

The Australian apple shippers pack their apples in boxes which contain about forty pounds weight of fruit. These sell in the London market at very handsome figures, being proportionately about double the price received by Nova Scotian apple-growers. This difference in value is certainly not due to the quality of the fruit, and is due, according to the *Canadian Gazette*, to the more convenient size of the package. If this be true, our apple growers should not be slow in taking advantage of the more marketable package.

At Naples, during the recent Feast of St. Peter, the Neapolitan fishermen besought the Cardinal to join in their celebration by repeating the antique ceremony of "blessing the sea." In accordance with their request, the Cardinal, with his Secretary and attendant priests, embarked in a boat and were rowed about three hundred feet from the land. While the multitude on the shores knelt devoutly the Cardinal repeated the words of consecration. The ceremony is particularly striking in these utilitarian days, and it reminds one not a little of the historic wedding of the Adriatic and the Doges of Venice.

Mr. Daniel Dudley Field, whose many gifts to his native town of Stockbridge have often been noted, has eclipsed all his former favors by presenting the municipality with a well-wooded and beautiful mountain, to be used as a recreation ground by his fellow citizens. For many years Mr. Field has had the gift in view, and he has been gradually buying up the private property on its slopes. The famous Ice Glen at the foot of the mountain is included in the deed of gift. It is a wierd spot, where snow and ice linger even in the hottest weather. Mr. Field's large-hearted beneficence is of the right sort.

The subject of the water supply of London is being very seriously considered by the London County Council. The wants of the five million inhabitants are not easily gratified, but the need of a good water service is daily becoming more pressing. The river Thames, the great reservoir and drain of the city, is already said to resemble "a pestilential ditch," and now that the cholera is abroad, its sanitary condition is being widely commented upon. Water must be brought from elsewhere to London, even at great expense, and from a great distance. The objection to this proposition is that an invading army could then easily cut off the water-supply of the city, but as that event is unlikely, it is certainly more necessary to protect the citizens from that silent plague which is so ready to steal in where the defences are weak.

When it was agreed to take a plebiscite vote upon prohibition during the elections in Manitoba, few people thought the result would be favorable to the prohibitive movement, but the elections of Manitoba stand two to one in favor of prohibition, and it is probable that the people of the prairie province will soon have an opportunity of testing the workability of prohibitory laws. To our mind the surest and most efficacious cure for alcoholism is to be found in giving to all classes of the community the fullest information as to its results. When the people thoroughly understand the physical, mental and moral diseases which are engendered and induced by the abusive use of spirituous liquors there will be no more need of a prohibitory law than that which exists to prevent their using strychnine, Paris green and other such poisons.

The Royal Prohibition Commission has been gathering some interesting statistics with respect to the sale and use of liquor in the city of Halifax and in the eastern part of the Province. The evidence which has been taken shows pretty clearly that liquor is obtainable by all who desire it, that it is frequently taken in excessive quantities, and that much degradation of all kinds may be attributed to its use; but this evidence by no means proves that these evils would be cured by a prohibitive law. It must always be borne in mind that laws which are obeyed invariably follow after public sentiment, and that until public sentiment is prepared to regard a man who uses liquor in the same light as it regards a man who breaks the eighth commandment, prohibition will not prohibit. Undoubtedly the public sentiment in Nova Scotia to-day does not countenance the abusive use of liquor in any form, and in this respect it stands far in advance of the sentiment of twenty years ago. But while this is true, it is doubtful whether even a majority of the community absolutely favor the prohibition of the manufacture and sale of alcoholic beverages.

We note with grave disapproval the attitude which many of our Upper Canadian papers have adopted in dealing with the telegraphic reports of the ravages of cholera in Europe, and of small-pox in British Columbia. Sensational telegrams do enough damage without being backed up by excited editorial comment as to the immediate danger threatening every individual reader. It is the duty of the press at such a time to remind the public loudly and frequently of the necessity for precautionary measures, but it is no part of the duty of the press to terrify unnecessarily, and so predispose to disease the many who take its utterances for gospel truths. As a matter of fact, Asiatic cholera has not appeared on this side of the Atlantic, it is exceedingly doubtful if it has appeared in Europe beyond the boundaries of Russia, and by proper quarantine regulations it may be kept in check. As for the "dread disease picolte," or small-pox, the authorities of Victoria have acted with unusual wisdom in their emergency, and have now about stamped out the disease. In short, we cannot sympathize with our contemporaries in their dismal prophecies that cholera will shortly desolate the eastern half of this continent, and that its ravages will cease only when small-pox, which meanwhile has been ravaging the western slopes, shall meet it in the valley of the Mississippi.

Many years ago, Sir Richard Wallace, pitying the poorer class of Parisians who were so limited in their water supply, erected a number of ornamental fountains throughout the great city. These have been a great source of both pleasure and comfort to the people, but the time has now come when they must go. The water for these fountains, which was drawn from the Seine, though filtered by an old-fashioned process, was necessarily impure. The threatened visit of cholera has aroused the vigilance of the civic authorities. They have decided to abolish the Wallace fountains and to erect more modern ones, in which M. Pasteur's system of filtering under pressure through unglazed porcelain will be tried.

The potato bug is worrying the lives out of our farmers, and many of them despair of ever ridding the country of this pest; but the more hopeful look upon their extermination as only a matter of time, provided each farmer does his duty. One of the strangest sights that may be seen this summer in King's County is the whitened potato field, which contrasts strongly with the bright green of the outfields and the already brown stubble of the newly-mown stretches of upland and dyke. Plaster and Paris Green judiciously mixed and liberally sprinkled over the potato fields day by day is unpalatable to the marauding potato bug, interferes with his digestion and quickly puts an end forever to his individual depredations. Keep up the sprinkling and the armies of potato bugs will soon be reckoned among the by-gones.

The cooler heads in the United States are not in love with President Harrison's retaliation bill against Canada. They recognize that while Canada may not have carried out the spirit of the treaty giving the citizens of the United States the same rights as Canadians in our canals, the United States has likewise failed to fulfil the spirit and letter of its contract, and it is simply acting the part of a big bully to threaten Canada with traffic warfare if she does not adhere strictly to the terms of the treaty. Irrespective of these threats, the Canadian Government should show its willingness to place the most liberal construction upon the terms of the treaty, and it might be that by so doing the United States would stop bluffing and allow Canadians the use of the Erie Canal according to the stipulations of the treaty. Some of our Canadian contemporaries seem to fear that retaliation may be met by retaliation, and that from a traffic war genuine war may result. To our mind such an outcome of the present difficulties between the two countries would be as puerile as it is improbable.

There are many misleading advertisements published with impunity now-a-days, but the Carbolic Smoke Ball Co. will have to pay for the privilege of having entered into an intended fraudulent contract with the public. The Company, advertising in Great Britain, offered to pay the sum of £100 to any person who should contract influenza, colds or any diseases caused by taking cold, after having purchased and used the "Smoke Ball" according to directions. When the plaintiff, a Mrs. Carrill, brought the suit against the company, many reasons were alleged by the defendants for not fulfilling the terms of the advertisement. They took exceptions to the fact that there was no individual contract between the lady and themselves, or that if there were a contract, it was nullified by the Statutes framed against gaming and wagering. The Judge, after setting the pleas aside, has decided for the plaintiff, who seems to have acted upon the alternative that she would either not get the influenza, or that she would get the £100, which is certainly a sound commercial view of the situation. As the case has gone against the company, several similar suits will be brought up, but the Smoke Ball Co. has wisely provided against getting into a similar fix by issuing a circular in which they lay down several conditions, the observance of which will be necessary before another forfeit need be paid.

How many of our readers have enjoyed the grand view that is to be obtained from the point on North Mountain, King's County, known as the "Look-off." The view cannot be adequately described in ordinary journalistic language, but it is one that every Nova Scotian should see for himself and herself, and be proud of. At your very feet lies the beautiful Cornwallis Valley, rich in agricultural and horticultural wealth, intersected everywhere by broad, smooth roads, and here and there dotted with clusters of houses forming picturesque villages. Within easy range may be seen Pereau, Kingsport, Medford, Canning, Centreville, Sheffield's Mills, Cornwallis, Starr's Point, Port Williams, Biltown, and a score of smaller hamlets. On the opposite side of the river and basin a grand view may be obtained of Wolfville, Grand Pre and Horton Landing. Sweeping the horizon, the looker-off catches a glimpse of the counties of Cumberland, Colchester, Hants and Annapolis. The view is certainly not equalled in the Maritime Provinces, and as it may be obtained at small expense, we strongly recommend our readers to visit the spot and drink in for themselves all the charm and beauty of this natural panorama. McLeod's Hotel at Kentville and the Central House at Kingsport offer to the intending visitor excellent accommodation at reasonable rates. If located at the former there are a score of beautiful drives to as many points of the compass; while if you are a guest at the Central House in Kingsport you have bathing and boating *ad libitum*, to say nothing of other attractions.

Owing to the rapid increase in trade and the demand for K. D. C. across the border, the K. D. C. Company, Limited, of New Glasgow, N. S., have opened offices at 127 State St., Boston, Mass., from which to supply their United States customers. Their offices, formerly occupied by the British Consul, are commodious and well suited to the needs of this pushing and energetic Company, who seem bent on pushing their Dyspepsia Cure, deservedly called the "King," to the uttermost parts of the earth. The remedy will be sent postpaid to any address in the United States on receipt of price, one dollar a bottle. Free sample to any address.