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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.

A good deal of ice, in large floes, has recently been met off the coast of Newfoundland, drifting into the steamer routes. It is stated that this movement of ice, though threatening danger to ships crossing the Atlantic, has had the effect of driving the seals inshore into the bays, and thus leading to the best seal catch ever known.

Professor Ray Lankester, who was recently dismissed from his Chair at Oxford for a sort of insubordination, quite in keeping with the insolent presumption of the man whom "science" (so-called) has rendered dead to human feeling, has taken upon himself, without a shadow of ground, to assert that the flesh of animals inoculated with chicken cholera is innocuous as food. Verily they be a nice folk—these vivisectionists!

We have on our books the names of large numbers of subscribers, whose subscriptions have remained unpaid for some years. We have now to notify all those whose subscriptions are two years or more in arrears, that unless their accounts are paid on or before the 1st DAY OF JUNE next, we shall be compelled to hand the same to our Solicitor for collection. Remit by P. O. Order or Registered Letter to A. MILNE FRASER, Manager.

An English exchange has the following:—"England submits to the levying of heavy duties on her goods by any colonies which consider protection necessary for their manufacturing interests. But it is on the distinct understanding that the same measure will be meted out to similar goods exported by other countries. It would be simply intolerable to find our cotton or iron manufactures shut out of, say, Victoria or New Zealand by hostile tariffs, while those of Germany or France were admitted free. This, and nothing less, was what the Cartwright Resolution aimed at bringing about in Canada; and, as those who supported it must have known that it would lead to separation from England, we are justified in assuming that this was their real object. It is satisfactory, then, to find that the Canadian Separatists are still in a considerable minority."

The *Ch. Guide* has taken alarm at the Imperial Federation idea, and comes out on the subject in an article which can only be construed to be plainly and squarely annexationist.

If there was ever a clear point in an international controversy, it is the point in the Behring Sea question, that when Russia, as the owner of Alaska, laid claim to jurisdiction over those waters, both England and the United States protested. The latter was particularly vigorous, and the U. S. Minister at St. Petersburg in 1822 said: "The existence of territorial rights to the distance of 100 miles from the coast," etc., "are innovations on the law of nations, and measures unexampled." Russia gave way, and a treaty was signed recognizing Behring's Sea as part of the Pacific Ocean.

M. Pasteur's vigilant and fanatical energy in pushing his empirical processes of inoculation, succeeded in fairly creating an epidemic of rabies. This having to some extent subsided, the rash and confident scientist has now seen his way to a new field of mischief. "Rabbits inoculated for chicken cholera have been," (says the *Adelaide Observer*), "taken up the rivers in steamers for distribution, and the disease has been already communicated to cattle at Blanchetown, (South Australia,) and is spreading rapidly." Tinned rabbit is being largely exported from Australia, and there is no saying what further mischief may come to pass from M. Pasteur's restless and reckless experimentalism.

We have every respect for the Bench and its dignity, which should be strenuously upheld, but we cannot but think its prestige has not been enhanced by the recent proceedings against Mr. Hawke for Contempt of Court. The recent ruling of Sir James Stephen, coincided in by Mr. Justice Field, in England, indicates that even in contempt in cases *sub-judice*, the powers of the Bench should be used with caution, while the conduct of Judges and Juries is a fair subject of criticism, (like that of any other public functionary,) after a trial is concluded. The New Brunswick Bench would, we think, have been better vindicated by an action for libel on the part of the individual judge or judges who deemed themselves slandered.

Among the numerous attractions for the coming summer in Halifax will be the World's Fair, in aid of the Art School Building Fund, to be held in the Exhibition Building during the first week of August, and the object being such a good one, it is to be hoped that many of our friends at a distance will be induced to visit us. No effort will be spared to secure attractions for the carnival week. There will be a review, excursions to the N. W. Arm and Bedford Basin, a ball, concert, etc., and the presence of the Irish cricketers the following week will prove a great inducement to many. Fares on all the trains have been arranged for at excursion rates, and a definite programme will be prepared, in which full particulars will be given.

Mr. Nicholas Flood Davin has given us in the *Week* a "vacation study" on "Sappho," which he modestly rates as claiming "no more value than every-day journalistic efforts, the best of which are like those insects which buzz into life in the morning and expatiate with aggressive energy and delight in fields where they perish as the sun goes down." Nevertheless, those who can appreciate it, will call it little less than noble. Not very much is known of the great Lesbian poetess, but much more is to be gathered from her fragments, and from the comments of great Greeks and Romans who came after her, than is commonly thought. Mr. Davin refuses to believe that she was anything but pure and highminded, and, in point of fact, there is enough to prove that she was in every way a queen among women, at least as regards genius and nobility, her personal appearance is more strictly guess work. From Plato to Swinburne all agree that she was untranslatable. Mr. Davin calls upon others, "fresher from their studies," to take up the subject, and "give us an essay of abiding value."

CANADA AND AMERICA.

Two or three incidents have recently occurred which may have a considerable bearing on the views of either country on the existing state of international questions, more particularly on the part of Canada. In the first place, the United States Customs authorities have begun to enforce the law prohibiting hiring labor in a foreign country, against Nova Scotia fishermen, and several lots have been sent back. If our fishermen do not make their contracts before leaving home, we believe they could not be stopped, and it is possible that a close enquiry into the law might reveal the fact that it does not apply to perhaps a majority of those seeking American employ. Whether or no, the mere fact of its having been attempted to be brought to bear on Nova Scotia fishermen may operate to deter many from going out of their own country, where, if there were any enterprise on the part of our people, sufficient employment ought, we should think, to be found for them.