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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.

DARTMOUTH'S NEED.—The *Atlantic Weekly* continues to agitate for a hotel in Dartmouth: The *Weekly* is right in saying "it is a peculiar and unique position for any town the size of Dartmouth not to have a hotel," but no one seems ready to undertake the enterprise.

CITY DRUDGERY.—We hear a great deal about the drudgery of farm life, and very little about the corresponding drudgery of city life. Is the bank clerk less a drudge than the farmer? Is the occupation of counting out bills all day long for customers as pleasant or as manly as the varied occupations of farm life? Is the book-keeper or the salesman relieved from drudgery? Do not both have long hours of monotonous labor? An intelligent man will profit by the drudgery of farm life. The constant change of occupation will prevent his becoming a mere automaton, which is too frequently the fate of his city brother. The fresh air and active exercise will preserve his health, and if he is possessed of the finer sensibilities he will be a better man for his constant contact with the living wonders of nature. It takes more real "stuff" to make a farmer than a city clerk, and we need many of our best men for the country districts, and the country will in turn be grateful for their services to her.

A NEW OCCUPATION.—We are glad to note the establishment of a training school for nurses of the insane. Such a school has long been needed, and the lack of specially trained nurses has added much to the discomfort of the most pitiable class of our people. Many of our Provincial women are looking for occupations, and it may be that this work will commend itself to them. The prospect of nursing the insane sick is not a pleasing one, yet it is probable that a closer acquaintance with the work and with the scientific methods to be used in caring for the patients would cause the work to appear more attractive. Every inducement is offered to pupils. The beginners are paid from the outset the sum of \$10.00 per month, with a prospect of a speedy rise, and uniforms, board and washing are also provided. The course of instruction includes a term in the Infirmary Ward, a number of lectures, and much practical work in connection with the care of the insane. This is a move in the right direction and we extend hearty good wishes to any of our young women who may enter upon this humanitarian work.

A POINTER FOR NOVA SCOTIA.—The school boards of several cities in the United States have decided that since female teachers have been found in all respects as satisfactory as male teachers, that the same scale of salary shall be used for both. At the same time the system of equal pay without respect of sex has been adopted in several towns in Great Britain, where the School Commissioners have been especially conservative. It will doubtless take some years before the justice of the decision is fully recognized, but in time the right of women to receive the same payment for the same work that men now perform and receive will be universally accepted, and when the idea spreads to our Province it will be a proud day for our Provincial teachers.

AN EXPENSIVE AMUSEMENT.—There seems to be more than one sort of angling going on in our Province, although the new method will hardly come in vogue among respectable men. A resident of South Farmington, Annapolis Co., has found that he too may be benighted by the piscatorial habit, although he does not handle the rod himself. His method is extremely simple, although it does not redound to his credit. A city gentleman with his wife sought out a sheltered pool in a brook flowing through the property of the country man. When they were comfortably ensconced the owner graciously ordered them off. The next day when the travellers were about to leave the town they were informed that a complaint had been made against them for trespass, by the station master, who is also a Justice of the Peace. In order to stop further proceedings the gentleman was obliged to hand over \$5.00 to the injured farmer. The question now is, who was the meanest man, the farmer or the J.P.?

THE SIAMESE QUESTION.—The Siamese trouble continues to increase in size and in difficulty. The original matter of dispute—the murder of a French inspector of native militia by a Siamese mandarin—has now little to do with the case. France will no longer be satisfied with reparation—she is after territory, and she means to have it even if it be necessary to call in the aid of Russia. The Czar is all too willing to take a hand in the fight, for he foresees that by causing Siam to come under French control, another obstacle will be removed from his road to the Indian Empire. China watches the proceedings with jealous eyes. Since 1787 she has fretted against the creeping power of France, and she has no mind to permit the further spread of French power without first making a good fight. Great Britain, although a deeply interested party, has hardly shown her colors as yet, but it is probable that Lord Roseberry's policy is to let China do the fighting, and if necessary to act as her ally. John Bull and John Chinaman are almost as remarkable a pair as are Brother Jonathan and the Russian Czar.

OUR NEGLECTED CHILDREN.—The news that a tiny, defenceless child was being abused and shockingly ill treated in our city, could not fail to cause much sad feeling and indignation. The little face, now scarred for life, makes a mute appeal for other children of the same class—the little waifs whose parents, if they have any to speak of, are unable to care properly for their needs. The S.P.C.A. in Ontario has given special consideration to this sad phase of city life, and during the last term of the Legislature a Children's Charter was adopted with the view of removing children from vicious or depraved homes. Our orphanages are already well filled, as are those in the Sister Province, and the plan devised by the S.P.C.A. there will fit equally well here. The idea is to find comfortable Provincial homes for the little wards of the Province. They may be freely adopted, as are many of the little waifs sent us from Great Britain, or they may be boarded by the Province for a small sum. In either case they will reap the full benefit of the home life, and their welfare will be promoted by their close connection with the Children's Aid Societies, which will assume the responsibility for the well-treatment of the children in their country homes. While we appreciate to the full the good work which Dr. Barnardo and others of his stamp are doing, we cannot but think that the waifs of our own country demand the first attention. There is more chance of success in life for the boy or girl who is trained in a comfortable country home than there is for the child of the poor-house, or for the child who conscientiously receives charity. Why should not our own children, who are already in need receive the benefit of the country home, the country air, the country training to a life of activity and usefulness. The little child whose injuries have come so pathetically before us of late, is not the only one in her condition. There are other children to be rescued, but until we agree on some system by which their wants can be met, individuals will shrink from assuming the responsibility of disclosure. We cannot close without quoting the earnest words of a contemporary:—"The child of to-day is the citizen of the future, and once placed in the right path and given a fair start in the race of life, the poorest youngster in the land may reach any position in the state, however exalted."