

THE CRITIC:

A Maritime Provincial Journal

DEVOTED TO

Commercial, Manufacturing, Mining and General News.

\$1.50 PER ANNUM.
SINGLE COPY 5 CTS.

HALIFAX, N. S., NOVEMBER 25, 1892.

{VOL. 9
{No. 48

CONTENTS OF CURRENT NUMBER.

EDITORIAL NOTES	3, 4
CONTRIBUTED	
Poetry—Ghosts	8
MISCELLANEOUS.	
Chit-Chat and Chuckles	5
News of the Week	6, 7
Chess	7
Book Gossip	8
Industrial Notes	8, 9
Commercial	10, 11
Market Quotations	11
Serial—Matt	12, 13
Draughts—Checkers	15
Mining	14, 15, 16
City Chimes	18

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 who is to appear in our columns, we shall leave the rest to their intelligent judgment.

EDITORIAL NOTES.

Baron Hirsch's experiment in settling the Russian Jews in South America has been proved to be a failure, but his settlement at Oxbow in the North-West Territories has been wholly successful. Over five hundred people are at work in the community. Each head of a family has broken up the twenty acres of the land allotted to him, and snug houses have been erected. This colony was composed of picked men from the farming classes, and seems admirably adapted to the country. Baron Hirsch is so well satisfied with this attempt at colonization that he will send out another contingent in the early spring. Steady, thrifty settlers of this variety are ever welcome to our Western territories.

Republicans of the United States are realizing the demoralizing effect which a third party may have in national politics. General Weaver, of the people's party is much elated at the success of his tactics—he dared not hope for election, but he dared to deal one of the death blows to the Republican party by weakening strongholds, for no less than six Republican States returned Weaver as their choice for the Presidency. The little people's party, the laughing stock of the campaign, bids fair to be the "candlestick" which will decide the next presidential teter. General Weaver is qualified as a political expert, as he has served with both parties, and is familiar with the weaknesses of each. By denouncing Chauncey Depew and McKinlay he captured a number of discontented Republicans, by carping at Cleveland's policy, especially on the free coinage question, he hopes to draw over the discontent of the Democratic Party, and he will probably be successful. But General Weaver has yet an important lesson to learn—his party will be formed of men of antagonistic views, whose only mutual idea is unrest or dissatisfaction. Unless he be a skilful manipulator of men, his party must break from under him, and by its disbanding strengthen the hands of the two great political parties.

There are yet veritable highwaymen in Canada of the type of Dick Turpin, rather than of that most considerate and most courteous of gentlemen, Mr. Robin Hood. A disgraceful affair, which has just occurred in the neighborhood of Montreal, is as big-handed a piece of brigandage as any in history. A young contractor, O'Brien by name, drew a large sum of money from a city bank and then boarded a train for a suburban station, quite unconscious of the fact that he was being shadowed by a rogue who not only followed him from the bank, but actually had the audacity to share the same seat in the car with his victim. When Mr. O'Brien, according to arrangement, had met his father at Coteau, and had proceeded a little way from the station, the "shadow" and three confederates appeared and

demanding "money or life." There was no possible escape for the O'Briens—they were unarmed, over-powered by numbers, and there was little chance of aid coming, so the hardly earned sum of \$4,000 was handed over to the miscreants. If the police and detectives of Montreal do not succeed in tracing the robbers, confidence in their ability will be greatly decreased. Ruffianism of this description may be considered the proper thing in the Western States, but Canadians as a rule prefer peace and security.

A very interesting, though not wholly edifying, table of statistics of "Ratios of Legitimacy in Europe," has been prepared by Dr. Albert Jeffingwell. Oddly enough it is in the countries where poverty and ignorance are most prevalent that the highest morality prevails. In Ireland there are but 26 illegitimate births to the thousand. Russia comes next with the low rate of 28 per thousand, while thrifty Holland is a step lower down with 32 per thousand. In England the rate is 48, while Italy comes much further down the grade with a confession of 74 per thousand. France and Scotland tie in the far from reputable record of 82 to the thousand. Scotland has long been conceded the palm as containing the greatest number of illegitimates, but she is no worse than France, and is superior to Sweden, Saxony and Bavaria, where the rates range from 100 to 140 per thousand. Austria closes the black list with an admission of 146 per thousand. Dr. Jeffingwell asserts that the causes of illegitimacy are not, as usually supposed, to be found in poverty, ignorance, the contamination of great cities, nor yet in the influences of creed or education; rather he would incline to seek the true causes in race, heredity, legislative restraints upon marriage, social usages and other similar circumstances.

Aspirants to the peerage would do well to consider the titled aristocracy of China, who are not elevated on account of their talents as lawyers, doctors or brewers, but in reward for one of two definite services to their country, a town or province must be captured from an enemy, or in case of defeat a commander must at once commit "honorab'e suicide." In the latter case the title is awarded to the ghost of the dead warrior, and after a few years it descends to the eldest legitimate son. The nobility are of eight ranks, corresponding somewhat to the Duke, Marquis, Earl, Viscount and Baron of European countries; then follow "the light charioted city warden," "the cloud-mounted warden," and "the mounted warden by grace." Each holder of a title is a qualified pension-holder, drawing annually from the Government the sum of \$20.00 or upwards. A title, however lofty, does not secure its owner from condign punishment, in fact only men who can boast a literary degree are safe from the bambooings which are at times inflicted upon their august highnesses. As the titles are directly under the control of the Emperor they are withdrawn at his pleasure. Although many of the titles are lofty ones, that of "purifier of the sea" being especially attractive, yet with regard to the security of life, limb and liberty, we should prefer the simple title given to the Knights of Canada.

The inauguration of Dr. Jacob Gould Schurman as President of Cornell University has called the attention of many of our young students to the success of this already famous young Canadian. His life, so far, has been an example of what concentrated energy and ambition are capable of achieving. Notwithstanding lack of means and limited opportunities for education, he determined, when in his thirteenth year, to obtain the best education possible. Two years in a village store in Prince Edward Island gave him a little financial start on his road to learning. In his fifteenth year he had begun his college course, trusting to win enough in prize money and scholarships to continue in his new life. A Government scholarship was the first fruit of his labors in the Prince of Wales College. When he again took up his studies at Acadia College he was successful in capturing the money prizes which he so needed, and finally in 1875 he brought honour on all Provincial students by capturing the coveted Gilchrist scholarship, worth \$500.00 a year. The University of London soon felt his power, when the scholarship in philosophy with a value of \$250.00 a year was awarded him, as well as a scholarship for political economy. In 1878 the picked graduates of the British colleges contested for the Hilbert travelling fellowship with \$1,000.00 a year for two years. Again the young Canadian came to the fore and defeated all contestants. Dr. Schurman's after career, as one of the most successful professors, both at Acadia and Dalhousie, is well known. His proven ability weighed in his appointment as a professor in the great University of Cornell, and his appointment as President seems but the natural outcome of his ambitious career. Our young men should realize that this is no fancy sketch, but the actual outline of the life of a Canadian student, who held before him constantly one goal, who was not discouraged or turned aside by lesser matters, but who bent the whole energy of his growing manhood to developing himself into the man which his inner self prophesied he might become.