

NEWS FROM NICARAGUA.—We greatly regret to hear that the Nicaragua Canal Co. has collapsed. There seems to be ill-fortune attending on all who have attempted to benefit the world by the dissection of the continents, and a vast amount of both French and American capital has been lost in the efforts to make a trans-isthmus waterway. The existing commercial depression is doubtless the immediate cause of the present crash, and we trust that when confidence has been restored the affairs of the enterprising company may be satisfactorily adjusted.

CRIMINAL CARELESSNESS.—The great traffic by rail in the United States, mainly due to the rush of excursionists to see the World's Fair at Chicago, seems to have demoralized the train service, as is made evident by numerous collisions, in three instances at least, accompanied by heavy loss of life. In the Chester horror the accident was caused by the weakening of a bridge under repair, and in the other cases the orders were improperly transmitted by telegraph operators. Criminal carelessness was at the bottom of all the trouble, and the guilty parties should be severely punished.

CONGRESSIONAL DOCTORS.—The Congress of the United States during the last session set aside the sum of \$15,000 to be expended upon a Pan-American Medical Congress. This Congress is now open, and we trust that much important work will be transacted by its members. The main idea is for the medical men assembled from all portions of this continent and from the West India Islands to decide on a New World policy of uniformity in the practice of medicine. The serious questions of continental quarantine, and the stamping out of epidemic diseases will also be considered. There seems to be rather a large amount of work cut out for our medical friends, for no less than six hundred papers are to be read and discussed, a comparative exhibition of European and American medical instruments is to be held, and the light subjects of diagraphy, otology, etc., will be toyed with in the interim of more serious consideration.

THE GOVERNOR-GENERAL.—While preparations are being made to receive the Earl of Aberdeen, the new Governor-General, our readers may be interested as to the stamp of man who has been chosen to represent Her Majesty in Canada. The Earl is a good-looking, slim-built man of forty-six years of age. His manners are easy and pleasant, and he seems to have the knack of making friends speedily wherever he goes. He is the seventh Earl of the famous Gordon family of Scotland, a fact which in itself will secure him a hearty welcome from Canadians of Scottish descent. His grandfather was twice Prime Minister of England, and the present Earl is said to inherit a large share of his grandsire's executive ability. His eldest brother, the heir of the Gordons, was a most eccentric character. His career as a common sailor on a West Indian trading ship is well known, and after his tragic death in 1872 the present Earl succeeded to the estates. As Lord Lieutenant of Ireland the Earl was most successful, and the prospects are that his Canadian career will succeed in greatly increasing the already large number of his friends.

OUR PRECIOUS STONES.—Our esteemed contemporary, the *Kentville Advertiser*, is, we fear, becoming too grasping or perhaps too fearful that "the shores of the Basin of Minas" are being damaged in a monetary sense by the summer visitors. The *Advertiser* doubtless feels that King's Co. has been deeply imposed upon in the matter of Gabriel and Evangeline. The land would long ago have been despoiled of relics of this ardent pair of lovers had not a summer supply of momentoes for American visitors been easily procurable, thanks to the industry of the King's County aborigines and to the kindly commendations of a popular railroad conductor. In the present case the matter is hardly more serious. It is alleged that the summer visitors carry away thousands of dollars worth of "gems," otherwise known as agates and smethysts, and that the country is so much the poorer for their successful industry. To our mind there is nothing objectionable in this action of the summer visitor, who must usually have some outlet for his energy, and we can conceive of no more healthful occupation than a geological search along the shores of the historic Basin of Minas. There is but little value in the "gems" in their rough state, and the enterprising man or woman who can turn an honest penny at this harmless occupation should not be hindered. Surely if there is money to be made by forwarding these natural beauties to the American market, our King's County friends, who are on the spot during all seasons of the year, could easily get on the inside track.

A MISTAKEN RUSH.—Right in the midst of the financial flurry in the United States, an effort has been made to boom the Cherokee Settlement in Indian Territory. It is thought that by the late fall thousands of settlers will have made their homes in the new territory. Two colonies from Chicago and St. Louis have already been formed, each with a membership of 1,000. This is by no means the first time that the waste places of the American North-West have been boomed for the people of the Middle and Eastern States. Doubtless thousands of laborers thrown out of work will travel thither, and the end will be the usual one. The territory which has just been opened has been wrenched away from its legitimate owners, the Cherokee Indians, and it may be taken as proof positive that it is not and has not been considered a choice territory, else it would not have been allotted to the Indians. There is in reality but little fertile land in the North-West that is not already taken up, and the prospects for the people who are caught by the well-sounding descriptions of Western Homes are far from bright. Two-thirds of the Cherokee territory is arid and barren. The approaching winter season will doubtless cause

much suffering among the victims of the craze, and the prospects for the coming spring are of necessity far from bright. The Canadian North-West is still open. The finest wheat lands and the richest farming territories in the world are still undeveloped. The settler who does not fear hard work and who is possessed of a moderate amount of intelligence is sure to succeed in Western life in Canada, and a warm welcome is extended to the right sort of pioneers. The filling up of the farming land of the United States increases the value of our Western territory, and it is probable that within a few years we will be receiving as immigrants not only British and European but also American husbandmen.

A LADY TRUSTEE.—The town of Moncton has had an unpleasant notoriety during the last year because of its treatment of the female teachers, and it would now appear that their cause is to be espoused by a lady who has been appointed to the responsible position of school trustee. We should judge that the lady in question will have a hard battle to fight, for the Moncton school board is a non-progressive body, unless indeed a retrograde movement may be considered as a sign of life. One valuable teacher gave up her position because she was being grudgingly paid the sum of \$240 for work which, too, if performed by a man, would have been paid for at the rate of \$600 per year. Another good teacher was approached by the school board and the proposition that she should accept a great reduction in her salary was made, but the young lady, who did not see that the munificent salary of \$84.00 per year and board would suffice for her needs, has sought a more remunerative field of labor. Yet, hard as may be the duties of the new trustee, and stubborn as may be the prejudices which she will have to combat, we are confident that her presence on the board will prevent further disgraceful occurrences.

A HIGH-HANDED REFUSAL.—The House of Lords was quite prepared to receive and to throw out the Gladstone Home Rule Bill, and by way of reminding the general public of the supremacy of their august body, and of their indifference to public opinion, they have twice thrown out a Bill for the betterment of London. A more unpopular refusal to listen to the request of the Commons has seldom been made, for it has convinced the ratepayers of the mighty city that taxation is ill-adjusted, and that it is to the pecuniary advantage of that great land-holding body, the House of Lords, to prevent any change being made in existing legislation. The radical clauses of the bill are those which shift a portion of the municipal taxation from the poor and middle class of residents and tenants to the land-owners and lease-holders. Property of this description is taxed no more heavily than it was a score of years ago, although the value of the property is almost daily increasing. Many of the Lords own valuable land in London, and as they are not desirous of increasing their tax bills, they disapprove of the bill. Almost all of the other members of that body are land-holders in other sections of Great Britain, and they are fearful to sanction the measure lest its application should become general and their own estates be effected thereby. When it is remembered that the bill as passed in the House of Commons is the will of the people of Great Britain, as spoken by six hundred commoners, and that of the ninety assembled members of the six hundred members of the House of Lords, fifty of their number who have property at stake have determined to balk the needed measure, it will be seen that there is a distinction between legislation by the people and legislation for the people.

FAKES IN CANADA.—It is fully time that word-bullding competitions were tabooed by the authorities, for under the innocent cover of making a certain number of words from a word of several letters, a pretext has been given to rob many people of time and money which they could ill-afford to lose. The latest advertised scheme is endorsed by the publishers of the *Dominion Illustrated Monthly*, and we regret extremely that the publishers of so excellent a magazine should have resorted to the cheap clap-trap trick of increasing the circulation by these means. Those of our readers who were taken in by the specious prize offers of the Canadian Queen will be warned against the new enterprise when they are informed that one O goodby, who ran the prize affairs for the Queen, is also the manipulator of the prize schemes in connection with the *Illustrated*. The man has already amassed a handsome fortune, but he sees that more money can be made in this line of work, and he has no conscientious scruples to restrain him in the matter. In the present competition the publishers promise to pay expenses to Chicago and return to the first person in each State (or Province) sending a list of not less than eighty words made out of the letters contained in the word Montreal. Everyone sending a list of not less than sixty words is to receive a prize in value not less than \$5.00, and competitors whose lists are between sixty and eighty words are promised even more valuable prizes. We observe that an initial demand is made that twelve stamps shall be enclosed to the publishers for a sample copy of the magazine, and that a year's subscription to the magazine must then be paid for in advance. Over 300 letters of complaint against the management of the competition have been made already to Chief of Police Hughes of Montreal, and an investigation of affairs will doubtless shortly be made. Our people will do well to abstain from impracticable schemes of this kind. Advertisements of this description are far too common. Montreal and Toronto have already an unenviable reputation for harboring folks of the kind—quack medicine advertisements, dishonest offers from seedsmen and other notorious swindles have been perpetrated from these cities. It is fully time that the Postal authorities interfered and prohibited the transmission of this variety of lottery matter in the mails.

The Worst Disease—Dyspepsia
The Best Cure K. D. C.

K. D. C. Relieves
Distress after eating.

K. D. C. Cures
Midnight Dyspepsia.

K. D. C. Restores
the Stomach to Healthy Action.