

THE CRITIC:

A Maritime Provincial Journal.

DEVOTED TO

Commerce, Manufacturing, Mining and Agriculture.

10 PER ANNUM.
SINGLE COPY 5 CTS.

HALIFAX, N. S., JUNE 22, 1888

{ VOL. 5.
No. 25.

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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.

The Cunard Liner *Etruria* on her outward trip, in completing which she arrived at New York, on Saturday, the 2nd June last, beat her own as well as all other previous records. Her time from Queenstown to Sandy Hook Bar was six days one hour and fifty five minutes. From Queenstown to the Bar seems hardly a fair way of estimating a run which begins at Liverpool, but there is this reason for it. The bar of New York harbor presents an obstacle to ships of the size of the great Cunarders which may sometimes impose a delay of several hours if they are fully loaded, as was pointed out in the daily papers some three years ago by a correspondent in demonstrating the absolute superiority of Halifax Harbor.

In reference to some remarks made a few weeks ago in THE CRITIC on the claims of Militia Officers, other than graduates of the Kingston College, to personal consideration for appointment to the permanent School forces, we are glad to learn that the government has recognized this principle by the appointment to the London School of Capt. T. D. B. Evans, adjutant of the 43rd (Carleton and Ottawa) Rifles. The merits of this officer have been conspicuous. He holds certificates for cavalry, infantry and artillery, and has been in every branch of the volunteer service, and he possesses in a high degree the faculty of managing men and inspiring them with enthusiasm. Such a recognition of real merit is encouraging to others who may qualify themselves to a marked degree, and devote time and means to the service.

Considering that the Duke of Cambridge has lived a now tolerably long life on the bounty of the nation to which he owes his Wimbledon estate as well as the rest of this world's goods he possesses, His Royal Highness certainly cuts rather an ignoble figure on his insistency on his rights. Having turned the Riflemen out after this year, two other sites present facilities—Richmond Park, and the Berkshire downs; the latter one 50 miles from London, a distance which, if the Riflemen were wise, would be no deterrent. But people seem to agree with them in desiring to keep near town. The Queen sees no objection to Richmond, but here again his obstructive Royal Highness is Ranger of the Park, and puts in pleas that the enjoyment of the public may be interfered with, and that there may be danger from the rifle shooting. We should imagine that the Queen would take her obstructive cousin in hand.

It is a low cast of mind that cannot be radical without being brutal, but it is the frequency of the combination that inspires dread in moderate minds of people of that stamp getting their full fling. The sanguinary anarchist Johann Most cannot even learn the death of so good a man as the late Emperor without attacking his memory as only a hopeless rascal could.

The recent attempts to “open up” Thibet, due to the advanced views of a certain influential Anglo-Indian party, are not unlikely to lead to very undesirable complications. China, not best pleased with the annexation of Upper Burmah, annoyed at the action of the Australian Colonies with regard to her subjects, is certain to be further irritated by hostilities with Thibet, and China is now a power to be seriously reckoned with. Moreover the Thibetan territory is a very difficult country in which to operate with a military force, and the news of some reverse to the British arms would not be at all surprising.

We have received a copy of a neat little Medical journal in very handy size entitled the *Manitoba, North West, and British Columbia Lancet*. Its contents are highly practical and we shall take future occasion to allude to some of them. We are at present concerned with a notice of “Dr. Codd’s Abdominal and Pubic Protector,” intended for the use of persons exposed to severe cold, particularly mounted men. This invention is most favorably spoken of by the Dominion military authorities, and has been adopted by them, and Dr. Codd is sanguine that it will be generally used in all military and naval services. It is the result of Dr. Codd’s long observation in the North West, and should give that clever and experienced officer an additional claim to promotion to the rank of Surgeon Major, which we strongly advocated a few weeks ago as a measure of justice amply due and far too long deferred.

We believe in the policy of reciprocity in natural products with the United States, and the recent action of the Democratic majority in Congress in carrying Mr. Breckenridge’s amendment to Mr. Dingley’s (of Maine) narrow amendment on the motion to admit lumber free of duty, holds out the hope that, if the Democrats succeed in the coming election, reciprocity will then become an accomplished fact. The final clause of Mr. Breckenridge’s amendment is a direct affirmative answer to the standing offer for reciprocity made by the Dominion when passing the present tariff bill, introducing the National Policy. It is to the effect that “when Canada admits to free entry articles produced in the United States, similar privileges shall be granted in the case of like Canadian products.” The Republicans, amongst whom was numbered Mr. Butterworth of Commercial Union fame, voted solidly against the amendment, which conclusively proves the hollowness of Congressman Butterworth’s utterances, and how little he considered the interests of Canada when, from Ontario platforms, he advocated a commercial union that gave to the Congress of the United States the power of making a tariff for the Dominion.

We have two or three times seen occasion to refer to the Halifax Street Railway Company, in almost every instance in terms of commendation. The service on the whole, is exceedingly well conducted, and the enterprise has been a boon to the people of Halifax. We were glad, therefore, to learn by the recent publication of its annual statement that it is paying well. This time we desire to draw attention to what we think is a mistake—the prohibition of smoking on the rear and the permission of it on the front platform. We think this rule should be reversed. The idea we suppose, is to obviate annoyance to ladies entering the car. But every smoker would so dispose of his pipe or cigar as to guard against offence to a lady passing him, whilst when the front door is opened, the fumes are most likely to tend to the rear thro’ the car. In France, Germany and Italy the rule is the contrary of that prevailing here. But we are sorry to see that the Company’s horses are not up to the standard of last year, either in size or condition, and that sometimes animals are driven when lame. It is no doubt a hard service on horses, the Company should not therefore grudge the expenditure for sufficient relays to mitigate deterioration.

SENTIMENT.

The subject of Imperial Federation is rapidly gaining in interest. The genesis of the idea has been brought in question, and, though not claimed to have actually originated with Judge Haliburton, it was quite in accord with his remarkable prescience that he should have both foreseen a movement in that direction, and advocated it. We suppose the phenomenon has at one time or another impressed itself upon all of us that the toughest, and at first sight most difficult and discouraging, subjects gradually unfold to us both information and attraction, by virtue of General Grant’s sound principle of