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

EDITORIAL NOTES.

Among the reports of the recent press excursion through Nova Scotia those of Mr. Thomas F. Anderson in the various papers he represents are very pleasant reading for his fellow Nova Scotians. It is good to see a Nova Scotian who sticks up for his native land when he has a chance to do it a benefit.

Our conviction that the census has a big hole in it somewhere has been strengthened during the last few days. One gentleman writes us that five of his household were not counted in, and we know of cases where people were about to move, and were not enumerated at either residence. The taking of the census during moving time may account for many people not having been numbered with the elect.

The destruction of the railway bridge at the Narrows by Monday night's hurricane may be looked upon as not wholly a calamity. If it was weak enough to succumb to the gale, it would probably at some time have collapsed with an extra heavy train, had it not gone as it did. The inconvenience to manufacturers, dealers and others in our sister city, from the loss of this bridge and consequent stoppage of traffic, will be great. The ferry will have to fill the gap, for a time, at least until the bridge can be reconstructed.

Our Exhibition promises to be such a success as we desire for it. The prize list is always an inducement to exhibitors, who vastly prefer a certain amount of legal tender to ornamental medals. The amount to be distributed as prizes at our fair is \$12,000, and it is fairly well divided among the different departments, so that all may have a chance for their share. No one must imagine, though, that exhibitors as a general thing make any money out of the exhibition so far as prizes are concerned. The expense and trouble of taking things to and from the building is rarely compensated for by actual gain in prizes—the profit comes from other directions, more in the line of advertising than anything else. The great principle of business in these days is to let everyone know what you have to dispose of, and keep on letting them know. So manufacturers, farmers and others who have good things to sell see their opportunity for an increase of business through the provincial fair, and by putting what they have before the public in an attractive form do not only themselves, but the public and the country a benefit.

The Chilian war is over. The capture of Valparaiso and defeat of the despotic Balmaceda on August 27th by the Insurgent forces ended the protracted struggle. Balmaceda has fled, and the Congressional party is in control at the capital. Rioting followed in natural course after the three days' fighting, but order was soon restored and all is now reported quiet. It has been discovered that many of Balmaceda's officials who were known to be poor have now bank accounts ranging from \$20,000 to \$1,000,000, which will, of course, be sacrificed. It will be good for Balmaceda's health to avoid Chili at present.

Among the dangers of exhibition time may be counted the risk of infection when so many people are gathered together. The danger is just as great on our side as on the other, for country visitors may either bring the germs of a disease with them or carry the same away from the city. An honest care in this matter should be taken so as to prevent the spread of disease. People whose houses have recently harbored infectious diseases should consider themselves ineligible to go abroad or to receive visitors, especially at such a time as the exhibition. We hope this will be carefully considered by all to whom it may apply, for Halifax had quite enough sickness during last winter, and does not want a repetition of that experience.

Some so-called Canadian newspapers are in the habit of publishing the portraits of men of greater or less (generally less) importance in the United States, and taking up their supposedly "valuable space" by telling what these worthies have done to be so honored. The practice has been carried on without comment for a long time, and people have continued to skip these most uninteresting articles with regularity and faint protests against having such "stuff" published in Canadian papers. The *Domini n Illustrated* has seen the opportunity for a take-off on this practice, and is publishing skits that will probably do more towards shutting off the supply of Yankee biography than any other process. *Ridicule is a powerful weapon, and we hope the Dominion Illustrated will succeed in checking the invasion of foreign faces in our newspapers.*

Not for many years has Halifax felt such a blow as struck the city on Monday night between eleven and one o'clock. For about two hours the gale raged with fury that fairly rocked houses on their foundations, blew down huge trees and prostrated wires and fences in every direction. The rain fell in torrents and did an amount of damage to our unpaved streets that can scarcely be realized. After the storm subsided the stars shown out brightly, and Tuesday was a delightfully bright and fresh day. The yachts *Foula* and *Wenonah* were driven on shore, and all marine property suffered severely. Much damage to shipping is reported, but we cannot in this space particularize. We only hope that we will be spared such a wind again for a long time, and that some progress may be made in paving our streets before it comes, for the damage done by such storms as this is more costly than pavements.

The peace of Europe will probably not be lightly broken, but the action of the Porte in allowing the passage of Russian vessels carrying armed men through the Dardanelles is provocative of ill feeling on the part of the powers, more especially of Great Britain. Russia claimed that these vessels were not properly war ships, but a volunteer fleet of steamships, and that the men were not, strictly speaking, soldiers, but reserves, who were doing duty as railroad laborers. It is thought that Turkey has taken this course with regard to Russia and the Dardanelles to annoy Great Britain in revenge for the latter's refusal to discuss the Egyptian evacuation question. The British Ambassador at Constantinople, Sir William White, is on the worst of terms with the Sultan and has not been received at the Yildiz Kiosk. It is difficult to predict what action may be taken by Britain, but it is probable that this breach of the treaty of 1841 will be resented, and that the powers will support Great Britain in the matter. Just after the Franco-British demonstrations of cordiality at Portsmouth it would be strange if England should be compelled to defend her interests against France's ally, Russia. All despatches on the subject are of the "it is rumored" and "it is understood" variety, and state secrets are not as yet divulged. Turkey would not dare to assent to an open and flagrant violation of the treaty of Paris by allowing Russian war ships through the straits, but her action in allowing a volunteer fleet equipped with guns and filled with soldiers to pass amounts to the same thing. It is indicated that France will support the Sultan's right to enter into this agreement. The "sick man," of Czar Nicholas, is sulky and may succeed in involving Europe in a war that might wipe out Turkish rule. Lord Salisbury has a ticklish task before him in managing this affair, but he is doubtless able for it. Before this appears we shall probably have some news of diplomatic proceedings.