

# 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., JANUARY 1, 1892.

VOL. 9  
No. 1

## CONTENTS OF CURRENT NUMBER.

EDITORIAL NOTES	3, 4
CONTRIBUTED.	
Poetry—A New Year's Wish	8
Only	8
MISCELLANEOUS.	
Chit-Chat and Chuckles	5
News of the Week	6, 7
Chess	7
How Pat got his Receipt	9
Book Gossip	9
Industrial Notes	9
Commercial	10, 11
Market Quotations	11
Serial—The Gray Ghost of Gilsium	12
An Awkward Predicament	12, 13
Mining	14, 15, 16
Draughts—Checkers	17
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 what is to appear in our columns, we shall leave the rest to their intelligent judgment.

## EDITORIAL NOTES.

The Hon. Charles Frederick Crisp, who has been chosen speaker of the United States House of Representatives, is a Georgian, and is known as one of the hardest workers in Congress. His pictures represent him as a handsome man, with a fair open brow, and he looks as if he would be an able and honorable incumbent of the office to which he has been called.

The Duke of Devonshire's death, which occurred on the 31st of December will make a great difference to the Unionists in the House of Commons, for by it the Marquis of Hartington, leader of that wing of the Liberals in the Commons, succeeds to the title and takes his seat in the House of Lords. The Liberal Unionists have plenty of strength in the latter House, but they will feel the loss in the Commons severely. Rumor says that the new Duke will before long marry the dowager Duchess of Manchester, who is credited with being the love of his youth.

The thick blanket of fog which has hung over London during the Christmas season has been the frightful cause of many calamities, and the joys of the holiday time were seriously damped by it. The frequent recurrence of these choking fogs lead one to fear that some day the great city of London may be shut in for a long period and that its people will suffer death by suffocation. The need of further consideration of means to prevent such terrible visitations is very apparent. They might at least be mitigated if smoke and other nuisances could be abated by modern scientific means.

A man named Thomas Comfort, was taken to the police station on Christmas eve under the influence of liquor. He was put in a cell and left there, and in the morning he was dead—suffocated by sickness. The coroner's jury brought in a verdict of death by suffocation, but there is justly much feeling against the neglect with which this man was treated. Drunkards are pitiable spectacles, and certainly do wrong to get drunk, but they should be looked after in a Christian manner when they are incapable. A police investigation has been going on, and it is to be hoped that a reform will be instituted.

The establishing of a home for aged men in Halifax would without doubt prove of benefit to many who have reached an age when they need a

good home and kind treatment, and are unable to obtain the same at the hands of their relatives. The care of the aged and infirm is one of the duties of young, prosperous and able citizens, and it is to the credit of a community when this duty is conscientiously performed. The *Wesleyan* last week made the encouraging statement that a prominent gentleman of Halifax had made the generous offer of one thousand dollars towards the founding of a Home for Aged Men, provided that the further amount of five thousand dollars be secured towards the same object. As in the case of the Home for Aged Ladies, the proposed institution shall be placed under a committee of management, on which there shall be an equal representation of the four leading Protestant denominations. Here is an opportunity for men of means to do a lasting good to those of their kind who are not so favored by fortune as themselves. With an offer like this there *should* not in this city of churches and charities be any difficulty in arousing sufficient sympathy with the object to draw forth the needed amount. As the Indian said when somebody told him he was sorry for him, "how much are you sorry?" This is the question for those who are sorry for homeless old age to answer now.

We should think that St. John would feel that it had received a heavy blow in the distribution of a view of that city and harbor by the large dry goods firm of Manchester, Robertson & Allison. The harbor looks about the size of Steele's pond; it is toned in hues of blue, green and yellow, the latter dabs looking as if they were intended to represent mud shoals, and the ships riding at anchor are some heading one way and some another regardless of the wind. The city itself has a decidedly small appearance, and the coloring can only be described as atrocious. We extend our sympathy to our sister city, and we do not so much blame the firm that evidently meant to do a courteous act to its home and its friends, but the Toronto Lithographing Company, which turned out this piece of botch work, should feel ashamed. There are many other features of the "view" we would like to speak of, but we could not do them full justice, so refrain. In truth Canadian lithographing has made a sorry exposure of itself this year, and we call for a change. There are artists who can do this style of work as it should be done, but if such firms as the Toronto Lithograph Co. employ those who know nothing or worse than nothing—for a little knowledge is a dangerous thing—about the business, we will have such inflections as the present one forced on us. Let the press speak out and see if Canadian work is to be kept at so low a level and still receive encouragement. The "Type of Canadian Beauty" and "The Young Recruits," together with the "View of St. John City and Harbor," seems to force on us the necessity of making a protest.

The freedom from deep snow and crust we have enjoyed during our winters of late years, especially towards the end of the season, has had the result in this Province of allowing our big game, moose and cariboo, to increase. As all true sportsmen are deeply interested in the preservation of these animals we would like to call attention to the state of affairs, in hopes that when another old-fashioned March snow prevails all the gain of past seasons may not go for naught. Deep snow facilitates running the animals, which although a legitimate and manly method of hunting, if carried to too great an extent is disastrous and will almost certainly result in their extermination. But by far the worst feature in the hunting of moose and cariboo is the practice of "calling" so largely made use of at the present time. It savors very little of honest wood-craft, to our mind, to imitate the voice of an animal and keep quiet until the deluded creature which answers the "call" comes within range of the so-called huntsman's shot. There is no manliness about it, and although a man who faces his first moose may find it exciting enough even in this way, we should think he would prefer the sport of "running" when he takes to the woods. There will always be a place in Nova Scotia for these animals if they are not ruthlessly destroyed. The inland country to the southwest of the Province is for the most part unfit for cultivation, and in those parts the moose and cariboo could find a home when cultivation claims others where they now exist. The Game and Inland Fisheries Protection Association has done much towards preserving our animals, but it cannot do everything. More wardens are required, we fancy, and greater strictness in reporting animals shot out of season, but this latter will always be hard to secure, because oftentimes it happens that the offender is a friend of the game officer, who would rather let the matter pass than offend his neighbor—and as game officers are but human this is not unnatural. What is really needed is for a large interest in the preservation of game to be excited, so that every man will take a personal interest in the keeping of regulations regarding killing or taking. This is our object in writing on the subject at present, and we ask all our readers who take the slightest interest in sport to bear the matter in mind, and use their influence towards preventing the extermination of large game in the Province.