

THE CRITIC.

The Welfare of the People is the Highest Law.

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The editor of THE CRITIC is responsible for the views expressed in Editorial Notes and articles, and for such only; but the editor is not to be understood as endorsing the sentiments expressed in the articles contributed to his journal. Our readers are capable of judging or disapproving of any part of an article or contents of the paper; and after giving due care as to what is to appear in our columns, we shall leave the rest to their own judgment.

EDITORIAL NOTES.

The Jubilee number of THE CRITIC will be issued to-morrow, Saturday. Reading purchasers should send in their orders without delay. Single copies will be mailed to any address on receipt of 10 cents, one dozen copies, \$1.

The following from an American exchange affords food for reflection:—A curious announcement is made concerning a course of dancing parties in Amherst, N. S. These dances have been kept up on as purely a moral basis as practicable."

Relations are reported to be strained between the Righte Premier of Quebec, and Cardinal Taschereau—between the Henchman of the Demon Discord, and the Prince of the Church. If true, M. Marcier will probably find that he is kicking against pricks.

Dr. Oliver Wendell Holmes has written the opening article for the "Becher Memorial" now being prepared for Mrs. Beecher and her family by Mr. Edward W. Bok, of Brooklyn, N. Y., to which Mr. Gladstone, President Cleveland, the Duke of Argyle and some 75 other distinguished Americans and foreigners have also contributed articles.

The action of President Cleveland in entertaining a deputation of negroes at the White House, has had its effect in the Southern States, the negroes now finding that they are treated with more courtesy by railway companies and the managers of hotels. After all, a negro's dollar is as good as that of any white man, and should entitle the possessor to the same privileges, but then, you see, we are creatures of prejudice, and the obliteration of that color line is an easy matter to talk and write about, but it is a difficult thing when we are called upon to act upon it.

Mr. John Gibson's latest publication, "Monsters of the Sea," will be read with interest by the general public, but it will have a special charm for the editors of those newspapers who delight in sea-serpent sensations. With this book in his editorial sanctum the editor can give to the readers of his paper a lengthy and minute description of the horrible monster as it appeared when last seen in the Gulf of St. Lawrence, which, by the way, appears to be a favorite haunt of these mysterious devil-fish. We strongly recommend our brother quill-drivers to get a copy of the book before the sea-serpent season is on them.

Kaiser William, on his eightieth birthday, gave his doctor \$37,500, and on his ninetieth \$75,000. If the doctor brings him to par it is worth \$150,000.

Henry George and Dr. McGlynn have recently established in New York an organization known as the Anti-Poverty Society. The movement is warmly seconded by thousands of persons, but as yet we have failed to understand the object which the society has in view, or rather the means by which its object is to be accomplished. Poverty, like wealth, is after all only a comparative expression, for what is wealth to one man, would unquestionably be poverty to another, and hence we fancy that the reformers will find it difficult to draw the line so as to suit everybody.

Facts are stubborn things, but it would be hard to convince a red-headed girl that the fiery hue of her hair was not a reality, but existed merely in the eye of the observer. Scientists explain this fact by the statement that color has no objective existence. It is simply the brain's interpretation of the rapidity with which the waves of a ray of light beat against the retina. Beats more rapid produce the sensation of the mind known as violet; beats less rapid, that known as red. Violet and red are nothing but vibrations of the ether until they reach the optic nerve and communicate to that the vibrations, which the brain translates. To photograph color is therefore as impossible as to photograph sound.

The Commissioners in whose hands was placed the management of the Indian and Colonial Exhibition report that after paying all expenses and making a due allowance for any claims that may yet have to be met, they had a clear surplus of \$155,000, and that after wiping off the Inventions Exhibition, which amounted to about \$30,000, they have been able to place to the credit of the Imperial Institute fund the handsome sum of \$125,000. This is a satisfactory showing: first, because the success of the exhibition proves the interest that our fellow-subjects in Britain take in the Colonies; and second, because the profits are to be applied to the furtherance of an object which must tend to widen, deepen and strengthen that interest.

The Halifax *Acadian Recorder*, in quoting with approval some of the independent opinions expressed by the regular staff correspondent of THE CRITIC, undertakes to place the stamp of party upon this journal, because it receives government advertising, and because its editor is known to have very pronounced political views. If government advertising stamps a newspaper as a party organ, then THE CRITIC should unquestionably be classed as a Liberal-Conservative newspaper, since it publishes not only the advertisements of the Conservative Government at Ottawa, but also the advertisements of the Liberal Government at Halifax. As to the editorial management of THE CRITIC we fancy that our readers thoroughly appreciate the independent tone of the paper, and understand that its commendation or condemnation are never prompted by that political bias which has so disgraced journalism in Halifax.

The Windsor and Annapolis Railway manager proposes to put a fast morning train on between Kentville and Halifax, reducing the time of travel as compared with present arrangements, from five hours to three hours and half. So far as the speed of the train is concerned, it will be a decided improvement on the old coach train which has done duty on the road since its opening. But Mr. Innes would confer a boon on the travelling public if, instead of having the early train leave at 7 a. m., he would start it an hour earlier. This would enable persons living in the city to reach their offices by ten o'clock, and hundreds of Halifaxians would take frequent trips to places lying between here and Kentville, as they now do to places on the line between here and Truro; moreover, the milk-dealers residing along the Kentville line would have a chance of participating in the milk trade of the city, from which they are practically cut off.

That the English Government should haggle about the £60,000 a year for the magnificent offer of the C. P. R., to set afloat a mail line from Vancouver to the east, with vessels built under admiralty supervision, with warlike capabilities, is another melancholy proof of the want of "go," want of foresight, and lack of perception, which seem to beset English statesmanship in these days. It would seem as if the splendid achievements of the C. P. R. will have come too late, as everything comes too late to a supine nation. England seems almost incapable of profiting by the energy of her colonies in time. She has disappointed the just expectations of Australasians by truckling to Germany and France, when she might have conciliated the former and defied the latter, by a cordial alliance with Germany, Austria and Italy, while a more friendly attitude towards Russia would, in addition, have left her real enemy, France, isolated. At the Cape she has been miserably foiled by a set of savages, who, in acquiring a splendid physique, and the marksmanship of the dwellers in wilds, seem to have lost both the intelligence and the conscience of their Dutch ancestors. She has muddled in Afghanistan and muddled in Egypt. If she had granted Home Rule to Ireland ten years ago, she would not have been disgraced by her parliament to-day. As it is, things look very promising for the general humiliation which it would so delight her bitterest foes to see.