

THE CRITIC.

The Welfare of the People is the Highest Law.

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The editor of THE CRITIC is responsible for the views expressed in Editorial Notes and Notes, and for such only; but the editor is not to be understood as endorsing the sentiments expressed in the articles contributed to his journal. Our readers are capable of judging or disapproving of any part of an article or contents of the paper; and after giving due care as to what is to appear in our columns, we shall leave the rest to their own judgment.

EDITORIAL NOTES.

There is more undeveloped land in the State of Maine than in any other State, and yet the young mammas will insist upon leaving their State and going West. The stay-at-home plank in the platform of party is generally weak.

Cuba is represented in the Spanish Cortes, but it is now bent on Home Rule. If this fashion of the age be carried much further great states will be sundered into their original tribal districts.

Among European sovereigns, King Humbolt of Italy has shown himself one of the most capable. He is an economist in the broadest sense of the term, and in both his public and private capacity abstains from extravagance.

The first through train for the Pacific, which left Montreal on Monday is now speeding its way over the Rockies on towards the Pacific coast. Canadians, one and all, must feel proud of having completed such a gigantic task in so short a time. Sir John and Mr. Blake should now shake hands in the West to see what Canada is like.

Father of Unity, make this people one! Such is the prayer uttered by one of our best known provincial poets in his collect for Dominion Day. The aspirations of the poet rise far above his realizations, so the spirit of the prayer is idealistic. Unity will come when party lines are effaced, and the time is far away in the dim and hazy future.

Lord Coleridge has just given judgment in a curious case wherein a man attempting to deal a deadly blow at a companion accidentally struck a third party, the Attorney for the defendant claimed that as the blow was accidental the prisoner could not be held accountable, but Judge Coleridge held that as the design of the prisoner had been to injure he must be held accountable for the crime.

American girls are, generally speaking, well read, but the American system of education is far from perfect. Memorizing the constitution of the United States may be advantageous for blue-stockings, but for young ladies in general such a task must be worse than useless, perhaps if they paid a more attention to their own constitutions, and a little less to that of the Republic, they would not be old women at forty.

The recent labor troubles in the United States have called forth specific remedies from all quarters. Here is a short list: Mr. Beecher's remedy—Abolition of Calvinism; Felix Adler's remedy—Improved tenement houses; Herbert Newton's remedy—A revised Bible; *Evening Post* remedy—Free trade; Bob Ingersoll's remedy—Grecian statuary; Jim Bennett's remedy—Silence; Sheridan Shook's remedy—Blaine; Kate Field's remedy—Improved marriage laws; and so on.

Mr. Blunt has written a book upon the Dark Ages, in which he endeavors to prove that the people of the 12th and 13th centuries were, in many respects, superior to those of the present day. Mr. Blunt's work is interesting reading, but it will require much more specious arguments to convince the living, that socially, intellectually and morally they are inferior to their ancestors of six hundred years ago.

New scientific luminaries are constantly making their appearance above the horizon. The latest is Mr. Perrin, a Canadian, who claims to have discovered the starting point in the Rocky Mountains, of the winds that prevail on this continent. We may expect soon to hear of Mr. Perrin organizing an expedition to his new-found cave of Eolus, and then we may look for a blow out.

A Frenchman named Goubet recently invented a submarine torpedo boat which is said to be superior to the one exhibited at Stockholm last summer. Goubet first offered his invention to his own government, but being disgusted with the delays which took place he posted off to St. Petersburg and agreed to give his services to the Czar. The first boat built, named "The Terror of the Baltic," uses electricity as a motive power, and moves under water at the rate of six knots an hour.

If English sheep farmers only knew the facilities that we have in this Province for raising sheep, they would vacate their high-taxed lands and settle among us. The Canadian, American, and Australian sheep-growers acknowledge the superiority of the methods adopted by English sheep grazers, but they have never given these matters the practical test they deserve. Some day sheep ranches in our shore counties will be as common as fishing smacks in the harbors.

The marriage of President Cleveland furnished the ubiquitous American reporters an opportunity of proving their ability as news-gatherers, or news-manufacturers. They have dived into all the President's affairs and his bride's with a vulgar curiosity that does them no credit, and reflects alike on themselves and the press they serve. The number of cigars the bridegroom smoked in the day preceding the final plunge, and the size of the bride's nose, ears, feet, etc., have been thought fit subjects for comment. Surely there is a limit beyond which enterprise ought not to lead a journalist.

The explanation of the theory of evening dew falls, which has been tacitly accepted for the past seventy years, is now discredited in some quarters. The old theory is that dew is caused by the cooling of the earth's surface and the condensation of the moisture in the atmosphere. The new school reject this theory as untenable, claiming that dew is caused by the moisture in the earth being drawn to its surface during the evening. If a piece of slate be laid upon the ground at night it will be found in the morning that the outer surface is perfectly dry, while the under surface is covered with moisture. The question will be of interest to our scientists.

Mons Pasteur, the discoverer of the alleged cure for hydrophobia is quoted as claiming that he has oftentimes noticed a marked improvement in the general health, weight, and general physical condition of persons that had been inoculated, by way of precaution, after having been bitten by a rabid animal. We apprehend, however, that there is very little danger of anyone in decline asking for a mad dog to bite him, with a view to arrive at an improved state of health, towards which this would be the first step. The distinguished French chemist says that it is only the first step that costs, but in this case the cost of the initial step is, in the opinion of many, excessive enough to appal the stoutest heart.

The people in England are beginning to realize that trade follows the flag and that emigration should be under state direction. Lecturing at the Indian and Colonial Exhibition on "Emigration to the Colonies" Mr. Frederick Young advocated the establishment of a Department of State, with a Cabinet Minister at its head, to deal with the subject. By an arrangement with the Colonies, emigrants should be supplied with passage tickets at £2 per head, and left free to go to any British colony they might prefer. The increase of population in Great Britain was 400,000 a year, and last year no fewer than 137,687 emigrated to foreign countries. Under a judicious system of national emigration they might have found homes under the British flag. Sir H. Barkly and the agents for several colonies supported the lecturer's views.