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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 *Scottish American* of January 9th has the following interesting paragraph:—"A very important conference has just been held in Melbourne, Australia, of representatives of the various Australasian, and of some British Chambers of Commerce. The object of the conference was to consider the feasibility of Intercolonial Free Trade, and the Commercial relation of the Colonies with the Mother Country. It was an exceedingly interesting and harmonious meeting, and throughout the whole proceedings a feeling was displayed of the highest patriotism and attachment to Britain."

At last the lax and unsatisfactory state of the Extradition Treaties between Great Britain and the United States has attracted the attention of a competent American publicist. Professor Rogers, Dean of the Faculty of Law in the Michigan University, has approached the subject in a spirit of common sense. Professor Rogers justly condemns assassins and dynamiters, and considers that such inhuman miscreants ought not to have been allowed by the United States Government to stand in the way of an efficient treaty. "It is," he says, "little less than an insult to ask the Government for their protection. They are not political offenders, but outlaws and enemies of human kind." No doubt the Professor's views will command enlightened attention.

In an exceedingly temperate article in its Wednesday's issue, the *Herald* makes the remark that "Canada is unfortunate in having certain self-constituted exponents of Canadian public opinion, who, though frequently recognized abroad as representatives of the Canadian people, are not in any sense worthy of such recognition." While instancing Dr. Goldwin Smith, the article is chiefly directed to the Marquis of Lorne, who has had the unwisdom to assert in the *Forum* that the chief obstacle to annexation is to be found in the national and religious aspirations of Quebec. Now, although no one ever thought the Marquis a very brilliant person, his respectable Governor-Generalship left with us an impression of his fair knowledge of the country and of its public opinion. This impression is actually obliterated by this unfortunate brochure, and we fear the Marquis will henceforth take rank in Canadian estimation with Dr. Goldwin Smith and Mr. Solomon White.

There is a rumor afloat in English upper-tendom that the eldest daughter of the Prince of Wales is about to follow the example of her aunt, the Princess Louise, and marry a British nobleman, the Earl of Fife, K. T. Lord Fife is not of royal blood, but it is thought that a rich English nobleman is far preferable to any fresh importation of impecunious German Princes. If the rumor be correct, however, Lord Fife's marriage will be a higher match even than that of the Marquis of Lorne, as the eldest daughter of the Prince of Wales will, in due course, be the Princess Royal of England.

The very many friends in Halifax of Colonel Lane, lately Military Secretary to Lord Alexander Russell, who, by the way, are always individually and cordially remembered by him in his letters from England, will be rejoiced to learn that this gallant and genial officer has been appointed Extra Aide-de-Camp to the Duke of Cambridge, Commander-in-Chief. Like most military appointments it will be for five years, by which time the new Aide-de-Camp will be nearing the top of the long list of full Colonels, which numbers about 650, and takes a considerable number of years to reach.

It is, we believe, generally supposed that the name of the Royal House of Scotland is properly spelled Stuart. Lord Galloway, a direct descendant, is not of that opinion, and declines to patronize the Stuart exhibition of relics, etc., because the name is so spelled. The Earl would seem to be unnecessarily demonstrative, but he is probably right in ascribing the Stuart form to Mary, who, when in France, was accustomed to subscribe herself Marie Stuart, for which the absence of 'W' in the French language might account. As the family name was derived from the office of Steward, it is probable that "Stewart" is the more correct form.

The *St. John Globe* favored us a week or so ago with this notice:—"The Halifax *CRITIC*, referring to a current paragraph, which says that the author of *She* is pronounced Reeder Haggard, with the accent on the last syllable of Haggard, affirms that 'Englishmen have not yet come down to the snobbish affectation of accenting the last syllable of names, as the Americans do in 'Parnell' and other such cognomens.' A Canadian *CRITIC* should be fair all round. It should give us the Canadian pronunciation of the Irish leader's name. It ought to state also that the alleged pronunciation of Mr. Haggard's two names is made on the authority of a London letter writer. In Canada and in the United States no one says Reeder Haggard, no one, at least, with any regard for his reputation." This is a trivial matter, and scarcely worth space, yet it is so new a thing to find the *Globe* apparently desirous of anything distinctively Canadian, that we should like to know what it considers the Canadian pronunciation of *Parnell*. We should also like to know whether the London "authority" was or was not an American newspaper correspondent? We took the point from a paragraph which gave no distinct "authority," and we treated it as a joke, on the plane of a certain Cambridge vote for Bacon vs. Shakespear. The solemnity of fairness or unfairness did not enter our thoughts.

In our last issue, in our mining columns, we quoted a paragraph from the *Philadelphia Record*, crowing over the fact that the Allan Line steamer *Acalian* had arrived at Philadelphia to load bituminous coal for Halifax, and ending, "though coal is mined in Nova Scotia, the steamships prefer the American article, because of its superior qualities." This paragraph is worth pondering over. It is a fact that the Allan Line lands a certain amount of Philadelphia coal, *in bond*, at Halifax for the use of their steamers, and the question arises whether this is a matter of economy to the Allan Line, or whether the Philadelphia coal is really superior. If it is a matter of economy, and Philadelphia coal can be shipped to Halifax, without paying duty, and successfully compete in price with our Nova Scotia coal, then what would become of our coal trade if the advice of commercial unionists should be followed, and coal placed on the free list? If, on the contrary, the Philadelphia coal is so superior in steaming qualities as to be really worth more than our own coal, and consumers should prefer it, at the advanced cost landed in Halifax, to Nova Scotia coal, then would it not be suicidal to remove the present duty on coal? Still there are prominent men in this Province who strongly advocate commercial union, and claim that it would benefit the coal mining interests, which have so greatly advanced under the stimulus of the present duty. One thing is certain—that the Allan Line, a line drawing a subsidy from the Dominion, has, by its action, given the United States press some grounds to decry Nova Scotia coal. But when was the Allan Line anything but hostile to the interests of this Province? Portland seems to be its hobby.