

# THE CRITIC:

A Maritime Provincial Journal.

DEVOTED TO

Commerce, Manufacturing, Mining and Agriculture.

1.50 PER ANNUM.  
SINGLE COPY 5 CTS. }

HALIFAX, N. S., SEPTEMBER 19, 1890.

{ VOL 7  
No. 38

**MANCHESTER,  
ROBERTSON  
& ALLISON,  
Wholesale Dry Goods.**

FALL, 1890.

**NEW FALL STOCK.**

FRESH GOODS IN ALL DEPARTMENTS.

Largest lines of the latest productions  
of European Manufacture.

All classes of Canadian Dry Goods sold at  
Lowest Prices.

Special quotations for Case Lots shipped from Mills  
direct to purchasers.

**Wholesale Millinery and Fancy Goods.**

ALL THE FALL NOVELTIES NOW BEING OPENED.

WE INVITE INTENDING PURCHASERS TO CORRESPOND WITH US.

All orders entrusted to us will have careful  
and prompt attention.

**MANCHESTER, ROBERTSON & ALLISON,**

**27 and 29 KING ST.**

ST. JOHN, N. B.

## CONTENTS OF CURRENT NUMBER.

EDITORIAL NOTES	1, 2
CONTRIBUTED.	
The Rattan Ventilator	T. W. G. 6
Letters to Cousin Caryl	Eleanor Wynne 14
MISCELLANEOUS.	
Chit-Chat and Chuckles	3
News of the Week	4, 5
Chess	5
Poetry—Amor	6
A Piano Recital	6, 7
Industrial Notes	7
City Chimes	8
Commercial	8, 9
Market Quotations	9
Serial—The Amber Demon	10
Sweetheart Mine	10, 11
Mining	12, 13
Draughts—Checkers	15

## 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.

## EDITORIAL NOTES.

Brown-Sequard, of Elixir of Life notoriety, is about to be eclipsed by some man, name at present unknown, who claims to have discovered the microbe of old age. What he is going to do with it is a problem. If he annihilates the whole nest of them and eliminates them from the human frame there will, of course, be no more old people, and we shall all presumably be beloved of the Gods and die young.

It is alleged that in Hartford, Connecticut, during a recent epidemic of diphtheria, the only fatal cases were in families using paraffine oil for illuminating purposes. Whether the fumes or vapor arising from the combustion of the oil really had any connection with the fatality observed or not, it is a fact that irritation of the throat and bronchial tubes is occasioned by sleeping or close confinement in rooms in which paraffine oil is burned, and it is only reasonable to suppose that this irritation would produce a condition of the air passages favorable to the development of the vassilus of diphtheria.

Whether the telegraphing of a recent club election all over the continent was done for political effect, or, as is more probable, merely as a news item, it is to be deprecated in either case. To publish such a rumor as news is illegitimate; to publish it as a political weapon of offense would be contemptible. This would be analogous to actually blackballing an eligible candidate for the purpose of belittling his words or hurting his cause, a meanness to which no one *fit* to belong to a gentlemen's club could possibly stoop.

In their exercise of the ballot at club elections men are governed by two totally different theories. The one, which is held by the thinking majority of clubmen, is that their legal right to blackball involves grave responsibilities; that capricious blackballing is bound to cripple or kill a club; that voting members are to some extent passing a verdict on the character, standing and deportment of a man, and that the verdict should be influenced by justice more than by inclination. The other theory is that a member may without compunction "pill" any applicant he dislikes. The issue before a club voter who holds this view is not "Is this man fairly up to the club standard in moral tone, presentability, etc?" but simply "Have I any objection to this man, or to his opinions, or to his family, which inclines me to prefer his exclusion to his election?" Were this theory prevalent, it is plain that hardly a candidate could feel a reasonable assurance of being elected; and no prominent man could permit his name to be proposed, for, other things being equal, the more distinguished a person becomes the more enmities and jealousies he provokes.