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A Maritime Provincial Journal.

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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.

It is frequently stated that women cannot invent, but it is pretty well exploded by this time. Mrs. Martinot is the name of a lady who has taken out twenty-five patents, five of which have been issued in seven countries. Among other things she has invented a gas stove, an ice cream freezer, a cream washing machine and a clothes dryer—all articles of use to women.

A notable act of official imbecility was that performed by the Cumberland county constable, who arrested Postmaster Oran Thompson of Oxford for breach of the Canada Temperance Act while he was conveying the mails from the train to the post office, and carried both (the mails and the postmaster) off to Amherst, despite the protests of the latter. The next morning Thompson procured bonds and returned to Oxford with the mails, where it is to be presumed an exasperated crowd was waiting for the delayed letters. Legal proceedings against the constable for interfering with the mails are talked of, and it really would be worth while to make an example of such misapplication of his official power.

The school question is a burning issue in Manitoba. That province of late has apparently been drifting surely on to denominationalism, and to unbiassed thinkers that would be a great calamity. In country districts the absurdity of such a system would be more than apparent. Think of a village where there are thirty or forty children of teachable age divided into four or five schools each under the management of different religious bodies! This would be poor economy for a new country, and yet if separate schools are given the Catholics every other denomination is equitably entitled to them. A stiff fight will be made against this tendency, for there are sensible men in Manitoba who have the foresight to see that such a state of affairs would be disastrous to the prospects of the province. Indeed it is thought that a death blow was struck at separate schools on the 13th inst., when Mr. J. D. Cameron, the government candidate in South Winnipeg, the most intelligent constituency in Manitoba, was elected. The government of Manitoba stands pledged to use every means in its power to wipe out separate schools, and this verdict of the people is regarded as an emphatic instruction to go ahead and do so, and the people will stand by it. Purely national schools are undoubtedly the best for making good citizens, and the government of Manitoba is sound on this subject.

Making war on women can never be considered anything but disgraceful, and when a sorrowful widow is made the object of attack every chivalrous

man naturally turns to her defence. A short time ago an article appeared in the *Regina Leader*, Mr. Nicholas Flood Davin's paper, charging Mr. Dewdney and a "person living in Ottawa and wielding great influence," with being concerned in certain questionable land speculations in the Northwest. The *Toronto Globe* took the matter up and suggested the name of Lady Macdonald as the "person" referred to. This became widely spread, and the unconscious object of it saw it first in the *New York Tribune*. Lady Macdonald wrote at once to the *Tribune* emphatically denying all knowledge of the alleged land transaction, and requesting that paper to give her denial equal publicity with the slander. This the *Tribune* did, and stated that it accepted the Baroness' statement as conclusive and regretted that it helped to circulate a baseless rumor. The *Globe* has been forced to make a full apology for its outrageous libel, and has eaten its words in a manner characteristic of the class of cowards that would attack a defenceless widow. The Baroness Macdonald is living in retirement at Lakewood, N. J., with her invalid daughter and no longer takes that interest in the affairs of the country, which it was only natural she should do in the lifetime of her husband. The *Globe* lays stress upon the fact that it did not originate the charge against her ladyship or anyone else, but this is a small way in which to crawl out of the position in which it placed itself by first putting Lady Macdonald's name in the place of the "person living in Ottawa."

It is almost impossible to believe that any body of British subjects could refuse to pass a vote of sympathy with the royal family in their deep grief over the death of the heir presumptive, yet this contemptible action has been taken by the miners' federation in session at Stoke on Trent. By so doing the miners have managed to achieve for themselves world-wide notoriety, and it is doubtful if after this marked insult to the royal family they will ever again be shown that sympathy with which the highest in the land were wont to regard them. It is often said that civility costs nothing and it buys a great deal, and in this instance it would have been but an act of common respect to those who have always evinced a great interest in the welfare of miners, and who are now in sore grief. Had the resolution never been proposed its omission would probably have passed comparatively unnoticed, but having been moved and put to the vote, its defeat has turned the scorn of every fair-minded British subject towards the perpetrators of this act of discourtesy, shame on them! The despatch announcing the action states that this federation has a membership of 200,000, and is the most powerful single union in the country. It freely gives aid to the distressed, and after sullenly and silently refusing sympathy to the Royal family it proceeded to pass a vote of sympathy and substantial aid to the starving nail makers of the midland districts, who have for some time been on strike. Perhaps it did not occur to the federation what a simple matter it would have been to have offered sympathy to the Royal family on the death of the Duke of Clarence, and what harm to themselves might result from an exhibition of boorishness like that of last Friday.

Toronto has decided to get along without Sunday street cars for the present. The defeat of the movement was far from overwhelming, for a majority of four thousand and odd out of a total vote of about twenty-two thousand does not represent a very strong feeling against such an innovation. The importance of what the Torontonians do not want is outweighed by what they do want, for be it known they have spoken for free text-books in the public schools in the same light and joyous vein that one would approve of a free lunch. We are quite in accord with the principle which maintains that every argument for free education holds good for free text-books, but in the early stages of such an experiment the expense will probably be heavy. It would be well if the system of supplying free text-books could be introduced everywhere, for only those who are familiar with poor families know what a trial it is when a child is "moved," or promoted to higher classes, and a number of new books have to be provided. School books are far too expensive, and if a different system were adopted they could not remain so. If the department of education, or public instruction, or whatever official hands the matter rests with, had to supply the books, more care would be exercised about expense and also about changing the text-books frequently. One would think there must be a fortune in school books as at present supplied in Halifax, and we presume throughout Nova Scotia; someone must reap a goodly profit from their sale. Every pupil must have a book, or progress is impossible, and parents often find it very difficult to spare the money for this purpose. We are not urging the adoption of free text-books, for the question is not before the people at present, but as a help to the hard-working people of our Province we do not see why cheaper books cannot be supplied. It would greatly reduce the terror of school expenses to many people. Toronto's experiment with free text-books may be successful, and in that case it would be well to copy her to some extent.

The actions of young Kaiser William of Germany are again rousing the ire of his subjects. The most charitable conclusion a standard-bearer of the at, is that his present high position has unsettled his mind. Surely no educated German can but resent the sentiment recently written by him in a public book as the *Völkischer Jahrbuch* in Munich—"The voice of the King is the highest law." Is this school-boy Emperor aping the clever, unscrupulous Louis XIV in his famous utterance—"I am the State." At the same time we learn with interest that this indefatigable Jack of all trades has produced a volume of sermons written during his chaplaincy on his yacht last summer. The public will doubtless be much interested in the new doctrine therein promulgated.

The death of Cardinal Manning was not unexpected, for he was an old man, but there will probably be quite as much mourning for the "bearded grain," that the reaper named Death has taken, as for the young Scion of royalty who has breathed his last. The deceased prelate was one of the foremost men of Britain, and both in the Roman Catholic Church and in public and private life held a high rank. He was in the eighty-fourth year of his age, and had been ill for some time. The end came peacefully, and Cardinal Manning passed away on Thursday morning of last week without pain. Wherever he was known for his learning and charity he will be mourned.

Uncle Sam's Government at Washington has demanded an indemnity from the Chinese Government for the depredations committed by Chinese subjects upon the property of American residents, and the Chinese Government has signified its readiness to pay such indemnity and to make such other amends as lies in its power for the illegal acts committed. But here is the reverse of the shield. After four years of diligent detective work the Chinese Consul at San Francisco has discovered that thirty-four of his fellow-countrymen engaged in placer mining on Snake River, near the boundary of Oregon, were brutally shot down at long range by a band of ruffians, and gold to the value of \$56,000 carried off as booty. It has taken four years to unearth this foul crime against the Chinese, and the Government of China now asks the American Government for an indemnity. It will be interesting to lovers of humanity to note the action of the Government of the United States when the representatives of Oriental and Western civilization come to settle outstanding accounts.

Again the lottery question is exciting the American press. Postmaster Wanamaker reports a loss of \$1,000,000 in the receipts of the post-office department since lottery matter was ruled out of the mails, and our American friends, like ourselves, do not lose hard cash with equanimity. The opponents of the lottery business fought manfully in the Louisiana State Convention, but were defeated by a majority of 98. This grave moral question is the chief issue in the coming State election. As an inducement for the continuance of the lottery for twenty-five years, its promoters have offered the State a million and a quarter dollars annually—a proposition that appeals to the tax-payers' pockets. It is claimed that all the newspapers in the State with the exception of the *New Delta*, the mouth-piece of the anti-lotteryites, have been subsidized. The opposing parties can no longer be distinguished by the terms Democrat and Republican, for voters of both sides have deserted their former parties. The people of Canada cannot but sympathize with the fair-minded Democratic partizan "who would rather have Republicans in power for four years than the lottery for twenty-five."

The British Indian Empire contains a population of nearly 300,000,000 people, nearly one-fifth of the inhabitants of the globe, and yet less than one hundred thousand Britishers govern the country successfully. India is making giant strides in civilization, and its people, although chafing under foreign domination, frankly acknowledge that British rule has been of the utmost advantage to the country. 16,000 miles of railway are now completed and equipped, and 26,000 miles of macadamized post roads have been laid out. The building and completing of these highways of travel make the repetition of a Sepoy rebellion a practical impossibility; for as is well known it was the impracticability of the rapid transit of large bodies of troops that most hindered the British in quelling that horrible outbreak. The young native Indians are not slow to appreciate the advantages of education, as is shown by the fact that 135,000 schools are now open to them. The postal and telegraph systems of India are fully up to our modern ideas, and it is worthy of note that during the year just closed no less than three hundred million letters have been carried by the postal department of the country.

The Pamir Plateau in Central Asia, commonly known as "the roof of the world," has gained considerable notoriety of late owing to the activity of Russia in those parts, and the report that she was about, with the consent of China, to annex this lofty region to her dominions. Pamir is about 15,000 feet above sea level, and is not, from all accounts, a very desirable addition to any realm. It lies between Russian and Chinese Turkistan, and its southern extremity is practically speaking within sight of Kashmir, a native state of India, virtually under British control. Russia never seems to tire in her efforts to find outlets to the sea, and there is every likelihood that this is one of them. Britain views all such moves with suspicion, and the Government of India, as we have before pointed out, is ever on the alert to checkmate the "rugged Russian Bear." It is not necessary to adopt

the idea that the annexation of Pamir by Russia would endanger British influence in the north of India, and indeed the very opposite view is held in some quarters. If China were to consent to the move it is not irrational to suppose that the closing up of the boundaries of India, Russia and China would be productive of a mutual understanding, whereas at present the Pamir Plateau is under tribal domination and may at any time become a base of contention. Although the distance from the plateau to the Hindoo Khoosh range is comparatively short, and alarmists may think that Russian troops would have an easy time descending into Afghanistan and Kashmir, the difficulties of such a route are immense and would not be lightly undertaken. While Russia is so crippled by famine it is hard to understand how she could make any move of importance—perhaps involving war with England—but she has well learned the value of short, sharp and if possible, decisive blows, and the Indian Government does well to watch her sharply. The extension of railways in India is doing much towards spreading British influence and power, and we scarcely need fear for our great Eastern Empire.

Whatever view may be taken of Emperor William's extraordinary actions, that young monarch will be sure to win the admiration of all temperance workers for his strenuous efforts to rid Germany of the curse of drunkenness. There can be no doubt that notwithstanding his arrogance and autocracy, he has a sincere desire for the welfare of his people, but the means he adopts for promoting their good are not likely to commend themselves very widely. The bill which the Emperor has had prepared, and which was submitted to the Reichstag last week, has many severe clauses, which appear to us too drastic ever to become law. Just think of the power which would be in the hands of officers who would be commissioned to prosecute all persons denounced to them as habitual drunkards, and to cause them to be imprisoned until they shall have obtained a medical certificate stating that they have been cured of the liquor habit. In this country we have an idea, which may be erroneous, that there are a large number of beer-guzzling fellows in Germany, and if the Emperor's measures are carried out to the letter, that German jails will soon experience an unprecedented rush of business. We are of the opinion that it is of no use to try to make people good by act of parliament, but should this measure be passed we, with all the world, will look anxiously to see the result.

Great Britain and her colonies are mourning the deaths of two distinguished men, Prince Albert Victor, Duke of Clarence, and Cardinal Manning, the young Prince of the State and the aged Prince of the Church, who passed away on Thursday morning of last week. For some days we had been aware of the illness of the Duke of Clarence, but it was not until the end was near that the general public was given to understand that the worst was feared. The greatest sympathy will be felt by all classes for Princess Mary of Teck, who was to have been married to the Duke on the 27th of February. It is only a short time since the news of this engagement was joyously told, and the preparations for the glad event were progressing most rapidly. Not only does the bereaved Princess lose her lover, but she loses also the prospect of occupying the throne of Britain, where it was prophesied she would prove a shining example as an English Queen. Our heartfelt sympathy is with Her Majesty in the loss of her favorite grandson and heir; and with the Prince and Princess of Wales in their sorrow for their eldest son, and with all the Royal family who mourn the early death of the Duke. In Halifax, although our love for our Queen makes us sorrow with her sorrow, we are glad that Prince George, whom many of us know, will come into the direct line of succession. He has always been the more popular of the two princes, and on that account will prove more acceptable as a successor to the throne than his brother.

The death occurred recently at New Haven, England, of a celebrated dog, who was known as "Help, the railway dog." He belonged to the Scotch collie breed, and was unusually sagacious—at least anyone who had ever tried begging for sweet charity's sake will think so when they are told that "Help" has collected upwards of \$5,000 for the orphans of railway men. This clever doggie bore a silver collar to which was appended a silver medal bearing the following inscription. "I am Help, the railway dog of England, and travelling agent for the orphans of railway men who are killed on duty. My office is at 55 Colebrook Row, London, where subscriptions will be thankfully received and duly acknowledged." "Help's" soft pleading eyes no doubt acted like magnets in drawing money from the pockets of passengers to whom he mutely appealed for aid. Thinking of dog friends one naturally turns to the St. Bernards, whose reputation for assisting travellers lost and snow-bound is world wide. These famous animals did not belong to the temperance guild, for it is a notorious fact that the only nourishment they conveyed to lost travellers was a flask of spirits; with this and their own animal heat they contrived to prevent the spark of life from leaving many a half-frozen form. The large dogs known as St. Bernards, now becoming fashionable and more common than formerly in this country, are said not to be the same as the famous canines of the monastery, but of this we cannot speak with certainty. At any rate they are fine dogs, and we would not like to offend the owners of any of them by insinuating that they are not what they seem. With regard to the philanthropy of "Help" and the St. Bernards, most people will agree that the former had even a more difficult task in getting money out of the pockets of travellers than the latter had in getting people out of the snow. Both, however, have done a good work, and their achievements will always hold a foremost place in dog annals.

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K. D. C. Acts Like Magic on the Stomach,

K. D. C. The Greatest Cure of the Age.
K. D. C. The Dyspeptic's Hope.

CHIT-CHAT AND CHUCKLES.

THE LAUREATE ON FOOTBALL.

The sunlight falls on stuffed footballs
And 'anguined 'evens fierce and gory;
The long light shakes o'er frauds and fakes,
And undergraduates howl for glory.

Kick, kicker, kick,
Send the big sphere a-flying,
Answer cripples
Dying, dying, dying.

—New York Herald.

UNANSWERABLE.—First Politician: "My dear sir, international arbitration is all humbug. Why, if you do away with war, how are you going to keep down the surplus population?"—Second Ditto: "Why, we've got foot-ball."

Wool—A friend of mine recently wrote a poem for a magazine with one hand and thumped the piano with the other, to amuse the baby.

Van Pelt—What was the poem about?

Wool—Nothing; didn't I say it was for a magazine?

THE WEALTH OF THE CITY.—Few people probably are aware of that which in the eyes of many citizens constitutes sufficient reason why the City of London—the "one square mile," as it is sometimes disparagingly termed—should retain its municipal government and privileges. The profits assessed to income tax under Schedule D amounted in 1889-90, for the City alone, to upwards of £70,000,000, the rest of the County of Middlesex reaching £41,000,000, and wealthy Lancashire coming in a bad third with something under £33,000,000. These three far exceed the rest of England and Wales all put together.

Joaquin Miller, the "poet of the Sierras, has three children—George Golden, Harold and Maud. Of these George is a rancher, Harold is accused of being a stage robber, and Maud, now the wife of Loudon McCormick, is an actress. Maud's story is a sad one. During the entire extent of her theatrical career she has been poor, frequently painfully so. While strolling with her husband with their company she gave birth to a girl baby at Hiawatha, Kan. She was compelled to go on the stage the following night, and was attacked by a fit of illness that nearly resulted in her death. The poet's real name is Cincinnati Hyner, but when, in 1854, he went to live among the Modocs he adopted the name by which he is now known.

WHAT'S IN A NAME.—A lady belonging to a community called the "Sisters of St. John the Baptist" in New York city, was spending a month not long since in one of our backwoods districts. Going to the post-office shortly after her arrival, she asked if any letter had come for Sister Bernardine. The rural postmaster looked bewildered for a moment:

"Sister who?" he asked.

"Sister Bernardine," repeated the lady—"a Sister of St. John the Baptist."

"Well, I should rather think not," replied the man with an uproarious laugh.

"I guess he's been dead pretty near a hundred years ago."

BYRON AS A CRITIC.—One of the treasures of the George W. Childs collection of books and manuscripts presented to the Drexel Institute is a splendid set of Byron's works, in the front of one of which the poet himself pasted a copy of Wordsworth's poem, "Peter Bell," beginning:

"There's something in a flying horse,
And something in a huge balloon."

On the margin of which Byron wrote the following:

EPILOGUE.

There's something in a stupid ass,
And something in a heavy dunce;
But never since I went to school
I heard or saw so damned a fool
As William Wordsworth is for once.

And now I've seen so great a fool
As William Wordsworth is for once,
I really wish that Peter Bell,
And he who wrote it, were in hell
For writing nonsense for the nonce.

I saw the "light in ninety-eight,"
Sweet babe of one-and-twenty years!
And then he gives it to the nation
And deems himself of Shakespeare's peers.

He gives the perfect work to light!
Will Wordsworth, if I might advise,
Content you with the praise you get
From Sir George Beaumont, Baronet,
And with your place in the Excise!

—Philadelphia Record.

HOME WITHOUT A MOTHER.

The room's in disorder,
The cat's on the table,
The flower-stand upset, and the mischief to pay;
And Johnny is screaming
As loud as he's able,
For nothing goes right when mamma's away.

What a scene of discomfort and confusion home would be if mamma did not return. If your wife is slowly breaking down, from a combination of domestic cares and female disorders, make it your first business to restore her health. Dr. Pierce's Favorite Prescription is without a peer as a remedy for feeble and debilitated women, and is the only medicine for the class of maladies known as female diseases which is sold under a positive guarantee from the manufacturers that it will give satisfaction, or the money will be refunded. It is a positive cure for the most complicated cases of womb trouble.

EXCELLENCE.



RHEUMATISM.—Mr. WM. HOWES, 63 Red Lion St., High Holborn, W. C., London, Eng., states he had rheumatism 20 years; suffered intensely from swelling of hands, feet and joints. He used St. Jacobs Oil with marvelous results. Before the second bottle was exhausted the pain left him. He is cured.

NEURALGIA.—Mrs. JOHN McLEAN, Barrie Island, Ont., March 4, 1889, says: "I suffered severely with neuralgia for 1200 years and have been greatly benefited by the use of St. Jacobs Oil."

SCIATICA.—Grenada, Kans., F. S. A., Aug. 8, 1888. "I suffered eight years with sciatica, used five bottles of St. Jacobs Oil and was permanently cured."
JACOB L. SMITH.

STRAIN.—Mr. M. PRIDE, 11 Tabernacle Square, F. C., London, Eng., says: "I strained my wrist and the severe pain yielded like magic to St. Jacobs Oil."

LAMEBACK.—Mrs. J. RINGLAND, Kincaid St., Braxside, Ont., writes: "I was confined to bed by severe lameness. A part of a bottle of St. Jacobs Oil enabled me to go about in a day."



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NEWS OF THE WEEK.

Subscribers remitting Money either direct to the office, or through Agents, will find a receipt for the amount included in their next paper. All remittances should be made payable to A. Milne Fraser.

Mr. Chapleau is ill.

The new Royal Commission in Quebec is at work.

James McShane was re-elected mayor of Montreal on Wednesday.

Lord Wolseley's name is mentioned as the next Governor-General for Canada.

McLennan, Conservative, was elected in Glengarry by a majority of 374 votes.

There has been an unusual number of fires in Halifax since the new year came in.

Joseph Gillies, Conservative, and E. P. Flynn, Liberal, have been nominated in Richmond County.

Manitoba has been experiencing very severe weather. The mercury has gone as low as 30 degrees below.

It is stated that Mr. Chapleau will definitely leave the cabinet immediately after the Quebec elections.

The Canadian Express Company's business, it is stated, will be taken over by the Grand Trunk Railway.

Mr. E. C. Bowers has been nominated by the Liberals, and Mr. Herbert Jones by the Conservatives in Digby.

It is reported that Rev. Dr. Burns is about to resign the pastorate of Fort Massey Church on account of ill-health.

It is reported that Edward Campbell, a pedler, has eloped with the wife of Matthew Raymond of Gullivir's Cove, Digby.

The woman Lavinia Lindsay, charged with shooting Robert Longdon in St. John some time ago, has been adjudged guilty of manslaughter.

The post office at Ottawa was badly damaged by fire on Sunday. No mails were destroyed, although some letters and papers were damaged.

John A. McDonald and Hon. William Ross, were nominated by the Conservatives and Liberals respectively in Victoria, C. B., on Tuesday.

The Bishop of Toronto leaves for England next week and hopes to induce the Archbishop of Canterbury to visit Canada in September when the Synod meets in Toronto.

This has been the most extraordinary winter on record. There was a regatta held on Charlottetown harbor on the 17th—a most unprecedented occurrence in the winter.

It is understood that only one tender for the Atlantic Service has been received by the government and that was from the Allans. It will receive the early attention of the council.

Since the middle of October three quarters of a million bushels of grain have been carried over the Intercolonial and a quarter of a million is yet to come before the season closes.

The Conservative meeting at the Academy of Music on Saturday night was largely attended. The speeches of the evening were made by Sir John Thompson, Mr. Kenny and Mr. Stairs.

It is reported that H. F. Donkin is to succeed J. J. Wallace as district Superintendent of the I. C. R. between Halifax and St. John. Mr. Wallace will succeed Geo. Taylor as General Freight Agent.

The election in Queens takes place Feb. 5th, with J. N. Freeman returning officer. The election in Peel will be Feb. 4th. The date of the Halifax election has been fixed for Feb. 11th instead of as before announced.

The Earle Publishing House of St. John, N. B., have issued the Life of Charles S. Parnell, which will be read with interest by all who desire to become familiar with the career of the "Uncrowned King." For sale by agents.

Commissioner Saunders left Ottawa on Tuesday for Chicago to make preliminary arrangements for Canada's exhibit at the world's fair. He estimates that Canada will require 100,000 feet of space, 20,000 being required for the Agricultural exhibit alone.

Among the victims of gripe at Ottawa are the Dowager Countess of Cavan, who died at her son's residence here on Monday; and Mrs. Crawford, principal of the Coligny ladies college, who during the past three years has successfully built up one of the best institutions of its kind in Canada.

Sir Adolph Caron, who has just returned to his office after a severe attack of grip, gives an emphatic denial to Tarte's slander that he received \$15,000 of harbor commission boodle. He says he never received a dollar either directly or indirectly, and courts the fullest investigation in the matter.

The annual championship skating games of the Maritime Provinces Athletic Association will take place at the Victoria Rink, St. John, N. B., on Wednesday evening, February 17th, at eight o'clock. Those desiring information should apply to J. F. Maher, Secretary skating committee, P. O. box 352, St. John, N. B.

The Newfoundland census returns have been completed. They show the population of Newfoundland and Labrador to be 202,000, an increase in the last seven years of only 4,100, or at the rate of 2½ per cent. This showing is a great disappointment. The last census, in 1884, showed an increase of 22½ per cent. for the decade ending with that year. Emigration is the main cause of the decline. The population of St. John's decreased by more than 2,000 in the last seven years.

County Stipendiary Griffin has been engaged all this week with the preliminary examination of Frederick Renault, charged with wrecking the Dartmouth train. The evidence has been strong against the prisoner. A decision was given yesterday, but we were unable to learn it in time for press this week.

Speaker White is in Ottawa making arrangements for the session. The bar in connection with the commons restaurant will be abolished and two restaurants provided, one of which shall be for members of the commons exclusively. Even the press representatives will hereafter refresh themselves in the second, or pilgrim's hall.

Four men, William Boutilier, Stephen Tobin, Joseph Moles and John White, all of Halifax, charged with burglarizing Evan Thompson's store at Elmsdale, were under examination at Windsor on Monday—Moles turned Queen's evidence. The three others have been committed for trial at the next sitting of the Supreme Court and Moles is held as Crown witness.

The reception held at the Church of England Institute by the congregation of St. Stephen's church to welcome the Rev. Mr. Webster, who has lately taken charge of the parish, passed off very pleasantly. After an enjoyable programme of vocal and instrumental music had been carried out the company partook of refreshments provided by the ladies auxiliary of the Institute.

We take it for granted that our readers would not be pleased were we to fill THE CRITIC with political stuff, but we will endeavor to give all news of events transpiring in the political world in as brief a form as possible. The by-elections in Nova Scotia, are of course, exciting much interest, especially that in our own county, but we shall content ourselves with merely giving the more important facts in connection therewith.

Messrs. Dick, Ridout & Co., of Toronto, makers and printers of cotton and jute bags, have sent us two most useful paper weights, which combine a good "ad" for themselves and a benefit to us. They are small bags of sateen filled with sand and stuck full of pins; an admirable idea for editors and others who need pins to keep the leaves of "copy" together. Messrs. Dick, Ridout & Co. have our thanks for their courtesy.

The entertainment which was to have been given last evening at the Church of England Institute has been postponed until later in the season in order that more extensive preparations may be made. The programme arranged for the occasion consisted of a presentation of Mrs. Jarley's wax works, which will probably prove all the more enjoyable on account of the efforts being made to render the exhibition of these wonderful figures more complete.

Among our exchanges we notice with pleasure the *Canada Lumberman*, which comes to us very much improved since 1891. This is another proof of the extensive development of newspaper culture in the Dominion of Canada. We are not critics of the lumber trade, but as casual observers of what is going on we should say that the *Canada Lumberman* fills the bill in this particular branch of the trade, and should be on the desk of every wood worker in Canada.

Our Monthly is the title of a journal devoted to the interests of life and accident assurance, of which we have just received No. 1 of vol. 2. The cover bears a portrait of Mr. J. B. Paton, managing agent of the Manufacturers Life and Accident Insurance Companies for the Maritime Provinces, and a column of reading matter is also devoted to a sketch of his life. The paper is full of interesting matter for members of the insurance business. It comes from that city of newspapers and Sandy rest—Toronto.

A fire on Saturday night removed the ancient and unsightly wooden building on South Brunswick street known of late years as the "Salvation Army Barracks." This is fortunate in that its destruction makes room for the erection on that site of a better building, more durable and more in concurrence with modern ideas and tastes. It is a pity that more of the unsightly and delapidated houses on that and adjoining streets are not destroyed, as those streets could and should be among the handsomest and best in the city, and their proximity to the business centre and to public offices and institutions would speedily make them popular, fashionable and valuable. South Brunswick street is improving and has done so for the past twenty years or more, but the progress is very slow.

Mr. Blaine is again ill.

Matters are not yet settled between the United States and Chili. The United States is concentrating her naval forces at Valparaiso.

The President of the United States is engaged preparing a proclamation of retaliation against those countries which have refused to enter into reciprocal trade relations with the U. S. This action is based on section three of the McKinley Tariff Act.

A terrible accident occurred on the Northern Pacific Railway at Jonesville, Minn., on Saturday. A broken rail was struck while the train was running at full speed. A sleeper was dashed down the embankment and immediately took fire from the lamps. The Andrews Opera Company was on board and ten ladies of the troupe were burnt to death. Twenty passengers were more or less injured.

A sensation was created in industrial circles by the announcement that the Riverside Iron and Steel Company will retire at once from the manufacture of nails. The Riverside was the largest cut nail producing factory in the world, and was the strongest concern in the cut nail organization. It was driven out of the business by the wire nail competition. Cut nail makers here generally agree that the end of their cut nail industry is not far off.

"Line upon line, and precept upon precept." We repeat what we have said before, that Futtner's Emulsion is invaluable for Coughs, Weak Lungs, and General Debility.

Rider Haggard's admirers will be glad to learn that his new story "Nada the Lily" is coming out in the *Illustrated News*. The first instalment appeared on January 16th. It is to be illustrated by R. Caton Woodville. 10 cts. a copy; \$5.00 a year, New York Building, City Hall Park, New York.

Inspired with the idea that his act would give him everlasting life, James Mullin, while demented, forced down his throat the rosary which he wore around his neck. To accomplish this he used a ten inch long stick, which went down also. The brass rod caught in his throat and this probably saved the madman's life. When the police arrived Mullin was black in the face. Vigorous thumping caused the ejection of the rosary, which was two feet long and contained 50 beads.

Carmencita was placed in an awkward dilemma while dancing at the Worcester theatre a few nights ago. She was pirouetting as a sort of finale when, to the unutterable horror of the ladies in the audience and the undisguised merriment of the men, a white petticoat, with frills and flounces, and things all round it, began to drop beneath Carmencita's voluminous skirts. The fascinating Spaniard, all unconscious of the tragedy that was being enacted under her skirts, danced gayly on, and it was only when she gave the last final whirl that she found her feet entangled. She cast a quick glance toward the encumbrance. There lay the white petticoat, with the frills and flounces and things a silent but terrible witness to the demoralizing effect of a hasty or careless toilet. Carmencita was covered with confusion for an instant, then she burst into a hearty fit of laughter, kissed her hands vehemently to the audience and hurried off the stage. The audience appeared to find the adventure of the petticoat the most delightful part of the entertainment.

Lippincott's Magazine for January contains a complete story by Young E. Allison entitled "The Passing of Major Kilgore," an absorbing tale, written in a forceful and telling style; it will be appreciated by all readers of this excellent monthly. "The Editor-in-chief," with portrait, by Col. Alex. K. McClure, will be found very interesting reading by all who have a journalistic bent in their nature; "The Dulini of Politeness" is a timely article, which should do somewhat towards checking the tendency of the time towards careless manners. Amelia E. Barr can give a good many hints on this subject. She ends her article with the following pointed verse:

"Love's perfect blossom only blows
Where noble manners veil defect:
Angels may be familiar; those
Who err, each other must respect."

There are a number of other articles, all of interest and up to the past standard of this periodical. Books of the month are well treated, and Current Notes prove most interesting. The poems in this number are exceedingly pretty, the two stanzas "At Dawn" and "On a Blind Girl" being more than usually attractive. The portraits of Agnes Huntington and Sidney Wollett are especially fine, Miss Huntington has risen to a high place in the song-world, and her admirers will not be sorry to have an opportunity to improve their knowledge of this brilliant and beautiful American girl. *Lippincott's* is only \$3.00 a year, single numbers 25 cents; it has been before the reading public for twenty-five years, and the popular feature of publishing a complete story in every number has been a great success. The prospectus for 1892 is full of good things including the journalists' series, athletics, stories by first-class writers, articles by leading actors and others too numerous to mention. We will be happy to receive subscriptions at this office, and anyone sending us \$3.00 with name and address will receive the magazine for one year.

The Portuguese Ministry resigned on the 14th.

The Queen is said to be ill and much anxiety is felt in consequence.

Sir Charles Tupper, Canadian High Commissioner, is ill with La Grippe.

Sir Henry Drummond Wolff has been appointed British ambassador to Madrid.

The funeral of the late Cardinal Manning is to be held at Brompton Cemetery to-day.

The Egyptian doctors are disputing as to who is to take the responsibility of the late Khedive's death.

The Princess of Wales and Princess Mary are prostrated with grief over the death of Prince Albert Victor.

The anarchists arrested at Walsall have been remanded until the police secure further evidence of a plot in which they were concerned.

The greatest sympathy with the Royal family is expressed by all classes of people. Telegrams of condolence have been despatched from the Empire.

The Sultan of Morocco has summoned to his presence the Governor of Tangier, with a view to conceding the demands of the insurgents for the deposition of that official.

The young Khedive of Egypt has arrived at Alexandria, and was met by the principal civil and military officers. Great enthusiasm was manifested.

At India's national congress which opened at Magpur on December 29th. The chairman spoke in the very highest terms of British rule in India.

The marriage of Rudyard Kipling, the author, to Miss Carolyn Balestier is announced. The event took place in All Souls Church, Portland Place, on Sunday.

Cardinal Manning and Cardinal Simeoni, both died on Thursday of last week. The Pope, when informed of these sad events exclaimed: "I feel my hour also is approaching."

A good deal of talk about the succession is being indulged in. The possibility of the crown going to the Duchess of Fife and her daughter does not please some people.

A despatch from Sebastopol says within a fortnight two divisions of infantry have been sent to the Austro-Russian frontier and that since August nearly 90,000 men have been missed there.

Mr. Henrick Heaton expects that Mr. Goschen will make the last year of his occupancy of the office of Chancellor of the Exchequer famous by effecting an imperial penny postage—the pet scheme of Mr. Heaton.

Advices from Pahang, capital of the state of that name on the Malay peninsula, show the rising among the natives, began in that state on Dec. the 24th last, has become general. The British resident and the sultan, with a strong force of Malays, has gone to suppress the revolt. The trouble is attributed to local hostility to the sultan.

The season is the most sickly that London has seen in several years. The mortality of the past week shows a record that, if continued throughout the year, would make the annual rate 42.2 per thousand as against a ratio of 38.1 the previous week. The principal cause of this great increase is shown by the fact that deaths caused by diseases of the respiratory organs have trebled in number. The medical fraternity ascribe this mainly to the heavy fogs which have afflicted England and especially London, to a greater degree than usual. The recent dense fog was followed by a marked and immense increase in complaints affecting the bronchial tubes and the lungs, with a great increase also in the average mortality from the diseases.

The funeral of the Duke of Clarence and Avondale took place on Wednesday. The body was conveyed from the parish church at Sandringham to Windsor without trans-shipping at London. All the ceremonies were of the most solemn and impressive nature. The funeral services at St. George's Chapel were conducted by the Dean of Windsor, assisted by the Bishop of Rochester. The Prince of Wales, Prince George of Wales and the Duke of Fife led the mourners; next came the Duke of Edinburgh, the Duke of Connaught, Prince Christian, Prince Henry of Battenburg and the Marquis of Lorne. After these followed the representatives of the Royal houses of Europe. The Princesses drove to the chapel by a private road. On the coffin of the Duke was a splendid wreath from the Queen bearing on a ribbon the words "A mark of the tenderest affection and love from a devoted, loving and sorrowing grandmother."

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Through Tickets for sale at all Stations on Inter-colonial Railway
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 For further particulars apply to **H. L. CHIPMAN,** Noble's Wharf, Halifax, N. S. Or **RICHARDSON & BARNARD,** Agents, 20 Atlantic Avenue, Boston.

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25 " " 50	1,250 00
100 " " 25	2,500 00
200 " " 15	3,000 00
500 " " 10	5,000 00
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100 " " 25	2,500 00
100 " " 15	1,500 00
100 " " 10	1,000 00
500 " " 5	2,500 00
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NIGHT.

Come with thine unveiled worlds, O truth of night,
 Come with thy calm. Adown the shallow day,
 Whose splendors hid the vaster world away,
 I wandered on this little plot of light,
 A dreamer among dreamers. Veiled or bright,
 Whether the gold shower roused me or the gray,
 I strove and fretted at life's feverish play,
 And dreamed until the dream seemed infinite.

But now the gateway of the all unbars;
 The passions and the cares that beat so shrill,
 The giants of this petty world, disband;
 On the great threshold of the night I stand,
 Once more a soul self-cognizant and still,
 Among the wheeling multitude of stars.

- Archibald Lampman in Scribner

ANIMALS.

I think I could turn and live with animals, they are so placid and self contain'd;
 I stand and look at them long and long.
 They do not sweat and whine about their condition.
 They do not lie awake in the dark and weep for their sins,
 They do not make us sick discussing their duty to God,
 Not one is dissatisfied, not one is demented with the mania of owning things,
 Not one kneels to another nor to his kind that lived thousands of years ago,
 Not one is respectable or unhappy over the whole earth.

- Walt Whitman.

To the Editor Critic, Halifax.

Bridgewater, Jan. 13, 1891.

DEAR SIR,—We notice the following in the Bridgewater *Enterprise* of this date:—

"The Halifax *Critic* of the 8th inst. says: 'Bridgewater merchants report business in that progressive town better in 1891 than in 1890, with fair outlook ahead.'

If THE *CRITIC* refers to this town we would be very much pleased to learn the names of our merchants that report business better in 1891 than 1890. We are under the impression that THE *CRITIC* has been imposed upon, unless it refers to Bridgewater in some other part of the world. It is not our purpose to decry our beautiful town, but in all justice to ourselves as well as our enterprising people it would be very unwise to hug any false delusion. From our acquaintance with the trade of this town we are in a position to say that the business has not been better in 1891 than in 1890, and we regret very much that the facts of the case do not bear us out in confirming the statements made by THE *CRITIC*."

I submit to you the following facts gleaned from our principal merchants. The cash business of Bridgewater was much better during the year 1891 than 1890. Business is dull, true, but it is much better than the year 1890. Business is on a much firmer basis at present, owing largely to the operation of the new debtor's law prohibiting imprisonment for debt. Merchants do not let as much goods go out on credit with a possibility of losing them as formerly, and the result is more cash sales and a more substantial business outlook. Mr. J. L. Oxner, a prominent merchant and the proprietor of the *Enterprise*, told several persons that his cash business for 1891 was ahead of 1890, and now for the paltry excuse of having a shot at the N. P., he decrys his town and the place that gives him his bread and butter. The N. P. is responsible for enough without laying to its door charges that cannot be substantiated. You may therefore, Mr. Editor, repeat the statement that Bridgewater merchants report business better in 1891 than in 1890, and quote the proprietor of the *Enterprise* for your authority.

Yours, &c.,

A BRIDGEWATER BUSINESS MAN.

THE STORY OF A TEA GOWN.

He seemed satisfied with himself and at peace with all the world when he sat down to dinner.
 "Been shopping to-day?" he asked.
 His wife nodded.
 "I had nothing else to do," she said.
 "Did you see anything you wanted?" he said.
 She nodded again.
 "I saw a handsome tea gown," she said.
 "Have a bill sent to me," he said promptly. "My wife can have anything I can give her."
 "Really?" she asked, but there was little animation in her tone.
 "Of course," he replied. "Have I ever been niggardly?"
 She shook her head.
 "You've always been kind to me," she said, "but—"
 "But what?" he asked. "Haven't I been generous ever since my business prospered?"
 "Yes," she replied.
 "Haven't I given you everything that you wanted that money could buy?"
 "You haven't stinted me in anything," she returned.
 "And haven't I worked hard to make the money?"
 "Yes," she said, "you've worked very hard. Are you going to the office to night?"
 "Yes, I've got a little business that I must finish up. I guess that I'll make enough to pay for that tea gown."
 "I'll go without the tea gown, Harry," she said, quickly.
 He laid down his knife and fork and looked at her in surprise.
 "Why, Jessie!" he exclaimed. "You can have it just as well as not."
 She suddenly pushed aside her plate and asked:

"Why did I marry you, Harry?"
 "Why, I suppose, because—"
 "I had a good home," she interrupted.
 "Yes, of course."
 "And my father was well off."
 "Yes." He was plainly surprised.
 "And what have you given me?" she asked, looking at him earnestly.
 Then, before he could reply, she answered her own question: "A home and money, Harry, an! O, such a home—some evening! You seem to think—" She hesitated and added: "I don't want the gown; really, I don't. I'd rather—"

He went over to her and kissed her, and, as she put her arms around his neck, said:

"I'm not going to the office to-night. I never thought, you know—you got that tea gown, anyway! That settles that!"—*From the Chicago Tribune.*

"LOVE LETTERS."

Many of you, perhaps, know all about them; but the little book with the above title is deserving of more than ordinary attention from lovers of poetry. It is late in the day (the "Love Letters" of a Violinist made its first appearance in 1885) to discuss its merits, and point out a few of its beauties, for the author has long been crowned with bays, and the critics have had nothing but praise for him. We have an idea, however, that there are many people in this city and province, (and perhaps among our readers in distant parts also), who have not heard of Eric MacKay, the Violinist, and will feel grateful for being put in the way of finding him out. The "Love Letters" originally appeared as a quaint, vellum-bound, antique-looking, altogether espiivating volume, issued from the "Leadenhale Press" of Messrs. Field & Luer, and the volume now before us is one of the "Canterbury Poets" published by Walter Scott, London. Besides the twelve love letters, each consisting of twenty stanzas, there are a number of other poems and sonnets and an introduction which is charmingly written and serves to arouse the interest at first sight. From it we learn that not a few literary journals, while yet the identity of the author was wrapped in mystery, bestowed the highest and yet not extravagant praise upon the book. Here is what one of them in its delight at having something absolutely original and beautiful to review said of it:

"Behold a mystery—who shall uncase it? A small quarto, anonymous. The publisher professes entire ignorance of its origin. Wild guesses spring from the mask of a 'Violinist'—who can he be? *Unde derivatur?* A Tyro? The work is too skillful for such, though even a Byron. Young? Not old. The Laureate? No—he hath not the grace of style, at least for these verses. Browning? No—he could not unbend so far. Edwin Arnold might have been equal to it, witness, *uiter alia*, 'Violetta'; but he is unlikely."

So it continues, making guesses at other masters of the poetic lyre and rejecting them, until at last it hits upon Swinburne! We cannot but feel rejoiced that it made a mistake, for Swinburne, the master of words, whose seductive, smooth-flowing musical verse is full of passion of fire, is too sensual ever to have written the ennobling poems before us. No, we are glad that they come unswayed by allusions to the lower phases of love, and pure from the mind of a master who marked them with true delicacy. It was reserved for the New York *Independent* to disclose the name of the author, which it did in a simple and quiet statement which none the less was tinged with pride over having discovered such a marvel. This is an unusual instance of trans-Atlantic genius being first recognized and made known in America, for Mr. MacKay is an Englishman, and England is jealous of her literary supremacy. It is a wonder she allowed the "Violinist's" name to slip past her like this.

As power in repose is more impressive than at any other time, we find these poems peculiarly effective. We know their strength, and yet we clearly see that the writer was under control and that he could have broken into perfect poetic frenzy had he so chosen. Each letter gathers force as it proceeds until the two last stanzas are reached, when, so to speak, all the light threads of the previous verses are gathered together and twisted into a strong cord. In letter five, "Confessions," he concludes by stating his intention to be satisfied with no second-rate love.

I would not take thee from a lover's lips,
 Or from the rostrum of a roaring crowd,
 Or from the memory of a husband's shroud,
 Or from the goblet where a Cæsar sips,
 I would not touch thee with my finger tips,
 But I would die to serve thee,—and be proud.

And could I enter Heaven and find therein,
 In all the wide dominions of the air,
 No trace of thee among the natives there,
 I would not bide with them—No! not to win
 A Seraph's lyre—but I would sin a sin,
 And free my soul, and seek thee elsewhere!

The same principle of gathering the greatest strength at the end of the separate letters is carried out in the set, the last being the crown and completion of all—"Victory."

In the miscellaneous poems we cannot turn a page without finding gems in this treasure house. "The waking of the lark," which was said to have "sent a thrill through the heart of America" is doubtless familiar to many, but we will some day publish it, as well as others from the same volume in our corner set apart for poetical selections. Meanwhile, just to whet your appetite, here are some verses from "Beethoven at the piano:"

He had a Juliet in his youth, as Romeo had before him,
 And Romeo-like, he sought to die that she might then adore him;
 But she was weak, as women are whose faith has not been proven,
 And would not change her name for his—Guicciardi for Beethoven.

O minstrel whom a maiden spurned, but whom a world has treasured
 O sovereign of a grander realm than man has ever measured!
 Thou hast not lured the lips of love, but thou hast gained, in glory,
 The love of all who know the thrill of thine immortal story.

An Angel by direct descent, a German by alliance,
 Thou didst intone the wonder-chords which made De-pair a science.
 Yea, thou didst strike so grand a note that in its large vibration,
 It seemed the roaring of the sea in nature's jubilation.

O sire of song! Sonata-King! sublime and loving master;
 The sweetest soul that ever struck an octave in disaster;
 In thee were found the fires of thought—the splendours of endeavor,—
 And thou shalt sway the minds of men for ever and for ever!

INDUSTRIAL NOTES.

The following information from Mr. J. B. Snowball's Miramichi Wood Trade circular, for the year 1891, will doubtless be of interest to a large number of our readers.

Chatham, Miramichi, Dec. 31st, 1891.

The export of wood from this Province again shows a large falling off, being 29,000 St. Petersburg standards less than last year and 53,000 less than 1889. Every shipping port in the Province shows a marked decline in business, but the largest decrease is from Miramichi, where the export was 8000 St. Petersburg standards less than last year and less than half the export of 1883.

The export of spruce from Quebec, New Brunswick and Nova Scotia for this season was 199,806 St. Petersburg standards, against 256,217 last year, showing a falling off of 56,411 standards.

The stock wintering here is 11,000 St. Petersburg standards in merchantable deals, against 10,000 standards last year; and 2,000 in logs, against 5,000 standards last year. The stock at St. John is computed to be 6,000 St. Petersburg standards of deals &c. against 10,000 last year, and 2,500 standards in logs, against 14,000 last season. The stock at Nova Scotia ports is almost nil.

The winter operations in the forests are lighter than last year and to date we are without snow, and have had but little frost, but as both are fairly sure crops in this portion of Canada but little uneasiness is yet expressed on that account.

The stumpage tax levied by the Government of New Brunswick continues to be about double that charged on spruce by other provinces of Canada which compete with products of this province. The effect has been a gradual decline of the New Brunswick Spruce trade, and a corresponding increase up to last year of that of both Quebec and Nova Scotia. The output of the latter province under the stimulus of its cheap stumpage advantages, in competition with this province, has had an exhausting effect upon its limited timber areas, and the maximum of its capacity to produce spruce deals appears to have been reached in 1890, when its export to Europe was 99,512,924 sup feet against 69,159,000 sup. feet in 1884.

The Crown timber lands of New Brunswick are chiefly in its northern portion, where, owing to the high altitude and in many cases mountainous nature of the country, and consequent excessive depth of snow, coupled with long rocky and difficult streams to drive, make it both tedious and expensive to get logs to the mills.

The Crown Land Commission appointed last year under an act of the Legislature to make a thorough investigation of the whole subject of administration of New Brunswick Crown Lands, is still conducting its enquiries, and it is hoped these will result in the Government adopting a more broad and equitable stumpage policy, and that New Brunswick will be put on an equality with the neighboring provinces as regards the stumpage tax.

SHIPMENTS FROM NOVA SCOTIA.

PORTS.	No Vessels	Tons.	Sup. ft. deals etc.	Birch Timber.
Amherst (Pugwash, Tidnish, Northport)	28	20,379	15,262,000	
Gold River.....	1	631	570,687	
Halifax.....	52	31,326	25,505,676	570
Parrsboro ..	28	27,503	24,760,273	
Pictou.....	13	9,120	2,797,000	5,152
Sherbrooke (St. Mary's River).....	2	990	807,425	
Sheet Harbor.....	8	4,784	4,135,355	
Ship Harbor.....	2	1,647	1,404,253	
St. Margaret's Bay.....	7	3,838	3,361,073	
Total	141	100,218	78,603,742	5,722

The shipments of deals from Nova Scotia to trans-Atlantic Ports

For	1882	were	85,752,000
"	1883	"	77,918,000
"	1884	"	69,159,000
"	1885	"	79,647,765
"	1886	"	87,280,125
"	1887	"	82,959,589
"	1888	"	85,070,005
"	1889	"	92,605,488
"	1890	"	99,512,924
"	1891	"	78,603,742

J. VAN BUSKIRK, Bear River, N. S. writes:—I have great pleasure in testifying to the good effect which I have experienced from the use of K. D. C. I have suffered from dyspepsia in its worst form for over twenty years. Have consulted a number of physicians but could obtain no relief. Also, tried a number of patent medicines with same effect. After which I commenced to take K. D. C., and am happy to state I am almost perfectly well. I hope your great remedy may become universally known.

COMMERCIAL.

The week under consideration has developed no new features of interest regarding the general condition of trade. Business in all lines has been very quiet, principally on account of the continuance of mild weather which retards operations in every department.

The suspension of a long-established and somewhat prominent grocery firm was announced early in the week, but it is not publicly known as yet what the liabilities are nor the character of the assets. It is understood that efforts are being made to effect a compromise or extension, so that the business will be continued. Several heavy failures have lately occurred in leather in Montreal and Quebec, and that trade is very considerably demoralized there.

The extremely bad state of the roads makes travelling and transportation of goods all but impossible, so that but little money can be collected or realized, and remittances are, consequently, very unsatisfactory.

For the next few days or weeks that shall intervene before his time arrives for taking his annual inventory of stock and striking the usual balance sheet, it is the duty of every merchant to utilize the time in a vigorous effort to work off at almost any price as much a possible of the old, unsaleable stock that he has on hand. By doing so the task of making out the balance sheet will be lightened, and his statement will present a more satisfactory showing, while the cash received from this source will be in hand to expend in newer and more saleable goods.

Concerning the business situation the *Montreal Trade Bulletin* says:—"The signs of the times in the arena of trade and commerce are certainly not calculated to inspire one with confidence in the immediate future, judging from the number of failures that have recently taken place and the rumors of serious financial difficulties experienced by other concerns who, however, have managed to keep their heads above water so far. And yet the present time, according to general predictions last fall, was to have been one of unexampled prosperity, owing to the large crops reaped and housed throughout the country. It was wholly lost sight of, however, at the time that the crops of the three previous years had been comparative failures, leaving many farmers and storekeepers heavily in debt, so that in all probability it will take all the proceeds of this year's crop to pay off arrears, and it may require another good harvest before the flush times which have so long been predicted are realized. Of course farmers are still in possession of a good portion of last year's crop of cereals, and if they make up their minds to sell, there may be a commencement of the long looked for improvement in business during the coming spring; but the immediate future is by no means replete with encouragement. During the past year some of our city wholesale firms in various lines have lost heavily through bad debts. One wholesale dry goods firm which recently failed showed a surplus of \$45,000 a year ago, every cent of which has since been wiped out. Another insolvent firm lost \$10,000 during the past year, which goes to demonstrate the hard times we have been passing through and the losses sustained by others in the same lines of trade. The signs of the times are not as bright as we would like to see them, and caution should still be the watchword. Encouraged by the flush prospects of last fall, it is to be feared that many houses overstepped the bounds of prudence and increased their sales throughout the country, when it would have displayed greater wisdom had they done far less business."

WEEKLY FINANCIAL REVIEW OF HENRY CLEWS & Co., New York, JANUARY 16, 1892.—The past week in Wall street may be regarded as a sort of test period. It has scored a large advance in prices, and operators have sold quite heavily to realize profits. During the previous week also there had been considerable realizing, and the probability is that, during the two weeks, an important proportion of stocks held by the influential promoters of the boom passed into new hands. The way in which the market has acted may be regarded as a fair indication of the temper and strength of the situation; and the result of this test cannot be construed unfavorably. If the principal sellers have been the class of large holders, and if to their sales there has been added large "short" transactions by the room "bears"—which appears to have been the fact—it seems a fair inference that there is an increasingly important "outside" element in the market; and that conclusion is confirmed by the fact that, on the whole, prices have been firm under these liberal realizations. The market thus seems to have entered upon a phase in which it is less dependent than previously upon large manipulators who are anxious to realize, and more dependent upon a sanguine class of miscellaneous operators who have thought stocks worth buying at current prices, and are therefore disposed to hold them for a further rise. The course of transactions has therefore answered the question whether the rising movement is entirely due to the manipulation of capitalist holders, who after selling out would have the market broken and forsaken; and it is clear that the public at large are becoming an influential element on the exchange. If this conclusion be warranted by the facts, it is an important one; because it implies that the current speculative movement is a normal one, in the sense that it rests upon the public estimate of the value of securities, and that therefore it is not likely to suddenly collapse, with the result of a relapse in prices to their former lower level. This means a broader and more enduring market; but one subject to wider oscillations in prices, owing to the less sober temper of the class who are entering the arena.

So far, the present condition of the market may be considered a hopeful one. What are the probabilities as to its future course? In answering that question we shall aim to indicate what the tendency is, rather than the extent to which it may be expected to run. Something must depend upon the disposition of the commission houses, who can and do materially influence the volume of their customers' operations. For a long period the business of these houses has ranged much below its average amount; and it is therefore to be expected that they will encourage transactions up to the

limit of prudence rather than discourage them. They are the more likely to pursue that course, because the condition and prospects of the money market insure their ability to borrow upon average collaterals to any extent they may need. Another condition turns upon the ability of outsiders to provide the necessary margins—the most essential factor of all. The spirit and results of the trade of 1891 may seem to discourage the supposition that there is much surplus earnings brought over from last year available for this purpose; and there is no doubt some truth in this, but it is necessary to keep in mind the very rapid growth of business in this country, so that although last year's rate of profit may have been lower than the average, yet it is quite possible that the actual sum may even exceed that of past periods when the transactions at the stock exchange largely exceeded their now current volume. So far as the experience of the past two weeks of the new year goes, it does not suggest any lack of means on the part of outside operators; and we incline to think that if a strong speculative feeling should arise no inability of that kind will check it. So far as the intrinsic merits of stock may affect the future, there is but one possible inference. The crops have already settled that question. The largely increased earnings and the improving dividends of the last three months are but the beginning of a year of railroad traffic surpassing all precedent. The augmented business of the roads is an indication of what may be expected in the various industries, and especially those most dependent upon agriculture, so that as the year progresses the means available for investment and speculation will steadily increase. The liquidation of farmers' loans, which will increase as the season advances, will release large amounts of capital; much of which must find its way to Wall Street, either for permanent investment or for transient speculation.

Bradstreet's report of the week's failures:—

	Jan. 15. week.		Jan. 15.—				1892	1891	1890	1889
	Week	Previous	1891	1890	1889	Weeks corresponding to				
United States	379	339	355	353	358	713	903	1018	981	
Canada	51	46	51	36	47	57	120	110	97	

DRY GOODS.—Locally business in all kinds of dry goods is quiet to the verge of dullness. However, there is likely to be a big advance in the price of cotton goods very soon in spite of the general depression of business in this line. The Dominion Colton Mills Co. (or combine) has at last succeeded in securing the control of very nearly every cotton mill in the country, having recently acquired the Canada and Ontario Companies' mills. As they have, in some instances paid pretty long prices for the mills, and will probably have to keep part of the machinery idle to prevent overloading the market, they will have to make the production of the balance pay for the whole. It is therefore probably that an advance of 10 to 15 per cent. in cotton goods will be made within a fortnight or so. Travellers now on the road are meeting with small success in obtaining orders. Retailers are carrying over Christmas and winter stocks and do not care to purchase any more goods while trade is as quiet as it is at present.

IRON, HARDWARE AND METALS.—Business is very quiet both here and in England. Prices in all descriptions remain nominally the same as last week, but if there should be any prospect of accomplishing sales there can be no doubt that figures would be considerably shaded.

BREADSTUFFS.—The local flour market does not show any change, business ruling quiet. Beerbohm's cable reports wheat and corn *nil*, though there is rather more enquiry for the latter than there was last week. Prices are, however, nominally unchanged. French country markets are mostly a turn cheaper. The Liverpool public cable says:—"Wheat steady; demand poor; holders offer moderately. Corn steady; fair demand." In Chicago wheat has been very irregular and has constantly fluctuated, but within very narrow limits. An Associated Press cable from Odessa, predicting that Russia would early in April withdraw its edict prohibiting the export of grain, was chiefly responsible for the easing off of prices in the early part of the week, but as subsequent advices did not confirm the prediction, the market returned to its former tone. Corn was quiet and mostly followed the fluctuations of wheat. In New York, St. Louis, Toledo, Milwaukee and Duluth wheat and corn have both been dull and weak.

PROVISIONS.—The local provision market continues to be extremely dull. Buyers are still holding off in anticipation of lower prices, and while our quotations are unchanged, business could no doubt be done at lower figures. At Liverpool, G. B., provisions have been steady at unaltered prices. In Chicago provisions have ruled dull and weak, pork falling off 5c. to 10c. Heavy hogs have been steady there, but other grades were weak. That market was steady for good cattle, but slow on others. The sheep market was steady.

BUTTER.—There has been no change in the local market as regards butter. All grades are in small supply, but prices do not advance as would ordinarily be the case, because the warmth of the season greatly retards consumption. Small lots of good Canadian continue to come down here and are absorbed by this market, but if receipts should materially increase, the demand could not keep pace and the result would be a glut. A Montreal report says: "Butter moves along quietly. There is a chance for business for shipment in creamery and townships dairy, but values are too high. The fact is, supplies of both these grades are in such compass now that holders can afford to ignore the export demand, as the bulk of it will be wanted on home account, in which connection better figures are obtainable. The same remarks apply in a minor degree to western dairy." A London letter says: "Above all the markets, that for butter is decidedly firm, with buyers anxious and sellers confident, though the volume of business is extremely limited. Next week will see things a little more lively, and though everything seems right up to the highest possible level, there is a feeling in the trade that we may go higher yet, if present conditions prevail. Denmark and France are the best friends of New Zealand and Australia, and indeed, of every other butter producing country. High rates for Danish are asked, which buyers

here fail to see the necessity of paying, and the business done in them in London at the extreme rates asked—140s. to 144s. for choicest dairies—in ridiculously small. In the northern markets, however, where the Danish boom is hard to break, all that comes is got rid of at the big quotations. Like unaccountable prices are being paid on the French markets—120s. to 143s., but though Normandys are very scarce here buyers are not inclined to go any further and little trade is done. Some shippers are losing heavily in consequence, but others are consigning sophisticated stuff, and find their dishonesty and our blindness combine to make the practice pleasant and profitable. Meanwhile the attention of buyers is concentrated on Americans and Australians, the latter being nearly all sold forward at rattling good prices, so that there is little on landing to be disposed of. Nearly fourteen thousand packages have been gobbled up this week, and large bookings are reported for next at prices ranging from 108s. to 128s. American and Canadian are scarce, and realize full recent prices. This scarcity all round has resulted in a considerable appreciation of the values of substitutes, and all oils are up, holders exhibiting considerable firmness and standing out for advanced rates. Some comparative prices may be interesting as showing the unusual state of the market. As compared with the last week of 1891, English is up about 9s. per cwt, Brittany 10s., Ostend 10s., Irish 6s. to 8s. Jersey 2s. to 8s., Friesland 8s., Danish 28s., Finnish 6s., American 8s. to 12s., Australian 2s. to 13s., New Zealand 10s. to 20s."

CHEESE.—The supply of cheese in this market is quite ample but, the demand being exceedingly slow and small, business is very dull. Enquiry is limited to actual consumptive wants. In Montreal cheese continues firm and holders are not in a humor to concede even the slightest fraction. Strictly finest white fall goods are very scarce on spot and it is claimed that 10,000 boxes is an outside estimate for the spot stock. The regular asking price is now 11½c. and some holders run up to 11½c. Some 1,000 boxes were moved one day last week from the hands of the largest holder at within these quotations. The Liverpool cable advanced 6d. on the 14th instant to 55s. 6d., but this is no criterion. It has to advance another sixpence yet to be equivalent to the spot basis. In London cheese has been quiet and inactive, as it generally is with the turn of the year: but holders are firm and though prices are about the same as when I last quoted them, holders look for better values when business is resumed in earnest. It is worth while noting, however, that the amount in stocks is much larger now than at this time last year."

Eggs continue to be in large supply and prices are weak as the demand is not active. In London eggs are quite a trade, but no change in prices is to be noted, the close of the week showing a clearance of stock. Some Canadians have come forward here, and have been disposed of at 8s. to 8s. 6d, pickles 7s. per 120. In Manchester, where the trade is picking up wonderfully well, Canadians have been going slowly at 9s. to 9s. 8d., and at Glasgow, which is good for eggs just now, up to 9s. has been realized. In Liverpool heavy arrivals have rather depressed values, but fairly good prices have been made—Limed at 6s. to 7s, fresh 8s. to 8s. 6d. and best fresh 9s. 6d.

APPLES.—The local market is steady and the supply ample. Shipments to England and Europe continue large, and returns so far have been quite satisfactory and the future promises well. A London letter says: "The fruit trade has been very quiet after the active sales at the end of the year, but auctions this week have come out well, and the Canadians and Nova Scotians sold have realized fair prices."

DRIED FRUIT—Valencia raisins are purchasable at the easy prices to which they dropped in late December. They are very quiet, being now left almost absolutely alone. Malaga fruit is about out of stock. Currants are also very quiet.

TEA—The demand for tea from retailers to wholesale dealers continues very quiet, but, on the other hand, wholesalers are buying rather more freely, and it is said that several lots have changed hands lately. The New York market is stronger and Japans have advanced there. Local prices are unchanged.

COFFEE—Business continues in pretty much the same condition as it was, prices being firmly held, especially for mild coffees. The quantity on our local market is reported to be small, and the few small lots that come forward are easily placed.

SUGAR AND MOLASSES—Our local market for sugar is still very quiet, as the demand from the country is checked by the want of good roads. The advance in prices made by the refineries last week has not met the views and desires of consumers, and this has tended to further check the already small demand and to add to the general inertness of trade in this article. Molasses is quiet and very dull—the only business being in Barbados which, however, sells but slowly.

FISH.—No change has transpired in the local fish market since our last report. Boisterous weather has prevented the catching of fish, and the reserves of last season's catch at the outports are nil. Though stocks on hand are very low all round, the absence of enquiry and demand prevent any advance in prices. Business, therefore, continues dull and uninteresting. The West Indian markets are without change, and prices there are so low as to make the business of exporting fish to them unprofitable. In Montreal, Quebec and Toronto also the consumptive demand is so small that it is fully supplied by the fresh fish that are taken in the adjacent lakes and rivers. The demand will doubtless grow as Lent comes near, but at present nothing is doing all around. Our advice from Gloucester to Jan. 20 is as follows:—"January will make a poor showing of fish receipts in everything except salt herring, which are coming along liberally. Frozen herring are way behind last year, on account of absence of frost at Newfoundland, the only receipts being three fares artificially frozen. Bait is consequently scarce and the shore fleet are doing but little. Bank halibut have been in improved receipt the past week, and the Georges fleet are beginning to bring in small

lots with their codfish fares. Business quiet in all departments except with the smokers. We quote: Frozen herring \$3.50 per cwt.; herring bait from cold storage \$3.50 per cwt.; fare sales of Georges cod \$5 and \$3 75; fare sale of fresh mixed fish \$1.60 for cusk, \$1.20 for hake, \$1 for pollock, and \$2.75 for cod; last fare sale of Bank halibut 11 and 7 cts. per lb. for white and gray; salt spurling bait for haddock fishermen \$2.50 per bbl.; salt herring \$3 per bbl. in bulk. Mackerel, jobbing: Small 3's \$8.50 and \$9; medium 3's \$10.50 and \$11; large 3's \$14; medium 2's \$13 and \$14; large 2's \$17 and \$18; bay 1's \$21; shore 1's \$24; extra shore 1's \$26; extra boats \$30. We quote New Georges codfish at \$7.50 per qtl. for large, and small at \$5.50; Bank \$6.75 to \$7.25 for large, and \$4.50 to \$5 for small; Shore \$7.25, and \$5.25 for large and small; dry Bank \$7.25; medium \$5.50. We quote cured cusk at \$5.50 per qtl.; hake \$3; haddock \$4.13 to \$4.50; heavy salted pollock \$3, and English-cured do. \$3.75 per qtl. Labrador herring \$6 per bbl.; Newfoundland do. \$7; Nova Scotia do. \$7; Eastport \$3.50; split Shore \$1; round do. \$4.50; round Eastport \$4; pickled codfish \$5; haddock \$3.50; halibut heads \$3.50; sounds \$13; tongues and sounds \$12; tongues \$11; alowives \$3.50; trout \$14; Halifax salmon \$23; Newfoundland do. \$16."

BOUND TO HAVE IT.

I must and I will have it, exclaimed the little man, and he dashed the paper to the floor, jumped from his chair and brought his clinched hand down on the table vigorously; then wiping his brow and adjusting his glasses, he seated himself, seized his pen, and in a nervous, excitable hand wrote:—D. M. Ferry & Co., Seedsmen, Windsor, Ont., Gentlemen: Referring to your advertisement in the National Intelligencer, I notice that you say that your Seed Annual for 1892 is free to all applicants. As I use considerable quantities of vegetable and flower seeds each spring, I would esteem it a favor if you would mail me your Catalogue. My neighbors say it is the best.

Very truly yours,

RICHARD DOB.

MARKET QUOTATIONS.—WHOLESALE SELLING RATES.

Our Price Lists are corrected for us each week by reliable merchants.

Table with columns for SUGARS, GROCERIES, BREADSTUFFS, HOME AND FOREIGN FRUITS, and FISH. Includes various commodity prices and descriptions.

PROVISIONS.

Table listing prices for various provisions such as Am. Ex. Mess, Pork, Canadian Oats, etc.

BUTTER AND CHEESE

Table listing prices for butter and cheese products like Nova Scotia Choice Fresh Prints, Canadian Township, etc.

SALT.

Table listing prices for different types of salt like Factory Filled, Fine Liverpool, etc.

THE MYSTERIOUS ROOM.

A STORY OF OLD PARIS.

One man had a knife in his hand outstretched toward the butter-dish; another held an orange; still another lifted to his lips a goblet of exquisitely cut glass; two were turned face to face, as if in conversation; and all had been made to assume the most natural positions. Was the whole thing a weird and unconscious dream?

Mustering up his courage, seeing that they were utterly motionless, reasoning that the figures might be made of wax, as also the wood and fruit, the conception, perhaps, of that strange old man, he resisted his first inclination to retreat at once from the place, and cautiously going forward, he touched one of the company. It was as cold as stone. Candles stood on the table, as if ready to light. He applied his matches, but the wicks would not catch. Examining them, he found that they did not yield to pressure. Everything was in the same condition, though not exactly petrified.

Of one thing he was certain; all this company, so strangely preserved, had once been living people. In utter amazement he walked the rounds. The man whose eyes had seemed to turn was very handsome—a younger edition of the crazy old grandfather. They were five figures in all. The able was an old-fashioned one, with a marble top. Every face was painted to stimulate life. The eyes shone, the lips had a living, dewy look. It could be no hallucination. A slow, cold terror over him. How to get out of this chamber of horrors, into the room beyond? Or was the whole thing witchcraft, girl and all—she luring him to his death? Such deadly deeds had been done there in old Paris!

At last, under a warm-caten *portiere*, which shook off flakes of its rotten color and fabric all over him as he moved it, he found a door. It was fastened, but had a strong black key hanging to its handle by a string.

"The old fellow forgot to take the key," he muttered, as, opening the door, he emerged into a grand hall, hung here and there with moldy old portraits. A handsome flight of stairs led to the story above, but he stood still, opposite the door facing that through which he had just come. Then he rapped. A glad cry reassured him.

"How shall I get in?" he asked.

"I don't know," was the instant reply. "There is a key that unlocks all these rooms, but my grandfather probably took it with him. If I were not so hungry, I could wait till you go and get help."

"I think I can find the key," he said, and hurried back the way he had come; bought wine and food from a shop near by, and returned with candles and a covered basket. The key he found fitted the lock of her prison, and in a short space of time he was in the presence of the girl.

His first glance awakened all the pity and sympathy of his nature. Her eyes were lustrous; her cheeks, white to ghastliness. She looked, indeed, with that great mass of brown-gold hair floating about her shoulders, like a spirit risen from the dead.

"How long have you been here?" he asked, after she had partaken of the food and wine, in such quantities as he allowed her.

"I have counted three nights," she answered. "He gave me a little bread and water—that was all gone yesterday morning. When he left me, he said, through the key hole, with that terrible laugh of his: 'Good-by, granddaughter. I shall not have the pleasing of using my great preservative fluid on you. I have done enough for science—science has done nothing for me.' Then he said something more about solids and fluids, and I heard him go down the stairs. I had been praying for release, but did not think he would leave me all alone to starve till I saw him go through the gate, then I realized it all—that I could get no aid, and should die imprisoned in this frightful house. Everything here was solidly fastened, but I worked at the window every day and prayed the good God to help me every night, and I had just succeeded in opening it, when you came in at the gate. Then I knew that the good God had heard my prayers and sent you to liberate me."

"And those people in the room across the hall?" said Ormsby.

"What people?" she asked. "There have been none here save grandfather and I."

"The people seated at table;" and Ormsby shuddered as he spoke.

"I don't know what you mean," she said. "There are some rooms I have never been in. They were always locked, and grandfather kept the key."

"We must leave the house by that way, I suppose," he said, half aloud. "It will try your courage—"

"Grandpapa always said the rooms on the opposite side were haunted, but then, his mind ran on such things. If you are to go that way, I don't mind, with you. I shall not be frightened. Only take me out of this house, where I have spent such terrible days! The laboratory up-stairs must be worth something—enough, perhaps, to pay you for your trouble. As for me, I am not afraid, once I am out in the world, but that I can make my own living."

"We will see to all that," said Ormsby, and led her to the door, opened it, and then came another surprise.

"Mother! father!" shrieked the girl; "how came they here. Oh! he has tried his terrible experiments on them! Oh, Heaven! and he told me they had died, at home!"

It was all the young man could do to soothe her. He, too, was trembling with horror.

"They are—oh! what are they? Yes, certainly they are dead! They do not move. See—here is one place, one plate left—for me!"

Ormsby noticed that there was an empty plate—a vacant chair to the left of the mother.

"We must hurry," he said to the half-fainting girl. "It is almost midnight. My only wonder is that he left you alive."

"He was frightened. I told him you would come and have the place searched for me. Oh! take me away, or I shall lose my reason."

Ormsby hurried her through the door, which he had opened, down the stairs, and out into the fresh air. Then it seemed, as he looked up at the frightful walls, as if he heard a faint laugh echoing all over the old house. At last they had safely crossed the threshold of the old gate. Ormsby found a cab and drove directly home, trusting to the tender mercies of his landlady, who was still up, and who, on hearing the girl's story, consented to take her under her roof.

The police were notified, and for weeks the old house was the objective point for savants and scientists, who grieved that the wonderful secrets of such marvelous preservation had not been left behind for the benefit of the world. The matter was kept as secret as possible, though it finally got into the papers, in a modified form, and was a nine days' wonder.

No tidings were ever heard of the old chemist, and it was generally supposed that he had either left the country or destroyed himself.

Ormsby became very much in love with the pretty girl, whose name was Marie, and would have married her at once but for the counsel of his friend, who persuaded him to place her first at a good school, which he did, and at the expiration of two years carried her to America as his bride.

The old house has been deserted for years, and as the talk is of making a boulevard in that section of the city, it will probably be torn down. What disposition was made of the personages who figured at the round-table was never divulged.

BUTTERCUPS.

She was lazily toying with the slender blossom, he was dreamily watching the grace of her white fingers; she was swinging gently in the play of leafy shadows, he was lounging on the grass beside her.

She was young and very fair. In the gleaming curls, the half-shut opal eyes, the thin, trailing gown of golden yellow, there seemed impersonated sunshine. And he—well, all beauty needs its foil, even loveliness as entrancing as Lucia Vernam's; so the swarthyness of Douglas Mackenzie suited as well as another's.

"She is leading him on to destroy him!" Honest Marian's thoughts might have a tinge of jealousy, for she sighed a little, then purposely let fall her book.

He sprang to restore it, with an attention as prompt as ever; yet there followed another sigh, which floated to the quick ear on the hammock-pillow.

Lucia looked up languidly. "You are mournful, Maid Marian."

The words, nothing; the smile—mockery.

"It is a sad story."

"A nineteenth-century girl weeping over fiction!"

"I am not weeping."

"Well—don't be cross."

The last thing in the other's thoughts; yet the insinuation told. Douglas looked at his *fiancée* with a frown.

"Your opposition to the water party tells upon your conscience."

The grave eyes looked steadily at her accuser.

"You are trying to exasperate me, Lucia, I will go away."

"Need not. I yield you precedence."

Few women can get out of a hammock with grace; Miss Vernam was one of the few. With a motion which was enchanting she vacated the uncertain thing, and bowed as she gathered up her draperies and glided away.

She seemed to take the sunlight with her; even her rival looked skyward, expecting a sudden cloud; but if she failed to see one there, she found it easily enough on Mackenzie's face.

"Then you *will not* go with us?"

"Don't let us discuss that any more, dear."

"I'd rather enjoy myself now. One can't be young but once."

"Pooh! that's obsolete."

"And so"—he was going to say—"are you." But he did not.

A little flush crept into the calm face. Marian might be "obsolete," but her perception was clear. She rose, slowly.

"No, Douglas; you are, of course, quite free to manage your own affairs. If I have interfered, it has been from no ill motive. Believe me, it will not happen again. Now, if we are to play with the others, I must dress."

"The young man did not seek to detain her, and without any suggestion to gliding she went.

"Hang it all! living is a bother." Mackenzie threw himself into the hammock.

A delicate fragrance still lingered about the silken cushion; ay, even a thread of golden hair had clung to it, and the buttercups lay on the ground. Tenderly he drew the glistening fibre through his brown fingers, then gathered the discarded blossoms and tied them with it, and hid the cluster in his breast.

"I wonder if Marian thinks me dishonest?—she almost says so. What if my income is small? I can speculate as well as another; and a launch isn't a yacht! Heigho! I'll have to be correct enough, when *she's* my wife. Well, I must get into my 'flannels,' or hinder the game."

In the spirited contest which followed, Marian was on the winning side.

She was a magnificent player, and not only at tennis, but in any exercise which demanded energy or skill, Marian Kent excelled; and the consciousness of her own success sent a sparkle to her eye and a color to her cheek which made her almost beautiful. Not like Lucia, of course; but with a comeliness so true and wholesome that it made even the women admire her, while the men would think of her reverently, as a possible wife or mother.

Lucia did not play tennis, or ride, or row, or do any other violent thing which disturbed her repose. She tried it once, and, strangely enough, failed to distinguish herself in any other way than by getting dreadfully heated and "blown."

That was sufficient. Afterward she preferred the ease of an on-looker, coolly enjoying the annoyance her unruffled loveliness gave the other girls. And to-day, although Douglas Mackenzie felt a return of some of his pride in the skill of his betrothed, he found himself wandering, ever and again, to the other's side, fascinated and adoring.

"Good-by, Marian! You'd better repent, and come."
"No; excuse me"

Lucia was charming in her blue, yachting-costume, brightened at the corsage by a great bunch of her favorite golden wild flowers—Douglas' gift—and the wonderful hair rippled and fell in bewildering beauty beneath the trim sailor-hat which so well framed her perfect face.

Marian, in an unbecoming gown of grey, looking a little worn and jaded—from her game, perhaps—leaned over the rail to watch them away. Long after they had left her there—on the hotel-piazza, among the "old-folks"—the echo of their laughter floated back to her.

"Why are they so gay, and you so sober?"
The girl turned to smile on the little old lady, but the tears came.
"Never you mind him; he isn't worth an old button! I've had my eye on the precious youth this some time; and might be glad I ain he has showed his true colors so soon. Used to think he had brains—never so smart as you, though, and you know it. But he's certainly lost what little head he had. What does that hussy care for him? That!"—a sniff and a snap of her fingers. "Can't afford a full-equipped yacht, so sets up a nasty little naphtha launch! and all at that girl's instigation, I'll be bound! He don't know how to manage it—that's why I forbade you going with him; and he'll kill somebody with it, sure. A row-boat would be more respectable, and far safer."

Poor Aunt Norris! Her sputtering indignation provoked no response, but she went on.

"I'd rather see a man drink than flirt. Both are bad, and one is contemptible. If your Uncle Norris had ever gone on, when he was engaged to me, as Douglas MacKenzie's doing now—wasting his time and money, when he needs both in his new business—don't you think I'd have ade it lively?"

"I certainly do. But don't talk any more about it. I don't blame you. She is very, very beautiful! Come, I'll sing for you."

"I want no singing with tears in your voice. What I like—and you know it!—is something jolly. Goodness! There comes that sentimental old widow that's making a fool of herself, trying to get married again; as if she wasn't enough! Let's escape—"

"Oh, dear Miss Marian! I was just telling the professor about your wonderful voice, and he's wild to hear it. Do oblige him."

"She won't oblige me!" shrugging her small shoulders, stooped by seventy years.

"Why, Aunt—"

"Oh, don't cry 'why aunt!' in that tone. Go—make yourself agreeable, and leave your aged relative alone."

The niece laughed, for she quite understood the whimsical old lady. They were the best of friends; and she very well knew that some unfortunate partner at whist was presently doomed to suffer, because, forsooth, young Douglas Mackenzie—her adopted son—was "going on so." And Marian went away to put herself at the service of a "lot of old fossils," as Lucia irreverently called the senior boarders at the "Elbridge."

"Blue Bonnets," "Edinboro' To'on," "Annie Laurie," so they taxed her, one by one; till somebody, either for malice or jest, called out, "For the last, give us your sweetest. You know—'Douglas, Douglas, tender and true.'"

Aunt Norris tapped her fan sharply, and dropped "her hand," face up, on the card table.

"Tut! tut! Marian, do you hear me? You've sung enough. You're not to strain your voice. Here I've paid out no end of money to have it trained for my own enjoyment, and I'm not going to be cheated out of my bargain."

She went on grumbling and gathering up her bits of pasteboard, coolly disregarding her partner's annoyance.

"Well, and what if I did show them?—who's to take me to do I'd like to know? There! she's at it. I knew she would be. Has no respect for my feelings. Marian!"

The girl's grey eyes smiled bravely back to her. Thanks dear aunt, for so adroitly covering her discomfiture! Marian could sing now. So the malicious gossip in the opposite corner received no satisfaction, and the clear voice took up, without a tremor, its passionate plaint of "Douglas! Douglas!" then silence fell in the great drawing-room. More than one guessed what that song cost the singer, and felt the pity of it.

"Please, mees—if you would be most kind. I like not to inflict the trouble. But if you rise I accompany you. The song—my pupil in England sing it to me. I love it well. Ah, the pretty one! She is of the dead. I weep. She comes before me when the melody I make. Wilt thou?"

Not Marian could refuse the tender-hearted old German, whose eyes were moist with a sacred memory. But why—why—must this come to-night?

(Continued.)

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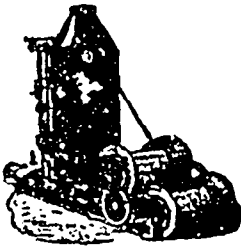
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MINING.

BRITISH MINERALS AT THE COLUMBUS FAIR.—A circular has been addressed to owners of metalliferous mines in England by Sir Henry Wood, secretary of the Royal Commission for the Chicago Exhibition, in which it is stated that the commission is anxious to comply with a request made to it by the executive authorities of the exhibition that a typical collection of British minerals may be included in the British section and asking for the co-operation of owners and managers of mines in carrying this proposition into effect. Owners are requested to favor the commission with a typical specimen of each of the principal minerals raised in their mines. Mr. B. H. Brough, the instructor in mine surveying at the Royal College of Science, South Kensington, has undertaken to classify and arrange the collection. It is added that it should be borne in mind what is required is not specimens of special value or rarity, but samples of ordinary ores, etc. so that the collection when complete may be fully illustrative of the mineral resources of the Kingdom. At the close of the exhibition the collection will be presented to an American Museum, so that it will have a permanent value.

WAVERLEY DISTRICT.—Mr. A. A. Hayward, lessee of the American Hill Mine, is getting out good pay ore, and the prospects generally are bright.

The annual meeting of The Mooseland Gold Mining Company, Ltd., is advertised to be held on Wednesday the 3rd day of February next. W. C. Bishop is Secretary.

OLDHAM.—Mr. David Annand, the well-known merchant of Elmsdale, took a prominent part in the purchase of the gold property at Oldham referred to in our last issue, and is interested in the "Rhode Island Mining Company" organized to work the same. Annand is a lucky name in gold mining and Mr. David Annand and his associates have secured a most promising property. Under Manager Logan's direction the development work will at once be begun and vigorously pushed.

We have it on pretty good authority that the Ontario Mine, Big Glace Bay, owned by the Campbells, and which has been long in the market, has at length been sold for a good round sum, approaching six figures. The Ontario seam is a valuable one, and the fact of so big a price being paid for it gives indication that the new owners mean business and will work it extensively.

Messrs. Willis and Dolliver, with a number of miners, were at work at West Caledonia until the deluge drove them out of the pits this week. They finished cutting one hundred feet of the deep surface last week, and found some good drift. Work will shortly be resumed.—*Gold Hunter.*

As will be seen elsewhere a collection of the minerals mined in Great Britain is now being made to be exhibited at the World's Fair, Chicago. Mining countries in all parts of the world are making similar collections, but as yet no effort appears to be under way in Nova Scotia to have the mineral wealth of the Province adequately represented at the great fair.

The Local Government should move in the matter at once, or else a small and unimportant exhibit will result, doing scant justice to the Province.

There is plenty of life in gold mining at present. Most of the old properties are making good returns and new properties are being developed, thanks to the open weather. Rumors of some important sales of mines reach us, but they are not definite enough to warrant special mention.

The following are the official gold returns so far received at the Mines' Office for the month of December, 1891:

District.	Mill.	Qtz. crushed.	Ozs. gold.
*Sherbrooke.....	Miters	35	17½
Salmon River....	Dufferin.....	500	117
Oldham.....	Oldham	319	113½
Waverley.....	Lake View.....	173	86½
†Moose River.....	D. Touquoy.....	490	79½
S. T'niacke.....	Eas'ville.....	29	358½
Lake Catcha.....	Anderson.....	50	48½
Stormont.....	W. J. Veith.....	29	64½
Kemptville.....	W. H. Nash.....	100	55½
Malaga.....	Malaga.....	114	173
Stormont.....	Rockland.....	59	68½
Cariboo.....	Moose River Co.....	131	22½
do (quarter ending Dec. 31) Dixon.....		180	214
15 Mile Stream.....	New Egerton.....	300	154
Brookfield.....	Philadelphia Co.....	150	61

*Sand.

6½ tons qtz., 4½ tons quartz and slate.

"There have been no discoveries of great bonanzas, no mining 'booms' during the year 1891, but the mining industry never was more prosperous and its prosperity never before was founded on so substantial a basis. Large investments have been made in mining and for the most part with a prodence. Under competent and honest management these investments are making highly satisfactory returns."

Thus concisely does *The Engineering and Mining Journal* sum up the mining business of the year, and its remarks are particularly applicable to this Province.

TORONTO IRON MINE.—*Editor Critic*.—The output of this mine has been largely increased since the first of the year. It now amounts to 100 tons per day. The company have four shafts in operation, varying from 60 to 100 feet in depth. The vein of ore which is of red hematite is 5½ feet in width. The deepest shaft sunk is still on ore. The company have 4 Blake steam pumps at work pumping water from the mine: two hoisting engines and two locomotive boilers, and are now putting down a large drum hoisting gear which was built by the Truro Foundry Co. One of the engine houses was burned down on Sunday last, slightly damaging the engine and boiler, but these are now in running order. The company intend opening up the vein more extensively in the spring when it is hoped the output will increase to 1000 tons per week.

Motion, MACHINERY.

OLDHAM.—The big yield before reported from the Oldham mill in October is officially returned at 1141 ozs. 14 dwt. gold from 119½ tons qtz. crushed. This at \$19 per ounce equals \$21,683.75.

Messrs. Matheson, of New Glasgow, have shipped for the Little Glace Bay colliery a pair of horizontal geared engines, to replace those at present in use. One feature of the engine is that the "handles" for brake, steam, cylinder, cocks, etc., are all within easy reach of the engineman, seated.

The B. Diamond resumed work last Tuesday, and on that day engine driver Leon Turpenette hoisted 368 boxes, does his own firing, lakes his water from a pond 150 yds. distant with an elevator at an elevation of 35 feet, does it all himself, was slack a little during the day for want of cars, and was done and ready to go home at half-past-four. And this is the man that the Government Railway officials refuse to give a fair trial. He has no friends. God help the poor, the government wont.

The mining class presented their teacher, Mr. J. W. Sutherland, with a handsome silver headed cane on New Year's Day.

Messrs. Johnston, Madden and Sutherland were experimenting with the flameless powder and Roburite in the 'Diamond' last week. It worked very satisfactory.—*Journal and News.*

MINERALS IN NORTHUMBERLAND.—*A Wonderful Paint Discovery: Gold and Silver Bearing Quartz.*—A correspondent writes: The discovery of a valuable deposit of oxide of iron paint, of a quality which is unique, on the north-west Miramichi river, about twenty miles from Newcastle, has much interested scientific men who have examined it. It has been assayed and found to consist of 96 per cent. of pure oxide of iron. It comes out of veins in a slaty formation of rock, the veins being narrow on the surface and gradually widening as they sink. Mr. Brumell, of the Dominion geological survey, who examined these deposits, says there are no similar deposits known to scientists. It comes out pure and ready for use and in consistency like putty; may be immediately mixed in linseed oil for painting, and is of a beautiful rose color. Two pounds will give the required body in 1 gallon of oil. Mixed in water it makes a durable staining paint, as the color is very strong. Four or five pounds of the oxide will give a strong pink color to one bbl. of whitening. One ounce will color deeply a pail of water. Mr. John Ferguson, of Newcastle, who holds the mining license to this deposit, has a valuable property and has under consideration offers from capitalists for its purchase. A promising vein of the same natural paint has also been located on the property of the Miller Johnson-Robertson syndicate. The paint is valuable above all other paints for the following reasons: more durable than best white lead, less being required to make a body in oil. After being mixed does not require any process before being used, and can be used for coloring numerous substances, such as whitening, lead putty, etc. The coloring is several hundred per cent. greater than any known pigment, and cannot be burned, it being also entirely fireproof, etc., making it a valuable fireproof cement. The uses it can be put to are undoubtedly more numerous than at present known.

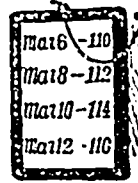
Gold and Silver Bearing Quartz Discovered in Aug. and Sep., 1891.

Shortly after the discovery of the paint deposits, several large veins of gold and silver bearing quartz in the same neighborhood were located by Mr. Walter Macdougall, a western mining expert, sent down here by several parties. Mr. Macdougall located several miles of mining license on these veins of quartz for his employers, and although no blasting or digging has been done, some specimens of the outcroppings of the quartz on the surface were sent to both London, Eng., and Ottawa, Ont., for assay, and both assays agreed that there were traces of gold and silver, and that the quartz was undoubtedly gold and silver bearing mineral. The lateness of the season forbade any further immediate investigations, but the spring will likely see a mining boom. These deposits are located in what the Government of N. B. has named in their crown land maps the "Johnson Gold District," as the Wm. Johnson-Robertson Company, of Montreal, has several square miles now located in that region. As Nova Scotia has attracted so much American capital, now that Northumberland County has a gold district the attention of such capital ought to be called in this direction. The Ferguson-Coleman syndicate have also a mining claim of one square mile in this gold area. This syndicate includes M. Adams, M. P., F. B. Coleman, of Fredericton, and R. A. Lawlor, of Chatham.—*Moncton Times*

LONDON MINING NOTES.—We have little more to write under this head to-day than when we last discussed the market, for, beyond the declaration of some splendid dividends on Transvaal properties—the effect of which, however, has been absolutely nix—there is nothing to report.

Everybody by way of brokers or jobbers is ready to deal, but unfortunately the public are so terribly frightened after their fearful losses during the past year in the heavy stocks, that they refuse to touch anything at all. The time is at hand, however, when a change must come over the spirit of our dream, and then there will be a big improvement all round.

The Broken Hill Mines of Australia have yielded upwards of 15,000,000 ozs. of silver during the year closed yesterday. This is a pretty substantial output.—*The Weekly Bulletin.*



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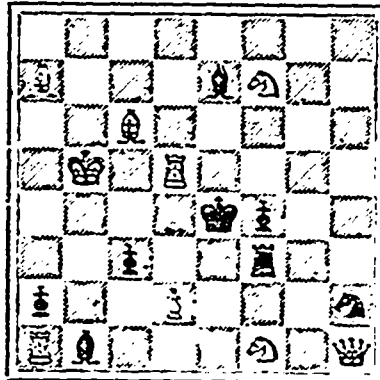
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1 P to K4	P to K4
2 Kt to KB3	P to Q3
3 P to Q4	P to KB4
4 P takes KP	BP takes P
5 Kt to K5	P to Q4
6 P to K6	B to B4

7 Kt to B7	Q to B3
8 B to K3	P to Q5:
Getting up a splendid attack.	
9 QB to KKt5	Q to B4
10 Kt takes R	Q takes B
11 B to B4	QKt to B3
12 Kt to B7	Q takes P
13 R to KBsq	K to KtB3
14 P to KB3	

This gives Black an opportunity for a display of the rarest ingenuity. Kt to QKt5

15 Kt to R3
The only move to avert the threatened danger.

16 B takes B Kt to Q6 ch

17 Q takes Kt
White is compelled to abandon the Queen, for if instead he had captured Kt with P he would have been mated in two moves.

18 Castles B takes Kt
19 B to Kt3 P to Q7 ch

20 K to Kt sq
Taking the P would incur the loss of his two rooks.

21 Kt to K5 B to B4
22 Kt to Q3 K to B sq
23 Kt takes B R to K sq
Q takes R and wins.

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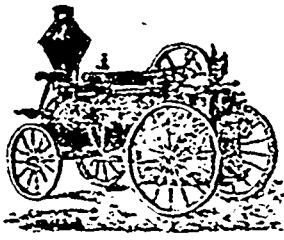
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GEORGE LAWSON, Ph. D., L. D.
Fellow of the Institute of Chemistry of Great Britain and Ireland.

MINING.

CANADA.

From Annual Statistical Number of The Engineering and Mining Journal.

BY JOHN STEWART, M. E.

The notable feature in connection with the mining industry in the Dominion of Canada during the past year has been the measures passed by the local Houses of Assembly, in the Provinces of New Brunswick, Quebec, Ontario and British Columbia. These enactments have an important bearing on the future of the industry in two ways; in the opposite directions of promoting the mining interests or in retarding them. The former consist in the recognition of the true principle, that the mining rights are separate and apart from the surface or agricultural rights. The minerals belong to the people, and their representatives are intrusted to grant the working of them to the miner or to those who are willing to invest capital in exploiting them. The possessor of the surface formerly owned everything beneath the boundaries of his land, and the underground boundaries were the surface lines of the property produced vertically under the surface lines. The system has prevented mining, and only worked in the interests of the speculative tendency of a surface owner, who sat on his mining claim and demanded a cash sale for minerals, the existence of which he could not guarantee. New enactments are more in keeping with those of the United States of British Crown Lands. The objectionable features in them will be amended in time, but their general tendency is in the interests of legitimate mining and the welfare of the miner.

ONTARIO.

APATITE.—The Anglo-Canadian Phosphate Company resumed mining in the spring at Otty Lake, in the Perth district, with a force of 30 men, and continued working until October. The Bobs Lake mines, owned by this Company, have been worked on contract. Many small openings worked yearly by prospectors and farmers in the Kingston and Perth districts. Messrs. Brodie & Co.'s superphosphate works at Smith Falls are in operation and receive their supply from small producers along the Rideau Canal.

Prospecting has been carried on in the northern phosphate district from Haliburton and Monmouth townships on the west through the northern part of North Hastings County to Sebastopol and Brudenell townships. Deposits 10 ft. wide are reported to have been discovered near Cobden Station, on the line of the Canadian Pacific Railway, in Bromley Township.

In the Kingston district the Rock Lake Phosphate mine on lot 21-15th con. of Storrington has been leased for ten years by James Bell, of Arprior, and Lomer Rhor & Co., Montreal; 100 tons a month are agreed on as the minimum output. The Blessington Mining Company closed down the Silver Lake, St. George's Lake and Bedford mines during the early part of the year, but continued to operate two shafts at the Eagle Lake mine with a force of 30 men. Operations were resumed in the summer, and several thousand tons of rock were mined. The Foxton mine produced about 150 tons a month, with 30 to 40 men, and 1,000 tons were mined up to July; the mine was closed down in the fall. The Kingston Mining Company averaged 100 to 150 tons per month during the year. Prospecting has been done in the Sharbot Lake and Oso districts on the line of the Kingston & Pembroke Railway.

IRON.—A company was organized by Mr. T. D. Ledyard, of Toronto, called the Belmont Bessemer Ore Company, of New York, to work an iron mine in the township of Belmont. A shaft has been sunk 50 ft. and cross-cuts driven. A diamond drill has been used on the property to a depth of 100 ft. to 300 ft., proving the deposit to be 60 ft. to 70 ft. wide at least. The Company proposes to build a spur 6 miles long to the line of the Canadian Pacific's Ottawa & Toronto division. A force of 20 men are employed under the superintendency of Mr. G. L. Wardworth, M. E., late of the Iron River mine, Michigan. A few hundred tons of magnetic ore are reported to have been shipped from the Snowdon district. Prospecting and considerable booming of iron claims have been carried on in the Thunder Bay iron ranges west of Port Arthur.

GOLD.—Mr. J. McFee, Belleville, Ont., organized the Crescent Gold Mining Company of Marmora, Limited, to work the old Glzdetono and Feigle mines, near Melone, Marmora Township. A new discovery of gold bearing quartz was made this season in Belmont Township, and Mr. Mark Powell, of Marmora, and Mr. J. Lingham, of Belleville, organized a company in England to develop the find, which is reported to be rich, and has caused some excitement in the district. A stamp mill is being erected. A shaft has been sunk over 60 ft., and the ore is said to yield \$18 a ton. In Creighton Township, Sudbury district, on lot 10 in 4th con., development work has been done, and on lot 2 in 4th con. Messrs. Clark & Co. have sunk a shaft 60 ft. A new company has been formed to work the Vermilion mine on lot 6 in 4th con., Dennison, for gold, platinum and nickel ores.

COPPER AND NICKEL.—Little or no ore has been mined in the Copper Cliff mine, the old stock piles, with ore from the other mines, having been used for a supply for the roasting yards. The two cupola furnaces were in blast producing copper-nickel matte. An extensive Bessemer plant has been constructed during the past season and operated. The Evans mine, 1 1/2 miles southwest from the Copper Cliff, has been worked during the year. The Stobie mine, 3 1/2 miles north of Sudbury, has also been a steady producer.

The Dominion Mineral Company's Blizzard mine, four and one-half miles north of Sudbury, was worked until October, when it was closed down with a view of reorganizing the company. One blast furnace was operated and matte shipped to England and the States. A force of 300 men were employed.

(To be continued.)

draughts-checkers

All communications to this department should be addressed directly to the Checker Editor, W. Forsyth, 30 Grafton Street.

SOLUTION.

PROBLEM 257.—The position was: Black men 1, 2, 4, 6, 7, 8, 10, 12, 20; White men 15, 17, 18, 19, 25, 27, 28, 31, 32; black to play and win.

GAME 154—"Kolso."

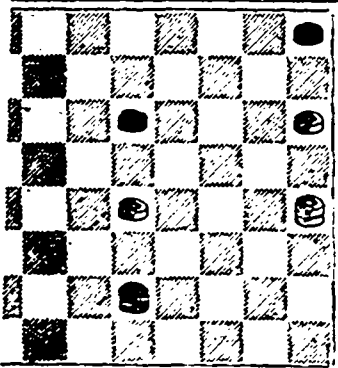
Played in the late match at Suben-acadie—Lynch vs. O'Hearn; Mr. Lynch having the blacks.

Table with 4 columns and 10 rows showing game progress: 10-15, 8-11, 6-9, 14-23, 22-18, 26-23, 26-22, 27-18, 15-22, 4-8, 7-10, 19-23, 25-18, 29-25, 14-7, 11-7, 6-10, 11-16, 3-10, 2-11, 18-14, 25-22, 18-15, 15-8, 9-18, 8-11, 10-14, 20-24, 13-14, 22-18, 15-11, 32-28, 10-17, 16-20, 9-13, 24-27, 11-14, 30-25, 19-15, 18-15, 11-15, 11-16, 16-19, 27-31, 14-19, 25-21, 23-16, 28-24, 15-24, 1-6, 12-19, 18-19, 31-26, 22-18 drawn.

At one stage of the game Mr. O'Hearn (white) had a winning position. Will any of our readers take the trouble to show where and how he might have won?

PROBLEM No. 259.

The following neat bit appeared in a recent number of a Scottish contemporary under the name of Mr. Under Davidson, of Aberdeen. Black men 4, 10, king 26.

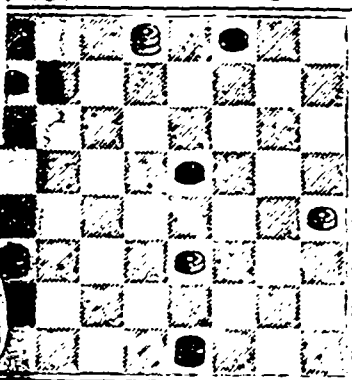


White men 12, 18, king 20. White to play and draw.

The Liverpool Mercury, from which it was taken, remarks:—"If we mistake not, it was given long ago, the author being a player of some eminence in the art." The following illustrates the same idea. We present as:

PROBLEM 260.

Black man 3, 5, 15, king 31.



White men 20, 23, king 2, 21. White to play and draw.

How many of our checkerists can

see through the latter and point out the resemblance between the two in principle?

We freely admit that, after studying this for nearly two hours, we have not discovered the points in 260 as set forth by our contemporary—Ch. Ed.

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PROVINCE OF NEW BRUNSWICK. Synopsis of "The General Mining Act," Chapter 18, 54th Victoria.

Leases for Mines of Gold, Silver, Coal, Iron, Copper, Lead, & Other Mines & Minerals. GOLD AND SILVER. PROSPECTING LICENSES up to 100 areas (each 150 feet by 250 feet), issued at 50 cts. an area up to 10 areas, and 25 cts. afterwards per area, good for one year. These Licenses can be renewed for second year, by payment of one-half above amount. LEASES for 20 years to work and mine, on payment of \$2 an area of 150 feet by 250 feet. Renewable annually at 50 cts. an area in advance. Royalty on Gold and Silver, 2 1/2 per cent. MINE, OTHER THAN GOLD AND SILVER. LICENSES to SEARCH, good for one year, \$20 for 5 square miles. Lands applied for must not be more than 2 1/2 miles long, and the tract so selected may be surveyed on the Surveyor General's order at expense of Licensee, if exact bounds cannot be established on maps in Crown Land Office. Renewals for second year may be made by consent of Surveyor General, on payment of \$20. Second Rights to Search can be given over same ground, subject to party holding first Rights, on payment of \$20. LICENSE to WORK.—On payment of \$50 for one square mile, good for two years, and extended to three years by further payment of \$25. The lands selected must be surveyed and returned to Crown Land Office. LEASES are given for 20 years, and renewable to 80 years, at annual rental of \$50 for 1 square mile. The Surveyor General, if special circumstances warrant, may grant a lease larger than one square mile, but not larger than two square miles. ESTABLISH. Coal, 10 cts. per ton of 2,240 lbs. Copper, 4 cts. on every 1 per cent. in a ton of 2,242 lbs. Lead, 2 cts. on every 1 per cent. in a ton of 2,240 lbs. Iron, 5 cts. per ton of 2,240 lbs. And other Minerals in proportion. APPLICATIONS can be filed at the Crown Land Office each week day from 9 30 a. m. to 4 30 p. m., except Saturday, when Office closes at 1 p. m. L. J. TWEEDIE, Surveyor General.

119 Hollis St. HALIFAX, N. S. — OPEN AFTER — XMAS HOLIDAYS, JAN. 4, 1892. Send for CIRCULARS to VICTOR FRAZEE, B. A., Secretary, or J. C. P. FRAZEE, PRINCIPAL. JANUARY IS THE MONTH WE SET APART FOR Special Bargains. Come & Examine our Stock Taking Clearances. Cragg Bros. & Co. Cor. Barrington & George Sts. Cutlery, Household Hardware, Builders' Hardware, Mechanics' Tools, Novelties, &c., &c. Printed by Halifax Printing Co., 161 Hollis St.

CITY CHIMES.

Everything in, around and about the city is exceedingly quiet and the weather and politics furnish the chief topics of conversation. The political meeting on Saturday evening in the Academy of Music was largely attended by both Liberals and Liberal Conservatives, the building being filled to the uttermost. Seats were reserved for ladies, a goodly number of whom took advantage of the opportunity to acquaint themselves more fully with the all absorbing questions of public interest. The platform was decorated with foliage plants and at the back of the stage a banner bearing the words "Welcome to our Leaders, Kenny, Thompson, Tupper, Stairs," was displayed. Of course it was a grand gathering of the faithful around the tery standard, but Tories and Grigs alike, with the exception of a few who wished to be funny, listened attentively to the addresses of the Conservative leaders. Hon. Charles H. Tupper was not able to be present on account of illness, but Sir John S. D. Thompson and Messrs. Kenny and Stairs very ably presented the issues of their party. The meeting closed with the national anthem.

The boys' branch of the Young Men's Christian Association gave an exhibition of class drill for the benefit of their mothers, sisters and lady friends on Wednesday afternoon. The branch association now numbers twenty-five members composed of boys from eleven to sixteen years of age. Classes for the instruction of the school boys are held on Wednesday and Saturday afternoons at four o'clock, and a special class for the benefit of boys who are employed in the city is held on Monday evening from eight to nine o'clock. This branch organization was only formed some two months ago and has already accomplished much. We would strongly advise the boys to join these ranks and take advantage of the benefits to be derived therefrom.

We note that fashion authorities state that the enthusiasm for the souvenir spoon is declining with significant rapidity. Like everything else it had its day. Leading modistes say that puffed sleeves have also had their day and that in the very near future ladies will discard them for the small plain sleeves, which have for long been considered obsolete.

On Friday evening last, although the weather was anything but agreeable, the lecture room of St. Andrew's Church was well filled, Professor Macdonald's lecture on "Time" being the attraction. Rev. D. M. Gordon, the pastor of the church, occupied the chair and introduced the lecturer. The subject is an interesting one and was ably treated by Professor Macdonald on this occasion. Simple and striking illustrations were given to bring out the many strong points of the discourse, and throughout the audience listened attentively and at times enthusiastically applauded. Professor Macdonald possesses a happy faculty of fitting in quaint phrases or apt anecdotes and thus making his lectures attractive and thoroughly enjoyable as well as highly instructive. The Institute of St. Andrew's Church is to be congratulated on the success of this effort to afford the public a treat, and to Professor Macdonald our thanks are due for the pleasant evening spent with him.

A poem which is now going the rounds of the press recites the woes of the type-writer girl somewhat in the same strain as Hood's Song of the Shirt, although there is no attempt at parody. It appears to hit off fairly well one of the evils of the day, for it is well known the business woman is very liable to keep at her work until she is ready to drop. If she falls sick she is tempted to work as long as she can drag herself to the office. She may be fully aware of the value of a stitch in time, otherwise a day in bed or within doors, but she also remembers the applicants for her place if she is remiss in her duty. The business woman may see more of the world and wear better clothes than the housekeeper, but the latter has the advantage of being able to put off until to-morrow what she has no strength to do to-day. Business men who employ girls should bear in mind that they are not mere machines, and that their faithful service should be rewarded by all the consideration they have in their power to show. The conscience of the man whose type writer girl dies of the "clickety click," like the girl in the poem, must be unusually tough.

The entertainments which Professor Semon has been furnishing this week for the benefit of the charitable organizations of the city have been well worthy of patronage. On Monday and Wednesday evenings the proceeds were devoted to the Poor's Association, while those of Tuesday's and Thursday's entertainments were for the benefit of the Society of St. Vincent de Paul, and this evening's proceeds will go to the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty. Saturday afternoon there will, as usual, be a matinee and in the evening an exhibition of wonderworking. Professor Semon appears to have a warm heart and is deserving of the thanks of our citizens for this generous movement to assist the worthy poor among us. Zera gives an interesting entertainment and the evenings at the Lyceum Theatre will be much missed by his large host of patrons. The closing entertainment will be given on Monday evening for the benefit of the widow and orphans of the late W. D. F. Smith, the well known journalist of this city. This worthy object, coupled with the fact of its being positively Zera's last appearance for some time to come, should ensure a full house. Zera will not leave Halifax, but we are told will open a restaurant at the corner of Argyle and Jacob Streets, and there dispense a large variety of new and tempting viands. This establishment will bear the quaint title "Pepper-Pot Kitchen" and will doubtless rapidly grow in popularity.

It has been said that the weather is like the Government—always in the wrong. It is certainly true that we find too much fault with each season, but one thing we feel confident of is that comparatively little fault is being

found with the fine winter weather we are enjoying just now. We began this week well; Sunday was clear and bright, the ground frozen, the air sharp and invigorating and we hoped the long looked for winter had really arrived, but alas for our great expectations; Monday's temperature was milder and the day ended in mist and mud. On Tuesday the rain descended in torrents all day and on Wednesday morning we were treated to a rare sight indeed, that of snow over all, though not enough to be of any use except to make the walking a little more unpleasant when the thaw may come. Whether the weather is to blame or no, we have rarely had so much sickness in our midst as during the present season. As in other places the fashionable malady, which bears the very appropriate and expressive appellation, La Grippe, has secured a firm footing in our city by the sea, and several deaths resulting therefrom have occurred.

The ladies of Toronto had the opportunity a short time ago of listening to a lecture by Mrs. Jerness Miller, the great exponent of dress reform. From all reports of this charming woman's views we should say they are eminently sensible, and deserving of the serious consideration of heavy-skirted, tight-banded, uncomfortably and fashionably attired womankind. It is always a good thing for a theory of any sort when its advocate is one worthy of respect, and we think it not unlikely that Mrs. Miller's beautiful figure, and especially her lovely plump white neck, which she gives the credit of to her system of dress, will do a good deal towards impressing the merits of her reformed garments on the women before whom she appears. It is a pity that our Halifax ladies cannot have an opportunity of hearing what Mrs. Miller has to say of dress, for to judge by the narrowness of some of the waists we see there must be a corresponding narrowness of mind afflicting some people.

Rev. Mr. Bond's lecture in Brunswick St. Methodist Church on Tuesday evening was, notwithstanding the inclemency of the weather, well attended. The subject was "The Land of the Pharaohs," and the lecturer held the close attention of his audience from beginning to close. The stereopticon views by which the lecture was illustrated throughout are of an unusually fine character, and greatly assisted the audience in following Mr. Bond in the journey through Egypt, and afforded a rare opportunity to gain a knowledge of the land in which we are all more or less interested, but which a large number of our people will probably never visit. Many of these views are from photographs taken by Mr. Bond during his travels in Egypt in 1887. Journeying from Alexandria to Cairo the audience was treated to views of the great pyramids, mosques, palaces, Port Said, the Suez Canal, copies of the earliest sculptures ever produced, mummy faces of our fellow creatures who inhabited the land six thousand years ago, pictures of the great Pharaoh of Red Sea fame, etc., etc. This first lecture of the course may be pronounced a success in every sense of the word, and the Reapers' Mission Band of Brunswick St. Church, under whose auspices the series is given, have every reason to feel highly gratified. Rev. Mr. Bond's next lecture will be given on February 9th, when he will give an account of his experiences "Round and about Jerusalem," which will doubtless prove very interesting and instructive.

We have many fine drug stores in our city and not least among them ranks the new establishment opened last week by Mr. H. W. Cameron on Brunswick St., two doors north of Hurd's Lane. Mr. Cameron is an enterprising young man who has until lately been connected with the drug business of Messrs. Buckley Brothers, and his many friends will be pleased to note this indication of progress and will no doubt gladly extend their patronage. The store presents a very attractive appearance, viewed both from within and without. The walls are prettily papered, the counter and shelves are in handsome stained wood, and the front of the dispensing department is ornamented with a plate glass mirror and colored glass. The windows are of plate glass and are very tastefully arranged. Every facility for accurate work is afforded in the dispensing department, and Mr. Cameron may well feel proud of his compact establishment and we feel sure he has the best wishes of a large circle of patrons.

Messrs. John Silver & Co. and Messrs. G. M. Smith & Co., two of the large dry goods firms of Granville St., have this week dressed the windows of their establishments in a very effective style expressing the universal grief at the death of the Duke of Clarence and Avondale. In the window of Messrs. Silver & Co. the decoration partakes of a military character, referring to the connection of the late Prince with the British army. A regimental staff draped in black with mourning tassels and funeral wreaths displays the Royal Standard of England at half mast and draped with crape borderings surmounted by the crest of the Prince of Wales in black feathers. The north window of Messrs. G. M. Smith & Co. shows a large picture of the late Prince Albert Victor, which is appropriately draped with black and is surrounded by mourning materials tastefully arranged. These displays have attracted much attention and are expressive of the general public feeling. Photographs of the lamented Prince and the late Cardinal Manning are exhibited in the north window of the London Drug Store, Hollis St. Flags have been at half mast all over the city and a salute of sixty minute guns were fired from the citadel, commencing at four o'clock on Wednesday afternoon. A memorial service was held at eleven o'clock on Wednesday morning, the day of the funeral of His Royal Highness, in Garrison church, Rev. F. E. Norman Lee, chaplain of the forces, officiating. Rev. R. H. Ballock, D. C. L., honorary chaplain to the Queen, delivered an address. The band of the Leicestershire Regiment played the Dead March in Saul, and the whole service was exceedingly solemn and affecting. The usual mourning will be worn by all officers of the Imperial Forces in memory of the Duke of Clarence until February 26th.