PRACTICAL SIDELIGHTS

On the War in South Africa.

Its Whole History a Curious Clash of Inconsistencies.

Quixotic Humanitarianism Has in Its Dread of Legitimate Severity Trebled the Slaughter and Misery.

(For the Sun.)

Has the South African war commenced for the season? Candidly, one is tempted to think so. Winter has passed. Her chilly misery no longer accentuates the hardships of an ill-provided foe. The veldt is now radiant with that brilliant spring loveliness peculiarly it own; but the genial sun smiles down upon a land weed-grown, devastated and defaced by the hideous footprint of war!

We have entreated, and we have prayed for peace; we have sought to tempt her by unwonted gentleness. Smitten on the right side, we have turned the left invitingly. Befooled to the utmost abandonment of our unscrupulous foes, we have still, with the magnified patience of an irrational Job, employed the soft answer—bestowed the kiss for the blow. That soft answer—that kiss for blow method has been responsible for much, so much that but for a charitable construction of the spirit by which it was prompted, there is absolutely no redeeming feature.

That lenience has so signally failed is surely a fact sufficiently demonstrated. Yet no scowl of just sternness clouds the aspect of our nation. Her benign expression, like that on the face of a much battered effigy, endures fixed through all indignities and humiliations.

Let us reluctantly leave the false sentiment to which we have so long and tenaciously clung; let us consider this military gentleness from a standpoint purely practical; accept it as primary cause, and weigh it calmly, if calmly we can—the widespread misery of its bloodstained, abject failure, the effect.

In the first place, we bitterly stumbled at war's outset, because of our adherence to historic precedent in in methods of warfare. After a very long and sanguinary experience, we were coerced into the abandonment of frontal attacks and similar antiquities. Our "Red Books" became useful as a substitute for cigarette paper. Yet Boer methods were painfully emphasized as far back as 1881! In this instance, we dismissed an exploded and fatal precedent only after great tribulation. It is therefore remarkable that from the first, with strange unanimity of impulse, we practically swept from us other precedents almost as vital. I refer to the previously recognized usages of war. These we replaced by ovations of the most startling type, and formerly unknown to civilization. So ill-defined and eccentric are these ovations, however, that what now is or is not a recognized usage of war has become a question of much uncertainty. It almost looks as though we had prematurely assumed a higher civilization, and by thus outstripping evolution, have martyred ourselves in revolution! Can we arrive at the explanation of this condition of affairs? Does it arise from a quixotic humanitarianism, a mistaken Christianity, a bathos charity or an impracticable sentimentality? Again, may it not be the outcome of a foolish and disastrous national pride? Do we not say, as the Pharisee of old: "Behold! we are not even as these Germans; we are a truly Christian people; we stay at home and placidly preach our new humanity—our fad principles. What though the result be the indefinite prolongation of a bloody war, the slaughter of thousands of our sons, and the steeping of a great country in utter misery, we—the British—will adhere to our knightly notions, come what may! Our noble generosity as a foe must be demonstrated to the world's watching eye!" Surely it cannot be that we fear by adhering to the severity of war's formerly accepted usages we thereby invite the opprobrium of rival nations! None of such rivals possess a historic record to entitle the casting of a single stone. But it is the effect of all this in which we are chiefly interested. What earthly influence has transformed the British lion into a long-suffering ass, is no vital consideration at this moment. One thing must be distinctly obvious: that had we strictly adhered to the usages of war in our treatment of the enemy, the sunshine of spring would now smile down on the sprouting crops of a peaceful South Africa. Another feature here calls for emphasis: British pro-Boerism is not responsible for British military lenience. On the contrary, it is our military lenience which has created British pro-Boerism! and our extraordinary parliamentary license which nourishes its existence. Surely never was a country hampered with so unhappy a combination of influences! No sooner had Lord Roberts practically finished the war in South Africa than the pro-Boers virulently recommenced the campaign in London. Freedom of speech was formerly the priceless privilege of a Britisher, the use of which his loyalty guided. Now that privilege is prostituted into unstinted license. Even the sacredness of our throne is not exempt from its scurrilous venom. Treason lurks not now in the darkness of obscure corners. It flaunts a brazen presence with impunity right in the houses of parliament. There, only a few days since, one member exclaimed: "I pray God that the resistance of the Boers may be prolonged, so that we"—the Irish—"may be revenged on the British Empire; and that once more the republics may regain their independence and freedom." Consider the dastardly horror of these words. Does not the fact that their utterance meets with no just punishment bring together the teeth of every loyal subject! The heartless baseness of this pro-Boerism is its purely political nature. Not one of these traitors who shriek of Boer sufferance and British malignity cares whether South Africa is governed by the Boers or the Japanese. Pro-Boerism is in the truest sense a political bugbear. Unscrupulous opposition of our government is their end, to the attainment of which any means are apparently justifiable. This heinous condition of affairs is fast annihilating the ancient dignity of our imperial parliament, and perhaps that is its least hurtful influence. For proof of the utter depravity of pro-Boerism only the merest superficial consideration of the following glaring facts seem necessary: For many months past the most unspeakable accusations have been made against our officers and men. Not one of these but has proven utterly and wickedly false. Yet a certain misguided section yields each fresh lie a renewed credence! What unreasoning prejudice is thus revealed, and what flagrantly treasonable inclination!

Remember that each British pro-Boer utterance voiced in London finds its way by means rapid and inscrutable right to the camps of the enemy. There they ring a magnified echo to magnify hope.

It has been insinuated that the devil quotes the Scriptures for his own end. With a Dutchman this need be no insinuation but an unhesitating assertion. An apt Biblical quotation falls readily from his sanctimonious lips: "A house divided against itself," etc. Then, with the superstition of ignorance, he pins his faith to such convenient texts. But the text in question forms no mere hypothesis for a fanciful structure of argument. It is rather the substantial basis of a logical hope. The clamor of the pro-Boers and peace party becomes daily louder and more bold. In similar ratio does the hope of our South African foe vitalize to the war's prolongation. That the situation is steadily assuming a more and more serious aspect cannot be denied. This admission involves the failure of our downy-handed military methods. Every thinking man must face the fact that things cannot long continue thus. It requires no Boer Mark Anthony to impress that conclusion upon the enemy. The long-suffering lenience of the past certainly does not aid the introduction of a future severity. Nevertheless, that severity must come, and quickly, too, for in it, and it alone, lies the swift-sprouting germ of peace.

But to revert for a moment to another phase of pro-Boerism: It almost seems as though the assumption of pro-Boer opinions subtly infect their British upholder with the unscrupulous characteristics of the Boer nation. Certainly their wordy warfare has equalled in unredeemed unscrupulousness the most unspeakable field methods of the aliens whom they champion. A thoughtful person must recognize this British pro-Boerism as a very insidious type of civil war. Its advocate is exempt from any personal risk; what matters it if his London utterance is echoed by the shriek of a murdered countryman! For the blow that has stricken death to many a brave heart in South Africa has been smitten from home. A pro-Franco meeting in Germany during the war of '70 would have been impossible; a pro-Spanish meeting in America during the resent war would probably have courted annihilation. How different is it at home, where Boer delegates may harangue the kindred of our slain within a stone's throw of our imperial parliament.

The whole history of the war is, it must be admitted, a curious clash of inconsistencies. Shall we briefly consider a few of the more glaring, thus:

We fight the foe in South Africa, and permit that foe's encouragement in England. We heavily punish detected treason in South Africa (with one flagrant exception, that of ex-Premier Schreiner), yet permit its most glaring form at home. Witness one of many instances: A Cape Town editor was heavily fined, and sentenced to a long term of imprisonment, for acting as circulating agent of Stead's published sedition. Stead walks free in London. Pro-Boer journalism has paid him well!

Again, we have with studied considerateness far exceeded in gentleness all usages of war. History holds no parallel to this gentleness, even towards the most gallant of foes. Yet our present foe has proven destitute of honor, and sans the first rudiment of humanity!

We have placidly accepted oaths of neutrality while knowing them worthless. We have relieved the Boer bread-winner of his responsibilities by feeding his dependents. Thus, freed of domestic anxiety, he may concentrate his energies upon our soldiers.

We rely, and have relied, upon a colonial Dutch loyalty, though aware that disloyalty is practically the sole dominant impulse.

Our quixotic humanitarianism has, in its dread of legitimate severity, lengthened the war and trebled that which it sought to avoid—slaughter and misery. Thus in the effort to be kind have we been cruel—particularly to ourselves, and charity begins at home.

We are careful of foreigners entering Africa by Delagoa Bay. We overlook the convenience of German Southwest Africa, for instance. We congratulate ourselves on the failure of the Boers to induce intervention. We are blind to the fact that though unauthorized officially, foreign intervention has actually occurred. Witness despatch dated 5th inst.: "Most of the enemy killed at Moedwell were foreigners." Practically the Boers are now running hostilities by proxy!

We had reason to fear Dr. Leyds when in the Transvaal. We ignore the influence of his European presence, accompanied by a transferred Transvaal exchequer. The present anti-British feeling pervading Germany and other continental countries has no significance. Where are all the Boers coming from? is frequently asked. The despatch of 5th inst. supplies the answer. Our bane has been pessimism when least warranted by circumstances.

Here now is an instance of our inconsistent humanity, knightliness or whatever it may be termed: In a home paper, about a year ago, a writer suggested a remedy against train wrecking. The suggestion was to couple a car load of important Boer prisoners next each engine on every train passing over the lines. This would have stopped effectually all mining or tearing up of tracks, prevented the sacrifice of hundreds of lives, and denied the enemy their chief source of supplies. It is said that the suggestion was classed as one of utter depravity. Six months later, a French military critic made the same suggestion, citing as a precedent the Franco-Prussian war. Last month, Dr. Conan Doyle wrote to the London Times emphasizing the same precedent. It has now been adopted. Wherein lies the nobility of such principles as involve a departure from war's accepted usages, a needless slaughter of our men, and a feeding of our foe! From what impulse the previous abhorrence of a now accepted method emanated, is for the reader's investigation.

Although engaged upon the justest of just wars, Britain has seemed as if ashamed, yet striving to convince herself that she was not ashamed.

The purest patriotism is practical. 'Tis a bathos patriotism that dwells in sentiment, and shuns vital, though unpleasant, national facts. It is a truly charitable and Christian hope that the reaction from a fatal lenience has now commenced, and that it may be one of the fullest severity. Lenience has proven a ghastly failure. We hear that now in the dull murmer of guns wafted from kopje and veldt. Our generous motives have ever been for the best. They have resulted generously in the worst. We have spared the enemy and martyred ourselves. And our enemy have sniggered, while Europe's face expanded in a secret, contemptuous smile. Our glory will be posthumous; so may our blame—blame for the spirit that purchased that glory.

MAX KLANDERS.

CHIPMAN-GIBSON RAILWAY.

Line is Now Surveyed Nearly to Gibson Station.

(Gleaner.)

The surveying party who are locating the route of the new railway from Chipman to Gibson are now approaching the latter place. It is not yet known just where the new line will cross the Nashwaak river, but probably not far above Gibson. The project entertained some time ago of crossing the Nashwaak at Penniac on the same bridge as is used by the Canada Eastern railway has been abandoned, and the new company will erect its own bridge across the river. The terminus of the railway will not be at Gibson, either, according to present intentions. The line will cross the St. John river on the present railway bridge, and it is probable that the present Canada Eastern station at the corner of Brunswick and Sunbury streets will be enlarged and remodelled and be used by both the Canada Eastern and the New Brunswick Coal and Railway Companies.

Work at the roadbed has already commenced near the Chipman end. James Barnes, M. P. P., has the contract for building the whole line, and is sub-letting the work in short stretches—of two or three miles—so as to facilitate operations. Work will be vigorously pushed just as long as the weather will allow, and it is expected to have the new line opened and in running order early next summer.

THE TURF.

Havelock Races.

HAVELOCK, Oct. 10.—The fall meet on the Havelock Trotting Park took place this afternoon and was probably the best ever held on the park. About six hundred witnessed the sport. The Albert band was in attendance. There were two events, the two twenty class and the three minute. S. C. Goggins, G. H. Barnes and O. P. King, judges and starters; W. W. Killam and L. R. Murry, timers.

The first to start was the three minute class. The horses entered for the race were as follows: Kittie, P. Dellahunt, Moncton; Trilby, Albert Trites, Salisbury; Plucky Jim, Henry Steeves, Boundary Creek; Scowball, D. S. Mann, Petitcodiac; Charley Wilkes, Clay, Lady Sim, Cochern, Killam's Mills; Skip, S. A. Fowler, St. John; Lena C., William Chapman.

Only five horses started in the three minute race, Trilby having the pole. The race was won in five heats.

Trilby	1 2 3 3 3
Lady Sim	2 3 1 1 1
Scowball	4 4 2 4 dr.
Skip	3 1 4 2 2

Charlie Wilkes distanced.

Time—2.48, 2.45, 2.49, 2.45, 2.45.

In the two twenty class three horses started. Sunol Prince, Fowler, St. John; Button, Madden, Sussex; Harry A., Charles Chapman, Pollet River. The race was won by Sunol Prince in three straight heats. Button second.

Time—2.34, 2.31, 2.34. Last half in 1.15.

Cresceus Breaks a Record.

TOLEDO, O., Oct. 11.—Cresceus gave an exhibition trot today for charity and reduced the world's record on a half mile track to 2.09½. The previous record made by him was 2.09¾. He also went a mile to wagon in 2.12.

DO NOT EXPERIMENT but get Fuller's Blackberry Cordial, remember it has stood the test of long experience, a thoroughly reliable remedy for all Summer Complaints for Children and Adults, 25 cents at all dealers.

LOVE'S GRAMMAR.

"I wish I dared to ask you something, Miss Millie," said Archey, with trembling voice and wabbling chin.

"Why don't you dare to ask it?" the maiden said, demurely.

"Because I can see 'no' in your eyes."

"In both of them?"

"Y-yes."

"Well, don't you—don't you know two negatives are equivalent to an—how dare you, sir! Take your arm from around my waist, instantly!"

But he didn't.—Chicago Tribune.

HEARTS "ON STRIKE"

The Heart—that great motor of the human anatomy—never falters in the performance of its lawful function, till through overwork, disease lays hold on it—then it "goes on strike,"—and rightly so.

Dr. Agnew's Cure for the Heart is the greatest of agents that medical science has discovered as a heart-helper. No phase of Heart Disease it will not "spy out" and relieve and cure almost like magic. What are your symptoms? Suffocating, fluttering, palpitation, acute pains, thumping, nervousness, restlessness. Try this great treatment—it never fails. 27

Y. M. C. A.

Friday's Proceedings at the Maritime Convention in Moncton.

List of the Delegates in Attendance—Addresses by E. M. Robinson of New York, Geo. E. Williams of St. John and Others.

MONCTON, Oct. 11.—The delegates at the Y. M. C. A. convention are as follows:

St. John—Wm. Kingston, J. E. Irvine, Geo. E. Williams.

Sydney—Percy Stevenson, H. A. Fynde, D. A. McLeod, Dr. William McLeod, R. P. Williams, Mrs. R. H. C.Kendall, Miss E. C. McKinnon.

New Glasgow—Fraser G. Marshall, Geo. W. Fisher.

Truro—T. W. Dickson, C. L. Margeson, Miss A. L. Main, Capt. D. Murray, B. F. Moriarity, W. D. McCallum, Mrs. W. D. McCallum, Mrs. Cullen, Robert Wilson, Mr. and Mrs. J. H. Kent, A. R. Coffin.

Westville—G. G. Brayley, Hiram Cumming, Mrs. Hiram Cumming.

Wolfville—S. J. Crane, P. C. Read, W. H. Smith.

Glace Bay—D. M. Brodie, Mrs. D. M. Brodie, Wm. McKenzie, Rev. W. M. Meikle.

Charlottetown—W. C. Turner, H. Craswell, A. W. Robb, Wendell Phillips, J. J. Chappelle, C. A. Hansen.

Halifax—L. L. Young, Helen T. Dennis, C. Upham, A. T. Bell, F. C. Clay.

Sackville—Rev. W. W. Andrews, A. S. Tuttle.

Bayfield—D. D. Lane.

New Campbellton—Mr. and Mrs. J. A. Burchell.

Londonderry—L. C. Lynch.

Stellarton—H. B. Rogers.

Canso—W. S. Cousins.

Shubenacadie—J. C. Gass.

New York—E. M. Robinson, John F. Moore.

At this morning's meeting of the convention Rev. W. Meikle of Glace Bay gave an address on Hebrews or Privilege, and was followed by E. M. Robinson of New York, who spoke on The Associations Opportunity in Work for Boys, dwelling upon the importance of looking after the boys and getting them interested in objects for which they were working. At the close of his address Mr. Robinson spent some time in answering questions in regard to boys' work.

Geo E. Williams of St. John followed with an address on Small Town and Village Work, which he believed to be quite as necessary as work in the large centres. He thought every village of 1,000 population should have a branch of the Y. M. C. A.

The other subjects discussed this morning were Work of a Corresponding Number, an interesting paper on which was read by G. G. Brayley, in the absence of the writer, Harry J. Crowe of Bridgetown, and Results from Physical Work, by A. W. Robb of Charlottetown.

This afternoon was devoted to a jubilee praise service led by D. A. Budge of Montreal, after which consideration of the maritime committee's report was taken up. The committee recommended the raising of $4,000 for work next year and that a special effort be made this year and next to raise fifty thousand dollars as a permanent endowment. The following were recommended to take the place of those retiring from the maritime committee: J. C. Mackintosh, John McKeen, Amherst; J. C. Gass, Shubenacadie; J. A. Irvine, Halifax; Harry Graham, New Glasgow; J. T. Burchell, Newcampbellton; Rev. J. D. McKay, Halifax; J. H. Kent, Truro; G. W. Foster, Halifax; Arnaud Primrose, Pictou; W. D. McCallum, Truro.

John F. Moore of New York addressed the convention in reference to work generally and the need of earnest resolution and devotion to their undertakings.

At the close of the general conference a boys' conference was held. P. F. Moriarty of Truro led a short prayer service, after which G. G. Brayley of Pictou addressed the meeting on "The First Boys' Work." Reports of the boys' branches was conducted by H. A. Frowde of Sydney.

E. W. Robinson of New York discussed the methods of work and study.

At the railway conference today J. J. Chappell of Charlottetown was elected president and B. B. Nicholson of Amherst secretary. Papers were read by Mr. Cullen and Wm. Ellis of Truro, and Messrs. Gass and Wilson appointed to arrange for a suitable presentation to Driver Graham for his zeal and diligence in the work during the past year.

MONCTON, N. B., Oct. 13.—The Young Men's Christian Association convention closed here tonight with a mass meeting in the First Baptist Church addressed by C. O. Mitchener of New York on the work of associations among young men in non-Christian lands.

Last night's meeting was directed to railroad work and among the speakers were Manager Russell and General Freight Agent Wallace of the Intercolonial.

The meeting opened with a half hour song service, led by J. W. Britton of North Sydney, after which Miss McCully of Truro reported from the woman's conference, G. G. Brayley of Westville from the boys' conference, and B. M. Nicolson of Amherst from the railway conference. William Kingston of St. John read a paper on "What the railroad department has done for religious life of railroad men," after which Manager Russell spoke on "Railroad association work as I have seen it." He pointed out the success and failure of the work, saying the former was only assured where liberal assistance is given and dissensions avoided. He believed Mr. Blair approved of the work, and was sure the general manager did, and as for himself, he'd always be ready to assist personally. J. F. Moore testified to Mr. Russell's interest in the work in the United States, and Mr. Wallace also gave the movement his hearty endorsation.

This afternoon there were meetings for men addressed by Rev. Mr. Meikle, for women addressed by Miss McCully of Truro, and for boys addressed by E. M. Robinson, secretary of the boys' work in the state of Massachusetts.

CASTORIA

For Infants and Children.

The fac-simile signature of Chas. H. Fletcher is on every wrapper.

NOVA SCOTIA NEWS

WOLFVILLE, Oct. 12.—The formal opening of Acadia University took place last evening in College Hall in the presence of a large number of interested students and friends of the college.

Rev. Dr. Trotter and the other members of the faculty occupied the platform. Rev. H. R. Hatch opened by prayer, after which the president introduced Prof. J. F. Tufts, the speaker of the evening, who gave a most instructive lecture on The Life and Times of Alfred the Great. The thousandth anniversary of the death of this remarkable man was celebrated last month in the royal city of Winchester, England, and Dr. Tufts was present as delegate from Acadia. A generous programme of literary exercises was carried out on that occasion, leading to the unveiling of a bronze statue of the great Alfred in the centre of one of the Roman roads of the old city.

Prof. Tufts gave a very luminous account of the leading events in Alfred's life—his early training, his education, his public career as a warrior and statesman, his long and bitter struggle with the Danes, his constitutional and educational work, and his moral and religious reforms. He reorganized the army and founded a navy, thus laying the foundation for England's future supremacy on land and sea, and he effected the unification of the country, thus giving national feeling and national life to what were before separate and sometimes hostile states.

As a literary man he accomplished much for England in his translations of Boethius, Bede and other writers, into the vernacular, thus giving a fixity to English speech which enabled it to resist successfully the Norman invasion and to survive to the present. Alfred, though not an original author, laid the foundations of English literature. At the close of the address, which was most enthusiastically received, Dr. Trotter announced that the freshman class already numbered 37, and would probably be 40; that a gold watch had been placed at the disposal of the college by the firm of Northard & Lowe, London, for five years, which with other prizes will furnish two medals for the senior class and a prize for each of the other classes.

Graham P. Morse of the last year's soph. class led the province in the last examination for the A certificate.

R. R. McLeod was present, and delivered a very entertaining address, tracing his pedigree back to Alfred through the intervening thousand years.

CORNWALLIS.

CORNWALLIS, N. S., Oct. 12.—Dr. Brown and wife sail for their home in Bermuda on the 20th of this month. The doctor has purchased a nice horse from parties in St. John, N. B., for the sum of one hundred and fifty dollars. He will take back with him two other horses, one of which he purchased in Granville Ferry—the other from Dr. John Miller of Canning.

Charles Church, hotel keeper at Kingsport, has purchased the Waverly Hotel at Canning from Captain Edward Baxter. We understand that the price paid was $4,500.

A Christian church is to be built at Port Williams. Evangelist Romis is still holding meetings there. Thirty candidates have already been baptized.

Miss Georgia Heales of Toure Plot, a student of Acadia, has gone to New York, where she will be trained as nurse in a hospital.

Conductor Nichols of the D. A. R. has purchased a residence on River street, Kentville, from Mr. Warner.

Miss Mearris McCarthy, teacher in a public school at Wallbrook, is at her home in Kentville, ill of smallpox.

Ira Cox, blacksmith, has purchased the house and property of Silas Patterson at Canning, and land from Leander Cox, amounting in all to some thirteen hundred dollars worth of property.

Fifteen cords of wood at Moore's Mill, Prospect, owned by B. W. Illsley, was burned by unknown persons on Wednesday night.

The remains of Alfred, son of John Lyons, were brought to Berwick from Boston last week and interred in the cemetery there.

The death of Mrs. William Taylor, a highly esteemed resident of Cambridge, occurred on Sunday. The deceased had been a sufferer for many years.

PARRSBORO NEWS.

PARRSBORO, N. S., Oct. 12.—W. Malcolm McKay of St. John has purchased from Clifford W. Robinson of Moncton several lots of timber land at Diligent River. The price paid was $20,000.

Bark Avoca, Dernier, cleared on Thursday for Queenstown f o, with 1,114,748 feet of deals and 149,671 feet of ends and scantling, shipped by Capt. Nordby for George McKean. The Avoca is the last vessel of the Parrsboro deal fleet for this season.

Sch. E. Merriam, Knowlton, cleared for New York on Monday with 1,025 pieces piling, shipped by the Moose River Lumber Co.

Sch. Centennial, Priest, cleared on Thursday for Boston with 367 pieces piling, shipped by D. A. Huntley.

Capt. James E. Pettis of Port Greville went to Hillsboro on Thursday to take command of the tern schooner Ohpir, owned by him. Capt. Captain Renarck Pettis, who has been in command of the Ophir, was obliged to return home owing to the serious illness of his wife.

Schs. W. R. Huntley and Jessie D. are loading spruce boards, shipped by the Newville Lumber Co., for United States ports.

A ship's anchor, weighing about 3,000 pounds, was picked up in West Bay on Thursday by Capt. Tolbert Dodsworth of the sch. Romeo. Sch. Bessie A. is loading piling at Harrington River for New York.

Sch. Grace Darling is loading lumber at Five Islands for Boston.

NOT THE FIRST COMPLAINT.

(Brooklyn Eagle.)

Mrs. Chatterton—Bridget, I won't have a lot of policemen hanging around this kitchen!

Bridget, blushingly—Yis'm. Thot's just phat Officer Brannagan says, mam!

The highest freshet ever known on the St. John river occurred in May, 1794.

DERRAH'S DIFFICULTY.

Wife of Former St. John Man Suing for Divorce.

The many friends in St. John of Robert H. Derrah, formerly of this city and now one of the most prominent street railway men in New England, will be sorry to hear of divorce proceedings instituted by his wife, who is also a native of St. John. For some time, owing to family disagreements, Mr. and Mrs. Derrah have been living separately, but their difficulties have been kept so secret that Mrs. Derrah's application for a divorce came as a decided surprise to their acquaintances.

When a young man Mr. Derrah was employed as a clerk in the retail department of Emerson & Fisher, which position he left about fifteen years ago to seek employment in the states. He was at one time in the office of H. M. Whitney, who so appreciated his energy and ability that the young man's advancement from that time was rapid.

The parents of Mrs. Derrah reside on Elm street, north end, and she has several relatives in Carleton. She is described by a Boston correspondent as a very attractive woman only 28 years old. Her wedding to Mr. Derrah occurred in this city some years after he had gone to the states for residence.

RILL ARRESTED.

Sixteen Year Old Youth Charged With the Murder of Nathan Kaplan.

CLARK'S HARBOR, N. S., Oct. 11.—Julius Rill was arrested this morning on a warrant charging him with having murdered Nathan Kaplan at Clark's Harbor on Monday evening.

Max Schnairsohn, a pedlar, who has been here some weeks, was detained on a warrant at the same time, to appear as a witness in future proceedings.

Constable Philips took both men into custody without the least trouble, and immediately conveyed them to Barrington Head, where they were lodged in jail to await the preliminary investigation, which will be held on the 22nd inst.

Everything connected with the arrest was done quietly, and at such an early hour that few people were aware of it. When told the charges against him, the prisoner wilted considerably, but bore up well after that. He is a youth of decent appearance, rather good looking and goes well dressed, says he is sixteen years old, claims to have come from Russia two years ago, and speaks tolerably good English. He scarcely seems to realize his terrible position. On the way to jail he was noways cast down, but talked freely on several subjects. There is no charge whatever against Schnairsohn, and he may be released on bail pending the examination.

LUNENBURG'S FISHING FLEET.

The Bank Catch Last Year Was 240,000 Quintals, and This Year It is 254,000.

(Halifax Herald.)

The fishing interests of Nova Scotia are concentrated at Lunenburg, the "Gloucester" of the Canadian maritime provinces. There is a fleet there this season of 158 vessels, with an average of about 93 tons, and each vessel worth about $4,200. Some people feared that the change of flag in Porto Rico and Cuba would injure the fishing interests of Lunenburg, but on the contrary, the catch this year is larger than last and the price realized by the fishermen is higher than at any time within the past ten years. This season has been profitable. The catch last year was 240,000 quintals, and this year it is about 254,000 quintals. One effect of the changed conditions in Porto Rico and Cuba has been that the West India fleet has dwindled somewhat, but Nova Scotia fish find an ample market, Porto Rico still taking much of it, shipped via United States channels.

While the Lunenburg fleet this year shows a net increase of 12 vessels, the number built the past season was 36, of a tonnage amounting to 3,448. The figures are as follows:

Additions to Lunenburg fleet past year—36 vessels, 3,448 tons. This is not an increase, for the fleet was reduced by the following.

	Vessels.	Tons.
Sold to St. Pierre	6	545
Transferred to other ports	16	1,324
Lost	2	152
Total	24	1,921
Net increase of	12	1,527

The added vessels are of greater tonnage than those lost. The tendency is to build larger vessels. St. Pierre, Miq., is a large buyer of Nova Scotia fishing vessels, six having been changed to the French flag during the year.

The approximate average tonnage of the vessels in the Lunenburg fishing fleet is 93, and the value $4,200. This does not including fishing outfit, which would amount to $1,200 to each vessel exclusive of provisions.

WHY COLLECTORS STEAL.

(Toronto Star.)

A young man who collected thousands of dollars for a firm was arrested and charged with the theft of a small sum.

His position was a responsible one. He had to pay his board. He had to clothe himself. He had to appear respectable. He had to wear clean linen. He had to live as an ordinary twentieth century Christian should live.

When they tried him they found his salary had been $5 per week.

FRIENDLESS BOTH.

"No," he said, "I haven't anything for you."

"Say, mister," whined the beggar, "I guess you don't know how it feels to have no friends, an'——"

"Don't I, though? I'm the official handicapper for the ladies' golf tournament."—Philadelphia Press.

The Royal train, built in the Canadian Pacific railway's own workshops, by Canadian brains and labor, is a marvel of perfect workmanship and refined taste. It's equal the world has yet to see.