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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.

Grip with good sense wishes success to the effort about to be made for the election of a lady school trustee from each division of Toronto. "Woman's gentle influence," it says, has "notably improved the High School Board, and the other body seems to need it still more. As a measure of common justice and wise expediency women ought to be represented in the body which manages the affairs of the school in which one half the pupils are girls." Not only "woman's gentle influence," but her sound common sense might with great advantage be included in many boards of management.

The question of running the street cars on Sunday is again agitating the people of Toronto, and appearances indicate that a large majority of the citizens of the Queen City are opposed to the innovation. The *Toronto Week* turns the matter over and looks at it all round and finally sides with those who oppose the introduction of Sunday cars. The *Week's* reason for this decision is fear of the ultimate result of running Sunday cars. It thinks it would be likely to lead to enlarged opportunities for both business and pleasure to be attended to on Sunday, and while it expressly states that it does not regard the question as one of religious objection, holds to the view that faithful observance of the day of rest is the best thing for the city. In Halifax we have not found the Sunday cars bring in their train any of the evils feared by the *Week*; they have rather aided the cause of religion by carrying hundreds to places of worship every week. It is all very well to theorize about the question, but the practical test is what tells. The idea that a man may drive in his carriage on Sunday, and a poor man may not be allowed the conveyance afforded by the street car, is not likely to prevail for long.

The bomb throwing experiment practiced on Russell Sage by a man whose remains have since been identified as those of Henry L. Norcross, of Boston, supposed to have been insane, has been imitated in Germany, but not to the extent of actually throwing the bomb. The man in this case lost nerve and cleared off, but that a wave of this sort of criminality is in motion is indicated by the murderous attack made on Mr. Abbott, paymaster of the Rideau Canal, on the 17th inst. The affair took place in the Rideau Canal office, where Mr. Abbott was sitting with a satchel containing some hundreds of dollars, for the payment of the hands, before him. The would-be assassin and thief struck Mr. Abbott from behind with a piece of rubber hose

filled with lead in the end, at the same time making a grab for the satchel. Mr. Abbott tried to capture his assailant, and received several more heavy blows, but the man finally escaped—without the booty. Even had he succeeded in carrying off the satchel he would have secured but a small portion of what he must have expected, for the bulk of the money—about \$3,000—was in Mr. Abbott's pocket. It is to be hoped that Norcross' example will not be fruitful of many more of these events.

In weighing the results of the recent elections in the United States it must be remembered that many of the elections turned upon purely local issues, but taken as a whole they have resulted favorably to the Republican Party, and would apparently indicate the probable success of that party in the Presidential election of 1892. The collapse of the Farmers' Alliance, which endeavored to work upon an independent platform, ensures the re-absorption of its members by the Republican Party. The reaction against the McKinley Bill, which was so manifest in the Autumn of 1890 has apparently spent itself, and the people appear to be settling down to the conviction that the merits or demerits of the Bill cannot be determined until it has had a fair trial. This conviction greatly strengthens the Republican position. Wherever the free coinage of silver has come under discussion the Democratic politicians have been found supporting the movement, while the Republicans held true to a sound currency. The Republicans will therefore have all the prestige which a wise conservative money policy can ensure. For these three reasons we think the chances of the Republicans for electing the next President are much better to-day than they have been for many a year.

If she means she draws, the woman who calls herself, and is called, the "Little Georgia Magnet," is well named. London (G. B.) seems to have gone wild over her. She performs such wonderful feats—lifting six men heaped on a chair, raising billiard cues held down by six men, making herself so heavy that strong men cannot lift her, and many other remarkable actions, that the public and the press are agape with astonishment. Some papers firmly believe all is done by trickery, but just where the trick is puzzles them. This lady, Mrs. Abbott, has been an unusual attraction at the Alhambra, where she has been giving exhibitions of her prowess for some time. A London physician writing in the *Illustrated News*, inclines to the opinion that though frail in appearance, Mrs. Abbott is really a remarkably strong woman and aids this strength by various devices known to the initiated. Her claims to some abnormal force or magnetism he does not entertain for an instant, and goes into lengthy explanation of how, from his point of view, the lady manages to do what she does. However this may be, Mrs. Abbott has been successful in making a sensation, and probably a goodly sum of money out of her ability to do things which ordinary people either do not understand or cannot perform if they did.

The Quebec crisis has been the chief political topic of interest during the past week, and floods of editorial ink have been expended in setting forth the different sides of the question. As every one is aware, Mr. Justice Jette was taken ill at a critical time in the history of the Commission—just when it was expected to make a report—and besides his own illness, those near and dear to him were suffering, and Mrs. Jette, his mother, died but a few days ago. The report, which was impatiently awaited, certainly could not be fully prepared under the circumstances, and it would be uncharitable to blame an ill and sorrowful man for the delay. In the meanwhile Judges Baby and Davidson presented a report unfavorable to the Mercier Government, upon which Lieut-Governor Angers immediately dismissed his advisors—a course that has excited much criticism, and it is questioned whether it is constitutional. It has been stated, and is generally understood, that Judge Jette does not concur with the other members of the Commission, but we have no means of knowing if this be correct. The new premier is Mr. De Boucherville, and the legislature will probably be formally called on December 29th. The Lieut-Governor will open the House and give a synopsis of what has occurred during the last three months, after which the House will be dissolved, and the elections will follow shortly. Mr. Mercier has issued a manifesto to the Lieut-Governor stating that the preliminary report upon which Mr. Angers bases his right to dismiss him, is the report of two partisans, from which he has dragged an unjust and unfounded opinion on the investigation. We believe in turning boodlers out, but it must be done constitutionally, and if the stealing of \$100,000 and its distribution amongst the members of the Mercier Government—excepting Hon. Messrs Ross, Shehyn, Boyer and Dahamel—has been proved by the investigation, the process would be no less sure because of a little judicious delay. It would appear to be a simple question to settle whether Governor Angers acted within his rights, and perhaps when the violent talk on both sides has ceased, some constitutional authority, Dr. Bourinot probably, will pronounce on the matter.