

Grand Traverse Herald
Jan. 1886

SOUTH MANITOU Herald Correspondence

Note - This correspondence was dated Jan. 4th, but owing to difficulty in crossing between the islands and the main shore, has only just reached us. The lack of snow our correspondent complains of is fully made up by this time. [Ed. HERALD.]

Oh! Where is the snow? We have had plenty of rain of late. The frost is all gone from the ground.

Nelson Knudsen, 1st asst. light keeper, has again moved his family into winter quarters, having left his place of residence at the light house.

Martin Knudsen closed the U. S. light house Dec. 20th, and the citizens are no longer awakened from their slumbers by the impressive sounds of that noisy fog signal.

Justice of the Peace Martin Knudsen, has had plenty of business of late in the way of administering justice to offenders, and a very fair prospect of more. One case of assault and battery. August Beil complainant and James Miler defendant.

On the 4th day of Jan. Thomas Foster was seen in the field and heard commanding vigorously to his horse, while he held firmly to the handle of the plow as it turned over the yielding sod. He expects to have his ground prepared for the corn by next week.

Christmas is over, yet it visited us off here on the island, as well as elsewhere. Many received very handsome presents. On Christmas eve a very pleasant social hop was given at the farm house of George Hutzler Sr. and the Boys and girls all had a nice time. But oh whew! How dark.

Navigation was held open later this season than last. The passage between the island and the main land became frozen the night of the 26th of Jan. last year, and the first crossing on the ice was done Jan. 31. But the water is much warmer now than at the same time last year. A large steamer, thought to be the Peerless passed sown the lake on the morning of Jan. 2d.

On the evening of Jan. 1st, Mr. and Mrs. George Haas opened their commodious house to the invited public, in honor of the marriage of their son, Henry, and Miss Maggie Hutzler. Any one who has ever been to visit Mr. and Mrs. Haas will know that no pains were spared in preparations for the event. All who came were cordially received and welcomed. Those who enjoyed dancing had the privilege if they chose, and those who did not dance had other means of entertainment. The music for dancing was furnished by the skilled musician, Sydney Moore, accompanied by Miss Jennie Sheridan, of Glen Arbor. At sic inches past eleven a most bountiful and delicious repast was served, of which all partook voraciously. But alas! for greedy nature that cannot be satisfied by immediate participation. Some were caught in the vary act of rolling up great quantities of turkey limbs in a small scrap of paper. Oh my! It is the wish of all who were present that the future happiness of the bride and groom may be as great and deep as the pleasure and happiness of those present on that special occasion.

(transcript)

SOUTH MANITOU ISLAND

Herald Correspondence

We have has very pleasant weather this winter, so far, only three days sleighing, and that is all gone now.

The farmers are busy cutting cordwood for market. Some of them have got tired of waiting for snow to haul their wood, and have commenced drawing it on the wagon.

The mail carrier has crossed the channel three times since Christmas. He made his last trip on Jan. 13th, accompanied by James D. Armstrong, 1st assistant light keeper. They reported hard day's work, no wind, the thermometer at 30 degrees above zero - at least they felt that way - with a white ash broom.

The young folks here are having a very pleasant time this winter, something like it used to be a few years ago. On the evening of Dec. 24th, George Hutzler opened his home for the invited public. Nearly all the inhabitants came, and enjoyed themselves dancing, as nearly all the young folks like to dance.

On the evening of Dec. 31st, George Haas opened his house, and nearly all came, had a good time, and only a few went home before daylight. On the evening of the 12th of Jan. Geo. Hutzler Sr. opened his house; nearly all came, had a good time, and after a midnight supper went home, as it was Saturday night.

Miss Louisa Hutzler is spending the winter here with her parents. She has spent the last two years in Chicago, where she will return in the spring, as soon as navigation opens.

Below is a short report of the light station at South Manitou, for the season of 1888: The lamp was first lighted on the evening of April 16th, and closed Dec. 17th. The first steamer seen in the harbor was the R. A. Seymour of Racine; the last of the season was the Annie Laura, Dec. 1st, 1888. Whole number of vessels and steamers in the harbor during the season was 396. Whole number of hours sounding fog signal, 2873. Fire kept up at the signal during foggy and snowy weather, 5883.

It is hoped that the plan of telegraphic communication between the island and main shore will soon be put in operation, as it would be of great benefit to the people living here, and also to the sailors who come here disabled or are driven here for refuge in a gale of wind, which happens quite often, as this is a good harbor.

The readers of the HERALD have seen that the editor of that paper only gives Manitou county the credit of two republican votes. That, I believe, was all that was cast at the last presidential election, but I think the editor is aware that there was only one island in the county that held an election. I think it hardly fair for the editor to come right out and say that there are only two republican voters in the county. He knows some of the islands are not organized and that those people are deprived of the privilege of voting, and I can tell him the reason that this island did not hold an election. In the first place, it is not working as harmoniously as it ought to. All the town offices are not filled. In the second place we received no tickets in time, or even no notice of the election, only from the papers. At headquarters in our county they were not very anxious for us to vote, as this island went republican the election before.

July 1889

BENZIE BANNER- Mr. Burton, who has lived on South Manitou Island for the past forty-five years, has disposed of the main part of the island to a Chicago syndicate, who will put up an immense summer resort, and it is said that the Detroit and Cleveland steam navigation company will place one of its immense side wheel steamers to carry passengers from Chicago and Milwaukee to the Manitous.

Aug. 1889

CHARLEVOIX SENTINEL: Mr. Harpold of Chicago, was in town Monday, and in an interview with the gentleman, we learned that he had purchased 300 acres of land of Mr. Wm. Burton, of the South Manitous, at a consideration of \$5,000. Mr. Harpold intends building a hotel in the spring and fit the grounds up for a resort. A line of steamers will connect with the island next summer. He has chartered the tug Onward and will look over the timber on the North and South Fox Islands.

(atranscript)