

# THE CRITIC:

A Maritime Provincial Journal.

DEVOTED TO

Commercial, Manufacturing, Mining and General News.

\$1.50 PER ANNUM.  
SINGLE COPY 5 CTS.

HALIFAX, N. S., APRIL 28, 1893.

{VOL. 10  
No. 17

## CONTENTS OF CURRENT NUMBER.

EDITORIAL NOTES .....	3, 4
MISCELLANEOUS .....	
Oh!t-Chat and Ohuckles .....	5
Choss .....	6
Here and Elsewhere .....	6, 7
Poetry—Divided Lives .....	8
—Heart Growth.....	8
Farmer Spiggins .....	8, 9
Book Gossip.....	8, 9
Industrial Notes.....	9
Commercial.....	10, 11
Market Quotations .....	11
A Vision of the Night.....	12, 13
Mining.....	14, 15, 16
Draughts—Checkers .....	14
City Chimes .....	18

## THE CRITIC,

Published every Friday at 161 Hollis Street, Halifax, Nova Scotia,

BY  
CRITIC PUBLISHING COMPANY.

Edited by C. F. FRASER.

Subscription \$1.50 per annum in advance. Single copies 5 cents

SAMPLE COPIES SENT FREE.

Remittances should be made to A. M. FRASER, BUSINESS MANAGER.

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 this journal. Our readers are capable of approving or disapproving of any part of an article or contents of the paper; and after exercising due care as to what is to appear in our columns, we shall leave the rest to their intelligent judgment.

## EDITORIAL NOTES.

**A BREATH OF WINTER.**—The manufacture of artificial ice has long ceased to be marvelled at, and the announcement that a regular system of refrigeration by pipe-line has been attained will therefore not be startling even to the more conservative men of our day. The cities of Denver and St. Louis have each a central depot for the preparation of chilled air, which is then transmitted by pipe to the required spot. Grocers and all dealers in perishable food stuffs have been prompt to secure connection with the head office.

**PROSPEROUS MANITOBA.**—A few statistics as to the growth of Manitoba during late years will doubtless interest many of our readers who are mindful of the welfare of that Western Province. During the past year 20,000 new settlers, mostly of a promising class, made their homes in the farming sections, and 150,000 acres of new land were broken up and partially brought under cultivation. The population, which in 1886 was estimated at 108,640, and which in 1891 was 154,442, is now set at 185,000. A good public school system has been introduced, and some 700 or more schools are in operation. In 1886 there was no Postal Service that could be relied on, now there are several hundred offices in regular operation. Railway lines have opened up the country and increased trading facilities. Thousands of acres of land are brought under cultivation each year and the great increase in wheat, oats and barley is felt in many grain markets. In the City of Winnipeg where, in 1880, the city property was only worth \$4,200,000, the amount has to be multiplied by 6 to represent the present condition. The commercial business has risen from two to forty millions, and bank capital from ten to forty millions. The population has multiplied itself by five, and the increase in dwelling houses, business houses, etc., has been great. Some 45 factories are also in prosperous operation. The record is an excellent one, and should gladden the hearts of all true Canadians.

**A POSSIBLE FUTURE.**—A thoughtful article which recently appeared in an English magazine contains a curious forecast of the future history of the world. The theory presented is the old one of the "survival of the fittest," but the writer's opinion as to the identity of the fittest is a novel one. The native races in many countries now inhabited by European or American immigrants are not dying out. On the contrary, in Asia and Africa the hardy acclimated natives are increasing in number and in intelligence. A few generations of improvement in the condition of the native, and the white population will be found to be unnecessary and unwelcome. White colonists in these countries are as a rule content to direct labor, and are

adverso to performing the actual work in fields, mines and factories themselves. Wherever this state of affairs exists, and where the natives are intelligent and teachable, the writer contends the power of the white element is on the wane. In countries where the working people are dull and unprogressive the white people will continue to be the dominant race until the natives die out. South Australia and Canada are the countries in which the colonizing classes have the best future assured them, as the Bushmen and the Indian being inferior races, have given way to a fitter people. China is to be the great colonizing country of the future. By the sheer force of numbers and not of quality her people will over-run many countries. Already they are well ensconced in South America, and they are fast spreading over portions of Asia where a generation ago their faces were never seen. It is within the range of possibilities that the colored race will dominate the Southern half of the United States. They are there in force already, and are taking advantage of the many opportunities for education and improvement which have been afforded them by their white neighbors. The rare thought which characterizes the outlook cannot but arouse deep interest even among those who hold widely different theories as to the future of the so-called inferior races.

**AMERICAN DEMOCRACY AND BRITISH ARISTOCRACY.**—While the public prints of the neighboring Republic are never weary of declaiming the doctrine that "all men are born free and equal," they yet carry their Anglo-maniacal worship to a much further extent than the general acceptance of that national tenet would allow. Twice during the past fortnight has the doctrine been sunk in the presence of two mighty potentates, the Earl of Craven and the Duke de Veragua. The Earl of Craven has no special claim to notability, saving that he is following out the lines laid down by other British and European noblemen who have chosen to repair their shattered fortunes by wedding American wealthy heiresses. In the present case, as in many others, the bridegroom does not bear an unblemished record, and the lady of his choice is a slim, undeveloped schoolgirl of seventeen. Column after column of the daily papers have recounted the daily doings of the Earl. His colars, ties and boots have been illustrated and his slightest remark chronicled. The fold of his trouser leg above his aristocratic ankle during muddy weather has been graphically described along with the grave affairs of the nation. And we venture to assert that the first item was well read by the public before national matters were glanced at. The other nobleman who, by the way, did not discover America is coming in for the honors which were not vouchsafed to his mighty ancestor, Columbus and the populace are wild concerning his doings. Both of these gentlemen will have strange impressions of their reception in the land of the free.

**AUSTRALIAN FINANCES.**—It would seem that the greatest depth of commercial depression has now been sounded by the business world of Australia. Since 1888, when the series of bank failures began, the colony has been financially demoralized. The Commercial Bank of South Australia was the first to go, and its fall was quickly followed by the failure of the Bank of Van Diemen's Land, and the new Oriental Bank of Melbourne. There were still the eight great associated banks to depend upon, but the unforeseen failure of the Mercantile Bank of Australia diminished the number to seven. Within the last three months three more of the associated banks, the Commercial, the English, Scottish and Australian, and the Federal Bank of Australia, have come to grief. The failures in all these cases have been paralyzing to all classes of business men. The Commercial bank was considered undoubtedly sound, and as the annual dividend was 17 per cent the stock was much coveted. The English, Scottish and Australian Bank had 90 agencies throughout the colony, and the distress caused by its failure is almost universal. The credit of the four Associated Banks that have so far weathered the storm is doubtful, and the heavy amounts which are being withdrawn by timorous depositors each day does not augur well for their future safety. Hundreds of well established firms have already failed. Mr. Fink, one of the heaviest capitalists, can only offer one-fifth of a cent on the dollar. Mr. Munro, lately Premier of Victoria, is in a worse financial position than many a homeless beggar. Sir George Dibbs, a most popular and patriotic man, has now not a cent to his name. Hundreds of rich firms have gone down, therefore thousands of lesser men are ruined. The savings of years are gone in a twinkling of an eye. The aged are left unprovided for, the orphan children are destitute. Worst of all there is no employment for the masses of laborers, and there can be none for perhaps months to come. The whole series of failures and the consequent demoralization is due to the breaking of the land-speculator's bubble. Values of land have been inflated, recognized business principles have been ignored, and a desperate effort has been made to guard the bubble tenderly so as to delay the final break. Now that it has come our friends have no chance but to go manfully to work to build again their shattered fortunes.