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The editor of THE CRITIC is responsible for the views expressed in Editorial Note 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 evidence being given before the Quebec Royal Commission on the Baie des Chaleurs steal is, to say the least, damaging to the Mercier Government. From what Armstrong said it would appear that Mr. Mercier was fully aware of the irregular proceedings with the money, and that Mr. Pacaud was obliged to report to him on the matter. This, and subsequent evidence, appears to implicate the Liberal leader directly with the jobbing the Commission is inquiring into.

We have not found many of our clergymen standing up for the honor of Sir Hector Langevin, but the Rev. Dr. Saunders, of Halifax, made a great effort in this line a few days ago. It is unfortunate for the effect of the Rev. gentleman's endeavors to set Sir Hector right before the people of Canada, that he is reported to have two sons in the civil service, thus giving cause for imputing self-interested motives to him. Dr. Saunders' letter appeared in the *Herald* and has been the topic of much discussion all over Canada.

"The Rambler," whose always readable and interesting jottings are attractive features of *The Week*, found some items that might prove useful to school teachers, and incorporated them in one of his recent articles. The gist of the remarks is, that teachers should make a point of going out with the pupils at recess and direct and join in the games they play; by this means serving the double purpose of refreshing their own minds and keeping the youngsters out of mischief. We heartily commend the idea to our many bright school teachers.

From present appearances it does not look as though the fond anticipations of peace-loving people regarding the drawing together of the two factions of the Irish National Party in consequence of the death of Parnell are to be realized. Parnellism is as lively as ever, although the leader is dead, and the struggle between this faction and that which recognizes Dillon and O'Brien as leaders seems to have only been embittered by Parnell's death. It is thought by those who are supposed to be well informed, that certain well-known leaders in the anti-Parnellite group stand ready to make terms with the English leaders and accept English bribes. In Parnell's time there was at least the assurance that his party was sternly independent of anything like corruption.

Can any of our readers give us any information regarding the origin of placing coins under the corner or foundation stones of buildings. It may be that the practice grew out of the ancient habit of placing coins in the mouths of the dead to pay the Stygian boatman his toll, or placing them in the wrappings of mummies. The antiquity of coins covers the subject with a veil not easy to pierce, but if any leader of researching proclivities, who has more time for such work than a busy editor can spare, will look the matter up and tell us what he discovers, he will confer a favor upon us and upon a reader who is anxious to be informed on the subject.

Mr. John Lovell, the veteran Montreal publisher, is undertaking a gigantic work in "Lovell's Gazetteer and History of Canada," which he wished to bring out some years ago, but could not obtain sufficient encouragement to warrant the effort. The scheme has been revived once more under the auspices of the Canadian Gazetteer Publishing Company, Ltd., of which Mr. Lovell is manager, and it promises to succeed. There can be no question of the value of the work for reference, and it will embody many so far unwritten incidents of Canadian history, making it a notable addition to our national literature. The work is to appear in eleven volumes, containing about 8,000 pages, with eight provincial maps and a map of the Dominion. In order to insure the production of this great work, it is necessary that a sufficient number of subscribers should be secured, for the promoters cannot undertake to go on with it unless the support of the public is indicated in a substantial manner. The cost of the set of eleven volumes is to be \$99, \$9 payable on the delivery of each volume. We give this project a prominent place because of its national importance, hoping that Mr. Lovell may secure the encouragement of all our business and professional men who can afford this addition to their libraries—in fact we should think that few could afford to do without it. Those who want to help on the work should write for the prospectus at once.

The domestic affairs of Mr. Haggart, the Post-Master-General of Canada, have been the subject of discussion in many of the public prints of late. Mrs. Haggart has, it appears, not been living with her husband for the last 29 years, and has recently gone to New York to reside, where the inevitable reporter has interviewed her. The interview, as published by the *New York World*, is of so low a character as to reflect the greatest discredit on Mrs. Haggart—that is if one is to believe the stuff, if not then the whole of the discredit rests upon the *New York World*. We have no means of knowing on which side the fault of disagreement between Mr. and Mrs. Haggart lies, but we cannot imagine any respectable woman speaking to a reporter of her husband, albeit she has separated from him, in the manner reported. According to this precious interview, in which Mrs. Haggart refers to her husband as "Jack," she does not want a divorce, having got along without it for 29 years, and not desiring to marry anyone else. We hope the people of Canada will take no stock in any trash like this emanating from sensational Yankee papers; it has positively no bearing on Mr. Haggart's case, and is insulting to Canadians in general. The disagreeable stories about the Post-Master-General should be settled one way or the other by a full inquiry; it is unjust that they are allowed to spread as they are doing if they are untrue, and if true, the man should no longer hold a public position.

The Canadian Manufacturers' Association some time ago presented to Lady Macdonald a beautiful sterling silver casket containing the resolution of condolence to the widow of our late Premier, Sir John Macdonald, which had been passed by the Association. The *Jewelers' Circular*, a prominent New York journal, in noticing this as a specimen of Canadian art silver-smithing says: "The casket is distinctive and original in conception, and the execution is of high order. On the sides and lid are riveted maple leaves and figures of the Canadian beaver, in oxidized silver. The monogram of the organization, C. M. A., in rustic letters, are seen also on the lid. The obverse and reverse sides of the Canadian Manufacturers' Association medal are in fine bronze. The entire work is rich in execution. The stems of the maple leaves coming below the sides of the box, at the corners are joined to form legs or rests. On the inner side of the lid is the inscription:

To Lady Macdonald.
In memory of the life and services of her
illustrious husband,
Sir John A. Macdonald,
— Who died June 6th, 1891.

The casket is encased in a miniature trunk of leather lined with chamois. The whole work is of small form, and the materials used are quite imperious to the effects of age." An illustration of the casket is given, which fully bears out the description above, and shows that Canadians are keeping up with the times in this branch of art work.