## CRITIC. THE

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HALIFAX, N. S., OCTOBER 2, 1885.

{ VOI., 2. No. 40.

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## THE CRITIC,

Published every Friday, at 161 Hollis Street, Halifax, Nova Scotis

CRITIC PUBLISHING COMPANY.

Edited by C. F. FRASER.

Subscription \$1.50 per annum in advance. Single copies 3 cents. SAMPLE COPIES SENT FREE. TO

Remittances should be made to C F. FRASER, MANAGER.

## EDITORIAL NOTES.

PRIZE—TWENTY DOLLARS.—In order to secure for the Christmas Number of THE CRITIC first class reading matter, we have decreed to offer a prize of twenty dollars for the best story, with the understanding that we are at liberty to select and publish the contributions of those who may compete for the prize. The story must not exceed three thousand words, nor be less than fifteen hundred. The regular staff contributors for The Critic will not compete for the prize. The stories will be submitted to a committee of three gentlemen, and the prize will be awarded by them to the person sending the best. The nom de plante of the writer should be forwarded with the manuscript, the writer's real name being withheld until the nom do plane of the prize winner is announced in The Chitic. Stories to be forwarded to the Editor of The Chine, 161 Hollis

Parnell is frequently styled the "Uncrowned King of Ireland," and his brother attributes his success to a silent tongue and a watchful eye. Mr. Paraell's brother is one of the landed proprietors of Georgia.

The eight-hour labor movement in Great Britain and the United States is assuming gigantic proportions. When it is an accomplished fact our working classes will have opportunity for enjoying a few of those sweets of life from which they are now debarred.

20,000 men are now at work upon the Panama Canal, two lifths of which is completed. Daily photographs of the work are taken as a progresses, and these are forwarded to DeLesseps, who is thus able to measure the cutting yard by yard.

The Earl of Devon, a non resident Irish landlord, has offered to sell any holding upon such terms as the tenant and agent shall agree upon. Should his example be followed by other absentee landlords, the Irish question may yet be solved peaceably and with satisfaction to all concerned.

The crop prospects in Ontario have been materially injured by some weeks of rainy weather. In western Ontario, especially, the spring wheat suffered much from rust, and was harvested under great difficulties. In the

There is a growing feeling among military circles that Lord Wolseley's star is now on the decline. Whether this be true or not, it is certain that he has long since passed the zenith of his popularity. General Roberts is idolized in the army, both by officers and men, but he has so far failed to catch the royal ear.

The fall is the natural time for beginning the school year. This is recegnized by these governing our colleges, denominational academies, and Normal School. In several of the American States the school-term for common schools begins in September and ends early in July. There, the school term and the school-year are the same. We are strongly of the contribute that the common schools of Nova Section would be profit by the opinion that the common schools of Nova Scotia would benefit by the adoption of a similar plan.

Nova Scotia has for months been deprived of her due representation in the Dominion Cabinet, but the recent appointment of Hon. J. S. D. Thomson, as Minister of Justice, has placed the Province upon its proper footing. Mr. Thomson is a man of character and ability; he has proved himself a brilliant lawyer, an able legislator, and a successful judge; and there can be no doubt that he will prove himself well qualified to fill the high position to which he has been appointed.

Parnell's public announcement of his policy of separation, Chamber-lain's retraction, and Gladstone's moderate manifesto, have greatly changed the aspect of the horizon in British politics. The clouds of anarchy and discord, which, at one time, threatened to o'erwhelm the Liberal party, have now broken away, and the sunlight of peace and union shines out upon the grand old man and his followers. Diskurably and radicalism are disintegrated. grand old man and his followers. Disloyalty and radicalism are disintegrating forces, but they may act, and react, upon each other so as to nullify their effect. The political contest will now be fought out upon its true lines.

"Potts, the Euclid man, is gone!" What memories will rise it the mind of many a man of to-day when he reads that and the following brief paragraph: "The death of Mr. Robert Potts, M.A., is announced in the first autumn issue of most English and American college journals. Mr. Potts was a graduate of Trinity College. Cambridge, being 26th wrangler in 1832. He was, years ago, well-known in connection with University reform. He was editor of the popular text-book, 'Euclid's Elements with Geometrical Exercises,' and of 'Paley's Evidences.' His age was 83 years."

It is an error to suppose that reciprocity would at once give us the control of the New England coal market. The arrangements for bringing coal from Penusylvania to the New England cities are now so complete, and enable coal owners in Pennsylvania to carry coal eastward so cheaply, that Nova Scetia coal owners must be alive to business, (even with reciprocity to help them) in order to wedge their coal into the New England market. When trade flows into certain channels it has a tendency to remain there, and frequently the most stubborn efforts are necessary to displace it. displace it.

The bitter crimin tions and recriminations now being indulged in by the English and French press of Ontario and Quebec, are most unseemly and quite out of place. The French element in Canada is not alien to the soil, and this should be bettee in mind by those who would drive the French from the country. On the other hand, the allegiance of the French to the authority of the Dominion must be alienated if the English press continue their taunts and sneers. I rench domination we can never tolerate, nor can the French tolerate serfdom. The French and English are citizens of one common country, and upon their agreement or disagreement, the destiny or our country must depend.

In the Medical Notes published in our last issue, "Assagais" asks, "Why a star is placed after certain physicians' names on the Medical Register?" The star, we are authoritatively informed, indicates that the physician has been registered without matriculation examination, under Section 11 of Revised Act of 18, 4. As the matriculation entitles those who have passed it to enter the Elinburg and Dublin Universities as well as other Medical Colleges in Great Britain, without undergoing a second examination, our lawmakers have deemed it prudent to specify and make a distinction between those who have, and those who have not, passed such an examination.

The Halifax Chronich is using its sledge-haumer to break down the barriers which prevent Canadians from enjoying the unrestricted markets of 60,000,000 of people in the United States, and it assures its readers that when these barriers are broken down, we should still have the free markets of Great Britain to sell in. We should like to have the Chronicle prove its plausible statement. With the barriers broken down between Canada castern portion of the Province the farmers have been rather more fortunate. It is well for those of the west that the fall wheat harvest was so good, for this is the crop upon which many of them rely. It is now estimated that the average yield of spring wheat will be only cleven and a half bushels per acre, instead of eighteen as first estimated, and much of it is so shrunken that it will be almost unfit for flouring purposes.