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THE CRITIC.

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The demarkation of the Afghan boundary is now nearly complete, and it is expected that it will be brought to a satisfactory close before the British Parliament meets. This will remove one of the sources of danger which threaten an Anglo-Russian war.

The political geography of South America has recently been changed, and Patagonia will not henceforth appear on maps of the continent. Chili has appropriated all the lands west of the Cordilleras, and the Argentine Republic has absorbed that lying to the east of this range, Terra del Fuego being divided between the two Republics.

Our impressions of Siberia are generally associated with Russian convict life, hard unceasing toil, exposure to a semi-arctic climate and dreary barren steppes. It is therefore a satisfaction to read of a progressive movement in this land of frost and snow. A University is to be established at Tomsk; already a library of 50,000 books has been provided, and a valuable paleontological collection secured.

Proselytizing from one faith to another is under the ban of the law in Russia. A Baptist minister named Conradi, who recently went over from the United States, succeeded in converting to his faith two Lutherans. The Governor of Simferopol, upon hearing of it, at once imprisoned the parson, and the American Minister at St. Petersburg only succeeded in obtaining his release upon condition that M. Conradi leave the country. The spectacle of a Russian official interfering in the proselytizing of persons from the Lutheran to the Baptist church is certainly remarkable, especially when we consider that, in his eyes, the beliefs of these denominations are looked upon as heretical.

We have never heard any person satisfactorily explain the reason why the patriarchs lived to such advanced ages, as compared with the man of the present day. It is, however, gratifying to learn that the average life of human beings is steadily increasing. The English Government, being largely interested in annuities, had occasion recently to make some new tables of life expectancy, and, after securing very full vital statistics, found out that in one generation the average expectancy of life had been lengthened from 44 to 51 years. This fact is said to be due to the improved way of living, a better knowledge of hygiene, and the new discoveries in the medical science of these times.

The following extract from the Canadian American should be studied by New England journalists who at present view the fishery question through a glass darkly:—

"When an American official comes down heavily upon a foreign vessel for some infraction of our customs or navigation laws, the people here exclaim, 'Ah, that's thoroughly American, that's a patriotic, self-protecting step, that's quite in accordance with our sense of right and justice in these matters.' And when the Secretary of the Treasury prohibits Canadian boats from participating in traffic between two American ports, or between an American port and some point in Canada on the line of international transportation, there is heard a shout of exultation in this country. 'Good! capital!' they all cry. When the Government puts a tariff on such imports from the Dominion as barley and cattle, it is applauded all along the line for protecting home interests. When our northern neighbors do any of these things, we call them impudent, selfish, small-souled people who do not know how mean, small, despicable and piggish they appear in the eyes of the world. Uncle Sam very much dislikes to take a dose of his own medicine."

The Mayor of Charleston has received a letter from an English architect, who says:—

"Some new facts have been discovered here lately regarding mortars that may be of great importance to you in erecting future buildings at Charleston. The addition of saccharine matter (sugar treacle, infusion of malt, etc.) increases the strength of mortar in an extraordinary degree, making common lime mortar, with sugar added to it, as strong as our famous Portland cement. If you refer to any good treatise on chemistry you will find that water to which sugar has been added dissolves 14½ times more lime than does water without sugar. Reflecting on this fact I mentioned it some years ago to my friend, E. W. Binney, F.R.S., who said that that was no doubt the explanation of a circumstance that occurred where he was born, Vorksof. An Italian architect came down to erect a building in Mr. Binney's grandfather's time, for a nobleman in that neighborhood. This architect refused to use plain water for slacking his lime, and demanded and was supplied with malt for the purpose. Many years afterward, the building had to be taken down, but they could not pull it to pieces, and had to blow it up with gunpowder. Mr. Binney and I both agreed that it was the sugar in the infusion of malt which produced this extraordinary hardness and tenacity of the mortar. I have no doubt now that that old wonderful Roman mortar, which is the admiration of builders, after 2,000 years, owes its hardness and excellence to the addition of saccharine matter. Another fact that I have to tell you is, that powdered brick is probably a better thing than sand to mix with your mortar."

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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 his 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.

Max O'Rell, the well known author of "John Bull and his Island," has placed in the hands of his publishers, Messrs. Field & Tuer, his new book, entitled "Drat the Boys, or Recollections of an ex-French Master in England." Max will probably clothe his ideas of English boy life with the same originality of expression and carelessness of effect that characterized his former work.

Some time ago, we noted the death of Mrs. Girling, the leader of the New Forest Shakers. Seventeen years since, Mrs. Girling gathered about her 130 followers, upon the assurance that she had received a direct inspiration to the effect that she would not die until the second coming of Christ. Throughout years of poverty, her disciples have gradually dwindled away, having gone back to the world of wheat, wages, and weddings, so that at her death only twenty were found faithful. To these, after their long years of privation, her demise must have proved a rude awakening to the hard realities of life.

The wonderful progress which Italy has made during the past ten years is in stirring contrast to her development before the State was unified. Italian bonds now sell above par in the home market, and the increase to her revenue from all sources makes her financial position most satisfactory. Ten years ago the tax on buildings yielded but \$600,000, while that for the current year will, it is expected, foot up \$6,600,000. From the taxes on business, the Italian Government derived \$27,000,000 in 1876, while for this year, partially estimated, they will yield \$33,600,000. The increase runs all through the list of the government's receipts.

States that need to borrow a second time should not repudiate their honest debts. Some years ago, the State of Georgia issued, and sold largely to Northern capitalists, about \$8,000,000 of bonds, which it afterwards repudiated. Several Wall street brokers were badly bitten in the transaction. A few months ago, the State of Georgia, through an agent, went to the Wall Street Stock Exchange, and asked to have listed \$3,300,000 of new State bonds. The request went before the proper committee, then came up for discussion, and was so violently opposed by Henry Clews and others, that the matter ended by passing the following resolution: "No bonds of the State of Georgia shall be admitted to dealings on the New York Stock Exchange so long as that State continues to repudiate its former issues of bonds." So Miss Georgiana, of the "Southern sisterhood," is compelled to remain in the ante-room until she repents of her former wickedness, and begins to pay up old scores. Serves her right.

A MISTAKEN NOTION.

The proverbial selfishness of the human race is frequently referred to by preachers and public speakers, but we question whether selfishness is quite such a strongly marked characteristic as some would have us believe. True, we do meet among our fellow-men those who seem to have no interest in anything in which they themselves are not personally concerned, but we believe these to be the exceptions, not the rule. If selfishness be so deeply fixed in our breasts, why is it that most of us have a keen relish and satisfaction in hearing of the good fortune of others; and, why is it that our sympathy is evoked upon receiving news of misfortune or disaster having happened to those with whom we have no personal acquaintance. Not long since a clergyman remarked to us that he was delighted to read of the continued prosperity of our gold mines, adding, that he trusted the hardy miners as well as the proprietors would reap a rich reward for their labors. This feeling of gratification in the success of others is, we claim, very general, and those who doubt this should more narrowly observe that which is daily transpiring in the locality in which they live.

If mankind is so selfish, why is it that we experience such unmingled pleasure upon hearing that the labors of the farmer have been crowned with success, and that the yield of crops is up to or above the average. In the same way we are interested in observing or reading of the development of our industries; and although we may not personally ever engage in industrial pursuits or manufacturing enterprises, it is a satisfaction to know that labor is being provided for hundreds of willing workers who might otherwise be idle; and that through employment the families of our mechanics and artisans are being supplied with that which is indispensable to existence.

Ask the professional man, the man engaged in business, or the educationist, why it is that the success of others in the race of life almost invariably gives him pleasure, and he will tell you frankly, that a true humanitarian is without jealousy, and that the good luck which falls to the lot of others is the best news that he can hear.

Selfish we may be in petty affairs, but in matters which affect mankind in general, we take a broader and more philanthropic view. The universality of selfishness is a mistaken notion, and the preaching of it only tends to make us more exclusive and more indifferent to the joys and sorrows of others, than we are naturally inclined to be.

CANADA'S SCANTY LITERATURE.

The extreme scantiness of important Canadian contributions to literature has often been made a subject of reproach by our southern neighbors, who have a happy faculty of discovering the short-comings of "the colonies." In this instance, we are forced to acknowledge the justness of the charge. Any writer on general literature could treat of the Canadian branch of the subject in a very few pages, and most of these pages would be apologetical in their tone. It would be urged, for example, that Canada is still in that intensely active, money-making stage, when every man's energies are bent upon the industrial, to the neglect of the artistic. True it is that a nation generally passes through a youth of excessive physical activity, before its mental powers are fully called into play. But Canada has surely reached the period when a life of literary ease is a possibility.

The magazine controls the careers of most literary men of the present day. The majority write for immediate publication, and the magazine is the only fixed and sure means of reaching a large number of readers. Poems, novels, even scientific works are generally published first in the magazines and afterwards collected and reprinted. Literary men prefer definite rates of remuneration per column to the risky sales of the book-seller. Hence the magazine offers almost the only natural way of disposing of a literary production.

We in Canada have virtually no magazines. A few periodicals there are which supply the public with something better than the paragraphs of the ordinary newspaper, but it is seldom that they secure a really important and ably written contribution, for the simple reason that they cannot offer sufficient pecuniary inducements to secure the services of talented writers.

The success of a magazine depends on the ability of the public to appreciate and pay for superior writing, the existence of literary men who can furnish it, and the possession of an editor who can discern literary merit. No one who is at all acquainted with Canadian journalism as it now exists will doubt that all these three elements are present in Canada. Surely the time has come for a literary movement which will reveal hidden talent and develop that which is known.

OUR SOUTHERN SHORE.

There is no part of Nova Scotia which is as little known to the people of our Province as is our Southern shore, and yet it offers to the tourist and sportsman a field in which health and enjoyment can be secured, without an unlimited demand upon the purse. The old historic town of Shelburne is the shire town of the county, it is far removed from the noise of the locomotive whistle and the busy hum of industrial life, but the town is the centre and only outlet, of that fine agricultural district which lies in the northern part of the county. This section, for fertility of soil and suitability of climate, has its counterpart in the well-known farming districts in northern Queens. At present the inhabitants are sadly in need of good carriage roads, the road to Shelburne being the only one available. A visitor to the recent exhibition of agricultural products held in the new building at Shelburne, assures us that the exhibit was in every way highly creditable to the eastern section of the county, and that with improved methods of agricul-

ture the products of northern Shelburne should take a first place in any general provincial exhibition. The lakes and streams are in season filled with fine fish, and game of all kinds abounds in the forests. Sportsmen with rod or gun can here get an outing such as is to be had in few other places.

The settlers are always hospitable and kind, and willingly undertake to act as guides to moosehunters or fishermen. The town, which is situated on the shores of a deep inlet, is about twenty miles distant from the best agricultural portions of the county. Its markets are well supplied with produce of all kinds, and its hotels, although small, are cleanly and comfortable. With railway facilities Shelburne would soon become one of the most flourishing ports upon our southern shore, but its prospects of obtaining these are at present far from bright.

TRADE THEORIES.

The export trade of the United States for the fiscal year, ending June 30th, 1886, shows a decided falling off, as compared with the value of the exports for the year previous. True, the bulk of the material exported during the past year was greater than that of the preceding year, but owing to the tremendous fall in prices of staple products, minerals, and manufactures, the returns make a comparatively sorry showing.

The value of the exports of sugar, cattle, copper, and whiskey, drop from \$40,000,000 in 1884-85, to \$28,000,000 in 1885-86, being a direct loss of \$12,000,000, to say nothing of the additional loss sustained by the increased exports of these four articles, which brought the total up to the sum named. But if these figures are discouraging, the returns of the exports of wheat and flour are still more deplorable. The corner in the former product which was effected by the New York and Chicago ring, had the effect of holding back wheat at a time when markets could have been obtained for it in Europe. But the selling price of the ring was far in advance of European quotations, and before the corner was broken market prices in Europe had dropped to a still lower figure, and American grain was sacrificed in consequence. Financiers and economists who have been wont to regard the export and import trade of a country as a true index of the prosperity of the country, are obliged to acknowledge that the present condition of the world's trade has completely upset the theories to which they have in the past so tenaciously clung. We might illustrate the changed condition of affairs by a case such as the following:—In 1884, a man in New York exported 20 tons of products, valued at \$800; in 1885, he increased his business, exporting 25 tons, value \$750. It is in this way that the business of a country may increase, while the trade returns and the individual receipts of the exporters may show a decrease.

LOSS BY FIRE.

In the event of loss of property by fire, the individual owner, if his property be insured, receives a certain amount as an indemnification, and this to the unthinking mind fully compensates for the destruction which the fire has caused, practically making the loss no loss at all. Leaving aside the question of personal inconvenience, business disarrangement, and the throwing out of work of employees, which is indirectly a serious loss to a community, it must be remembered that the insurance or indemnification which the holder of the burned property receives, is paid for by the policy-holders of the company in which the insurance was effected, and that this is a direct tax upon the industries of a country. It is quite evident that if fires did not occur, wealth would be accumulated more rapidly. It is also apparent that insurance companies are not charitable institutions for distributing cash equivalents to those unfortunates who have suffered loss by fire, but that they are money-making organizations; established, it is true, for the protection of individual property-holders, but, nevertheless, established for the sole purpose of realizing the dividends which are earned in the business. Fire Insurance Companies have their legitimate field for usefulness, but their number, and the ever increasing amounts paid out by them as indemnifications for loss, should make thoughtful men consider whether this constant waste of material wealth and expenditure of capital is unavoidable. In the United States, the direct loss from fire, during 1885, amounted to upwards of \$100,000,000, and the country, at the close of the year, was to that extent poorer than it would have been, had the fires not taken place. The New York *Forum* estimates that the cost of keeping up city fire departments, and fire water service, and the indirect loss resulting from the destruction of factories and mills in which large numbers of men and women had been profitably employed, is at least \$200,000,000 per annum, which, added to the sum paid out by the insurance companies, makes the yearly aggregate loss on account of fires about \$300,000,000. According to this estimate, we in Canada lose annually about \$25,000,000 from the same causes. If this amount, or even half of it, could be saved to the country, it would make a great difference in our material advancement. Legislatures, as a rule, consider fire insurance and fire prevention as outside of the field of practical politics. But we think a question which involves millions is worthy the consideration of those who are sent to represent the people's interests.

Think of it, in this nineteenth century, in this age of peace societies and peaceful arbitrations, the cost of maintaining the armies and navies of Europe represents the interest at 4 per cent upon fifteen thousand millions of dollars, and this expenditure is increasing annually. All the great European powers look upon a great war as inevitable; and should it come, it will mortgage the industry of the people for the next quarter of a century.

TIT-BITS.

Policeman: "You've got a black eye, Pat. How did you get it?" Pat: "Home Rule, sor!" (Exit Pat.)

We hear a great deal of talk about the consumption of fish. We wonder they don't try codliver oil.

Some men have greatness thrust upon them, especially when a fat person sits next to them in the street cars.

A writer claiming that his works contained much "food for thought," a friend remarked: "That may be so: but it is wretchedly cooked."

Lord Loughborough rallying a physician one day, on the inefficacy of his prescriptions, the doctor said he defied any of his patients to find fault with him. "That," answered the witty lord, "is exactly what the hangman says."

"What," asked a Galveston Sunday-school teacher, "is that invisible power that prevents the wicked man from sleeping and causes him to toss upon his pillow?" "Skeeters!" shouted the bad boy at the foot of the class.

Judge Richardson, in going the western Circuit, had a great stone thrown at him, which, as he happened to stoop at the moment, passed over his head. "You see" he said to the friends who congratulated him on his escape, "you see, if I had been an upright judge, I had been slain."

Jack, thinking to stuff Paddy, said—

"One day on a voyage to India, in the good ship, Mary Jane, I was amazed to see a flock of mosquitoes which went clean through our sails, leaving bare poles."

Paddy: "Oh, sure, did ya? Why I was bound for the same port at the time you mention, and saw a whole crowd of them with canvas breeches on."

That was a clincher!

Query.—Which was the biggest liar, the profounder of the original lie, or he who so successfully capped it?

Little Jonny Jordan was a passenger on a suburban train. Beside him sat a tall, solemn-looking man with side whiskers. In front wore Johnny's pa and ma, and behind him his aunt Hotty. The whole party had been to church, and the man sitting beside Johnny was the minister going out to spend the afternoon with the Jordans.

"My little man," said the minister to Johnny, "did you pay close attention to the sermon?"

"Yessir."

"Do you remember that I said something about miracles?"

"Yessir."

"Tell me, please."

"Well, all I know about it is ma said this morning that it would be a miracle if we could go to church once without havin' the minister taggin' home with us to dinner. I guess this hain't no mir—"

"Johnny Jordan! (from the front seat.) Will you come here this minute?"

"Yes'm."

Old Deacon Safford—or, as he was familiarly called, Deacon Jo—was a rigid disciplinarian, and being the senior officer, looked after the delinquents with a sharp eye. Deacon Jo was in the habit of parcelling out the sermon, giving to each one of the congregation their portion, according as he thought they needed.

One warm Sabbath afternoon the pastor thinking that those who had no interest in the subject of religion would most likely fall asleep, prepared himself to preach directly to the church. The deacon was on hand to "parcel out the sermon" as fast as it came from the lips of the minister. The parson commenced with his close-fitted, penurious brethren, plainly, but earnestly—

"That belongs to brother Grant," said the deacon.

The next remark was designed for those who went about doing good, but made so much noise and parade about it as to destroy a great part of the good they intended to do.

"That's sister Grimpkins," said Deacon Jo; "no mistaking that."

The parson continued his sermon; but the deacon, who had worked hard during the week, fell into a dozing slumber. Nevertheless, although the body of the deacon was sleeping, the mind was active, and whether the ears performed their functions or not, each portion was as faithfully "parcelled out" as though the deacon had been wideawake.

"Finally, my brethren," concluded the parson, there is a class of persons who listen attentively to every sermon, but who are so free-hearted and benevolent that they do not retain any of it for themselves, but parcel it out among their brothers and sisters."

"That's mine, by thunder!" said Deacon Jo; the sound of his own voice awakening him, "and I deserve it!"

Whether the deacon continued the practice of "parcelling out the sermon" afterwards we are unable to say, but presume if he did that he kept a small portion for himself.

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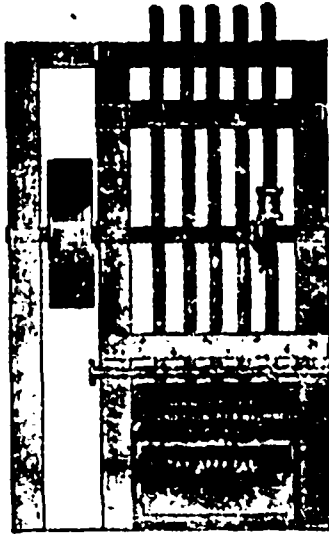
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NEWS OF THE WEEK.

Our Subscribers and Advertising patrons will please note that Mr. A. M. Fraser, formerly of Windsor, has been appointed Business Manager of The Critic. Hereafter, all remittances should be made payable to him.

Subscribers remitting Money, either direct to the Office, or through Agents, will find their receipt in next paper.

It is now over two years since THE CRITIC was established. Its readers have had a good opportunity to judge of the tone, character, enterprise, and worth of the journal, and if they deem its merits are worthy of their continuance and support, we ask their co-operation in still further increasing its circulation. Any subscriber renewing his subscription will, upon forwarding to this office \$2.50, be entitled to two copies of THE CRITIC for the ensuing year, one to be mailed to his own address, the other to any person he may desire. Ask your neighbor to club with you for THE CRITIC when you next renew your subscription; or, if you have a brother, son, or relative, resident in any other part of Canada or the United States, send in your order for two copies, and we will send the absent one THE CRITIC for the next year, post paid.

A rumor to the effect that the S. S. "New Brunswick," which left Annapolis for Boston on Thursday of last week, had been burned at sea, and that none of her passengers had been saved, was telegraphed from Digby to a St. John paper on Friday last. The excitement and anxiety of those whose friends had taken passage by the steamer can better be imagined than described, and as no reliable news could be obtained as to the "New Brunswick's" whereabouts, the story could receive no positive denial until her arrival safely at her destination on Saturday evening, after a somewhat longer passage than usual. It is quite evident that the reflection of the fire which was raging at Eastport had been mistaken by some one for a burning ship, but who this someone was, yet remains a mystery. At the fire referred to, ten sardine factories, two hotels and thirty dwelling houses were totally destroyed.

The complaints which many persons make as to their failing sight when reading by gas or lamplight, would be less frequent were they to purchase a pair of Dr. Laurence's spectacles, which are always kept in stock by J. Godfrey Smith, of the London Drug Store, who also has a fine assortment of Paris and London perfumes, which are just the thing.

The city streets are alive with coal carts, and house-holders are laying in their stock of fuel for the winter. Those who have not already purchased stoves should examine the many excellent varieties sold by Mr. J. E. Wilson, which are modern and economical.

Shelburne says:—Inasmuch as the American fishermen have been in the habit, during the past four or five years, of capturing haddock in the mouths of Shelburne and Cape Negro harbors, and also destroying the shore boat fishing by throwing refuse fish and offal overboard just where they lay, the cruiser Terror is to be stationed here during the entire winter, to prevent a continuance of this sort of thing. We are glad to see that the Americans are beginning to regard the Nova Scotian fishing fleet as a formidable rival to their Gloucester fleet. One gentleman, in giving his testimony before the Senate Fishery Committee at Gloucester on the 4th inst., said that "when he built his vessel at a cost of \$10,000 it cost him \$28 per ton, and at that time he could have built his vessel at Shelburne, N. S., for \$20 a ton."

On Friday of last week Mr. C. A. Creighton, of this city, sold to a St. John's firm 5000 quintals of codfish, which were shipped on the following day. Newfoundland is about the last country to which we would expect to export a staple product such as codfish, but like individuals trade is not without its vagaries.

Several of the agricultural societies in West Hants have combined to further an Agricultural Exhibition to be held in Windsor, and it is expected that kindred societies throughout the county will give the movement their cordial support. Windsor is the centre of a fine agricultural district which in almost every particular compares favorably with those of the Annapolis and Cornwallis Valleys. Let the Hants' farmers unite, and the exhibition is an assured success.

The Kennedy family have returned to Scotland and will, it is said, not again appear in public. The death of their father, Mr. Kennedy, at Stratford, Ont., was heard with regret by all who had listened to this famous Scotch vocalist's rendition of familiar Scottish airs.

Amherst and Moncton are now connected by telephone, the distance being 45 miles. The Windsor Telephone Company report a good year's business, and declare a dividend of 5 per cent.

Provincial newspapers both east and west report slight shocks of earthquake. In Sydney, C. B., the shock was most distinctly felt. As a people we have reason to be thankful for our immunity from tornadoes, floods, earthquakes, and such like natural phenomena.

Hon. L. E. Baker is now on his way to this Province, having made arrangements in England for the construction of a first-class steamship, which is to be placed on the route between Yarmouth and Boston.

At the recent Regina fair 60 exhibits were entered by Indians; wheat, potatoes, and other farm products taking the leading place.

The Ontario (Can.) wheat crop is officially estimated at 18,657,794 bushels of fall sown, and 9,527,783 bushels of spring, making a total of 28,000,000 bushels.

The New York Syndicate which is now constructing the Halifax Street Railway has purchased a controlling interest in the City Electric Light Company. The incandescent system for house lighting is shortly to be introduced, and the operations of the Company vigorously pushed.

Mr. A. Woods, Canadian Agent-General, has left for Australia. 200 Dominion manufacturers have decided to forward samples of their goods.

The sports of the Y. M. L. A. which took place at their grounds on Saturday last were, considering the chilly autumnal state of the atmosphere, well attended. The races were keenly contested throughout, and evoked favorable comment from the onlookers. The chief interest centred in the 440 yard race, for which Tracey, Henry and Whitford had entered. Henry fought gallantly for a leading place, but was outrun by Tracey, the former being completely done up upon reaching the goal. Tracey will not again appear upon the track. This is to be regretted as he is one of our most successful amateur athletes.

The effective Irish Comedy-Drama "Shamus O'Brien," founded on the poem of the same name, was produced at the Academy three nights this week and attracted good audiences. Charles Verner in the role of Shamus O'Brien, Frank Rae as Father Malone, W. B. Cahill as the miser Cornelius Ryan, and Miss Annie Lewis as Kate O'Connor, did justice to the characters represented; otherwise the company was decidedly weak. The play itself was evidently designed to tickle the ears of an American audience, the references to the red-coats being decidedly disloyal in sentiment.

Prof. Chas. G. D. Roberts, of King's College, Windsor, has been awarded the second prize of \$250 in the competitions offered by the *Youth's Companion* for stories of adventure. In the four classes—serials, short stories of adventure, stories for boys and stories for girls—5,600 mas. were sent in; that forwarded by Prof. Roberts taking the second place in short stories of adventure. "Indian Devils," which is the name of his story, will be eagerly looked for by the readers of the *Youth's Companion* in the United States as well as in Canada, for the reputation of this young author has now become continental.

The dog show at St. John, N. B., is the largest ever held in the Dominion. Several Halifax dogs are on exhibition. The attendance of visitors was far beyond the expectations of the committee.

Both parties in Quebec claim victory, but until Parliament assembles it is impossible to state definitely which will hold the reins of power. Out of 65 seats the Conservatives have won thirty-one, and the Liberals twenty-nine. Four constituencies have elected Independent Nationalists and the election in one constituency will not be held until next month. The Independent Nationalists hold the balance of power; if they go with the Government, Dr. Ross' ministry will have a small working majority; if they side with the Opposition, Mr. Mercier will have a slight majority.

The tender of A. E. Milliken, of Moncton, for the erection of the new College buildings, has been accepted by the Governors of Dalhousie. \$52,000 is the amount of the tender.

The Ontario Provincial Board of Health is now taking active measures to stamp out diphtheria, which, for the past few months, has been unusually prevalent.

3,500,000 pounds of tea have already been received at Vancouver, and shipped by the Canadian Pacific to eastern points of distribution. Before the close of the season fully as much more will arrive and be forwarded.

Professor Goldwin Smith has consented to receive an address from the Loyalist Union delegation in recognition of his services during the political campaign in Great Britain.

Public meetings in Annapolis, Windsor, Halifax and Truro, have been addressed by Hon. McLellan, Thompson, Foster and White. The gatherings were large and the speeches on the political issues of the day were listened to with marked attention. The meeting to-night at Amherst will close the Nova Scotian campaign.

According to the latest returns about 300 people lost their lives in the recent storm at Sabine Pass, Texas. The devastated district lies along the Sabine River, between Sabine Lake and the Gulf of Mexico, a distance of about five miles. The cyclone first struck in the Gulf, carrying the water over the low-lying land, in one high unbroken wave. Hotels and houses lying in the track of the cyclone were at once demolished, and the bodies of the unfortunate occupants carried for miles over into the State of Louisiana. From Galveston comes the report that the storm which struck Galveston Island did great damage to the docks, the waves rolling through the main streets for four or five blocks, filling the cellars with water.

Messrs. Wright & Sons of Philadelphia, are negotiating the purchase of the Inman Line of steamers at \$1,200,000. The final decision of the stockholders in the Inman Company has not yet been made public.

Charles H. Dana, editor of the New York "Sun," has paid \$500 to E. Holmes & Co., for embalming the body of General Grant, his widow having refused to pay the undertaker for his services. Mrs. Grant has received \$350,000 as her share in the sale of General Grant's book, but has left the payment of the above bill to one of Grant's bitterest enemies.

400 of Pinkerton's men who were returning to Chicago by train from guard duty over Armour's packing establishment, were jeered at by a crowd of men and boys. Shots were exchanged and two men fatally injured. Six persons have been arrested and are held for trial.

The petrified skeleton of a whale over thirty feet long has been discovered by an officer of the coast survey on a range of mountains in Monterey County, Cal., over 3300 feet above the sea-level.

The iron-front buildings in Charleston resisted the earthquake shocks much better than those with stone fronts.

The Halifax Street Railway was opened for traffic yesterday. The Mayor, Aldermen, and many prominent citizens took seats in the first car which passed over the road.

A Massachusetts firm is exporting type-writers to Turkey.

In the 5 cent savings banks of Charleston, S. C., the colored people have \$124,034.35 on deposit. The largest depositor has \$3000 to his credit.

Yellow fever has broken out in Biloxi, Miss., and many persons have already died. The boards of health of New Orleans and other Southern cities are taking measures to protect the citizens against the attack of this fearful scourge.

In the United States office-holders have hitherto been taxed from 10 to 25 per cent of their salaries for party purposes, but all over the country a strike against this assessment for political purposes has been made. For a postmaster to pay \$250 out of a \$1000 salary, in order to keep his party in power, was not ridiculous so long as his retaining office depended upon his party's success, but Civil Service reform now protects the non-partizan official, and the postmaster pockets the whole of his salary.

The 8000 strikers in the Chicago beef and pork packing establishments who were reported last week as being out on a strike, have resumed work at ten hours per day, the employers having combined to prevent a reduction in the hours of labor.

In order to prevent escape from justice nine of the boodle aldermen of New York have been taken into custody. Only four of these public robbers are now at large.

Ex-President Gonzales, of Mexico, has been assassinated in one of the interior towns. No particulars of the affair have yet been made public.

Secretary Manning has announced his determination to retain office until the close of President Cleveland's first term. This announcement has been received with pleasure by the Democratic party.

The new Bulgarian Sobrange will meet on Wednesday next. Its first business will be to elect a successor to Prince Alexander.

The state of seige in Madrid has been raised.

Henry Ward Beecher electrified an audience of clergymen, students and others gathered to hear him in the City Temple, London, G. B., by declaring that the doctrine of retribution after death was contrary to the spirit of the New Testament. Seven ministers rose and protested against his unorthodox assertion.

A terrible storm of wind and rain struck the Southern and Western coasts of the British Isles on the 18th inst. The crops were seriously damaged and several ships were driven helplessly on the rocks, while one foundered within sight of the shore, all hands on board being lost.

All the arsenals in Germany are to be kept working night and day until the entire army is supplied with the new repeating rifle, from which ten shots can be fired consecutively with scarce an intermission.

In future, Germany will only allow 3½ per cent. interest on its loans.

Instructions have been issued by the French Treasury to its agents to withdraw from circulation the gold pieces of five francs. In fact, they have almost disappeared already; they are disliked by the public, as, from their small size, they are easily lost, and for the same reason the loss in weight by friction is greater than with the larger gold coin. Their entire withdrawal will enable the Bank of France to put a greater number of silver five franc pieces in circulation. The public prefer silver five franc pieces, in spite of their weight, to gold coin of less than twenty francs.

About 2,000,000 bushels of No. 1 Bombay wheat were imported into Italy last year for manufacture into macaroni, it having been found superior to any other kind for this purpose.

The Government of Servia has just granted a monopoly for the sale of tobacco to a Vienna bank in consideration for the loan of \$10,000,000 during the last war. Patriotic smokers are now threatening to discontinue the use of tobacco, and the strike is likely to become general.

L'Astronomie records a fall of luminous rain during a thunderstorm at Sotteville; that is to say, the drops on touching the ground produced flashes of red and violet light. Similar phenomena have been previously recorded.

In India, the greatest producing country, rice has advanced 30 per cent. during the past twelve months, which advance must gradually be felt in all consuming countries.

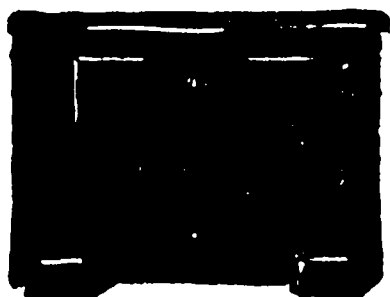
Canon Bianchini, of St. Mark's Cathedral, Venice, was stabbed to death on the 14th inst., by a man named Vianelli, whom he had converted to Protestantism. The assassin deposed that he came to Venice with the intention of avenging himself on Canon Bianchini, whose chicanery had driven him to apostasy and ruin.

A despatch from Dublin announces that the tenants of Keating Clonokill's estate have bought their holdings for 16 years' purchase under the Ashbourne Act.

The Mayor of Belfast attributes the late riots to the rumor that Mr. Morley's liveried assassins, the county police, were to be drafted in to shoot down the Protestants.

The Grand Duke Nicholas, heir to the Russian throne, is suffering from pulmonary troubles. He is 18 years of age.

The war fever in France is steadily growing. Everything German is tabooed and persons selling articles of German manufacture are not patronized. A vendor of German toys, one of which contained a map of France without Alsace and Lorraine, has been prosecuted. General Boulanger believes that a continental campaign would alone prevent the social disorders which are imminent.



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RELIGIOUS.

CATHOLIC.

Two valuable artistic crowns, one the gift of the wife of General Sherman and twenty-nine other American ladies, the other presented by the Empress Eugenie, were stolen from the shrine of the Blessed Virgin in the Church of the University of Notre Dame, Ind., early on the morning of October 7th. One of the thieves was captured, and the spoils were recovered from him; but the miscreants had broken and utterly ruined the crowns.

Four years ago the Rev. George A. Ellis of this city established a society called St. Mary's Union, for the purpose of assisting in the building of St. Patrick's Church, Brunswick Street. During this time the society, the members of which each pay twenty-five cents monthly, has contributed upwards of \$9000 to the building fund of that church. The work being now practically accomplished, it is proposed to devote the funds of the Union towards liquidating the debt on St. Mary's Cathedral.

"The History of the Catholic Church in Newfoundland" is being prepared by Very Rev. Mgr. Howley, Vicar-Apostolic of the western district of that island. One of the most illustrious names in that history is that of Dr. Howley's predecessor, the lamented Mgr. Sears, who labored with such untiring zeal for the spiritual and temporal welfare of the inhabitants of western Newfoundland.

Rev. Richard Donnelly, a native of Halifax, pastor of St. Joseph's Church, Medford, Mass., died at that place on the 7th inst.

PRESBYTERIAN.

The Presbyterian Colleges in the Upper Provinces have commenced the season's work with encouraging prospects, there being a larger attendance than for many years.

The Rev. Dr. Pollock, who has been spending the autumn in Scotland, returned home the latter part of last week.

Dr. Dyall, of the English Presbyterian Mission to China, occupied the pulpit of Fort Massey Church last Sunday evening. He described the customs and religious beliefs of that country, and spoke of the difficulties in the way of a missionary. The reverend gentleman is connected with the hospital at Swatow.

The Rev. L. G. McNeil, late of Newfoundland, was last week inducted into the pastorate of St. Andrew's Church, St. John, N. B.

There are thirty-two Presbyterian Sunday-schools in the United States, having more than 1,000 scholars each. The largest one is at Throop Avenue Church, Brooklyn, with a membership of 2,777.

The following statistics will be interesting to Presbyterians: The Established Church of Scotland has 1,560 churches, 555,662 communicants, 14 missionaries, 10 lady teachers, and contributes for foreign missions \$162,668. The Free Church of Scotland reports 1,206 churches, 324,000 communicants, 39 missionaries, 21 lady teachers, and gives for foreign mission work \$458,010. The United Presbyterian Church of Scotland has within its bounds 558 churches, 181,146 members, 82 missionaries, 18 lady teachers, and its contributions to foreign missions last year amounted to \$198,366. In the Presbyterian Church in Ireland there are 556 churches, 102,141 members, 13 missionaries, 10 lady teachers, and last year \$64,505 was collected for foreign missionary purposes. The Presbyterian Church in England has 286 congregations, 61,000 communicants, 25 missionaries, 14 lady teachers, and gave last year to foreign missions \$89,325. The Presbyterian Church in Canada reports 944 churches, 127,611 members, 17 missionaries, 4 lady teachers, and last year contributed to foreign missions \$43,532.

METHODIST.

The smallest Methodist Conference in the world is said to be that of France, which is composed of twenty-five ministers and three or four laymen. The total membership in that country is under two thousand.

When, fifty years ago, the first Methodist service was held in Melbourne, the white population did not exceed fifty persons. To day, Melbourne, with Victoria for its circuit has 480 churches, 311 other preaching places, and two colleges.

The third party of missionaries is now on the way to join Bishop Taylor's mission in Africa.

BAPTIST.

On the 9th inst., Mr. A. H. Williams, a graduate of Acadia College and of McMaster Hall, Toronto, was ordained pastor of the Baptist Church at St. Andrew, N. B.

The Rev. A. B. Boyar, A. B., was on the 14th inst. ordained by the Free Church Baptist Conference.

A call from the Baptist Church at Pennfield, N. B., to the Rev. A. E. Ingraham, has been accepted.

New churches have been lately opened at Dipper Harbor, and Campbellton, N. B., and at Souris, P. E. I.

The Annual Meeting of the Sunday-school in connection with Leinster St. Baptist Church, St. John, N. B., was lately held. From the reports we learn that the School is in a healthy condition. 73 were added last year to the membership, and 20 of the scholars united with the Church. The school collected during the year for church and benevolent purposes \$750.

The F. C. Baptist Conference of New Brunswick met on the 8th instant. The membership reported is 12,166, and the number of scholars in the Sabbath-schools 5,560.

ITEMS OF INTEREST.

A rowly formed church among the Zulus has the following among its regulations:—"No member shall be permitted to drink the white man's grog or native beer, nor to touch it with his lips."

The King of Spain's first pair of walking shoes must be made according to a special court regulation, and therefore have just been ordered by the Queen Regent in compliance with strict Spanish etiquette. The shoes must be of white kin, embroidered in gold, and must be solemnly blessed in order to insure the divine protection on his Majesty's first tottering step. At the same time 300 pairs of shoes are given away to the poor children of Madrid.

BIRTHS AND DEATHS IN THE UNITED STATES.—The death rate for the whole United States for the last census year was 18 per 1,000. Comparing it with the rates of some other countries for the year 1880, we find that in England and Wales the rate was 20.5; in the rural districts of England, 18.5; in Sweden, 18.1; in Belgium, 22.4; in the German Empire, 26.1; in Austria, 29.6; and in Italy, 30.5. The mean annual birth-rate of the United States is 36 per 1,000 of population, and the annual increase of population from the excess of births over deaths is nearly 2 per cent. a year, and this is exclusive of the increase from immigration. The mean annual birth rates of some foreign countries are as follows—viz., England and Wales, 35.4; Sweden, 30.2; Denmark, 31.9; Belgium, 32; Austria, 39.1; German Empire, 39.3. The birth-rate is greater among the colored than among the whites, but this difference is less in the rural districts than it is in the cities.

The now walk, "the tennis strut," is as horrid as its name implies, and I do hope that really nice girls will not, even for a freak, adopt it. Fashionable walks are usually without any excuse for being. Instead of so many exercises in gymnastics, if women would only study walking how much handsomer they would appear on the street. Trotting is not attractive, and most of our girls do this. There are exceptions—in New Orleans. There women walk with the grace of goddesses; without any consciousness, they are the embodied line of grace as they move. Perhaps they are born a little more lithe than other women, but I doubt it; but they do take more care early in life to attain ease in their movement.

If I had a daughter I should do everything in my power to help make her physically beautiful. The religion, whichever it is, that calls for respect to the body because it is made in the image of its Maker was not a religion that made the world a bad one, at least I do not think it was.—"Bab" in *New York Star*.

THE MOST DENSELY POPULATED PORTION OF THE EARTH.—It has been for a long time asserted and believed that the island of Barbadoes, with 169 square miles and a population of 175,000, which is 1,054 persons to the square mile, was the most densely inhabited portion of the earth's surface. From a communication of Mr. John Worthington, the consul of the United States at Valetta, Malta, it appears that in the matter of density of population Barbadoes must yield the palm to Malta. That island contains 95 square miles of surface, and contains 142,500 inhabitants (exclusive of the British garrison and visitors and non-residents), which is an average of 1,500 to the square mile. The city of Valetta contains a great plethora of population, its area being 0.318 square mile and its population 24,854, a population of 78,157 persons to the square mile. There is one specially populous quarter of Valetta, known as the Manderagio, the area of which is 0.004 square mile, or 2.56 acres, wherein dwell 2,347 persons—a proportion of 636,000 souls to the square mile. If we exclude the one-third of the island which is unsuitable for cultivation and the area occupied by buildings, the population of Malta reaches the large number of 2,000 persons per square mile.—*Iron*.

MASTICATION.—A curious controversy is in progress as to the need or value of "biting one's food." Strangely as it must appear, there are some who should be authorities, ready to affirm that it is futile to take the trouble to use the teeth, with which nature has provided man in common with most other animals, apparently for the special purpose of cutting and grinding his food. Little, if any, weight is attached to the evidence of facts in this dispute. The existence of the dental apparatus counts for nothing. Nor does it go for much that movements of the jaw promote the insalivation of the food. In short, mouth digestion is treated as a myth or little better. What are we to understand by all this? Is it one of the early fruits of that attempt to popularize the science of physiology which has been so persistently and unselfishly made by the medical profession in the supposed interests of public health and the prevention of disease? We do not incline to mingle in the fray, just at present at least. Let the dispute go on and be fought out to the bitter end. Meanwhile, we counsel all who care for their comfort, and who do not desire to develop the worst form of dyspepsia, to continue the practice of mastication as before. As a matter of fact and experience, a liberal use of the teeth in feeding is one of the essentials of easy digestion, and though we are not prepared to assert that it is necessary to bite each morsel of meat precisely, twenty five times, it is better to err on the side of masticating too much than on that of not masticating enough. First, to divide the food and crush its fibres and particles generally, and secondly, to mix it so thoroughly with the secretion from the salivary glands, that not only shall the act of deglutition be rendered easy, but that the food when it enters the stomach shall have been properly prepared for digestion in the gastric juice.—*Lancet*.

[FOR THE CRITIC.]

"AT NIGHT."

I stood 'neath the shade of an old fir tree,
 And the night was then half gone,
 The hills o'er the water shew'd dark in the sea,
 Looming black 'gainst the dim light of dawn,
 The water lay calm as a mirror a deep,
 Save the rustling night wind's sigh;
 And the stars in its dark depths sleepily winked
 To their mates in the deep blue sky—
 And it looked as tho' shower on shower had roll'd
 From the depths of the summer night;
 In sparkling splashes of silver and gold,
 To make this glorious sight—
 And the mermaids gather the golden stars
 That fall on the sea-worn strand;
 That sparkle in rido and golden pass,
 On the wave-ruled, rippled sand;
 And they carry them down to their haunts below,
 'Midst the coral and kelp, and shells;
 Where the silent fishes come and go,
 Tho' fishery shadowy dells—
 The herring in schools sweep quietly by,
 Thro' the water like ghostly bark;
 Their wake like a spirit seems to sigh,
 In eddies, all dazle and spark—
 A flash! and a meteor, blazing light,
 Flies thro' the vaults dark blue;
 Splitting the darkness and chasing the night,
 And turning to jewels the dew—
 Now the big bear trumps on his lonely way,
 Where the stillness reigns profound;
 And beyond him shines the sun's bright ray,
 And below him the earth turns round—
 And about him waves of ether roll;
 And around him endless space,
 As he tries to reach the starry pole,
 That smiles in his rugged face—
 And below on the water the northern loon,
 Laughs over the misty calm;
 And jeeringly cries to the sentinel owl,
 Which echoes the loud alarm.

A. H.

PREVENTING COLDS.

Colds are always with us, like the poor, and the two ills are about equally difficult of treatment. The very name "cold" is misleading. There is nothing cold about a cold; it is, on the contrary, an acute inflammation, a heat; and it runs its course like any other fever. This must be kept in mind if we would understand the best way of preventing and of checking a cold—I will not say of curing it; for a cold, once well established, is as incurable as any other self-limited disease.

It takes its misleading name from the fact that exposure to cold produces it. Cold feet, a cool draught upon a part of the body, or exposure of the whole body to a low temperature, will bring on its symptoms either in the bronchial tubes ("cold on the chest"), the vocal organs ("cold in the throat"), or the nasal passages ("cold in the head"). When the flame of inflammation is lighted in either of these sensitive regions it is apt to extend itself to the others. But whatever it is, the disease is inflammation, and nothing else, and must be treated as such; that is to say, by palliative remedies and by avoiding further exposure until it has run its course.

But a cold, once established, is seldom cured—it ends when it has spent itself. So that the more important question for us is, how may we keep from catching colds? How can we diminish the great tax that they lay on our comfort, the risk which they cause of pneumonia or bronchitis, and their frequent termination in chronic catarrh, the characteristic American ailment, and the most distressing of those that come from our variable climate?

Of the ordinary precautions against catching cold I need say little. To dress with sufficient warmth in Winter, to avoid suddenly checking the perspiration in Summer, to guard against cold feet the year round and against accidental uncovering during sleep, to avoid draughts and to keep warm in the cold—all these precautions we know and practice more or less carefully, and yet many persons, in spite of them all, are among the greatest sufferers from colds.

Who are these unfortunate persons? They are of all temperaments, habits and ages. No age, no country, has not heard their sneezings; and the chorus will never cease until the sufferers learn this lesson, which should be embroidered upon every pocket-handkerchief in Christendom: "It is not enough to protect yourself against the cold. You must also harden yourself against the cold."

The people, then, who catch cold are those who depend too much upon precautions and too little upon hardening, and the more they protect themselves without hardening the tenderer they become and the likelier to catch cold. It is like banking up a river; the higher you build the levees the worse will be the overflow when it comes. Those people who defend themselves only by artifice against colds are the worst sufferers from colds.

Now, what regime can be recommended to these sufferers? Certainly no extreme or Spartan measures; for many of those who suffer the most from colds are delicate ladies, invalids, children or aged persons. To such it would often be dangerous to recommend cold plunge baths or long walks in rain or snow. These are good tonics for some, but they are for the strong, and not for the weak. But the principle of treatment is the same for all. These sufferers generally have one trait in common. They have coddled themselves so warmly as to have an over-sensitive skin; and this is the great source of colds. Happily, it is a condition that can be rationally treated and usually cured.

How does the trouble begin? Very often, perhaps usually, in childhood. An anxious mother wishes to be sure that her child shall not take cold; "and if I only keep him warm enough," she says to herself, arguing from

the name of the thing—"if I can only keep him warm enough, surely he will never catch cold." So the child is burdened night and day, Summer and Winter alike, with wraps and coverings that keep him in perspiration a great part of the time, and this causes such tenderness of the skin that catching cold on the least exposure is inevitable. It is quite true that a child should be kept warm. But the anxious mother must bear in mind that, in a warm room or on a hot day, he does not need as much clothing as when it is cold. Overheating, in a word, is the surest preparation for colds; but with each new attack the ignorant mother can think of nothing better than to make the house warmer and the clothing thicker. Of course the little sufferer's skin becomes still tenderer and the colds more frequent. Many an active little fellow, thus coddled, has to spend the bright days of Winter in watching from his bedroom windows the sports of happier children who are not so tender but that they can face the snow without danger.

Now, what is to be done in such a case? The treatment needed is simple enough, though it needs intelligent care in the application. These are my five rules for hardening:—

1. Cold plunge baths for the comparatively few who can bear them.
2. Cold sponge baths daily for the majority of healthy persons.
3. As much out door exposure, Summer and Winter, as possible, always with clothing according to the season.
4. Avoid sleeping too warm at night. The golden mean in the matter is the best.

5. Many persons take cold by having cold feet, and for these the cold douche to the feet is a most effective cure. It stimulates the nerves and the arteries of the feet, and produces a brisk reaction of warmth. A single application will sometimes set cold feet glowing that have not been warm for a whole Winter. In practice I have found this a most effective remedy, and while it is not to be used absolutely without precautions of time and seasons, yet there are few persons so delicate as not to bear perfectly well this moderate and local exposure to cold, or to profit by it. Often it will entirely cure the life-long affliction of cold feet. The colder the water the better—and if one has not the convenience of a douche, it will serve fairly well to stand in a tub or basin filled to six inches deep with the coldest water at command. The warm reaction is essential.

In the matter of colds an ounce of prevention is worth at least a pound of cure, as in other ailments of which I have written elsewhere. One who will toughen himself as I have indicated need not often ask, "How shall I cure my cold?" for he will have already said to himself, "First, don't catch your cold."—*T. M. Coan in Harper's Bazaar.*

FIGHTING-KITES IN INDIA.

It was late in summer some years back, when I was living in the suburbs, that a strange boy called on me to inquire if I had Indian kites with me, or if I could give him some information about them. Though unable to oblige my young inquirer in the way he desired, I was pleased to notice that boys here are awakening to a choice of better kites than the curious ones they fly at present. The thick picture-kites with long tails are after the fashion of the Chinese, who, however, are not backward in the use of lighter and more refined fighting-kites, which form the speciality of Indian kite-fliers. To save space I shall touch only on the main features of kite-flying in India. In that country there are shops where they sell kites very cheap; so very few people make them at home. Besides, it wants a fine and practised hand to make the thin, well-balanced fighting-kites. They are made of one (square) shape, but of various sizes: the smallest being 8 inches square and the largest 2 feet square. The most common and useful ones are a foot square. Very thin but strong paper, resembling tissue or cigarette paper, of all colors, is used for the purpose. But whether the kite is made of one or different pieces of paper, it must be of the same thickness throughout. The backbone is a straight, flat, strong, well-finished lath, and the bow is made out of a cane or a piece of pliant wood half as thick as the backbone, round and knotless. The latter must be of equal thickness and weight throughout its whole length, as on it mainly depends the balance of the kite. The tail, which is merely a finish or an ornament, is triangular or round, measuring only two or three inches at the longest. Strong card-thread is used to fly kites with. The English manufacturers would be surprised to learn the amount of cotton thread consumed in India for this purpose; one lad using as much as 10,000 yards in the course of a year. Silken thread is also used, though rarely. The knots joining the pieces being made fine, smooth, and strong, the whole length of the thread is drawn through a mixture of fine pounded glass and light starch, which gives it a keen edge. The dried thread, which is now ready for fighting purposes, is then wound up on a wooden frame resembling a spool. Great ingenuity is spent in making this spool or roller light, useful, and handsome. Next, as to the motion of the kite. Two pieces exactly equal in length off the main thread are tied to the kite; one at the meeting-point of the bow and the backbone; the other, a few inches lower, to the backbone only. There are two useful things of motion besides the ordinary straight one: the wheeling motion, in which the kite wheels round and round, and the quivering motion, in which its head keeps on quivering sideways as it flies upwards; both being very graceful. A practised hand can give to the kite either motion as he pleases. Of course a good deal depends on the proper fastening of the kite. If it wheels too much you must make the lower fastening thread shorter, or if it leans too much on one side you should stick a piece of paper or fine linen to the bow on the other side. Similarly there are other little means to regulate the motion of the kite. As in all warfare, great skill and practice are required to fight well with kites, and manœuvring counts a great deal in paper actions. Sometimes the enemy has certain advantages over you: for instance, his house is higher than yours (in India kites are usually flown from the flat tops of houses), commanding a greater swoop; or his kite may be a little

bigger than yours, in which case his thread will have a greater tension. Those disadvantages one must learn to counteract; but these are details. There are two methods of fighting—the *pull* method and the *loose* method. In the former, which is the quicker and more skillful of the two, you attack the enemy by leading your kite by a deep swoop under the other, and then at a judicious time pulling it so fast that your antagonist will fail to make the point where your thread touches his loose enough by letting out his thread. You have a good chance of cutting his thread then. In the other method, which is more common, and which requires great patience and watchfulness, you lead your kite either over or under his, and then let out the thread, in which he follows. One has to be careful in this kind of fight as to which of the two motions—the wheeling or the quivering—he gives to the kite at different times. The chances of winning are increased by a keener edge, a favorable breeze, or other small advantages. One might think that, everything being equal, it is a more chance that you will cut the thread of your rival. But in this, as in many other things which look simple and seem to depend on chance, a good deal of cleverness and practice go to make up a fair victory. An evenly matched fight in this method lasts a long time; I have often spent two or three hours over it. And great is the joy of winning. Sometimes the kites go so far that you can hardly see them, or it gets quite dark; in that case the fight has to end in an unsatisfactory draw. With some, kite-fighting changes from a pastime into a passion. All work, and even eating and sleeping, are abandoned in order to perfect oneself in this art. And great is the excitement which follows a good fight; sometimes (fortunately it is not common) high wagers are laid on it. In small towns there are champion kite-fighters, who devote as much time and attention to kites as some people do to boating and wrestling. In kite-flying there is no distinction of rank, or caste, or age. The young and the old—all take an equal delight in it; you do not come into close contact with other kite-fliers; and, it being an innoxious game, anybody can indulge in it. The kite-flying season in India lasts from March to September, barring the wet months. In England the best time for it would be August and September, when the weather gets a little bit steady. All that you want is a fine steady breeze in a clear atmosphere. In India boys fly kites generally in the afternoon, when it gets a little cool, for three or four hours until it gets dark. But there are some who pursue the game at all times of the day, heedless even of the scorching heat of the noon. Others delight in watching the kite wheel up high in the heavens, as it glistens with the soft serene light of the Indian moon, which makes our nights clearer than English November middays.—*St. James' Gazette.*

A coal-box happened to get damaged a few days back in a barrack some distance from Dublin—the seat of a district, and commanded by a full colonel. It was intimated that 1s 6d. would be the cost of repairing it. But the expenditure of such a large sum of money could not be left to an individual officer, even of colonel's rank; so a board of officers was detailed to sit on the coal-box, and an officer of the Commissariat Department was ordered to proceed from Dublin as a member. The travelling expenses connected with the assembling of the board of course exceeded the value of a new coal-box.—*Broad Arrow.*

COMMERCIAL.

The condition of the wholesale trade this week has developed but little change. Business continues to thrive in all departments, and a good, healthy volume of trade has transpired. Country orders have been liberal, and hopefulness is the prevailing feeling. Prices generally are firm, and an improvement is looked for in most lines. The return of confidence is already shown in stiffening of prices of staple goods. Payments continue to be fairly satisfactory.

In Europe the political situation is very much strained, and that fact is an important factor in making prices the world over. War rumors are rife and nearly everybody believes that hostilities with a view to making a new map of Europe, and perhaps a large portion of Asia and Northern Africa, must be inaugurated between several, if not all, of the Great Powers by next spring and possibly before.

On this side of the Atlantic there is nothing that by any probability can involve the nations in the wasteful process of fighting each other or any one else. If, therefore, the Orient chooses to indulge in that most expensive of luxuries, the Occident can calmly look on and make a handsome profit in supplying food, clothing, arms, and munitions to the belligerents.

The foolishness of some farmers in holding their produce back when fair figures are offered in the hope of realizing better prices later on, has received an admirable illustration in hops this year. In June, there was a slight boom in that article and the Ontario and Quebec raisers refused to bring their hops to market, being persuaded that they would advance to somewhere about \$1 per pound. The agents of Bavarian and New York hop-growers at once look advantage of this fact by contracting with the various brewers in Canada for full supplies at prices ranging from 32 to 35 cents on the average. Now when Canadian growers have waked up to the reality and offer their inferior hops at 40 to 50 cents, they find no one willing to buy or to even look at them. In consequence it would not be surprising to see Canadian hops drop this fall and winter to about 12 to 16 cents per pound.

To show that the buoyant feeling of the Canadian markets is not unwarranted or unsympathized with by those abroad, we place before our readers the following, which we clip from a recent issue of the *London Economist*:

"There can be no doubt that trade is now improving. From nearly all our chief industrial centres the reports are either that business is expanding that an early improvement is looked for. These reports, if true, do not

appear to harmonize with the fact that latterly the goods' receipts of our railway companies have shown a reduction as compared with the corresponding period of last year. If, however, its causes could be traced there is little doubt that this reduction would be found to be due, not to a falling off in the volume of traffic, but to the reduction of rates, which, very wisely, both in their own interest and in the interest of their customers, the companies have granted. In reality, therefore, the decline in the railway receipts is quite compatible with such a quickening of trade as is reported. And there is further encouragement in what our New York correspondent writes as to the condition of the American iron trade. If, as he says, the American makers are fully employed, we may expect the American demand to overflow to us and give a much-needed stimulus to business here. There thus seems good reason now to hope that before long trade, and the trade demand for money, will perceptibly increase, and the experience of the last week has shown that the market supplies of money are so little in excess of current requirements that it would not need much of an increase in the demand to cause rates to rise."

IRON AND HARDWARE.—The advance in pig iron has been quite marked during the past fortnight both in England and on this side of the ocean, and all descriptions of hardware show great firmness. Still buyers are not anxious to invest, and seem to think the advance is merely speculative and will not be maintained. We cannot agree with them. Though aware that vast quantities of iron and steel remain unsold in the hands of the producers, especially in Scotland, still several extensive strikes for hours or pay have already occurred and more are impending. These curtail the production while the demand and the consumption go on at a constantly increasing ratio. If the demands of the strikers are complied with the cost of production is enhanced. If not the output is reduced. In either case the tendency is decidedly in favor of advancing figures.

BREADSTUFFS.—The local markets are well supplied and we see no reason to make any alteration in our quotations at present. Still the tone of the market is weak and concessions have sometimes to be made to effect sales. Peas and other coarse grains are remarkably low in England just now, and are dull and heavy in Canada. Wheat and corn continue to meet depressed markets and there is no apparent probability of their improving in the near future.

PROVISIONS.—The stock of bacon is small and little is doing. New comes forward sluggishly, and the call for old is merely nominal. Hams are in fair demand and good meat ready sales. Lard prices are firm and the supply hardly equals the demand. This defect will be speedily remedied as killing progresses. Pork is quiet and prices rule steady.

CHEESE.—The market continues firm, but there are symptoms that some holders must break before long. Small men who have been carrying lots of from 1,000 to 5,000 boxes by the aid of their banks find a difficulty in inducing their backers to continue their advances, and if a number find themselves forced to sell out at once they must pull down prices and may bring on a disaster.

BUTTER.—Good butter is very firm, though prices have not nominally advanced. The shipping demand has been larger, and this causes considerable stiffness to prevail.

GROCERIES.—Refined sugar shows a tendency to weaken and quotations are shaded in actual transactions where considerable quantities change hands. Molasses has been firm and is looking upwards under the influence noted in our last.

TEA AND COFFEE.—Yokohama cables report the tea market very firm and prices about 1 cent higher. Though our market has not changed notably, these firm cables materially aided sales and a good business has been in good request and very steady.

FRUIT.—Shipments of apples to Europe continue to be very large, and good prices are reported from Liverpool. Best selected and well-packed apples brought 19 to 20 shillings there recently. A cargo of dried fruit from Denia and Malaga arrived last week, but it has not as yet been put upon the market publicly. The quality is reported to be excellent.

LIVE STOCK is coming forward quite freely and figures are generally unchanged. Some fine heads of fatted steers from Hants and Annapolis Counties were exhibited on our streets during the past week, and several considerable shipments to Great Britain have been made.

OYSTERS.—A shipment of 500 barrels of oysters was recently made from Miramichi to London. It is said that these bivalves bring \$6 per barrel readily there. As they cost about \$1 to \$1.25 at the beds and handling, freight, commissions, etc., will not more than double the cost there should be a good margin for profit in the transaction. If this venture proves successful it is probable that it will be followed by others.

FISH.—The weather has not been very favorable since our last issue for handling dry fish until the present. During the past week there have been large arrivals of dry and pickled fish from the coast, also from St. Pierre, Miq. All the fish that arrived have been placed at about former quotations, and those from St. Pierre are selling at \$2.00 per qtl., and are said to look better than the general run of Nova Scotia Bank codfish. There is no reason why they should. If our fishermen would take a little more pains in washing out before drying it would make a vast difference. There must be a very large quantity of Bank codfish on the coast to come to market, and it is too bad that on account of not being so nicely handled as the French fish, the latter should take the preference in our market, even at the same price.

Sales of herring have been made in this market the past few days for the Montreal market, but we think this more particularly alludes to Labrador herring, which we have heard sold at \$4.87 per hbl., f. o. b. Herring are now reported to be very scarce on this coast, none being caught that we can learn of. There has been quite a large stop of herring on the American coast, but we think this is all over, and the price has advanced there.

Mackerel were reported schooling off this harbor on Monday, and several

vessels went in search but did not get any. The fine weather we are now having may have its effect, and those vessels which missed them on Monday may yet be successful in taking some. We think that poor mackerel have seen their highest price for at least some time. The demand has dropped off for the present. They have got so far above the selling price in the West Indies that there is no inducement to ship there. It is possible that later on there may be more enquiry, and if so we think that there will be a further advance.

Our fish market has been quite lively since our last issue. All kinds of fish that have been arriving have been quite readily placed, and in some cases at an advance on sales the week previous. We hope those that have fish on the coast will get them to market in season, and not hold them back until they cannot be sold. From all the information we can get there are now no vessels in the Bay, and no mackerel seen around P. E. Island. There have been some showing in Chodabucto Bay and along the eastern shore about Whitehead and Torbay, which looks as if they have about all left the North Bay, and we do hope that our shore fishermen will be successful in making good hauls before the close of the season. We think there is no doubt that good fat mackerel, well taken care of and well cleaned, will bring full prices, and we would recommend our shore fishermen to soak and clean well any they may get. The difference in price will more than compensate for the time and trouble in soaking and cleaning.

Late Montreal advices state that—Labrador herring are quiet and prices slightly easier. Quotations ranging from \$6.00 to \$6.25 per bbl., and for a round lot \$6.00 was refused. Several lots are being shipped to Chicago and Milwaukee. Cape Breton herring are quiet; \$5.50 to 5.75 per bbl. for No. 1 large. Green cod have been sold at \$3.25 to 3.50 per bbl., and dry cod at \$2.75 to 2.90 per qtl. Salmon scarce; No. 1 Newfoundland \$16.00 to 17.00 per bbl., and British Columbia \$14.00 per bbl. Cod oil is dear; puns, Newfoundland quoted at 42c, but the regular run of offerings range from 37c to 40c. per imp. gal.; Nova Scotia is quoted at 33c. to 37c., and new cod liver oil 70c. Good sweet oil can be had at 60c. to 65c.

Boston advices to 16th inst. are about as follows:—The jobbing trade continues pretty active for about all varieties of fish except mackerel. The trade from first hands has been more quiet. Prices remain with few changes, as follows:—Extra Bay mackerel, No. 1, \$31 to 32; 1's, \$17 to 18; 2's \$11.25 to 13, according to quality and lateness of catch. Sales of 1885 Shore 2's at \$8.50 per bbl; Nova Scotia and P. E. Island mackerel remain the same as last quoted, at \$15 to 16 for No. 1; \$11.50 to 12.50 for 2's; \$8 to 10 for 3's; \$11 to 13 for uncull'd; dry Bank cod, \$2.50 to 2.25 for large and medium; pickled Bank, \$2.37 to 2.12 for large and medium; large shore, \$3.00 to \$3.25; medium \$2.25

Below will be found a comparative statement for four years of mackerel landed at the New England fishing ports for week ending October 15th:—

Table with 4 columns: Year (1886, 1885, 1884, 1883) and corresponding values (69,776, 287,239, 389,437, 162,966).

which shows a very large deficiency between the years 1885 and 1886, and it is now very doubtful if this quantity can be made up from this summer's catch, and looks very favorable for any large fat, new cured fish our fishermen may be fortunate in securing. We would again remind our fishermen that they must not be led away, expecting fabulous prices for what fat mackerel they may have. When the price gets to a certain point, the demand will become less; and again beef and pork are so cheap, and likely to be, that those articles will have their effect in keeping the prices of fat mackerel down.

Portland advices to 14th inst., are about as follows:—Stocks of barrel fish now running here are about 1,000 bbls. new herring, which are held at \$3.00; 1500 bbls. 1885 Bay and Shore 2's held at \$9.00; and 500 bbls. new mackerel held at \$11.00 and \$18.00. No new Shore mackerel. Late arrivals from North Bay, schr. M. Smith, 400 bbls.

Gloucester advices to 15th inst report arrived the past 24 hours the following:—

Table with columns: From, Crd. Pds., Halibut Pds., Hake Pds., Haddock Pds., Pollock Pds., Mackerel Bbls., Herring Bbls. and rows of data for various vessels and quantities.

One vessel had been hooking all the season around the Magdalen Islands and caught only 60 bbls. mackerel.

Boston, Oct. 18;—The fish trade remains the same. Receipts of fish since Friday have been as follows:

From Foreign Ports.—1738 bbls. mackerel, 126 bbls. herring, 1400 qtls. codfish, 165 qtls. pollock, 416 cases mackerel, 384 cases lobsters, 40 cases haddies.

From Domestic Ports.—66 bbls. mackerel, 2810 bbls. herring, 342 qtls. codfish, 2000 qtls. hake, 4379 bxs. herring, 222 bxs. boneless fish, 107 bbls. fresh mackerel.

New York, Oct. 16.—Trade has been very fair this week for mackerel, and receipts have been well taken, but very few are afloat unsold and not many in store. Nova Scotia and P. E. Island mackerel sold at \$12.50 to \$13.50 uncull'd, \$16 to \$18 for 1's, and \$13.25 to \$14.50 for 2's. Extras, \$20 to 25 as to quality. Bay 1's dull and but few selling at \$16 to 18.50 for 1's, and \$13 to 13.50 for 2's. Shore, 1's sells slowly at \$23 to 25, 2's, 14.50 to 15. Block Island 1's \$25 to 26, 2's \$13 to 13.50, 3's \$11.50 to 12. Lobsters, \$35 to 40. Round Shore Herring, \$3.25 to 3.50. Bank Cod held at \$2.50. Georges, \$3.62 1/2 to 3.75 per qtl.

MARKET QUOTATIONS.

WHOLESALE RATES.

Our Price Lists are corrected for us each week by reliable merchants, and can therefore be depended upon as accurate up to the time of going to press. We intend devoting special attention to our Commercial and Financial Articles, and to our Market Quotations, and to this end have secured the co-operation of several persons thoroughly conversant with questions of finance and commerce.

GROCERIES.

Table listing various grocery items like Sugar, Tea, Molasses, Biscuits, and their prices.

The above quotations are carefully prepared by a reliable Wholesale House, and can be depended upon as correct.

BUTTER AND CHEESE.

Table listing various butter and cheese items like Nova Scotia Choice Fresh Prints, Canadian Creamery, and their prices.

The above quotations are corrected by a reliable dealer in Butter and Cheese.

FISH FROM VESSELS.

Table listing various fish items like Mackerel, Herring, Alewives, and their prices.

The above are prepared by a reliable firm of West India Merchants.

LOBSTERS.

Table listing lobster items like Nova Scotia (Atlantic Coast Packing) Tall Cans and Flat, and their prices.

The above quotations are corrected by a reliable dealer.

LUMBER.

Table listing various lumber items like Pine, Spruce, Hemlock, and their prices.

The above quotations are prepared by a reliable firm in this line.

BREADSTUFFS.

PROVISIONS AND PRODUCE.

Our quotations below are our today's wholesale selling prices for car lots not cash. Jobbers' and Retailers' prices about 5 to 10 per cent advance on carload lots.

Table listing various breadstuffs and provisions items like Flour, Bran, Shorts, Middlings, and their prices.

J. A. CHIPMAN & Co., Liverpool Wharf, Halifax, N. S.

PROVISIONS.

Table listing various provision items like Beef, Pork, Lard, and their prices.

These quotations are prepared by a reliable wholesale house.

WOOL, WOOL SKINS & HIDES.

Table listing various wool and hide items like Wool, Ox Hides, Cow Hides, and their prices.

The above quotations are furnished by WM. F. FOSTER, dealer in Wool and Hides, Connors' Wharf.

HOME AND FOREIGN FRUITS.

Table listing various fruit items like Apples, Oranges, Lemons, and their prices.

The above quotations are furnished by C. H. Harvey, 10 & 12 Sackville St.

POULTRY.

Table listing various poultry items like Turkeys, Geese, Ducks, and their prices.

The above are corrected by a reliable victualer.

LIVE STOCK—at Richmond Depot.

Table listing various live stock items like Steers, Oxen, Fat Steers, and their prices.

These quotations are prepared by a reliable victualer.

A BARREN TITLE.

(Continued.)

He began by apologizing for the liberty he had taken in asking me to meet him; 'but as you are here,' he added, 'I may, perhaps, hope that I have not transgressed beyond forgiveness; although, indeed,' he went on, 'I knew of no other mode of obtaining an opportunity for saying all that I want to say.'

Still I was tongue-tied, still the words refused to come. The next ten minutes were the most memorable of my life. How my heart beat! how his words thrilled me from head to foot! What he said you can perhaps faintly imagine; if you can not, I cannot tell you.

He pressed me for an answer. Then my tongue was loosened. It would not be worth while to put down here what I said, even if I could do so, which I very much doubt. The result was that I promised to meet him the following Friday evening at the same time and place, and give him an answer of some kind.

What that answer would be was a foregone conclusion from the first. I might just as well have said 'Yes' then and there, but that I would not have him think I was to be quite so easily won. He pressed my hand to his lips at parting. I left him at the corner at which I had met him, and ran nearly all the way home. Of course, dear, you may be sure that the first thing I did when I found myself alone was to have a good cry. But what happy tears they were! From all which you will understand that your poor Cecilia's case is a desperate one indeed.

How the time passed till Friday came round I hardly know. I wanted it to come and yet I didn't, if you can understand such a paradox. I longed and yet I trembled, and when Friday evening was really here I wished it were only Thursday. However, I met him as agreed, and was again taken possession of. 'I am afraid you are cold,' he said. 'You ought to have wrapped yourself up more warmly.' I was trembling a little, but not with cold. We walked slowly along, and for some minutes Clement said very little. I think he saw that I was put out, and he was giving me time to recover myself. At length my hand ceased to tremble, and then he spoke, asking me whether I had thought over his words—whether I felt that I could accept his love and give him mine in return? A church clock was beginning to strike eight as he finished speaking. Not till the last stroke had ceased to reverberate did I make any reply. Then for answer I laid one of my hands softly on one of his. 'God bless you, dear one!' he said. 'May you may never regret the gift you have given me to-night.' Then, before I knew what had happened, a strong arm was passed round my waist and Clement's lips were pressed to mine. A lamp was no great distance off and a policeman was passing at the moment. The man turned his head and coughed discreetly behind his hand. I turned hot all over, but Clement only laughed, and said it would not have mattered if all the world had been there to see.

After that we had a long delicious walk through quiet streets and squares where there were only a few passers-by. There was a sweet, new feeling at my heart of belonging to some one and of some one belonging to me. Clement asked whether he should write to or see my father. Then I told him that I was an orphan and my own mistress. 'In that case our marriage need not be long delayed,' he said. This frightened me. I had never contemplated such a contingency, except as something very remote and far off indeed. After that he began to talk to me about his position and prospects. He was far from rich at present, he said, and could not give me such a home as he would have liked; but he hoped to be better off by and by. He was getting higher prices for his pictures, and people were beginning to seek him out. If only his Academy picture found a purchaser there was no reason why we should not be married before midsummer. Knowing what I did, I could have clapped my hands for glee as I listened to him. I said I was afraid that I could not make arrangements to be married before Christmas at the very soonest. I could see that he was disappointed. 'I shall certainly hold you to midsummer,' he said, 'unless you can give some good and valid reason for delay.'

'You must come and see my mother before you are many days older,' he said, presently. 'I have spoken to her about you already.' Would you believe it, Mora, a little jealous pang shot through my heart when he said this? I felt as if I did not want even a mother to come between him and me. But next moment I put away the thought as utterly unworthy, and said how pleased I should be to see and know Mrs. Fildew.

Then he told me that his mother had been an invalid for years, and that there was no hope of her ever being any better. He told me, too, how cheerful she was—how bravely she bore up against the insidious disease that was slowly but surely eating away her life. I hated myself for allowing even a moment's jealous feeling to find room in my heart. I would try to love her as much as Clement loved her; but what if she should turn against me and say that her son's choice was a foolish one?

This evening Clement would insist on walking with me nearly to the door. I was in mortal fear lest my aunt should chance to be passing and should recognize me. But nothing happened except that, when the moment came for saying good-night, Clement repeated the process which had frightened me so much before. But I don't think that even a policeman saw us this time; still I must admit that it was very dreadful. All that night I hardly slept a wink. I felt that I had taken the great, irrevocable step of my life. Did I regret it? you will perhaps ask. No, a thousand times no!

It was arranged that at our next meeting I should accompany Clement to his mother's to tea. Mrs. Fildew's hour for tea is six o'clock, from which you will at once infer that she belongs to the old school, and having grown

up when people took their meals at more rational hours than they do now, she still keeps up the traditions of other days. I had hitherto had no difficulty in stealing out for an hour without my aunt knowing anything about it, but to leave home at half-past five, and not get back till ten or eleven o'clock, without saying where I was going, or ordering a brougham to take me, was a matter that required a little diplomacy. I hit on a plan at last which I need not detail here, and that without having to tell my aunt any absolute fib about it. It is sufficient to say that I met Clement at the appointed time and place, and that three minutes later I found myself with him in a hansom cab, and being whirled along Piccadilly at a tremendous pace. It was not nearly dark yet, and we passed several people whom I had seen only an hour previously in the Row. What their thoughts would have been had they seen Miss Collumpton flashing past them in a hansom, I leave you to imagine.

I am quite aware, Mora, that confessing to all this I am shocking some of your most cherished prejudices. But where is the use of having prejudices unless you can have them pleasantly shocked now and again? Does not the process put you in mind of an electrical machine, and of the brass rods we used to touch so tremblingly when we were girls at school?

It is almost worth while being poor for the sake of riding about in a hansom. A ride in a brougham or a victoria is the tamest of tame affairs in comparison. I had never been in a hansom before that evening when I went to see Mrs. Fildew, but I have been in one several times since—of course with Clement to keep me company. How 'jolly' it is when you happen to have a good horse and a skillful driver! (The adjective may sound objectionable, dear Mora, but I can't hit on another just now that expresses my meaning half so clearly.) How quickly you get over the ground! How you dash in and out among carriages, carts, and 'busses, leaving them behind one after another! Everybody and everything seem to get out of your way. The wind blows in cheerily—perhaps a few drops of rain dash against your face now and then, but you don't mind them in the least. You experience a sense of freedom, of brisk, open-air enjoyment, such as no other mode of conveyance that I know of can give you. And then how cozy inside! Just room for two, and none to spare. But that doesn't matter in the least if your companion is some one you like to sit close to. I wonder whether it would be wrong, Mora, for you and me to be driven out in a hansom some afternoon by our two selves. But you are such a slave to Mrs. Grundy that I almost despair of being able to persuade you to join me in such an expedition.

Here I am at the end of my paper and I have not introduced you to Mrs. Fildew. I must consequently defer that pleasure till I write to you again, which will be not later than the day after to-morrow. I have much to tell you yet. Pray let me hear from you by return, if only a word to say how your mother is progressing. I cannot tell you how lonely I feel while you are away.

Your affectionate friend,

CECILIA COLLUMPTON."

CHAPTER XII.

CECILIA AND THE COUNTESS.

Second letter from Miss COLLUMPTON in London to Miss BROWNE in the country.

'MY DEAREST MORA,— . . . The close of my last letter led Clement and me in a hansom cab in the act of being driven to the lodgings of Mrs. Fildew. Clement told me that his mother had lately moved into fresh apartments no great distance from his studio. I cannot tell you how nervous I became at the moment of my introduction to Mrs. Fildew's door. What if I should read in her eyes that she thought her son had chosen unwisely? It would not have mattered so much if Clement had not set such store by her opinion—if his love had been of that lukewarm kind which many grown up sons have for their mother. But in this case it was different, and unless I were loved and liked by Clement's mother I should feel as if I possessed only half of Clement's heart.

At length the cab stopped, and my pulses beat faster than ever. Ten minutes later I found myself in Mrs. Fildew's presence—found myself with my knees by her side, while her hands, that trembled a little, rested first few moments on my hair, and her eyes gazed anxiously and inquiringly at mine. Then she bent forward a little and pressed her lips to my forehead.

'My boy has told me how much he loves you,' she said. 'Be welcome you here, not for his sake only, but for your own also. I had used to wish that Heaven had given me a daughter. At last my prayer has been answered.' Then she kissed me again, and after that I sat down beside her, but she still kept possession of one of my hands, and caressed softly with hers.

Mrs. Fildew is a pale and delicate-looking elderly lady, with a thin, white face and a profusion of snow-white hair. When young she must have been very beautiful! I think I told you in my last letter that she has been confirmed invalid for years. She cannot walk more than a few yards without great pain and difficulty. From the time she rises till the time she goes to bed she sits in a large easy-chair that runs on noiseless wheels which Clement has had especially made for her. She can work the wheels with her hands, and so propel herself to any part of the room at will. She keeps one servant, a strong, middle-aged woman, who has been with her several years. Sometimes, on sunny afternoons, Mrs. Fildew and her carriage are carried down-stairs, and Martha takes her mistress for an airing up and down some of the streets where there is not much traffic, or as far as certain florist's where they have fresh flowers in the window every morning. Once a week Clement comes with an open carriage and takes his mother

for a drive into the country. The next time they go on one of these expeditions I am to go with them.

Presently Martha brought in tea, which we drank out of quaint old biscuit-china, the cups being without handles, and the saucers excessively shallow. We had thin bread-and-butter, watercresses, sardines, damson jam, and a cake from a confectioner's. The tea itself was simply delicious—far superior to any that we ever have at home. The truth is, I suppose, that our servants don't know how to make tea properly; or else, which is quite as likely, they keep the best of it for themselves and only send us up what they leave. I don't think that I ever tasted watercresses before that afternoon; you have no idea how nice they are. To eat them is to be put in mind of country streamlets and all the sights and sounds that go with them—of hidden waterways that betray themselves by their babbling, and—But I loiter round my cresses.

This six-o'clock tea, with thin bread-and-butter and watercresses, is an institution that I shall never despise again.

When tea was over Clement had to go out on business, and Mrs. Fildew and I were left alone. Why do women seem all at once to become so confidential toward each other the moment there is no longer a man in the room? I say 'seem,' because such confidences are generally more apparent than real. Mrs. Fildew and I followed the universal rule. Although Clement was so dear to us, and although we talked of nothing in his absence that we might not have said freely before his face, yet the moment he had left the room a spell seemed taken off our tongues, and we both felt that we were going to enjoy a good long talk.

'I hope your situation is a comfortable one, my dear, and that you like it?' said Mrs. Fildew.

I had to think for a moment, and call to mind what my situation was supposed to be before answering her that I liked it exceedingly.

'Companion to a young lady, is it not? Yes. Well, I'm glad to hear that you are comfortable. Of course, you have nothing to do with cooking or the superintendence of house-work?'

'Nothing whatever, Mrs. Fildew.'

'Do you know, my dear, I think that's rather a pity.'

'Why so, Mrs. Fildew?'

'Because Clement is far from being a rich man, although, of course, there is no knowing what his talents may do for him in time to come, and it would be just as well that his wife should know how to manage and look after a small establishment without trusting too implicitly to her servants. But probably you had some training in such matters when you were a girl at home?'

'Very little training of that kind,' I said rather bitterly. My face burned, and I felt humiliated by my ignorance.

'Dear, dear! all young girls ought to be taught how to manage a house,' continued Mrs. Fildew, in that soft, low voice of hers, which seems as if it could never have spoken an unkind word to any one.

'One is never too old to learn if one has a mind to do so, Mrs. Fildew,' I said.

'Well spoken, my dear. The will to learn and a little perseverance will work wonders. I don't suppose that Clement will be able to afford more than one servant at first, and for twelve or fourteen pounds a year you can't expect to get a good cook, especially when she has to do the rest of the housework as well. Therefore it is all the more necessary that her mistress should be able to take an active part in all home matters. But I am afraid that you are underrating your knowledge. A woman who can roast a leg of mutton—or see it properly roasted—and who is not above beating a pudding now and then, or setting out a little light pastry, need never be afraid of getting married.'

'But, dear Mrs. Fildew, I can't do any of the things you mention,' I cried, with consternation. 'I never made a pudding or a bit of pastry in my life; and as for cooking a joint, I am afraid it would not be fit to send to table by the time I had done with it.'

The dear old lady's busy fingers ceased their movements. She looked at me in silence for a moment, but I thought that her look seemed to say, 'Then, pray, young lady, what is there that you can do?'

'People are generally what they are taught to be,' I said, between laughing and crying. 'I can not bake, or boil, or make preserves, but I know how to do one or two useless things. I can read Dante or Goethe in the originals. I can sketch from nature. I can play on the piano and the harp. People tell me that I can sing tolerably. I can drive, I can ride, and I can swim.'

'Then, my dear, you are far too clever a young lady to enter a kitchen or look after the cooking of your husband's dinner. Clement ought to be, and no doubt is, very proud to think that he has won your heart; but you and he ought not to get married on less than a thousand a year.'

I looked at Mrs. Fildew, in doubt whether her last speech was not meant as a sarcasm. But one glance into her dear face was enough to satisfy my mind on that point. I don't believe that she ever gave utterance to a sarcastic speech in her life. 'I am not aware, Mrs. Fildew, that I have expressed any anxiety to get married for ever such a long time to come. I am quite willing to wait—for years.'

'Perhaps so, my dear, but Clement may not be possessed of your patience.'

'But surely I shall have a voice in a matter of so much importance?'

'Undoubtedly. But for all that, men generally contrive to get their own way in these things, as you will find.'

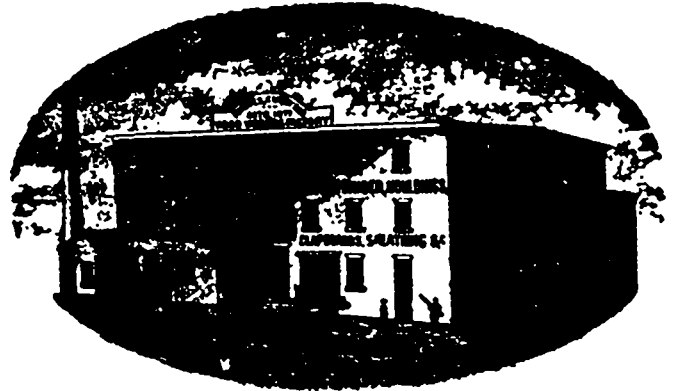
'I confess, Mrs. Fildew, that the thought of this early marriage frightens me. I ought to have bargained at the outset that it should not take place for a couple of years at the soonest.'

(To be continued.)

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MINING.

LAKE CATCHA DISTRICT.—The Oxford Mine is again coming to the front as a gold producer. Last month it headed the list in the returns at the Mines Office, and from the latest information received the prospects are equally good for the present month. On Monday a bar of gold weighing 80 oz, and worth \$1600, was brought to the city. It was taken from 7 tons of quartz.

CARLETON DISTRICT.—Captain Halo was a lucky man when he took hold of the Carleton Mine. Prospects steadily improve as the work of developing proceeds, and it won't be long before returns will be made at the Mines Office.

TANGIER DISTRICT.—Nothing new has been received in regard to the new find at Moose Land, and we trust that reports of its richness were not exaggerated. We should like to hear from Mr. Townsend as to the future prospects and present position of his mine.

MOOSE RIVER DISTRICT.—Mr. Touquoy is steadily pushing operations on his fine property, and is meeting with the success that his long experience as a miner warrants. Tributaries are doing well and the water mill is pushed to its utmost capacity.

CARIBOO DISTRICT.—Rumors of an important find in this district have reached us, and some of our subscribers in the locality would oblige us by sending the particulars.

NORTH BROOKFIELD.—The new crusher on the McGuire-Eaton property will prove an important factor in encouraging the development of a number of promising properties in the district. This is the second crusher that Mr. McGuire has erected this season, and we sincerely hope that he and his Duluth partners will be rewarded as they deserve. Mr. Wile has been at work on a property adjoining the McGuire claims, and we are waiting anxiously to hear of his success.

MILIPSIC LAKE.—The Duluth Gold Mining Co. have their new Wiswell Crusher running, but the returns at the Mines Office of only 30 oz to 200 tons of ore crushed, are much beneath our expectations. There may be a good reason for this, but we should like to have the particulars. Mr. Fink and Mr. Haug, the gentlemen representing the company in Nova Scotia, are both hard-working, practical men whose honesty and reliability are undoubted. A good round sum was paid for the mine and it would be a great misfortune, not alone to the company, but to the gold mining interests of the Province should the property prove unremunerative. The shares are held mainly by wealthy Germans in Minnesota, and should the venture prove successful large sums of western capital will flow into the Province and be invested in our gold fields. Failure of the first venture would effectually drive this away. For these and other reasons we sincerely hope that the Duluth Gold Mining Company may score a great success.

Later.—As will be seen elsewhere the property is steadily improving as it is worked and the mine is likely to prove a very rich one.

RAWDON MINE.—The large and steady returns from this mine, under the skilled management of Mr. McNoughton, places it in the front rank of gold producers in the Province. Salmon River has held the lead for a long time, but Rawdon is now pushing it hard for first place. Rivalry in the amount of gold produced is rivalry worthy of every encouragement.

MISCELLANEOUS.—On every hand we hear reports of new finds, of companies formed to work old and new properties, of crushers going up, all tending to prove unusual activity in gold mining. If one-half the reports are true, the year 1887 should prove the banner year in the amount of gold produced.

To the Editor of the Critic:

TANGIER, Oct. 18th, 1886.

SIR,—I am an old prospector and yet, after years of the hardest kind of toil, I find myself a poor man. I won't say that there are not some very pleasant times in a prospector's lot when, after a hard day's tramp over rugged hills, through low barrens and dense woods, he throws himself down beside a pleasant stream and while watching the trout sporting in the waters, he lights up his old clay pipe and allows his imagination to make big finds and fill his pockets with untold gold. But except in his own imagination who ever heard of a rich prospector? No, Mr. Editor, we are systematically swindled out of our finds, and all through the mining law which forces a poor man to give the best part of his property for the means to take up his claims. You are right when you say that the law should be altered, and as an old prospector I wish to thank you for the stand you have taken in favor of our rights. THE CRITIC is the miner's friend, and while just to all, won't see a poor man imposed on.

Thanking you for your space, I am

AN OLD PROSPECTOR.

To the Editor of the Critic:—

BRIDGEWATER, N. S.

SIR,—The Fink & Co. property at Milipsic is rapidly improving, and during the last ten days the vein has continued to widen out and shows gold freely. The mine gives promise of proving one of the best in the Province.

Brookfield.—This property is steadily improving as depth is reached. The new mill will soon be running.

Malaga District.—In this district Messrs. McGuire, Nelson & Co., are

pushing operations. A good house has been built, roads cut, and seven veins exposed, five being very rich; one large one of 22 inches being good for 5 oz to the ton. It is expected that a mill will be running by Jan. 1st.

North River, New Germany, has some promising lodes, and I have seen some fine specimens taken from a six-inch vein.

Gold River District.—W. J. Nelson, on the 7th of the month, sold the Jumbo and Oakdale mines to Duluth capitalists. A 25-stamp mill is to be erected by the 1st of February next. As the veins are respectively 20, 11 and 15 feet in width, and show gold freely, and as a fine water power runs through the property, it should prove a good investment. MINER.

NEW BRUNSWICK MINING ITEMS.—Prospecting work on new manganese mine on New Line Road is being vigorously prosecuted. A sale of this property to American capitalists, some of whom have been on and made personal examination of the property, will shortly be made.

Work on the Munro property, so called, near Waterford, in Kings Co., is again to be resumed. A large deposit of sulphuret of copper with very fair showing of gold exists here. Some considerable work was done here by American capitalists some time ago and operations suspended, which it is said are now to be pushed again with considerable vigor.

Work on the Mineral Vale property, in New Ireland district, Albert Co., has been again resumed, the new machinery necessary having been placed. The ore at a depth of 100 feet looks very promising indeed. A shipment of matte has been made to D. Breeze, Esq., of St. John, one of the owners, who is now in England, who proposes taking it personally to Swansea to have it tested at works there. It is to be hoped the result will be fully as satisfactory as the owners expect.

Developments are now being made in the vicinity of Springfield, on the borders of Queens and Kings Counties in N. B., for antimony. Some American capitalists and a Moncton man are engaged in the work. The prospects are very good and the ore obtained is of magnificent quality, if the quantity only proves satisfactory.

Some Moncton and Dorchester gentlemen are interested in gold and antimony properties in your province. Your correspondent hopes to be able shortly to chronicle the sale of some of these properties, and the fact of their being worked satisfactorily and profitably in the near future.

The *Canadian Gazette* in its issue of October 7, gives much interesting and valuable information in regard to the Colonial and Indian Exhibition. Mining men will find the extract which we print below especially interesting. In all of the old mining camps there are thousands of tons of tailings from which the gold has been imperfectly extracted and which contain a paying percentage of mineral. The visit of Mr. J. Wycliffe Wilson to this Province for the especial purpose of investigating the quality and value of the refuse deposits of our gold fields, with the object of erecting concentrating works, is almost certain to result beneficially to the gold mining interest, and is another proof of the value of the exhibition in advertising our great natural resources in the financial centre of the world.

"Some of the gold and silver ores from British Columbia, shown in the Mineral Court, have also attracted much attention of late, and there is reason to hope that the Exhibition will lead to further inquiry and investigation in Canada, with a view to investment in the mining of some of the deposits which the completion of the Canadian Pacific Railway has made easily accessible. Connected with these exhibits is the demand that has arisen for refuse containing gold or silver, such as the 'tailings' from the mines. With a view to inquire fully into the possibility of obtaining such material from Canada, Mr. J. Wycliffe Wilson, of the Sheffield Smelting Company, has sailed for Halifax, Nova Scotia. It is stated that much gold is now lost in the working of some of the Nova Scotian mines, and Mr. Wilson hopes to make arrangements for its concentration and shipment to England. This gentleman has also been furnished with the addresses of a number of the principal manufacturing jewellers in Canada, with whom he will communicate as to the possibility of obtaining gold and silver refuse, or 'sweep' from them."

We commend the following editorial from the *Chicago Mining Review* to the careful perusal of our readers. As THE CRITIC has a large circulation amongst mining men both at home and abroad, and as it has to a certain extent had a similar experience with the *Review*, we trust that manufacturers will take a note of the fact and in the future give us at least a fair share of their advertising:

"While our suggestion may not be free from a suspicion of self-interest we have daily evidence of a short sighted policy of the manufacturers of mining machinery and other goods which are in demand in the field which our paper so thoroughly covers. In one week recently five men from different portions of the mining country, called at the office of *The Chicago Mining Review* to ask the address of mining machinery houses, and three others sent orders for supplies to be used in coal and precious mineral mining. In the cases mentioned we must claim to be entirely ignorant of the location and existence of prominent manufacturers of mining and other machinery, or encourage this indifference and close policy by continuing to cheerfully send customers to them without reward as we have done heretofore.

The Chicago Mining Review goes not only to the superintendent, mine owner and intelligent miner of the Western, Southern and Northern coal, iron, gas and precious mineral fields, but also to the Eastern capitalist, investor and corporation, so that the manufacturer of any product used in mining or in the new settlements that spring up wherever mines are established, can find no better medium to reach the consumer in this new wide field. There is no more profitable business investment than judicious advertising, and we commend the fact to the attention of the enterprising business men of the great manufacturing cities."

THE MARITIME PATRON,

AND ORGAN OF THE

Maritime Provincial Grange—Patrons of Husbandry.

"In Essentials Unity—In Non-essentials Liberty—In All Things Charity."

[All communications intended for this column should be sent to the editor of the Maritime Patron, EDWIN S. CREED, M. D., Newport.]

The autumn session of Hants Division Grange was held at West Gore on Thursday, 14th inst. The forenoon, afternoon and evening sessions were fully, pleasantly and profitably occupied. We hope to receive a report of this session, also of all Division Grange Sessions held in the jurisdiction this month.

These quarterly gatherings of Husbandmen and Matrons of the Counties in which our Order has been established, must be highly beneficial in many respects. If those who are eligible, but refrain from uniting with our Order, and those who are ineligible, but yet are more or less directly and intimately interested in the spread of its principles and the accomplishment of its objects—could mingle with us on these occasions—could share in the good feeling and good cheer—the discussion on matters of professional interest relating to farm work and public affairs—relieved and enlivened by music, recitations and readings, all expressing sentiments tending to increase appreciation of and love for rural life and occupations, and could they at the day's close, joins us in our fraternal circle and closing ode as we "give each the parting hand;" we feel assured that those who are eligible would be irresistibly impelled to unite with us, and the *unfortunately* ineligible would be compelled to give our order their unqualified approval and moral support.

At the session of Hants Division Grange a resolution was presented and discussed, the object of which was to obtain from the Division an expression of opinion relative to a proposal to amalgamate the agricultural societies of the County. The resolution approved of the proposed union, provided that the funds be expended so as to be of general benefit to the agricultural interests of the county. This proposal, and the discussion to which it gave rise, suggest considerations of general interest and importance. That the public funds of a country should be expended exclusively for the general public benefit, must always be an axiom of political economy.

That public funds, expended so as to promote the welfare of the agriculture of a country, are expended in obedience to this axiom, is universally admitted.

Agricultural Societies, since their introduction some sixty years ago, have been of very great service in promoting the agricultural interests of this province, but whether the annual grant for the encouragement of agriculture has been or is being expended in ways best adapted to promote the end in view, is more than doubted. The Maritime Provincial Grange, at its session held in Halifax in 1884, passed a resolution expressing its opinion that the money expended under the direction of the Board of Agriculture would be better expended in the maintenance of an Agricultural College and Experimental Farm, and the same year a prominent Agricultural Society unanimously passed a resolution in favor of devoting the whole or a part of the grant for Agricultural purposes, to a Provincial Stock Farm, and higher Agricultural education. These resolutions prove, if they prove nothing more, that prominent agriculturists are in favor of other ways of expending the provincial grant than the ways in which it has been expended. During the discussion of the resolution already referred to, in favor of uniting the Agricultural Societies of Hants County, no facts or arguments were offered in favor of a scheme, which, though doubtless devised to encourage the formation of Agricultural Societies, does, in fact, most effectually discourage the increase of those useful institutions. Is not this plain? Look at the scheme. A certain amount of the sum voted annually for the encouragement of Agriculture is apportioned equally among the counties of the province. This amount is divided in accordance with certain regulations among the Agricultural Societies. The sum received by, or the amount of encouragement given to each society, must diminish with the increase in the number of societies, and if these societies should be so established as that every farmer might share in the advantages which they are expected to afford, the amount of each encouragement received by each society would be so small as to be practically no encouragement at all. A definite sum, if only ten dollars, or even less, given annually to each Agricultural Society complying with certain conditions, would encourage their formation and continuance. Our subordinate Granges would be glad to receive, would be grateful for, and would usefully expend an annual bonus of ten dollars; or more, gentlemen of the Board of Agriculture, if you have it to spare, and our gladness, our gratitude, and our usefulness, will be in proportion to the bonus received. Why should not our Granges receive a share of the public funds devoted to the encouragement of Agriculture?

We believe, and we are prepared to prove, that the Order of the Patrons of Husbandry is not only as efficient as any other organization, society, or instrumentality in existence, for promoting the welfare of Agriculture and agriculturists, but also that our Order has, during its brief existence, accomplished more for the benefit of farmers and their profession than all other instrumentalities put together.

As Agriculture is the most important industry of a country, its encouragement and improvement must be the most important subject that the representatives of a country can have to consider. Unfortunately, parliaments which consider and legislate, and governments to whom is intrusted the execution of laws, are not largely composed of those who either represent, or are capable of representing and wisely legislating for the interests of Agriculture. The remedy is in the hands of farmers. Let

them organize and combine for the discussion of matters affecting their interests. Let them decide what measures will best promote those interests; and let them elect men to represent them and legislate for their interests, and support governments composed of men who are pledged to those measures, and who, being farmers, are professionally interested in promoting what will best promote the interests of Agriculture.

We may devote a few subsequent issues to the consideration of Exhibitions, the introduction and use of thoroughbred stock, agricultural Societies, and what they should be to and do for Agriculture, and kindred topics.

Do not cover the lawn all over with stable manure which is to remain there all winter as an offence to the eye, the nostrils, and the feet. There is nothing more disgusting than this turning a lawn into a barnyard, and there is no necessity for it. Stable manure is worth as much for garden crops as it is on the lawn, and it is doubtful if any one has too much of it for the former purpose. A good dressing of bone-dust or ammoniated superphosphate early in the spring, will keep up the fertility of the lawn, and will not be noticed.

THE PROGRESS OF ENSILAGE.—Within the last few years ensilage has passed the experimental stage, and has been adopted by so many farmers that it may be considered as an established method among many who devote themselves to dairying. The number of silos in the United States in 1880 is said to have been only six, while it is estimated that there are now about two thousand. In England there were in 1880 only four silos, while now Mr M. J. Sutton, in his recent admirable work on "Permanent and Temporary Pastures," estimates that there are between eleven and twelve hundred. In England, the silo will come into competition with ordinary hay making, allowing the farmer to secure his crops of grass and clover in very wet seasons more promptly and safely than he could as hay. In this country, on the other hand, ensilage will be mainly directed to the preservation of fodder corn, a crop of admitted value, but one which is on all hands regarded as very difficult to cure. In the Southern States, the silo will allow the farmer to preserve one of his most important crops, the Southern Cow pea. This, which is regarded as most valuable as hay, is difficult to cure, as the large leaves are shaken off in the process, but packed in the silo, they yield most valuable cattle food, probably equal in value to ensilaged clover.—*American Agriculturist.*

BEST BREEDS OF CATTLE.—Owing to the little intercourse in early times between the different sections of the country in Britain and the continent of Europe, each county or cluster of counties had a different strain of cattle, which owing to the differences of climate, soil, feed and care became almost a distinct breed, though all may have originally descended from the same stock.

Some of these by careful breeding and judicious crossing have become greatly improved in quality while others still retain more or less of the original type. The introduction of improved breeds and the increased facilities of intercourse are fast obliterating these distinctive marks, while a few of the best breeds are taking their place as being more profitable.

In this country what are called natives are a mixed breed, imported from different countries in early times, and, owing to the migratory habits of our people, have got mixed and scattered over the land. No effort has been made to improve the native stock by judicious selection and careful breeding, as it was easier to import the best improved stock from other countries.

The purest of these native breeds is to be found in Lower Canada, descendants of Norman cattle brought out by the early French settlers. They are rather small, like their progenitors; but for their size they give a good supply of rich milk, and are hardy and easily kept.

A dairy of them, composed of selected cows which can be purchased cheaply, would, considering the small comparative outlay, be more profitable than one composed of the improved breeds that cost so much higher, requiring greater care and better and more feed.

The different breeds of cattle may be divided into four classes—Long-horned, Middle-horned, Short-horned, and Polled.

The **LONG HORNED** was the first breed improved in England. Bakewell, of Dishley, brought them to great perfection. They were much sought after, and at his sales brought as high prices as Durhams or Short-horns afterwards sold for; but they have gone entirely out of date, being supplanted by Short horns and Herefords—so much so that none are now to be found on the Dishley farm or neighborhood.

The **MIDDLE-HORNED** are supposed to be descended from the original native stock modified by climate, locality, and feeding.

The **NORTH DEVONS** are the most pure of this class, having been bred in some localities as pure as they are now from time immemorial. They are a beautiful breed of a bright red color, they fatten well, and their flesh is fine grained and excellently flavored. They are not heavy milkers, but what they give is very rich. They are very active, and a yoke of Devon oxen will plough nearly as much land in a day as a pair of horses, while their keep is far less, and should they meet any accident they can be fattened and sold for their full value. A herd of pure Devons is still one of the finest in appearance of any breed, and if bred for milk could undoubtedly be greatly improved by careful selections.

The **HEREFORDS** are now the best breed of this class, having been greatly improved of late years, pushing the short-horns very close, if not surpassing them, as profitable beef cattle.

But as milkers they are not famed, that quality having been in a great measure sacrificed for their aptitude to fatten early for beef. They are of large size and beautiful appearance; the favorite color being black, with the

face, throat, chest, belly, part of the legs, crest of the mane and tip of the tail white. Some are red, but the white markings in all cases are the same, giving a uniformity of appearance to the herd that no other cattle, with the exception of the Devons and the polled breeds, have.

They are the result of judicious mixture at an early date with other breeds, one being red cattle with a white face, from Flanders, which greatly increased the size.

THE AYRSHIRES belong to the Middle horns, and are probably the best dairy breed, taking into consideration the quantity and quality of their milk, in proportion to their size, their hardiness, and easy keeping. When dried-up, they fatten as quickly almost as the Short-horns. Of late years their size has been considerably sacrificed to breeding for some imaginary points of excellence. They have never obtained much popularity in this country, their small size not taking the eye in comparison with the short horns. It is only those who have tried them and know their good qualities who prefer them. They have never been brought before the public and pulled like the Jerseys and Holsteins. Ayrshire breeders are greatly to blame for not calling more attention to their favorite breed. It is probably because the greater part of them are canny Scotchmen who do not like to go to the expense of advertising and puffing them, like the Jersey and Holstein breeders.

THE AYRSHIRE cattle won the champion milking prize the other day at the Bath and West of England Show, and, according to experiments made at the Ontario Agricultural Experimental Farm, they gave nearly double the percentage of butter that the Holsteins gave, and much more than any other breed tried, with the exception of the Jerseys, the latter giving 6lbs. of butter to the 100lbs. of milk, while the Ayrshires gave 4.20, and the Holsteins only 2.40. Their color is chiefly red, or bright brown and white, the white often interspersed with small red spots, and they are generally more like small Short horns than any other breed.

THE HOLSTEIN, FRIESIAN AND HOLLAND cattle are essentially the same; they have of late been greatly brought into notice, and now that the boom of the Jerseys is going down, they are going up. They are a large, handsome breed, black and white in color. They are more given to milk than beef, but, unfortunately, their milk, though very plentiful, has but a small percentage of butter, and they have not the name of fattening well or quickly when dried up. They will be a good breed for the milkmen, giving plenty of thin milk without the necessity of watering it. Whether their qualities are such that they will prove a permanent acquisition remains to be seen after further trial.

THE JERSEY cattle are the only other breed of Middle-horns deserving of notice. The Guernsey and Alderney are essentially the same, modified by separate insular breeding, and are evidently descended from the small Norman breed, common on the opposite shore of France, and from which the Lower Canadian breed are also descended.

They are quite small; do not give much milk; but what there is of it is extremely rich in cream, and unless crossed with some other breed, are not valuable for the butcher. We have seen some very valuable half-breeds between them and the Canadian cow. A cross with the Short-horns cannot be recommended, as the difference in size is too great. A valuable breed might be formed by crossing first with the Ayrshire; and afterwards one cross between these and the Short-horn to increase the size might be advisable, still keeping up the flow of rich milk.

THE SHORT-HORN CATTLE is the only other breed deserving of notice; and taking all things into consideration, they are no doubt the most valuable breed of all. Charles Collings, of Teeswater, was the first to improve the breed which were then called Teeswater or Durhams; but as there are now no competing breed of short-horns, they are known as the Short-horn, and the other names have gone into disuse.

Collings at one time crossed his breed with a red polled Galloway cow, from which an improved breed was produced that was of such repute, that at a sale of his stock in 1810 a famous bull called Cornet brought 1,000 guineas, and forty eight lots of bulls, cows and calves brought £7,115 17s., or \$35,578, averaging \$740—great prices for those days. The Holderness or Teeswater breed were originally improved by importing Holstein and Holland cattle to cross with them.

Some strains of the Short-horns are more famed for milk than others, according as they were bred for dairy or for fattening. By careful selection and breeding, the milking qualities could be increased, but it would no doubt be at the expense of the fattening quality. It is very doubtful if an all-purpose cow can be bred equally good for the dairy and the butcher, as increasing the one diminishes the other. The Short-horn, perhaps, comes nearer to it than any other breed—*Exchange*.

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