

# THE CRITIC.

The Welfare of the People is the Highest Law.

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Montreal is the greatest commercial and manufacturing centre in the Dominion. It now has 1753 manufacturing establishments, the capital of which is said to be \$35,000,000.

The more this Canada of ours becomes known, the more chance is there that emigrants will be attracted to our shores. We have yet to reap the harvest from the great Indian and Colonial Exhibition, in which Canada occupies such a proud position. It is said that a number of French artists and scientists of distinction have in view a visit to the Dominion during the season of 1887. The Baron de Combourg has the organization of the proposed party in hand.

The ubiquitous sea-serpent has put in his annual appearance, this time having been seen in the Hudson River, a short distance below Albany. His reappearance is hailed with joy by press reporters and by those whose business it is to manufacture interesting news items for the public. The advent of the sea serpent is not without its good results. It allows political scribblers and the readers of highly colored partizan leaders a brief but welcome holiday.

The new Dartmouth Ferry Company have made a good commencement. The boats now run at earlier and later hours in the day than previously, and so far, the public have reason to be pleased with the change of ownership and management, but what about the palatial new boats, with their elegant saloon accommodation and convenient covered carriage ways? The *Sir C. Ogle* and *Chebuco* still ply on the harbor as of yore. The new company should redeem its pledges.

Ambition, love, and avarice, are the three strongest of human passions. Under the stimulus of ambition, men reach forward to place and power which, even when they have been secured, seldom satisfy the ambitious ones; but without this passion, the lives of many men would be as dull and meaningless as are the lives of those who have never experienced the sensation of love. Avarice is the autocrat of passions; under its influence all high and lofty desires, and all pure and noble sentiments, are forever banished from the heart.

There are at present fifty large tanneries in successful operation in the Dominion, and innumerable smaller establishments. These tanneries supply annually, sole and other leather to the value of \$8,000,000. The use of hemlock bark, and the extract of hemlock for tanning purposes, has greatly increased during the past ten years. The home consumption of hemlock bark is 150,000 cords per annum, and the average annual export about 100,000 cords. As it takes the bark of from five to six trees to make one cord, it follows that about 1,500,000 hemlock trees are cut down during each year.

New South Wales is to celebrate the centennial of its first settlement, the opening ceremonies commencing in January, 1888. Just one hundred years previous to that time, Captain Phillips arrived in Botany Bay, bringing with him 700 convicts. These he subsequently transferred to Port Jackson. It was not until the year 1837 that the British Government consented to no longer use the colony as a penal settlement, from which date New South Wales has steadily progressed. An international exhibition and a world's regatta are the special features which will attract European and American tourists.

The Christian natives of Cochin China, of the Province of Zehuni, are literally being exterminated by the fanatical Chinese. Although imprudence among the English and American missionaries is assigned as the cause of this wholesale persecution, it is thought that some more plausible reason can be offered. Many of the informed persons believe it to be the direct outcome of the French-Chinese policy, which is aggressive and tyrannical to the last degree. The Chinese look upon all Europeans in the same light, hence English and American missionaries, like those of France, are put to death without hesitation, and the Chinese natives who have adopted the religion of the foreign race, share a similar fate.

It is from comparatively unimportant events that great histories are formed. The following scrap of Canadian history was given to the world by Lord Lorne recently, in presenting an address to Sir Charles Tupper. While making allusion to his having christened four new provinces, and obtained three new rooms for the Canadian section of the exhibition, he told his audience how the province of Alberta came to be so named. They at first thought of making it the counterpart of the neighboring American territory Montana, and calling it Fontana; but it was suggested that it should take its name from the Princess. But she had three names, Louise, Caroline, and Alberta. The first was already taken, however, in Louisiana, the second in Carolina, by our American neighbors, so they came to Alberta. Certainly, no pleasanter sounding name could have been chosen; and it carried not only a compliment to the Princess Louise, but is another memorial of the noblest man who has ever graced the annals of the royal families of Britain.

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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 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 phenomenal growth of colleges in the United States is attributable to the wide-spread system of public education under State direction. The Republic has now 365 colleges, one for each day in the year, and yet the laying of foundation stones has not ceased.

Thirty five years ago Chicago was an insignificant village, it is now the great food distributing centre of the continent. Chicago now sends annually to the hungry of all lands about 125,000,000 pounds of fresh beef, 40,000,000 of salt beef, 50,000,000 of pork, 360,000,000 of bacon and hams, and 250,000,000 of lard.

South American States have never been remarkable for promptness in meeting their financial obligations, but Chili has made a new departure in this respect. The Republic has a public debt of \$87,000,000. Last year, Chili paid off \$7,000,000 of her indebtedness, and as a consequence, Chilean credit has improved.

There is no fear that the beautiful Island of Java will be denuded of its forests, so long as the people observe the time-honored custom of planting a tree on the birth of a child. Java, which is one of the most populous countries in the world, in proportion to its size, has 17,300,000 inhabitants, and as the population continues to grow, so will the number of fruit and other trees increase.

The tide of travel which for the past ten weeks has been directed towards our shores from the United States has now turned, and the tourists who have been summering in Nova Scotia are hieing back to their business and household avocations, feeling refreshed and invigorated. And now comes the season for blue-noses to visit American cities, when travelling can be undertaken without the discomforts of heat and dust.

The young sportsmen who have respected the game law, which provides that partridges are not to be killed before the 15th of September, will now have to be on the *qui vive*, in order to bag the covcys, the whereabouts of which they have hitherto kept secret. On Wednesday morning next, partridges will probably be for sale in the Halifax market, the birds, of course, having been shot after sunrise. Early birds are not always to be envied.