

The Seaview Gazette.

VOL. 11.

BELLEVILLE, MAY, 1894.

NO. 10

PELLEVILLE ITEMS.

Mrs. W. W. Bourne, the Misses Mary and Belle Holton and Master Arthur Bourne expect to leave for their future home, Quincy, Ill., on Tuesday, May 1st.

Miss Belle Holton sang a solo from the oratoria of "The Holy City" at the Philharmonic concert on Thursday, Apl. 19, and was enthusiastically applauded by an immense audience.

Mrs. Nathan Jones continues much the same as she has been for so many months.

A PLEASANT EVENING.

The Young Peoples' Association of the Baptist church had a pleasant gathering last evening, (24th.) After a splendid programme had been disposed of, Miss Holton, who has been an indefatigable worker was presented with a beautifully worded address and a handsome bible by the members of the association and the scholars of her class.

We notice in "The Week," a Toronto paper, the following item under the head of "Art notes." Miss Holden's "Widowed, but not Forsaken" is an excellent peice of work, subdued in tone, and in fine harmony throughout. Her "Grey Day at Lachine," is also a careful and true rendering of nature.

Also from the Toronto Mail the following :

"Conspicuous among these is a particularly able study of a monk holding a glass of wine; by Miss Sarah Holden.

Dear readers of the "SEAVIEW,"—

It has been suggested by a member of the clan, who is desirous that our family news bearer should continue to bring us tidings of those to whom we are related and in whom we are deeply interested that, in order to know the opinions and wishes of the members of the clan regarding the Gazette, we form some method of obtaining their views. Therefore, it has been decided to ask every reader of the Gazette to send to the ex-editor and originator of the "Seaview," Mr. J. A. S. Burns, (Liebig Strasse, 2 IV, Leipzig, Germany) his or her opinion regarding the Gazette, and and also an answer to each of the following questions :

Do you favor the printing of the Gazette? If not, what plan would you suggest?

Which do you consider the more important—the articles or the items of correspondence?

Do you wish the Seaview Gazette to be continued during the next year?

If so, will you do all you can to assist the editor and support the paper?

Now, please, dear cousins, consider. Remember that the Gazette belongs to you, not to the editors. It is your right to say what shall, or shall not, be done, and we beg of you to use it.

ASSIST. ED.

HALIFAX, N.S.

Last week we had a short visit visit from W. H. Burns who was here on bank business.

Mr. Mills the Evangelist is holding crowded meetings in our city.

BRITISH AND FOREIGN ITEMS.

Mrs Mackay of Broughty Ferry, and J. A. Stead Burns are enjoying Easter visits at the residence of their father.

The British readers of the Seaview Gazette have been much pleased at the splendid majorities with which the prohibition plebiscite has been carried in the various Canadian provinces and hope that when the Liquor Traffic Local Control Bill comes before the "Commons" it will also prove victorious.

It was the privilege of your correspondent to attend one of the London meetings recently held in honor of General Neal Dow. It was a most interesting gathering and showed the international nature of the war against the liquor traffic.

The following poem written by one of the clan, speaks for itself.

Belle Holton does to Quincy go,
From Belleville will she flee;
Oh, who will sing "Down shady row,"
Or, "By the Trysting Tree."

And Mary also goes away,
For which we all are sorry,
Why will she not in Belleville stay
And be a missionary?

And Mr. Bourne and Mrs. Bourne,
Though not born in the clan,
When first we heard the sad, sad news
The tears like rivers ran.

All these with Arthur hence will go,
And here this poem ends,
In Belleville leave they not one foe
But very many friends.

THE HOLTON BRANCH OF CLAN
BANCROFT.

No doubt we are of noble and ancient lineage, but we lost the ancestrel line when our progenitor with back turned upon the mother land, set sail for the New World. I propose taking up the thread about that time,
"When a band of exiles moored their bark,
On the wild New England shore."

and with no small degree of pride introduce you to our patronymic ancestor, Deacon William Holton; one of the earliest settlers of Northampton, Mass.; "the first elected deacon of the first church in Northampton" also the "first to move in the Massachusetts Legislature against the use and sale of intoxicating drinks." Northampton was settled in 1654.

The first authenticated date we have is the ordination of this Worthy, which occurred 13 of March, 1663. William was the father of John,(2) who was the father of William,(3) who was the father of Captain William,(4) who was the father of Lemuel(5) "a very valuable and worthy man," (Northfield ch. records) who was the father of Ezra (6) who was born in Northfield in 1785. In March 1806 he married Anner Phillips, of Ashfield, and shortly after removed to Randolph, Vt., where they had two children, Lucy Emily, subsequently married to Anson Lee, and mother of Mrs David Yeomans of Toronto,) and Ezra William (7) born Sept. 7th, 1810.

During the winter of 1811, Col. Levi Soper, of Lansdown, County of Leeds, Canada, with his horses and sleigh, drove to Randolph, Vt., to visit his friend Ezra, and while there, persuaded him, with his family to remove to Lansdown.

I never recollect hearing that Ezra was a U. E. Loyalist, but during the war of 1812 and 1815, he did militia service under Col. Soper. In quieter times he kept the village school, and taught the young idea how to shoot; he was very fond of reading, and was considered by his neighbors, "a smart man."

Meanwhile, three other children had been added to the family, Luther Hamilton, born 1817, Charles Phillips, born 1820, and Cynthia Caroline, (subsequently married to Henry P. Washburn.)

In 1824 Ezra died. The school days for Ezra William were over; he being the eldest son, and fourteen years of age, was obliged to assist in the support

of the family ; he engaged as clerk with Nathan Soper of Beverly ; and in 1832 came to Belleville, then a village, and engaged with Billa Flint as clerk ; while with him he met Miss Lucy Clement of Brockville, sister of Mrs. Flint, and on the 16th of June, 1836, they were married by the Rev. Henry Wilkinson, "in the presence of Nathan Jones and Billa Flint" as the old certificate reads.

In 1840 their first child, Eliza Jane (8) was born, in 1842 came George Clement, in 1846 William Ezra, in 1849 Charles Phillip, and in 1854 Julia who lived but eight days.

The next event is the marriage of Eliza on Sept. 6th, 1866, to John J. Bleecker Flint, (adopted son of Billa and Phoebe Flint ;) but one child came to gladden their home, Gerald Haskins (9) born Sept. 20th 1872, died Sept. 27th 1872 ; his mother still grieves for her only son.

In Nov., 1870, George (8) married Augusta Ross, of Belleville ; they had four children, Mary Augusta, born Aug. 1871, Ezra William, born Dec., 1872, Isobel Ross, born May, 1876, and Agnes Geraldine, born March, 1878, died Aug. 1878. In June, 1871, William (8) Ezra married Mary Starling, of London, England ; eight children have come to them, William Starling, born July, 1873, George Clement, born Jan. 1875, Alfred James Stanley, born June, 1878, Luther Hamilton, born March, 1880, Edna Eliza, born March, 1885, Starling Cornelias, born Dec. 1888, John Bancroft, born Dec., 1890, died of scarlet fever, June, 1892, Kathleen, born Dec., 1893.

In June, 1872, Charles Phillip (8) married Caroline Bowell of Belleville, seven children have come to them, Phillip Clement, born July, 1873, died July, 1873, Lucy Louise, born Aug., 1874, Eliza Flint, born Nov., 1875, died May, 1878, Harriet, born July, 1877, died May, 1878, Charles M'Kenzie Bowell, born Dec., 1878, George Harold, born Dec., 1885, Albert Douglas, born Dec., 1888.

George Clement had not been in very vigorous health for the last two or three

years, and on Nov. 6th, 1878, he succumbed to typhoid fever ; the following summer, June 27th, 1879, our father (Ezra William) (7) passed away, after prolonged and intense suffering ; and in a few more months, our once happy, beautiful home was closed, and shortly after sold.

"That heart, methinks, were of strange mould,

Which kept no cherished print,

Of earlier, happier times, when life was fresh,

And love and innocence, made holyday ;

Or that own'd no transient sadness,

When a dream, a glimpse,

Of fancy touch'd past joys."

My father was engaged in commerce, and was considered a successful man ; he retired from business in 1867 with a competency which satisfied him. Now that he had comparative leisure, about six hours each day were devoted to the pleasure, as well as the pursuit of knowledge ; he had time for only the best authors, their works were carefully read, and incorporated into his very being ; he thoroughly enjoyed his long daily walk, looking through nature up to his God ; he took an intense interest in the great moral and political questions of the day, but could not be induced to touch politics, further than to vote, which was always fearlessly done on the side of right ; he was not a member of any church, but regularly attended the Wesleyan Methodist, was one of the fathers of total abstinence, uniting with all the temperance organizations, encouraging them with his sympathy and greatly helping in a practical way ; he was loyal to the country of his adoption and loved her institutions, but occasionally he used to say, "you know I am a Green Mountain boy."

This best of fathers, my sympathizing friend, my companion, with whom I never walked without feeling proud to be his daughter, has left us, his children, a name which, "Is worth a hundred coats-of-arms."

All along the ancestral line we find, here and there, parenthetically inserted a word or two, enough, however to give us an insight into the character of our progenitors, and to find them good strong men.

May we see to it, that we keep the name as pure as it has been given to us.

Dr Lyman Beecher's maternal ancestor was Ruth Holton, granddaughter of Deacon William.

Dwight Lyman Moody's mother, Betsy Holton was neice of Ezra, (6) our second cousin.

E. J. H. F.

MY FIRST YEAR IN BELLEVILLE.

Previous to my coming to Canada I examined the map of the country and formed the opinion that the situation of Belleville on the Bay of Quinte, with the river Mohr running through it, was a desirable one, so far as its position was concerned. I was well pleased, therefore, when the Presbytery of Kingston appointed me to labor as a missionary there. My first visit to Belleville was on the 15th October, 1846, and the family which entertained me was that of Dr. Marshall, who resided in the house afterwards occupied by Judge Smart. The population of the town was about 2,500. The Presbyterians were few in number and were divided into two congregations, one connected with the Church of Scotland, and one with the Free Church. The adherents of the Free Church, to which I belonged, did not exceed 100 in the town and within a radius of 8 miles, and neither congregation had a stated minister. For several months I preached on alternate Sabbaths in Belleville and Kingston, and on week days at Wolfe Island, Bath (where I first met Dr. Stewart, afterwards of Belleville), Napanee, Tyendinaga, Huntington, Hungerford and Madoc. I was during these months the only Free Church minister or missionary steadily laboring between Kingston and Grafton, north of the

Bay of Quinte and back to the north pole. In Belleville, the congregation to which I ministered, met in the upper part of a frame house occupied by Mr. Walton, and opposite Mr. John Coulter's. On the 22nd June, 1847, I was ordained as the pastor of the united congregations of Belleville, Huntingdon and Tyendinaga. On the evening of that day a very eloquent sermon was preached by Rev. Robt. F. Burns, who, in the following month, was ordained as pastor of the Kingston congregation. Among others who were present at my ordination I think Mrs. Nathan Jones was one; and the first Sabbath afterwards, as well as I remember, Dr. Holden occupied a seat on the left side of the pulpit. On this day the congregation met for the first time in the upper part of an old frame building, where the Post Office now stands. There was at this time a Congregational Church in Belleville, of which the Rev. Mr. Powis was pastor, but soon afterwards he became a minister of the Presbyterian Church and was settled in Niagara and the most of the Congregationalists, with whom Dr. Holden and family worshipped, joined the Free Church. But after their adherence my congregation was small, the usual number being about 50 or 60, so it continued till after the erection of John St. building, in 1852.

Dr. and Mrs. Holden in their earlier years, had been members of Mr. Smart's congregation in Brockville.

Besides her children there were only a very few other families in the Belleville Free Church in which there were any children old enough to attend the Sabbath School. In this respect their adherence was a matter of great importance to the congregation, and to me personally, of still greater importance because it led, in the providence of God, to my obtaining, in the person of the eldest daughter of the family, the nearest and dearest friend I have on earth who for nearly forty-five years has been the partner of my life.

WILLIAM GREGG.