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

EDITORIAL NOTES.

Mr. S. M. Brookfield has published in the daily papers of Halifax a letter setting forth some of the causes why diphtheria is so prevalent. Let every householder look at once to the drainage and see if it is in proper order. This scourge should be stamped out with as little delay as possible.

A broad blot on Russia's escutcheon is labelled, "Persecution of the Jews." This persecution is no more blindly brutal and inhuman than the treatment to which all other civilized people subjected the Jews during the middle ages; but it seems incredible in this age of tolerance and enlightenment, when the consciences of the nations are awake, and one mighty nation is even doubtful of its right to murder a few Indians whom it is troublesome and expensive to feed. With regard to Russia, however, we are glad to see signs of a more Christian policy. The Czar has ordered that the application of the Anti Semitic laws be suspended for three years. One would naturally ascribe this clemency to a softening of the Muscovitish heart. But no, it only means that the rich Jewish bankers are threatening to avenge their people's wrongs: and Russia will conciliate the bankers at all hazards.

However rash or extravagant may be its expression, it is a righteous anger which now flames forth in Newfoundland at the hint that Franco and England may settle the French shore question without consulting the wishes of the Colony. The principle at stake is one which involves the liberties of the so-called self-governing colonies. If, in its impatience at Newfoundland's intractability and self assertion, the Colonial Office should blunder into concluding with France an agreement in which the Colony had been allowed no voice, the blunder would be not without precedent in the annals of mismanagement. The proper precedent would be found in the reign of the third George, in those acts of incredible and irremediable folly which led to the great Schism in the Anglo-Saxon race. It would be indeed the irony of fate if in England's oldest colony should be dropped the little seed of distrust, whose germination should at length split asunder the splendid fabric of this Empire. Here in Canada we are disposed to feel that it serves the old Colony right for not securing herself by a union with the Confederation; and there is a suspicion, moreover, that party intrigues have been allowed to aggravate the troubles on the French coast, and enhance the difficulties of a settlement. Such considerations should not blind us to the real point at issue. If there be any danger of the rights of

the Colony suffering because the Colony happens to be small and vexatious, the great colonies of Canada and Australia should hasten to support their weaker sister. Assuredly such injustice as that with which Newfoundland is menaced would not be submitted to by Canada; and still less would the irreverent and self-confident Australians endure it. If Downing Street carries out its threat it will strike a blow at Imperial unity, the effects of which will be perhaps less swift than fatal. The destiny which shapes the ends of nations seems to pause, uncertain whether to weld into closer union the loose masses of the British Empire, or to shatter the structure and build new peoples out of the fragments. What may seem a small thing in the eyes of the Colonial Officer, whose vision is seldom accurate beyond the bounds of Europe, may yet prove large enough to shape the decree of fate.

While sympathizing with the natural indignation of Newfoundland over Lord Kuntford's late utterance, we cannot refrain from noting the absurdity of the threats which find voice in some of the island journals. The cry for annexation to the United States is but the vainest of vain words. If England were for her own part ready to consent—which is a thing unbelievable—there would yet be Canada to be reckoned with. England would have to retain the island by force, or relinquish all idea of a permanent hold on this Dominion. With the United States in both Alaska and Newfoundland we would be hopelessly outflanked. Our possible future as an independent nationality would be ruinously handicapped, and we should have little foundation for loyalty to a Mother Country that could permit such an outrage to be put upon us. The Mother Country, indeed, could never permit it, and it is certain that the United States could not effect the annexation by force, for England's unassailable sovereignty of the seas gives all islands into her hand. No doubt the United States would accept Newfoundland with happy alacrity, even though she did not accept, (when she might have done so,) the vastly richer prize of Cuba. Newfoundland would be so much in the line of what she amably considers her "manifest destiny." But she would be much too wise to undertake the task of picking out the island from under British guns.

A few years ago cremation as a means of disposing of the dead was looked upon with such aversion as to cause much comment when any person of prominence approved of it, or had the body of a friend or relative so treated. That the antipathy to cremation in the minds of educated men and women is dying out is evidenced by three recent cases. Mr. Kinglake, the historian, Emma Abbott, the prima donna, who died at Salt Lake City not many days ago, and the Duke of Bedford, whose death was reported last week; each directed that their bodies should be cremated instead of buried. We have no hesitation in saying that we think cremation is conducive to an improved sanitary condition, especially in large cities, and we are glad to observe the movement in favor of it growing even in a small degree. The question of disposing of the dead has become a serious one in many large cities where the cemeteries are filled almost to overflowing, but among the masses of the people the prejudice against cremation is still strong. Especially is this the case in the centres of population, where one would think the necessity of keeping up a healthy condition of affairs for the living would tend to introduce it to favor. Three weeks ago we published an article from the *Arena*, entitled "Thrown in with the City's Dead," written by a lady, who told in plain and forcible language what a state of affairs prevails near New York. This ought to prove a strong argument for cremation, which, together with the examples above cited, should have the effect of giving the movement a fresh impulse. In small towns the question is of little import, for there is ample space to dispose of "the loved and lost" in any way that most commends itself to the mourners; but in cities, and even in Halifax, we cannot but think that interment of the dead is a practice that cannot fail to be injurious to the living, and the time will come when the cemeteries will have to be situated a long way out of town, or else cremation must be substituted for burial. To us there is nothing more repugnant in quickly reducing the body to ashes than in leaving it in the earth to become food for worms and to show decay. The world moves slowly, and never more so than in changing burial customs. What is considered sacred by one race is looked upon with horror or contempt by another. For instance, take the Parsees, or fire worshippers of India, now but a small sect, who leave the bodies of their dead in the "Tower of Silence" to the mercy of the birds of the air, which are regarded as sacred for these offices. The Hindoos and Mohammedans, however, jeer at the Parsees, and, as Mrs. Leonowens tells us in her entertaining book, "Our Asiatic Cousins," call out at them: "Kaw, Kaw Kakhana! dinner for crows!" Yes, the world moves slowly in this respect, but unless some even more improved method is thought of, it looks as if cremation will in the future be the means most in vogue of disposing of the mortal remains of civilized human beings.

German manufacturers sent an expert to the United States to enquire into the possibility of establishing German textile factories there. After a three weeks' stay in Pennsylvania he has returned to Germany with the opinion that the United States can compete with Germany only in cheap articles, but not in first or second rate goods, owing to the high rate of wages, the scarcity of good hemp and the price of wool, which has risen instead of fallen. He, therefore, doubts whether German exports to the United States will be greatly injured by the McKinley Bill.

The state of the finances of the Province of Quebec is decidedly not one of prosperity or calculated to produce a feeling of security. An annual deficit of two millions and a floating debt of five or six millions and more to follow, looks as if the Province must be extravagant in some way. A new loan of ten million dollars is to be negotiated, but this will probably not do more than meet existing deficiencies. New taxes of various and ingenious descriptions will help to supply the treasury with the needful, but upon the whole a feeling of apprehension prevails over this state of affairs. In the face of this stringency the Legislature, at its recent session, arranged for the opening of night schools in the cities and towns at the expense of the Province. We highly approve of providing a means for self-improvement for those who are at work through the day, but we fear the expense will be too great for a Province already deeply in debt. There may come another re-adjustment of money matters between the Dominion and the Provinces, and when it does there will be serious questions to be settled.

We have received from Mr. M. P. Murray, Secretary of the *Young Canadian Company*, a letter explaining the scenes on the title page of the specimen copy of the *Young Canadian*, which we commented upon recently. It is rather unfortunate for an artist to be obliged to interpret his pictures—they should speak to the heart through the eye as clearly as speech does through the ear. In this case, however, it appears that it is necessary. Mr. Murray explains that the scenes are mainly historic, and are not intended to be associated with any special Province, and that the names of the several Provinces are placed on scrolls in artistic arrangement only. If any connection between the two has been made, it was no part of the design of the artist. Having no especial love for the dog-sleigh part of Canadian history, and having unwittingly offended so many blue-noses by it, the Proprietors of the *Young Canadian* have made an alteration which they hope will remove all cause of offence. With this better understanding on both sides, we wish the new journal all success. We trust, however, that the objectionable design has not already had the effect of spreading the erroneous idea that Nova Scotia is situated in close proximity to the North Pole, when the unvarnished truth is we have the finest climate in the whole of Canada. If the *Young Canadian* would do Nova Scotia the justice to impress this fact upon its readers it might help to root out the idea sown by the dog-sleigh picture.

The *London Times* a short time ago published an account of Bismarck's deposition from the Chancellorship, which is said to have electrified Europe. The story is that Bismarck, during a conference with the Emperor, became annoyed and expressed his intention of resigning. Afterwards, in calmer moments, he thought no more of his threat and imagined that the Emperor would not take it seriously. The Kaizer, however, seized the opportunity to get rid of Prince Bismarck, and when the resignation did not come the next morning he sent for it. Bismarck put the matter off with an excuse about not having had time to prepare it. The Emperor sent twice again, and still the resignation was not ready. Up to this point we are not quite ready to accept the story as told by the *Times*, but it gives us something to tax our credulity when it goes on to state that Prince Bismarck betook himself to the Empress Frederick to beseech her influence in his behalf with her son. Bismarck was never a friend of the Empress, and if the story is true she revenged herself upon her enemy fully at this juncture. To his earnest entreaties she replied that he had done all he could in the past to injure her and place her influence with her son at a discount, and that now she could do nothing for him. Bismarck departed and wrote the resignation for which the Aide was waiting. Thus the proud Chancellor was humiliated. His fall was sudden and stands unique in history. Of all the events of the year 1890 this was about the most startling, and the present version of the affair, which is said to be vouched for as correct, makes it even more remarkable. The picture in our mind's eye of Bismarck kneeling at the feet of the woman to whom he had shown little respect, is a strange one. She would have been more than human if she had consented to intercede for him with her son, even if, as is highly improbable, she thought her intercession would have any effect upon the determination of the young Emperor.

The latest feature of the Behring Sea dispute, which developed itself too late for anything but a short news paragraph last week, is now of absorbing interest. While both Canadians and Americans have been taken by surprise by the case of the *Sayward* being referred to the Supreme Court of the United States, it is reasonable to suppose that those behind the scenes have had the matter in preparation for some time, and that Mr. Blaine, although deeply aggrieved by this *coup* on the part of English diplomats, knew, as indeed he states, that the move was to be made. The matter at present stands thus:—Mr. Choate, on behalf of the owners of the *Sayward* has made application to the Supreme Court of the United States for a writ of prohibition, to be directed to the Judge of the District Court of the United States in and for the territory of Alaska, restraining him from

proceeding with the condemnation and sale of the vessel. There are not wanting those in the United States who entirely disagree with Mr. Blaine's extravagant claims, and who see clearly that his course may lead to an unrighteous war on their part, and a portion of the press, Democratic chiefly, fearlessly speaks its mind on the subject. Before the elections it looked as if the warlike attitude was assumed for the purpose of catching the anti-English vote, but since then the attention given to strengthening the fleet in the Pacific points to something more serious. As to the case of the *Sayward*, which has now been brought before the Supreme Court of the United States by means of a side issue, it has been on appeal before that Court for two years, and it is stated that in the ordinary course of procedure it will not be reached for at least two years longer. It will be a few days before we can hear whether the present application for writ of prohibition will be allowed, as the Attorney-General of the United States was given a fortnight to consider the case and show cause, if he can, why it should not be allowed. The indignation in the United States over this movement on the part of Great Britain would, we fancy, be not so great if they thought they had a just claim. The Americans are very liable to attacks of spleen when they find they have not a monopoly of the world's supply of smartness, and in this case they are hard hit. It would appear, however, that they ought rather to consider the action highly complimentary, as signifying the confidence placed in their highest tribunal by Great Britain. In any event, we think the policy of procrastination and long-drawn-out controversy pursued by the United States has received a check. If the *Sayward* case does not bring a settlement, next sealing season in all probability will see the dogs of war let loose. See how easily it could come about. A British sealer will exercise its rights and take seals. An American cruiser will take the sealer, and a British man-o'-war will go to her rescue. Shots will be exchanged, and then there will be no more use for diplomatists for a while. But let us hope that a peaceable solution may be arrived at, and the horrors of war between two kindred people avoided forever.

The report brought to Toronto by Dr. J. D. Thorburn and Dr. Winnett, who went to Berlin in November last to investigate Dr. Koch's wonderful cure for tubercular diseases, is of the most encouraging nature, and leads us to hope that the expectations indulged in as to the cure and final total extermination of consumption may be realized in the course of a few years. The *Toronto Globe* publishes what the doctors have to say about their experience in Berlin, and we are glad to observe that every facility possible was given them to carry on the object of their visit. Very naturally this new departure in medicine has been looked upon with some doubt up to the present time, but in the light of the information gained by these Toronto physicians we feel justified in thinking that a genuine cure has been found. Dr. Thorburn gives in brief a statement of the general effect of the lymph. "The cases of pulmonary tuberculosis (consumption) are divided into three classes by stages. In the first stage there is rapid improvement and some undoubted cures, some of which we saw. In the second stage the patient is usually much benefitted and apparently on the way to a perfect cure, but so far the experiment has not lasted long enough to be able to speak positively as to this. In the third stage the patients do not seem to be benefitted. This is in itself an invaluable step in medicine, for it means that consumption has been met and overcome, for in a few years the cases of the second and third stage will have died out and there need be no further new cases. Not only is the lymph a cure, but it affords a better means of diagnosis than any hitherto known. Where the true reaction follows the injection, it is proof of the presence of tuberculosis. It brings the disease to the surface as it were, so that its presence is revealed. It is not pretended that the lymph gives immunity from the disease to the person who has been treated. Patients are liable to a relapse. In cases of lupus, the dose is larger than in the other. Many cases of lupus have been cured. The results are brought about very rapidly. In laryngeal tuberculosis (consumption of the throat) a common and very serious disease, the patients do better even than those suffering from pulmonary tuberculosis. In the case of tubercular joints it is found necessary sometimes to make an artificial opening, so that the dead matter may be expelled. In short, the lymph fully sustains the positions taken by Koch in his first paper on this subject before the International Medical Association." It is to be noted, however, that Dr. Winnett states that a spurious preparation is being sold in Berlin at fabulous prices, chiefly to Americans. This, if not at once checked, will have the effect of throwing discredit upon the genuine lymph, which, as the same gentleman says, has up to the present verified every proposition claimed for it by Professor Koch. If experiments are tried upon patients so far gone in consumption that nothing human skill could do could save them, the sad result should not be laid to the charge of the new remedy. Experiments are now going on in Halifax, a supply of lymph having been secured by the Government for use in the Victoria General Hospital. Jenner was verging on his great discovery in medicine near the close of the eighteenth century, and at the beginning of the present century it was fully recognized as an incalculable benefit to the human race. Jenner had the greatest difficulty in getting the profession and the public to recognize his discovery, but in 1802 a Parliamentary grant of \$100,000 was made him, not, however, without great opposition. The sum was altogether inadequate to compensate him for his outlays and sacrifices in the pursuit of his discovery, and further grants were afterwards voted him. It is remarkable that Jenner's discovery did not lead up to the discovery Dr. Koch has made long before this, for it seems to have been but the initial step upon the right road. Germany will be able to claim the credit of giving the world a cure for consumption, but England has no need to feel badly about it, for Jenner's discovery of vaccination has almost rid the world of small pox, which at one time was a terrible scourge in all classes of society.

CHIT-CHAT AND CHUCKLES.

THE MINOR CHORDS.

The minor chords. Ah, none so sweet!
Divinely eloquent they beat.
Faint pulses of the heart of Pan
From reedy shores Aeolian,
The shaggy satyr's lone retreat.

Somewhat of sounds that dulcet greet,
Like siren voices whose entreat
Laid old Ulysses 'neath their ban,
The minor chords.

Wind whispers in the bending wheat
Or liquid chant where waters meet;
All these and more, since time began,
Hold no such melody for man
As those dim tones with soul replete,
The minor chords!

—Ernest McGuffey, in the Chicago Herald

"Mamma," says Freddy Faggle, "I know why the sun sets every evening." "Why, Freddy?" "So it can hatch out a new day."

Watts—Wonder why they always call a locomotive "she?" Potts—May be it is on account of the horrible noise it makes when it tries to whistle.

INFESTED.—"How do you like the place?" asked the proprietor of a summer resort of a departing boarder. "It would be very desirable for some people," was the cautious answer. "For instance?" "Oh, well, say an entomologist."

A COMMON WEAKNESS.—There is no greater weakness than that of letting our happiness depend too much upon the opinions of others. There are a good many real miseries in life that we cannot help smiling at; but they are the smiles that make wrinkles not dimples.

GOSPEL TRUTH.—Churchwarden: "Well, Mrs. Hodge, I am sorry to hear that your son has left you unprovided for, and gone away to America." Widow: "Lor' bless ye, sir: it's only what we might expect, after parson reading it out so often o' Sundays: 'Train up a child an' away he shall go!'"

Mrs. De Sour (angrily)—"I want you to keep your dog out of my house, Mrs. De Smart. It's full of fleas." Mrs. De Smart—"Mercy on me! Fido! Come here, sir! Don't you go into that house again. It's full of fleas."

Professor Huxley says there was a time when men walked on all fours. We believe you, Huxley, for we have seen them do it when they were little. There was also a time when man walked on the palms of his hands, and held up his legs in the air. The time we refer to was after the boy had been to the circus, and had seen the clown do it.

"Horace," she murmured, her head nestling on his bosom, "Horace, darling, you—you say you love me?" "Yes, pet," he replied, for although he was an editor he occasionally gushed a little, "Yes, tootsey, I do!" "And I believe it, for I can feel your heart throbbing as I lean against it, and I know it is with love for me." "Probably it is, my dear," said he, but that is not my heart—it is one of Eila Wheeler Wilcox's poems of passion which I cut out of a paper to-day to read to you!"

A COMPOSITION.—The house cat is a four-legged quadruped, the legs as usual being at the corners. It is what is sometimes called a tame animal, though it feeds on mice and birds of prey. Its colors are striped, tortus-shell, black, also black and white, and others. When it is happy it does not bark, but breathes through its nose instead of its mouth, but I can't remember the name they call the noise. It is a little word, but I can't think of it, and it is wrong to copy. Cats also mew, which you have all herd. When you stroke this tame quadruped by drawing your hand along its back, it cocks up its tail like a ruler, so as you can't go no farther. Never stroke the hairs across, as it makes all cats scrat like mad. Its tail is about two foot long, and its legs about one each. Never stroke a cat under the belly, as it is very unhealthy. Don't teaze cats, for firstly it is wrong so to do, and, 2d, cats have clawses which is larger than people think. Cats have 9 liveses, but which is seldom required in this country cause of Christianity. Men cats are allus called Tom, and girl cats Puss or Tiss; but, queer as you may think, all little cats are called kittens, which is a wrong name which oughter be changed. This tame quadruped can see in the dark, so rats stand no chants, much less mice. Girls fear rats, even mice. Last Tewsday I drawed our cat on some white tea paper, and I sold it to a boy who has a father for 20 pins and som coff drops. Cats are very useful. I can't remember one of the noises they make, though I've just been trying again. Cats eat meat and most anythink, spheshully where you can't afford. This is all about cats.

Let's reason together. Here's a firm, one of the largest the country over, the world over; it has grown, step by step, through the years to greatness—and it sells patent medicines!—ugh!

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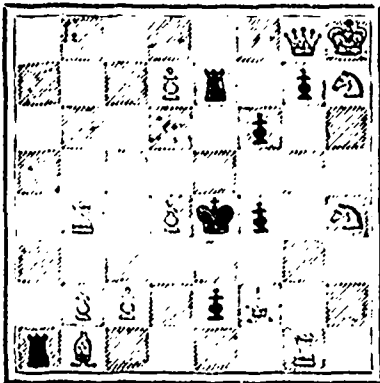
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CHESS.

PROBLEM No. 53.
By A. F. MACKENZIE.
(2nd prize *Brownson's Chess Journal*
Tourney No 9)
BLACK 7 pieces.



WHITE 12 pieces.
White to play and mate in two moves.

GAME No. 54.
Seventh Game in the Championship
match between Steinitz and Gunsberg.
From *The Week*.
QUEEN'S GAMBIT.

- | | |
|----------------|----------------|
| W. STEINITZ. | GUNSBURG. |
| WHITE. | BLACK. |
| 1 P to Q4 | P to Q4 |
| 2 P to QB4 | P takes P |
| 3 Kt to KB3 | Kt to KB3 |
| 4 P to K3 | P to K3 |
| 5 B takes P | B to Kt5 ch |
| 6 Kt to B3 | Castles |
| 7 Castles | P to QKt3 |
| 8 Kt to K5 | B to Kt2 |
| 9 Q to Kt2 | B takes Kt |
| 10 P takes B | B to Q4 |
| 11 B takes B | P takes B |
| 12 B to R3 | R to K1 |
| 13 P to QB4 | P to B4 |
| 14 QR to B1 | Kt to K5 |
| 15 KR to Q1 | P takes QP |
| 16 KP takes QP | P to B3 |
| 17 P takes P | P takes Kt |
| 18 P to Q6 ch | K to R1 |
| 19 Q to Q5 | Kt takes BP |
| 20 R to Q2 | Kt to Q2 |
| 21 R takes Kt | Kt to B3 |
| 22 R takes Kt | P takes R |
| 23 P to Q7 | R to K1 |
| 24 P takes P | R to Kt4 |
| 25 Q takes R | Q takes Q |
| 26 R to B8 ch | R to Kt1 |
| 27 R takes Q | R takes R |
| 28 P to K6 | Black resigns. |

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Cards in great variety, Photograph Cards and
Albums, Walking Sticks, &c., and if your
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by J. Godfrey Smith, Dispensing Chemist,
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Spectacles and Eye-Glasses, in Gold, Silver,
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NEWS OF THE WEEK.

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

A firemen's tournament is to be held in Moncton on the first of July next.

Halifax is to have the Provincial exhibition, and everything is being got in order for the show

It has been decided to call the Ontario legislature for despatch of business on Wednesday, Feb. 11th.

Truro is to have a daily paper, *The Truro Daily News*. The first regular issue will appear on Monday next.

Mr. Adam Brown, honorary commissioner to Jamaica exhibition, left New York on Friday last for Jamaica

Hon. William Ross has been unanimously chosen Liberal candidate for Victoria, C. B., in the ensuing contest.

St. John's, Newfoundland, has had a wharf collapse similar to the Halifax disaster, only that no lives were lost.

Orpheus Hall held a large audience on Tuesday evening to hear Principal McKay, of the Halifax Academy, lecture on electricity.

Moncton had a fire on the 17th. This is the fourth of the series, and it is thought it was of incendiary origin. The losses were covered by insurance.

Great distress is reported among the poor at Ottawa. A soup depot has been opened and charitable people are exerting themselves to help those in want.

Charlottetown society is agitated over a scurrilous pamphlet called "Society as it is in Charlottetown." *The Patriot* says:—"Trouble is anticipated in regard to society."

Six patients were inoculated with Koch's lymph at the Victoria General Hospital on Saturday last. Medical men are given every facility to make examinations, with a view to ascertaining the result of the injections.

At the Institute of Natural Science on Monday evening interesting papers, the "Magdalen Islands" and "Poverty Superceded," were read. The Rev. G. Patterson, D.D., read the first, and Dr. A. P. Reid the second.

An Englishman named Wadsworth has disappeared from Wallaceburg, Ont. Sir Charles Tupper has cabled to the Governor-General inquiring into the matter. A rumor has got about that his fate may be similar to that of Benwell.

The Provincial Government crop report for 1890 shows that the general average of all our crops is 91 per cent.—that is, nine per cent. below a full average harvest. The deficiency, so far as the financial interests of the agriculturists are concerned, is likely to be compensated by a rise in prices.

A rumor went the rounds of the Press last week to the effect that a new scale of salaries for postmasters was to be adopted and put in force so soon as the expenditure could be authorized by Parliament. It was promptly contradicted by the Postmaster General, and now the postmasters are to be sympathized with.

The Board of Fire Commissioners concluded their investigation into the trouble in the U. E. C. and the charges against Capt. Condon, and presented their report to the City Council on Wednesday. They exonerate Captain Condon of all the charges, and advise the Company to make peace and let by-gones be by-gones.

Lt. Col. McPherson has just received two contributions to the military museum from Lt. Col. J. W. H. Rowley, late of the Yarmouth battery of Garrison Artillery. These are an oval breast plate of the Kings German Legion and the cross belt plate of the Nova Scotia Volunteer Artillery, both used in the war of 1812.

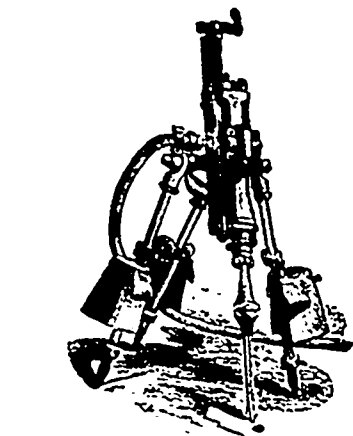
Dr. H. S. Jacques, medical superintendent of the Victoria General Hospital, left last week for a visit to Boston and New York, where he will remain two or three weeks. The efficient and popular medical superintendent will study hospital management generally during his visit, and will devote special attention to the use of Dr. Koch's lymph.

A cable has been laid from Meat Cove, on the north extremity of Cape Breton Island, to St. Paul's Island, and a flag and telegraph station has been established at the main establishment on St. Paul's Island, about 537 miles from Quebec. Full information can be obtained at this station during the months of April and May respecting the state of the ice in the river and gulf.

The Exhibition Association of St. John N. B., have announced the date for their exhibition for the present year. It will open on the 23rd of September and continue until October 3rd. A number of new features are to be introduced and the "special attractions" will be particularly entertaining. The prize list will cover about the usual lines and amount to about \$12,000.00:

The February issue of *The Delineator* is to hand, replete with the latest fashion gossip and illustration. This popular magazine has received the hearty endorsement of nearly every newspaper in Canada, and the recent establishment of a Toronto office saves to subscribers all further trouble and expense in the matter of duty. The current number contains numerous articles of interest to ladies on home decoration and improvement, and the low subscription price of \$1 a year places it within the reach of all. Address, *The Delineator* Publishing Co., Toronto.

Why do mothers allow their children to run such terrible risks by neglecting what appears to them to be only a little cough? The Oxford Cough Syrup will cure the worst cough or cold in a few days.



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—MANUFACTURERS OF—
Rock Drills, Air Compressors,
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General Mining Machinery
Explosives, Batteries, Fuses, &c.

The Count, Council's estimates for the present year amount to \$31,240.

Sir Philip Miller, the great English horticulturist, writing in 1740, says: "The best method to have Cabbages good is to procure fresh seed from abroad every year, for it is apt to degenerate in England in a few years." The above is a simple illustration of the fact that the best seed will rapidly degenerate under unfavorable conditions. The wise will take heed, therefore, and buy their seeds of D. M. Ferry & Co. Windsor, Ontario, whose world wide reputation as the best and most reliable, as well as the most extensive seed growers and dealers, is due to the fact that they take advantage of every circumstance of climate, soil, methods of culture, selection of seed-plants, etc., to procure the best possible seeds and keep them up to that high standard. Send your name to the firm's address, and you will receive a copy of their Seed Annual for 1891 free.

It is proposed to place a first-class steel truss span and draw bridge over the Annapolis River at Canville Ferry. This bridge will be about 1,300 feet from shore to shore at high water mark, or 800 feet at low water. The main channel of the river is 45 feet deep at low water, which will be spanned by a steel truss of 400 feet. The stone piers on which this rests will be in 25 feet of water at lowest tide. The draw will be the largest of any in the Dominion, or in fact in America, two openings of 80 feet width, each with 22 feet of water at lowest tide, with an extensive moving pier. This draw will be nearly in the centre of the river, and where there is only two knots of tide at half tide, with a counter current on the inshore side, and will admit of ocean steamers of over 3,000 tons passing up the river into French Bay. As the Annapolis River above the town of Annapolis is not navigable about four months of the year, the draw will not be required to be open during that time, and only for the up river traffic by sail and steam (which is very limited,) during about eight months of this year.

Sunday's storm damaged the telegraph wires all over the country considerably.

Kalakaua, king of the Hawaiian Islands, died at the Palace Hotel, San Francisco, at 2.30 o'clock on Tuesday.

Mr. George Bancroft, the venerable historian, died at his home in Washington on Saturday last. He was 90 years of age and had only been ill for two days.

The San Francisco owners of sealing vessels are making preparations for the coming season. A new departure will be the introduction of steam launches in the business, two of which will be carried by each schooner.

The United States Senate has adopted the Stewart free coinage amendment. The vote was, yeas 42; nays 30. It also struck out the fourth section of the Financial bill providing for the issue of two hundred million of two per cent bonds. The first section of the Financial bill for the purchase of 12,000,000 ounces of silver at the market price was struck out without a division.

The United States Indian war is apparently over. The hostiles have submitted to the inevitable, but they first held a conference with General Miles and sent a delegation of chiefs to Washington to see the President. The Indians expect the Government to keep its word and treat them better in future. They have given up their arms and returned to the agency. Several thousand pounds of flour, tea and coffee have been distributed.

The late Prof. Schlieman bequeathed to the Emperor William some valuable ancient jewellery.

The Court of Cassation, Paris, has rejected the appeal of Michael Eyraud, the murderer of Gouffe, who is condemned to die by the guillotine.

The earthquake in Algeria reported on the 15th inst. destroyed the towns of Gowraga and Villeborg and 40 persons were killed by falling walls.

Dr. Koch has disclosed the secret of the manufacture of his lymph. It is still looked upon with great suspicion in many quarters, especially in France. Time will tell in this case, as in many others.

The Porte is about to strengthen the Turkish army in Tripoli by the addition of 5,000 troops. The Porte will regard any attempt on the part of Italy to interfere in the affairs of that province as a *casus belli*.

Dr. Zoller, of Paris, has just recovered from an illness of three weeks, which he attributes to the injection of the Koch lymph. The doctor used the lymph upon himself as an experiment. He has no recollection of anything that occurred in the early days of his illness.

The revolution in Chili was at first denied, but that there is a pretty formidable disturbance is now evident. It appears that a portion of the fleet has revolted. British men-of-war are on the way to reinforce the British vessels already there and protect the lives of British subjects.

The suffering in Europe from the long continued cold is terrible. Fires have been lighted in the streets of Paris where the poor can warm themselves. Another snow storm is reported from Italy. In Great Britain people have been frozen to death. The inhabitants of the town of Libdon, in the Province of Aran in Algiers, are snowed up and perishing of starvation. An attempt to send succor failed.

Irish affairs have somewhat quieted down. Mr. Parnell has returned to Ireland. Dillon, O'Brien and Gill are in Paris. Timothy Healey and Arthur O'Connor addressed a meeting in Mostrim, Longford County, on Sunday. The platform collapsed but no one was injured. Mr. Parnell has been speaking at Cork and Tralee, and said that if Mr. Gladstone had the courage to make a big instead of a little Home Rule Bill, he (Parnell) would look forward to his own retirement with confidence, knowing well that Ireland would no longer need his leadership.

At a meeting of prominent citizens of Liverpool, £2,000 was raised to swell the Zetland Balfour fund for the relief of the suffering poor of Ireland. This action on the part gentlemen referred to has caused considerable indignation among the almost starving and entirely fundless workmen of this city. Mr. Gladstone has subscribed \$250 to the Zetland-Balfour fund.

A despatch from Tobolsk says that the terrible scourge known as "black death" has reached the city of Tobolsk, the capital of West Siberia. The whole of Asiatic Russia, from Samarkand to the mouth of the Obi, is suffering from the scourge. Thousands are dying at Obdorsk, near the mouth of the Obi, owing to the lack of physicians. It seems almost hopeless to try and check the spread of the fearful disease.

The Times announces that the authorities of the British Museum have discovered among a collection of papyrus rolls acquired recently in Egypt, the text of Aristotle's treatise on the Constitution of Athens, from which numerous writers of antiquity quoted, but which has hitherto been known only in detached fragments. This may now be seen at the British Museum, where fac similes of it are being prepared. The opening chapter is missing and the concluding chapter is mutilated, but otherwise the manuscript is in perfect condition. There is little doubt of the genuineness of the manuscript, because nothing was known of the contents of the papyrus roll when purchased.

CHILDREN

Are always liable to sudden and severe colds, to croup, sore throat, lung fever, etc. Remedies, to be effective, must be administered without delay. Nothing is better adapted for such emergencies than Ayer's Cherry Pectoral. It soothes the inflamed membrane, promotes expectoration, relieves coughing, and induces sleep. The prompt use of this medicine has saved innumerable lives, both of young and old.

"One of my children had croup. The case was attended by our physician, and was supposed to be well under control. One night I was startled by the child's hard breathing, and on going to it found it

Strangling.

had nearly ceased to breathe. Realizing the child's alarming condition had become possible in spite of the medicine it had been given, I reasoned that such remedies would be of little avail. Having a part of a bottle of Ayer's Cherry Pectoral in the house, I gave the child three doses, at short intervals, and with good results. From the moment the first dose was given, the child's breathing grew easier, and in a short time it was sleeping peacefully and breathing naturally. The child is alive and well to-day, and I do not hesitate to say that Ayer's Cherry Pectoral saved its life. - C. J. Woolbridge, Wortham, Texas.

For all coughs, bronchitis, asthma, and all affections of the throat and lungs, take

Ayer's Cherry Pectoral,

PREPARED BY
DR. J. C. AYER & CO., Lowell, Mass.
Solely for sale in Halifax, N. S., six bottles, \$5.

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WILL CUT FROM 20 TO 35 THOUSAND SHINGLES PER DAY.

WORKS VERY SMOOTHLY. Also—The Well Known

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BUILDERS, LUMBER DEALERS ETC.,

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LOWER WATER STREET, HALIFAX, N. S.,

Keep constantly on hand all kinds of

LUMBER, TIMBER, LATHS, SHINGLES, &c

Which they will sell low for Cash. CONTRACTS TAKEN FOR WOOD & BRICK BUILDINGS

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THOS. COX, - Proprietor.

Boarding and Livery Stables in connection. Stages leave daily for Gay's River, Musquodoboit, Sheet Harbour and Maitland, on arrival of Train from Halifax.

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Albion Hotel,

JAMES GRANT, Proprietor.

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Terms Moderate.

LYONS' HOTEL,

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(Directly Opposite Railway Station.)

Extensive improvements have just been completed in this house, which is conducted on first class principles, and will be found, outside of the Queen or Halifax Hotels, equal to any in the Province. Good Sample Rooms and Livery Stables in connection. Also, Billiard Rooms.

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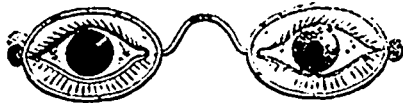
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IF YOU ARE IN NEED

of anything in the way of Spectacles or kind, designed to the eye, I can I way of Spectacles Glasses of any correct defects in surely suit you.

I can fit any for any trouble; the nearsighted or far sighted, the over taxed or weak eye.

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I refer to those who have patronized me for testimony.

Are glasses good? They are good
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W. H. BANNISTER,

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(Graduate of New York Optical College.)

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If you have any Pains or Aches, such as Rheumatism, Neuralgia, Head or Tooth Ache, Stiff Joints, Sprains, Bruises, Chills, Lame Back, Swellings, Corns, etc., use EUREKA OIL. It will cure you.

If you have Dyspepsia, Liver Complaint, Kidney Disease, Rheumatism, Erysipelas, Constipation, Loss of Appetite, General Weakness and Debility, Biliousness, Head Ache, Nervousness, any Disease arising from Impure Blood, use EUREKA BLOOD PURIFIER.

If you have Sores of any kind, Salt Rheum, Pimples, Scald Head, Eczema, Boils, and burns, or Scalds, use the EUREKA SALVE.

Diseases of Women, arising from a low state of vitality, Weak Nerves and Impure Blood, use the BLO D PURIFIER.

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For public purposes, such as Educational Establishment and large Hall for the St. John Baptist Society of Montreal.

MONTHLY DRAWINGS FOR THE YEAR 1891.

January 14, February 11, March 11, April 8,
May 13, June 10, July 8, August 12, September 9, October 14, November 11,
December 9.

EIGHTH MONTHLY DRAWING FEB. 11, 1891

3134 Prizes Worth \$52,740.
Capital Prize worth \$15,000.

TICKET, - - - \$1.00

11 TICKETS FOR - - \$10.00

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List of Prizes.

1	Prize worth \$15,000	\$15,000 00
1	" " 5,000	5,000 00
1	" " 2,500	2,500 00
1	" " 1,250	1,250 00
2	Prizes " 1,000	1,000 00
5	" " 250	1,250 00
25	" " 50	1,250 00
100	" " 25	2,500 00
250	" " 15	3,750 00
500	" " 10	5,000 00
100	" " 25	2,500 00
100	" " 15	1,500 00
100	" " 10	1,000 00
999	" " 5	4,995 00
999	" " 5	4,995 00

APPROXIMATION PRIZES.

3134 Prizes worth..... \$52,740 00
S. E. LEFEBVRE, Manager,
81 St. James St., Montreal Canada.

WITH YESTERDAY'S SEVEN THOUSAND YEARS.

Ah! my beloved, fill the cup that clears
Today of past regrets and future fears
To-morrow I why to-morrow I may be
Myself with yesterday's seven thousand years.

—Omar Khayyam.

MAYBE LAND.

Beyond where the marshes are dank and wide
Is a ladder of red and gold,
Where the sun has sunk in the shifting tide
Of the clouds that the night elves mold.
It leads to the portals of the Maybe Land,
Whose castles and groves we see,
On a vapor bank o'er the mists expand,
To darken the wind-swept sea.
'Tis there that our wishes are all made true,
Where frowns may not mar the brow.
Where storms never mutter the whole year through,
Where Then is transformed to Now,
And only the dreamer who idly halts
With pencil or brush in hand,
Can travel the path to the mystic vault,
And the treasures of Maybe Land.

—Philander Johnson, in Washington Post.

BOOK GOSSIP.

Appleton's Town and Country Library constantly supplies the demand for fresh, bright novels and romances. The latest we have received are No. 63, "A Squire of Low Degree," by Lily A. Long, and No. 64, "A Fluttered Dovecote" by Geo. Manville Fenn. In the first we have a well told tale of how a young man with high aspirations was taken from the plough by another young man who fortunately possessed the means to follow his good impulse, and given the college education for which he yearned. The friendship between these two is beautifully portrayed and the sacrifice each made for the other gave token of a more than ordinary love. The bravery of Alex. Macdonald in taking a load of unmerited odium upon himself for the sake of his friend, and then quietly living it down and winning in spite of all the love of Dorothy enlists the reader's deepest sympathy. Dorothy is a sweet study, thrown into clear relief by the showy and rather disagreeable Miss Horsford, who is evidently introduced as a foil for the quiet little woman. "A Fluttered Dovecote" consists of the "memories" of a bright young lady who was sent to school at "The Cedars," a place scarcely as bad as the famous Dotheboys Hall, but which directs attention to the manner of "finishing" young ladies that no doubt is practical in some schools. The scrapes the girls get into with their lovers, the French and Italian masters respectively, are provocative of laughter, and the book is tolerably amusing throughout, although as we just stated it has a little medicine smothered in the jam. The characters are so clearly drawn that we can almost see them, but perhaps we are assisted by the illustrations. D. Appleton & Co. New York. 50 cents. "The Story of my House" also comes from D. Appleton & Co. It is a long expatiating rhapsody on the artistic in a dwelling. George H. Ellwanger is the author and he is evidently much taken with his subject. There are many interesting views on decoration in these essays, and situation and kindred topics are well discussed. He gives us of the fruits of his study of other writers quite liberally and takes us far into the past in his talk about the perfect house. Mr. Ellwanger's ideas appear to us somewhat extravagant and we would not advise anyone with whom economy is an object to copy after him. The volume is beautifully printed and is gotten up in a rather quaint style. A beautiful little etching forms the frontispiece, and there is undoubtedly an elegance about the volume which will be appreciated by lovers of the aesthetic. Price \$1 50.

"One of Cleopatra's nights" and other fantastic romances by Theophile Gautier; faithfully translated by Lafacadio Hearn. (Worthington Company, New York.) Here we have some intensely fascinating dreams, pictures, call them what you will, different from the ordinary run of stories. Gautier is weird, awful, fantastic and realistic all at once. This one of Cleopatra's nights was a wild one, but the tale is not so affecting as Clarimonde or Arria Marcella. This is not a book for children or prudes—unless they want to be shocked—as the translator states it is the artist who must judge of Gautier's creations. Not being familiar with the original, we are not competent to pronounce on the merit of the translation, but as the utmost admiration of Gautier is expressed in the introduction, we have reason to believe that the translator did his work with sincerity. Price \$1.00, and in paper covers 50 cents.

Our readers will remember seeing from time to time in our columns poems by Mr. J. F. Herbin, of Wolfville. Mr. Herbin has just published a little booklet entitled "Canada and other Poems" which is for sale at Knowles' book store. Of the seven poems in this pamphlet three have been published before, but "Canada" is new. They are all of considerable merit, but we like best the one entitled "Appeal." Instinct with patriotic zeal, and love of country, expressed with originality and strength, these poems deserve a welcome from all who sympathize with the poet's aims.

INDUSTRIAL NOTES.

An important addition to the new manufactories of Halifax is the "Halifax Bavarian lager beer Brewery" which occupies the site of the old Morrissey brewery on Albermarle Street and also extends through to 50 and 52 Duke Street. The enterprise owes its origin to the business sagacity of Mr. J. Lindberg, who has already amassed wealth and established a high reputation for the superiority of his products through a brewery established

in St John's, Newfoundland, some years ago. The establishment is well worthy of a visit, as it is fitted up with the latest and most approved machinery and apparatus mostly imported from Stockholm and is in all respects a model of its kind. The cellar is one of the finest in the Dominion, and here stored in great casks and cooled by hundreds of tons of ice, the beer will be kept until properly aged for shipment. A narrow iron stair way passes up through the brewing vats into the fermenting room, where are 24 tubs of a capacity of 650 gallons each; here also is the refrigerating machine and in the story above, the surface cooler, a large tank filled with the fragrant brew and cooled by a huge fan forcing the surface of the beer into miniature waves and making the atmosphere dense with the rising vapors. A large stock of the best Bavarian hops, duty paid, is stored in the hop room, and in the malt room the malt from Ontario is fed into a large hopper and descends to the room beneath where it is automatically weighed by a most ingenious machine as it passes to the crusher. There is also a large malt cleaning machine, and a cooper shop where the casks are put together, the staves for the present being imported. The water is all filtered and nothing but the best German hops and Ontario malt are used in the manufacture of the beer which is bound to make a most palatable and wholesome drink. An upright 15 horse power engine and suitable boiler supply the steam and motive power and there is an improved bottling apparatus. Mr. Landberg, a brewer of large experience in the old country, who had charge of the Newfoundland brewery, is in command, and on his skill and watchful care the success of the enterprise largely depends. The brewery is now in operation and has a capacity of three brewings daily of 1200 gallons each. The offices are being neatly fitted up on the Duke Street entrance, and are presided over by Mr. W. J. Kinnear, who has had over eight years experience in the business. Two qualities of beer will be brewed, the celebrated Bavarian and the Pilsen, a lighter beer for family use. The brewery is a great improvement to the portion of the city in which it is situated, and will furnish employment to 20 men and a number of teams.

The Cormier gravel pit, and others at Upper Dorchester, N. B., have been leased by the New Glasgow glass company, to use the flint in the manufacture of glass. They are going to take several carloads to test it. If it turns out as good as they think it will, a factory will be built at once on the grounds here for the manufacture of glass.

Several snow ploughs are being built at Harris' Foundry, St John, for the I. C. R., from patterns furnished by J. H. Harris.—*Amherst Record*.

A firm in Munich has made a carriage which is propelled by gas generated from benzine or analogous material. The motor, which is not visible from the outside, is placed in the rear of a three wheeled carriage over the main axle, and the benzine used is carried in a closed copper receptacle secured under the seat, from which it passes drop by drop to the generator. The speed is regulated by a lever. Ten miles an hour can be made.—*Boston Journal*.

A beam of sunlight is thrown through a lens on a glass vessel that contains lampblack-colored silk or worsted, or other substance. A disk, having slits cut in it, is made to revolve swiftly in this beam of light, so as to make alternate flashes of light and shadow. On putting the ear to the glass vessel, sounds are heard as long as the flashing beam is falling on the vessel. If a beam of sunlight is made to pass through a prism, so as to produce the solar spectrum, and the colored light breaks through the revolving disk, and if, for instance the vessel contained red worsted, and the green light flashes upon it, loud sounds will be given. Only feeble sounds will be heard when the red and blue parts of the rainbow fall upon the vessel, and other colors make no sound at all. Green silks give sound best in red light. Every kind of material gives more or less or no sound in different colours.—*American Art Journal*.

Four more carloads of machinery were brought Saturday evening for the lifting apparatus of the Ship Railway docks. Though the work along the line and at the docks has almost entirely ceased for the winter months, the work of unloading cars and bringing in material still makes the Ship Railway a busy scene. One of the cars brought in Saturday night is for the dock at Tidnish, the other three for the dock at Fort Lawrence.—*Moncton Times*.

AN IMPORTANT INDUSTRY.—The plaster business is an important industry in Hants county, N. S., furnishing as it does employment to one thousand men, if the crews of vessels engaged in the carrying trade are included. During the past year 147,685 tons have been exported from that county.

One of the busy hives of industry in Stellarton is the factory of Jno. McQuarrie. Mr. McQuarrie's name is known well and favorably, and far and wide, not only as one of the staunchest Tories in Pictou county, but also as a builder and contractor whose work is done faithfully and well. Mr. McQuarrie's factory is well equipped with the latest and best machinery of all kinds. Mr. McQuarrie also keeps in stock all kinds of coffins and coffin mountings. He has built some of the finest residences in the county.—*New Glasgow Enterprise*.

GRANITE QUARRY.—Mr. Henry Soirette, manager of the new Granite Quarry on the western side of Shelburne harbor, has commenced operations. Several buildings for the accommodation of the men and work shops and sheds are now being erected. About seventy men will be employed in the Quarry in a few weeks.—*Shelburne Budget*.

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CITY CHIMES.

Church of England Institute undertakings this winter are very successful. Last Friday night the first concert of the season's course drew an immense audience which overflowed the rooms. The programme was a fine one, and the concert proved a musical treat. Mrs. George Campbell, Mrs. Taylor, Mrs. Lear, Miss Morrow, Mr. Sobieski, Mr. Blois, Mr. Gillis, Dr. Slayter and Mr. Henry all contributed to the success of the evening.

We have had a storm nearly every week this winter. On Sunday last we had one of the worst, and very few people managed to get out to church, although of course the faithful clergymen had to be in their places as usual. Instead of clearing up the weather continued dark and unpleasant on Monday, and on Tuesday a sleet storm followed. Trees became weighted down with ice, and as for the wires of all kinds they became about six times their normal size, and in many cases broke the crossbars and sometimes the poles on which they were strung, thus putting the telephone, telegraph and electric light services out of order. And still we have little snow. Three or four winters have passed now during which the old-fashioned drifts have become almost forgotten. Some people regret the snow, but for ourselves we rejoice in its absence. When the editor reluctantly arises in the morning and prepares to betake himself to his sanctum, if he sees two feet deep of beautiful snow on the ground he is very apt to wish he owned a sleigh, instead of having to trudge through the fleecy white mass to the weariness of his flesh. Yes, we are personally delighted to have the snow come in the shape of rain.

Miss Louise Laine's song recitals have been looked forward to with much interest by the music-loving public since it was announced that she intended giving them. The first of the course of three was given in Orpheus Hall last evening under the patronage of General Sir John Ross and Lieut.-Governor Daly. Miss Laine was assisted by Frau Marianne Doering Brauer, Herr Doering and Mr. C H Porter. The demand for seats was brisk, and we have no doubt a good audience greeted Miss Laine's first recital. Unfortunately we are unable to give any particulars, as we go to press before the event.

Everyone will be glad to hear that Bishop Courtney is now reported out of danger.

The usually placid moon presented an unusual appearance on Tuesday night a little after ten o'clock. A lunar bow, consisting of several rings of rainbow-colors surrounded our Cynthia for about half an hour, and presented a very beautiful spectacle. Those who missed seeing the phenomenon are to be sympathized with, although once upon a time we suppose there would have been forebodings dire over the occurrence. People have better sense now-a-days.

There is sorrow in many households just now. Our sympathy goes out to the bereaved whom diphtheria has robbed of their little ones. Mr. and Mrs. M. R. Morrow have lost both their children this week from this cause, and Mrs. Morrow herself has also been very ill. In one household four children have been taken this month, and there are still many cases in the city. There is a cause for this, and no more time should be wasted in mere talk. Something should be done and done at once.

The first skating carnival of the season was held in Exhibition Rink on Monday evening. The number of skaters was not large, but the attendance of spectators was as usual very good.

The Lytell Company scored a great success in "Hands Across the Sea" last week. The accommodation afforded by the Academy of Music proved altogether insufficient, and standing room only was the rule every night. "Uncle Tom's Cabin" was put on on Monday, and has drawn good audiences. Dion Boucicault's play, "The Streets of New York," was given last night, and will be repeated this and to-morrow evenings.

COMMERCIAL.

Continued fluctuating and unfavorable weather has retarded the development of trade, in the general position of which little or no change has transpired, and none of the leading lines have presented any notably new feature. Payments as a rule run about the same, but the monetary position in a speculative sense is decidedly better, which is generally a favorable indication. A number of small failures have occurred, but while trade is not exactly brisk, it is admitted to be on a sound bottom as regards new operations. In fact a cautious policy has been pursued all along the line, and stocks of all kinds are well in hand. Commercial travellers are generally sending in very fair orders, and they write hopefully of the prospects for a fair volume of business being accomplished during the coming season.

There is reason to believe that a great deal of the financial difficulty in which importers find themselves from time to time owes its origin to a want of knowledge of the actual cost of imported goods laid down here. For instance, do all our wholesale firms take into consideration the loss of three months' interest caused by dating ahead? Do they take into account the nine months' interest on the 33 per cent of Customs duties which is paid out in cash before the goods are delivered? These are very important items of cost to wholesale houses that, it is said, are frequently lost sight of in the undue haste manifested by certain firms in their anxiety to extend business and secure orders. It is very clear that some concerns have been egregiously

negligent in their calculations of the cost of importations, judging from the ruinously low prices at which they have invoiced them to their customers. There are also a number of other incidental losses besides those mentioned that are liable to escape the notice of importers in figuring up the cost of goods. Those items of expense may be individually small, but they aggregate to an important factor in the entire cost that should never be overlooked.

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

	Week Prev.		Weeks corresponding to			Failures for the year to date.			
	Jan. 16.	1890	1890	1889	1888	1891	1890	1889	1888
United States...	356	391	355	353	308	963	1018	981	913
Canada.....	51	46	36	17	42	120	110	97	92

DRY GOODS.—The quiet feeling continues in this branch of trade, which continues about the same. Orders from travellers show a fair average volume of business for the season, and our leading houses look forward for a good year's trade. Great caution is exercised in the distribution of credits, and quite a number of orders are held back until customers fulfil their obligations in arrear. The scarcity in certain lines of cotton goods, previously referred to by us, is as marked as ever, and values remain very firm at the advance in prices. Woollen goods are also firm all round. Remittances have been hardly as good as it was hoped that they would be, but from advices from the interior during the past few days it appears that a good many promises to settle up during the coming month have been made. Advices from primary centres cite a firm position, recent ones from Manchester and other centres stating that the feeling is steady, while there appears to be a fair business passing.

IRON, HARDWARE AND METALS.—There is but little to add in connection with this market to what was said last week. Business is principally made up of small jobbing sales, but we do not come across a single instance where there has been any trading in pig iron. The feeling locally and throughout Canada is unchanged, while advices from Great Britain do not speak of anything strikingly new in the situation. Matters remain in statu quo and will continue to be unsettled until a move one way or the other has been taken. Tin plates are yet uncertain as regards values, and nothing is doing in them, prices being more or less nominal. The supply is, as we have several times previously stated, very light, in fact charcoal is becoming a substitute. It is natural, therefore, that holders are firm with the position at the source of supply as it is. In shelf goods there is nothing particular to note, the houses being still more or less engaged in averaging up.

BREADSTUFFS.—The flour market pursues the dull tenor of its way with nothing of importance to note either in the way of values or business. In fact business is likely to rule on the quiet side until the close of the current month, when the approach of spring is likely to induce some movement. The tone remains about the same, prices being steady, but no doubt concessions would be made from quotations if a genuine offer for a round lot were made. The Merchant, Toronto, says that "arrangements are about completed for the acquisition by an English syndicate of the principal flour mills in Canada." This is "important if true." Beerbohm's cable reports wheat steady with a continental demand. Corn steady. Weather in England, some snow. In Chicago wheat declined ½c. Corn was weak and ¾c. lower. Oats fluctuated, but at last reports had fallen back ½c. The New York market was steady and that of Toledo quiet.

PROVISIONS.—A very slow movement in provisions still continues, but prices remain steady. At Liverpool pork declined 1s. and bacon 6d., while lard made an advance of 3d. No special feature occurred in the Chicago provision market, but pork has been weak and lard advanced 2½c. Short ribs declined about ½c. The hog market there was stronger and advanced \$10. The cattle market was firm, but sheep were easy. A London letter says:—"The Arctic weather has been beneficial to the live and dead meat trades, as it has enabled dealers to dispose of lots left over from the Xmas market at fairly remunerative rates, but the supply being somewhat in excess of the demand, a drop has resulted of quite 2d. per stone, the top quotation for beasts to dress from 750 to 760 lbs. being 7½d. with heavy descriptions down to 6½d. per lb. The sheep supply has been a great deal larger than requirements, and trade has consequently ruled slow, top quotations for best small wethers being 9d. The ban has been removed from Dutch mutton, and this week 3317 sheep from Holland figured at Deptford, 5s. 6d. being paid for small, and 5s. to 5s. 2d. for larger animals. The dead meat trade has been about steady at late rates, the heavy consignments to Smithfield preventing any appreciable bettering of prices. Notwithstanding the plethora of supplies from which the market has been suffering, shippers seem determined to force the trade, and if the omens tell a truthful tale we are likely to be more flooded with frozen mutton from New Zealand and River Plate this year than last, when over 3,000,000 carcasses reached us from all sources."

BUTTER.—The position is unchanged with the firm feeling maintained. Stocks of strictly fancy creamery have been pretty well reduced and the article is firmly held. Aside from creamery there is a fair seasonable supply on spot. Though stocks are not heavy it is claimed that there is enough butter on hand to meet all reasonable demands. On this ground it is assured that it would be a wise course to accept fair offers now if such are made rather than to hold obstinately. The local jobbing demand rules about the same. In England "cold weather causes the demand to hang steady for best descriptions and Normandy baskets have gone up ½s., the quotations now being 132s., American being also in request at 70s. to 80s. with best up to 90s. per cwt. Dutch butter, however, shows a declining tendency, and Friesland is selling all the way from 90s. to 124s. Australia is again to the fore with a large consignment which has gone off well at from 90s. to 116s. for good and 120s. for finest, New Zealand figuring at from 70s. for inferior to 108s. for fair." Why does not Canadian butter command as good prices? Because it does not receive the same careful attention in making and packing. It is in the hands of our farmers and manufacturers

whether our butter shall step into the first rank which is open to it, or whether we shall be content to pose in the second, third or a lower place.

CHEESE.—Business moves along quietly and no pronounced change can be cited. Just sufficient is doing to indicate that values are firmly held, but trading cannot be called general.

DRIED FRUIT.—The dried fruit market has in the past few days given some indication of returning business. Buyers are beginning to realize that the position of Valencia raisins is tending to increased firmness. Advice from England and Spain lend strength to the position, and importers here have been advised by their agents at Valencia that bids will be refused, as the stock of fruit is so small that the bulk of it will be required on continental account. In currants also the feeling is firm here, and holders freely say that they intend to hold on for a while longer.

APPLES.—“Although some shipments of apples from this side to the English markets have shown a loss, the majority have proved more remunerative than for a number of years past, so that on the whole Canadian exporters have had nothing to complain of up to the present. Certain western shippers have done remarkably well, and the following account sales recently received from the other side by a Montreal firm is referred to as being one of the most satisfactory of the season. The shipment consisted of 233 bbls. of winter varieties which sold for £371 14s. 3d, which after deducting freight, commission, &c, amounting to £67 12s. 4d, leaves £304 1s. 11d. net, at point of shipment in the west, or about \$6.25 per bbl. The following were the sales of this lot of apples:—20 bbls. at 25s.; 14 bbls. do., 20s.; 7 bbls. do., 17s.; 1 bbl. 16s.; 1 bbl. 15s. 9d.; 40 bbls., 38s.; 50 bbls., 37s.; 57 bbls., 30s.; 1 bbl., 27s. 6d.; 10 bbls., 28s. and 31 bbls. 36s. The varieties consisted of Kings, Spies, Russets, Baldwins, Greenings, &c., most of which were well packed and arrived on the other side in good condition. The season of 1890 and '91 has been an exceptionally good one up to date of writing, and it has proved that receivers on the other side have done their best in obtaining the highest figures the market would stand. This would seem to refute the theory often advanced by shippers on this side, to the effect that English consignees did not always handle the fruit to best advantage. In a bad market it is impossible for receivers on the other side to give satisfaction, and when shippers make losses they are apt to impute all manner of reasons to account for their apples not making profitable returns. Those consignments that have arrived on the other side in good condition have made money this season.”

SUGAR AND MOLASSES.—Raw sugars have advanced sharply during the past week, particularly in the Brazils, and it is difficult to buy at the moment. The local market for refined sugar is still very quiet, being of a hand-to-mouth character. In fact to induce trade refiners have marked down prices ½c. in granulated, but yellows are steady and unchanged. Advice just received from Barbadoes state that an early opening of the new season for molasses is expected, but that the crop will be far short of that of 1890. The yield during the coming season is estimated at 30,000 to 33,000 puncheons, against 54,000 puncheons last year, which shows the large decrease of 17,000 to 20,000 puncheons, providing of course that the estimate for this season is not under stated. Drought prevailed throughout Barbadoes during the last six months of 1890, and one reliable authority in that island says that the yield for 1891 cannot exceed 50,000 to 55,000 hhd. of sugar and 30,000 to 33,000 puncheons of molasses, against 90,000 hhd. of sugar and 54,000 puncheons of molasses last year. The same authority says.—“This drought has ripened up the canes to such an extent that reaping will commence early, in some instances during the first fortnight of January, and we look for grinding operations to become general during the month of February, or at the latest, early in March. The unfavorably dry weather experienced not only at this Island but throughout the West Indies, places it beyond doubt that short crops must be looked for in 1891. At the same time, we have every reason to believe that the demand for this Island's produce of sugar and molasses will be most active, and orders should be placed in our hands at an early time, with full limits to work on, if the early lots of sweets are to be secured. It is premature to express an opinion as to opening prices, but we think they will be about 14c to 15c. per gallon and puncheons \$4.00 each for molasses, and \$2.00 per 100 lbs. and hhd. \$5.00 each for refining grades of sugar.”

TEA AND COFFEE.—All grades of black teas are very strong and are moving out fairly well. There is a good all round enquiry for Japans, especially for the better class worth 25 cents and upwards. The tone of the coffee market is a good deal better now for all kinds. Maracaibo has advanced in New York from 1c. to 1½c. per lb. The rumor that has been going the round of the papers in regard to the Jan. crop is incorrect, as it was the last crop that was short, the coming one will be a good one. However the short age of the last crop is beginning now to fill in the press, and the coming one will not be marketed for a few months yet. All mild coffees are better, and Rios are also firmer. We have no local transactions to note this week. There has been a great scarcity of Maracaibo lately, very little coming in New York, owing to the views of the planters in Maracaibo being above the ideas of New York. Statistics are, stock in Rio 186,000 bags, same time last year 181,000 bags. Total visible supply 453,545 bags, same time last year 438,081. Total receipts in crop to Jan. 8, 1,331,000 bags, same time a year ago, 1,200,000 bags.

FISH OILS.—In Montreal the market for Newfoundland cod oil is quiet but steady at 36c. to 37c. There is more enquiry for steam refined seal oil, and the market is firm at 51c. to 52½c. as to quantity. Norway cod liver oil is steady at 80c. to 85c. In Gloucester, Mass., the quotations are:—Cod oil 27c. to 30c. per gal.; medicine oil 60c.; blackfish oil 35c.; Menhaden oil 23c.; livers 50c. per bucket.

FISH.—No change can be noted either in prices, receipts or shipments of fish. The market is perfectly flat and absolutely nothing is doing here. No movement can be expected for several weeks to come, or until an outside

demand springs up. Starfish, the greatest enemy of the oyster, are now caught by sending to the bottom a big mop, made of long cotton thread fastened to a frame of iron. This mop is drawn slowly over the beds of oysters, and without disturbing the crop, entangles the starfish, which cling to it until they are brought to the surface. When the dredge, full of stars, is taken on board the dredging steamer, it is immersed in hot water, and the dead stars drop. Our outside advices are as follows:—Montreal, Jan. 21.—“There is no movement to note yet in fish, but some change in this respect is expected within a week or two. The firm feeling is fully maintained, and with stocks of dry fish in their present small compass there is not much probability of any lower prices for some time; in fact it is unlikely that there will be any till next season. The demand shows no activity, a few lots of Labrador herring being placed at \$5 to \$5.25 as to quantity, shore herring as low as \$4.50, but good stock is held at \$4.75. Cape Breton steady at \$5.25 to \$5.40 for No. 1, \$5.50 to \$5.55 for large, and \$6 for draft. Sea trout is steady at \$8 to \$8.50 per bbl. Newfoundland salmon \$18 to \$20 per tierce, and \$12 to \$13 per bbl. The market for frozen fish has been quite active, and large sales have been made of herring at \$1.50 per 100. Tommy cods have sold in round quantities at \$1.40 per bbl., and haddock at 4½c. to 5½c. per lb. The weather has been all that could be desired for hauling, and the steady cold has increased the demand. The market is about steady with a moderate trade passing. We quote:—Yarmouth bloaters \$1.25 per 100, boneless cod 7c. to 8c. per lb; boneless nsh 4½c. to 6c.; finnan haddies steady at 7½c.” Gloucester, Mass., Jan. 21.—“New Georges codfish at \$6 a qtl. for large, and small at \$5; Bank \$5.25 for large and \$4.50 for small. Shore \$5.50 and \$4.50 for large and small. Flemish Cap \$5.50. Dry Bank \$5.75, medium \$5. French codfish \$6 per qtl. Phillips Beach codfish \$7 per qtl. Cured cusk at \$4.50 per qtl.; hake \$2.25; haddock \$3.25, heavy salted pullock \$2.25; and English-cured do. \$2.75 per qtl. Labrador herring \$6 bbl.; medium split \$5; Newfoundland do. \$5.50; Nova Scotia do. \$5.50, Eastport \$4; split Shore \$4.25; round do. \$3.50; round Eastport \$3.25, pickled codfish \$7; haddock \$6; halibut heads \$3.50; sounds \$15; tongues and sounds \$11; tongues \$10; alewives \$3.50; trout \$14, California salmon \$13; Halifax do. \$13; Newfoundland do. \$16.”

MARKET QUOTATIONS.—WHOLESALE RATES.

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

GROCERIES.		BREADSTUFFS.	
SUGARS.		Business is of course slackening off. February is recognized as being the dullest month of the year. Prices however are well maintained west. Flour has advanced 10 and 15 cents a barrel.	
Cut Leaf.....	7½	We make no change in our quotations.	
Granulated.....	6½ to 6¾	FLOUR.	
Circle A.....	6	Manitoba Highest Grade Patents	6.10 to 6.25
White Extra C.....	5½ to 6½	High Grade Patents.....	5.10 to 5.20
Standard.....	5 to 5½	Good 90 per cent Patents.....	5.00 to 5.10
Extra Yellow C.....	5 to 5½	Straight Grade.....	4.30 to 5.00
Yellow C.....	5 to 5½	Superior Extras.....	4.80 to 4.90
TEA.		Good Seconds.....	4.25 to 4.75
Congou, Common.....	17 to 19	Graham Flour.....	4.10 to 4.40
“ Fair.....	20 to 23	Oatmeal.....	5.20 to 5.25
“ Good.....	25 to 29	“ Rolled.....	5.30 to 5.40
“ Choice.....	31 to 33	Kin Dried Cornmeal.....	3.25 to 3.35
“ Extra Choice.....	35 to 36	Roll'd Wheat.....	6.40
Oolong, Choice.....	37 to 39	Wheat Bran, per ton.....	21.50 to 22.50
MOLASSES.		Shorts.....	23.01 to 25.00
Barbadoes.....	35 to 36	Middlings.....	26.00 to 28.00
Demerara.....	41 to 42	Cracked Corn.....	34.00 to 35.00
Diamond N.....	48	Ground Oil Cake, per ton.....	35.00
Porto Rico.....	41 to 45	Moulce.....	31.00 to 32.00
Cienfuegos.....	33	Split Peas.....	3.75 to 4.00
Trinidad.....	31 to 33	White Beans, per bushel.....	1.60 to 2.00
Antigua.....	32 to 33	Pot Barley, per barrel.....	3.90 to 4.10
Tobacco, Black.....	38 to 44	Canadian Oats, choice quality.....	53 to 54
“ Bright.....	42 to 58	P. E. Oats.....	53 to 54
RESISTS.		Hay per ton.....	12.50 to 13.50
Pilot Bread.....	3.15	J. A. CHIPMAN & Co., Head of Central Wharf, Halifax, N. S.	
Boston and Thin Family.....	0¾	PROVISIONS.	
Soda.....	6½	Beef, Am. Ex. Mess, duty paid.....	12.50 to 13.00
do in lb. boxes, 50 to case.....	7½	“ Am. Plate.....	12.50 to 13.00
Fancy.....	8 to 15	“ Ex. Plate, “.....	13.50 to 14.00
HOME AND FOREIGN FRUITS.		Pork, Mess, American.....	16.00 to 16.50
Apple, per bbl. N. S.....	2.00 to 5.00	American, clear.....	18.00 to 19.00
Oranges, new Jamaica.....	8 00	P. E. Mess.....	16.00 to 16.50
Lemons, per case.....	5.00	P. E. Thin Mess.....	15.00 to 15.50
Cocoanuts, new, per 100.....	5.00	“ Prime Mess.....	12.00 to 12.50
Onions, American, per lb.....	3½	Lard, Tubs and Pails, P. E. Island.....	12
“ Canadian.....	3 to 3½	“ American.....	11 to 12
Dates, boxes, new.....	6	Hams, P. E., green.....	none
Raisins, Valencia, new.....	7 to 8	Prices are for wholesale lots only, and are liable to change daily.	
Figs, Eleme, 5 lb boxes per lb, new.....	12	BUTTER AND CHEESE	
“ small boxes.....	11 to 13	Nova Scotia Choice Fresh Prints.....	25
Prunes, Stewing, boxes.....	10	“ in Small Tubs.....	22 to 25
Bananas, per bunch.....	2.00 to 2.50	“ Good, in large tubs, new.....	18 to 20
C. H. Harvey, 12 & 10 Sackville St.		“ Store Packed & oversalted.....	10 to 12
FISH FROM VESSELS.		Canadian Township, new.....	18 to 20
MAKEREL.		“ Western.....	16 to 20
Extra.....	15.00 to 16.00	“ old.....	7 to 10
No. 1.....	11.00 to 11.50	Cheese, Canadian, new.....	16
“ 2 large.....	13.00 to 13.50	“ Antigonish.....	16½
“ 2.....	12.00 to 12.50		
“ 3 large.....	12.00 to 12.50		
“ 3.....	12.00 to 12.50		
“ Small.....	7.00 to 7.20		
HERRING.			
No. 1 Shore July.....	4.50 to 4.75		
No. 1, August, Round.....	2.75 to 3.00		
“ September.....	2.75 to 3.00		
Labrador, in cargo lots, per bl.....	none		
Bay of Islands, Split.....	2.25 to 2.50		
“ Round.....	none		
Alewives, per bbl.....	3.00 to 3.25		
CODFISH.			
Hard Shore.....	4.00 to 4.25		
Bank.....	4.00 to 4.25		
Bay.....	4.00 to 4.25		
SALMON, No. 1.....	18.00 to 19.00		
HADDOCK, per qtl.....	2.75 to 3.00		
HAKE.....	2.00 to 2.25		
POLK.....	2.00 to 1.50		
COLLO.....	1.50		
HAKE TONGUES, per lb.....	12½		
COD OIL A.....	25		

MY DIAMOND RING.

"Good-bye, old lady," shouted my father, as he drove out of the yard. "Mind and take care of yourself."

"No fear," I shouted back, as I nodded my adieu; and though the words were somewhat slangy, they were applicable enough, for I certainly felt no fear, though perhaps some girls in the same circumstances might have been rather nervous.

My father was a farmer, and often disposed of his live stock at cattle fairs. On the morrow of the day of which I write a large fair was to be held some twenty miles distant. Our three farm-servants had therefore started that evening to drive the beasts that were intended for sale about half-way on the road. They were going to put up for the night at a farmhouse, where resided a friend of ours, and then resume their journey about three o'clock next morning, in order to be in good time for the commencement of business. My father was driving into the town that night, as he would have to make all arrangements for the reception of the cattle.

So only myself and Sally, our maid-of-all-work, were left in the house. But we had been so left many a time before, and had become completely used to it. I was never accustomed to much company, so that, perhaps, accounted for my own being generally sufficient for me. Our house stood, as many farmhouses do, in the middle of the farm, and we were quite a mile away from any other habitation. People often pitied me, saying they wondered how I could bear such a solitary existence; but a great deal of their sympathy was utterly thrown away, for with my perfect health, daily occupations, keen love of nature, and a strong leaning towards literary pursuits, I was happy, and found nothing lacking in my life. And a new sweetness had recently come to be the crown and perfection. I only prized the sparkling diamonds on my finger because they constantly reminded me—not, indeed, that I needed thus reminding—of a love as changeless and bright as themselves.

"Not diamonds, Tom," I had pleaded when my lover brought the sparkling gems. "They are out of place on the finger of a farmer's daughter;" but he had only laughed, and said I was as true a lady as any in the land; so I had yielded, and had grown each day to hold more dear the circlet that meant so much to me.

Happy thoughts are ever pleasant company. So that night after watching my father out of sight I turned again towards the house with a smile. It was an evening in July, but the day had been lowering, and the night seemed to be closing in early. As I passed through the yard I was accosted by a man who had for some weeks been working for my father. Those of my readers who are familiar with farm life may know that often in the harvest-time extra men are employed—men who not seldom prefer a comfortable "shake-down" amid the clean straw of the outer buildings rather than walk any distance to lodgings. Since this man had been with us he had each night slept cosily in a sheltered corner of the barn.

"A dark night, miss," he said, with his customary civility, as I passed him.

"Dark indeed," I answered in my usual chatty way. "I hope there will not be a storm, or the master will get wet ere he reaches his destination."

"Is he going far, ma'am?" asked the man, and I answered openly, "Yes as far as S—. He will stay the night in order to be in readiness for the fair early in the morning;" and then I ran on to the house, on the threshold of which I was met by Sally, wearing such a particularly demure and modest expression that I at once instinctively knew that she was about to ask a favor.

"If you please, ma'am," she began with much gravity, "do you think you could spare me for about an hour and a half to run up an' see my mother? She was so middlin' on Sunday that I've felt quite uneasy, an' if you could, ma'am—" and there Sally paused and looked at me entreatingly.

Now I did not believe this mild fiction the least bit in the world. I did not think that Sally's anxiety for her mother was at all overpowering, and I did remember that the way to the village would lead her exactly past the blacksmith's shop, where I had not the slightest doubt that sturdy Basil West would be on the look-out for her. I suppose I ought to have been shocked at the idea, but then you see I was young, and had a lover myself.

So I pretended to think that Sally's statement was correct, for, of course, it would not have done to let her suspect that I understood about Basil, and said very seriously:

"Yes, you may go for a little while, Sally, but be sure and do not be longer than an hour and a half, as I shall be all alone."

"Thank you, ma'am," said Sally joyfully. "I'll surely be back."

And with that she hastily put on her bonnet and shawl, and was soon out of the house.

Left to myself, I went into the dining room, but the atmosphere struck me unpleasantly, and the place altogether wore a cheerless aspect. Being summer-time we had no fire lit there, and the dull, gloomy evening seemed to demand something bright and pleasant.

"I will go into the kitchen," I said to myself. "There is a beautiful fire there, and I can take an easy-chair and make myself cosy."

So suiting the action to the word I was soon in front of the ruddy glow, comfortably seated with a favorite book in my hand.

The unshuttered window was at my left hand, and the unfastened door at the far end of the room. You may, perhaps, wonder that I did not secure the bolts of the door, but it never struck me to do so. All my life had I lived in that house, and was so thoroughly accustomed to it that I never thought of its loneliness. So I read on in placid enjoyment until suddenly I felt that somebody was looking at me through the window.

I raised my eyes quickly, and then I saw the man to whom a while ago I had been speaking. His gaze was fixed on the glittering ring on my fin-

ger, and something in his expression made me suddenly realize, with a sickening terror, that I was alone in that lonely house.

I sat literally petrified as I heard him making slow, stealthy steps towards the door, but as I heard his hand on the latch the blood resumed its flow in my veins, and with one intense prayer, "Lord, help me!" I was ready for him.

I turned with a smile.

"Oh, Donovan, is that you? Come in and bear me company by this good fire. I am quite glad you have come. I was just beginning to feel a trifle lonely."

The man was, I could see, thoroughly taken aback by my smiling graciousness, and knew not what to say. He muttered something; but I went on unheeding:

"Come in and sit down in this cosy corner and I will get you some supper. I am sure you must be tired of the cold things you buy in the village. I was just going to cook mutton chops. I will do some extra ones for you."

The coarse face watching me relaxed a little, and seeing this I sprang from my chair, though without any appearance of undue haste, and made my way into the larder. Thence I speedily emerged with the meat, which was soon merrily frying over the fire.

The appetising odour filled the kitchen as I deftly spread the cloth on the table and proceeded to lay on it all that could be required. And never once did I cease my flow of volubility till all was ready, and I hospitably invited Donovan to "draw up" and make himself comfortable.

He hesitated and looked quite sheepish. I do not believe the man had a particle of conscience, but he had a certain odd instinct of politeness, and he felt that we were rather an incongruous pair to thus sit down together.

"Afte, you, ma'am," he said awkwardly, but I laughed and answered:

"Nonsense! sit down while the meat is nice and hot."

Never shall I forget that meal! Each mouthful seemed as if it would choke me; and every now and again I caught the man's evil, covetous glance at the ring on my left hand. My one hope was in gaining time, and even then how could I be sure of help! If Sally returned alone what would two helpless women be against a strong, determined man? With what longing did I think of the muscular, brawney blacksmith. Oh, if he would only come! Surely, surely he would not let Sally walk across those dreary fields alone! Supposing that, seeing the light from the kitchen and guessing that I was there, he should leave his sweetheart at the entrance of the yard! Pray Heaven that he might remember that I had ever a kindly feeling toward lovers, and so would dare to bring Sally to the very threshold.

But all the time my thoughts were running thus, I was talking gaily to Donovan. What he thought of my unwonted affability I shall never know, but I am convinced that he never suspected my real motive. When at last he announced that he could eat no more, my heart sank, for nearly half an hour must yet elapse ere I dared hope for Sally and for "Basil the blacksmith."

Ah surely, surely my woman's wit could keep him at bay for one little half-hour longer. He had risen from the table, and stood looking at me. He was just about to speak, when I said easily:

"After supper a drink, Donovan. A glass of whisky will not come amiss, will it?" and I laughed merrily, though I could have screamed with terror and apprehension.

I knew that in offering him whiskey I was doing a desperate thing, as I could not tell how it would affect him. I knew that drink made some men like raging maniacs, and that others it quickly stupified. I might in this case hope for the latter, but I had to risk the former. And I must go into the solitary dining-room to get to the sideboard where liquors were kept. What if he should follow me, and there in the darkness deal me a deadly blow!

But Donovan evidently thought that I was thoroughly in his power, and that a little time mattered nothing. So I went on my errand and returned safely, and when I gave the glass into his hand he thanked me and drank my health with a considerable degree of gallantry.

I sat down by the side of the fire, and my heart began to beat in great suffocating throbs. For I saw the man begin to cast stealthy, furtive glances around, and once he looked at me with an expression that made my blood run cold.

"The master won't be home afore to-morrow, ma'am, will he?" he said suddenly.

"No," I answered, for of what use to deny that which I had once admitted.

He sat in silence for a full minute, and then, with a change of tone, said wheedlingly:

"That's a pretty ring ye have, on miss."

"Yes," I answered, and as I uttered the one word I tried to brace myself up strongly, for I knew the moment I had dreaded was come.

"Did your father buy it for you?" he went on.

"No," I answered briefly.

"Your sweetheart, may be?" queried Donovan with a cunning chuckle.

"Yes, my sweetheart," I replied, and with the word came a vivid recollection of Tom's tender eyes and stalwart figure, and I longed wildly for the reassuring clasp of his strong hand.

"He must be powerfully fond of you, miss, to buy a thing like that," pursued Donovan. "It would cost a sight of money."

"Did you ever have a sweetheart, Donovan?" I asked with a gay laugh. "Tell me about her."

Oh, for time—for time! I thought despairingly. What could I say or do to keep the man at bay for a few more minutes? Surely Sally would not be long. Surely Basil would come with her.

"Sweetheart!" repeated Donovan with a hoarse chuckle. "No, miss, I never had no sweetheart. I never was fond o' no young woman like as your young man is fond o' you. He'd do anything for you, I expect. I'm sure," went on Mr. Donovan with odious gallantry, "that if I was a gentleman, an' you was my young lady, I'd do anything for you."

My cheeks burned hotly at his tone, but I dared not show any resentment; and Donovan, evidently under the impression that he was making himself highly agreeable, went on speaking.

"Yes, I'd do anything for you if them was the circumstances, an' no doubt your young man feels the same. If you was to lose that ring, he'd be glad enough to buy you another. I'll be bound."

"But no other ring could ever be the same as this," I answered smiling. "This ring was put on when I first promised to be his wife, and it has never been off since."

"In spite of the gravity of the situation a faint sense of the humorous struck me as I said the words. I had never been a girl who discussed her love-affairs, always holding that such matters should be kept sacred between the two chiefly concerned, and it seemed so strange speaking on such a topic to an ignorant laborer, my father's servant.

But all thoughts save of the present were quickly dispelled as the man rose to his feet and came towards me.

"It has got to come off now, miss, if it has never come off afore," he said. "I've had my eye on that ring ever since I first see you, and now the time has come for you to pass it over to me."

He put his hand towards me, and I grasped it frantically. Apart from the actual value of the ring I had another reason for my reluctance to part with it. Let me confess that I am not a little superstitious, and that Tom had said to me: "Whilst this ring remains on your finger nothing can come between us. Never take it off, my darling, until it has to give place to your wedding circlet." I had always felt—foolishly enough, as the sensible reader will no doubt remark—that if ever the diamonds left my finger some misfortune would come either to my lover or to myself, something that would prevent that "wedding circlet" from ever being worn.

"Oh, do not take it from me, Donovan!" I cried wildly. "I would part with anything rather than that!"

"Now, miss," said Donovan, his deliberate manner contrasting strongly with my excitement, "you're a good-looking young woman, an' a pleasant-spoken young woman, an' I should be very sorry to hurt you in any way. But I'm a-goin' to have that ring, an' if you don't give it me quiet-like I shall have to make you, that's all."

"Wait till my father comes home," I said desperately; "he will give you some money instead."

"No doubt," answered Donovan with a sarcastic laugh. "He'd give me something handsome, an' be pleased to do it. What a pity you didn't mention it afore he went, miss. Come!" with a sudden threatening change of tone, "hand it over here while it's well with you!"

Did my ears deceive me, or did I really hear faint murmurs of voices in the yard? I sat for a moment absolutely still, every nerve strained to listen. Oh, if Basil were really there, and, unconscious of my danger, should turn back again without coming nearer to the house!

With one intense prayer for Almighty aid I suddenly flung aside Donovan's hand, and had got across the room and had flung open the door ere he had recovered from the astonishment that my energetic action had inspired.

He was after me in a moment, but not before I had screamed "Basil! Basil!" and the sturdy blacksmith, recognizing the desperation in my voice, was by my side in an instant. Then I heard a muttered oath as Donovan rushed past me, and was lost in the darkness.

Basil was about to dart after him, but I clung to him tremblingly. "Oh, do not leave me—do not leave me!" I gasped. "Let him go, he cannot hurt me now. Come in," and realizing that the peril was past I burst into a fit of hysterical weeping.

When I grew calm enough to talk I told Basil and Sally the whole story. Basil was wild to go and seek the author of my terror, in order that he might be duly punished, but in my state of shaken nerves I could not bear the idea of being left, even with the companionship of Sally and the security of bolted doors.

So Basil stayed all night, occupying one of the beds left vacant by the absence of the men-servants. Sally slept on the sofa in my room, for I felt too unstrung to remain entirely by myself.

The next morning Donovan was nowhere to be found, and we have never seen or heard of him since. My father on his return was horror-stricken to hear of the danger to which I had been exposed, and said that he would never again leave me so unprotected.

As for Tom, when I wrote and told him about the affair, he speedily came over and said that it was clear to him that a plain gold ring would be better than diamonds for ordinary wear. So I suppose the exchange will shortly be effected.

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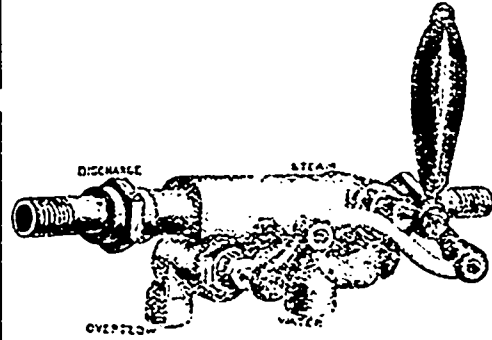
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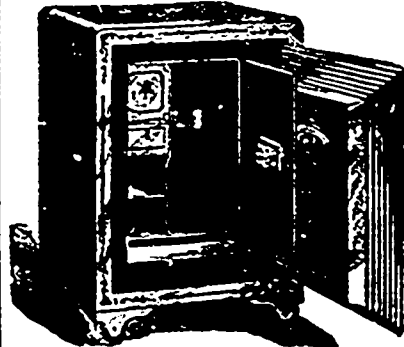
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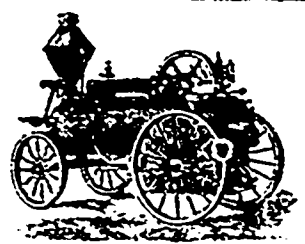
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MINING.

TWO VIEWS OF THE EFFECT OF RECIPROCIITY IN COAL WITH THE UNITED STATES.—The Boston Transcript in a recent article attempts to prove that with free coal Nova Scotia could command the New England markets. Its argument in the main rests on the assumption that Cape Breton run of the mine coal can be landed in Boston at a profit for \$2 00 a ton. The case is thus stated:—“Now the question comes on the proposition, can Nova Scotia coal be landed on the wharf at Boston at two dollars per ton?”

The question is not hard to answer. Take, for instance, an entirely undeveloped coal property in Cape Breton lying on tide water within five hundred miles of Boston light. The object is now to land a cargo of coal in Boston at a profit at two dollars per ton.

To begin with, the coal will be found to crop, and upon exposure by a level or slope will show inside of a dozen feet from three to fifteen feet face, mingled coal and shale. This coal will quickly be found to basin, i. e., to lie in an almost horizontal position, varying in thickness from six to thirty feet. As a rule this stratum is underlaid by one or more additional basins, and this being the case it is obvious that the quantity of coal deposited on one square mile of coal land is something enormous. Consequently the cost of production, on account of freedom from water, easy methods of ventilation, and the fact that the labor is mainly for mining coal, but little expense being otherwise incurred, is very light; but in order to speak cautiously let it be made the same as in Pennsylvania, viz.: fifty cents per ton on board. Take, then, two one-thousand-five-hundred-ton barges in tow of a sea-going tug. Ordinarily she would make three trips per month nine months in the year. The expenses for maintaining this line of transportation would not be over \$200 per day, which for the nine months would show \$1,000 tons transportation at a cost of \$54,000, giving a net freight of about sixty-seven and one-half cents per ton. Add to this, as a sinking fund to cover all other expenses, fifty cents per ton, which would give \$1 77½ as the net cost of Nova Scotia run of mine coal landed on the wharf at this city, and leaving a profit of 22½ cents per ton if sold at \$2.00 per ton.”

Is or is not the Transcript correct? We should like to hear from some of our coal mine owners on the subject.

Mr. John T. Lithgow, whose connection with and intimate knowledge of the business makes him an authority on our coal trade, has already published several letters proving that reciprocity will lose us to a great extent our present large market with Quebec without our being able to secure the New England trade, and below we publish a letter of his which appeared in the Herald of the 20th January last:—

“To the Editor of the Herald:

Sir,—In a letter which you kindly published last month, I expressed the opinion that under reciprocity the United States would send two tons of bituminous coal into the province of Quebec for one that Nova Scotia would ship to the United States. I have since received a letter from one of the best informed coal brokers in New York, and during the reciprocity treaty, which ended in 1866, the largest importers in the U. S. of Nova Scotia coals, wherein they say: “We do not think the market for Nova Scotian coals in the U. S. would be materially increased by the removal of the present duty of 75 cents per ton. The sharp competition which exists between the different producers of our domestic coal and the rapid growth of the facilities for supplying them will, we think, keep the price of our domestic coals as low if not lower than Nova Scotian coals could be delivered in the States free of duty.”

I have also received a letter from the largest Montreal importers of Nova Scotian coals, wherein they say: “Provincial coal is sold in limited quantity at a few points west of Montreal reached by cheap water transportation. The total quantity of these sales above or west of Montreal might be put down at about 25,000 tons. With reciprocity on coal, however, these contracts would at once pass into American hands, as also a very considerable proportion of the Montreal supply, and some points east of Montreal reached from United States collieries by all rail route.”

But, not only would American coal, if free from duty, supplant Nova Scotian to a considerable extent in the province of Quebec, it would also create such a competition that the delivery prices in that province would be so lowered as to leave little if any profit to the shippers. Even with 60 cents per ton duty delivery prices have been too low; remove the duty and of necessity still lower prices would follow and some of our collieries would have to shut down.

In the United States their own coals are so much preferred to Cape Breton, being free of sulphur and soot, that they are preferred at 25 to 50 cents per ton more; hence this must be borne in mind in entertaining the probable net value of Cape Breton coal in the United States. Now, last year \$2.15 to \$2.25 was the job price at Baltimore of the best sperm coal, and the freight to Boston was 90 cents to \$1.15, inclusive of the cost of discharging on to the wharf of purchaser. And this, be it remembered, when foreign competition was shut out by the 75 cents duty. American consumers used to be crying out for the removal of the duty and cheaper coal. Suppose the duty were removed, and the way prepared for the admission of Cape Breton coal, would not the price of American coal be lowered, at least 25 cents per ton? If so, then \$3 would be about the cost of a ton of American steam coal delivered at Boston; deduct from that 50 cents, and you have about the value of a ton of Cape Breton coal delivered alongside of wharf in Boston. Well, when it comes to that, I hardly know whom to pity most, those who ship, or those who freight it.

In conclusion, let me express my conviction that reciprocity would be a bad business for Nova Scotia's coal mining industry. ‘Fair protection’ and our home market, it seems to me, is far preferable.

J. R. LITHGOW.”

Here we have both sides of the argument ably stated. Which is correct? It should not now be difficult to arrive at the truth, as the argument has been narrowed down until it rests upon the *Transcript's* assertion that steam coal from this Province can be profitably delivered in Boston at \$2.00 per ton. If this is fallacious, then free coal would be ruinous to Nova Scotia, as the whole force of the *Transcript's* argument hinges on this contention.

CLASSICAL PROSPECTING.—Mooselands.—Some year or two ago when giving your readers some reminiscences of the early days of gold mining I concluded an article somewhat after this manner: "It is curious that the lead which produced the first gold found in the Province is yet undiscovered, but we are after it and we mean to find it."

We are still after it and now for the first time since the date of that writing we can say we are after it with a fair prospect of success. In the interval that has transpired, although there has been no eulogistic references to the men who have refused to be daunted by unprecedented difficulties, although Messrs. Stemsborn and Murphy and others have not been patted on the back according to the usual custom elsewhere, as the men whose life-time, energy and skill were to infuse new life into a dormant industry, yet in a quiet way and without much noise or bluster or speculative advertising, there has been done in Mooseland some phenomenally heavy prospecting in surface from fifty to seventy five feet in depth and under conditions so adverse, that had the work been accomplished in some of those new and juvenile localities where the boom is on and everything is *en galore* it would have taken columns of editorial matter and correspondence to do the subject justice.

This is the classic ground of the Nova Scotia gold miner. From Tangier, old and new, went out that fountain spring which has developed into the goodly stream of the gold industry of Nova Scotia, which for nearly thirty years has poured its golden waters into the ocean of the great world's commerce, and has had a marked effect upon three decades of our Provincial history.

The day when the Gus Lawlor lead in Mooseland is unquestionably discovered, besides being a gratifying compliment to the untiring energy and persistence of Mr. Stemsborn, and a still more gratifying fact for the directors and shareholders of the Mooseland Gold Mining Co. of Halifax; will be a red letter day in the history of Provincial Gold Mining and of interest to every one connected with it.

As the finding of the lead is now only a question of time, and the ultimate success of these long continued efforts is within appreciable distance, it may be interesting to trace succinctly the steps that have led up to this gratifying result.

The properties now united under the ownership of the Mooseland Gold Mining Company, Ltd., originally comprised three separate ranges of property; the north range owned by myself and others, the centre range owned by Mr. Stemsborn and others, and the south range owned conjointly by Mr. Stemsborn, Messrs. M. S. Brown & Co., Mr. Murphy and myself.

The first operations were on the South range, and included an unsuccessful attempt to lower the level of the Tangier River. Operations were then carried on on the North range, a large amount of money being expended and very considerable preparatory work done, when the failure of some of the owners to pay up caused a cessation of the work. The Central block was next attacked, and by going far East where the surface was light the presence of a belt of very large leads, was determined, and it was in the attempt to locate this belt near the river and within what is considered the rich zone that the difficult prospecting was encountered. Fifty to seventy-five feet of surface, largely a running quicksand, is no funny ground to sink shafts and drive bed rock tunnels in, but this was what was successfully accomplished under the supervision of John Murphy in the one case, and Jonathan Irving and Billy Scott in the other.

These various operations having demonstrated the necessity for greater resources than were at the command of the parties in interest, the various properties were all amalgamated, and the Mooseland Gold Mining Co., Ltd., was formed for the purpose of their development.

The organization of the Company occurred too late in the season to admit of the lowering of the river till next year. Mr. Stemsborn, under whose vigorous management the work is being prosecuted, was therefore compelled to try the expedient of prospecting in the swamp as it is, with a very doubtful prospect of seeing any bed rock this winter. He has succeeded beyond our expectations, and has not only reached bed rock, but obtained such indications as point to the discovery of the Gus. Lawlor lead at a very much earlier date than we had any anticipation of.

There is now therefore a fair prospect of the opening up of another great mine in this province, and as the uncanny element has been gradually eliminated and the property is all in the hands of honest square-dealing Nova Scotians, who are completely in accord as to methods and have confidence in each other, there is also a reasonable prospect, should our anticipations as to the value of the mine be realized, that both in regard to its initial construction and its permanent working, it will partake more of the character of a legitimate mining venture and less of that of a stock gambling operation than has been the case in so many instances, and will thus be a credit to its promoters and a decided gain to the gold mining industry.

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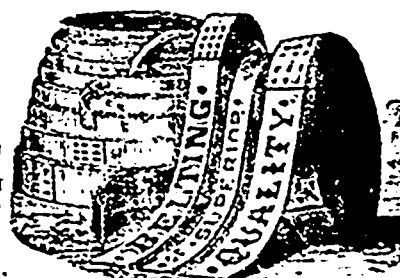
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[FOR THE CRITIC.]
 NEW YORK LETTER.

Signor Succi, the science baffle, the prince of fasters, who a short time ago finished his fast of forty five days in Koster and Bial's Hall, is now on view in one of the city museums. Any one who chooses to pay ten cents can go to gaze upon him, and pass remarks to his heart's content. I have ceased to feel any interest in Succi. I can no longer class him with scientists and students of physical phenomena; he ranks with the Albino and the two headed girl, the fat woman and the tattooed man. Ah, Succi! the lust for Gotham's gold has taken you captive hand and foot! The Italian was paid some tremendous price for drinking a cup of cocoa of one particular brand immediately after his fast, and another sum of equal magnitude for using one preparation of extract of beef on the same occasion. It was bad enough to make himself an advertising medium for the sake of a few thousand dollars, but this last is surely the lowest depth to which he could descend.

It is astonishing and somewhat interesting to see how people will flock to an exhibition like this, they will only see an ordinary dark, little Italian, but they will go away satisfied. It is not the actual sight that they depend on for entertainment; it is the ideas that are conjured up by it. Every one has observed how eagerly people will crowd to the scene of a murder, suicide or accident for days after the event has occurred. They gaze on the flag-stones, or on the bare wooden walls, and go over the harrowing details in their minds, and find inspiration in their surroundings for the most gruesome of thoughts. So it will be, I suppose, with Succi. He eats his three meals a day as well as other folks, but the curious frequenter of the Dime Museum will gaze upon him and fancy how his cheeks and eyes must have looked during the forty-five days fast, and imagine his feelings towards the close of it, and be quite contented with his ten cents' worth. A young woman named Higgins, who hails from the Emerald Isle, and who arrived here only a few days ago, has already been besieged by proprietors of Dime Museums, on account of her hair, which is bright green; she indignantly refuses to exhibit herself to gaping crowds, and prefers to go out as a domestic servant. Listen to the voice of the Irish maiden, oh, Succi, and feel abashed!

The men can no longer have a monopoly of club life; we have now a charming place on Eighteenth Street, started by an enterprising woman, which is going to meet all feminine requirements and emergencies of this kind. There are bedrooms, drawing room, reading room, private dining-room and restaurant, and no men are admitted unless with their wives. There is a shopping bureau attached, for the use of strangers who come into New York to do their shopping, and the whole enterprise is in the hands of women. To any one coming to New York from the Provinces I can recommend No. 11 West Eighteenth St. as a place where one has all the conveniences of an hotel without its publicity or exorbitant charges.

Poor Miss Davenport (the star at the Fifth Avenue Theatre, which was so recently completely burned,) is very blue over her losses. Of course the money receipts which would have accompanied the performances, which are now impossible, are a dead loss. But the worst thing of all is, that buried in the pile of unsightly debris lie the ashes of the scenery it took six months to prepare for her play of "Cleopatra," and the magnificent costumes that were made in Paris, and which are said to have been worth \$50,000. The actress puts them down now at that figure, but the Custom House officers remember that not long ago Miss Davenport valued them at \$2,000, and was even inclined to make a fuss over this appraisal. However, the workings of the feminine mind cannot be followed; since they left the Custom House and have been worn by the charming impersonator of "Cleopatra," the dresses have of course increased in value. A most pathetic letter from Miss Davenport to the Herald a few days ago gives the tale of her woes as she sees them.

The Patriarchs' Ball, which was the first large gathering of the kind in '91, was a grand affair. There were about three hundred guests, many of whom were strangers visiting the city. The flowers, decorations and wines were all as magnificent and expensive as might be expected; the flower effect was red and yellow, jonquil and "American Beauty" roses being crowded into every available nook. Mr. Ward McAllister of course led the way to the supper room; after him came Mr. Chauncy Depew and Mrs. Stevens, Mr. Cornelius Vanderbilt and Mrs. Willing, and the rest of the grand assemblage. Some of the costumes were striking and most beautiful. Miss Flora Davis was a study in cherries; her gown was of cherry satin veiled in tulle, with bunches of cherries hung here and there over the dress. Mrs. S. Van Rensselaer Cruger was magnificently attired in an empire gown of white silk, embroidered in silver, with a train of green velvet. There was a blaze of diamonds from fair throats; all the beautiful jewels came out of their velvet cases for the Patriarchs' ball.

There are three famous dancers in New York now, each of whom has about one-third of the population of New York at her feet, metaphorically speaking. Each has a different style of beauty, a different method of dancing, and each has a circle of admirers who think her the most lovely and graceful of the three. Otero is at the Eden Muséo; she is a very beautiful woman to begin with, and when she walks into Deimonico's for supper every evening she creates almost as much sensation as when she comes on the stage for her nightly performance. There is none of the pirouetting of the ballet girl about these dancers; the dances are Spanish, graceful, voluptuous, striking. Rosita, the star of Seville, dances at Hermann's Theatre; she is bright, agile, bewitching, though she does not possess the calm, cold beauty of Otero. Carmencita, the great attraction at Koster and Bial's, is perhaps the greatest favorite of all. She is slender in form, but beautifully proportioned, with brilliant eyes that flash fire as she becomes excited with her dancing, and rounded arms that show to good advantage as they sway to the strains of the music.

These Spanish dances are full of meaning; each motion is the expression of some idea or feeling that it is the ambition of the danseuse to portray. Jealousy, hatred, defiance, love, all the passions are depicted by expression of face, motion of limb, undulations of the body. One does not weary of these dances or their charming exponents; there is something in the grace and beauty of the movements that attract one extraordinarily.

Did you ever hear of the "Society of Colonial Dames?" Probably not, for it was only established last May. It is believed, however, that it has come to stay. It is an eminently aristocratic association, and its members consist only of ladies who can trace their descent from an ancestor who resided in this country previous to the revolution, and who was prominent either as a governor of a state, a general or a statesman, or who performed some signal service to his country. The object of the Society is stated to be the cultivation of a sentiment of patriotism; it originated in a conversation on the subject between two society ladies, and on their mentioning their idea to a few friends, it was received with so much favor that the Society was at once organized. The entrance fee is five dollars, and the annual subscription three dollars, life-membership twenty-five dollars, but each member must provide herself with a badge, which costs about fifty dollars. In addition to the badge, a member is entitled to wear a clasp for every ancestor above one that she can place on her list. The multiplication of ancestors is not encouraged, however, as it is feared it might lead to petty jealousies and un-peaceful strifes and competitions.

When a lady applies for membership her claims are first passed upon by a committee, who examine her title to the necessary qualification, and if genuine she is awarded a certificate, which contains a short abstract of her title. This certificate is highly valued, because it is accorded greater credence than the bald statement of an individual as to her pretensions.

They call their meetings "assemblies," and the first of these gatherings was held a week or so ago at the house of Mrs. J. Lyon Gardiner, No. 674 Madison Avenue, a rich and accomplished leader in society. The invitations also followed the old style, and were printed on the backs of playing cards manufactured for the purpose. Their motto is "Colere colonialium gloriam," which my husband told me meant "The glory of the Colonies is to plough;" but I know he was joking, for I saw somewhere that it means: "To cultivate the glory of the Colonies." The movement is very popular, and the committee have their hands full searching titles. I wonder how long it will be before the mighty dollar will facilitate the committee in their investigation of claims. The President is Mrs. Archibald Gracie King. I notice the name of another officer is Miss Rip Van Dam; this lady no doubt administers the oaths of initiation.

The grand annual social event of the season took place in the Metropolitan Grand Opera House on Tuesday last. They call it the Charity Ball, and it has been known by this name for the last thirty years. This is because the dancers and spectators have to pay a pretty good sum for admission, and the proceeds are devoted to the support of a charitable institution, namely, the "Nurses and Children's" Hospital on Staten Island. Last year they cleared over \$10,000, and this year it is believed the proceeds will have exceeded that sum. This is about the only "pay" ball patronized by that heterogeneous body of individuals known as the "upper ten." It was a happy freak that made them take it into their head thirty years ago to make a pot of this particular institution. It was merely an unaccountable fancy, an accident that rescued the Charity Ball from relegation to oblivion. It is very good of these people to go to the ball; just think what it costs them; not less than \$5.00 for a ticket, \$100.00 for the dress, \$3.00 or \$4.00 for flowers, \$2.00 or more for a cab—say \$110.00 all told—that is no trifle to give for charity in one lump sum. And now you can't meet a grand lady on Fifth Avenue who doesn't look as virtuous as a whole Dorcas Society. Can you think of anything more unreasonable than a suggestion that the ladies who attended the ball, if they really wished to be charitable, might have stayed at home that evening and sent the whole of the amount it would have cost them to the nurses and children? Some people are never satisfied.

SOPHIE M. ALMON-HENSLEY.

DRAUGHTS-CHECKERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

MR. CATES, Montreal.—Your card is received; Sam is still here. The problem is a fine one, we give it in this issue. Please send its number, author, and name the paper in which it first appeared.

THE CHECKER MATCH.

DORAN VS. FORSYTH.—Since reporting progress in this proposed match in our last issue, finding that Mr. Doran did not reply to my note of the 6th instant, I addressed another to him, as follows, which, I regret to say, up to the time of this writing, Jan. 19, also remains unanswered, though both of our forfeit deposits are up:—
Halifax, Jan. 12, 1891.

Dear Sir,—I wrote to you on the 6th inst. in reference to your checker challenge. I have not as yet received a reply. I got a note from the Queen

Hotel stating that you had telephoned that you would play one game. I do not consider this a reply. You must be aware that checker matches usually consist of a series of games—say thirty. I presume you desire to have a fair trial to test our respective merits. One game would not be such a test. One game might result in a draw. Again one game would give one player the advantage of the first move. To have anything like a fair test ten games at least should be played. I, therefore, make the following proposals:

1. I will play you a match of ten or more games according to Standard Rules, or I will play you the first three wins, or, if you wish to get the agony over as quickly as possible, and think the first win will suit you, I will play you the first win.
2. A final stakeholder must be chosen.
3. A referee to whom any dispute shall be referred shall be chosen,

4. Each player to have a time-keeper.

5. I shall give or take \$20 for expenses.

In conclusion I may say that I shall not notice any telephone proposal. If the proposals I have made are not satisfactory be good enough to make an offer over your own or authorized signature of what you think would be fair.

If you mean business and not bluff I think there is nothing to prevent our arranging the match speedily.

Very truly yours,
(Sg) W Forsyth

SOLUTION.

PROBLEM 202.—The position was: Black men 2, 13, 17, 25, kgs 19 26; white men 8, 9, 14, 20, kings 3, 10; white to play and win.

9 6 19-12 10 14 13-17
2-18 3 7 3-10 7 10
20 16 12-3 14 7 w wins.

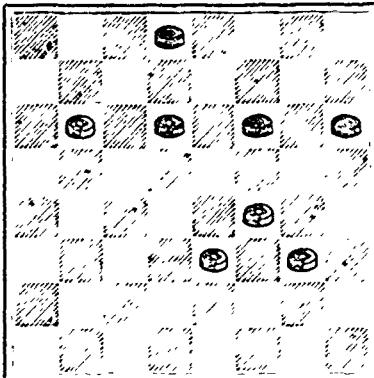
GAME No. 88—"Double Corner"
Played recently between two Halifax amateurs.

9-14	16-20	11-15	8-11
24 19	17 13	16 12	27 23
11-16	1-8	14-17	11-16
22 17	19 16	21 14	23 18
8-11	12-19	10-17	7-11
25 22	23 16	29 25	a-25 21

We withhold the rest of this game till our next issue, thus giving our young readers an opportunity to discover for themselves the fine stroke following, which nearly wins for black. We would be glad to hear from any who may find it.

PROBLEM No. 204.

Contributed by Mr. Cates, Montreal
Black men 2, 10, 11, 12.



White men 9, 19, 23, 24.

Black to play. What result?

This is one of the best end games that we have ever examined. We shall be obliged to any of our readers who will give us the name of the author and of the paper in which this problem first appeared.

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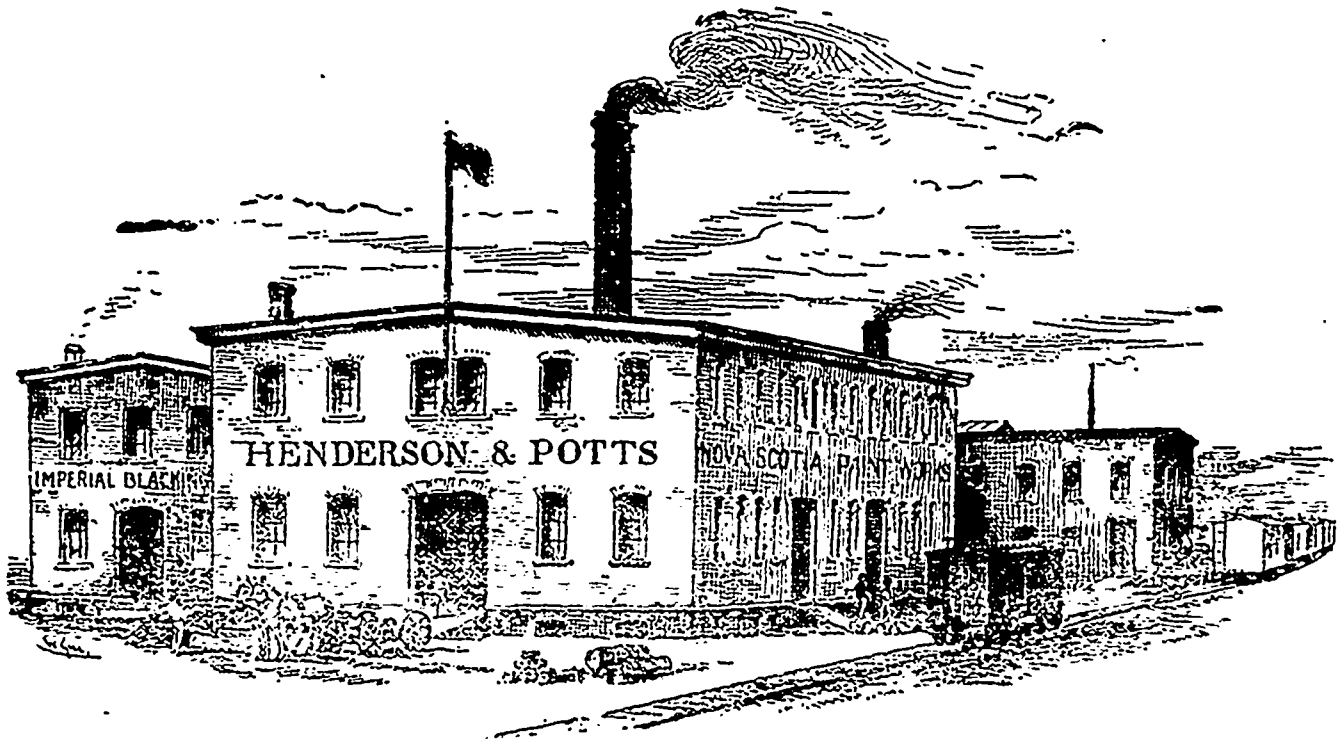
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At 2 o'clock, p.m.

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Capital Prize—1 Real Estate worth \$5,000.00

LIST OF PRIZES.		
1 Real Estate worth.....	\$5,000	5,000
1 Real Estate worth.....	2,000	2,000
1 Real Estate worth.....	1,000	1,000
4 Real Estates worth.....	500	2,000
10 Real Estates worth.....	500	3,000
30 Furniture Sets worth.....	200	6,000
60 Furniture Sets worth.....	100	6,000
200 Gold Watches worth.....	50	10,000
APPROXIMATE LOTS.		
100 Silver Watches worth.....	25	2,500
100 do do do do.....	15	1,500
100 do do do do.....	10	1,000
1000 do do do do.....	10	10,000
1000 Toilet Sets.....	5	5,000

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TICKETS, \$1. 11 TICKETS FOR \$10.
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Winners' names not published unless specially authorized.
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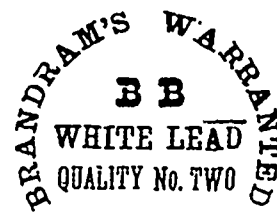
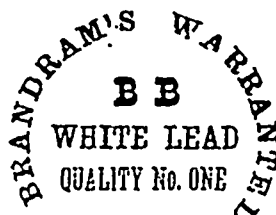
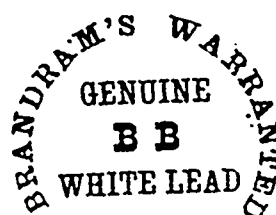
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