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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.

Windsor now has on the shipping register 191 vessels, which tot up in all 128,906 tons. This is a decrease as compared with last year. The palmy days of the wooden ship—oh, where are they!

A lively plaster trade has been carried on in Windsor and its vicinity during the past year. No less than 424,396 tons were exported. Windsor has the reeks and the Yankees know their value.

New Glasgow is fast growing in population and importance. Before the century closes it will have reached the dignity of a city. It is said to be one of the best lighted towns in Canada and its Town Council has the reputation of being wide awake and enterprising.

Carmichael's shipyard New Glasgow from which so many fine vessels have been launched will soon resound with the clang of the shipbuilder's hammer. I. Matheson & Co. are to commence the building of an iron steamer, which will be the pioneer ship of this class constructed in Nova Scotia.

The launch of the American warship *Cincinnati* has called forth the usual amount of glorification in the volatile press of that country. This occurrence will doubtless tend to allay the anxiety lately expressed by the leading newspapers of our neighbors over the dread "Canadian Navy." It will also probably tranquillize them with regard to the "fortification of Halifax N. S." etc. The ceremony of naming the cruiser was, by the way, characteristic. The young lady—daughter of a Senator, if we mistake not—standing at the bow with a bottle of "Ohio wine," said "in a low but distinct voice: 'In the name of the United States of America, the greatest nation on the face of the globe, I christen thee Cincinnati!'"

The transfer of the two great Inman liners "City of Paris" and "City of New York" from the English to the American flag is an event which is attracting considerable comment on both sides of the Atlantic. It takes place in February and March next. The acquirement of two such vessels as these will be a great benefit to the American navy, and the Lords of the Admiralty have been severely criticised by the English press for allowing these big ships—which were undoubtedly the finest "subsidized cruisers" afloat—to pass out of their hands. However, there is little doubt that the sister Cunarders, which are now rapidly nearing completion, will not only win back the Atlantic record to their own line, but take the first place as

auxiliary cruisers to the Royal Navy. A change in the port of call will be made on the transfer of the Inman boats. Instead of starting from Liverpool and touching at Queenstown, they will go direct from Southampton to New York, while the Cunarders will continue on the old route. The Inman line hopes thus to gain a few hours on their rivals.

Lieut. Peary still sighs for fish ice worlds to conquer. He has applied to the Secretary of the United States Navy for leave of absence, and has asked the Philadelphia Academy of Sciences, under whose auspices he set out before, to grant him the patronage of its name. The plucky explorer will spend his first winter in part as heretofore, and in the first summer will push on to the extreme north of Greenland. He will spend his second winter there, and the following summer will be devoted to exploration. He will then return as quickly as possible. It is not yet decided whether his wife will again accompany him. However it is safe to predict that she will not shrink from encountering the hardships which she so successfully braved with her husband on the former voyage.

THE DISPENSARY REPORT.—There is probably no institution in the city of Halifax more widely popular among all classes than the Halifax Dispensary. It is a practical working concern, with a liberal, yet economical, management, and is of great service to the poorer people both in this city and in Dartmouth. The past year has been an active one for the officers of the Dispensary. Nearly 5,000 professional visits have been made to the homes of the poor, over 5,000 consultations have been given, and some 12,000 prescriptions made up, while over 600 dental operations have been performed. The financial report is not quite so good, and it lies with our good people to make up the amount necessary for the welfare of this most deserving work. By the bye we wonder if the response to the call for voluntary collections in our churches would not be very much larger if it were made immediately after the yearly report is published, instead of at the present early date. It seems to us that it is best to utilize the public interest which the report always creates for the benefit of the financial welfare of the institution.

THE HORRORS OF HALIFAX.—If we are to judge from the publication of a false telegram recently printed in the *Pall Mall Gazette* we are indeed living in a most remarkable country. Not only, according to this high-handed authority, has some convulsion of nature transferred the Spring Hill coleries to our city but also our methods in dealing with the supposed miners are severely criticized. We learn with interest that convicts are employed in working the mineral railways, and that 1300 of the free laborers, resenting the presence of these infringers of the law, organized a gigantic strike, and poisoned or otherwise injured some dozen of the convict-laborers. As a natural consequence Her Majesty's forces are said to have been called out, and we presume they are terribly afraid of the doughty striker gang. It is much to be deplored that such harmful trash should be allowed to appear in a reputable journal, for the geography of our Province is not yet well enough known among British readers to stamp the lie on the bit of scurrilous writing. The few facts on which the startling news was based must have been the amicably arranged strike at Spring Hill, and possibly the rather large number of out-of-workers in Halifax. For the rest someone's imagination has indeed worked wonders.

ALMOST A MISCARRIAGE OF JUSTICE.—Many of our readers have followed with growing interest the daily-paper accounts of the trial of Miss Reynolds, on the charge of forging orders for goods. The young lady, who was a stranger in the city, was endeavoring to earn an honest livelihood as a seamstress, when suddenly she became the victim of a train of circumstantial evidence nearly strong enough to land her in Rockhead. The chief witness against her on the trial was a young woman who seems to be familiar to the public by the names either of Murphy or Sloane. She boarded for a few days with the prisoner, and testified that Miss Reynolds had forged the orders and received the goods, while the various dealers to whom the orders had been presented thought they had no difficulty in identifying the prisoner as the would-be purchaser. The state of Miss Reynolds at this stage of the proceedings may be imagined. Without funds, credit or friends, unable to obtain the bond for appearance, which was fixed at \$20—a stranger in the city, housed within the jail, with no prospect of her innocence being proven. On her next appearance in court the case took a sudden turn and the stigma of the authorship of the forgeries was removed from her, while the real character of the chief witness was suddenly disclosed by the prisoner's counsel, who had successfully unravelled the mysteries of a most intricate blackmailing case. The young and innocent girl is now at liberty, and if she now lacks for either work or friends she will have reason to consider us a most inhospitable and indifferent people.