

# THE CRITIC.

The Welfare of the People is the Highest Law.

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## THE CRITIC,

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## EDITORIAL NOTES.

Andrew Carnegie, the Pittsburgh millionaire, has announced his intention of presenting a beautiful statue of Robert Burns to the Wallace Memorial Hall, in Stirling, Scotland.

Queen Victoria will enter upon the fiftieth year of her reign, on the 20th of next June, and the Mayor and Corporation of London are already planning a grand celebration of the jubilee.

DeLesseps intends visiting Panama, for the purpose of personally inspecting the work thus far done upon the canal. This is certainly a progressive age, when octogenarians undertake enterprises, the magnitude of which has staggered them when in the prime of life.

It is to be regretted that, owing to illness, Dr. Schurman has not been able to send in his paper in time for its publication in our Christmas Number. We hope, however, to have the pleasure of publishing it in one of our regular issues.

Servy—Bulgy's got five cents, and I want you to give me five, too.

Mother Turkey—I can't Servy; I haven't any cents to spare.

Servy—Well, I don't see why he should have any, the nasty thing. I'll lick him. (Hits Bulgy, and receives a counter on the eye. They fight, while Mother Turkey entreates them to stop, but is too nervous to interfere.)

Gladstone's motto, "We don't want to fight," has done more to injure Britain, in the eyes of foreign powers, than would have been the case, had our arms met with a serious reverse. The nation, like the individual who avows his disinclination to resent a wrong, must not be surprised, if the avowal be taken literally. War can best be averted by being prepared to meet it.

It is absurd to suppose that a gentleman of Hon. Mr. Chapleau's independence and wealth would, if he disapproved of the sentence of Riel, have remained a single day in the Cabinet, after it had been resolved to carry out that sentence. It is well known that Hon. Mr. C.'s salary is not sufficient to keep up his residence in Ottawa.

The latest proposal—respecting the Great Eastern, is to have her firmly moored in the mid-Atlantic, and stored with provisions, etc., so that ships running short may have their larders replenished. It is also proposed to have a telegraph station on board in connection with the several cables, so that ship-masters can notify the owners as to their whereabouts. A Postal, Telegraph, and Provision Station, in mid-Atlantic, would, certainly, be a novelty, but who shall say this will not be.

General Roberts is now fifty-three years of age, he was born at Caunpore, and is of Irish extraction. The Emerald Isle is noted as the birth-place of many orators and statesmen, but many of her sons and grandsons have distinguished themselves upon the battle field.

By those who claim that the execution of Riel was a blunder, it is urged that political offenders are now-a-days not generally subjected to the highest penalty of the law. Riel's last rebellion, however, was not his first; and where are the instances of the repetition of a grave "political" offence having been pardoned? When a man acts the rebel a second time, he gives evidence that he does not mean to show gratitude for leniency to him extended.

Many literary men complain that their labors are unappreciated, and that the vocation of quill-driver will scarce produce the wherewithal to keep body and soul together. This may be true of the ninety-and-nine, but the lucky hundredth man always manages to pocket a remarkably large amount of filthy lucre. Dickens died worth half-a-million of dollars, and Victor Hugo counted his fortune by millions.

In 1884, agricultural produce to the value of about \$800,000 was shipped from the Island of Cape Breton. If railways should bring the best farming lands of that Island within easy reach of markets, the annual yield of produce would be quadrupled. The magnificent mines of Broad Cove and vicinity would also become sources of wealth when tapped by a railway from the South or South West. Do we not need a more active prosecution of mining and agriculture? It would seem that we did, as thousands have left this Province during the past few years, because of the scarcity of employment. Then why not make an effort to open up our own country?

Rt. Rev. J. Cameron, Bishop of Arichat, when in Montreal recently, on ecclesiastical business, was asked his opinion of the Riel agitation, by a reporter of the *Herald*, a journal which fully hoped to defeat the Dominion Government, by means of exciting discontent in Quebec. His Lordship said plainly, that he approved of the carrying out of the law; and that in his opinion, very little sympathy for the rebel can be found among the intelligent people of the Lower Provinces. "Riel did not die," he said, "because he was French or Catholic, but because he had violated the laws of the country."

Some of our American exchanges are again discussing the feasibility of building a dam across the Strait of Belle Isle, which separates Newfoundland from Labrador. At the narrowest point, this Strait is but ten miles in width, and the water but one hundred and fifty feet in depth. The dam, it is estimated, will cost \$40,000,000. And it is thought that by its construction the temperature of the Maritime Provinces will be raised at least ten degrees. \$40,000,000 would be a large sum to expend in an experiment. The feasibility of constructing the dam may be well enough, but we should like to have some more certain proof as to its effect upon our climate than can be furnished us by the Messrs. probabilities and their numerous staff of wonder prophets.

The New York *Sonntags Journal* gives some curious facts and figures about newspapers and their names. There are 35,000 newspapers and magazines published in the world, of which 13,494 are American and 644 Canadian. There are 550 bearing the name *News*, 484 *Times*, 415 *Journal*, 406 *Democrat*, 297 *Gazette*. The newspaper directory shows some very peculiar names, among others, *Yellow Jacket*, *Calico Print*, *Tropical Paradise*, *Land of Flowers*, *Orange Leaf*, *Bitter Sweet*, *Headlight*, *New Departure*, *Brother of Freedom*, *Tack and Hammer*, *Rocky Mountain Howitzer*, *Light of Thinkers*. The West is rich in original titles, such as *What Next?*, *Hawkeye*, *Astonisher* and *Paralyzer*, *Firebrand*, *Prairie Dog*, *Bundle of Sticks*, *Lucifer*, *Comic Gale*, etc., etc. For length of name, a German paper, of course, bears the palm. Its title, translated, means *German-American Trades and Industry Paper and Progress of Time*.

## CONSUMPTION PREVENTIBLE.

The prevalence of consumption in Nova Scotia is frequently commented upon in medical and social circles, but so far, the press has done little towards educating the people respecting its prevention. Whether consumption, as a disease, is curable or not, we leave for physicians to discuss; but that it may, in many instances, be prevented, is a fact beyond dispute. To those having a predisposition to this disease, three important things should be borne in mind. First, woolen clothing should be worn next the skin in all seasons, and the body should always be sufficiently clad to preserve moderate warmth in both summer and winter. Exposure to the inclemencies of the weather without suitable protection should be studiously shunned, and damp clothes should always be replaced by dry ones as soon as possible. Second, the food eaten should be of a nutritious character. Indigestion is frequently the forerunner of consumption, and it is therefore important that it be avoided. Wholesome food, well masticated, will always prove digestible. During the colder weather, additional warmth of the body will be secured by a moderate use of meat, fat, and such like nutriment. Third,