15	3 40	7 7	9 0	11 30	3 10	4 10
SHEFFIELD ... ... ,,	3 32	5 20	8 8	11 19	a.m. 1 2	4 8	5 10
DERBY ... . ,,	4 28	6 0	9 47	12 23	1 50	5 35	7L 5
BIRMINGHAM ... ... ,,	5 37	7 12	11 30	2 7	3 10	7R 5	9L15
CARDIFF ... ... ,,	9 30	10 37	...	...	7L 9	1R 20	p.m. 1L55
BRISTOL ... . ,,	7 55	9 35	...	5 40	6 0	11R 45	12L40
PLYMOUTH .. ... ,,	a.m. 12 5	4A34	...	...	10x55	...	3L45
NOTTINGHAM ... ... ,,	p.m. 4 13	5 56	9 10	1 37	3 45	5 17	6 0
LEICESTER ... ... ,,	4 48	6 2	9 13	1 39	2 50	6R57	6R57
LONDON (St Pancras) ... ,,	6 10	8 0	11 10	4 20	5 25	7 50	8 5

TO SCOTLAND—Weekdays.

	Luncheon Cars London to Edinburgh & Dining Cars Edinburgh.	Luncheon Cars London to Edinburgh.	Dining Cars Hellifield to Edinburgh.	Luncheon Cars London to Glasgow.	Dining Cars London to Glasgow.	Saturday Nights and Sunday Mornings Excepted.	Sleeping Cars London to Edinburgh, Aberdeen, and Perth. Dining and Supper Cars London to Leeds.	Sleeping Cars London to Edinburgh and Glasgow.	Sleeping Car London to Glasgow.	Breakfast Car Carlisle to Glasgow (Sundays excepted).
LONDON (St Pancras) ... depart	a.m. 5 15	a.m. 9 30	a.m. 11 30	p.m. 1 30		p.m. 7 30		p.m. 9 30	Night. 12 0	
LEICESTER ... ... ,,	7 20	11 28	p.m. 1 30	3 27		8 51		10 35	a.m. 2 0	
NOTTINGHAM ... ... ,,	7 35	11 5	1 0	2 51		9 25		12 0	2 0	
PLYMOUTH ... ... ,,	8e20	...	...	8 30		1A 45		3A50	...	
BRISTOL ... ... ,,	1D 3	...	a.m. 9 45	12 20		4 50		7 55	...	
CARDIFF ... ... ,,	10M39	...	8 0	a.m. 10 18		4 2		6 8	...	
BIRMINGHAM ... .. ,,	4D 8	10 10	p.m. 11 50	p.m. 2 25		7 15		10 33	p.m. 11 25	
DERBY ... ... ,,	7 0	11 30	p.m. 12 57	3 32		9 5		11 37	a.m. 12 55	
SHEFFIELD ... ... ,,	9 0	p.m. 12 13	2 5	4 2		9 32		a.m. 12 35	1 53	
LEEDS ... ... ,,	10 0	1 28	3 30	5 33		11 23		1 50	4 5	
BRADFORD ... ... ,,	9 42	12x50	2 55	4x57		10B 0		1 20	2B 5	
LIVERPOOL (Exchange) ,,	9 30	12 35	2 20	4 35		...		12 45	...	
MANCHESTER (Victoria) ,,	9 35	12 30	2 25	4 40		...		12 50	...	
EDINBURGH (Waverley) arrive	p.m. 3 55	6 5	8 35	10 25		a.m. 3 50		6 45	12L 5	
OBAN .. .. ,,	9 5	...	4A45			11 45		4A48	9L 5	
FORT-WILLIAM ... ... ,,	...	...	...			10 3		8x36	8x36	
MALLAIG ... ... ,,	...	...	...			11 52		...	...	
DUNDEE ... ... ,,	6 15	8 5	10 51			5 23		9x 8	3x37	
ABERDEEN ... ... ,,	8 40	10 5	12 50			7 20		11m10	6L 0	
PEERTH ... ... ,,	6 20	7 52	10 36			5 15		3 55	3x35	
INVERNESS ... ... ,,	...	...	5M10			9 30		p.m. 1 50	8L40	

A Plymouth (North Road).
B Via Leeds.
C 9·15 p.m. on Saturdays.
D Monday mornings excepted.
E Arrives later on Sundays.
F Six minutes later on Saturdays.
G Plymouth (North Road). No connection on Saturdays.
H Via Leeds. On Saturdays Passengers arrive at 3·35 p.m.
L Sundays excepted.
M Saturday nights excepted.
P No connection on Sundays. Arrives at 3·10 p.m. on Saturdays.
Q 5·5 p.m. on Mondays, Thursdays, and Saturdays.
R No connection on Sundays.

On Bank Holiday, December 26th, certain booked trains and dining-cars will be withdrawn. These will be found duly notified in the time tables and special notices at the stations.

General Agent for Scotland—Mr A. HANNAN, 48 West George Street, Glasgow.

TICKETS AND ALL INFORMATION may be obtained of the Midland Co.'s Agents:—EDINBURGH—Waverley Station and 8 South St. Andrew Street (adjacent to Prince's Street.) GLASGOW—St. Enoch Station and 156 Buchanan Street. PERTH—General Station. Information can also be obtained at the Midland Company's Offices:—INVERNESS—QUEENSGATE. ABERDEEN—Guild Street Buildings. DUNDEE—57 Meadowside (Baltic Street Corner).

Derby, December, 1903. JOHN MATHESON, General Manager.

FIRE!

We very much regret that owing to a Disastrous Fire on our Premises we are compelled to Suspend Business for a short time. To those customers who have placed orders in our hands we beg to offer apologies.

Millinery customers have suffered most.

We will thank all millinery customers who have orders on hand to communicate with us at

55 HIGH STREET,

where our Dressmaking Establishment is situated.

Customers having dresses made up need have no fear, as our making-up Establishment is on the other side of the street, No. 55.

In the case of goods ordered for making-up being burnt, we will endeavour to replace as near as possible.

Our general trade for the time being will be suspended.

As soon as ever we get a settlement with the insurance company, customers can depend on us not losing a moment of time in catering for their general requirements.

In the meantime business will be conducted at

55 HIGH STREET

(Almost Opposite Present Premises),

until further notice.

MACDONALD & MACKENZIE,
52-55 HIGH STREET,
INVERNESS.

A MOST ACCEPTABLE NEW-YEAR REMINDER TO FRIENDS FAR FROM HOME
Is a Box of our Famous
SHORTBREAD.
Prices, Post Free, 1s 6d, 2s, and 2s 6d upwards.
Customers Sending to Friends can have their Parcels Posted Direct.
Any Motto in Gaelic, Scotch, or English.
Order early.
TRY OUR DELICIOUS PLUM PUDDING.
Prices, 1s 3d to 5s.
CRACKERS AT ALL PRICES IN GREAT VARIETY.
... MELVIN, ...
31 CASTLE STREET, INVERNESS.

GREAT NORTH OF SCOTLAND RAILWAY.

NEW-YEAR HOLIDAYS.

From 23rd DECEMBER, 1903, to 2nd JANUARY, 1904, inclusive,

Return Tickets, at a single fare and quarter (plus fractions of a penny; minimum charge—3s 4d first class, 1s 8d third class), will be issued at the Great North of Scotland Railway Booking Offices at
INVERNESS STATION and at QUEEN'S GATE (Town Office),
Also from all through booking stations on the Highland Railway to all through booking stations on the Great North of Scotland Railway, valid for return up to and including Saturday, 9th January, 1904. Please ask for tickets via Elgin G.N.S. Railway, which are available via the Moray Firth Coast Line, or via Craigellachie.

From 23rd DECEMBER, 1903, to 2nd JANUARY, 1904, (inclusive),

Return Tickets, at single journey fares (plus fractions of a penny), will be issued to
EDINBURGH AND GLASGOW
Via ABERDEEN,
from all through booking stations on the Highland Railway, valid for return up to and including 9th January, 1904.

FARES FROM INVERNESS TO

	1st Class.	3rd Class.
Edinburgh	27s 8d	13s 9d
Glasgow	30s 2d	15s 1d

For fares, train service, conditions under which tickets are issued, and other information, see the Company's time tables.

W. MOFFATT, General Manager.

Aberdeen, 4th December, 1903.

GREAT NORTH OF SCOTLAND RAILWAY.

TRAIN SERVICE
BETWEEN
WICK, THURSO, KYLE OF LOCHALSH & THE NORTH
AND
MONTROSE, ARBROTH, DUNDEE, GLASGOW, EDINBURGH, AND LONDON,
From 1st DECEMBER, 1903, until further notice.

FROM THE NORTH VIA ABERDEEN.

	A.M.	A.M.	A.M.	A.M.	A.M.	P.M.
Wick .....dep.	—	—	—	—	8 40	—
Thurso..... ,,	—	—	—	—	8 50	—
Tain..... ,,	—	—	8 15	10 0	1 10p	3 20
Stornoway.... ,,	—	—	10c20p	—	—	—
Portree ..... ,,	—	—	—	—	7 15a	—
Kyle of Loch'sh,,	—	—	6 10a	—	11 0	—
Strathpeffer.. ,,	—	7 15	9 20	10 48	2 10p	4 17
Dingwall..... ,,	—	7 30	9 40	11 3	2 28	4 30
Inverness..... ,,	6 0	9 8	11 5	1 20p	3 20	6 0
Nairn..... ,,	6 32	9 31	11 32	1 51	3 50	6 29
Forres..... ,,	7 0	9 58	11 54	2 14	4 18	6 50
Grantown..... ,,	6 8	9 48	—	—	—	5 18
Elgin G.N.S.) ,,	7 10	10 22	12 18b	2 50	4 46b	7 26
Aberdeen .....arr.	9 55	12 55p	3 0p	5 10	7 25	10 0
Montrose(Cal) ,,	11 13	2 36	5 27	6 50	9 38	7 50a
Do. (N.B.).. ,,	11 18	2 27	4 26	6 29	8 39	7 16
Arbroath(Cal) ,,	11 44	3 0	6 32	7 1	—	8 23
Do. (N.B.).. ,,	11 41	2 55	4 52	6 58	9 5	7 39
Dundee (East) ,,	12 9p	3 3	—	7 30	—	9 3
Do.(Tay B.) ,,	12 7	8 26	5 23	7 20	9 30	8 5
Perth..... ,,	12 7	3 53	7 15	7 35	10 0	8 53
Edinburgh— (Waverley). ,,	1 57	5 18	7 9	9 16	11 8	9 37
(Princes St) ,,	2 30	5 54	—	9 35	—	11 2
Glasgow— (B'chanan St),,	2 5	6 0	—	9 25	12 7a	10 45
(Queen St).. ,,	3 0	6 28	—	10 11	—	10 44
London— (Euston)..... ,,	10 45	3 50a	—	7 30a	8 0	7 10p
(Ki'g's Cross),,	10 45	—	5 50a	6 40	7 35	6 15
(St Pancras) ,,	11 10	5 25	—	7 50	8 5	8 0

b Highland Station. c Does not sail on Saturday nights, but sails on Sundays.

TO THE NORTH VIA ABERDEEN.

	P.M.		P.M.	A.M.	P.M.	night
London— (Euston)...dep.	2 0	—	8* 0	—	11‡50	12 * 0
(Ki'g's Cross),,	10 35a	—	8* 15	—	11‡30	
(St Pancras) ,,	1 30p	—	7* 30	—	9‡30	12 * 0
Glasgow— (B'chanan St),,	10 0	—	4‡20a	—	10 0a	2 0p
(Queen St).. ,,	8 0p	—	—	—	9 0	1 20
Edinburgh— (Waverley). ,,	9 15	Mondays only.	4 10	—	9 35	1 50
(Princess St),,	9 45		4 0	—	9 25	1 25
Perth..... ,,	12 30a		5 53	6 0	11 45	3 54
Dundee(Tay B),,	10 57p		5 34	—	11 35	3 50
Do. (East).. ,,	—		—	6 55	11 30	3 55
Arbroath (N.B.),,	11 28		5 59	—	12 6p	4 19
Do. (Cal.)... ,,	—		—	7 28	12 0	4 26
Montrose(N.B.),,	11 46		6 23	—	12 31	4 49
Do. (Cal.)... ,,	—		—	7 58	12 39	4 53
Aberdeen..... ,,	A.M. 3 30		A.M. 6 0	A.M. 8 5	A.M. 10 10	P.M. 2‡20	6 45
Grantown.....arr.	—		—	11 34	—	7 20	
Elgin..... ,,	6b 4		8 40	10 34	12b43p	4 44	9 5
Forres..... ,,	6 34		8 34	11 10	1 11	5 15	9 39
Nairn..... ,,	7 0		8 59	11 32	1 31	5 36	9 58
Inverness..... ,,	7 35		9 30	12 5p	2 0	6 0	10 22
Dingwall..... ,,	8 45		10 25	—	3 32	8 16	—
Strathpeffer.. ,,	9 5		10 40	—	3 55	—	—
Kyle of Loch'sh,,	1 50p		1 50p	—	7 10	—	—
Portree..... ,,	4 50		4 50	—	—	—	—
Stornoway.... ,,	7 50		7 50	—	—	—	—
Tain ..... ,,	10 0a		11 34a	—	4 33	9 25	—
Thurso..... ,,	3 35p		3 35p	—	—	—	—
Wick..... ,,	3 50		3 50	—	—	—	—

* Saturdays excepted.
† Leaves Centra Station. ‡ Also runs on Sundays.
b Highland Station.
f The Train for Grantown leaves Aberdeen at 3.40 p.m.

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AIR CHEILIDH.

Bha comunn beag cruinn 'sa' bhothan taobh thall an uillt 'nuair a dh' fhosgail mi an dorus. Gillean aoibheil, cridheil, sunndach, a bha ro dhéidheal air sgeulachdan agus òrain Ghaidhealach.

Thug sinn greis air bruidhinn air an aimsir agus cor nan tuathanach leis an t-sid a bhi cho fliuch. "Nach tabhair thu fhein dhuinn seann sgeulachd a Neill," arsa Iain Bàn. "Tha mi cinnteach gur iomadh té mhaith a chuala thu 'san eilein bhòidheach sin 'san d' fhuair thu t'-àrach."

"Sradh," arsa mi fhein, "'s iomadh sin, ach tha mo mheothair cho dona, agus nach 'eil cuimhn' agam air an dara leth; ach feuchaidh mi ri innseadh dhuibh mar a thainig Clann-a'-Phi do Dhiùra."

Faodaidh sinn gu firinneach seann sgeulachd a radh rith' so, oir, feumaidh gu bheil iomadh linn bho na bha na Diùraich chu breun agus cruaidh-chridheach sa bha am fear a th' air ainmeachadh nam sgeul. Feumaidh gun do thachair so iomadh linn roimh 'n Ghill-Odhar.

Gu bhi toiseachd air mo naigheachd 'se Clann 'Ille Riaich a theireadh iad 'san am sin ris na Daraich.

Chaidh Mac 'Ille Riaich a bha ann an Sannaig do Cholosa a mharbhadh gu buileach a h-uile neach do chloinn a Phi. Dh' iarr Mac 'Ille Bhuidhe na Learga-Bric am biodh e chu mhaith agus an t-aiseig a thabhairt dha 'na bhirlinn do Cholosa ni a dh' aontaich Mac 'Ille Riaich gu toileach, ach bu bheag fhios a bh' aige ciod an turas air an robh Mac 'Ille Bhuidhe 'dol. 'Nuair a rainig iad Colosa thòisich Mac 'Ille Riaich air mort 'us marbhadh gach fear da 'm b' ainm Mac a Phi sean agus og ceart mar a rinn Righ Pharaoh air gach leanabh mic san Eiphit. Chunnaic Mac 'Ille Bhuidhe bean a teicheadh agus naoidhean aice na h-achlais agus i ri gul agus bròn. Thuirt e rithe, "Ma 's mac e thabhair dhomhs' e agus gabhaidh mi seòl air Mac-a'-Phi a ghleidheadh beò, oir tha chuis coltach nach mair e beò agadsa." Bho na bha i faicinn gu'm bu bhas d'a mac e co-dhiu thug i dha e agus chur 's e na lùraich agus ghabh e an t-aiseig air ais le Mac Ille Riaich. Bho na bha iad mu leth an rathaid dhùisg am pàisde agus thug e mothar as. "De tha sud," arsa Mac Ille Riaich. "Tha," ars' am fear eile, "an ràmh againsa." Chaidh gach cùis air aghaidh gu maith ged a bha dithis a'g iomram an aghaidh Mhic 'Ille Bhuidhe, gus an robh iad a nall mu Aird na Sgithich, mhothaich Mac Ille Bhuidhe am pàisde 'carachainn a rithist. 'San am san do ghlaoidh an leanabh thug e builleach falls do'n ràmh airson agus nach cluinneadh am fear eil' e agus bhrist e. "Carson nach biodh ramh agadsa a sheasamh ri ceatharnach," ars' am fear eile. Dh'iarr Mac Ille Bhuidhe a chur air tir aig Aird na Sgithich gum biodh e ni bu ghiorra dha na dol troimh bhaol Ile gu ruige Sannaig. Rinneadh so, fhuair e chas air tir agus Mac a Phi na asgail. 'Nuair a thuair e bràighe 'chladaich thug e am pàisd' as an luraich agus ghlaoidh e, "Tha Mac a Phi beò fhathast." "Na'n robh fios na fàth agamsa," arsa Mac 'Ille Riaich, "cha d' fhuair thusa 'n t-aiseig." "Ma thig thu am dhéigh a nis," ars' Mac Ille Bhuidhe, "tha coimhlion saighead an asgail na lùraich so 'sa tha do dh' fhearaibh 'sa 'bhàta agus fuathaidh mi gach fear a thig a mach ri beul-mor na birlinn."

'Ghabh e suas ris a' mhonadh, mach troimh Bhealach-bhriste-chnàmh gu ruig Naimh Bheinn an Oir agus bheathaich e an sin e le sithionn. Airsen agus nach tacadh am paisd' e fein, bho na bhiodh esan air falbh, bha e ceangal an t-sithionn le sreang ri òrdag mhòr a choise agus ged a bhiodh e ga thacadh, le bhi tilgeal a chasan uaith shlaodadh e mach as a bheul e. Bheathaich Mac 'Ille Bhuidhe an sin gus an robh comasach air deanamh as fhein. 'Sann bhuaidhsan a thànaig na tha an Colosa an diugh de Chloinn a' Phi.

"Gasda bhalaich," arsa Donnachadh ciùin. "Is' eireachdail a naigheachd sin gu dearbh cha 'n'eil do mheothair idir cho dona."

Dh' fhaotuinn a bhi air innseadh dhuibh mar a chaidh iad do Mhuile agus mu "Chu dubh Mhic a Phi," ach fagaidh mi an drasd e. "Rinn thu uamhara math," arsa Mac an Tòisich. "Thoir dhuinn a nis an t-òran a rinn thu air an turus a thug sibh do Bhristol leis an uachdaran agus a chuid sheirbhisich."

"Tha chreid mi fhein a Mhic an Tòisich nach 'eil fiosachd agad; ciamar tha fios agad gu 'n d'rinn mis oran?" "Bha cuid a bharail agam suas e agus na biodh tuille roimh-ràdh air ach sin.

"Cordaidh e ruibh gu math na gu dona tha am fonn math co-dhiu." "'S toigh leam a' Ghaidhealtachd." "Tha b' urainn a bhi ni b' fheàrr mach leis 'san cluinn sinn e."

Air feasgar Di-sathuirn chaidh an t' acair thoirt suas
'Us thriall sinn do Shasunn tir mhaiseach nan cluan;
Bha ghaoith bho'n iar 'eas san Cuar Siar ann a smuid,
'S ann seachad air Eige a leig sinn a cùrs'.

Mu'n cuairt Airdnamurchan bha na sumainean àrd,
Le an curaicean geala 's iad ri cladach a gàir;
Bha fiath an Caol Muile gu ruig Dubhairt 's Lismòr,
S fiamh a ghàir air gach cruinneag 's iad ri bruidhinn gu leòr.

Seachad air Diùra sud duthaich mo ghràdh,
Far 'robh mi òg agus sunndach, gun chùram gun sgàth
'Se bhi faicinn a stuchdan a dh' uirich mo chàil,
Bh' uath tha 'n oitcag ghlan chubhraidh a dhùisg mi gu dàn.

A mach troimh Chaol Il' gu Ceanntire nan stuaigh,
Bha 'n sruth lionaidh a strìth, de cha till i mn'n cuairt;
Air maduinn na Sàbaid 'nuair thàinig an stoirm,
Bha gach fear agus te dhiu 'san deud ac' nan dòrn.

Tha iasgach na mara ro reamhar air fàs
Bha stamagan falamh aig cailin mo ghràidh;
Ach buaidh do Nic Ailein thug barrachd air càch,
Dh' aindeoin treise na gaillionn rinn i fanachd air clàr.

Bha Cuan Eirinn a beucaich mar dh' eirigh dha riamh,
Cha bu leir dhuinn am fearann 's bha sgàil air a' ghrian
Bha luingeas tighinn dachaidh bha fada air sàil,
Is iomadh nighean aoibhnach bhios foighneachd mu gràdh.

Rainig sinn cala sa mhaduinn Di-luain,
'Us fhuair sinn do'n amhuinn, mo chreach cha b'i Cluaidh;
Bu bhòidheach an sealladh bha ri fhaicinn gach taobh,
'Us sheol sinn fo'n drochaid ged 's ard a croinn chaol.

Rinn iad air fagail gle mhoch air Di-màirt,
'S air feasgar Di-daoirn' chaidh ar saodach' thar sàil;
'S tha sinne fo fhadal an so ann an Rhùm,
'S gach latha mar sheachdain gu teachd na Bliadhn' Uir.

"'S math a thuaras thu bhalaich" thuirt Iain Bàn; "Bessy bhochd tha moit orm gu robh i chu greimeil nach i bha tapaidh fhearaibh." "Cha 'n fhada gus an toir Domhnuill a Eilean Iarmaid ceithear buillean air a chlag. Tha 'n t' am agam a bhi tarruing thun a chladaich mar am bith an oidhche stoirmeail thig mi air tir Di-haoine; Oidhche mhath leibh."

NIALL MAC 'ILLE SHEATHANAICH.
Diura.

ARE YOU DEAF?

All sufferers should write for particulars of the New American Cure for Deafness and afflictions of the ears. **Simple, Safe, Cheap.** Send stamped-addressed envelope to F. GOODALL, 11 and 12 Ivy Lane, Newgate Street, London, E.C.

CLARSACH NAN GAIDHEAL.

AIR A GLEUSADH LE FIONN.

No. 370.—IORRAM CUAIN.

(Mod Musical Compilation).

This song is by Alasdair Mac Mhaighstir Alasdair. The tune is a rowing one, and although to the modern ear monotonous from much repetition of the same cadence phrase, the bard made 44 verses to it! The chorus seems to have belonged to an older song.

GLEUS G.—SIESD.

{ , s, | l, , l, . — : d ., d | r ., d : l, ., }
Tha m'fhearann saibhir hó a hó;
{ , l, | f ., r ; m ., f | r ., d : l, ., }
Hi rì ho ró na'm b'àill leat mi;
FINE.
{ , s, | l, , l, . — : d ., d | r ., d : l, ., ‖
Tha m'fhearann saibhir hó a hó.
RANN.
{ , l, | l, , l, . — : d ., d | r ., d : l, ., l, }
An fhairge molach, bronnach, torrach
D.C.
{ | f ., f : m ., f | r ., d ; l, ., ‖
Giobach, corrach ràpalach.

'S cruaidh ri stiùradh bialmhuir dhuldaidh,
Teachd le brùchdail chàrsanaich.
Cladh-a'-chùlain, cha b- e 'n sùgradh,
'S e ri bùirean bàcanach.
An cùlanach féin, cha 'n e 's fhasa,
Agus lasan àrdain air.
Teachd gu dlùth an déigh a chéile
Agus geumnaich dàir orra.
An fhairge phaiteach 's a bial farsuinn
Agus aeras araidh oirr'.
'S mairg a choimeas muir ri mòintich
Ged bhiodh mòr-shneachd stràct' oirre.
Dùbhradh dorcha gun dad ghealaich,
Oirthir aineoil, àrd-chreagach.
Gaoth a' séideadh, muir ag éirigh,
'S fear ag cubhach àrd ghuthach.
'Sud e tighinn, 's cha 'n ann ruighinn,
Cròc-mhuir, friothair, bàsanach.
Cum ceann-caol a fiodha dìreach
Ri muir dhìolain, dhàsannaich.
Ach dh' aithnich sinn gu 'n sheòl sinn fada
Mach 'san t-samh, 's bu ghàbhaidh sin.
'S leag sinn a croinn 's a h-aodach;
'S bu ghnìomh dhaoine càileachdach.
'S chuir sinn mach a cliathan rìghne
Is bu ghrinn an t-àlach iad.
'S shuidh orr' ochdnar teòma, troma,
A sgoilteadh tonnan stàplainneach.
Héig air chnagaibh, trùg air mhaidean,
'S cogall bhac air a h-àbranaibh.
Iad a' mosgladh suas a chéile,
'S masgadh treun air sàil aca.
Sginean locrach ràmh á Lochluinn
'Bualadh bhoc air bhàirlinnean.
Iad a traoghadh suas na dìle
Le neart fìor-gharg ghàirdeanan.
Cathadh-mara 's marcachd-shiona
'S stoirm nan sìon 'gan sàrachadh.
Lasraichean srad theine-chionnachain
Dearg o'n iomram chàileachach.
Iad ag obair as an léintean
"Hùg is héig" 'ga ràitinn ac'.
Iorram àrd-bhinn shuas aig Eumann
Ann an cléith ràmh bràghada.
Aonghas Mac Dhonnachaidh d' a réir sin;
A Rì! bu treun a thàirrneadh e.
Donnachadh Mac Cuaraig a' luaidh leo,
'S b' fhada buan a spàlagan.
Bha fuaim aon-mhaide air chléith ac'
'Bualadh spéicean tàbhachdach.
Raimh 'gam pianadh, 's fir 'gan sgìonadh
An glacaibh iarnaidh àrd-thonnach.
Gallain chiatach, leoghar, liaghach,
'S fuirbidhnean dian 'gan sàrachadh.
Lunnan mine, 's dùirn 'gan sìneadh
Seile sìos air dheàrnaidhean.
Muir ag osnaich shuas m' a toiseach
Chuip-gheal, choip-gheal, ghàir-bheucaich.
Suas le sgùradh saidh ri buinean
Le sìor-dhùrachd sàr-iomraidh.
Slabhraidh chùirneineach ri dùrdail
Shios, bha stùr a' fagail ann.
Gaoth 'na deannan 's i ri feannadh
Nan tonn ceannfhionn,ràsanach.
Na fir lùthmhor an déigh an rùsgaidh
A' cur smùid dheth 'n àlaichean.
Choidhch cha mheataicheadh am misneach,
Na fir sgibidh, thàbhachdach.
Righ nan eagal, Neptiun ceigeach,
Ri sìor-sgreadail—"Bàthar sibh."
Gu'm b'fhàth uamhuinn muir ri mealraich,
'S cathadh-cuain a' stracadh orr'.
Ghuidh an sgioba geur na dùilean;
'S fhuair an ùrnuigh gràsa dhaibh.
Smachdaich Aeolus na speuran
'S a bhuilg-shéididh àrd-ghaotach.
Gu 'n d' rinn Neptiun fairge lomadh
Mar bhiodh glaine sgàthain ann.
Sgaoil na neòil bha tonn-ghorm, ciardhubh,
'S shoillsich grian mar b' àbhaist di.
'S mhothaich an sgioba do dh' fhearann
'S ghlac iad cala sàbhailte.
Ghabh iad proinn is deoch is leabaidh,
'S rinn iad cadal sàmhach oirr'.

SEALG NA PAIRCE.

[LE DONULL MACCALUM.]

XLVI.—NA H-IDHOLAN.

Iodholan o linn nan linntean
Còmhnuidh ghabh 'am broinn Beinn Isgean,
Far an d' amais iad air didean
Math nam feum,
Fuaim mu'n aiteam chuirt nan àite
Chuál iad féin.
Agus coinne ann an tàlla
Chlaigionn Righra mhòr 's na h-àrmachd,
Dh' éireas suas air càrraigh mhàrmoir
Ghaom na seòid;
Anns a' chathair ac' bha Dàgon
'S so bi ghlòir—
"Iodholan mo ghaoil o'n dh' fhag mi
Ann an Ashdod ceann 'us làmhan,
Ashtaroth ni feum 'am àite
Chuir a sìos,
Anns an scròll mar théid a ràdhtuinn
Leinn gu grinn.
Agus innsidh Tighearn' Bhàlaic
Do'n do chrom na theampull Nàman,
Ciod is aobhar dhuinn an tràth so
Bhi gu stòld,
Mar a their a nis na Gàidheil
Cumail mòd."
Deàlradh glan na dheise rìomhaich
Glé croltach ri curaidh chì thu,
Togte suas air ceann "soiree" 'sa'
Bhaile mhòr,
Dh éirich fòs nan làthair Rimmon
Thabhairt eòl—
"A cho-iodholan mo ghràidh-sa,
'S aithne dhuibh mar chaill sinn àirde
Mhòr ar 'n iubh nuair rioghaich Ahab,
'S nach eil beò
Neach a thogas anns na h-àrdaibh
Dhuinne ceò.
Chuala sinn gu bheil aig Bàal,
Anns a' chòmhraig mhoir Càrmel
Chaill gu mi-cheadach chuid fhàidhean,
A nis dòigh,
Air am faigh sinn mar a b'àbhàist
Uile glòir."
Dh'éirich suas an t-iodhol mòr sin,
Sgeadaichte mar thriath gu mòintich
Théid le ghunn' air lorg damh-cròice
Feadh na Pàirc',
'Sa dha làmh fo strap a' chòta
Thuirt an sàr—
"Anns an 'Naigheachd Ghàidhleach' fhuair mi
Sgeul air Iodholen aig sluagh ta
Riomhach mar bha thu muair chualas
Iolach mòr,
Aig an aiteam thug a suas dhuit
Claigionn Shòil.
Theagaisg iad mar ghéibh sinn àite
Measg nan slòigh bha uair 's na h-àrdaibh,
Ach tha sgapte feadh gach ceàrn' de'n
Chruinne cé.
Mar bha againn 'an Canàan
Fad o chéin.
Ceannaicheadh-mid tìr nam fuar bheann
'S cuireadh-mid a sléibht' fo'n ruadh-bhoc,
'S anns gach bail' an deach an ruagadh
Sinn na laoidh,
Thogas iad a suas gu h-uaibhreach
'S gheibh an gaol."
Adeir Moloch—"Tha mi gluasad
Taing do'n iodhol ghloirmhor, uasal,
Chuir air sèol sinn chosnadh uaibhreachd
Dhuinn as ùr;"
'S feuch! Mactala 's fhad' na shuain bha
Iolach dhùisg.

MAIRI LURACH.

[Leis an Urr. D. B. BLAR, D.D.
LUINNEAG.

Hó! mo Mhàiri lurach,
'S tu mo Mhàiri ghrinn,
Hó! mo Mhàiri lurach,
'S tu mo Mhàiri bhinn,
Hó! mo Mhàiri lurach,
'S tu mo Mhàiri ghrinn,
Mhàiri bhoidheach laghach,
'S tu mo roghainn fhìn.

Uuair a théid mi dh' fhuireach
Anns a choille mhoir,
Bidh mi aoibhneach, subhach,
Aighearach gu leoir,
Ma bhios Mairi mar-rium
Teichidh gal is bròn;
Cha bhi 'n aimsir fada
'Gabhail thairis oirnn.

O! thig leam do 'n fhàsach,
Fàg do mhuinntir féin;
Tir do bhreith is t' àraich,
Fàg sin air do dhéidh.
Ged a bhiodh e cruaidh leat
Sgaradh uath gu léir,
Na cuireadh e ort smuairean
Dol thar chuan leam féin.

Thig air falbh gun dàil leam,
Fag do mhàthair chaomh,
Do phiuthar is do bhràthair,
T' uile chàirdean gaoil;
Is thig leamsa thairis
Dh' Ameirig nan craobh,
Tir ro ghreadhnach fharsuinn,
Ged nach faicear fraoch.

'S truagh nach robh thu, Mhairi,
Leam 'san fhàsach thall,
Feadh nan coilltean dlùth 's an
Dùthaich tha gun bheann.
Cha bhiodh bròn no airsneal
Orm, no fadal ann;
Nam biodh tusa làmh-rium
Bhithinn slàn gach àm.

Ach mar déid thu leam-sa,
Bidh mi tùrsach trom;
Cha bhi gean no sunnd orm,
Bidh mi ciurrt' am chom;
'Chaoidh cha seinn mi òran,
Luinneag, ceòl, no fonn.
Ni do ghaol ro shearbh mi
Mur a falbh thu leam.

Iona, July 29th, 1851.

MARY.

In your issue of the 5th curt. you published a very pretty Gaelic love song taken from the "Oranaiche," and applied it to a piece of music which obtained a prize at the last Mod, and which appears to have been rescued from oblivion by Mr Malcolm Macfarlane. Elderslie. This is a somewhat free translation of the song:—

Ho! my darling, O! my Mary,
Thou hast won my heart from me;
O! it leaves me sad and dreary
That I'm often far from thee.

Sweetest, fairest, dearest maiden
Slender, strong, and fair art thou;
Let my heart its love unburden
Since I cannot see thee now.

Of thee I dream asleep and waking,
As in bed I lonely lie,
Thoughts of thee shall ne'er forsake me
Till I lay me down and die.

Constant while awake or sleeping
Thou art music unto me;
And whatever course I'm keeping
I shall ever steer by thee.

Sweet thy breath as scent of heather,
Thy two cheeks are rowans red,
Thine eyebrows like two beauteous feathers,
Joy of life! till I am dead.

Mary, dost thou think thy lover
Could exist deceiving thee?
Thou art dearer than that mother
Who from birth has cherished me.

And thinkest thou, my angel maiden,
That I love thee for thy gold?
Thy blooming cheeks with roses laden
More precious are than cattle fold.

If thou shouldst me forsake and be
The sweetheart of some other swain,
Still loving thee, I'd cross the sea,
And welcome death to end my pain.

CURLIANA DINGWALL.

TEA BREAD IN PERFECTION.

You can make the most tempting little scones, muffins, milk bread twists and tea cakes, with the help of Brown & Polson's new raising powder called "Paisley Flour." You mix one part with 6 to 8 parts of ordinary flour, and then proceed to mix and bake in the usual way. But you do not need any yeast or baking powder. "Paisley Flour" does all the "raising," and does it so well that you can be certain of a satisfactory baking. It enables the work to be done quickly, easily, and pleasantly. Even beginners get good results, and the more frequently you use it the more successful will your baking be. Buy a 7d packet from your grocer and try the recipes for "Afternoon Tea Muffins," "Milk Bread Twists," "Jam Sandwich." Further recipes for delicious light cakes, &c., are included in Brown & Polson's "A" Cook Book, which can be had by sending a 1d stamp to Brown & Polson, Paisley.

CELTIC NOTES AND QUERIES.

QUERIES.

CROFTER LEGISLATION.—Can any of your readers favour me with particulars of any further legislation in favour of the crofters since the passing of the Crofters Act? ENQUIRER.

SONG WANTED.—A reader of our paper for twelve years would like to get a copy of a song, in English or Gaelic, made on a lady following her lover to the war in male attire.

CABERFEIDH.

STRATHNAVER.—What was the crofting population of Strathnaver before the burnings? Did the crofters hold direct from the House of Sutherland, or were they subtenants? WADSETTER.

M'CRIMMON'S LAMENT.—Where do we first find the vocal setting of "M'Crimmon's Lament?" It seems to have little or no resemblance to the pipe tune, "Cha till Mac-Criomain." FEADAN.

CLAN LANDS.—Did any of the clans object to their chiefs accepting Government charters for the clan lands? If so, which were the clans who so acted, and with what result?

COIR-A-CHLAIDHEIMH.

ANSWERS.

TORCULL.—This name is from the Norse Thorkell, a shorter form of Thorketill; hence Mac Coreadail, Thor's kettle or holy vessel. F.

SCOTSMEN IN IRELAND.—I learn from "Foilire na Gaedhilge"—a work full of interesting information—that the number of Scotsmen in Ireland, according to last census, is 30,101. There are over 76,000 Englishmen in Ireland.

G. O'GRAFFY.

PIPE TUNE.—The tune "Cumha dubh Shomhairle," not "Cumha Shomhairle dhuibh," is to be found in Donald Macdonald's Collection. Its title is translated, "Doleful Lament for the Death of Samuel, a celebrated piper." This tune is claimed by the Clan Macdougall. I am not sure on what grounds, unless it be that Samuel is a very common name with the clan, and that one of the cadet families were known as Clann Shomhairle. I cannot say who composed the tune. F.

A WORD TO LADIES.

Send two stamps for our new and original Illustrated Booklet, containing plain and practical advice how Irregularities, Suppressions, &c., may be prevented or removed by simple means in a few hours. Recommended by eminent Physicians, and thousands of Ladies, as being the only Genuine Remedy. This is not a quack medicine. Established 30 years. LESLIE MARTYN, Ltd., Chemists, 34 Dalston Lane, London.

H.M.S. BRITON.

NAVAL ENTERTAINMENT IN MUSIC HALL.

The grand naval entertainment given in the Music Hall on Tuesday evening in aid of the Building Fund of the proposed Sailors' Home in Abban Street was undoubtedly a successful function, and reflects the highest credit upon the promoters, as well as upon those who took part in the programme. Seldom indeed did the interior of the Music Hall present such a gay and brilliant aspect, and it is questionable if ever the platform was more tastefully decorated. This was not to be wondered at considering the fact that it was the work of our gallant local "handy men," who are all-round experts. The gorgeous and artistic manner in which the nation's flags were arranged lent enchantment to the scene, and when at the outset of the programme the stalwart squad of Reservemen from H.M.S. Briton made their appearance on the platform and gave a cutlass display the scene was complete; while Mr W. Stewart Roddie's masterly rendering of the various popular national airs on the pianoforte seemed to arouse the audience to realise the fact that "Britannia rules the waves." Miss Watt, who was rapturously received, opened the vocal part of the programme, and gave a delightful rendering of "Daffodils a-blowing" with all her wonted sweetness of intonation. She was followed by several young ladies, including Misses Innes, Rena Shaw, and Janet Francklyn, who entertained the audience to a very pretty flag dance, for which they were awarded a hearty encore, to which they responded. Mrs Munro, a lady whose name is as familiar as a household word among northern music-lovers, next appeared, and with all her old-time pathos, sweetness and power sang "Afton Water." In response to a well-merited encore she re-appeared and rendered "Comin thro' the Rye" with her usual vivacity and sweetness. The next item on the programme was the "living picture," "Fisher Girls at Work," as represented by Misses Grant, Zoe Peel Ross, Alice Burns, and Violet Stewart Richardson. It is needless to say that this charming quartette formed a most pleasing and realistic picture, and on the drop of the curtain the audience insisted on their re-appearance. Mr Roderick M'Leod, the ever-popular Highland tenor, then gave a touching rendering of "Maid of Morven," and in response to an encore rendered a well-known Gaelic song, much to the enjoyment of the audience. The first part of the programme was concluded by a magnificent tableaux entitled "Britannia," which was much appreciated. A dramatic sketch, "The Pacha of Pimlico," was next produced, the caste being as follows:—Benside Bedridden Brown (a tobacconist), Surgeon Lieut.-Col. Stanley Dobie; Plummy (his shopman), Dr Sidney Callum; Edgar Jones, Mr Fergus Macechern; Cumming (a waiter at the Coffee-house), Mr Alec. Reade; policemen, Mr Watt and Mr Fraser; Fatima Sparks, Mrs H. Gordon Cumming; Miss Arabella Roe, Mrs Stanley Dobie. The acting and singing throughout the piece was of a very high order, and caused much merriment amongst the audience. The entertainment was again repeated on Wednesday evening at popular prices. It must be highly gratifying to Captain Spearman and others interested in the scheme to find that their efforts met with such a hearty response from the public, while to the performers is due the thanks of the community for the excellent entertainment afforded.

[BY OUR LADY CORRESPONDENT].

The Naval Entertainment deserved all the patronage which was so lavishly bestowed upon it. The splendid variety did not allow of a dull moment in a couple of hours, and the entertainment was thoroughly enjoyed by the large audiences. The sprinkling of the military was more noticeable than is usually the case in the Music Hall. The soldiers evidently believe in helping the other gallant arm of the "defenders of the Empire." The naval men were courtesy itself in seating the audience—indeed, all the arrangements were perfect. There was a very fashionable audience in the front part of the hall, which included Mrs Baillie of Dochfour, who, under a seal coat with magnificent sables, wore a black tucked silk gown opening over cream jewelled net and lace, with some strings of pearls. Mrs Spearman also appeared in a black gown, the corsage and sleeves being of transparent lace. Mrs Sutor looked lovely in a soft cream satin gown with lace; while Mrs Mackinnon, Dochgarroch, had a white flounced voile skirt, with lace bodice and bolero run with satin ribbon. Two pretty girls accompanying this lady were in white transparent muslin gowns. A lovely gown of deep cream satin with exquisite lace was worn by Miss Biscoe of Newton; while Miss Stewart Ewing had a black lace robe over white silk. Mrs Peel Ross had a black satin gown adorned with crimson roses; Miss Stewart Richardson appeared in black satin, and Mrs Davidson of Cantray also wore black satin; Mrs Hugonin lightened her black gown with a touch of blue; Miss Cameron, Dunain, had a cream silk blouse flowered with pink over a black skirt; Miss Mackintosh, who was a successful accompanist, was gowned in black satin and lace; Mrs Munro was gowned in black stripped satin; while Miss Watt wore a lovely gown of net all run with satin ribbon, with a tulle fichu fastened with a cluster of pink roses.

ABOUT BRIGHT'S DISEASE.

From Phœnix Green, Winchfield, Hants, comes the report of a case which is sure to startle many physicians and others who, up to this time, have believed and declared that Bright's Disease was incurable.

From the positive statement of Mr C. W. Sumpster of that town, Bright's Disease is curable.

He had suffered with Bright's Disease for three years. His doctors had given him up, they told him that nothing could cure him. "You must go into the hospital," they said, "and perhaps with the greatest care you may live through the winter. This is the best advice we can give you." Mr Sumpster says:—

"I was nearly giving up. I saw no hope before me and felt that no power on earth could save me. But I was wrong, Dodd's Kidney Pills saved me and did for me what all the doctors failed to do. They completely restored me to health.

"I took nine boxes of the Pills before I was completely cured, and now I am quite well and strong. I work sixteen hours a day without feeling it, and instead of being in the hospital I am as well as I ever was in my life, and this is entirely due to Dodd's Kidney Pills."

KINGUSSIE—MINISTERIAL APPOINTMENT.—At a meeting of the United Free Church congregation of Insch on 16th inst. the Rev. Kennth Maclennan, Edinburgh, was at first by a large majority, and afterwards unanimously, elected minister of the congregation. Mr Maclennan belongs to Kingussie.

TO MOTHERS.—Mrs Winslow's Soothing Syrup has been used over fifty years by millions of mothers for their children while teething, with perfect success. It will relieve the poor sufferer immediately. It is pleasant to taste; it produces natural quiet sleep by relieving the child from pain, and the little cherub awakes "as bright as a button." Of all chemists, 1s 1½d per bottle.

ROYAL NATIONAL LIFEBOAT INSTITUTION.—Owing to the expiration of lease, the Committee of Management have been compelled to remove the headquarters of the Institution from 14 John Street, Adelphi, London, where they have been located for the long period of 48 years, to 20 Charing Cross Road, London, W.C. The institution, since its establishment in 1824, has granted rewards for the saving of upwards of 44,000 lives from shipwreck on the coasts of the United Kingdom. Help is much needed to efficiently carry on this great national life-saving service.

'LINSEED COMPOUND' of 35 years' proven Efficacy for Coughs and Colds. 9½d and 13½d.

ON THE CONTINENT.

REMINISCENCES OF MR W. M. SNOWIE.

VENICE—(CONTINUED).

SOME OF THE SCOTCH DOCTOR'S EXPERIENCES.

No. XIII.

"Sea-girt city, thou hast been
Ocean's child, and then her queen."
—SHELLEY.

THE DOCTOR NOT A CHURCH-GOER.

The doctor rebelled against going to churches. He said that they were all the same. In fact, he was almost as bad, though not having the same excuse, as a northern proprietor, who used to say, "Church! If you had as much church as I have you would do." The poor man had been confined in a French prison for five years, and the prison had been a church. When I went to inspect a church the doctor stayed at the door with the gondolier, with whom he managed in some way to make himself understood, especially if there was a wine-shop near, and he wanted to give the man a drink. What particularly pleased him was when at high tide we passed into some narrow canal, where the population were teaching the young how to swim, for almost before the child can speak it is tied to a board with rope attached to make its way as best it can in the watery element, which to those who live in Venice is the principal danger, and as we passed carefully through a merry laughing crowd on the water and land the doctor said, "Man, they are just like water-rats."

THE DOCTOR AND THE BEGGARS.

The beggars were also a great delight to him, for he got his Lira note changed into copper centissime, one of which he handed to each beggar. "Man," he said, "it's a grand country where you can satisfy one hundred beggars for 10½d." I told him the filthy note was only actually worth 9½d owing to the rate of exchange, and that he would require to take care to take only those of the Banca Nazionale, as the town notes were exceedingly difficult to exchange. There were notes as low as 2½d then (1872), and Thomas Hood, when he said that he never knew what filthy lucre was till he saw a Scotch £1 note, could certainly never have seen Italian paper notes.

THE ELITE OF VENICE.

Once or twice we came across a party at an out-of-the-way fish shop. They looked like servant girls at first from the handkerchief on the head, but on looking at the heavy gold chain round the neck and waist with its knots we could see that they belonged to the elite of Venice, for no one except a lady of rank would dare to put a knot on her chain, and the number of knots would denote the rank of the personage. Our great enjoyment was to buy at a fruit-shop one of the large new potatoes which were constantly kept hot, and were as large as one's fist, the cost being about a half-penny. The vendors must have thoroughly known the art of cookery; then, again, the doctor enjoyed feeding the pigeons in the Piazza of St Mark. They were fed at two o'cloch usually, but a few crumbs would always bring a host of them together.

CAMPINILE OF ST MARK.

Then there was the ascent of the great Campinile of St Mark, now, alas! a thing of the past. We generally went up before sunset. The Square would be empty except for an English girl and her nurse feeding the pigeons. The ascent was an inclined plain, and when we got to the top we enjoyed the magnificent prospect of the broad lagoon, now an expanse of mud, and then a broad stretch of water, according as the tide was up. We smoked our pipes until sunset, and when we came down found in the Square a crowded mass of people of all sorts and conditions listening to the band or engaged taking ices in the numerous cafés under the Arcade. I would have liked to have taken the doctor to the Campinile of the Church of San Georgio Maggiore in the island of the same name, where I had gone alone one of the days. There was a finer view from its top than from that of St Mark, but the staircase was rather crazy, and I had engaged in a rather heated controversy with the monk in regard to the merits of St George, and our own Patron Saint, St Andrew.

A SCOTCHMAN'S GRAVE.

Near our hotel was the Church of San Moise, where a small slab on the floor opposite the entrance marked the tomb of John Law of Lauriston, the great financier, of whom the witty French epitaph says—"Here lies this celebrated Scotchman, this calculator without equal, who by the rules of Algebra put France in the workhouse." His descendant, Marshal Lauriston, when he was Governor of Venice under the French in 1808, placed this memorial on his grave.

THE DOCTOR ACCUSED OF BEING MAD.

One morning the doctor stayed behind, saying he was done of church-going. I proceeded on my usual round, and when I returned to the hotel I heard an animated discussion going on amongst the gondoliers who were stationed there waiting custom. One of them narrated that he had a passenger who must have been mad, for on rowing him out near the Lido—the long, narrow island which serves as a breakwater to Venice—he rose in the gondola and took the oar from him. "I thought he was going to murder me at first," said the gondolier, "and I could have thrown him into the water, but you know how hard the police are on us poor gondoliers. What do you think he did?" he questioned. Many suppositious answers were given from the crowd, to which he replied—"He rowed the gondola all the way back to Venice." "And, I suppose, never paid you," was the chorus. "Oh! he paid me 2 Lire more than the fare." "Why, he must have been mad!" echoed all the gondoliers. On going upstairs I found my friend in a state of great exhaltation. "Man," he said, "I'm beginning to get on fine at Italian. I was out in a gondola, and on asking the gondolier for his oar he understood at once what I wanted, and I had a fine row back to Venice." Such was the doctor's idea.

THE RIALTO, &c.

It was always a pleasure to wander along the narrow Mercerea, with its curious shops leading to the Rialto, the principal bridge, between the two islands, with its two rows of shops. Near the bridge is the Scuolo di St Marco, now an hospital for the sick. In the front of the church of Sante Giovanni e Paolo (Church of St John and Paul) in the campo or square of the same name is the magnificent equestrian statue of Bartobommeo Colleone, said to be the finest in the world, by Leopardi, Verrochio having made the model. The great general who died in 1471 was one of the first to employ field pieces in warfare. He left all his money to Venice on the condition of erecting a monument to him. Two new iron bridges were erected over the Grand Canal between the two principal islands of St Marco and the Rialto. The third island, La Guedecca, had to be reached by gondola. Here is the magnificent church, Palladio's finest work, erected after the plague of 1576. One of the principal sights in one of the narrow streets is

PORTA DEL PARADISO,

eulogised by Ruskin. Over the entrance is a triangular arch with the Virgin and child. An ugly gas-lamp had been placed in the wall near it, and the stone bridge near the little Canal had been replaced by an iron one. The painter while painting the gas-lamp gave a coat of green to the head of the kneeling "bambino." I noticed when passing one of our local churchyards that the painter who painted the railings green had decorated a "death-head" on a monument with the same lively colour, showing that painters everywhere are much the same.

THE MARITIME POWER OF VENICE.

Venice was the greatest naval power of the Middle Ages, the first to establish a National Debt in 1171, which paid an interest of 4 per cent. twice a year to its contributors. Her mercantile navy at one time consisted of 3300 ships, with 36,000 sailors, but her power began to decline after the discovery of America and the new route round the Cape to India.

'LINUM CATHARTICUM PILLS' Purely Vegetable. Agreeably Aperient. Of all Chemists.



Hudson's Soap

is

Best for Washing Clothes.

Best for Cleaning House.

Best for China, Glass, &c.

Best for Washing-up

IT MAKES ALL THINGS CLEAN AND SWEET.

ACT OF CHRIST.

Venice was the one power that never acknowledged the superiority of the church; the priesthood and the laity had the same law over them. No Churchman could sit in the Councils of Venice. In the last great struggle between the Church, under Paul V., and Venice, their great adviser, Paulo Sarpi, was placed in a room next the Council Chamber, and the Council went to him one by one, and by so doing obviated the difficulty. The Pope excommunicated Venice, and the Senate cond

HOGMANAY.

TAKING IN THE NEW YEAR.

SCENES AROUND "KING WILLIAM" AND CLACHNACUDDIN.

"A guid New Year tae ane an' a',
An' mony may yo see."

In no other land is the passing of the old year and the advent of the new celebrated with more ceremony than in this our mountain-land. Around us at this festive season cluster memories grave and gay. With sorrow we bid the old year adieu as we consign it to the tomb of Memory, while looking down into the mists of futurity we greet the new. "It is at these times," says a certain writer, that we miss most of all "the touch of a vanished hand and the sound of a voice that is still; and as we sit waiting to hear the clock chiming twelve as the year expires, the old familiar faces of our friends, father and mother, appear again, as it were, out of the spirit-land. It is then that our feelings are too deep for tears." The merry Yuletides of England are familiar to many, but to us in this northern land the Hogmanay and Ne'er-Day celebrations appeal most. How or when King Alcohol came to be associated with the advent of the year is one of those things few can tell; but that he is one of the chief factors in the celebration nobody can deny—not even those who prophecy his immediate dethronement.

"FIRST FITTIN'."

From time immemorial the bottle has held a conspicuous place in the New Year festivities, for what reason, as already stated, we know not, unless it be for the express purpose of closing the eyes of humanity—for the time being—to the fact that time is fleeting. It is an old time custom, however, and that it dies hard is evidenced from year to year by the hilarious nature of the annual festivities. There is perhaps very little difference between the modes of New-Year celebration north and south of the Grampians. Indeed wherever Scotchmen gather ower a' the rowin' earth "Ne'er Day, Rabbie's Natal Day, and Saint Andrew's Day" are celebrated with very much the same pomp. One of the chief customs associated with this season is that of first footing, and here the superstitious element in the nature of the modern Scot is perhaps more strongly exemplified than it is in any other custom. Let us here give a few instances. A householder would as soon see His Satanic Majesty cross his threshhold as behold a flat-footed man enter his house on a New Year's morning, while a red-haired individual he also dreads, vainly imagining that according to the personal appearance and disposition of the first visitor of the year will depend the luck of the household for the ensuing twelve months. Indeed we have in our mind's eye at the present moment a well-to-do shopkeeper whose business establishment is not a hundred miles removed from the Highland Capital, who for many years made a practice of being his own "first-foot," with what luck, however, we are not able to chronicle. It is considered unlucky to the inmates to enter a house without being in possession of either eatables or drinkables, as well as to leave it without partaking of the same, and this perhaps in no small measure accounts for the origin of "the bottle."

TAKING IN THE NEW YEAR AT THE TRONGATE.

The wild and boisterous hilarity of Hogmanay Night in the various centres of population throughout Scotland is familiar to all those who are acquainted with their native land; but perhaps in no town or city "frae Maidenkirk tae John o' Groats" is the old year consigned to oblivion and the new one ushered in amid more Bacchanalianism than in the proud city of St Mungo, and our readers will perhaps pardon us for attempting to draw a pen-picture of the annual orgie around King William's Statue at the Trongate. Let us for the moment imagine that it is New Year's Eve—"just on the chap o' twal"—and that we are standing near the old Tron Steeple, where once stood the dauntless mountaineer, Rob Roy, and within a few yards of the classic Saut Market, "the hame" of the old-time city magnate—pawky, canny Bailie Nicol Jarvie. The night is damp, dull and dismal, as if the Weather Clerk were mourning for the departure of his twelve months' companion—the old year—and is unable to assuage his grief to greet the newcomer. The denizens of St Mungo are accustomed, however, with the vagaries of this eccentric official, who is popularly supposed to control the floodgates, and turn on the sluice when he has a mind, and on this particular occasion they seem to forget that "the wather is a wee bit wat," judging from the immense throng which congregates around the colossal statue of "King Billy" of glorious memory. The question of the hour—for at least the past six hours—among the youthful fraternity has been, "Are ye gaun doon tae the Cross the nicht tae tak in the New Year?" and the result is that at this the supreme moment they gather in their thousands, from the wilds of Camlachie, the dingy mazes of Bridgeton and the Calton, the heights of Springburn, the cosmopolitan atmosphere of the Broomielaw, the lanes and allies of the Cowcaddens, and other more pretentious and aristocratic quarters, until the street at this particular point is completely blocked to vehicular traffic. While those more orderly inclined are taking part in watch-night services in the various churches throughout the city, the frequenters of the Cross are perhaps not one whit less earnest—though perhaps less devout—in their endeavours to give the old year a hearty send-off and the new one a cordial welcome. The "indispensable" pocket pistol is largely in evidence; and, hark! from the old iron tongue—which has rung centuries in and out—in the steeple overhead there peals out the midnight hour announcing the death of one year and the birth of another. Then healths are drunk and hands are wrung, while thousands of lusty voices join in the time-worn chorus "A guid New Year tae ane and a'." In accordance with the usual custom the statue of the hero of the Boyne is subjected to a fusilade heavier perhaps than the gallant soldier ever experienced in life—a fusilade of empty whisky bottles. Thereafter the crowd breaks up into small groups, making the air hideous with an intermixture of Scotch and Irish whisky "Auld Lang Syne" and "A guid New Year," shouting and bellowing with lung-power which would do credit to such well-known and powerful vocalists as the denizens of the Zoo, Edward the Four-Footed, or a Camlachie coalman. Having sung themselves hoarse they then set out on their first-footin' expedition, and not until next morning do they realise that they would have fared very much better had they "taken in" the New Year by their "ain firesides."

Old customs are, however, hard to eradicate, and the same scene will take place around King Billy at midnight on Thursday next as has been enacted in years gone by.

HOGMANAY IN INVERNESS.

Hogmanay in Inverness is celebrated in very much the same fashion as in other towns of similar dimensions throughout Scotland. It would be altogether unfair to say that there is any more liquor consumed on that occasion than in towns of an equal population, nor are we prepared to say that there is any less. The Exchange has been the place of many animated scenes in years gone by when at the stroke of twelve the New Year received "a Highland welcome," and the old town band paraded the streets announcing to the citizens that they had reached another milestone on life's journey. Let us hope that a year hence the duty will devolve upon the new band of bringing in the New Year.

THE OLD STYLE.

Christmas and New Year in the Old Style has now almost been lost sight of, although in many of the remote districts throughout the north they are still observed. Indeed it is within our knowledge that some of the older inhabitants of the Highland Capital still persist in adhering to the good old style, and in their own quiet unostentatious way still celebrate the 5th and 12th of January.

THE GREAT COUGH CURE.—"Budden's Balsam of Horehound and Coltsfoot" will cure Coughs, Colds, Asthma, Bronchitis, and all affections of the Chest and Lungs—Don't take a substitute, insist on having Budden's. 1s 1½d and 2s 9d.

THE GREAT SKIN CURE.—"Budden's S. R. Skin Ointment" will cure Old Wounds Ulcerated Legs, Eczema, Ringworm, Scrofula and all Skin diseases. Boxes, 7½d and 1s 1½d. Agent for Inverness—Mr Mackenzie, 4 and 6 Church Street.

"HERE COME THE GUISERS."

The custom of celebrating the new opening of the year in the Highland Capital some fifty years ago was very much the same as it is to-day, although there are one or two notable features absent from present-day rejoicings, notably the visits of the "guisers," who, in fantastic habiliments, were wont to go on their "begging" expeditions from door to door, announcing themselves in such homely language as

"Get up, guidwife, and ope the door,
Here come the guisers; never here before."

It is needless to say that these amateur Gaberlunzies were composed of the youthful element of the community, and as they went their round of the countryside "everything that came into their net was fish," or, at anyrate, anything in the way of provisions that they received was never refused, so that at eventide their mealy bags—pillowslips in some cases—were filled with a mixture of good things ranging from oatmeal in its raw state to chunks of currant bun. The guisers were, however, as a rule philanthropists in disguise, their custom being to distribute the result of their day's work amongst the necessitous poor in the district. This custom was not confined to one particular district alone, being practised throughout the whole of Scotland. These gorgeously-attired wayfarers of a byegone day are known south of the Grampians as "the Goloshans." We can remember the guisers as they went forth on their annual expeditions in the more northerly parts some years ago, and we can assure our readers that they could have given points to "Solomon in all his glory" in the art of "get-up." Clad in white—newspapers converted into the most fantastic robes—they reminded us of nothing so much as bands of Eastern Nomads wandering over the Saharan Desert minus their camels. They have, however, ceased from their wanderings, and with them one more good old custom has died out.

BONFIRES IN INVERNESS.

An old-time Hogmanay custom in Inverness among the youthful fraternity was the kindling of bonfires on the streets, but this is a practice which has also died out, one of the reasons doubtless being that it would not be tolerated by the authorities now. One of the older residents of Inverness informs us that it was no uncommon thing to see huge bonfires blazing on the principal thoroughfares on New Year's morning. A favourite spot for such conflagrations was the "gushet" at the junction of Academy and Church Streets, and he has even seen barrels of tar thrown into the blaze.

"AYE DRAM, DRAMIN'."

A remarkable feature of the festivities is that many who seldom taste liquor are nothing loth to imbibe rather too freely on New Year's Day, while others who are "aye dram, dramin'" are usually on what—in their own phraseology—they call "a sober tack" on that day. This is one of the phases of the liquor problem which is difficult to understand, but which is nevertheless an absolute fact. It is just possible that the dawn of a New Year suggests the turning over of a new leaf to the man who usually partakes freely. By such an one the advice of the Highland minister to one of his parishioners, a shepherd (as related by the Rev. David Macrae) would doubtless be welcome—"Railly, Hugh," he said, "you must give up this dram, draming. I don't ask you to abstain altogether from the mercies of Gawd. You may take a dram before going out to the hills in the morning to keep out the cold, and you may take a dram when ye come in to gie you an appetite for your brochan. And you may take perhaps a dram before going to the hills again, and, of course, you can take a dram or two efter dinner, and another at supper, and one before ye go to bed, but really, Hugh, ye must gie up aye dram, dramin'." The advice of the divine may not have been in accordance with the principles of total abstinence, his idea being to wean his parishioner from drink by "degrees." Enough of this drink question, however. It is so associated, as we have already stated, with the New Year festivities that it is difficult to speak of one without in some way alluding to the other.

"THE EVER-EBBING TIDE."

'Mid all the gay festivities of Yuletide, we would do well to remember, in the words of Dougal, that—

"There is a ceaseless ebbing tide
Whose stream, relentless, knows no upward flowing;
The boat upon its current may not bide,
But ever hurrying down the track 'tis going;
Not even an eddy marks this mighty river,
Whose deep mysterious waves move downward ever."

"THE GARDEN."

CONCERT BY MR MILLER'S CHORAL SOCIETY.

An appreciative audience assembled in the Queensgate Hall on Monday evening to listen to an excellent musical programme submitted by Mr D. Miller's Choral Society. The first part consisted of a pastoral cantata entitled "The Garden," written by Erica, and set to music by Roland Rogers, Mus. Doc., Oxon. It is needless to state that the parts were throughout rendered with splendid harmony, indicating careful training on the part of the popular conductor, Mr Miller. The pathetic story of the piece is founded on a garden surrounding an ancient hall, which is the favourite resort of Brian, Violet, and Cyril. Violet, the only child of Brian (an artist), watches and tends the flowers while her father devotes himself to art. Cyril lingers near them, hoping to win the love of Violet, and to make her his bride; but, though she returns his love, her affections are rooted in her father and home. The artist values his daughter's devotion, but gently urges her to wed Cyril, knowing in his secret heart that his own death is near. The lovers are betrothed, and Brian rejoices with the villagers in the garden; then, at close of day, he dies under his favourite plane-tree; and, after mourning for his loss, Violet and Cyril are united, and henceforth cherish the garden as his grave. The part of Violet was effectively rendered by Mrs Miller (soprano), who, by her sweet solos, called forth unbounded applause. Mr Miller (tenor), in the role of Cyril, made himself conspicuous by his cultured singing of that part. The part of Brian was skilfully performed by Mr J. Mackenzie (bass). The trio appeared in a "Melody Divine and Calm," and did ample justice to the music. The second part of the programme was of a miscellaneous nature, and included some pleasing overtures by the orchestra, viz., "Guy Mannering," "Killiecrankie," and "La Dame Blanche." All three were highly appreciated by the audience. Particularly worthy of note was the trio sung with excellent effect by Mrs Miller, Miss Maclennan, and Mr Miller entitled "Memory." The violin solos of Mr Alcorn were exquisitely sweet, with the result that he had to respond to enthusiastic encores. The orchestra under his leadership also gave a good account of itself. Miss Mitchell performed the duties of accompanist in an efficient manner, while Mr W. S. Kemp presided at the organ with equal satisfaction.

"A NICHT WI' BURNS."

MISS JEAN HOWISON'S LECTURE-RECITAL.

On Monday evening Miss Jean Howison, of Perth, gave a most entertaining and instructive lecture-recital in the Music Hall entitled "A Nicht wi' Burns." The chair was occupied by Provost Arthur D. Ross, who briefly introduced the lecturer. Miss Howison, who is an enthusiastic admirer of Burns and his works, is, as her name indicates, a Scotchwoman, being a native of Perth. She has, however, travelled extensively in many lands, a great portion of her life being spent 'neath the folds of the "Stars and Stripes," and we learn that there are few Scotch Societies of any importance between the Atlantic and Pacific seaboards that she has not lectured to, taking as her theme the life and works of the ploughman bard. Those who listened to Miss Howison on Monday evening could not help being impressed with the fresh light which she threw upon a subject which, though old, is yet ever new to those who love their native land. Possessed of a pleasing platform presence, a clear, ringing musical voice, coupled with a thorough mastery of her subject, which she expounds to her audience in the most elegant diction, Miss Howison is undoubtedly one of the most cultured lady lecturers we have ever had the pleasure of listening to. During the course of her lecture, with excellent elocutionary effect, she favoured the audience with the following extracts from the works of the poet, viz., "The Cottar's Saturday Night," "Tam o' Shanter," "Man was made to Mourn," "A Man's a Man for a' that," "To the Unco Guid," "Epistle to Davie," "Advice to Andrew," "The Braw Wooer," "Duncan Gray," "To Mary in Heaven," and "Scott's Greeting to Burns," a remarkably clever allegory written on the statues of Scott, Burns, and Shakespeare in the Central Park, New York. Miss Howison was frequently applauded during the course of her lecture, which was throughout of a most eloquent and patriotic nature. Provost Ross, in moving a vote of thanks to Miss Howison, spoke in high terms of the excellency of the lecturer's entertainment, and of the admirable manner in which she portrayed the life of the bard. Miss Howison briefly replied, thanking the audience for their patronage.

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who has tried Holdroyd's Gravel Pills what they think of them. They're bound to say they are a positive cure for Lumbago, Gravel, Pains in the Back, Wind, Dropsy, Gout, Kidney Disease, &c. Try one box, 1s 1½d, all Chemists. Post free, 12 stamps. Holdroyd's Medical Hall, Cleckheaton, Yorks.

SERIOUS FIRE ON HIGH STREET.

HEAVY DAMAGES.

A most alarming outbreak of fire occurred in the premises of Messrs Macdonald & Mackenzie, drapers, High Street, on Monday afternoon, the stock and fittings being almost entirely destroyed. It appears that about one o'clock one of the partners went into the shop and discovered that there was a leakage of gas. An attempt was made to discover it, and accordingly a young man named Mackintosh, one of the assistants, lit a match in order to try the socket of the gasalier nearest the door of the shop, with the result that there was a loud explosion. There was a hurried exit of the employees with the exception of one young lady, who became so alarmed that she was unable to make her escape, and remained in the back premises in a stupefied condition. Mr Macdonald, on learning this, rushed gallantly through the flames and succeeded in rescuing her. Another young lady assistant in the front shop fainted on hearing the explosion, and had to be carried out. The Fire Brigade were on the scene in a few minutes, and, under Firemaster Treasurer, succeeded in checking the progress of the flames. The excitement on the street when the fire was at its height was intense, and fears were entertained that the conflagration would spread to the adjoining buildings. We understand that the stock was insured for £1500 with the Caledonian Insurance Company, Aberdeen, and it is estimated that the loss will be something like £2000, including the damage to the buildings. Much sympathy is felt with Messrs Macdonald & Mackenzie, who had their premises beautifully laid out with a magnificent array of seasonable goods.

CAMPBELL'S MUSICAL INSTRUMENT WAREHOUSE.—Among the music warehouses in Glasgow there is no one more popular than Campbell & Co.'s, and a visit to the wholesale warehouse at East Howard Street, and the equally important establishment at 116 Trongate, shows the hold which music has upon the affections of the people, and also is proof of the ever-increasing demand for musical instruments. A glance at Mr Campbell's illustrated and tastefully got-up catalogue reveals the fact that he is prepared to supply musical instruments of all descriptions. At the present time there is a boom in gramophones, the demand for these instruments increasing day by day. Mr Campbell has in stock gramophones, phonographs, and talking machines by all the makers of standing and reputation, and can offer instruments which appeal to the most critical of musicians, as well as to everybody who enjoys a good story well told, or a good song well sung. The list includes the "Wonder" gramophone, the "Eureka," the "Columbia," the "Disc," the Edison phonograph, and others too numerous to detail. Musical boxes should also prove a source of enjoyment, and mouth organs and harmoniums are to be had in great variety. Campbell's melodeons are well enough known, and do not require any recommendation, and thousands of testimonials from all parts of the world prove their merit. It has been truly said that they have been the means of cheering the hearth of many a humble home, and certainly their price places them within the reach of everyone. A look through Mr Campbell's interesting catalogue or a personal call at 116 Trongate is the best means of becoming acquainted with the excellent stock of instruments.

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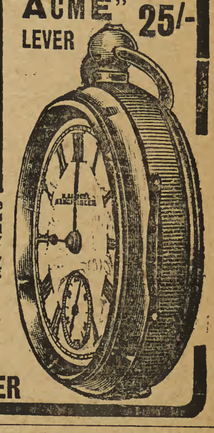
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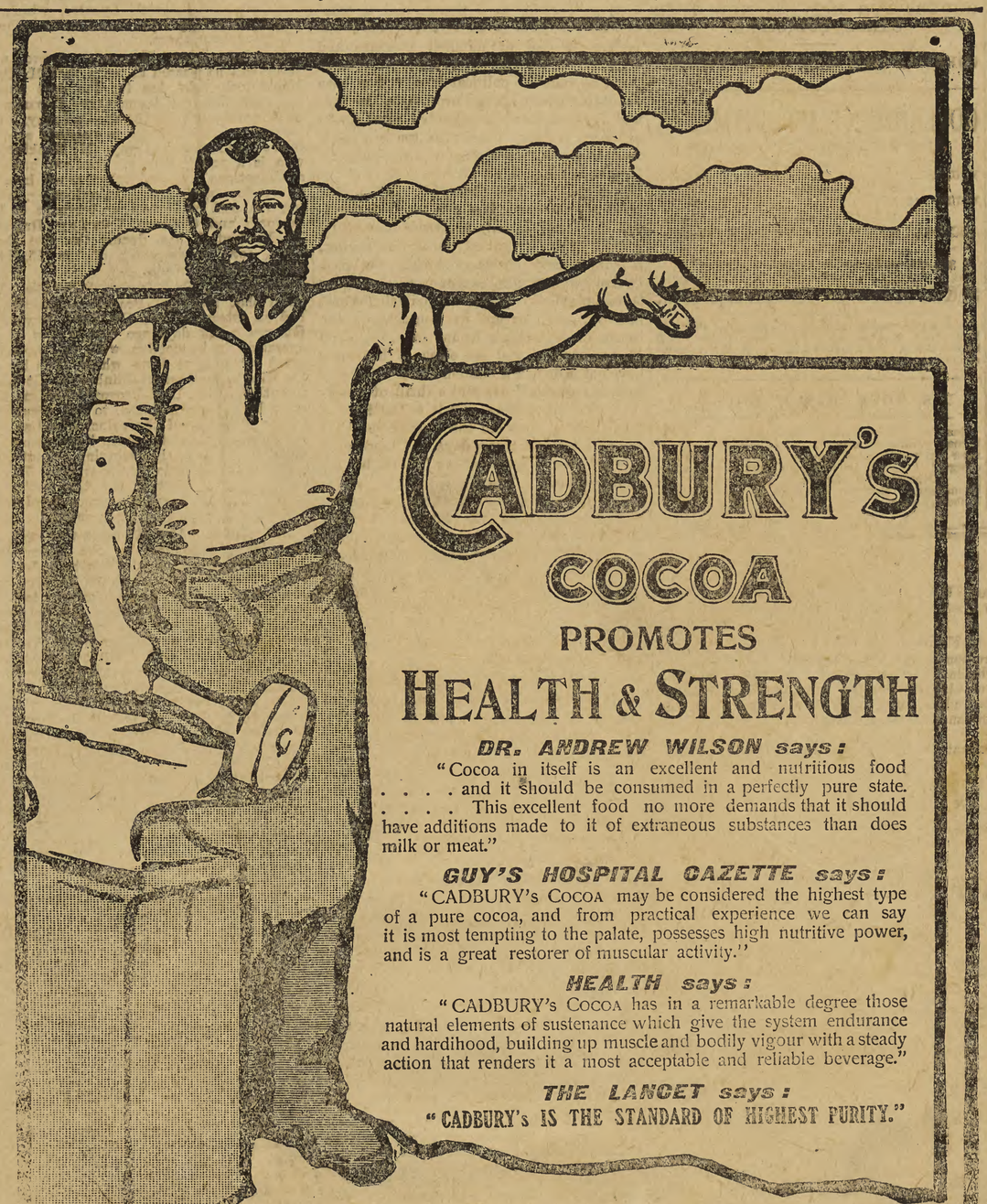
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The Highland News

INVERNESS, Saturday, Dec. 26, 1903.

SUMMARIES.

Sayings of Jesus, deciphered from the papyrus discovered at Behnaseh, were made known yesterday.

The death is announced in his 44th year of Mr C. L. Orr-Ewing, M.P. for Ayr Burghs.

According to the "Toronto Globe," the Canadian Government is about to open negotiations for the purchase of Greenland from Denmark.

Dr Grant, Ballachulish, had a telegram on Saturday from his Edinburgh agents, Messrs Macpherson & Mackay, stating that he was at liberty to practice his profession whenever and wherever he liked.

Dr Robertson Nicoll has discovered that Mr John Morley is half a Scot. His great-grandfather on his mother's side was the Rev. Duncan Maccallum, a native of Arrochar, who was called by John Wesley into the Wesleyan ministry in 1775. Dr Nicoll adds—"The Scottish Highlanders at all events"—and we may say Argyllshire Celts in particular—"will be proud that Mr Morley is of their number, and he need not fear any loss of popularity in the Montrose Burghs."

JAPAN AND RUSSIA.

Affairs in the Far East still wear an ugly look. Appearances may, however, be deceptive. Japan is insistent in its desire to go to war; Russia is reticent and retiring. Peace between the two Powers, or at any-rate a truce, is, however, regarded as a matter susceptible of easy arrangement. It would be easier still if Japan could place any kind of confidence in Russian promises. That involves too much credence. What Japan demands is that whilst Korea is recognised as a Japanese sphere of influence, Russia shall give effect to her solemn undertaking to keep the "open door" in Manchuria. That is precisely what Russia does not want to acknowledge, and if her army forces were adequate (which, happily, are not) Russia would unquestionably go to war in order to assert her title to an undisputed open space in the Pacific. But Russia is unprepared and is dallying, and there may be no war after all. If war does break out, Great Britain and France must, of necessity, be closely involved. A conflict between Japan and Russia could not be confined to Far Eastern seas. That makes and spells the difficulty. Involved this country must be, if there is war. But there are many and obvious reasons why the present moment should not be selected as opportune for the outbreak of hostilities—the outbreak of economic heresies and Fiscal bargaining. Very few people have studied the situation. Those who have done so fully realise that whilst Russia has her hands full in other quarters of the globe Japan is not likely to assume the responsibility of making war inevitable. Russia is playing a game of "bluff"—and in her fully recognised game of stratagem she may probably succeed—if one may judge by the current and direction of local opinion. The most competent authorities—those who are best able to estimate the relative forces of the two nationalities—believe that in any immediate struggle Japan must inevitably win.

THE DYING YEAR.

It seems but yesterday since we last greeted one another with the time-worn salutation "A Happy New Year." We then stood on the threshold of the present year, and, as we hailed 1903, as in its infancy it made its debut to an unfeeling world, our hopes were high as to its possibilities. We now stand within measurable distance of its bier, and, while as a nation and a community we take a backward glance, the feeling is one of mingled pleasure and regret. It is true that from a national point of view the political horizon has been somewhat obscured, and even now the haze and fogs have not completely cleared away, although we may expect to see ere many months a complete change of atmosphere on the banks of the Thames — within St Stephen's. If the disturbing voice of the Brummagem orator has been heard throughout the land, happily his words carry little weight. The sword of the British soldier, if not entirely sheathed during the past twelve months, has, as compared with the three previous years, remained almost inactive, and, except in Somaliland, the tramp of Britannia's armed men, the boom of her cannon, and the clash of her arms have not been heard in alien lands. "The cry from Macedonia" has sent a thrill of horror through Christendom, and it is the fervent prayer of all that ere the coming year has run its course for many days, the murderous rule of the "terrible Turk" will be for ever curbed. The war cloud, which hangs over the Far East, we hope to see dispelled with the advent of 1904. If the country, from a commercial point of view, has not "gone up by leaps and bounds" during the past year, it is gratifying to know that notwithstanding the "back-wash" of the lamentable South African war, trade has been, on the whole, comparatively brisk. In dealing with this subject locally, we regret that we are not able to speak of a successful business year. Trade has, on the whole, been somewhat dull during the past year, but the outlook is now more promising, and we may hope to see better times in the near future. The municipality of the Highland Capital have, within the past twelve months, taken one step forward after a prolonged debate extending over many years: they have in fact, at length decided to step out of the darkness into the light, or in other words, they have elected to adopt the electric light, so that in this respect the present year is a memorable one. At this season of the year the populace, however, scarcely pause to take a retrospective glance, so engrossed are they with the festivities of the Season. As we welcome the new comer on 1st January, let us remember that no matter in what land our kinsmen live the new-born year greets them there, for as Hugh Miller, writing in the early half of last century and during the last moments of a dying year has beautifully said:—

"It has seen Cochin-China, with all its unmapped islands, and the ancient Empire of Japan, with its cities and provinces unknown to Europe. It has heard the roar of a busy population amid the thousand streets of Pekin, and the wild dash of the midnight tides as they fret the rocks of the Indian Archipelago. It has been already with our friends in Hindustan; it has been greeted, we doubt not, with the voice of prayer as the slow iron hand of the city clock indicated its arrival to the missionaries at Madras; it has swept over the fever jungles of the Ganges, where the scaled crocodile startles the thirsty tiger as he stoops to drink, and the exposed corpse of the benighted Hindu floats drearily past. It has travelled over the land of pagodas, and is now entering on the land of mosques. Anon it will see the moon in her wane casting the dark shadows of columned Palmyra over the sands of the desert; and the dim walls of Jerusalem looking out on a silent and solitary land. In two short hours it will be voyaging along the cheerful Mediterranean, greeting the rower in his galley among the Isles of Greece, and the seaman in his barque embayed in the Adriatic. And then, after making the red glare of Etna reflected in the waves that slumber around the moles of Syracuse, after glancing on the towers of the Seven-Hilled City and the hoary snows of the Alps—after speeding over France, over Flanders, over the waves of the German Sea, it will be with ourselves and the tall ghostly tenements of Dunedin will re-echo the shouts of the High Street. Away and away, it will cross the broad Atlantic, and wish watchers in their beacon towers on the deep and the emigrant in his log hut among the brown woods of the West; it will see the fire of the Red Man umbering with its gleam tall trunks and giant branches in some deep glade of the forest; and then mark, on the far shores of the Pacific, the rugged bear stalking sullenly over the snow. Away, and away, and the vast Globe shall be girdled by the zone of the new-born year."

To our readers, advertisers, subscribers, and to all who have in any way helped us during the course of 1903 we wish

A HAPPY AND PROSPEROUS NEW YEAR.

An appreciative article on the late Colour-Sergeant John Graham will be found on page 7.

Mr J. P. Grant of Rothiemurchus will preside at the forthcoming dinner of the Inverness Gaelic Society.

The workmen employed in the Locomotive Department of the Highland Railway Company at Inverness will cease work for the New Year holidays on Thursday first, 31st inst., at 1 p.m., and resume again at 6 a.m. on Thursday, the 7th prox.

EX-COUNCILLOR George Young, who is leaving Inverness next week for South Africa, will deliver an address on "David's devotedness to God," in the Music Hall on Sunday, at the evening service of the Salvation Army, 6.30 p.m.

APPOINTMENT.—We are pleased to note that Mr D. Ross, for ten years assistant in the Inverness Railway Station Bookstall, has been appointed to the charge of Messrs Menzies & Co.'s bookstall in Dundee East Station. This is one of the most important bookstalls on Messrs Menzies' system, and Mr Ross's many friends will be pleased to learn of his promotion.

CAB ACCIDENT.—A cab accident of an alarming nature occurred in Ardross Terrace on Tuesday evening. It appears that while a cab was being driven along Ness Walk the horse suddenly shied, and came in contact with a tree guard, with the result that the cab was overturned. The driver was thrown to the ground, but happily escaped without injury. The occupant of the cab also escaped unhurt, although the cab was seriously damaged.

THE TOWN HALL IN SUGAR.—Messrs Burnett Brothers, confectioners, High Street, Inverness, have secured quite an attraction for their season's display in a model of the Town Hall executed in sugar. All the architectural features of this handsome edifice are well brought out, while the "piping" of the various decorations is executed in a manner which shows a master hand. The model is the work of one of Messrs Burnett's employees, and was entirely executed on the premises.

A UNIQUE CHRISTMAS CARD.—We quote the following paragraph from the Glasgow "Evening Times":—"They have smart men among the Seaforths now at Fort-George. We have got a well-printed Christmas card from the depot, the drawings on which are designed by Colour-Sergeant James Hay. The outer walls bear the badge of the regiment, with pictures of the fort and a couple of soldiers in garrison and in field dress. The inside has some funny studies of the holiday doings of Tommy Atkins."

THORNBUSH INN—TRANSFER OF LICENSE.—At a special meeting of the Magistrates held on Tuesday, the license of the Thornbush Inn, formerly held by Mr James Mackintosh, was transferred to Mr Roderick Nicolson, late of Portree. Mr John Smith Fraser, of Messrs Fraser & Maccallum, solicitors, appeared on behalf of Mr Nicolson, and stated that the applicant had long been employed in the licensing trade, including five years in Glasgow. Thereafter he purchased the Commercial Hotel, Lybster, which he sold about a year later to a brother, who is still proprietor there.

PROMOTION OF RAILWAY OFFICIAL.—Many will be pleased to learn that Mr Dun. Mackintosh, who has for the past twelve years served in the Accountants' Department of the Highland Railway Company, has received an appointment as assistant accountant of the Mersey Railway. Mr Mackintosh, who is a young man of excellent business qualifications, has also taken much interest in out-door sport and in volunteering, holding the post of Signalling Sergeant in the Seaforth and Cameron Volunteer Brigade. Mr Mackintosh has, during the past three years, acted as secretary of the Clachnacuddin Football Club.

PROPOSED EDINBURGH REVIEW.—We learn that the Lord Provost of Edinburgh had an interview with the Lord Provost of Glasgow a few days ago with a view to co-operation in connection with the projected great review next June, which, it is hoped, the King will attend in Edinburgh. It is the intention of the Lord Provost when matters are a little more matured, to call a meeting of the Provosts of the principal cities and towns of Scotland to invite their assistance and co-operation in bringing about the success of the occasion. General Sir Charles Tucker, it is believed, has the matter in hand, and it is hoped that some word from the King may soon be forthcoming.

FORTHCOMING EDUCATIONAL CONGRESS.—The annual Congress of the Educational Institute of Scotland which is to be held in the Inverness Town Hall on Tuesday and Wednesday is being looked forward to with much interest by all those interested in educational matters. The opening addresses will be delivered by Mr Thomas D. Wallace, while among those who will take part will be Sir Robert Finlay, the Attorney-General, and Mr R. C. Munro-Ferguson of Novar, M.P. On Tuesday the members will be welcomed by Provost Arthur D. Ross, the Chairman of the Burgh School Board, the Chairman of the Royal Academy Board, and the Chairman of the Secondary Education Committee of Inverness-shire. The Town Council will hold a reception and conversazione in the afternoon, and the Congress dinner will be held in the Palace Hotel at night; breakfast in the same place on Wednesday morning; ladies' "At Home" in the afternoon; conversazione and reception by the Burgh School Board in the Music Hall at night, followed by an assembly in the Northern Meeting Rooms.

UNITED FREE EAST CHURCH—BIBLE CLASS ANNUAL "AT HOME."—The members of the United Free East Church Bible Class held their annual "At Home" in the Church Hall on Tuesday evening. Mr James Ross presided over a large gathering of members and their friends. Tea having been served, the chairman apologised for the absence of the Rev. A. Cameron, who was to have taken the chair, but intimated that he would be present before the meeting closed. The programme, which was a long one, included solos by Misses L. Calder and B. Fraser, and Messrs G. A. Cameron, B. Cameron, Brickmann and Armstrong. Duets by Misses Macrae and Skinner and Misses Fraser and Maclean, also a violin duet by Messrs Fraser and Beagrie. Miss Cameron acted as accompanist. A short but very interesting address was delivered by Professor Mackenzie, of Madras College. The Rev. A. Cameron remarked that the average attendance at the class this year was much above the usual. The Chairman proposed a hearty vote of thanks to all who had taken part in the programme, and also to the Committee. Rev. Mr Millar proposed a vote of thanks to the Chairman, after which the meeting closed.

For continuation of Local News see page 8.

HIGHLAND MANSION-HOUSE FIRE.

HISTORIC BUILDING TOTALLY DESTROYED.

By a fire which broke out late on Thursday night the historic mansion of Balavil, three miles north of Kingussie, was totally destroyed, together with much of its valuable contents. Built originally for James Macpherson, of Ossian's poems celebrity, it afterwards came by inheritance into the family of Principal Sir David Brewster, who was married to one of Macpherson's daughters. The descendant assumed the additional name of Macpherson, the present proprietor, Mr Charles Brewster-Macpherson, having succeeded about 30 years ago. The edifice was a very large one, and for beauty of situation was considered unequalled on Speyside, or even in the Central Highlands. The house was completely gutted. Much valuable property was saved, but the splendid library, which contained many of Principal Brewster's manuscripts, was destroyed. The fire is supposed to have originated above the kitchen range, and before it was noticed had obtained such a hold that the building was doomed.

INSTALLATION OF ELECTRIC LIGHT.

Messrs Edmunson's Electricity Corporation, London, has, we understand, now signed the contract for the installation of electric light in Inverness, and that the work will be proceeded with early next year. The terms of the contract are the same as already published, it being understood that the Company have to pay to the Town Council the sums expended in connection with the Council's former operations under the Order, including engineers' fees. These sums, we believe, amount, with accrued interest, to about £2400. The contract contains technical stipulations under which the contractors agree to relieve the Town Council of any liability, under the order, to employees and to the public, for accidents, &c.; and for giving the necessary notices, for lodging the annual statement of accounts, and providing copies of them for the use of the public, as well as for the commencement and completion of the works. It is understood that the contractors intend to form a limited liability company for the purpose of carrying on the work of lighting the town, but they are bound by their contract to execute and complete the whole works themselves, and to be responsible to the Town Council until the works are completed.

ALARMING CARRIAGE ACCIDENT.

ONE MAN INJURED.

Yesterday afternoon about one o'clock one of the most alarming accidents which ever occurred in Inverness took place. It appears that while a brougham was being driven across the Suspension Bridge in the direction of Bridge Street the horses bolted, with the result that John Macleod, a sweeper in the employment of the Cleansing Department, who was pursuing his vocation beneath the arch of the bridge, was knocked down and dragged for a distance of twenty-five yards, receiving a severe shock, while his head was seriously bruised. Medical aid was at once obtained, and he was removed to the Infirmary, where his injuries were immediately attended to. He is, we learn, now making satisfactory progress. When the horses reached the top of Bridge Street they swerved round to the left, making a wide circle, and almost dashed up against the corner of Mr P. G. Wilson's premises. At this point a lady who was in the carriage was assisted on to the pavement by two gentlemen; but although every effort was made to control the animals it was of no avail, and they continued their headlong flight along Church Street, Chapel Street, Waterloo Place, across Waterloo Bridge on to Grant Street, up Lochalsh Road, Telford Street and Kenneth Street, and it was not until they reached Ness Walk that they were brought to a standstill by Constables Duncan Macdonald and Donald Macpherson, who pluckily stepped out into the roadway and, seizing the animals by the heads, clung to them until they halted. Considering the number of people on the streets at the time, and the distance which the runaway animals covered, the marvel is that more serious injury was not done. While on Chapel Street the pole of the machine "snapped," which made the situation doubly dangerous for the driver—Duncan Macrae—who stuck to the "dicky" with wonderful presence of mind, held a firm grip of his reins, and thus kept the animals well in the centre of the thoroughfares.

CHURCH SERVICES TO-MORROW.

The pulpits of our local churches will be occupied to-morrow by the following clergymen:—

HIGH CHURCH—11 a.m., Very Rev. Dr Norman Macleod; 6.30 p.m., Rev. Johnston Oliphant.

GAELIC PARISH CHURCH (ST MARY'S)—11 a.m. (Gaelic) and 6.30 p.m. (English).

ST STEPHEN'S CHURCH, OLD EDINBURGH ROAD—11 and 6.30 p.m., Rev. A. R. Howell.

WEST PARISH CHURCH—11 a.m., Rev. John Macechern, of Bower; 6.30 p.m., service of praise, Rev. Gavin Lang presiding.

UNITED FREE HIGH CHURCH—11 a.m., and 6.30 p.m., Rev. Dr Black.

UNITED FREE EAST CHURCH—11 a.m., and 6.30 p.m., Rev. Allan Cameron.

CROWN UNITED FREE CHURCH.—11 a.m. and 6.30 p.m., Rev. Wm. Todd, M.A.

UNITED FREE WEST CHURCH—11 a.m. and 6.30 p.m., Rev. D. Connell, M.A.

QUEEN STREET UNITED FREE CHURCH—Gaelic at 11 a.m.; English 2 and 6.30 p.m., Rev. Mr Grant.

NESS BANK UNITED FREE CHURCH.—11 a.m. and 6.30 p.m., Rev. Chas. Robson, M.A.

FRASER STREET CHURCH—Gaelic at 11; English, 2 and 6.30 p.m., Rev. D. Macgillivray, B.D., Petty.

WESLEYAN METHODIST CHURCH.—11 a.m. and 6.30 p.m., Rev. Arthur Reeve.

BAPTIST CHURCH.—11 a.m., Mr Corner; 6.30 p.m., Mr Rankin.

FREE NORTH CHURCH—11 a.m. and 6.30 p.m., Rev. Murdo Mackenzie.

CATHEDRAL CHURCH OF ST ANDREW—11 a.m., Most Rev. the Primus; 6.30 p.m., Rev. Vernon Staley.

ST JOHN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH, SOUTHSIDE ROAD.—11 a.m. and 6.30 p.m., Rev. Walter Jenks, M.A.

CHAPEL OF THE HOLY SPIRIT, KING STREET—11 a.m. and 6.30 p.m., Rev. W. L. Mackintosh.

ST MARY'S ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH—11 a.m., Rev. Father Macqueen; 6.30 p.m., Rev. Father Keenan.

Readers will please note that the above list is compiled in the course of the week, so that we cannot be held responsible for any alterations that may take place in the interval.

EDUCATION OF CHILDREN.—In the Inverness Sheriff Court on Wednesday—Hon. Sheriff Marshall Brown presiding—Mrs Nancy Williamson, Thomas Craigens, and Hugh Coyle, all residing in Inverness, who were charged some four weeks ago with neglecting to send their children to school, and whose cases were then adjourned, again appeared in the dock. Mr Scott, Clerk of the Board having explained that in the interval the attendance of the children had been satisfactory, Sheriff Brown dismissed the accused parents with an admonition.

COAGULINE. Transparent Cement for broken articles.

CHRISTMAS ENTERTAINMENTS

IN INVERNESS.

On the eve of Christmas the weather was very mild, and was in no way indicative of what is usually associated with the near approach of Father Christmas and the soft-footed, heavily-burdened, and kind-hearted Santa Claus. As the midnight hour pealed out from the Steeple it was listened to by very few on the streets. Indeed the surroundings could in no way be taken as indicative of the coming of a great festal day in the calendar. The shop windows were, in some cases. very beautifully done up with holly, mistletoe and other decorative material. and the merchants did a very brisk business. The Post Office and railway officials have passed through a busy time. and they have merited the thanks of the entire community for the manner in which they carried through all arrangements. When we mention that yesterday our postmen delivered 1407 parcels in town our readers will realise the magnitude of the task the P.O. officials have had to face day by day at this season. Needless to state that the work was cheerfully undertaken and courteously carried through by the at all doors ever-welcome postman. One noticeable feature this year is the decay of the Christmas card as known some years ago, and its substitution by the picture post-card and parcels. The latter shows that the present generation are wiser, in one respect at least, than their fathers, for who would not prefer a good-sized parcel to the best Christmas card that ever left the hands of its makers. Many entertainments took place during Christmas Day, and many deeds of charity were witnessed by our reporting staff. The following reports show that few of our larger institutions were forgotten by local philanthropists, who vied with one another in ministering to the wants of their less fortunate brethren.

AT THE HIGHLAND ORPHANAGE.

The customary festivities were indulged in at the Highland Orphanage yesterday, when the children were entertained to a well-served Christmas dinner. The little ones very highly appreciated the kindness extended to them. A pleasant evening was afterwards spent as befitting the occasion. Several of the directors and other influential gentlemen visited the Orphanage during the day to wish the children a merry Christmas.

AT THE INSTITUTE FOR THE BLIND.

Yesterday, through the usual liberality of Canon and Mrs Brook, the inmates and workers connected with the Northern Counties Institute for the Blind were treated to a sumptuous Christmas dinner. The dinner was held in the hall of the Institute, which was prettily decorated for the occasion. Mr Duncan Shaw, W.S., presided, and was accompanied by Canon Brook, Rev. Dr Norman Macleod, Rev. Gavin Lang, Mr Souter of the Commercial Bank, Mr Moore, and Mr Mackenzie, superintendent. The ladies present were—Mrs and the Misses Souter, Mrs and Miss Moir, Mrs and Miss Mackenzie, and Miss Baptie. The dinner, which consisted of turkey, roast beef, and other good things was done ample justice to. Spirited and sympathetic addresses were delivered by the Chairman, Canon Brook, and Rev. Dr Macleod. A hearty vote of thanks was, on the motion of the Chairman, accorded to Canon and Mrs Brook for their kindness, and a similar compliment was paid to the chairman for presiding. At the conclusion of the speeches a most enjoyable time was spent by the company in the usual after-dinner manner—pulling crackers, &c., and the blind as heartily enjoyed imagining the amusing appearance of one of their number in a paper hat as those who looked on. On the whole, the Christmas gathering of 1903 was voted equal to any of its predecessors, and much credit is due to Miss Baptie and Mr Mackenzie, superintendent, for the able manner in which the arrangements were carried out.

THE NORTHERN INFIRMARY.

A most enjoyable entertainment was given to the inmates of the Northern Infirmary on Christmas Eve. The entertainment took place in the medical ward, when a good attendance of ladies and gentlemen, as well as the majority of the patients, were present. Provost A. D. Ross occupied the chair. The proceedings were opened by the singing of the 100th Psalm, after which Rev. Gavin Lang offered prayer. Provost Ross in a few opening remarks referred to the benevolent nature of the entertainment, and he earnestly trusted that they would heartily enjoy themselves. The following programme was then gone through:—Piano selections, Mrs Logan; song, Miss Nicholson; song, Dr Cullum; banjo and piano acompaniment, Misses Murray and Moir; song, Miss Ross. Rev. John Macechern, Bower, in his usual excellent style, gave an amusing dialogue entitled "The Bazaar," which, needless to state, was heartily appreciated by all present. Hymn, "Hark! the Herald Angels sing;" piano selections, Mrs Logan; song, Dr Cullum; Paraphrase, "O God of Bethel." A short address was delivered by Dr Alex. Ross, in which he referred to the usefulness of the institution, and to the excellent treatment received therein. Before the close of the proceedings Dr Affleck, attired in the character of "Father Christmas," entered the ward and expressed his deep gratitude to all who had so kindly come to entertain "his children"—(applause). He then presented each patient with a present. Great enthusiasm prevailed in the children's ward when the stately old gentleman entered with his basket of presents. After the customary votes of thanks had been accorded, Rev. Dr Black pronounced the benediction, and the proceedings terminated.

AT THE POORHOUSE.

Yesterday afternoon the inmates of the Inverness Poorhouse sat down to a sumptuous repast, composed of turkey, roast beef, and potatoes, plum pudding, &c., provided by Mr and Mrs James Anderson, Hilton, with their usual kindness and generosity. The large dining hall in which the company sat was beautifully and tastefully decorated with evergreens, a conspicuous feature of the decorations being two handsome models in fret-work, executed by Mr Alex. Fraser, the house porter, the one being a representation of an Eastern temple, and the other a miniature reproduction of St Paul's Cathedral. The designs. which were admired by those present, reflect much credit upon Mr Fraser, who has, we learn, already won several prizes at industrial exhibitions with his work. One of the most interesting personalities in connection with the institution is Mr Macphail, the chaplain, who in five weeks will have attained the patriarchal age of 99 years, and is still hale and hearty. The function also proved a memorable one, in so far that it will be the last occasion upon which Mr and Mrs Macfie—who have so ably managed the institution for the past 43 years—will appear in their official capacity. Among the inmates who gathered around the festive board were many who had seen better days, some of whom held important positions in life, while those who had served their Queen and country were also there, notable among this class being an old Crimean veteran and a Majuba hero.

The chair was occupied by Mr James Anderson, and among those present we observed—Mr Robert Thomson, chairman of the Parish Council; Mr J. C. M'Ewen, Trafford Bank, chairman of the Poorhouse Board; Rev. Gavin Lang, West Parish Church; Rev. Murdo Mackenzie, Free North Church; Mr Maclennan, Bridge Street; Mr Lee Innes, Milnfield; Mr A. K. Findlater, Mr David Munro, solicitor; Mr D. Munro Fraser, H.M.S. Inspector of Schools; Mr Hugh Fraser, Inspector of Poor; Mr Macphail, chaplain; Mr and Mrs Macfie, and Mr J. D. Macfie.

ExBailie Maclennan, in addressing the inmates, said they ought to be very grateful first to the Giver of all good for the bounteous repast, and then to Mr and Mrs Anderson, who out of the goodness of their heart have for many years provided a Christmas feast to the inmates of the institution. Mr Maclennan then spoke of the festive season and its hallowed associations, and concluded by referring to the interest taken by the Parish Council and its officials in the inmates of the Poorhouse, and impressing upon them the fact that they had reached another milestone on the road of life.

Rev. Murdo Mackenzie, who was the next speaker, delivered an eloquent and impressive address upon the solemnity of the occasion. He expressed pleasure at seeing that Mr Macphail, their veteran chaplain, was still spared to them, and he hoped that the inmates would lay to heart his excellent teaching—(applause). They had also present with them Mr James Anderson, who had ever proved a kind and generous friend to them, and it was the fervent hope of all that he might long be spared to attend their annual dinners—(applause).

Mr Thomson said that they had reached another stage on the journey of life. Old Father Christmas was with them once more, notwithstanding the great opposition which he has had from Church and State, and with him he had brought his usual good cheer. To Mr Anderson they were indebted for a very long time for their Christmas feast, and to him was due their best thanks—(applause).

Rev. Gavin Lang and Mr Macewen also briefly addressed the inmates, counselling them to be of good cheer.

Mr Anderson expressed the pleasure which it gave him to be present, while at the same time wishing them the compliments of the season. He thereafter made several presentations to the inmates.

On the motion of Mr Lee Innes a hearty vote of thanks was awarded to Mr and Mrs Anderson. while at the call of an inmate those around the table got up and gave three lusty cheers for their benefactors. Mr A. K. Findlator. in moving a vote of thanks to Mr and Mrs Macfie. spoke of their long connection with the institution and their admirable management of it—(applause).

Mr Macfie. in replying on behalf of Mrs Macfie and himself. spoke of the pleasure it gave them during their long connection with the institution to do all they possibly could for the comfort of those under their care—(applause).

The following presents were announced. viz.:—Misses Macdonald. Hillpark, and Mr Hendry. Ardross Street, buns and tea and sugar all the year round for the sick; Mrs Roderick Scott and Mrs Warner. presents and attention to sick during year; Mrs W. L. Carruthers. toys and sweets; the Young Christian Endeavour Society, sweets for the young; Raigmore, a large quantity of tobacco and "Graphic" during year; and Mr William Anderson, solicitor. tobacco.

ENTERTAINMENT TO CHILDREN.

Over 100 children were entertained last night in the hall, Raining Stairs, by the members of the Concord Lodge, I.O.G.T. After tea and buns had been distributed ex-Councillor George Young delivered a short address to the children on temperance. An interesting programme of songs, &c., was then gone through. Addresses were also delivered by Messrs Macsloy, Chisholm, and others. The customary votes of thanks terminated the proceedings.

"BRITON" AT HOME.

Last night the men of H.M.S. "Briton" entertained a large number of ladies and gentlemen to an enjoyable "At Home," which took place in the spacious hall of the ship, kindly granted for the occasion by Captain Spearman. The company was hospitably entertained by the "tars." Dancing began at seven o'clock in the evening, and was continued till 9.30, when the company adjourned to partake of a sumptuous repast prepared by their hosts. About thirty couples sat down to supper, presided over by Lieutenant Johnston, R.N. Supper over, dancing was again resumed, and kept up till an early hour this morning. During the course of the evening songs were contributed by several of those present, the singing of Mr Allday, late instructor of H.M.S. "Briton," evoking great enthusiasm. Great praise is due to the organisers, Messrs Brodie and Williamson, for the admirable manner in which matters were arranged, as also to those who so tastefully decorated the ship for the occasion. Messrs White and Tardy acted as M.C.'s in an efficient manner.

ANNUAL SOCIAL MEETING OF Y.M.C.A.

In the hall of the Y.M.C.A. Buildings last night the members and friends of the Young Men's Christian Association celebrated their annual Christmas gathering. Mr Alexander Maclennan, president of the Association, presided, and was accompanied to the platform by Rev. Mr Reeves, Methodist Church; Mr J. Wilson Reid, and Mr Anthony Watt, secretary. After tea had been served the Chairman gave an excellent address, and congratulated the members on the prosperity of the Association during the year. Rev. Mr Reeve and Mr Reid also delivered stirring addresses. An interesting interlude in the programme was the presentation of a dressing-case to Miss Robertson, the accompanist, and of a travelling-bag and walking-stick to Mr Cameron, the conductor of the choir. The presentations were made by the Chairman, and Mr Cameron suitably replied on behalf of himself and Miss Robertson. An excellent programme was sustained during the evening by the choir, and consisted of anthems, quartettes, solos, &c. A most enjoyable evening was spent.

AT THE POST OFFICE.

Perhaps the busiest officials throughout the length and breadth of the land yesterday and preceding days were the Post Office authorities. During the four days, including December 24, the number of parcels dealt with in the parcel department in Inverness was 24,310, an increase of 3550 over last year. During the same period 14,818 parcels were dealt with in the sorting carriages, an increase of 1484. On December 24 334 baskets were received in the parcel department, and 337 despatched. The number of parcels delivered in Inverness on December 24 was 1335, and on Xmas Day 1407. The letter deliveries were very heavy on December 24 and 25, the pictorial post card being much in evidence. To-day the 3.40 p.m. delivery will be suspended, and instead a delivery by postmen at 6.45 p.m. will take place. On Thursday, December 31, there will be deliveries at 8 a.m., 11.30 a.m., 4 p.m., and 7 p.m. On New Year's Day one delivery only will take place at 8 a.m., and the office, with the exception of the money order department, will be open all day for the sale of postage stamps, telegrams, &c.

"WHERE IS MY CALENDAR?"

Inverness housewives generally are much disappointed that the local grocers have decided not to present them with the customary calendar this year, and the result is that the long-suffering shop assistants have to endure a good deal of good-natured banter in connection with the matter.

THE BAILIE'S CHRISTMAS PRESENTS.

Notwithstanding the fact that yesterday was Christmas a goodly number of cases came before Bailie Melven at the Police Court for disorderly conduct. Two young men named Maclean and Wallace were sentenced to pay a fine of 5s or three days' imprisonment for committing a breach of the peace, while a cutler named Macgavin received a similar penalty for being drunk and incapable.

Something like 600 tons of mistletoe was imported from France this year.

A report of the ball held under the auspices of the Citadel F.C. in the Northern Meeting Rooms last night will appear in "The Football Times."

Yesterday the Caledonian F.C. beat the Thistle by 4 goals to 1; while the Inverness shop assistants overcame a team of Dingwall shopkeepers by 1 goal to nil. Full accounts of these matches will appear in to-night's "Football Times."

"SANTA CLAUS."

A TIME-HONOURED VISITOR.

It was, no doubt, with hearts of eager expectation that many of our younger readers as well as other children throughout the country hung up their stockings by the fireside on Christmas Eve in the hope that Santa Claus might call with his plentiful supply of toys. Curious ideas rule amongst the younger generation as to the manner by which the aged visitor reaches their fireside, the old-time belief being that he descends by the chimney. Of course inquisitive youngsters ascertain that St Nicholas must undoubtedly use the latest travelling conveyance, viz., a flying machine, while others adhere that he must necessarily come on his Lapland sledge on account of the many climes he has to pass through. But whatever conveyance Santa Claus may use, the fact still remains that nobody has seen him arrive or depart. In connection with this an amusing story is told to the effect that two children, resident in Inverness, determined last Thursday evening to see the veteran, and accordingly they strewed carpet tacks in front of the fireplace. and then cuddled down in their beds pretending to be asleep. Presently. however. their father (who on this occasion volunteered to fill the office of Santa Claus) peeped in at the door, and thinking the "young 'uns" were asleep, he cautiously stepped over to the fireplace to deposit his goods in their stockings. The effect when he stepped on the tacks may be better imagined than described. We may add that the incident was sufficient to convince those children of the manner in which Santa Claus arrived. The idea, however, prevails more strongly in England than in Scotland of the visit in such a mysterious manner of "Father Christmas." Yet children all over the world look forward with keen interest to

"The night before Christmas, when all through the house
Not a creature is stirring, not even a mouse;
The stockings are hung by the fireside with care
In hope that St Nicholas soon might be here."

SANTA CLAUS CAUGHT BY AN INVERNESS GIRL.

She was only a little tot, barely four years' old—a typical little Highland maiden. She had heard of the benevolence of Santa Claus, however, and with the confidence of childhood she hung up her little stocking on Christmas Eve in expectation of his visit. Imagine her surprise and disappointment on Christmas morning to find that he had passed her by. Disappointment was written on her face, yet she still hoped to see him. On a riverside street yesterday about mid-day she was playing by the doorstep when a kindly-faced, benevolent-looking old gentleman with patriarchal grey beard happened to come her way. In a moment her mind was made up, and rushing half timidly up to the old gentleman, and looking up into his face, said in the sweetest and most child-like tones, "Are oo Sandy Claus?" It is needless to say that the genial old man appreciated the humour of the situation, and drawing his hand from his pocket with a coin of the realm sent the little one away smiling, and in the full belief that she had met Father Christmas.

CHRISTMAS IN DINGWALL.

Christmas enjoyment this year has been much affected in Dingwall through depressing weather and dull trade. The Academy "scaled" on Wednesday for the Christmas holidays, and yesterday all business premises were closed. The weather was frosty and the burgh presented a holiday appearance. Post Office work was again very heavy. especially in parcels, while there is a slight falling off in card greetings. The resources of the officials were taxed to the uttermost. but the work was carried through with the utmost dispatch. The Parish Church and St James' Church. Rev. J. R. Macpherson and Canon Hay Wilson, respectively held appropriate services. At the ranges the local Volunteers Club commenced their annual rifle competition. and. weather being favourable. high scores were registered. The competitions continue for a week. In the evening the annual social meeting of the "Hope of Dingwall" I.O.G.T. was held in presence of a large attendance.

JUST ABOUT TO COME OFF.

In the Music Hall to-night the Pleasant Saturday Evenings have a special free prize drawing. Everyone entering has a chance of a handsome prize, while a splendid programme will also be submitted.

To-night, in the Kindergarten Hall, Academy Street, the Albion minstrels make their first appearance in Inverness. This is a new local combination of much promise, and deserves encouragement, as the minstrel aspect of entertaining is one which can well stand developing.

On New Year's night, in the Northern Meeting Rooms, Miss Alice Todd will hold a grand assembly. A special band, under the conductorship of Bandmaster Andrews, has been engaged. Everything points to a most successful assembly. Miss Todd also resumes her public classes early in January, and names are now being enrolled.

The Theatre Royal re-opens on Monday evening. when Mr C. Watson Mill and Miss Rosalind Tate. with a specially selected London company. will present three plays of which Mr Mill is author—on Monday and Friday nights. "The Seal of Silence;" Tuesday and Wednesday. "Mary Queen of Scots;" Thursday and Saturday, "A Wrecker of Men." Miss Rosalind Tate and Mr Mill will fill the leading roles.

In the Music Hall on Monday a special entertainment will be given by the Macechern family. In addition to this well-known talented family. the following artistes will also appear—Mrs Herbert Woolf. London; Miss M. M. Macechern. Edinburgh; Miss V. Stewart-Richardson. Miss Lang. Miss Wallace. Miss Medlock and Mr Herr Stoltz. A comedietta. entitled "A Case for Eviction," will be presented by Colonel and Mrs Stanley Dobie. while Rev. John Macechern will give a new musical sketch. The entertainment promises to be one of the finest ever presented by this local combination. and from what is known of the assisting artistes it is a safe prophecy to say there will be a bumper house.

On Friday and Saturday next. 1st and 2nd January. 1904. the Music Hall will be occupied by Mr Calder and his cinematograph. The pictures which Mr Calder intends showing on this occasion are all entirely new to Inverness. many of them of most thrilling interest. while others excel in spectacular beauty. In addition to this powerful attraction Mr Calder has engaged an exceptionally good concert company. which includes Miss Marie Jarvis. Miss Dora Lindsay. "Florence" (specialty dancer). Mr Geo. A. Park, and Mr Sammy Shields, renowned comedian. Mr Burwood Nicholls is pianist. Booking is at Logan's. and places are being rapidly taken up.

HOGMANAY ENTERTAINMENTS.

As will be observed from our advertising columns, promenade variety entertainments are to be held in the Music Hall in the afternoon for the children, and in the evening in the Market Hall for adults. The programmes will consist of musical selections by Mr Andrews' band, Highland dancing by well-known artistes, songs (comic and sentimental), to conclude with a panoramic exhibition by the magic-lantern, entitled "A trip to London." As the object of these entertainments is to provide enjoyment for the public, they should not fail of attracting large audiences

NEW-YEAR'S DAY ENTERTAINMENTS.

"The Highland News" Offices will remain open New Year's Day. Those in charge of entertainments on that day would oblige by sending word to office that they will require porter to be present.

BIRD SHOW AT NAIRN YESTERDAY.

LOCAL WINNERS.

The annual bird show took place at Nairn yesterday, there being 403 entries from all parts of the Kingdom. The opening ceremony was performed by Sir Robert Finlay, Attorney-General. The principal prize-winners were:—Cage Birds—Gold medal for best bird in show—R. Falconer, Nairn; silver medal for best Scotch fancy canary—R. Falconer; silver medal for second best Scotch fancy canary—J. B. Johnstone, Inverness; silver medal for most points in any one class—Scotch fancy—R. Falconer; gold pin for most points in Scotch fancy canary class—R. Falconer; silver medal for best Norwich canary—Mr Miller, Forres; second best Norwich canary—Mr Grant, Bught Mills, Inverness; best British bird—Mr Mackenzie, Forres. Pigeons—Challenge cup for best pigeon—Mr Grant, Buckie; second best (medal)—Mr Cruickshank, Forres; medal for best homer—Mr J. Mackenzie, Redfern Terrace, Inverness; medal for best jacobin—Mr Macgillivray, Cawdor; best pouter—Mr Cruickshanks, Forres; most points in pigeons—Mr Macgillivray, Cawdor. Poultry—Silver challenge cup for best Scotch grey—Mr Watson, Home Farm, Cawdor; silver challenge cup for best bird in show—Mrs Davidson, Knockomie, Forres; medal for second best bird—Miss Cameron, Firhall; medal for best white Leghorn—Mr Cumming, Lochdhu; two medals for best Minorca cock and hen—Mr Pearson, Elgin; two medals for best bantams—Mr Sinclair, Forres; medal for best duck or drake—Mr Fraser, Whitebridge. An extended report will appear in to-night's "Football Times."

INVERNESS ARTISTES

BEFORE A DINGWALL AUDIENCE.

On Wednesday evening, within the Masonic Hall, a concert which was deserving of larger patronage came off in Dingwall, the programme being sustained by artistes from Inverness. Owing to the busy season of the year, it could not be expected that the audience would be a large one, but, nevertheless, those who stayed away missed a treat. The programme was in the hands of Mr Alex. Cameron (who formerly was resident in Dingwall), one of Sandow's medallists, and he brought with him a company of talented artistes, including a team of young ladies from Inverness, whose dumbell and Indian club exhibitions were heartily received and highly appreciated. Mr Cameron has already won for himself a reputation in Dingwall as a heavy weight and scientific lifter, and his performances on Wednesday evening greatly enhanced his reputation. Mr Macintyre, who was in charge of the team of young ladies, gave a perfect exhibition of Indian club swinging, and also rendered a song, which was warmly encored. Bagpipe and accordeon selections by Master Charles Cameron and Mr George Urquhart helped in a great measure to enliven the enjoyment of the evening. Miss E. Marshall sang in sweet style "Eulalie," and received the hearty plaudits of the audience, while Miss Emily Marshall was equally well received for her violin selections. The dancing exhibitions by Mr D. G. Brown (who is well known in Dingwall and Inverness as one of our leading northern teachers and dancers) quite captivated the audience. The only regret is that there was not a larger audience, but from the reputation the party have already made in the burgh in this their first appearance ought to ensure for Mr Cameron and his talented company a "bumper" house when he returns.

A CANADIAN'S VIEW

OF MR CHAMBERLAIN'S FISCAL POLICY.

An esteemed correspondent sends us the following letter from across the Atlantic:—

Sir,—The death of Sir Hector Macdonald was a severe blow to Scotchmen, and especially to Highlanders, throughout the world. His memory will be cherished by loyal Scotchmen and others, while his enemies will be forgotten—even by their acquaintances—I venture to say before the grave will hide them from view. I see that Mr Chamberlain has been advocating a change in the fiscal policy of the country. I for one cannot see what

THE OLD COUNTRY HAS TO GAIN

by reverting to protection. It is a sure thing that the working classes will be the losers. After some years' experience in the United States and about twenty-five years in Canada, both Protectionist countries, I fail to see where the working man is going to gain by having his daily food taxed. The Colonies would certainly be the gainers, especially Canada, as this country raises considerable surplus food stuff. Canadians will take all they can get, but they are not willing to give anything in return, and that is quite plain from their attitude towards the British Navy, to which they are not willing to contribute one penny. The Canadian Government and Press lay great stress on the preference given to British goods in Canadian markets. Not one in a thousand understands what is meant by this preference or percentage. In reading 33 and a third per cent. one would be led to believe that they were giving the preference to British goods to the amount of 33 and a third per cent. on the dollar, or say on 4 dollars. As a matter of fact, the Canadian tariff is about 36 per cent. on the dollar. The preference given to British goods is only one-third of 36 per cent. or say 12 cts. on the dollar, and this preference has only been in vogue for the past few years, and was given for the purpose of misleading the British Government, or was intended to lead to what Mr Chamberlain is now advocating, namely, Protection, in order that Canada might have the preference in the British market. Reverting to the British navy, the Canadian shipping, which is very large, is protected in all foreign countries by the British Navy. And British counsels and agents transact all the Canadian business in connection with shipping throughout the world without costing Canada one cent. The Canadian manufacturers are not going to submit to their Chinese wall being pulled down in order that British goods may have free access to the Canadian market, and so far I have not heard anyone proposing such a thing, nor have I read in any Canadian paper a suggestion to that effect. They do not commit themselves to anything, but they take a keen interest in what is going on in the Old Country. They even go so far as to send Canadians over to Great Britain to lecture the people and endeavour to teach them how to vote on the fiscal policy of the country. Let a Britisher either high or low come to this country and take part in an election campaign, and I venture to say that he would not get a hearing for five minutes. Not only would he not get a hearing, but I do not believe he would be safe on any platform in the Dominion. I might further add that if a tax is put on the food of the working classes the wages must be raised accordingly, and if wages be raised a serious blow is struck at the shipbuilding industry of Great Britain.

POLICE COURT.—A young woman residing in Celt Street appeared before Bailie Melven on Wednesday on a charge of behaving in a disorderly manner, and assaulting two women. Accused pled not guilty, and was defended by Mr Forsyth, solicitor. Evidence having been led, the charge was found not proven.——A woman, residing in Tanner's Lane, appeared on a charge of the theft of a pair of combinations. She pled not guilty, and was defended by Mr Macgregor, solicitor; but on evidence she was convicted, and dismissed with an admonition.——On Tuesday a young lad named Wm. Munro, residing on Muirtown Street, was convicted of stealing a hen from a henhouse in Queen Street. The Magistrate dismissed the lad with an admonition.

"ALADDIN,

THE WONDERFUL SCAMP."

INVERNESS JUNIOR CHORAL SOCIETY'S ENTERTAINMENTS.

On Christmas Eve and last night the Inverness Junior Choral Society gave a most enjoyable reproduction of Mr Roddie's charming and clever operetta, "Aladdin, the wonderful Scamp." On both evenings the Music Hall was crowded to its utmost capacity, with appreciative audiences.

The chorus and orchestra—which consisted of 300 voices—as well as the individual vocalists and performers, executed their respective parts in a manner which would have done credit to adults. The careful training of the youthful artistes, coupled with their own musical and histrionic abilities, enabled them to give a thoroughly artistic interpretation of the operetta, and that their efforts were appreciated was evidenced time and again by the rounds of applause from the vast audience. The principal characters in the piece were represented as follows, viz.:—

In prologue—Mrs Mactavish, Miss Alice Macleod; Mrs Macpherson, Miss Nelly Urquhart; Sheriff, Master Tom Davidson; Mrs Fraser, Miss Lena Duguid; Mrs Mackenzie, Miss Maggie Macrae; Court Crier, Master Robert Urquhart.

Aladdin—Aladdin, Master Kenneth Macrae; Widow Kenzie, his mother (late of Inverness), Miss Maggie Macrae; Emperor, Master Alexander Mackenzie; Grand Vizier, Master James A. Ross; Princess, Miss Mamie Macdonald; Alla-Bad-Sir, Master Henry Rankine; Geni of the Lamp, Master Alex. Fraser; Spirit of the Ring, Miss Georgina Fraser; Flora, Miss Emily Chalmers; The Funny Thing, Master Jack Mann.

It would be difficult to imagine a more fitting entertainment for the festive season than "Aladdin," and the manner in which the familiar story of this wonderful boy and his still more wanderful lamp was adapted to the occasion by Mr W. S. Roddie is only one more evidence of his abilities as a composer, a libretto writer, and a caterer to the public taste. From an educational point of view there is also much to say in favour of such performances, giving to the young a confidence which they would not otherwise possess, while at the same time giving full scope to their musical and histrionic abilities. Mr Roddie's operettas have acquired not only local fame, but more than one of them has been played to large and appreciative audiences in the Colonies. "Aladdin" has, however, proved one of the most "catchy" and popular of them all, and we may safely predict for it a successful run. While the platform was tastefully and artistically arranged, one of the most pleasing features of the staging of the piece was the sea of bright, happy faces that greeted the audience from the rear of the stage as the juvenile choristers sat in a huge semi-circle awaiting the wave of the conductor's baton. The entertainment was opened with a most amusing and realistic prologue representative of a "criminal" day in the Inverness Sheriff Court, when several young ladies in the role of matrons appeared in the dock at the instance of the local School Board, charged with a contravention of the Education Act in so far that they neglected to provide for the tuition of their children by not sending them to school. The scene, which was a most amusing one throughout, was admirably enacted, Master Tom Davidson, from his dignified position on the bench, dispensing justice with all the solemnity and authority of a judge; while Mr Robert Urquhart, as court-crier, was particularly amusing, while the Misses Nellie Urquhart, Alice Macleod, Lena Duguid, and Maggie Macrae, the unlucky guardians of "truant laddies," played their parts admirably, and for their efforts were awarded hearty applause fom the audience. The operetta, which is divided into five scenes, was then proceeded with. The scenes are as follows, viz.:—Scene I.—Among the mountains in China. Scene II.—Widow Kenzie's home. Scene III.—Pekin—the Emperor's Palace. Scene IV.—A street in Pekin. Scene V.—The Palace of Light. Throughout the piece the trials and troubles, the fortunes and triumphs of the youthful Aladdin, the precocious little son of comely Widow Kenzie (late of Inverness) were splendidly depicted. The choruses of the operetta were of a light, pleasing nature, admirably suited to the piece, and the melodious and tuneful manner in which they were sung by the young people showed careful study and excellent training. Their rendering of "The Bridal Chorus" and "Hail, Happy Day" was simply delightful. The individual parts were also performed with equal credit to the performers. Master Kenneth Macrae, in the part of "Aladdin," is perhaps the most versatile artiste for his years we have ever had the pleasure of witnessing on any platform. A singer of plaintive Gaelic melodies he can boast of having recently won the Mod gold medal, while in English or "the braid auld Scottish tongue" he is equally at home in songs grave or gay. While his musical capabilities were in no small measure called into requisition both last night and on Thursday evening, so were his histrionic talents, and the manner in which he performed the somewhat difficult part of the hero of the piece proved him to be a particularly smart young gentleman. He infused much humour into his songs, while his voice, which is clear and melodious, was most pleasing, and altogether his performance was a most creditable one. Miss Maggie Macrae, as "Widow Kenzie," Aladdin's mother, had also a difficult task to perform, and she, too, displayed considerable ability in her performance; while as "Alla-bad-sir," the villain of the piece, Master Henry Rankine played an unpopular part in such a manner that he won the admiration of the audience, although at his downfall they gave a sigh of relief. The most telling part of the piece was perhaps the poisoning scene, in which the three principal characters concerned—"Alla-bad-sir," "Aladdin," and the "Princess"—performed their parts in manner which would have reflected credit on more experienced actors, the "Princess" (Miss Mamie Macdonald) being worthy of special mention. "Alla-bad-sir's" disposal of "new lamps for old" was a particularly brilliant bit of burlesque. Master Alexander Mackenzie, as the "Emperor," looked every inch an Oriental ruler; while Master James A. Ross, as the "Grand Vizier," looked a typical Mandarin, his performance of the part allotted to him being really excellent. Master Alex. Fraser," as "Geni of the Lamp," also gave a good account of himself. Miss Georgina Fraser and Emily Chalmers, as "Spirit of the King" and "Flora" respectively, looked quite etherial in their fairy-like garbs, while their melodious voices added to the illusion. Miss Mamie Macdonald, who was apparently the youngest among the youthful group on the stage, in the role of the "Princess" (and to whom we have already alluded), showed in no small degree how even the most youthful can be trained to face large audiences with perfect confidence. A bright and vivacious little lady, she performed and sang her part in a manner in every way befitting the dignified character which she impersonated—the daughter of the Emperor. The comedian of the evening, however, was undoubtedly Master Jack Mann—"The Funny Little Wee Thing"—his rendering of the comic ditty of that name being simply inimitable, and securing for him a hearty and enthusiastic encore. A mere child his eccentricities were, to say the least, decidedly old-fashioned, while his conductorship of the entire chorus and orchestra in the grand finale was suggestive of "Wee Macgreegor" in some of his "ploys," and put the audience in particularly good humour, so much so that they demanded a repetition of his inimitable performance. We may mention that the songs, "The Funny Thing I am" and "Here I'm goirg to stay," are the compositions of Mr W. Stewart Roddie, whose musical abilities are so well known throughout the North of Scotland. A pleasing feature of the programme during the evening were the various dances and drills engaged in by the young people, two of the most pleasing being the "cake walk" and "umbrella drill," which were arranged by Miss Watt. The Chinese dance was also most gracefully gone through by nine "little Chinamen." During the evening efficient service was rendered by a splendid orchestra, while Miss Watt in her usual accomplished manner acted as accompanist. Mr W. S. Roddie, to whom is due the credit of training the children to the high pitch of perfection displayed by them during both evenings, is to be congratulated on the successful production of his operetta, and we have not the slightest doubt, judging from these performances, that it will meet with equal success in Tain on Tuesday next, the 29th inst., when, under the conductorship of Mr W. Stewart Roddie, it will be performed by the Tain Junior Choral Society. The programme was brought to a close by the combined rendering of the National Anthem.

LETTER FROM LACHIE.

IN THE HANDS OF THE BARBER.

[By OUR LADY CORRESPONDENT.]

MY DEAR EDITOR,—You will be wonderin when I will tell you that I am ritin this letter in Mrs Fraser's ludgins in Inverness, with a fine fire beside me, and Rory lyin in bed readin last week's "Highland News." Yesterday Rory came to me, and says he—"Lachie, you and me is goin to Inverness to-morrow to see a laad in, the wonderful skemp." Says I—"What in the world is rong? I was wance before in the Inverness Poliis Offis when there was a laad in that I was ackwent with; he took too much whiskey, and made a row at the cattle sale, and I had to bale him out. But who is this wonderful skemp you are goin in to see?" Rory was laffin, and says he—"You're no understandin; it's a lot of scool childrens that Mr Roddie has lerned to sing and ack the story of the boy with the wonderful lamp that you was readin in the Gaelic to me when I had the Influensy." "Me the day," says I, "I cannot go in to Inverness till I get my hair cut, and there's nobody here can do it but Duncan Mackenzie, and he will not be home from Bail'-an-droma till next week." Says Rory—"We'll go in with an early train, and you can get your hair cut in Inverness, and a shave, too, if you like."—Says I—"I can do the shavin myself." So we came in this forenoon, and Rory left me in a fine place near your own offiis to get my hair cut. I was put sittin in a chair like a lord, with a fine big white sheet round me. The barber begin right enuff with the shears, and then he went over to a corner, and came back with a thing like a big pair of pinchers. I was frightened he was goin to take out my teeth, or cut off my ears, but he cut off all the hair on my neck as smooth as my hand with this new instrument he had. Then he put on a nice smile, and says he, "Shampane* sir?" Says I, "No, thenk you, I'm a teetotaller." Up above my head there was a long iron axel with wheels on it and a belt like a trevellin threshin mill. I was wonderin what in the world it would be, when all at wance the wheels and the belt begin to turn round. I was goin to jump and run for fear the belt would catch me and pull me up to the roof. Then he got a round brush like a big hedghock and a wheel on it. He slipped the belt on the wheel, and then the brush begin to turn round as quick that you could hardly see it. Says I to him, "Let me out, for my life's no enshured." He laffed and told me to sit still. He then put the brush on my head, and I thought every bit of skin was off it the way the brush was scrapin it. I was shakin with fright, and him, the rascal, was only laffin. Says he, "Keep your hair on." When I hard this I was shure that something was rong, and that my head would be away as well as my hair, but in a moment the thing stopped. There was a big lookin-gless in the room, but I was frightened to look at myself in it in case my head would be as bare as the ostrich's egg that is on the Cornal's lobby table. Let me tell you I'll never get my hair cut with masheenery again if it would grow as long as Absolom's. I would rather take my head to the Smiddy and get the Smith to singe off the hair like a sheep's head. I was no long leavin the barber's shop, and when I got Rory I was all right. In the evening we went to the Music Hall to the concert. It was the finest thing I ever saw. The place was full from top to bottom with peepel, but the prettyest thing of all was the children that was goin to sing. There was 300 of them all dressed like little angels or fairies. And the pletform where they were to go throw the story of the wonderful lamp was all over with bewtiful screens and trees and everything you could think on. You would think you were in China or some of the grand countries in the East in the time long ago when the Arabian Nights was rote. It's aaful how real they can make these things. I mind when I was in the Pollis in Edinburgh wan night I was sent t, keep order in the Theater Royal, and it was just this same Lad-in and the Wonderful Lamp that they were doin. and at the end they all got fair wild, and myself saw them with my own two eyes puttin a livin pollisman throw a mangle and takin him out as flat as a barn door, and then another pollisman came to stop it, and they catched him and put him into a big gun, and fired him up into the gallery. I could hardly stand it, and I would have went forward myself to mak a case of some of them, but I did not no what they might do on me, so I dident interfear. But there was no wild nonsense in the Music Hall to-night. The boys and lassies that did the actin I never say cleverer in my life. And then to hear the 300 singin togither. Were you ever in the country near a big wood on a summer mornin early lissenin to a thousand little birds of every kind all singin togither with their silver voices and pipes, and the larks singin solos up so high that you could no see them. Well, it was just like that to hear these little fairies this evenin. It is fillin my ears yet and I'll no forget it as long as I live. I am shure Inverness should give the freedom of the town to Mr Roddie for the trouble he is takin to lern these children how to sing like yon. Myself will be sorry to my dyin day that I never had a chance of lernin to sing, but only just a Salm chune in the church, and no much of that, too. If you would see how clever Wee A-lad-in himself did everything. But maybe you was there yourself and saw it all as well as me.

But I must stop. It is long past twelve o'clock and it is now Chrismas mornin. I think it is very shootable to stop at the bonnacks. Dident the old peepel long ago use to go among each other's houses on Chrismas mornin with oatmeal bonnacks they use to bake for luck? They say it's from that came the Chrismas wish. "Mo Bhannag ort!" ("Good luck on you!"). and so I say again, "Mo Bhannag ort!"—Yours truley

LACHIE.

Chrismas, 1903.

* Shampoo.

AN EX-SOLDIER'S BEHAVIOUR.—A young ex-soldier, named Hassan Ross, was at the Police Court on Monday charged with committing a breach of the peace in the New Market. He pled guilty and was sentenced to pay a fine of £1 or suffer fourteen days' imprisonment.

THE HIGHLANDERS IN ARMS.

THEIR BATTLES, SEIGES, AND FORTUNES.

[By Lieut.-Colonel J. Macgregor, M.P.]

No. I.

If the old saying is true, that the proper study of mankind is man, then in a double sense is it true that the most proper and congenial study of a Highlander should be his Highland fellow-countrymen.

As was once pointed out to me, the heading of my paper has a double meaning. For the legend of "Highlanders in Arms" might mean either Highlanders in the arms of their nurses, or Highlanders in arms against their country's enemies; in other words, Highlanders at their very weakest or Highlanders in the very flush and vigour of their manhood. I need scarcely say that it is of the latter class I propose to speak a few words. Highlanders in the arms of their nurses are very much, I fancy, like other whining little brats. But it is as Highlanders in arms in the cause of their country that our countrymen have won a reputation second to none in the history of the world. The prowess of the Greeks and Romans grew, flourished, and then died after a comparatively brief period; while from the time that the Highlanders of Scotland first crossed swords with the legions of the Roman Empire some two thousand years ago, they have maintained an almost unsullied reputation for valour down to the present day.

Much idle discussion has taken place among learned antiquarians on the question of who were the Caledonians and who were the Picts, some maintaining that they were a different people, while I think there can be little doubt but that they were the same people under different names, the Caledonians of the earlier Roman writers becoming the Picts, or Painted Men, of a later period.

Then the Picts were supposed to be quite conquered by the small colony that came from Ireland to the coast of Argyll, and, by one of those freaks of chance, happened to be the means of transferring the name of Scotia from Ireland, to which it originally belonged, to what is now known as modern Scotland. The Picts were supposed to be lost sight of as completely as the lost tribes of Israel, so much so that the word "pixy" is now used to mean a dwarf or a fairy. This is a mere fable, though Kenneth MacAlpine, who was half-Pict, half-Scot, united the Picts and Scots under one sovereignty. As a matter of fact, neither the word Scot nor Scotland exists in the Gaelic language at all, but the word Alba or Albann for Scotland, and Albanach for a Scotchman, for the present-day Highlanders, with few exceptions, are the modern representatives of the Caledonians and Picts of the olden times.

It is not sufficiently known, perhaps, that were it not for the prowess of those same ancient Caledonians and Picts, Scotland as a separate and distinct Kingdom would not have existed, as it has existed till comparatively recent times, when gallant little Scotland placed "the wisest fool in Christendom' as the first monarch on the Throne of the United Kingdom, which is now regarded to be the most magnificent Power that the world has ever known.

Whether we should have been better off by an earlier Union with England is an open question, for we are now speaking, for the most part, of facts, and facts are not contingencies. In some respects, at any rate, we are the better of our stubborn isolation; for the long struggle of a warlike little country like Scotland against a country so far richer and more powerful in numbers like England has imparted to the Scottish character an amount of independence and self-reliance that has lasted to the present day. If Englishmen, therefore, are proud of being Englishmen, by all means let them, for we are still prouder of being Scots.

And how do you think did the Caledonian Picts, as they are sometimes called, found the Scottish Kingdom, and not the Lowlanders? Why, there was not a Lowlander in the whole show, but pure mountaineers. At the Battle of the Grampians, which was fought towards the end of the first century of the Christian Era, the Romans, though they obtained a nominal victory, really suffered a moral defeat, and they ever afterwards lived in fear and trembling of the wild mountaineers, as is well proved by the means they adopted to protect themselves from the northern tribes. Those of the natives that remained in the conquered Roman province in the Lowlands became hewers of wood and drawers of water to their hard taskmasters both in England and Lowland Scotland; for the Romans looked upon their British subjects as little more than slaves, with whom they had scarcely any social communication, and they finally quitted the island, leaving but little of their civilisation behind them except in the way of forts and walls.

But the Caledonian Picts, the Highlanders of that remote period, were not altogether content to be severely left alone by the Roman legionaries. They made frequent and violent raids both on the Romans and on the Britons who obeyed their yoke, exactly as the Highlanders at a later period were wont to do over the Lennox and the Lothians. To resist those persistent raids, the Romans raised not less than three different walls at various periods. But still their lives remained, like the policeman's in the play—not a happy one; for the Highlanders broke down their walls, and sallied in their rude skiffs round the seaboard ends of them, with devastation in their knapsacks, till at last the Roman Empire, tottering from internal decay, began to crumble, and the Romans finally quitted the country for ever after ruling over the southern portion of it with a rod of iron for some four hundred years.

This, then, was the very root and origin of the Kingdom of Scotland, as distinguished from England, and it was entirely due to the Caledonian Picts, every one of whom, I am sure, spoke as pure Gaelic as it was spoken in the Garden of Eden itself. What do you think of that? You may think it is a mere figment of the imagination perhaps; but it is not so. Some points of history may be obscure but every word of this is as true as the gospel. It is said that the history of nations is the history of their bloodshed, and certainly battles form a considerable portion of the history of nations in their early records and of none more than of the Scottish Highland race.

We need not discuss in detail the prominent part played by the Highlanders in the so-called wars of independence, how they fought at Bannockburn, and how they could not stand the dilatory tactics of their King at the battle of Flodden Field, but rushed at the enemy without orders, and before the rest of the Scottish army charged, and how they got cut to pieces on account of their small numbers, and not being supported by the rest. Some historians blame them for their rashness on that occasion as tending rather to the defeat of Scotland by not waiting for orders. But though discipline is a quality of the first rank with an army in the field, yet even foolhardiness is a better quality than slinking behind. It is difficult to peer into the what will be, and perhaps equally difficult to peer into the what might have been. But if the Scottish army on that occasion had not delayed so long, but charged with the Highlanders, who indeed knows what might have been. Perhaps, in the words of the poet—

"Another sight had seen that morn,
From fate's dark book a leaf been torn,
And Flodden had been Bannockburn."

I can only mention in passing the great military services rendered by the Highlanders in the Thirty Years' War on the Continent of Europe, during which the Reay country alone is said to have contributed over 4000 men to Mackay's regiment in the service of Gustavus Adolphus. Why, their very number is enough to make people's mouths water when they think of the scarcity of real Highland soldiers nowadays. And I would rather pass over altogether, as a hackneyed theme, the unfortunate Jacobite wars in which clan was arrayed against clan, and families divided among themselves; but that so small an army as Prince Charlie's Highland host, poorly armed and badly provisioned, should win victory after victory over greatly superior numbers and reach within a hundred miles of London must always be recorded with applause. The pity of it was that when the prize seemed so near, they should retreat from Derby, through quarrels among themselves, that veritable curse of the Celtic races, from which may the good Lord deliver us.

I must now pass to the first embodiment of Highlanders as a distinct and integral part of the British Army, in which they have won the greatest renown in many a hard-fought field. It is well known that the first taste of their quality as soldiers in a regular army was by way of mutiny when the Black Watch was first sent to England. But, however much the spirit of mutiny must always be condemned in a soldier, this particular instance was entirely the fault of that irresponsible body called the Authorities, by breaking faith with the Highlanders, who had enlisted with the express understanding that they would only be required to serve in Scotland alone

But though this was the first experience, it may safely be said that no other regiment in the British Army has vindicated the honour of British arms with greater gallantry, or in more varied colonies, than this same regiment. It is far from being intended here to dwell on the praise of any individual regiment, for it would be both invidious and injudicious to do so. Neither do I propose to describe battles in detail, which is beside the purpose of this paper. Yet it may be observed parenthetically that the path to glory of this, the premier Highland regiment, has by no means been always strewn with roses. Fontenoy, for instance, was about the first battle of the regiment after going abroad, and it was not a success, for the French won that battle mainly by the valour of the Irish Brigade, then in the service of the King of France. The Black Watch, however, was on that occasion the last regiment to leave the field, and covered the retreat of the beaten British force, during which alone it lost a considerable number of men. Strange to say, it was in this same battle of Fontenoy that the modern method of attack by lapses was first practiced, and by this same regiment, that is to say, one line rushing forward, lying down, and firing, then re-loading while the lines from behind repeat the same process.

In its early history, too, must be counted the fatal day of Seconderoga, in America, when the regiment lost not less than 654 killed and wounded, probably the largest butcher's bill, as they say, that has ever been paid by a single regiment in the annals of the British Army. But though the regiment lost so heavily, the few remaining so bravely persisted in storming an apparently impregnable position that they had to be recalled several times before they would give over their hopeless effort. This was at a time when almost every man in the regiment was a real Highlander from the Colonel downwards, all speaking the beautiful Gaelic language, which the modern Highlanders so much ignore, and I doubt that a more heroic attack has ever been made in the history of warfare.

Later on, among other events, it was mainly the Highlanders, on the Heights of Abraham, that won the Battle of Quebec, and gave the finishing blow to French predominance in the vast territory of Canada. Passing to the Conquest of India in the 17th and 18th centuries, we find the Highland regiments engaged at various places, notably at the siege and capture of Seringapatam, where were several Highland regiments. Then we find the gallant Ross-shire Buffs engaged at the Battle of Ahmednaggar, where I myself spent many a day not so very long ago; and shortly afterwards we find that the same regiment and the 74th Highland Light Infantry were the only British infantry at the decisive battle of Assaye, which overthrew for ever the Mahratta power of the Peishwas of Western India. At this famous battle it was on the Highland Light Infantry that the brunt of the fighting fell, and so great was the carnage among them that every single officer in the regiment was either killed or wounded.

In the long and arduous struggle against the colossal power of Napoleon we find our countrymen engaged more particularly in Egypt and the Continent of Europe. It was mainly by their means that the French were repulsed at Corunna, and our troops enabled to embark with safety. And it is said that it was into the hands of the Highlanders the distinguished Scotsman, General Sir John Moore, fell on that occasion (as Wolfe had done before at the Battle of Quebec), and with his last breath expressed a hope that the country would do justice to his memory—a memory that will ever remain green more than by a hundred Government orders by the more magical power of the humble bard who wrote the celebrated little poem of "The Burial of Sir John Moore," which must be familiar to all.

I am not sufficiently versed in the rise and progress of the formation of squares by infantry to repel cavalry; but its efficacy was never better illustrated than at the Battle of Quatre Bras. There was Marshall Ney, with the flower of his French cavalry, and there were the Highlanders in their kilts, some of them dead or dying on the field, but yet the rest in the square formation successfully defying the enemy. I remember that the scene looked so vivid and life-like that it brought tears into my eyes. And was it not the Gordon Highlanders that on the next day at Waterloo caught hold of the stirrups of the Scots Guards, and rushed on with them into battle with the memorable cry of "Scotland for ever!"

(To be continued).

EDINBURGH HIGHLANDERS, SHOULDER TO SHOULDER.

[To the Editor of "The Highland News"].

Sir,—Accompanied by a friend, I attended a short time ago the annual re-union of Skyemen in Glasgow. I enjoyed the proceedings very much. There was so large an attendance indeed that I could hardly have believed there were so many Highlanders in the city. This naturally led me to consider, why should there not be more frequent opportunities of drawing the Highlanders closer together in this city? The object of my letter then is to point out the absence of such in Edinburgh. In Glasgow we have Clan Societies, Clan Associations, and numerous other bodies, which are of immense help in keeping alive the Highland sentiment and keeping the Highlanders shoulder to shoulder. The support and encouragement which these combined bodies give to every movement tended to the welfare of the Highlands are too well known and appreciated to be dealt upon. These bodies also are of invaluable importance to the Highlanders going to that city in that they do their best to find employment for them.

Why not then have similar bodies in Edinburgh? In the Celtic revival of the present day it is a pity that the Highlanders of the Scottish Capital should lag behind their brothers of St Mungo.

Why not have an Inverness-shire Association, a Lewis and Harris Association, a Clan Macleod Society, &c. No doubt there may be a few Societies with Highland sentiments and sympathies; but too often the only information that the bulk of the Highlanders get about them is an account in the newspapers of the Societies having held a meeting in such and such a hotel. This sort of private Societies we do not want. If they are to beat all let everything about them be made publicly known so as to make the public patronise them.

I have met numbers of young Highland men and women who frankly told me that there was no attraction in this respect in Edinburgh, and that that was enough to make them anxious to leave it and go off to Glasgow. I therefore appeal to the Skye Association, which seems to be the most influential in the city, to take the lead in forming other Societies, and by so doing I am sure their own prosperity will by no means be hindered. I should be very willing to help them or anyone else interested in the same cause. Apologising for occupying so much of your valuable space.—I am, Sir, yours, &c.,

Mac.

Edinburgh, 19th December, 1903.

HIGHLAND BIRD LORE.

The old Highlander had a profound love of nature, which led him to associate birds and beasts with his proverbial philosophy in a curious and intimate way. In many of the Gaelic sayings the characteristics of birds are very happily hit off, the cry or song being in many cases quaintly imitated. Thus, of the kind of birds there is a rhyme, "Glig, glig, glig, says the eagle; it is my son who is lord over you all." The little wren is always referred to by the Highlander in a good-humoured sort of way, as in the following:—"'Tis the less for that, 'tis the less for that, as the wren said when he sipped a billful out of the sea."

The raven was imitated in the following saying:—"Groc, groc, groc, says the raven; it is my son that will pick the lamb's bones." This bird was credited with a great partiality for the eyes of beasts; these were the tit-bits of his feast; hence the proverb, "The raven that rises early gets the eye of the beast in the bog." But, for all his greed, the raven was not without a redeeming feature; he was proud of his little ones—"Black though the raven be, he thinks his chicks white." The carrion crow had the same pride in his family, as this saying shows—"The crow thinks his own blue chick a beauty." A similar sentiment is expressed imitatively thus—"Gorach, gorach, gorach, said the crow; it is my son who is the blue chick." Then there is this sage observation, "That's a pair, as the crow said to her feet." Other beautiful sayings of the Highlander are:—"There is no smoke in the lark's house," and "The three pretties dead are a little child, a white trout, and a black-cock."

A FORT-AUGUSTUS MYSTERY.

AN AMUSING INCIDENT.

A mysterious case which threatened for a time to rival in interest the Moat Farm tragedy has been occupying for some time the minds of the natives in the Fort-Augustus district. Some weeks ago (according to a contemporary) a gamekeeper digging in the lodge garden was horrified at turning up the body of a young woman in a perfect state of preservation—not a tooth missing, and the queer thing about her was that she had been buried in a sitting posture. Inquiries were set on foot, and suspicion by and by lighted on a man in the neighbourhood, whose daughter had disappeared a couple of years before. They sounded him with caution, and he told the very improbable story that his daughter had entered a convent in a distant part of the country of which even the name was strange. Here was a hot scent, and it was industriously pursued, but, alas, further inquiry revealed the information that the convent was there and the daughter too. As a last resource the baffled investigators bethought themselves of the last tenant of the lodge. They wrote to him, and this is the reply they got—"The body which has caused you so much anxiety is doubtless that of an Egyptian princess who graced the banks of the Nile some 4000 years ago. Travelling in Egypt, I purchased the body in question for purposes of research. When about to leave the lodge last autumn, having no further use for the body, I buried it in the garden."

OBAN NOTES.

The Baptist congregation, now worshipping in the Masonic Hall. is to leave at May. Their new house of worship, it is expected. will be ready by that time. The Post Office authorities have, it is said, acquired the Masonic buildings for a post office. Before it is too late the ratepayers of Oban should object to having their Post Office in a less prominent and conspicuous site than at present. When the delay has been so protracted it should be insisted that neither the parsimony of the Post Office or the immediate urgency of the case is to prevent Oban having a post office in a very prominent and accessible situation.

On Tuesday evening at a congregational meeting in Argyll Square U.F. Church, Rev. D. J. Martin, M.A., the pastor was presented with a purse of sovereigns on the occasion of his leaving with his eldest son next day for Australia. The meeting was extremely bright and hearty—perhaps one of the best socials ever held in Argyll Square Church. Mr Alex. Robertson, chemist, presided, and Mr James Beattie, M.A., rector, Oban High School, made the presentation in an eloquent speech, in which he referred to Mr Martin's great gifts as a preacher, and his uprightness and good-heartedness as a man. Rev. John Hall, Edinburgh, and Rev. Peter Hall, who is to have charge of Argyll Square congregation during Mr Martin's, absence, also spoke. Sheriff Cowan moved the votes of thanks. Mr Martin and his son Ian left Oban on Wednesday morning for their long journey to Australia. The young man for health considerations has to leave this climate, and he goes out to a brother of Mrs Martin, who, with the remaining members of the family, are at home in the Manse, Oban.

There is a new montly publication in the West Highlands which many of your readers have not seen, "The Nor'-West Countryman," which is published in the interests of the landed classes, and edited by "J. L. Stewart." To be explicit, the editor is Colonel John Lorne Stewart, proprietor of Coll, and for thorough-going Protectionist views is unequalled in this or any other county. In this month's issue it is asserted that in "one particular parish bankruptcy from over-taxation has resulted—a parish now subsidised on the sly by the State, which is (may we interpolate) a pretty injustice to hard-pressed parishes which continue to pay their way."

The member for Argyllshire is "touched-up" in the following sentence:—"No doubt the pegging out of crofts on Ardanaiseig has only been postponed on account of the pressing claims of speaking in Glasgow, and the necessity of persuading his Argyllshire landowning supporters to join with him in his preferential land programme in spite of his and their proclivities." It is clear the editor is neither Conservative nor Radical. He remarks:—"Countrymen are still paralysed, doing nothing for their own preservation. They hang on, half of them, to the apron-strings of the Conservatives; or hide, half of them, in the petticoat folds of the Radicals. Both political parties being in alliance, however, they may differ on other points, and are pledged to destroy country life." "The Nor'-West Countryman" is not sure of Mr Chamberlain's precise attitude towards agriculture. Were an election to occur now it would be puzzling for the countryman how to vote. Mr Balfour's plan is distinctly harmful—that of custom retaliation in every trade but that of corn. The descriptive report of the Argyllshire County Council meeting is spicy reading:—"The minutes extend to fourteen closely-printed pages, and indicate a machinery, an apparatus, an engine for governance, which would enhance the reputation of any European State." It is asserted that if Socialism can ever possibly pay it will be in the hands of the County Council. Free Trade is condemned in no half-hearted fashion. With the decay of agriculture has come the decay of the small country industries. The local flour mills have closed and gradually fallen into ruin; the little factories have been abandoned; everywhere in the purely agricultural districts the villages are dwindling and the small towns are in their decline. Far and wide, cottages are falling down, and farms passing into a state of disrepair. All classes are impoverished; the parson has seen his living halved; the Nonconformist minister has lost the greater part of his precarious income; the Universities have had to reduce their scholarships; the farmer is in perpetual debt; the labourer has no prospect unless he migrates to the towns. Upon the fairest lands in Europe the blight of man's compassing has descended—for the gain of a halfpenny or farthing on the loaf of bread." The landowners of the Kingdom should suscribe to this publication, for a more out-and-out supporter of the class does not exist. Strange that the cry "Back to the land" should be that of the landlord and the landless.

Mr Charles Lindsay Orr-Ewing, M.P. for the Ayr Burghs (which includes Oban), the youngest son of the late Sir Archibald Orr-Ewing, who was M.P. for Dumbartonshire, died at his Wigtownshire residence, Donskey Portpatrick, on Thursday afternoon. in his forty-second year, after an illness of three weeks' duration. He was on Mr Chamberlain's platform at Glasgow, and on the 2nd of December addressed his constituents at Ayr. Last week his illness became more acute, and Sir Thomas Barlow. Royal physician. and other medical gentlemen were in attendance. The end came very suddenly. He married six years ago Lady Augusta Boyd, eldest daughter of the Earl and Countess of Glasgow, by whom and a young family he is survived. The late Mr Orr-Ewing has represented Ayr Burghs since 1895.

DISESTABLISHMENT AND A GENERAL ELECTION.

The following manifesto has just been issued by the Disestablishment Council for Scotland, viz.:—

The Disestablishment Council for Scotland rejoices that a time has come which invites them to address their friends throughout the country, and to remind them of leading features in the history of this question. The long tenure of power by a Government hostile to Disestablishment has tended to divert attention from one main fact. To this at present we confine ourselves.

From 1879 onwards the Scottish Liberal Association, in their annual conferences and general councils, declared, by overwhelming majorities, for Scottish Disestablishment, and latterly they unanimously recognised it as part of the Liberal programme. They maintained this attitude after the raising of the Home Rule question. The Liberal leaders from 1877 had recognised the claims of Scottish Disestablishment to serious consideration, and at last decided that the time had come for Government assuming the responsibility of dealing with it. This was declared by Mr Gladstone in 1889; it was strongly reiterated in 1890 and 1891; and in 1893, under Mr Gladstone's Administration, legislation was promised in the Queen's Speech, a pledge which was repeated (under Lord Rosebery) in the Queen's Speech of 1894. From many utterances made on behalf of the party when its leaders were in office the Council quote only one. In 1894 Lord Rosebery, speaking as Prime Minister, said in a speech at Glasgow:—"Disestablishment of the Church of Scotland has been in two Queen's Speeches under the present Government. I think you will at least say that that is a public pledge, on behalf of the present Government, as well as the Government of Mr Gladstone, that we hold to the question as a prominent part of the programme." Declarations in the same sense by Sir Henry Campbell-Bannerman, Sir Wm. Harcourt, Mr Morley, Mr Bryce, Mr Asquith, and Sir George Trevelyan bring down the adhesion of the party to the latest period at which it was in power and responsible for the guidance of public affairs.

A variey of new questions has recently attracted attention, the importance of which need not be disputed. But whatever the claims of these questions may be, the Disestablishment Council appeals to their friends in all the constituencies to secure that the place of Disestablishment in Scotland shall be maintained not only as a matter of plain justice, ripened and urgent, but as an essential article of the Liberal programme, and that it be recognised as holding that place by all who claim support as Scottish Liberal candidates.

By thus steadily maintaining its historical position as well as its essential justice, the supporters of Disestablishment will best hasten the final settlement which all desire.

SUTHERLANDSHIRE NEWS.

The Duke of Sutherland has arrived at Dunrobin from London.

The Duke of Sutherland and family will remain at Dunrobin until January 9th, on which date they will leave for Stafford House.

Golspie.—Mr Robert Wilson, M.A., who lately held the position of assistant in Golspie Public School, has received the additional degree of B.Sc.

Golspie—Technical School.—We learn that the Highland and Agricultural Society has voted £600 to the Duchess of Sutherland's Technical School at Golspie.

Lairg.—We are pleased to observe that Mr Kenneth M. Mackenzie, Lairg, has passed the final examination of the Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons.

Lairg—Successful Student. — Many will be pleased to learn that Mr Kenneth M. Mackenzie, Lairg, has passed his final examination in connection with the Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons.

Dunrobin—Appointment.—Many will be pleased to learn that Mr A. Melville, head gardener, Dunrobin Castle, has been appointed to take charge of Sir E. Cassell's New Market Estate Gardens.

Helmsdale — Saturday Evening Concert.—The second of a series of most successful concerts was held in the Hall of the Welcome on Saturday. An excellent programme was listened to by a large and appreciative audience, the chair being occupied by Mr H. C. Robertson.

Honouring a Sutherlandshire Man—Presentation to Rev. R. Munro, M.A., Old Kilpatrick.—At a meeting of the Old Kilpatrick U.F. Church held last Friday evening Rev. Robert Munro, M.A., B.D., was, on the occasion of his semi-jubilee as pastor of the congregation, presented with a purse of sovereigns and a study clock. Several of the leading members of the congregation delivered addresses all testifying to the worth and abilities of their pastor. Mr Munro was born in Mudale House, Strathnaver, in 1853. He was educated at Strathy School and the University of St Andrew's, where he graduated M.A. and B.D., and at the New College, Edinburgh. Since his appointment to Old Kilpatrick in 1878, besides devoting himself to his pastoral work, he has been a diligent student of the great systems of modern theological thought since the time of Schleirmacher of philosophy as influenced by Hume and Kant, and of archæology in its various departments. In virtue of his many literary and scientific attainments Mr Munro has been elected a Fellow of the Royal Society, Edinburgh. a Fellow of the Society of Antiquarians of Scotland, and a member of the Royal Literary Fund, London.

Scourie—Notes.—Two trawlers were seen at work about a mile and a-half off Tarbert on the 17th inst. A Tarbert boat went out to one of them, but the number was concealed and therefore could not be identified. This is only an example of what is quite common on this coast at this time of the year. A Government vessel is never in the vicinity. ——As high as two crans of herrings were landed at Loch Laxford last week by a small boat with two nets. It has been tried on a larger scale this week, but the result is not known at time of writing.——Quite a gloom has been cast over the district by the death of Mr Donald Mackay (Bain), Fanagmore, on the 18th inst. "Donald Bain," as he was locally known, was much respected throughout the district. He was a Naval Reserveman of the first-class, and was always diligent in the pursuit of his daily duties. He will be greatly missed in the locality, as he was of a cheerful and obliging disposition, and very witty and entertaining in his conversation. He was a comparatively young man, and had been married only some four years. Great sympathy is felt for his young widow, who is thus bereft of her husband and infant daughter within one month. His funeral was largely attended on the 22nd inst., many people from outlying districts being present.——Prospects for this week's herring fishing are somewhat discouraging to those concerned, as the weather is not at all favourable for this fishing.

Helmsdale—Installation of Freemason Officers.—At a meeting of the brethren of St Donan Lodge of Freemasons, No. 993, held a few days ago the following office-bearers were elected for the ensuing year:—R.W.M., Brother Major Sutherland; S.M., Brother David Gilchrist; N.S.W., Brother William Paterson; N.J.W., Brother John Matheson; secretary, Brother William Shaw; treasurer, Brother John Fraser; S.D., Brother William Little; J.D., Brother Lieut. Egerton, R.N.; S., Brother R. W. Macdonald; I.G., Brother G. Hamilton Macleod; O.G., Brother A. M. Gray. After the installation of officers, the members presented Brother Robertson with a handsome past master's jewel and collar as a mark of their appreciation of the manner in which he has discharged his duties in the chair since the inception of the lodge nearly two years ago. The success of the lodge is shown by the fact that it has grown in that period from eight founders to a present membership of thirty-two, with one honorary member, the Duke of Portland.

TAIN NEWS.

Mr Roddie's clever operetta, "Aladdin: The Wonderful Scamp," will be performed in Tain on Tuesday evening by the Junior Choral Society.

Presentation to Dean of Guild.—On Monday evening ex-Dean of Guild Murdo Mackay was presented with a purse of sovereigns by his numerous friends and well-wishers on the occasion of his departure for Canada.

Christmas Poultry.—One of the largest poultry sales ever held in Tain took place on Monday at Messrs W. W. Mackay & Co.'s auction mart, there being over 1000 birds forward. Demand was good, and a complete clearance effected, while prices were satisfactory.

Death of a well-known Townsman.—Many will regret to hear of the death of Mr John Fraser, partner in the firm of Messrs Wallace & Fraser, ironmongers, at the ripe age of 82 years. The deceased gentleman was well known throughout Easter Ross during his long and useful career, and at his funeral the immense concourse of sorrowing and sympathetic friends bore striking testimony to the estimation in which he was held.

Presentation to a Clergyman.—On the occasion of his leaving Tain to fill a vacancy in the south, Rev. D. Grant, U.F. Church, was met by a number of the members of the Y.M.C.A. and Christian Endeavour, and presented with a handsome roll-top desk in polished oak. Mr John Mackenzie, Town Clerk, made the presentation, and referred in pleasing terms to the spiritual work done by Mr Grant in Tain. Among others who spoke were Messrs G. G. Ross, Macduff-Ross, Sutherland Ross, James Urquhart, Finlayson, and the Chairman, who added their testimony to the high esteem in which Mr Grant was held by all, including the aged and infirm among whom he visited, and their earnest good wishes for his future.

DINGWALL NEWS.

It is expected that the Rev. Mr Munro, who has officiated in the U.F. Church during the past month will continue his ministrations for some time.

Colour-Sergeant Thomson, 3rd Volunteer Battalion Seaforth Highlanders, Dingwall, has been appointed drill instructor at Forres in room of Sergeant Calder.

I.O.G.T.—The annual Christmas social of the Hope of Dingwall Lodge, I.O.G.T., was held in the Temperance Hall last night—Bro. R. Mackenzie, D.G.C.T., presiding. An excellent programme was gone through, and a pleasant evening was spent.

Death of a Promising Young Man.—Many will regret to hear of the death of Mr John Davidson, son of Mrs Davidson, Nicol's Court, and of the late Mr Davidson, colporteur to the Dingwall Academy. Deceased, who was 22 years of age, was well known in town, he having been for a number of years a clerk in the office of Mr T. S. H. Burns, solicitor, where he gave every promise of a successful career. About a fortnight ago, however, he was laid aside with a serious illness, and passed away on Saturday evening. Much sympathy is extended to the relatives in and around Dingwall.

BLACK ISLE NEWS.

Cromarty—Concert.—On Friday night the annual concert of the choir of the Established Church was held in the Church Hall, Rev. Walter Scott presiding. The various items were carried out successfully.

Cromarty—Seasonable Generosity.—Mrs Ross, of Cromarty, has sent £5 to the Rev. W. Scott for distribution among the poor; while Mrs Nicoll, with her customary generosity, has distributed coals to the poor.

Cromarty—Successful Concert.—An enjoyable concert was held in Peddieston School on Tuesday evening in aid of the Children's Fund. There was a crowded audience, and a most entertaining programme was submitted.

Cromarty.—The Y.M.C.A. met on Wednesday night, Mr Alex. Malvenan in the chair. An interesting paper on "Blind Bartimaes," both before and after he received his sight, was read by Mr James Simpson. This Society continues to grow in numbers and usefulness.

Call to Avoch.—On Monday the U.F. Presbytery, Avoch, met to moderate in a call to the Rev. George Macleod, Knock, Stornoway, to the U.F. Church, Avoch. This was the only name submitted to the meeting, and, consequently, it was moved and seconded that a call should be extended to Mr Macleod.

Cromarty — Literary Society.—On Monday night the Literary Society met. Dr Crerar presided. "Is passive resistance against the English Education Act justifiable" was the subject debated. Mr T. G. Middleton championed the affirmative, and Mr J. E. Scott the negative. The former was seconded by Mr M. Mackenzie, the latter by Mr J. M. Couper. The affirmative was also supported by Messrs H. P. Anderson, James Copland, and D. A. Mackenzie. At the close the affirmative carried by six of a majority.

Jemimaville—Death of Mr Campbell.—We regret to have to record this week the death of a respected parishioner in the person of Mr Murdo Campbell, merchant, Jemimaville. Deceased was well known, not only in the district but also throughout the North of Scotland, as a shrewd and straightforward business man. For many years he occupied the general merchant's business in town, and his death comes as a sad blow to many to whom he served as a faithful friend.

Munlochy—A Breach of Promise Case.—On Monday at the Dingwall Sheriff Court, Annie Gillanders (22), Taylor's Buildings, Munlochy, sued John Campbell (30), Fannich Ross-shire, in an action for alleged breach of promise. The damages she claims is £500. The novel defence set up by the defender is a denial of the promise, although he admits if any promise was made it was conditional on his not marrying another lady whom he subsequently married. This, on the other hand, the pursuer says is "contra bonos mores."

BEAULY AND THE AIRD NEWS.

Lord Lovat returned from London to Beauly on Wednesday.

The members of the Beauly Mutual Improvement Society will listen to a lecture by Mr Bruce, M.A., Inverness, on 6th prox.

Remembering the Poor.—Mrs Chisholm of Chisholm, Erchless Castle, has supplied sixteen of the necessitous poor in the Rheindown district with half a ton of coals each. The gift is a most acceptable one at this inclement season of the year, and the recipients feel grateful to the donor.

Purchase of an Estate.—Sir Albert Rollit, M.P., has purchased the shooting lodge of Culrain, Ross-shire.

NAIRN NEWS.

Golf.—Mr A. Brooman (scratch) 46 was the winner of the Pirie medal at the recent monthly competition.

The sum of £30 was realised at the recent sale of work for missionary purposes held in the U.F. High Church Hall.

Joint-Committees.—Provost Dallas has been unanimously appointed Chairman of the Nairn Joint Bridge Committee and Joint Water Committee.

Savings Bank.—The annual meeting of the Nairn Savings Bank was held on Monday, when the statement of affairs for year ending 20th November were submitted, showing the total amount on deposit to be £20,963.

Bazaar.—On Tuesday afternoon Mr W. Finlay opened a bazaar to provide recreation facilities for the Nairn Academy and pay for the fitting of the laboratory. Throughout the afternoon and evening business was remarkably brisk, and a substantial sum was realised.

Ullapool—Volunteer Ball.—A most successful ball was held in the Drill Hall, Ullapool, the other evening in connection with the local company of volunteers. There was a large and distinguished company present, and altogether a most enjoyable evening was spent.

Johnson, Johnson, & Co.'s Pure Tea is all tea, and nothing but tea, and is of unvarying richness and delicacy of flavour. Sold in packets by grocers everywhere, and wholesale by Johnson, Johnson, & Co., Ltd London.

NORTH BRITISH RAILWAY.

NEW ROUTE,

VIA MALLAIG

TO AND FROM

STORNOWAY AND ISLE OF LEWIS, PORTREE AND ISLE OF SKYE, AND OTHER WESTERN ISLANDS.

WEST HIGHLAND TRAIN SERVICE.

		1	2	3	4	5	6
	London—	p.m.	p.m.	p.m.	a.m.		
	(King's Cr'ss) lv	8 s 15	8 45	11 30	5 15		
	(St Pancras) ,,	7n30	..	9 30	12 0	Except Saturdays.	Saturdays only.
	Manchester—				night		
	(Victoria).... ,,	...	...	12a50	...		
	Liverpool—						
	(Exchange).. ,,	..	...	12 45	a.m.		
	Aberdeen ..... ,,	...	...	7 40	10 20		
	Dundee—				p.m.		
	(Tay Bridge).	...	...	10 0	12 25		
	Perth ..... ,,	...	...	8 35	12 30		
	Edinburgh—	a.m.	a.m.				
	(Waverley)... ,,	4 30	6 10	10 55	2 5		
	Glasgow (Queen	a.m.				p.m.	p.m.
	St. Low Level) lv	..	8 17	11 25	...	5t10	5t26
	Glasgow (Queen						
	St. Hi'h Level) lv	5 50	..	..	3 47	..	...
	Greenock (Prin-			L			
	ces Pier).....lv	...	...	11 10	4 15	...	...
	Craigendoran...lv	...	8 55	2 15	4 35	5 43	6 15
	Helensburgh—						
	(Upper) ..... ,,	...	9 2	2 22	4 42	5 50	6 22
	Row ..... ,,	...	9 7	2 27	4 47	5 55	6 27
	Shandon ..... ,,	...	9 13	2 33	4 53	6 1	6 33
	Garelochhead.. ,,	..	9 20	2 40	5 0	6 8	6 42
	Whistlefield.... ,,	..	9 26	2 47	5 6	6 15	6 47
	Arrochar and						
	Tarbet..... ,,	7 2	9 45	3 6	5 26	6 38	7 3
	Ardlui (head of						
	Loch Lomond)	7 21	...	..	5 55	...	...
	Crianlarich.....ar	7 41	...	...	6 15	...	...
	Oban.....arrive	11 45	..	...	9 5	...	...
	Do.....leave	...	...	...	4 10	..	...
	Crianlarich. leave	7 44	..	...	6 30	...	...
	Tyndrum ..... ,,	7 56	10 16	...	3 56	6 37	
	Bridge of Orchy ,,	8 11	..	...	6 47	...	...
	Rannoch ..... ,,	8 41	..	...	7 17	..	...
	Tulloch ..... ,,	9 21	...	...	7 57	..	...
	Roy Bridge ..... ,,	9 33	...	...	8 9	..	...
	Spean Bridge... ,,	9 43	..	...	8 18	...	...
	Fort-Augustus. ar	10 55	..	...	9t30	...	...
	Fort-William..ar	10 3	..	...	8 36	..	..
				p.m.			
	Fort-William..lv	10 7	...	4 0	..	...	..
	Banavie ..... ,,	10 13	...	4 6	..	...	...
	Corpach .....,	10 18	...	4 11	...	...	...
	Locheilside..... ,,	10 32	...	4 25	...	...	...
	Glenfinnan..... ,,	10 47	..	4 40	..	...	...
	Lochailort ..... ,,	11 11	..	5 4	..	...	...
	Arisaig..... ,,	11 32	..	5 25	..	...	...
	Morar ..... ,,	11 44	..	5 37	..	...	...
	Mallaig.....arrive	11 52	..	5 45	..	...	...
STEAMER	Mallaig..... lv	11a55	11 55	...	...	..	..
	Isle Ornsay,,	..	...	...	...	..	..
	Glenelg..... ,,	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Kyleakin... ,,	...	2 25	...	...	...	...
	Broadford.. ,,	...	3 5	...	...	...	...
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	Portree ..... ,,	...	5 20	...	...	...	...
	Stornoway.ar	8p15	..	...	...	.

STORNOWAY.

TIDE TABLE—HIGH WATER.

DECEMBER.

		Morning		Evening.
		H. M.		H. M.
Sunday	27.....	0 18	...	0 48
Monday	28.....	1 20	...	1 59
Tuesday	29.....	2 38	...	3 10
Wednesday	30.....	3 42	...	4 12
Thursday	31.....	4 39	...	5 3

JANUARY.

Friday	1.....	5 26	...	5 48
Saturday	2.....	6 8	...	6 30

VITAL STATISTICS. — The Registrar's returns for the parish for the week ending Thursday are:—Births. 9 (5 males and 4 females); marriages. nil; deaths. 4 (2 males and 2 females).

CLOSE TIME.—At a largely attended meeting of the Lewis Fishermen's Association held in the Masonic Hall on Tuesday—Mr Kenneth Crichton in the chair—it was unanimously agreed that the usual West Coast close time be observed, namely, 10th April to 10th May.

EARLY LAMBING.—On Friday of last week while the shepherd on Miavaig Farm was rounding up the sheep he came upon a black-faced ewe belonging to Mr Macrae with a newly-dropped lamb. Both lamb and ewe were in good condition. and promise to do well. This is the first time we have heard of a lamb being found in the heath in Lewis in the month of December.

POORHOUSE BOARD.—The annual statutory meeting of the Lewis Poorhouse Board was held on Wednesday, when the newly-appointed representatives of the various parishes in the combination were present. Ex-Provost Smith was unanimously re-elected chairman, and thanked the meeting for the honour done him. The remainder of the business was routine.

CARRIAGE ACCIDENT.—A party driving into town from Coll on Wednesday had a nasty accident on Ropewood Road immediately opposite the Poorhouse gate. The trams suddenly snapped. the horse bolted, and the occupants were thrown on the road. Fortunately they escaped scatheless. with the exception of one female. who sustained rather a severe bruising and shock.

LEWIS HOSPITAL.—The Hon. Secretary has pleasure in acknowledging the following donations and presents:—20s from Free Presbyterian congregation. North Tolsta; £10 10s from Colonel Stewart Mackenzie of Seaforth for the Endowment Fund; six pheasants from Mrs Stewart Mackenzie of Seaforth; three fowls from a friend; one sack of potatoes and one sack turnips from Mr Angus Mackenzie. Melbost Farm.

CHARITY ENTERTAINMENT.—We would remind our readers of the entertainment to be given in the Drill Hall on Tuesday by the R.N.R. Instructors and Coastguards. A most attractive programme has been arranged, including exhibitions of cutlass and club swinging, musical drill, and the usual items of the naval variety entertainment. The proceeds are in aid of the Hospital. Both for the sake of the promoters and the object there is sure to be, as on former occasions, a full house.

LOCHS PARISH COUNCIL.—At a statutory meeting held at Keose Rev. D. MacCallum was re-elected chairman. In accepting office he thanked the Council for his unanimous re-election. and expressed the hope that they would all work together for the welfare of the parish in the coming year as they had done in the past. The chairman and Councillor Mackenzie. Keose. were appointed representatives on the Lewis Combination Poorhouse Board. The chairman was also re-elected to represent the Council on the Lewis District Committee of the County Council.

B.W.T.A. SOCIAL.—A social meeting under the auspices of the Stornoway Branch B.W.T.A. was held in the hall of the United Free English Church on Tuesday evening—Rev. A. Murray presiding. After a first-class tea provided by the ladies of the Association. an excellent programme was gone through. Addresses were delivered by Mrs John Mackenzie. Scotland Street. and Rev. W. S. Todd, Mr John A. White, and Mr Wm. Hamilton. who were in town as a deputation from the Grand Lodge of Scotland. I.O.G.T. Mrs Fife (nee Morrison) contributed a voluntary on the American organ. and songs were sung by Mrs Anderson. Miss Jessie Pope. Miss Maggie Macleod. Miss Maggie Macneill. and Miss Dora Murray. The programme proved highly enjoyable. the forcible addresses of the Good Templar brethren and the musical items being equally appreciated by the audience. The customary votes of thanks terminated the proceedings.

I.O.G.T.—RESUSCITATION OF LODGE.—During the present week Stornoway was visited by a deputation from the Grand Lodge of Scotland, I.O.G.T., the main purpose of which was to resuscitate the Pharos Lodge, which has been defunct for some time, though the charter had not been surrendered. The deputation consisted of Bros. Rev. W. S. Todd, G.Co.; Wm. Hamilton, P.G.E.S.; and John A. White, Grand Lodge agent. On Sunday they preached in several churches in town, and all were present at and addressed the Christian Endeavour meeting in the afternoon. On Monday a public meeting was held in the United Free English Church Hall, at which Provost Anderson presided. Besides the members of the deputation there were on the platform Rev. Mr Murray and Rev. Mr Macfarlane, assistant, United Free High Church. Rev. J. H. S. Hunter was also present, as well as a number of the leading citizens. Unfortunately the night was very wet and stormy, and this told against the attendance. Rev. Mr Murray, who presided at the opening of the meeting, welcomed the deputation, after which Rev. Mr Macfarlane submitted and spoke to the following resolution:—"That this meeting emphatically protests against the avowed intention of the Government to limit or destroy the discretionary power of the Magistrates to refuse licenses and to legalise the payment of compensation for the non-renewal of licenses, and thereby convert the privilege of selling drink for one year into a vested interest; and pledges itself to strenuously resist the passing of those proposals into law, and to strongly oppose every attempt to legalise compensation in any form." The resolution was seconded by ex-Provost Smith, J.P., who said, if the discretionary power of the Magistrate were withdrawn he did not see what would be the use of the Court, and he, for one, would not attend —(applause). Bro. Hamilton, in a vigorous address, supported the resolution, arguing that the license-holders have no claim to compensation legally, morally, or in equity. The resolution was unanimously carried, and copies ordered to be forwarded to Mr Balfour, Sir Henry Campbell-Bannerman, Mr J. Galloway Weir, M.P.; the Home Secretary, the Secretary for Scotland, Mr Herbert Gladstone, M.P.; and Captain Sinclair, M.P. Provost Anderson took the opportunity to explain why he had resigned from the new Licensing Committee, to which he had been appointed by the County Council. He did so because the Lewis District was not given an opportunity to nominate its representatives; because the appointments were made by the Finance Committee (at which only eight members attended) instead of by the County Council; and because all the representatives chosen were councillors for landward constituencies where there were not licenses; and while all the licenses were situate in the town, neither of the town members were selected. One of the eight gentlemen who did this was the prospective Unionist candidate for Ross and Cromarty, and when he came to Stornoway he (the Provost) intended to put a few questions to him on the matter—(applause). He felt it so strongly that he declined to act, and if the others nominated would also resign he believed it would have the effect of taking the County Council to its senses —(applause). Bro. Rev. W. S. Todd also spoke, after which the old members of the Pharos Lodge met and reconstituted. Bro. Todd presided. Fourteen candidates were initiated, and one member was received on clearance card. Bro. Wm. Grant was elected Chief Templar, Bro. Chas. Hunter secretary, and Bro. Don. Maciver [illegible] commended for Lodge Deputy. It [illegible] agreed to continue the filling of the offices till next Monday, when the Lodge meets at 8.30 p.m.

BARVAS PARISH COUNCIL.—The statutory meeting of the above was held at Barvas, when Mr James P. Helm, Galson, was unanimously re-elected chairman. Mr Helm thanked the members for this renewed token of their confidence, and hoped they would one and all seek to advance the best interests of the parish. Councillors J. P. Helm and Roderick Macleod, Shader, were appointed representatives to the Poorhouse Board, and the Chairman was elected to represent the Council on the District Committee.

LEWIS ANTIQUARIES.—We are pleased to observe that Mr W. M. Mackenzie, of Glasgow Academy (M.A. honours of Edinburgh University), has been elected an F.S.A. of Scotland. His antiquarian researches in Lewis while on holiday during the present year have, we believe, contributed largely to the honour just conferred upon him, and we hope in a future issue to give his paper. Mr Mackenzie, as is well known, is editor of several of Sir Walter Scott's poetical works, and his introductions and notes to these editions (published by Messrs A. & C. Black, London), have been appreciably received by the press.

FISHING.—The fishing during the week has been very successful, the only drawback being a heavy gale on Monday, which kept all the boats in harbour, and so made Tuesday a blank day so far as landings are concerned. The total on Friday was 180 crans from three boats. The s.s. Earn of Portessie had 100, and the Dutiful, of Stornoway, 60 crans. Prices were 15s 9d to 18s 3d. On Saturday, thirty boats had 250 crans, and prices were 14s to 20s a cran. Tuesday, as stated, was blank. On Wednesday, fifty crans were landed from two boats, the s.s. Diligent, of Findochty, having 40. Prices, 17s to 24s. The best fishing since the opening of the season was delivered on Thursday, namely, 350 crans from twenty boats. Prices, 14s 6d to 18s. The following Stornoway boats had shots:—Magnificent, 50; Ocean Bride, D. L. Mackenzie, Winsome, and Bo, 40 crans. Nearly all the boats got off to sea again on Thursday night.

NICOLSON INSTITUTE.—At a special meeting of the School Board held on Tuesday—Mr Æneas M. Mackenzie, chairman presiding---seven applications were submitted for the post of supplementary class teacher in the Institute. Mr Charles Ferrier, Peterhead, was appointed. Mr L. R. B. Grainger,, Cowdenbeath Public School and Mr A. L. Fletcher, Lochee, Dundee, were placed second and third respectively. The Clerk was authorised to offer the appointment to Mr Grainger if Mr Ferrier declines, and to Mr Fletcher failing Mr Grainger. A letter was read from Mrs Flora Sutherland, Nicolson Institute, stating that she has received an appointment in Lady Matheson's Female Industrial School, and thanking the Board for the recent increase to her salary. Intimation was received from the County Council that Councillors K. Maclennan and J. M. Morison have been re-appointed managers of Nicolson Institute Secondary Department.

HERRING CLOSE TIME.

A PROTEST.

[TO THE EDITOR OF "THE HIGHLAND NEWS"]

SIR,—The following cutting from the columns of the "Edinburgh Evening News" will not, I think, surprise any reader of common sense:—"At a meeting of Stornoway Town Council the members were unanimous in characterising as impertinent the action of the Moray Firth Fishermen's Association in taking upon themselves to declare a close time at Stornoway from 10th April to 10th May, while every other port on the West and East Coasts were open. It was the opinion of the meeting that Stornoway should be declared open the whole year round, and that fishermen should be at liberty to take herrings whenever and wherever they could." It is not at all surprising that the Stornoway Town Council considered the action of the Moray Firth Fishermen's Association impertinent in declaring a close time from 10th April to 10th May. I should like to ask where this Association gets the authority to rule the seas in such a high-handed manner. Do the Moray Firth fishermen think for a moment that the people of Stornoway cannot rule their own affairs? If so, they are very much mistaken, and my advice to them is to keep within their own bounds. How would they like Stornoway representatives to draw up rules to regulate the Moray Firth fishings? It might perhaps be well for the East Coast men to get grievances removed from their own doorsteps before attempting to regulate matters in the West. In any case, what purpose would this new regulation serve? The proposed close time is not a spawning season. The Moray Firth men can remain and fish up till the 10th April, and then go home and have their boats renovated and their nets put in order, and return on the 10th of May. My opinion is that they should allow the Stornoway men to settle their own business. I quite see the importance to the Moray Firth men of not having the fishing continued during their absence, but there are other than selfish motives to consider, and their Association are not yet masters of the situation.—I am, Sir, yours. &c.,

NEPTUNE.

SKYE NEWS.

STAFFIN—CROFTER'S WILL.—An inventory of the personal estate of the late Wm. Macleod, crofter, Clachan, Staffin, has been lodged with the Sheriff-Clerk of Inverness-shire. The gross estate amounts to £1815 2s.

RAASAY—DEATH OF AN OLD INHABITANT. —The death took place recently of one of the oldest inhabitants of the Raasay estate in the person of Mr John Macmillan. Deceased took a keen interest in public affairs, was highly respected in the district, and did much for the furtherance of religion in the Highlands. He was always kind, courteous, and obliging, which qualities endeared him to young and old alike. Possessed of a retentive memory, and being a splendid "recounteur," his reminiscences of the past were most interesting, and always graphically told. Mr Macmillan leaves a widow, and a family of two sons and three daughters, for whom much sympathy is felt.

SURPRISE PRESENTATION VISIT TO A SKYE COUPLE.—A few evenings ago Mr Lachlan Mackinnon, wine merchant, received a surprise visit in South Street, Greenock, from a number of friends. Mr Alex. Maclaren explained to Mr and Mrs Mackinnon that, as old friends, they had called to convey their warmest congratulations to them on the occasion of their marriage, and to welcome Mrs Mackinnon on her home-coming. Mr Mackinnon expressed the thanks of his wife and himself at the unexpected but welcome visit. Mr Kenneth Macglashan then, in name of those present, handed Mr Mackinnon a gold-mounted silk umbrella for his wife and a handsome Gladstone travelling bag for himself. The meeting was a very happy one. Mr and Mrs Mackinnon are natives of Glendale, Skye.

PURCHASE OF GLENDALE ESTATE.—The discovery that the purchasers of the Glendale estate, Skye, are the Congested Districts Board has raised the hopes of the people of Tiree, who are much in favour of the suggestion made by Mr Ainsworth, M.P., when presiding at the annual gathering of the Glasgow Tiree Association the other evening, that the Congested Districts Board should purchase the island and place it under crofters. The climate and soil are well adapted for small holdings, and, were a pier erected, the island could be turned to good account. Although the best land in the island is at present in the hands of two or three large farmers or graziers, the crofters of the island are among the most comfortable in the Highlands. The crofts are not too small, and the rents were very much reduced by the Crofter Commission, so that the holders of such crofts are now very comfortable.

LEWIS PLACE-NAMES.

[TO THE EDITOR OF "THE HIGHLAND NEWS."]

SIR,—There are one or two slight mistakes in the last instalment of my paper, and I will feel obliged if you make the following corrections in your first issue:—

Mjo—Instead of "Jenr of mjor narrow forms the fem. qualifying term in the following" read "Mjo fem. of mjor narrow forms the qualifying term in the following."

Naut—Instead of "the land of the cattle land Norse" read "land of the cattle; land is Norse."

Tursachan—Instead of "different from the next" read "different from the rest."

I do not wish to reply to "Mac-an-Suinn" until I see whether himself or any other will continue the discussion; but in his case I hope soon to see him at Philippi.—I am, Sir, yours, &c.,

K. MACKENZIE.

"OUR TEUTONIC COUSINS."

The annual lecture and entertainment organised by Mr J. F. Macfarlane, in aid of Quarrier's Orphan Homes took place in the U.F. English Church Hall on Wednesday. Mr Macfarlane was fortunate in securing Mr W. J. Gibson, M.A., as lecturer, and Major Matheson of the Lewis as chairman, both of them gentlemen who are always willing to assist in the promotion of a worthy cause. There was a good attendance. The Chairman, in his opening remarks, gave a brief sketch of the late Mr Quarrier's life and the wonderful growth of the Homes at Bridge of Weir. The characteristics of Quarrier's life were an absolute trust in God, and a large-hearted, tender love for all who were in difficulties or affliction, added to the maxim "Whatsoever thy hand findeth to do, do it with thy might." His work and the results were their own commendation—(applause). He was sure they were all glad to meet to do something, however small, for such a wonderful national institution, and personally he was very pleased to preside on that occasion—(applause).

The lecturer, in opening, discussed the chief characteristics of the Teutonic ancestors of the modern Germans, Britons, and Americans. He particularly referred to the prominence they gave to the ideas of individual liberty and representative government. He then proceeded to compare Germany, Britain, and the United States as regards the liberty of the subject. the purity of the law courts. and the honesty of municipal administration. The municipal government of a city like New York was commented upon as a blot to the country. He next dealt with the military arrangements of the three, especially as affecting civilians. Germany had a special military problem, inasmuch as it had a land frontier dividing it from hostile or possibly hostile neighbours. It was the only one of the three that had found it necessary to insist on compulsory military service. America had a very small standing army, but a considerable strength of militia. Britain kept up a large standing army, but the special feature of her organisation was the volunteer force, which had, however, not been taken very seriously by our War Office previous to the South African war. That war had shown that Britain had a strong patriotic feeling which could be depended upon to produce volunteers in time of war. America had depended on the same source of supply during the Civil War and the Spanish War. He described the patriotic feeling in America during the latter war, and the quickening of national life involved in it. The amusements of the three peoples were then contrasted. The German enjoyed his simple evenings with music in the biergartens; the American took his holiday pleasures as intensely as he took his work; the Briton took his pleasures sadly. Scotland was particularly lacking in amusements for the people. The views of the three nations on the subject of education were compared. Germany and America had a thorough belief in education; Britain as a nation had not. The old Scottish traditional respect for education and willingness to make sacrifices to obtain it seemed to be on the wane, but he hoped the country would soon go back again to its old traditional standpoint on this subject. He briefly referred to the religious beliefs in the three countries, and to their methods of Sunday observance. Then followed descriptions of the Rhineland, of ocean travel, and of American ways, with specimens of Yankee humour. The lecturer concluded with an analysis of the character of our German and American cousins, holding they were both nations to be reckoned with, and likely to make their mark in the future history of the world. He expressed his belief that for freedom, for purity of public administration, and for the hope contained in its institutions of orderly progress in the future our own country was second to none; and that in no other could a man live his life and do his work more happily—(loud applause).

At an interval in the lecture songs (Gaelic and English) were sung by Mr J. H. Matheson and Mr Roderick Mackenzie, which were much appreciated. Mr Robert Maciver acted as accompanist. The lecture, as can be gathered from the outline given above, was very comprehensive, and Mr Gibson had the close attention of his audience all through, which is perhaps the highest compliment that can be paid the lecture. At the close the Chairman proposed a very hearty vote of thanks to Mr Gibson, and also to Messrs Matheson, Mackenzie, and Maciver, who so kindly contributed to their amusement. Ex-Provost Smith said they were proud to see their excellent proprietor in the chair—(applause)—and he proposed a hearty vote of thanks to him.

CLAN MACKINNON SOCIETY.

"ROB ROY MACGREGOR—WHAT HE REALLY WAS."

An open meeting of the Clan Mackinnon Society was held in the Waterloo Rooms, Waterloo Street, on Wednesday evening, 16th inst. Mr Wm. K. Mackinnon, president, occupied the chair, and was supported by ex-President Robert Mackinnon, of Govan; Vice-President Lachlan Mackinnon, and Mr Archibald Mackinnon, director. There was a fair attendance.

The Chairman, in a few words, introduced Mr A. S. M'Bride, who delivered an interesting and instructive lecture on the subject of "Rob Roy Macgregor—what he really was."

The lecturer stated that Highlanders had hitherto suffered severely through being judged by Sassenach juries and from Sassenach standpoints. The right of every man to be judged by his Peers ought, however, to be recognised, and environment and blood are both real forces in the formation of character which require to be taken into account in judging the individual or the clan. He rapidly sketched the history of Clan Gregor, showing that for a long time they were treated as outlaws. Warrants were issued authorising the extermination of the clan, and the only one who showed them any kindness was Queen Mary. There were, indeed, heavy penalties against any one having communication with any person of the name of Macgregor, and they were denied the commonest rights of humanity. In 1661, however, Charles II. annulled these laws after they had been in operation for 300 years, and the principal factor in securing this concession was the services rendered to the State by Colonel Donald Macgregor, the father of Rob Roy. Rob Roy was born in 1660. It was impossible to give in anything like detail the life history of this remarkable Highlander. The lecturer would not attempt to do this, but would simply give a series of "snap-shots" illustrative of his career. A vivid picture was given of the young hero, who was a healthy youth, fond of poetry, and educated above the average. He was also a splendid performer on the pipes, not only of ordinary music, but also of the classic pibroch. It was evident, from the information available, that the father of Rob Roy was a man of some distinction, and the strong feeling and clanship born in Rob Roy was only strengthened by the knowledge of the persecutions suffered by his clan. The lecturer proceeded to describe Rob Roy's life as the farmer of Balquidder, and spoke of his marriage with Mary Ellen Macgregor—a woman of agreeable and domestic habits. The Helen Macgregor of the stage never had any existence. Mary Ellen Macgregor was of quite a different nature—a woman of superior tastes and an expert player on the clarsach. Some interesting details were then given of Rob Roy's partnership with the Duke of Montrose, and the cruel persecution he suffered at the hands of his unscrupulous partner. The lecturer sketched in graphic language the circumstances leading up to the eviction of Rob Roy and his family from their home and the confiscation of his property while he himself was absent. The feelings of the Highlander, on returning to find his home untenanted, were depicted in the most eloquent manner, and his subsequent persecutions by his powerful enemy and his ultimate triumph found a ready sympathy with the audience. In 1722 Rob submitted himself and his clan to General Wade and his army, who were then in Scotland. The result of this action was a meeting in London in Argyll's house between Montrose and Roy, where a reconciliation took place. Twelve years afterwards the bold Highland chief died peacefully at Balquidder on 28th December, 1734. All through his career he had shown himself to be a man whose character was naturally ingenuous and trustful. He was thoroughly and absolutely honest, a man of sterling honour and generous and kindly feelings, and of undoubted ability. The lecturer, in concluding, trusted that he had acomplished one thing at least by his lecture that evening, and that was to remove some of the wrong impressions in the mind of his audience against one whose character had suffered specially from misrepresentation. The lecture was interspersed by illustrative songs, sung by Miss Bessie Mackinnon, Messrs A. B. Ferguson and L. Mackinnon, Miss M'Bride officiating capably at the pianoforte.

Messrs Ex-President Robert Mackinnon, Vice-President L. Mackinnon, senior; and Director Arch. Mackinnon expressed their high appreciation of the lecture, which was worthy of a much larger audience, and the customary votes of thanks concluded a delightful meeting.

ST ORAN'S HIGHLAND CEILIDH "AT HOME."

A very successful "At Home" was given by the members of St Oran's Highland Ceilidh in the Free Gardeners' Hall on Friday evening, the 18th inst. There was a very large attendance, the members being received by the Rev. George R. Maclennan, the President, Mrs Macculloch, Mrs Simpson, and Mrs Campbell. A short address by the President and an excellent programme of vocal and instrumental music filled up a very enjoyable evening. The Rev. G. R. Maclennan presided, and was supported on the platform by Messrs L. Macpherson, vice-president; A. J. Baker, J. T. Galbraith, M.D.; Alexander Sim, and Ronald Brown, the hon. secretary; and among those present were Messrs Donald Mackechnie, Alexander Gunn, William Simpson, John Macculloch, D. S. Mackinnon, Duncan Campbell, Donald Macculloch, H. D. Speak, Iain Macdougall, Charles Macarthur, M. Mackinnon, John Nicolson, D. Cumming, James Gray, John Brown, John Munro, Iain Moonie, Iain Macculloch, S. Macpherson, Walker, Watt, Cullen, and Gill, &c.

Amongst the ladies present were—Mrs Macculloch, Mrs Simpson, Mrs Campbell, Mrs Mackechnie, Mrs Baker, Mrs Sim, Miss Sim, Mrs Aitken, Miss Pratt, Miss Giessler, the Misses Cumming, the Misses Mackinnon, the Misses Simpson, Miss Macintyre, Miss Macneilage, Miss Thomas, Miss Mackay, the Misses King, the Misses Macpherson, Mrs Rennie, Mrs Moodie, Miss Moodie, Mrs Black, Mrs Nicolson, Miss Macculloch, Miss Macduff, Miss Anderson, Miss Macaulay, Mrs Mackay, Miss Macrae, &c.

As the members were being received Miss Macculloch played some Scotch selections on the piano. Tea was served by a number of the ladies of the Ceilidh from 8 to 8.45 p.m. Thereafter the Secretary read letters of apology from Professor Mackinnon, the hon. president of the Ceilidh, and the Rev. Norman Maclean of Colinton.

The Chairman, on rising at this stage to give a short address, had a hearty reception. He expressed the pleasure of himself and the members of Committee in welcoming such a large and enthusiastic company to their "At Home." They were proud of their Ceilidh, and had reason to be. If success were to be judged by heartiness and the number of people attending, their Ceilidh was second to none in the whole Kingdom. Yet their Committee were not satisfied. They wanted to increase the membership still further—(applause).

During the evening the following programme was submitted, the large audience repeatedly indicating by hearty applause their thorough appreciation of the various items:—

Piano selections, Miss Macculloch; song, "Ceilidh Oran," Mr Maclennan; song, "Fetters of Gold," Mr Wemyss; song, "Na Gaidheil an Guallibh a cheile, Mrs Sim; quartette, Misses Simpson and Messrs Watt and Walker; song, "Selected," Miss Sim; song, "Mairi mhin mheall-shuileach," Miss Moodie; song, "Anns a Ghlann san ro mi og," Mr Gunn; whistling solo, Mr Gill; song, "The Merry Monk," Mr Cullen; song, "Maid of Athens," Mr Wemyss; reels and Strathspeys, Mr Simpson and party.

Miss Simpson, Miss Sim, and Mrs Moodie acted as accompanists. The usual votes of thanks having been awarded by Mr Maclennan and Mr Sim and "Oran Dealachaidh" sung, a most successful and enjoyable meeting terminated.

EDWARD COURTENAY & SONS
WHOLESALE EXPORTERS
OF
COURTENAY'S PURE GOLDEN BUTTER,
WATERFORD, IRELAND,
Recommend a trial order. The Trade only supplied Quality warranted, choicest butter in the market Agent for the North and West of Scotland—
ALEXANDER MORISON,
Stornoway.

HIRING! HIRING!! HIRING!!!

THE subscriber begs to intimate to all whom it may concern that he is at present, and will continue until further notice, running machines from Stornoway to Callernish and back every Tuesday, Thursday, and Saturday, leaving Stornoway at 8·30 a.m., and leaving Callernish on the return journey at 12·30 p.m., arriving in Stornoway at 3·30 p.m., giving ample time to strangers to see the far-famed Callernish Druidical stones.

He has recently added to his vehicular plant a first-class four-wheeled waggonette, proverbial for its ease and comfort. Good horses kept.

Patrons may rely on expeditious and comfortable hires at moderate rates. Forward orders booked at the stables

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AUTUMN GOODS.
LADIES' CAPES, JACKETS, &c., VERY CHEAP.
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LUMINIA CARLO,
CONFECTIONER, FRUIT AND ICE MERCHANT,
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Flavoured Ices supplied to Private Families and Hotels. Shooting Lodges supplied with the finest Norwegian Ice in any quantity for salmon packing and preserving purposes.
ORDERS PROMPTLY EXECUTED.

THE Women's Guild of the James Street United Free Church beg to thank the many friends in Stornoway and elsewhere who contributed to their Sale of Work, and also to Stornoway public who made the Sale so great a success by their kind patronage.

STORNOWAY CHORAL UNION.
The Choral Union will NOT MEET for Practice on Monday next, 28th December, but will meet on Monday, 4th January.
W. A. ROSS, Secretary.

WANTED Girl to assist in house during day. Apply No. 6406 Highland News, Stornoway.

WANTED at once for Lewis Combination Poorhouse, strong, active, capable Servant Girl. Apply to Governor.

WANTED, Smart Lad for General Merchant's Shop. One with some experience preferred. Apply immediately No. 6401 Highland News Office, Stornoway.

FOR Sale, new House 28 Laxdale; felt roof; 4 acres of ground attached. To be sold by private bargain. Apply No. 6402 Highlands News Office, Stornoway.

BOAT FOR SALE.—For Sale, by private bargain, the Herring Fishing Boat, "Watchful" (PD. 434), 20 months old, 70 feet over stems, with all appurtenances. Apply Alexander Coull, 3 Auldmanythie Road, Roanheads, Peterhead.

CURED HERRINGS.—Finest West Coast Cured Herrings in whole, half, or quarter barrels. Prices on application to Louis Bain, curer, Stornoway.

FOR
YOUR NEW-YEAR DINNER.
MR DONALD MACLEAN,
flesher, begs to intimate that he has purchased in the southern markets for the New-Year trade, a number of
FIRST PRIZE BULLOCKS,
also a large consignment of
TURKEYS, GEESE, AND FOWLS.
Call and see for yourselves at
29 POINT STREET, STOROWAY.

FOR NEW-YEAR CARDS
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You cannot do better
Than look in at . .
W. J. TOLMIE'S,
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THE PLACE TO GET YOUR FURNITURE.
The very best and cheapest Kitchen and Parlour Tables, Clothes Chests, Bedroom Chests of Drawers, Dressers, Bedsteads, Spring, Wool, and Straw Mattresses, Wool Beds and Pillows, Bamboo Hall Stands, Tables, &c., &c. All at the very lowest prices.
ALL KINDS OF FURNITURE MADE TO ORDER. REPAIRS, POLISHING, AND PICTURE-FRAMING NEATLY DONE.
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GENTLEMEN'S TAILORING
AT
MACARTHUR'S,
49 CROMWELL STREET, STORNOWAY.

BARGAINS IN BOOTS, SHOES, AND DRAPERIES
AT
51—CROMWELL STREET—51
BY
A. R. MURRAY.

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WATCHES, CLOCKS, ART JEWELLERY, ART SILVER.
Souvenirs of the Island in Lews Pebble Jewellery. Useful presents. Engagement rings. Bridal gifts. Bridesmaids' presents.
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RARE BARGAINS
IN
DRAPERY, BOOTS, GROCERIES,
OATMEAL AND FLOUR.
A. MACARTHUR,
GENERAL MERCHANT,
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ANNUAL SALE OF TRAVELLERS' SAMPLES.

The Public are very slow to believe statements made by Merchants as to "SWEEPING REDUCTIONS," "GREAT BARGAINS," &c., &c. And why? Simply because unscrupulous advertisers make statements in reference to their Goods not in conformity with the truth. While this may be so, Wm. G. Russell begs to intimate that, in accordance with his usual custom at this season of the year, he has purchased a large quantity of TRAVELLERS' SAMPLES at about 20 per cent. BELOW REGULAR WHOLESALE PRICES, and he intends offering same to his Customers at a LIKE REDUCTION, which statement can be proved by any who will visit the WAVERLEY BUILDINGS during the next week or two. This is a rare opportunity of purchasing a choice assortment of Seasonable Goods at WHOLESALE PRICES. There are no two articles alike, and the Samples comprise GENT.'S LAMB WOOL SHIRTS and PANTS, GENT.'S WOOLLEN and TWEED SHIRTS, LADIES' KNITTED VESTS, FLANNELETTE UNDERCLOTHING, STOCKINGS, KNITTED SHAWLS, PINAFORES and APRONS, CHILDREN'S FANCY HOSIERY, PINAFORES, &c. Every article marked in plain figures showing reductions. Goods on view on and after MONDAY, 21st DECEMBER.
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PURE ABERDEENSHIRE OATMEAL.
New Season's Extra Quality, milled from choicest Home Grown Oats. Guaranteed absolutely pure. Worth 6s a boll more than the Mixed Article nicknamed Oatmeal.
Brand W. J. H. to be had from
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WEST COAST AGENT—
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NEWEST FASHIONS.
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BOOTS, SHOES &c., &c.,
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MR MACDONALD WATSON
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Intends to visit Stornoway thrice yearly. Dates may be ascertained and appointments arranged on application to
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ALL KINDS OF BOOKBINDING UNDERTAKEN. SATISFACTION GUARANTEED.
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Newspapers and Magazines delivered each evening on arrival of Mail Steamer.
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WITH BEST WISHES
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We want to give you the BEST VALUE in all our offerings.
HERE GOES IT!
How would you like to buy 3s 9d Ladies' new fresh KID GLOVES for 2s 11d, in Black or Coloured; all sizes. Here is your chance! Only for one week.
GREAT BARGAINS
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Children's Combinations, Jerseys, Norfolk Jackets, Stockings, Shirts, Blouses, Skirts, Silk Handkerchiefs, Children's Dresses, Pinafores, Stockings and Underwear.
Don't forget Blankets, Table Cloths or Quilts.
GRAND VALUE
... IN ...
China Ware, Crockery, Glass Ware, Baskets, Knives and Forks, Spoons, and Fancy Goods.
RESPECTFULLY YOURS,
THE STORNOWAY POLYTECHNIC.

LOCAL NEWS.

Mr Peel Ross, Druim, has been made a cadet captain on board H.M.S. Britannia.

The estate of Holme is again in the market, and will be re-exposed for sale on the 4th January.

CLACHNAHARRY—COALS FOR THE POOR.—Mr Darwin, Muirtown, with his usual generosity, has caused to be distributed a quantity of coal among the poor in the village.

SALE OF WORK IN AID OF COTTAGE HOME.—A most successful sale of work was held on Tuesday afternoon at the Cottage Home in Charles Street. Mrs Provost Ross, in a few graceful sentences, opened the sale. There is, we learn, still a debt of £110 on the present building, and grateful thanks are due to those who have endeavoured to lessen it.

INVERNESS BURGH CONSERVATIVE ASSOCIATION.—At a meeting of the above Association, held on Wednesday evening, the following office-bearers were elected for the ensuing year, viz.:—President, Mr William Mackay, solicitor; vice-presidents, Mr A. K. Findlater and Dr Moir; secretary, Mr Wm. Charles Macbean. A council was also appointed.

PROVOST'S COAL FUND.—We learn that a considerable quantity of coal provided for by the above fund has now been distributed among the poor of the town. The Committee are to be commended for their forethought in giving the coal at present, as by so doing they are in no small measure helping to cheer the hearts of the needy at this festive season.

H.R. LITERARY SOCIETY — "GAELIC NIGHT."—On Monday evening the members of the Highland Railway Literary Society listened to a most interesting paper by Mr A. Macdonald, entitled "A Story of the Gaelic Language." A most interesting Gaelic programme was thereafter gone through, and at the close of the meeting a hearty vote of thanks was accorded to those who took part.

AT THE HARBOUR.—Business at the Inverness Harbour has been particularly dull this week, chiefly owing to the approach of the festive season. The only arrivals of importance were the s.s. Dunnington, laden with coals for Mr D. Petrie, and the s.s. Seafisher with a similar cargo for Mr Robert Taylor. There is a lull at the Thornbush Quay at present in consequence of the suspension of the sprat traffic. It is expected, however, that after the New Year holidays business will get brisker.

"SHOALS AHEAD!"—The buoys to which we referred in a recent issue have now been placed in position by order of the Northern Lighthouse Commissioners to mark the following shoals in the Beauly Firth, viz., Riff Bank East, Riff Bank West, Munlochy Shoal, and Middle Bank. Their warning lights can be mightily seen gleaming fitfully through the gloom. The buoys are, we understand, visited every three months by the Lighthouse tender and charged with gas, the light being continuous.

A CHANGE OF WEATHER.—In the early part of the week the atmospheric conditions underwent a complete change, and under the influence of a genial breeze from the south-west the ice king was forced to relax his icy grasp, although the result was that for a day or two the thoroughfares were in a muddy state. Even this was a welcome change as compared with the treacherous, slippery nature of the roadways last week. On the heights a great part of the snow has disappeared, and throughout the north outdoor work has been resumed.

THE SIR HECTOR MACDONALD MEMORIAL.—The committee of the Sir Hector Macdonald Memorial Fund, inaugurated by the Macdonald Society, announce that the sum on hand amounts to £731 1s 6d, and that a total of £1000 is expected before the fund closes. The Highlanders of Greenock, Stirling, Paisley, &c., as well as many subscribers to the Glasgow fund, are desirous that a monument should be erected in the North, and a recommendation to that effect is likely to be made to the meeting of subscribers which is to be held early in January.

CHRISTMAS TRAFFIC ON HIGHLAND RAILWAY.—The cheap fares advertised by the various railway companies throughout the country came into operation on 23rd inst., with the result that the passenger traffic on the Highland Railway was very much augmented, the number of passengers from the South being fully equal to last year, while at Inverness and the other principal stations along the line the bookings compare favourably with previous seasons. Business in the Parcel Department has also been brisk, the number of parcels conveyed being up to former years.

DORES—SUPPER AND ENTERTAINMENT.—On Monday evening last Miss Robertson, with her usual generosity, entertained a company of neighbours and friends to a sumptuous supper and entertainment in the modelling room at the Dores Art Pottery Works. Supper being over, the tables were cleared, when the company engaged in dancing, which was kept up with much spirit for a few hours, excellent music being supplied by Messrs Fraser and Anderson. Songs (Gaelic and English) were excellently rendered by the Misses Macgruer and Messrs Shaw, Anderson and Nicolson. At the close a hearty vote of thanks was accorded to Miss Robertson for her great kindness in giving such an enjoyable entertainment, also to her assistants, the vocalists, and the musicians.

P.S.E.—The programme at the pleasant Saturday entertainments to-night is a varied and pleasing one. Among the performers will be Miss Hilda Chisholm (soprano), a young lady of exceptional talent. She will be supported by a company of the best of local artistes. A special feature of to-night's entertainment will be a grand free Christmas prize drawing of over fifty prizes, including handsome pictures in good frames, worthy of a place in any home; electro-plated cruet stands, opal vases, claret decanters, a handsome blue and gold China tea set (40 pieces), two magnificent electro-plated tea trays, and a great many other articles. Purchasers of a 6d ticket will be presented with two drawing tickets; those buying a 3d ticket with one drawing ticket. The entertainment should prove attractive.

NORTH OF SCOTLAND PLATE GLASS INSURANCE COMPANY, LTD.—We have been favoured with a copy of the ninth annual report and balance-sheet of the North of Scotland Plate Glass Insurance Company, Ltd., from which we observe that the revenue of the Company (less re-insurance premiums and bonuses to policy-holders) amounts to £560 0s 7d, the balance at credit of revenue account being £176 2s 7½d, a sum which in addition to other provisions allows of a dividend at the rate of 12½ per cent. free of income tax. This company, of which Mr Richard Duffy, Norwich Union Chambers, Inverness, is managing director, is still extending its connections by appointing agents and district managers throughout the north, and gives promise of doing a very large business in future. The annual meeting of the shareholders will be held in the Station Hotel on Wednesday at noon.

FOOD IN SICKNESS.

The season of damps and chills brings with it the ailments peculiar to our climate. The vital question of diet has then to be well considered. Light, delicate dishes, containing in their correct proportions the nutriment essential to sustain the deranged system without raising the body's temperature, are the proper dietary articles. One of the most suitable of these is Brown & Polson's "Patent" Corn Flour prepared with milk, as a gruel or hot baked pudding. Such dishes are nutritious and very easily digested, and their delicate flavour makes them very appetising to the sick and convalescent. In times of sickness, when the appetite is weak and the palate unusually sensitive, particular care must be taken in selecting only the best qualities of foods, and Brown & Polson's "Patent" Corn Flour, owing to its long reputation for purity and excellent quality, is *the* Corn Flour for the sick room. See that you get it, and ask particularly for their "Patent" Corn Flour, their best quality.

JUST TO REMIND YOU WHERE TO CALL OR WRITE FOR CHOICE USEFUL GOODS SUITABLE

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AT MOST MODERATE PRICES.

JONATHAN ROSS & CO. are now showing a Beautiful Assortment of the following Goods suitable for NEW YEAR PRESENTS:—

FUR NECKLETS, in the newest shapes, from 6s to 80s.
MUFFS, in marmot, fox, skunk, sable, and Persian lamb, fram 5s 6d to 90s.
CHILDREN'S SETS MUFF and COLLARETTE, from 2s 11d to 12s 6d the set.
LADIES' UMBRELLAS, gold-plated and silver-mounted handles, from 6s 11d to 25s.
LADIES' KID GLOVES, 2s 6d, 2s 9d, 3s 6d, and 3s 11d a pair.
KID GLOVES, lined Milanese silk—the ideal winter glove—2s 6d and 3s 11d a pair.
DENT'S REAL REINDEER GLOVES, very durable, 4s 11d a pair.
GENT.'S KID GLOVES, lined and unlined, from 2s 6d to 4s a pair.
ALL OUR GLOVES ARE GUARANTEED.
LADIES' HEMSTITCHED and EMBROIDERED HANDKERCHIEFS, 2s 11d to 6s per half-dozen.
LADIES' IRISH LAWN HANDKERCHIEFS, hemstitched, tucked, veined, and lace trimmed, 1s to 4s 6d per half-dozen.
FANCY BOXES containing half-a-dozen handkerchiefs, in a variety of lovely designs, from 1s to 4s 6d a box. These make very useful presents.
GENT.'S LINEN HANDKERCHIEFS, from 3s to 6s per half-dozen.
LADIES' LAWN HANDKERCHIEFS, with initials, 6d each.
HEMSTITCHED JAP SILK HANDKERCHIEFS, with embroidered initials, 1s each.
GENTLEMEN'S LARGE SIZE DO., with initials, 1s 6d each.
GENT.'S SILK SCARVES, from 1s to 2s 6d.
GENT.'S SILK MUFFLERS, from 2s 6d to 7s 6d.
Special Value in Shetland Shawls, white, 1¼ yards and Grey Borders, almost 2 yards square, 1s 11½d each.
LADIES' SILK SCARVES, STOCK TIES and STOLES, from 1s to 3s 11d.
LADIES' LACE COLLARS from 1s 6d to 7s 6d.
REAL MALTESE LACE COLLARS, 15s 6d to 18s 6d.
REAL MALTESE LACE SCARVES, 18s 6d to 21s.
LADIES' SILK BLOUSES from 6s 11d to 21s.
LADIES' BLOUSES, in flannel, Cashmere, and delaine, from 4s 11d to 12s 11d.
LOVELY CASHMERE and NUN'S VELLING BLOUSES, with accordeon pleated fronts and lace yokes, in all the leading evening shades, 6s 6d each. Marvellous value.
LADIES' APRONS, in silk, satin, Cashmere, and Lustre.
MAIDS' MUSLIN APRONS from 1s to 3s 6d.
MAIDS' WASHING CAPS, 6d to 1s 6d.
CHILDREN'S MUSLIN PINAFORES in great variety.
CHILDREN'S JAP SILK PINAFORES and FROCKS.
CHILDREN'S CASHMERE and NUN'S VELLING FROCKS.
CHILDREN'S COATS, with HATS to match, from 7s 6d up.
INFANTS' BIBS, BOOTS, and SHOES.
LADIES' DRESSING CASES, 8s 6d to 10s 6d.
PEARL NECKLETS, 1s, 1s 6d, 2s 6d.
LADIES' FANS, 2s 6d to 21s.
HANDKERCHIEF SACHETS, hand-painted, 1s to 3s 6d.
PIN CUSHIONS, NEEDLE CASES, PURSES, BAGS.
DOWN QUILTS, from 12s 6d to 60s.
DOWN CUSHIONS, TEA COSIES.
CUSHION SLIPS and COSIE SLIPS.
NIGHT DRESS, and BRUSH and COMB CASES.

THE FAVOUR OF A CALL WILL OBLIGE

JONATHAN ROSS & CO.,

FAMILY DRAPERY WAREHOUSE,

7 HIGH STREET, INVERNESS.

NEW-YEAR PRESENTS.

GRAND CLEARING SALE

OF

FANCY GOODS, PICTURES, TOYS, &c.,

AT THE

HIGHLAND BAZAAR,

10 CHURCH STREET.

F. MACIVER, Proprietor.

As my intentions are to make extensive alterations on my Premises in the forthcoming Spring for more accommodation, I am compelled to effect a speedy Clearance of my Valuable Stock at a reduction of at least 25 per cent. Ask quotations for any of the undernoted Goods, and I am confident I can supply them at prices which cannot be touched elsewhere.

LEATHER AND CABINET GOODS.

Dressing cases, bags of all kinds, albums, work baskets, ladies' companions, purses, cigar and cigarette cases, pictures and frames of every description, artistically fitted boxes, antique curios.

Pictures in oil and water-colour, photos, engravings, fitted oil and water-colour boxes, mathematical instrument cases, whitewood frames for poker work, plaques, tables, easles, &c., &c.

TOYS! TOYS! TOYS!

Dolls, an immense variety, tea and dinner sets, horses, carts, drums, soldiers, building bricks, Noah's Arks, guns, and mechanical toys of every description.

NEW-YEAR CARDS.

New-Year Cards with heather and English or Gaelic mottoes, at 2d, 3d, 4d, and 6d each. Hand-painted cards with local views. Celluloid, Plush, and Comic Cards from 1d to 2s 6d each.

The UNIVERSAL BOX, containing 12 High-class New Year Cards and Envelopes, 1s.

HEARTY GOODWILL, containing 10 choice New-Year Cards and Envelopes, 1s.

RURAL SKETCHES, containing do., 1s.

The MARLBOROUGH CASKET, containing 12 beautiful high-class cards and envelopes, 2s 6d.

The RELIABLE PACKET, containing 24 high-class New Year Cards, 1s.

The RELIABLE PACKET of 12 well-selected and artistic New-Year Cards, 6d.

Add 2d extra for Postage.

Letter Orders promptly attended to.

All communications addressed—

HIGHLAND BAZAAR, INVERNESS.

PRIZE BEEF,

PRIZE MUTTON,

And PORK

— FOR —

THE NEW YEAR.

— AT —

FRASER, KENNEDY & FRASER,

THE ARCADE (MARKET ENTRY),

UNION STREET.

We have purchased a large number of both Cattle and Sheep at recent Shows, including the FIRST PRIZE CHAMPION HEIFER, the winner of many laurels, including the Duke of Fife's Hundred Guinea Cup, the Duke of Richmond's Special Prize, and Sir R. B. Finlay's Challenge Cup, and many other Prizes. (Can be seen at our shop To-day). We have also purchased many other animals of fine substance.

With our own Sheep we have won First Prize in their class, and were reserved for Championship in Show. We have a large number of these Sheep on hand for our New-Year Trade. The like of this Mutton cannot be beat for excellence of quality.

The quality of our Pork is already famous, being procured from most of the best farms in the country, and guaranteed clean fed.

SPECIALITIES.

CORNED ROUNDS, CORNED ROLLS, SILVER-SIDES (Salt); PICKLED OX TONGUES, specially Cured for the New Year.

BEEF and PORK SAUSAGES (own make) fresh daily.

Our prices are very moderate for First-Class Quality, and parties entrusting us with their orders will not be disappointed.

CAKES FOR THE NEW YEAR.

SULTANA CAKES, SEED CAKES
MADEIRA CAKES, SPONGE CAKES,
GINGER BREAD CAKES, and
SHORTBREAD (Plain and Ornamented).

All our CAKES are made from PUREST INGREDIENTS and FINEST FRUITS.

Try our Special Farthing . . .
WINE BISCUITS—
. . . A PERFECT TREAT.

A Trial Respectfully Solicited.

MURRAY'S

CHURCH STREET BAKERY,

INVERNESS.

MDME FATMA, M.B.I.M.S., EGYPTIAN PALMIST AND CRYSTAL GAZER,
Late of the Egyptian Bazaars, from Cairo,
Will attend at
THE GREAT AMERICAN 6½D BAZAAR,
ACADEMY STREET,
DAILY.

FAMOUS "LOVAT" PIPE and MIXTURE. Sole Agents: A. Robertson & Co., hairdressers and tobacconists, 37 Union Street, Inverness.

THE ONLY PERFECT SMOKING MIXTURE—AMBREBURY. Henry Clay & Company, 1a Union Street, Inverness.

FERGUSON BROTHERS

have resolved to sacrifice

ALL THEIR GOODS AT GREAT REDUCTION IN PRICES.

Electro Plate, Clocks, Jewellery, and High-Class Barometers, very suitable for marriage presents.

Optical, Watch, Clock, and Jewellery Repairs at moderate prices.

4—DRUMMOND STREET—4
INVERNESS.

UNSURPASSED FOR VALUE.

WELL-MADE

HOUSEHOLD FURNITURE

... AT ...

WHOLESALE PRICES.

60 Parlour Suites at 42s 6d, 75s, 90s, and £6 15s per set.
55 Bedroom Suites, 32s, 45s, 80s, and £8 17s 6d per set.
84 Carpet Squares from 8s 9d upwards.
130 Rugs from 1s 6d upwards.

EXAMPLE OF HOW A PARLOUR CAN BE FURNISHED WITH TASTE AND ECONOMY—
2 Arm and 4 Single Chairs covered in Leather, velvet, or tapestry.
1 Centre Table.
1 Carpet Square, 9 ft. by 9 ft., with Rug to match.
1 Cornice Pole with ends, rings, and brackets.
1 Pair Lace or Muslin Curtains.
The Whole of the Above for £3 15s.

EXAMPLE OF HOW A NICE BEDROOM CAN BE FURNISHED FOR COTTAGE OR VILLA—
1 Brass and Iron Bedstead.
1 Spring Mattress.
1 Purified Wool Mattress. (If hair, 20s extra).
Bolster and Pillows.
1 Chest of Drawers and Dressing Glass, Washstand, Towel Rail and Chair.
The Whole of the Above for £3 19s.

CHEFFONIERS, from 35s.
SIDEBOARDS, with mirror backs, from 52s.

Save Money and buy direct from the Manufacturers. The Cheapest Furnishing House in the Country.

The above are Special Clearing Lines to meet the requirements of the Middle and Working Classes, and, when the Lots are cleared, cannot be repeated.

SECOND-HAND FURNITURE.

In the Auction Sale Rooms, Baron Taylor's Lane (adjoining Messrs Fraser & Coy.'s premises), will always be found a LARGE SELECTION of GOOD, USEFUL, SECOND-HAND ARTICLES. OLD FURNITURE taken in Exchange for New.

A. FRASER & CO.,

COMPLETE . . . . .
HOUSE FURNISHERS,

UNION STREET,

INVERNESS.

Works and Stores—
Falcon Square, Dempster Gardens, and Baron Taylor's Lane.

COAL

Always in Stock and regularly Imported, for Drawing-room, Parlour, Kitchen, or Garden use.

Finest ENGLISH WALLSEND COAL.
„ BANNOCKBURN WALLSEND COAL and JUMBO NUTS.
„ SCOTCH HOUSE COAL and NUTS.
„ „ STEAM COAL.
„ „ KITCHEN CHIRLS.
„ ENGLISH DROSS.
„ GAS and MALTING and FOUNDRY COKE.
„ BRIQUETTES.

D. PETRIE,
COAL MERCHANT AND COLLIERY AGENT,
2 LOMBARD STREET, INVERNESS.
Waggon Loads direct from Colliery at Colliery Rates.

MARRIAGE AND NEW-YEAR PRESENTS.

Splendid selection of suitable gifts in Gold, Silver, and Electro-Plate Goods of every description at MOST REASONABLE PRICES.

P. MINCK.

WATCHMAKER AND JEWELLER

30 CHURCH STREET,

INVERNESS.

APPAREL, OLD HIGHLAND JEWELLERY.—Mr and Mrs Baldwin, 30 Chapel Street, Inverness, oldest, largest, and best buyers in Scotland. Truth. Ladies' gent.'s, children's left-off wardrobes; wardrobes and effects, deceased persons; gold watches, war medals, plate, guineas, clocks. Cash returns, country parcels; returned offers unsatisfactory. Bankers—Commercial Bank of Scotland, Inverness.

SPECIFIC ARTICLES FOR SALE.

GENERAL.

HAVE YOU ANY ARTICLE FOR SALE? If so, use this column. It brings an immediate response. Eighteen words 6d.

VALUE, Quality, Choice Selection, and a Satisfied Customer is our Motto. Mackenzie's, Bridge Toilet Saloon, Inverness.

GIVE your Friend a Present which can be used or handled daily. Try the Bridge Toilet Saloon, Inverness.

THE Scout Pipe—1s each—can only be had at Mackenzie's, Bridge Toilet Saloon, Inverness.

FIREWOOD.—Hardwood Blocks for Sale, any quantity. Apply to John Campbell, 4 Lombard Street; or the Glenalbyn Sawing and Bobbin Mills.

FOR finest Rounds, Salt Rolls, and Tongues try Fraser Kennedy, & Fraser, Arcade, Union Street, Inverness

DRESS, Engagement, Wedding and Keeper RINGS a Speciality. Donald Macrae, Jeweller, Eastgate, Inverness.

BOOKS BOUND by Dow, Bookbinder, Inverness. Monthly parts bound cheaply. Substantial binding. Write for estimate.

NEW-YEAR GIFTS.—Best value in pipes, pouches, vesta boxes, walking-sticks, cigar and cigarette cases, &c., at The Steeple, 2 Bridge Street. Best selection in Inverness. Inspection invited.

GENTLEMEN, purchase your New-Year Smokes at The Steeple, 2 Bridge Street. Only the best brands of cigars and cigarettes in stock.

SPECIAL Lines in Cigars.—Nine for 1s, 7 for 1s, 6 for 1s, and 5 for 1s. Splendid smokes; not rubbish. The Steeple, 2 Bridge Street.

LADIES intending to purchase New-Year Gifts for gentlemen friends should call at The Steeple, 2 Bridge Street, where they will be shown an interesting and useful selection second to none.

GUN—Bargain—double-barrelled, 12 bore, central fire breechloader, top lever, improved pattern extension rib, rebounding locks, left "choke," walnut pistol grip stock, nicely engraved, splendid killer, beautifully finished, guaranteed perfect condition, new £1 18s 6d, carriage paid. Approval. F. Coote Reynolds, 48 Devonshire Street, Bloomsbury, London.

BOOT AND SHOEMAKERS.

LEGGINGS.—Choice make, endless wear; buckles, straps, and springs. Anklets, 2s 3d; regulation 9 inch, 2s 10d; 12 inch, 3s 4d. Postage free. Don't miss this chance. Write Hogg, Strathmiglo, N.B.

HOGG'S Lorne Boots, at 7s 6d, tackets or sprigs, stand hard usage and yet retain their Shape. If you have not worn his boots you should lose no time in becoming acquainted with their merits. Write for catalogue. Strathmiglo, Fife.

PLOUGHMEN'S, Carters', Navvies', and Miners' Boots, made by skilled bootmakers, which are not excelled anywhere for that class of boots. Soles are made of best wear-resisting leather, and the uppers as good. 7s 6d per pair, carriage paid. Write now, no time like the present. A. T. Hogg, Strathmiglo, N.B.

MY Boys' and Girls' School Boots have been tested many hundreds of times by the toughest and healthiest of youngsters in the kingdom, and were not found wanting. Prices for girls' sizes—7, 8, 9, 10, 3s 9d; 11, 12, 13, 1, 4s 9d; 2, 5s 3d. Boys'—11, 12, 13, 1, 5s; 2, 3, 4, 5, 6s. A. T. Hogg, Strathmiglo.

SHEPHERDS, Foresters, Gamekeepers, Postmen, Policemen, and all outdoor workers need my special boots. Durable, easy, weather-defying, and wear-resisting. Ideal boots for hard wear. 13s 6d per pair. Will last out two ordinary pairs. Write to-day. A. T. Hogg, Strathmiglo, Fife.

A Spean-Bridge Gamekeeper writes:—"The pair I got from you 2 years ago are now about done. They did very well."

An Inverurie Forester writes:—"I have got 2½ years hard wear out of the last pair of boots you supplied."

A Mallaig Forester writes:—"I send to be soled the boots I got from you 18 months ago. They have been first-rate and thoroughly waterproof."

Hogg, Strathmiglo.

A POST-CARD will do. Write for my illustrated catalogue of numerous wonders in foot wear. A. T. Hogg, Strathmiglo, Fife.

DRAPERS.

OVERCOATS and suits for men, youths, and boys, clearing out under half-price. Men's trousers, 4s 11d. Macmillan's, Lombard Street.

NEW-YEAR Presents—Ladies' and gent.'s, gloves, handkerchiefs, umbrellas, ties, mufflers, &c. Best value in town. Macmillan's, Lombard Street.

GROCERIES, WINES, AND SPIRITS.

"BLACK SEAL" WHISKY, 3 bottles, 9s 9d; 2 bottles, 6s 6d; 1 bottle, 3s 5d, post free to any address. Jack Exchange.

FOR INVALIDS—Imperial Stout, 2s 8d; Bass's Strong Ale, 2s 8d; Oat Malt Stout, 2s 6d; Guinness's Stout, 2s 3d. Jack, Exchange.

PORK SAUSAGES daily, 7d and 8d per lb. Scotch Haggis, Plum Puddings, Aberdeen Haddies. Jack, Exchange.

JACK'S HALF-CROWN INVALID PORT, guaranteed genuine, 2 bottles 5s 6d, 3 bottles 8s, post free. Jack, Exchange.

"BLUE SEAL" WHISKY, 2s 6d bottle, 15s gallon; 1 bottle 2s 11d, 2 bottles 5s 6d, 3 bottles 8s 3d, post free. Jack, Exchange.

OLD "LONG JOHN," 3s 6d; Old Millburn, 3s 6d; Old Clynelish, 3s 9d; Old "Glengrant," Glenlivet, 3s 9d. Jack, Exchange.

SULTANAS, Currants, Muscatels, Plums, Prunes, Apples, Oranges, Grapes, Spices, Crackers, Santa Claus Stockings, Fruit Wines, 7½d bottle. Jack, Exchange.

DOZEN Cases Whisky or Wines, or assorted, carriage paid, 50s. General orders carriage paid. Jack, Exchange.

COGNAC BRANDY, 5s and 5s 6d Bottle; Jamaica Rum, 2s 6d, 3s, and 3s 6d bottle. Australian Burgundy and Port. Jack, Exchange.

AT THIS FESTIVE SEASON Drink JACK'S TEAS, rich and fragrant, 1s 8d, 1s 10d, 2s, 2s 2d per lb. Exchange, Inverness.

SPECIAL Fine Tawny Port, 2s; Barcelona Port, 1s 6d; Spanish Port, 1s; Old Oporto Port, 3s and 3s 6d. Jack, Exchange.

DE Lossy Holden Champagne, '92 vintage; pints, 4s 6d. Jules Faure's Brandy (very fine), 5s per bottle. Young & Co., Eastgate.

KOPKES' world-famed Ports, from 2s to 3s 6d per bottle. Palestine and Spanish Ports, each 1s 3d and 1s per bottle. Young & Co., Eastgate.

STANDARD Brand Australian Wines in Burgundy Claret and Muscat, 1s 6d per flagon. Young & Co., wine merchants, Eastgate.

WHISKIES—Exceptional value, at 2s 6d, 3s, 3s 6d per bottle. Irish Whisky at 2s 9d and 3s 6d. Young & Co., 45 Eastgate.

GINGER and Raspberry Wines, Lime Juice, &c., from 1s per bottle. All orders of 20s carriage paid. Young & Co., Eastgate.

CIGARS, Briar Pipes, &c. Large assortment; very lowest prices. G. A. Young & Co., wine and tea merchants, Eastgate.

FRUIT, Confections, Crackers—large and varied assortment. Young & Co., 43 Eastgate.

RAGGETT'S Celebrated Nourishing STOUT, as supplied to the late Queen Victoria, 2s 6d per dozen pints. Sole Agents—D. Cameron & Co., 12 Church Street.

MONCEYDAR AFTERNOON TEA, in 2-lb., 1-lb., and ½-lb. Packets, 3s per lb. Sole Consignees—D. Cameron & Co., 12 Church Street.

HIGHLAND MALT WHISKY, Blue Seal, 10 years old highly suitable for invalids, 3s 6d per bottle, 42s per doz. D. Cameron & Co., 12 Church Street.

HIGHLAND MALT WHISKY, guaranteed pure and 5 years old, 3s per bottle, 36 per doz. D. Cameron & Co., 12 Church Street.

FOR GENUINE VALUE IN TEA.—PRICES—2s 2d, 1s 10d, 1s 8d, and 1s 6d. Come to Gillanders, Queensgate, Inverness

TALISKER WHISKY, 7 years old, to be had at D Thomson's, Thistle Bar, Celt Street, Inverness.

R. J. KELT, Fishmonger, Poulterer, and Gamedealer, Queensgate, Inverness.

IRONMONGERS.

BEDS, mattresses, palliasses, chair beds, looking glasses, Gladstone and travelling bags. Best value in town at Macgregor's, Bridge Street.

FENDERS, fire-irons, pots, pans, girdles, pails, baths, mats, oilcloth, linoleum, brushes, bellowses, &c., at Macgregor's, Bridge Street.

TRAVELLING trunks, American boxes in wood, leather, and iron. Hand-bags, all sizes, at very lowest prices. Macgregor, Bridge Street.

LAMPS, lamps, lamps.—Best selection and value in town; also finest safety burning oils at Macgregor's, Bridge Street.

TRAVELLING trunks and American boxes, beds, mattresses, tables chairs, Gladstone and kit bags, largest selection, and all kinds of Ironmongery, at great reductions. Best value in town. Macgregor, Bridge Street.

SADDLERS.

HORSE CLOTHING.—Fawn rugs, blankets (with surangle attached), jute rugs and rollers, quarter covers, waterproof aprons, horse clippers, all makes, at lowest prices. Campbell & Co., saddler, Inverness.

TRUNKS.—Saratoga, overland, cabin (for home and abroad), dress baskets, hat cases, holdalls, Gladstone and handbags. Largest assortment at all prices. Campbell, 5 High Street, Inverness.

ARMY LEGGINGS.—Leather, 1s 6d, canvas, 10d per pair. Postage, 4d extra. As good as new; splendid value. Campbell & Co., saddler, Inverness.

NEW-YEAR PRESENTS

Ladies' and Gent.'s GLOVES, in Fancy Boxes, 2s 6d to 12s 6d.
Ladies' and Gent.'s HANDKERCHIEFS, in Fancy Boxes, 1s 6d to 10s 6d.
Ladies' and Gent.'s Gold and Silver-mounted UMBRELLAS, 6s 6d to 42s.

Fitted Dressing Cases 6s 6d to 60s.
Ladies' Companions, 1s 6d to 10s 6d.
Perfumery in fancy boxes, 1s to 7s 6d.
Silk Handkerchiefs, Initial Handkerchiefs.
Handkerchief Bags.
Ladies' Toilet Cases, &c., &c.

Gent.'s Silk Mufflers, 2s 6d to 21s
Gent.'s Fancy Knitted Vests, 7s 6d to 15s 6d.
Gent.'s Silk Scarves and Ties, 1s to 3s 6d.
Gent.'s Dressing Cases, 6s 6d to 63s.
Gent.'s Shaving Sets, 1s 6d to 5s 6d.
Gent.'s Silk Initial Handkerchiefs, 1s 6d, 2s 6d, 3s 6d.

NOVELTIES IN ALL DEPARTMENTS.

SPECIAL.—New Fabric Silken HANDKERCHIEFS, with Silk Initial Letters—Ladies', 6d; Gent.'s, 9d each.

COUNTRY ORDERS SENT POST PAID.

KELLY BROTHERS,

HATTERS, HOSIERS, and OUTFITTERS,

ACADEMY BUILDINGS, INVERNESS.

NEW YEAR.

R. EDGAR,

BAKER AND CONFECTIONER,

CHURCH STREET,

INVERNESS,

Is now fully prepared to execute all Orders for Cakes, &c., for the Christmas Season.

TRY OUR

SCOTCH SHORTBREAD

(Plain and Ornamented).

This is a Speciality, and the Quality cannot be equalled.

PLAIN CAKES,
ORNAMENTED CAKES,
FRUIT CAKES,
OF EVERY DESCRIPTION.

ORDER EARLY FROM

R. EDGAR

(HOLDER OF HOVIS GOLD MEDAL DIPLOMA),

CHURCH STREET,

INVERNESS.

MACIVER & CO.'S WINTER SHOW

OF

ARCTIC DOWN QUILTS.

The Latest Productions in
DOWN QUILTS, SILK TAPESTRY, SATIN, FRENCH and ENGLISH PRINTED SATEENS, and TURKEY CHINTZ,
All Piped and Perforated.

Printed Sateen Down Quilts, size 6 by 5 feet, 12s 6d and 17s 6d.
Satin, Silk, and Tapestry Down Quilts, with lace insertions and frills, 75s to 105s.
Printed Sateen Down Quilts, frilled, 24s 6d, 28s 6d, 32s, 38s 6d.
Frilled Cushions, in Cretonne, 1s 10d to 3s 6d.
Frilled Cushions, in Tapestry, 4s 6d to 20s.
Tea Cosies, in Tapestry and Silk Brocade, 2s 3d, 3s 9d, 4s 6d, 5s 6d, 6s.

MACIVER & CO.,

COMPLETE HOUSE FURNISHERS,

INVERNESS.

GREAT CLEARING SALE

FOR ONE MONTH ONLY,

— OF —

IRONMONGERY, GLASS, CHINA, &c.,

— AT —

MACGILLIVRAY'S,

Comprising—
Dinner Sets, 10s, 17s, and 25s upwards.
Tea Sets from 8s 6d.
Toilet Sets, from 4s 6d.
Crystal in great variety.
Electro and Nickel-Plated Goods, Cutlery, &c.
Bedsteads, Bedding, Coal Vases.
Tea Trays, Fenders, Fire-irons.
Grates, Ranges, Brushes, all varieties.
Lamps—Table, floor, hanging, and hand (see windows).
Stoves of every description.
American Travelling Trunks.
Agricultural and Farming Implements.
Oils, Sheep Dips, all kinds.
Sheep Nets and Wire Netting.

Special Quotations for Quantities.
Famous Don Ploughs.

TERMS—CASH.

FOR

THE NEW YEAR.

BLACK BUNS.
CURRANT LOAVES (a Specialty).
FRUIT CAKES, all Varieties.
SHORTBREAD, Plain and Ornamental.
PITCAITHLEY BANNOCKS.
MINCE PIES, all Sizes.

Also Largest and most Varied Assortment of FANCY BOXES, CHOCOLATES, and BON-BONS, in Town at

SINCLAIR'S,

ACADEMY STREET.

NEW-YEAR IS COMING.

TEAS, GROCERIES, and PROVISIONS of the Best Quality; also a Large Assortment of CAKES, from 1s to 5s each.

JOHN MACKENZIE,

22 CASTLE STREET, INVERNESS.

WHISKIES, WINES, and RUMS, Perfectly Matured, at 2s 6d, 3s, 3s 6d per bottle; per Parcel Post, 1 bottle, 6d; 2 bottles, 9d; 3 bottles, 1s extra, from

JOHN MACKENZIE,

22 CASTLE STREET, INVERNESS.

ORANGES, Apples, Grapes, Figs, Raisins, Cakes, New-Year Stockings, Fruit Wines, &c. Big Variety of Goods suitable for the Festive Season.

A. LINDSAY,

18 BARON TAYLOR'S LANE,

INVERNESS.

ALCOHOLISM.

THE HAGEY CURE.

The Oldest and Most Successful Institute in this country.

Ful particulars at the Office—

107 WEST REGENT STREET, GLASGOW.

MRS McMahon, 51 King Street, begs to inform the public that she has opened a Broker's Shop at above address. Parcels kept 14 days. Old Gold and Silver bought and sold. Old Clothes sold cheap.

SPECIAL OFFER

... FOR ...

NEW YEAR.

	Per Bottle. S. D.	Per Gal. S. D.
Fine old Highland Malt Whisky	2 6	14 6
Very old Scotch Whisky, well matured in sherry wood ...	3 0	17 4
Pure Millburn, 10 years old, specially selected for the use of invalids, and recommended by the medical profession.	3 6	21 0
Long John, 10 years old	3 6	21 0
Millburn, 20 years old; age and quality guaranteed by the Distiller	4 6	37 0

JAMAICA RUM.

A full-flavoured Spirit of highest strength, 2s 6d, 3s, 3s 6d.

Excellent value in Port Wine, 1s 6d, 2s, 2s 6d, 3s 6d.

CERTIFICATE OF ANALYSIS.

I have subjected to an exhaustive Chemical Analysis a sample of Highland Whisky submitted to me by Mr John Fraser, of Haugh Road and Chapel Street, Inverness, and find it to be of a high standard of purity, and possessed of remarkable strength and flavour.

There is entire absence of those deleterious bodies characteristic of unmatured Whiskies, and, in my opinion, the sample is a Malt Whisky well matured and perfectly wholesome.

GEO. F. MERSON, F.C.S., &c.,
Analytical Chemist.

JOHN FRASER,

GROCER AND SPIRIT MERCHANT,

HAUGH ROAD

AND 9 CHAPEL STREET,

... INVERNESS. ...

NOW IS . . THE TIME

TO ORDER YOUR

NEW YEAR CAKES,

... AND THE ...

BAKERY TO PATRONISE IS

BURNETT BROTHERS,

HIGH STREET.

SHORTBREAD AND PITCAITHLEY BANNOCKS.
BEST SCOTCH BUNS.

CURRANT LOAVES A SPECIALTY.

EVERY VARIETY
OF HIGH-CLASS
CAKES AND FANCY BREADS.

29 AND 31 HIGH STREET,

INVERNESS.

NOT BOUGHT THAT PRESENT YET?

Come at once and see the magnificent display of Goods suitable for

NEW YEAR AND MARRIAGE PRESENTS

At present being shown in our windows

— AT —

GEORGE MACDONALD'S,

HOUSEHOLD AND FURNISHING IRONMONGER,

4 and 6 EASTGATE.

The unique selection of Marriage Presents includes Cake Baskets, Biscuit Barrels, Cruets, Hot Water Jugs, Spirit Kettles, Lamps, single and double Butters and Jellies, in SILVER and ELECTRO-PLATE, of CHASTE DESIGNS.

Also Special Show and Sale of Glass and China Ware, Dinner Sets, Tea Sets, Toilet Sets, &c.

ALL GOODS NEW STOCK AND AT
SPECIAL PRICES
FOR THIS SEASON.

GEO. MACDONALD,

4 AND 6 EASTGATE.



R. G. LAWRIE,
MANUFACTURER
OF
HIGHLAND
BAGPIPES,
REEDS,
And all Requisites for same.

63 JOHN STREET (City),
GLASGOW.

PRICE LISTS FREE.

Printed and Published by A. BAIN at 8 Hamilton St... Inverness, and at Macleod's Buildings, ... Church Street Stornoway.

IN...ESS, Saturday, Dec. 26, 1903.