

THE CRITIC:

A Maritime Provincial Journal.

DEVOTED TO

Commerce, Manufacturing, Mining and Agriculture.

1.50 PER ANNUM.
SINGLE COPY 5 CTS.

HALIFAX, N. S., AUGUST 1, 1890.

{ VOL. 8
No. 31 }

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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.

New Glasgow is growing so rapidly that ere she knows it she will be a city, and a live, wide-awake city too. This means a great deal to the farmers of Pictou and adjoining counties. Iron and coal mines will work wonders when mind, muscle, money and markets are put in touch with them.

The S.S. *Egypt*, of the National Line, loaded with cotton and cattle, from New York for Liverpool, was destroyed by fire almost in mid ocean on July 17th, and had it not been that the crew were rescued by the German vessel *Gustave and Oscar* they must have undoubtedly perished, for it was found that only two of the *Egypt's* boats were sea-worthy, all the rest being old boats which had belonged to other steamers and were utterly worthless. The carpenter of the steamer says he thinks the cotton on the *Egypt* was on fire when she left New York. The shipwrecked sailors were landed at Dover and taken care of at the Sailors' Home. Something should be done to insure the sufficient provision of boats on steamers, and a rigid inspection ought to effect the having them kept in working order. The time has gone past when a ship's boats are much used, except in cases of accident, and it is therefore all the more important that the law requiring a certain number of boats to be carried should be complied with in spirit as well as letter.

The Central American war is an established fact. At first the reports about hostilities were not believed, and as the attention of the world is pretty well taken up with some other affairs of apparently more importance little notice was taken of the reports. It appears that Guatemala, which is about four times as large as San Salvador, undertook to interfere with its small neighbor's politics and appoint a President not the choice of the San Salvadorians. The Guatemalan forces under the command of General Villavicencio invaded San Salvador, and were repulsed by troops under General Ezeta on the 17th of July. The San Salvadorian forces are greatly inferior in number to those of Guatemala, but they evidently make up in pluck what they lack in strength. It is thought that Nicaragua and Costa Rica will become the allies of San Salvador, from the fact that should San Salvador be worsted it would be annexed to Guatemala, and both the countries above named would be at the mercy of the conqueror. It is rumored that President Barillos of Guatemala talks of resigning.

The 2nd Battalion Grenadier Guards have been sent to Bermuda as a punishment for insubordination, which it appears was caused by the imposition of additional parade and other duties by Colonel D. M. Creighton-Maitland. This was resented by the men, who barricaded themselves in their quarters and refused to come out. An enquiry was made into the matter by the Duke of Cambridge at the War Office, with the result that Colonel Creighton-Maitland, who appears to be somewhat of a martinet, resigns and is replaced by Colonel Eaton. The Guards are exiled to Bermuda, and for the first time in the memory of men the sentries on duty at the Royal residences are not in Guard's uniform, the duty being performed in part by the Yorkshire line regiment which was ordered up from Portsmouth. The exile to Bermuda is looked upon by the Guards as a punishment and a disgrace, as they have never before been sent abroad except during a war. All things considered the punishment does not appear a very heavy one, inasmuch as the Colonel who was the cause of the trouble has been removed, and after all to be sent to Bermuda is not a terrible fate. It is possible that they may be sent to Halifax before they are finally recalled home. The insubordination was chiefly among some of the younger men, and was not of so serious a nature as some reports made out. It is probable that this blot on the hitherto untarnished record of this favored and favorite regiment will be wiped out by future good conduct. The Queen is said to be quite distressed over the affair.

The organization of a Maritime Medical Society is the most recent of many evidences of a tendency towards union of the interests of these Maritime Provinces, or perhaps it might be more strictly in accordance with the actual fact, to say that it is the latest practical recognition of what is very generally conceded, viz., that the interests of these Maritime Provinces are identical. It is only surprising, that although there are so many evidences of a strong fraternal feeling and desire for fraternization there are so few evidences of a desire for political fraternization or legislative union of Nova Scotia, New Brunswick and Prince Edward Island. There are many reasons why such a union should be consummated. What are the objections? One Lieutenant Governor, one Executive Council, one Legislative Assembly, and one set of Legislative and Departmental Buildings would be quite adequate for conducting the Legislative and Executive work of the three Provinces, and a saving of nearly two-thirds of the expense at present incurred would be effected. Then if the interests of these Maritime Provinces are really identical, or as much so as are the interests of the different sections of the several Provinces, they could be attended to better by one Executive and one Legislative Assembly than by three. Assuredly, the influence of the Maritime Provinces united would be greater, not only than of either of the Provinces separately, but also than the aggregate influence of the three while remaining as now separate political units as far as Maritime interests are concerned. What is the *other side* of the question?

The Toronto *W.L.* evidently does not approve of too much higher education. In its last issue it says:—"We heartily agree with the *Bytown* in many of his remarks on the expenditure connected with our public schools. He remarks truly that of those who use the public schools, three-fourths are just as well able to pay for the schooling of their children as for their bread and clothing, and that they are equally bound to do so. He also points out that there is reason to fear that the very class for which gratuitous education is needed do not avail themselves of the provision. Of course this should be seen to, and if the present state of the law is not such as to enable us to get the children of the poorest educated, it should be altered for that purpose. But there is something more unreasonable than the gratuitous education of all classes at the public schools, and that is the free education which, in many cases, is given at the high schools. It is not merely unjust to those who make no use of those schools, but it is frequently injurious to those who are induced to make use of them when they might be better employed in manual labor." This may be true, but would the *W.L.* like to see our public schools abolished? Surely not. Free education is one of our best institutions, but like everything else it needs to be wisely administered. The dignity of labor should be impressed upon the minds of pupils, and certainly when they leave school to do the active work of man and woman, they will not be worse workers for having been educated. The trouble is that the education is not always of the right kind, and tends to give a distaste for any bodily labor. Too many school teachers are turned out as the product of the educational mill, and the consequence is that domestic servants and laborers are scarce and of poor quality. We need servants and laborers with brains—the kind who can make their heads save their heels and their master's time. But at present domestic service is looked down upon, and only the uneducated are, as a rule, found willing to enter it.