

## SNAPS AND SCRAPS.

In regard to THE CRITIC's comments on Mr. Torrend's lecture, I would submit that the wonder is not that so many Acadian traits have altered, but that so many have not altered since the Clockmaker made his rounds and observations. The reverend lecturer never meant to deny the intellectual and material progress made by Nova Scotians in the last generation. That they are still too prone to lean upon and wait for governmental action is, however, patent to every observer.

The eloquent lecturer and preacher left last Monday for his new station, Dublin. There are some who think that his last lecture and his last sermon were his very best; certainly there were many watery eyes at some allusions in the latter. I should fancy that his fervid oratory would just suit the normal Irish temperament. May it regenerate harsh landlords and pitiless boycotters, for I shan't waste my good wishes on dynamiters.

I see that Quartermaster Clisham, of the Scotch Fusiliers, has lately made a speech before the English Church Congress in favor of abolishing chaplains and official religious in the army. The iconoclastic *Truth* thus endorses his sentiments: "After all, our soldiers are not all children, and it must be a mistake to treat them collectively as though, in religious matters, they were so many schoolboys."

It is said that the miraculous properties of the stones and mortar of the church at Knock, in Ireland, exposes the building to serious danger of demolition from constant chipping by pilgrims; and that Knock church will soon be a knocked down church unless this catastrophe is averted by another miracle.

The following incident is transcribed from one of Sir Robert Peel's letters published in the *Croker Papers*:—

"A day or two before we went to Gopsall, Lord Howe received a letter addressed to *Lord How*, the envelope of whitey brown, with an inscription 'per railroad.' He thought it one of a dozen letters addressed to him from people who wanted money \* \* and was very nearly throwing it into the grate. However, he fortunately opened the envelope and discovered the letter from the Queen, announcing to Queen Adelaide her intended marriage, addressed in the Queen's own hand to Queen Adelaide, and written in very kind and affectionate terms—as full of love as Juliet.

I suppose some footboy at Windsor Castle had enclosed and directed it to Lord How.

If it had been disregarded, and had thus remained unanswered, what an outcry there would have been of neglect, insult, and so forth—and not unjustly."

Never omit to open any missive addressed to you, unless it looks like an infernal machine, in which case you may judiciously resign the opportunity of displaying heroism in favor of a friend. A schoolmate of mine had a good aunt who sent him a pound occasionally. Once she wrote expressing a hope that he would profit by a tract which accompanied the letter. Disgusted at the absence of the usual tip, my schoolmate almost resolved not to open the tract—almost, but luckily not altogether, for inside was a crisp pound note (besides some excellent advice, which would have been far more valuable, had he followed it).

Here is one of the most delightful of *Truth's* frequent comments upon justice and justices:—

"It seems that the law of England allows a man to go into his back garden and blaze away with firearms, or other equally dangerous weapons, at his neighbours' windows regardless of the consequences, always provided he has no definite intention of hurting any one. This, at least, is the only inference to be drawn from a case before Mr. Hosack a few days ago. Frederick Colson, of Roman-road, Bow, had gone into his garden to 'practice' with his air-gun, and he made such good practice that he sent a couple of bullets through the window of Mr. Spath, who lived next door, and within a few inches of the head of Mr. Spath himself. As the neighbors were on good terms, Colson could not be convicted of shooting at Spath with intent to do him bodily harm, neither could he be convicted for discharging firearms in a public place; and as it seems that these two alternatives exhaust the resources of the law, Colson was discharged. Mr. Hosack hoped the case would be a warning to the prisoner and others. So do I, though I see no reason why it should be."

SNARLER.

## THE ANGLO-SAXON RACE.

To the Editor of the Critic:—

Sir,—I saw in a few issues back that some of your correspondents objected to "Anglo-Saxon" being the term by which the dominant and progressive race should be known, and that the Celtic peoples had as much right to that distinction as the Anglo-Saxon. I thought that before this some one better able to refute this assertion than I am would present his statement in your columns; but as no one has done so I will endeavor to give a few reasons why I differ from those correspondents. The British or English-speaking peoples are the dominant race of the world, and it is because they are the Anglo-Saxon, Norse or Teutonic branch that they are so. Those people (for the Anglo-Saxons or Saxons, Norsemen and Teutons were the same people) were the most daring and enterprising race that has yet appeared in history, and have pushed their conquests by land and sea far and wide. Many (your correspondents among the rest) think, or seem to think, that Anglo-Saxons are to be found in England alone, or in the New England or Old Dominion states of America. This is a great mistake. The Anglo-Saxon, or more correctly the Norse or Teutonic, race inhabit

nearly all Scotland and a large portion of Ireland. Danes, Norwegians and Swedes invaded the coasts of England and Scotland for many hundred years, and established themselves in various districts at different times. There is not a record of all, or of a greater portion, of these descents, as they commenced long before the historical period of Britain. A few Norse scalds have related the deeds of their companions and themselves in their piratical excursions on the islands south of their homes. It is only the great invasions, when the fierce vikings and robbers concentrated their forces under a famous leader and took possession of a large portion of the country, that historians have given much attention to. They received a final discomfiture in Scotland at Largs; but those who conquered them were wholly of their own blood, and the descendants of former raiders who fought to preserve their acquired inheritance and repel the robber and slayer, as the Normans would fiercely strive to repulse the Danes or Norwegians of to-day did they invade France. The inhabitants of the Orkney and Shetland islands are as pure Norse as those of Iceland itself. The Danes seized and held a considerable portion of the east of Ireland, and founded Dublin. They left the Runic round towers as tokens of their occupation in different parts of the island. Afterwards the English invaded Ireland and subdued the eastern portion, or rather a part of the east, which they held entirely and called the Pale. From that point their conquest and colonization extended inward and towards the north and south. Cromwell planted the north with English and Scotch colonists, the Scotch so much exceeding the others that their speech at this day can scarcely be distinguished from the Saxon speech of southern Scotland. Yet people, knowing these historical facts, talk and write of the people of the north and east of Ireland as Celts. It is usual for a people who have established themselves in a foreign country by force to adopt by degrees the manners and habits of the original inhabitants, which the English in Ireland did so thoroughly that it has been said they became "more Irish than the Irish themselves." It is most unfortunate for the peace of England and the tranquillity of Ireland that this is so.

I am amazed to hear and to see in print so often of the Celtic blood of so many of Ireland's famous men. The Celtic peculiarities of Swift and Goldsmith are spoken of, in neither of whom was a drop of Celtic blood. The parents of both were English, who removed to Ireland, where their clever sons were born. The intended ironical term "West Britain" for the east of Ireland is really correct.

The Teuton is self-reliant and acts individually: the Celt looks to a leader and obeys him. The Teuton or Anglo-Saxon thinks and determines for himself: the Celt depends upon a chief to plan and decide for him. It is said by many that the United States does not owe its freedom and advancement to the Anglo-Saxons, but that all peoples have contributed to its enlightenment and greatness. This is in a small measure true. Others than Anglo-Saxons have contributed considerably to its great population, but it was the Anglo-Saxon system of government and ideas that made that possible. It was the Anglo-Saxons who brought the country from a state of nature to a cultivated and flourishing land, with such laws and institutions as to attract less favored people from all parts of Europe. Have any but the Saxons or Teutons planted successful, flourishing and growing colonies? The Anglo-Saxon emigrates to a wild and unbroken country, braves and overcomes all dangers and discomforts, and when he has subdued nature, built towns and made the country productive, the Celt goes to share in the labor which commerce makes in the towns and cities the Saxon has built. Although France is not a Celtic country, as many believe, (it being overrun and subdued by the Franks, a Teuton people, and from whom it has its name), the Celtic race occupy the south-west wholly, the Bretons being Celts who were driven from England to settle on the French coast. The Franks who took possession of the greater part of it adopted many of the customs and gradually partook of the characteristics of the people among whom they settled. They also became mixed with them in marriage, and thus their descendants inherited the peculiarities of both peoples, making the modern Frenchman a puzzling mixture of the natures of the Celt and Teuton.

D. F.

## COMMERCIAL.

The past week has shown a slight improvement over the preceding one, but is not quite up to one or two weeks earlier in the fall. Trade, however, is keeping up very well, and there is a good demand for all necessary articles. The wholesale grocery trade is, as usual, the most active, and all live merchants have their hands full with orders from both town and country.

FLOUR is again on the drop, and has almost touched bottom. The late rise did not amount to much, and was of very short duration. The demand is quite up to the supply, and this fact will tend to keep prices steady.

SUGAR is in an unsettled state—one day firm, and the next weak. Our refineries are having a large demand at present from the West, and we understand the stock of the Nova Scotia Refinery is pretty well reduced. The raw has declined nearly one-half cent per lb., but the refined has not come down to that extent as yet. The output is in much better condition than in the warm weather, and is giving better satisfaction.

TEAS are arriving in large quantities, but the market does not show any material change. The demand is tending more towards the higher grades, while common kinds move very slowly.

MOLASSES has been dull and slow of sale for some time. The stocks in the market are very heavy, and everyone appears to have as much as they can use for some time. There is always a good demand, however, for a