s, and always has been, an eminently respectable lodge with a good proportion of the leading military men on its roll. A military man is in the chair now, and the chaplain to the forces sits in the west. The lodge has certain privileges conceded to it by the grand lodge, and one of these is that though on the registry of Nova Scotia it retains the English work. This is allowed so that members of the forces, liable to be called away at any time, may take an active part in it without being called upon to adapt themselves to such changes as they would find in a strict conformity with the Nova Scotia work. One notices a difference in the regalia, too, such as the white collars of office and sleeve gauntlets worn by the officers. In many ways a St. John mason will find much to interest him in Virgin lodge.

Royal Standard lodge, No. 389, on the registry of England, is a purely military and naval body, but it admits to membership no mere privates. The candidate must be an officer of some kind. If a private wants to be made a mason in Halifax, there are ten other lodges in which he can try his chances by the ballot. There is one peculiarity about a mason who is obliged to wear the queen's clothing in public. He never can take part in a public procession of the craft, because he cannot wear an apron, and the reason he cannot is that it is clothing which is not part of his uniform. If he happened to be in St. John and saw the abominably bad marching usually seen on such occasions, he would possibly be thankful that he was not in the ranks. It is probably better in Halifax, because the constant presence of the troops has not been without its effect as an example. Royal Standard is likely to interest the stranger more than any lodge in Halifax. It can be readily understood that everything is done with the precision so essential to good work. A peculiarity about this lodge is, that any number of members, from the master down to the youngest entered apprentice, are liable to be called away at any time in the year, if a regi

lodge are generally bright masons, and can prove themselves to be such in any par' of the world.

St. Andrew's lodge, No. 1, takes precedence as the senior lodge of Nova Scotia. It has a history full of interest dating as far back as 1768, and has a style about its way of doing things that shows its members are alive to the position it holds in the craft. The temple itself is well fitted up from basement to root. There are those who say mistakes were made in its construction, just as there are not wanting some who believe errors of judgment were made in the design of the St. John masonic building. In Halitax they appear to have thought the craft was likely to stand still or grow smaller, while in St. John one would think there had been an anticipation of a tidal wave of immigrant masons. If such were the ideas both were somewhat astray in their predictions. Halitax built too small, and St. John too big Halifax finished and furnished its building, while St. John succeeded in finishing and furnishing, in a sort of a way, one room which on all but phenomenal occasions is entirely too big for the uses to which it is put. The craft is increasing in Nova Scotia; for the last two years it has tallen off in New Brunswick. It is hard to have to admit all this, but "truth is mighty and will prevail."

(Ch.) Over hill and valley, I Over moor and flat, Creek the rusty axies Of the Democrat.

The supper o'er, we gather all Around the cheerful hearth; And crown the happy festival With songs of joy and mirth; Till nine approaches and we lay Aside our converse sweet, And gaily scanner on our Way. and gaily scamper on our way

(Ch.) Over hill and valley, Over moor and flat, Creak the rusky axles Of the Democrat.

Beneath the blankets cosily
It sleeping with a mate,
We gossip o'er the latest news,
O'r wondrous tales relate
Unto each other, tales of love,
And dangers past and gone,
O'f future prospects, hopes and fears,
And battles to be won.

(Ch.) Over hill and valley, Over moor and flat, Creak the rusty axles Of the Democrat.

So passes life, in storm and calm. In country and in town, As day by day upon my way I wander up and down. Love is there to light the way, Courage to proceed. Courage to proceed, And kindly hospitality To help in time of need.

(Ch.) Over hill and valley, Over moor and flat, Creak the rusty axies Of the Democrat.

I envy not the rich and great Nor sigh for wealth and Jame; Nor waste my time in value regrets Or unavailing pam. Content to plod my weary, way Until the daylights' close, And then, beneath als feet of clay, Enjoy a long repose.

Over moor and flat,
Creak the rusty axles
Of the Democrat.

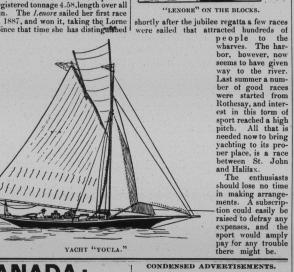
-Butler's Journal.

Brunswick. It is hard to have to admit all this, but "truth is mighty and will prevail."

The Halifax temple is the third which the craft has built there. The corner-stone of the first was laid by the Queen's father, Edward, Duke of Kent, grand master of Lower Canada in the year 1800. Masonry had, however, been planted in Halifax 50 years before that, with Governor Cornwallis as the master of the first lodge. The corner-stone of the second building was laid by that grand old mason, Alexander Ke ith, in 1850, while grand master Col. J. Wimburn Laurie laid the corner-stone of the present edifice, in August, 1875.

The lodge room, on the top floor, is a good sized apartment, amply large enough, and it is furnished with comfortable settees in a double row. All the seats in the east are luxurious, high-backed arm chairs, those of the master, immediate past master and chaplain, being somewhat more stately than the others. The walls and ceiling are ferescoed with due reference to art, while all the principal emblems of the degrees are found here and there looking out from beneath the clouled canopy. The anterooms are a trifle small, but take it all in all the lodges are in very snug quarters.

The Scottish Rite hall is small, but it is fitted up in the most complete manner, ready for the work of any of the degrees at any time. It may be said, however, that in this respect, the arrangements in contemplation by the bodies of the Rite in St. John will at no distant day excel those of



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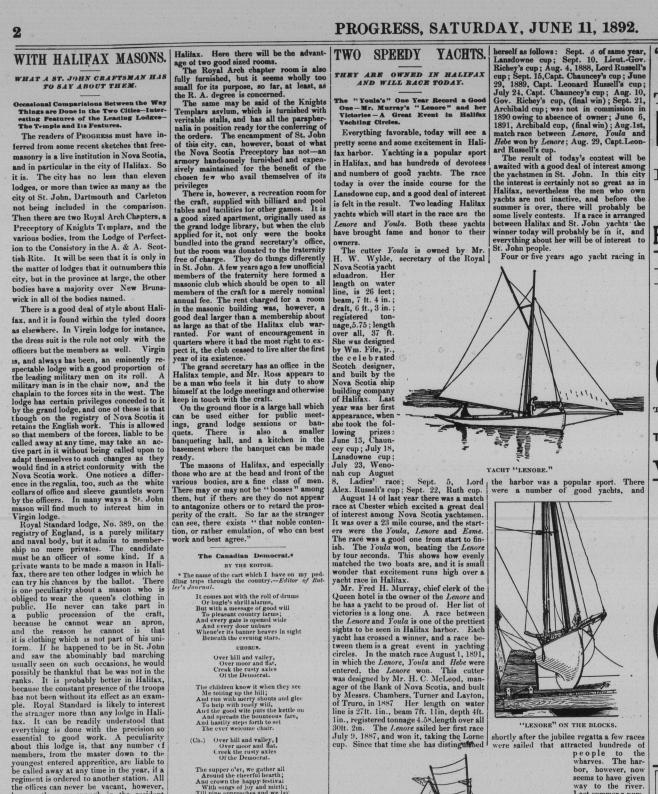
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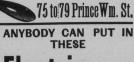
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