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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 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.

The Minister of Militia has been recently reviewing the Toronto Police, which formed a battalion of six companies, whose strength aggregated 250 men, together with a small mounted force of which we do not find the precise number stated. The force was reviewed as a military body, and went through the manoeuvres of a battalion of infantry with a precision which called forth the plaudits of the spectators and the marked and hearty encomiums of Sir Adolph. The fact is the Toronto Police are a splendid body and admirably drilled, and one of their number was presented with a silver cup as the prize for the best marksmanship with the revolver. We wonder when our own non-descript looking force will approximate in set up and smartness of appearance to the style of our cities of the west.

We hear an immense amount of abuse of the revised lists of voters for the Dominion, but it strikes us that as the Press of both political parties was, for weeks and weeks before the close of the period for registering, putting forth the most strenuous efforts to impress upon their partizans the necessity of recording their names in due time, there cannot—or at least should not—be much to grumble at in the long-run. The revision may have been an expensive affair, but its object was to register all voters, and ample time was allowed for the purpose. The clamor kept up on the subject seemed to indicate that both parties were fully alive to the importance of putting the names of their supporters on record, and if any qualified voters have been omitted it is natural to conclude that the fault of the omission must be with themselves.

There has been a meeting of the Carnival Committee to consider the matter of the deficiency, which is found to amount to \$1,200. Considering the immense amount of good accomplished by the Carnival in advertising the City, steps should at once be taken to make up the deficit by an appeal for a general subscription, it is out of the question that the burden should lie on a few, or even on the whole, of the Committee. As many citizens of Halifax may have been absent at the time subscriptions were solicited, many may not have been visited, and some may not have subscribed all they intended, we are convinced that a prompt and earnest canvas would at once produce the after all not very large amount required to redeem the credit of the city. Subscriptions will be received by Mr. Bishop, Secretary to the Committee.

Not only a third so-called political party, but a fourth has been launched upon the already over-freighted sea of Canadian politics. The new faction, a convention of which met in Moncton last week, has no faith in either of the old political parties, and does not, it is stated, care to identify itself wholly with the third party in the Upper Provinces, though they sent a resolution of sympathy with a gentleman who is contesting an Ontario constituency under the auspices of the Third Party. The Fourth Party is a Prohibition Party pure and simple, but though it will no doubt have, more or less, the support of those who sympathize with the Third Party, its formation would seem to indicate a lack of solidarity in the restrictionist councils, which, considering how little conception of the duties and responsibilities of the government of a great country has been manifested by their leaders, is certainly not calculated to induce much regret on the part of common-sense citizens.

The *New York Sun* protests vigorously against the suppression of the street bands, hand organs, etc., which gave innocent enjoyment to thousands of people. It is probable that the people of New York are divided thus on the question:—(1) People of refined musical tastes, who really are annoyed by the street music—about 1 per cent; (2) People who enjoy the street music—about 40 per cent; (3) People who don't know or care anything about music, but who think it a mark of good taste to rail at the street bands—59 per cent. Many of the latter class would listen to a hurdy gurdy with their hands folded and their eyes closed in an ecstasy of bliss if they saw their fashionable friends doing the same. We think that, on the whole, much more pleasure is derived from the performances of street bands, many of which play very well, than offence is occasioned to fastidious tastes, and even some barrel organs are far from unpleasing. A good deal of intolerant nonsense is in fact talked and written on the subject.

It would appear to be by no means certain that Mr. Blaine's Pan-American Congress will pan out entirely in accordance with the hopes of that ingenious statesman. It is rumored that many of the delegates have been utilizing their opportunities to purposes somewhat different from those which the Secretary had in view. If it would benefit them to have certain restrictions between their own countries and the United States abolished, they are said to think that it would be still better for them if all customs barriers were removed, and the several nations were to enjoy the freest interchange of each others' commodities. This is scarcely what Mr. Blaine desires. The United States must in his opinion remain protectionist, and it is chiefly to aid North American manufacturers that he desires subsidized lines of steamers between his own country and those to the south. Moreover, it is whispered that some of the United States delegates share the heresies of the clear sighted southern visitors. This, if true, is rather hard on Mr. Blaine.

In most climates which scarcely encourage the growth of wheat to any profit men give a good deal of attention to oats. We have a pretty good conceit of ourselves in Nova Scotia, and at the same time pessimists are doing their best (or worst) to make the farmer believe he is a down-trodden individual. It is almost beyond belief that Nova Scotia should not grow oats enough for her own consumption, yet such appears to be the case, and she imports them from P. E. Island, and used to do so from the United States before the duty was put on. The Nova Scotia farmer would probably resent any slur on his energy or intelligence, yet in this matter and in the patent fact that he makes but a miserable average of tolerable butter, lie strong evidences that his deficiency in those qualities would handicap his chances in competition, even if the "market of 60,000" on the other side of the line were at once laid open to him. "This is something," as the *Chronicle* says, "that should be put an end to at once. We ought to be exporting, not importing."

Mr. Tighe Hopkins, in the *New Review* for November, has collected the opinions of a number of eminent men, journalists and others, on the question of anonymity in journalism. Mr. Gladstone and Mr. Black, the novelist, advocate the signature of articles. They are the only two out of a list given, and neither can be said to be practical in the sense required in such a controversy. The mass of the practical journalists, and others of the highest standing quoted consider the anonymous system the best. Among them are Mr. Justin McCarthy, Mr. Andrew Lang, Mr. Joseph Cowen, Mr. C. P. Scott of the *Manchester Guardian*, Mr. Ed. Russell of the *Liverpool Daily Post*, Mr. L. F. Austen, one of the editors of the *National Press Agency*, Dr. W. H. Russell, Mr. G. W. Smalley, London Correspondent of the *New York Tribune*, and Mr. H. D. Traill. With these we agree. M. Villars, the London Correspondent of the *Paris Debats*, thinks that political articles only should be anonymous, but the summary of argument he presents scarcely bears out the conclusion at which he arrives.