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We need not expect to see Newfoundland become a portion of the Dominion for many a day. The merchants of St. Johns fear the competition of Halifax and Montreal in the outports, and so long as their influence remains as powerful as it now is they will kill out any movement towards Confederation just as they did last summer. At the same time we believe the majority of the people of Newfoundland are at heart favorable to Confederation.

To concede to American fishermen the right to trans-ship their fish in bond over our railways would be a disastrous policy so far as this country is concerned, and brooks of no discussion until the United States agrees to give us free access to her markets for fish caught in Canadian bottoms. We have the fishing and shipping privileges. they have a good market, let us share the latter and we are prepared to share our fishing advantages. This is the only solution of the fisheries question.

To-day is one that will be kept by Scotchmen in all quarters of the globe, and it will recall to many the old Scottish home with its well remembered surroundings, while to the ever increasing number of the Sons of Scotland born beyond the narrow limits of the old island home, it will kindle anew the spirit which has ever made the Scotch a remarkable people. St. Andrew's memory is ever green in the minds of those who are proud to trace their ancestry to the land of the heather and thistle.

All those persons who lent their aid in establishing the Presbyterian Ladies College, and more particularly the Conservatory of Music in connection therewith, are entitled to the thanks of every lover of music in Halifax. This Conservatory is fortunate in having a brilliant staff of instructors, as the Beethoven Trio concerts amply demonstrate, and we cannot but feel grateful that the residence of such talent in Halifax has, for the first time in the history of the city, been rendered possible.

Most persons are convinced that there is something not altogether satisfactory about our public school system. It is probable that what we have said upon this subject in another column will awaken a new interest in this vexed question, and before we have done with the discussion we hope to have won many supporters, and that a new departure on the lines we have indicated will breathe new life into the educational movement, and make even those who oppose free schools ardent believers in popular education.

The mineral resources of Nova Scotia are just now attracting the attention of some of the wealthiest men in London, and if rumor is correct we shall see wonderfully active times in some mining districts within a few months. This only serves to confirm our contention that it is from our mining resources that we must look for wealth in this Province, and we repeat it again, knowing full well that time will prove us to have judged aright. Let him that reads this paragraph see to it that he is not left out in the cold.

It is not surprising that Halifax has the name of being a Sleepy Hollow, in view of the fact that Halifax enterprise meets its most determined opposition from Halifaxians, but our citizens are not all as sleepy as they look, and foginess has undoubtedly seen its best days in the Acadian metropolis. If those persons now opposing the extension of the railway along the water front could see themselves as posterity will see them, they would speedily abandon their policy of obstruction, and join with their less selfish fellow-citizens in the endeavour to make our shipping facilities equal to the pretensions of Canada's winter port.

A well informed English exchange has the following:—The impending death of the King of Holland, the last descendant of William the Silent, and the consequences that it involves, have been thoroughly discussed at Berlin, St. Petersburg, and Vienna. The eventual annexation of the delta of the Rhine, including Holland, Luxemburg, and part of Belgium, by Germany, is already tacitly assented to by Russia and by Austria. Holland's colonies go, of course, with Holland herself. Even the boundary line is already clearly defined—a line drawn nearly east from Gravelines to the Lys, and down that river to Menin, and from Menin to the Meuse. Between Maestricht and Liege lies the boundary of the French and Flemish languages. The people on the north of this line speak Flemish, those on the south speak French. This line will some day be the boundary between France and Germany. All the Dutch colonies and coaling stations will also become part of this greater Germany. This is the conception by which Prince Bismarck hopes to achieve colonial supremacy for Germany.

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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.

Evictions in the United States outnumber those in Ireland beyond all proportion, but not a voice is lifted in protest, notwithstanding the tremendous indignation got up about the same trouble in the "Green Isle."

The success that has attended Mr. B. W. Chipman's Jersey farm might be attainable in other directions (sheep farming for example) but capital when applied without skill and industry might as well be thrown into the sea.

What we want in this country is a few live, enterprising men with a little practical knowledge and means to back it. There is no part of the world which offers better investments in certain directions, and yet we are content to have our young men and maidens leave us to seek employment in the west.

The settlement of Mormons in the N. W. should be narrowly watched. They profess to be ready to obey Christian laws, but who is to guarantee that they will not practise polygamy secretly? Their antecedents do not justify confidence, and if they gain strength they are quite likely to give trouble.

It is much to be regretted that the use of both French and English in the new Legislature of the N. W. Territories has been officially perpetuated. It is a tax on these future provinces which ought to have been resisted. So far as the Province of Quebec is concerned there is prescriptive right, and French is the language of the great majority, but there is no excuse for the extension of the precedent.

This new income tax is peculiar. By its provisions a mortgage is regarded as a piece of property and the income derived therefrom is taxed accordingly. A mortgage upon a farm simply represents a certain interest in that farm. When the farmer pays his taxes he pays the tax upon that interest.

For Rick, upon the mortgage involves the payment of a double tax. gain flesh and strength upon it. This is not sound common sense we should like. Rickets and Marasmus of long standing. J. M. MAIN, M. D., New York. Put upon it.