

THE CRITIC.

The Welfare of the People is the Highest Law.

1.50 PER ANNUM. }
SINGLE COPY 3 CTS. }

HALIFAX, N. S., JANUARY 21, 1887.

{ VOL. 4.
{ No. 3.

CONTENTS OF CURRENT NUMBER.

EDITORIAL.	
Halifax Society.....	1, 2
Art in Nova Scotia.....	2, 3
Time Reckoning for the Twentieth Century.....	2, 3
A Fashionable Disease.....	2, 3
Notes.....	1
CONTRIBUTED.	
Poetry—An Allegory..... A. H.	7
Waterloo in 1806..... A. C.	7
MISCELLANEOUS.	
Chuckles.....	3
News of the Week.....	4, 5
Notice to Subscribers.....	5
Religious.....	6
Items of Interest.....	6
The Utilization of Wave-Power.....	7, 8
A Disastrous Collision.....	8
The Halifax Steam Laundry.....	8
Frozen Meat.....	8
Commercial.....	8, 9
Market Quotations.....	9
Serial.....	10, 11
Mining.....	12
The Maritime Patron.....	13, 14

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 3 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 his 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 sudden death of Lord Iddesleigh has removed from the Conservative party in Britain an old and tried adherent. That his death was hastened by his being shouldered out of Salisbury's Cabinet, there cannot be much doubt, but it is probable that Lord Iddesleigh had outlived his usefulness without he himself being aware of it.

The scene of the recent eruption in New Zealand is now called the New Wonderland. Although the famous pink and white terraces have disappeared forever, the eruption has created fresh beauties of a different and more savage character. The whole region is quiet now, all earth tremors and alarming symptoms having disappeared.

The Ottawa Journal is authority for the statement that the Senate chamber has been fitted up with a view to lightness and freshness, and it queries as to the effect upon our grayhaired legislators. Undoubtedly it will be pleasing. Aesthetic contrasts are just now very fashionable and the effect will be noticeable when the Senate orators begin delivering their heavy state speeches to empty benches.

The Queen has voiced the sentiment of all true British women in conveying to Lady Campbell the assurance that in Her Majesty's opinion the verdict rendered by the jury in the late trial has exonerated her from the charges preferred by her unfeeling husband. Lady Campbell devotes her life to literary pursuits and to the amelioration of the poor in East London. It would be paradoxical indeed if a woman pursuing such useful and charitable ends, should be guilty of the heinous crimes which Lord Campbell sought to fix upon her.

The British War Office authorities have had a new invention in the shape of luminous rifle-sights under trial for the past six months, and have now given an order for a supply. The difficulty of sighting rifles in the dark in warfare has been ingeniously overcome by the use of this invention. A small bead coated with luminous paint is clipped on to the rifle over the fore-sight and another over the rear-sight when used at night in reply to an enemy's fire, forming two luminous sights. There may be two sides to the question. Would not troops using the luminous sights present a bright target to the enemy in the shape of an army of glow worms?—*Broad Arrow.*

The tentacles of Russia are observable in almost all parts of the old world, and wherever they extend disturbances follow. We have noted their effect in China, Afghanistan, Asiatic Turkey, the Balkan Principalities, Austria and Germany; but now one of these organs is stirring up strife among the Finns of Norway. Scandinavia should take a firm stand against Russian aggression and she may count upon the support of several European powers.

The Salvation Army have found a new, and we should think, a promising mission field among the Indians in the North-West Territories. Big Bear, Crow Foot, Star Blanket and such ilk are fond of a pow-wow, and the Salvation Army with its big drum, clanging cymbals and bright jerseys will tickle the fancy of the red man; but the pipe of peace, will the poor Indian, who travels this new road to the happy hunting grounds, be obliged to forego it? If so, we fear the converts will be few.

Halifax is not without its skilled mechanics, but there are among our carpenters, as well as in other trades, a number of men who in the good old times when apprenticing was fashionable, would not have been allowed to undertake work on their own account. Inferior workmanship and the botching of jobs by undertrained men is an injury to every honest, skilled mechanic in the city. The Unions should see to it that a qualification of membership should be something more than a man with a pair of hands and a mouth to feed. The line of skill should be drawn between laborers and competent artisans.

Parliament has been dissolved and the elections are to take place on the 22nd of February. This means upwards of four weeks of a long, hard, and bitter political struggle. Perhaps it is well that the campaign should take place at a season of the year when business is slack, and farming and fishing operations are impracticable, and it may be hoped that the frost and snow will tend to check the torrent of personal abuse which, during the heat of political battle, is poured out with feverish recklessness. Nova Scotia should send her best men to Ottawa; men who, like Alexander Mackenzie, are willing to place country before party.

The war trumpeters who supply the American and Canadian papers with startling items with respect to the chances of an outbreak in Europe, have seized with avidity upon the rumored agreement arrived at by the French and Russian Governments, taking it for granted that France desired war. As a matter of fact the French people are strongly averse to the policy pursued by the Government; defense, not defiance, is the only policy which French national feeling will endorse, and hence the diplomatic flirtation which has been going on between the Governments at Paris and St. Petersburg has resulted in nothing definite.

In consequence of the refusal of the German Reichstag to confirm the Government's Army Bill, that body has been dissolved and elections will be at once held throughout Germany. The government desired the passage of a measure which would place the army for the term of seven years on what is known as a peace establishment, thus virtually withdrawing from the Reichstag for that period the parliamentary control of military expenditures. The Reichstag agreed to a term of three years, but the government, failing in securing the septennate, prefer to appeal to the country. Upon the result of the elections depends the continued ascendancy of Bismarck in German affairs.

It would make our neighbors in Europe laugh, says the *Dominion Churchman*, if they knew that the oldest church in America was once stolen, and carried away seven miles; but such is the fact, and these are the circumstances as we learn from the *New England Magazine*. A church was built on the Sparsen Hill, Wickford, Rhode Island, 1707, but in three-quarters of a century the people had moved to a more convenient settlement, seven miles lower down. Not liking to walk seven miles each Sunday, some proposed in Vestry that the church should be moved. The few, however, who remained in the original settlement violently opposed such a proceeding. One evening the people of Wickford mustered their forces, collected all the oxen, placed the church on wheels and rolled it down the hill to the place where it now stands. When the people on the hill woke up and found their church gone, if they were not good church people, they must have used some very queer language.

HALIFAX SOCIETY.

A correspondent, who has taken exception to some of THE CRITIC's remarks with respect to Halifax society, says he believes that toadyism is confined within a far narrower circle than our article would lead people to believe, and that it is only those who are on the outer edge of society's pale, who make themselves ridiculous by endeavoring to cultivate military associations. We fear our correspondent's facilities for observing Halifax society, as at present constituted, must be very meagre, or otherwise he wishes to throw the veil of charity over the foibles of our leading men and