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# THE CRITIC:

A Maritime Provincial Journal.

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Commerce, Manufacturing, Mining and Agriculture.

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HALIFAX, N. S., MARCH 22, 1889.

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## THE CRITIC,

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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.

General Harrison is said to have begun the peculiar experience which renders the life of a newly installed President a burden to him, in the clamors of the usual hordes of office-seekers—the victors demanding the spoils. Some day it is to be hoped the good sense of the American people will lead them to stamp out this vicious system and discreditable exhibition.

We by no means approve of lotteries generally, but the object of the National Colonization Lottery, whose advertisement appears on page 16, is of a different nature to that of such organizations in general, while the name and reputation of Father Labelle, Deputy Minister of Agriculture, Quebec, under whose patronage it is, is sufficient guarantee for perfect fairness in its management.

It is satisfactory to learn that an Ontario Judge has not hesitated to prescribe the lash, as well as a term of imprisonment, in the case of a ruffian convicted in Prince Edward County of attempted assault on a young girl twelve years of age. A portion of the punishment was inflicted a few days ago, and it is confidently expected that the example will have a powerful deterrent effect in that district.

The Earl of Dunraven is trying a very sensible experiment in yacht building, which is calculated to enable the English yachtsman to make up his mind on the centre-board question. He is building a 60 ton yacht which is to sail either as a keel or centre-board boat. She is first to be tried against the Yarana as a keel-boat, and if not found as fast as the latter, her centre-board will be adjusted, and it will then be seen whether her speed is increased.

A certain section of the Canadian Press has been making a great deal lately of the Hitt Resolution as a standing offer on the part of the United States of "Unrestricted Reciprocity." But it does not appear to us that the situation is in the least altered. "To abandon Canadian industries to the crushing competition of the United States, and to join our neighbor against our mother country, are," as the *Empire* remarks, "the essential features of this offer." If it were not impracticable, the acceptance of the terms embodied in Mr. Hitt's Resolution would mean the adoption in Canada of a protective tariff higher than her own, and a discrimination against Great Britain, which she is certainly not at present disposed to entertain.

Apropos of Sabbath observance, or non-observance, Congress has set a not very edifying example of non-observance of that virtue by remaining in session the whole of Sunday the 3rd inst., on which day also, we believe, the ex-President was equally occupied in affixing his signature to acts. No doubt the fact of the inauguration of the new President on the next day, Monday, constituted an excuse of urgency which was not perhaps to be denied.

Considering the desperate state of the country, of which we hear so much, there seem to be a number of young persons in Nova Scotia who display a culpable rashness in assuming the burthens and responsibilities of matrimony. The Revenue returns show a receipt of \$6,555.82 for marriage licenses during the past year. At \$4.00 per license this sum represents no less than 1639 marriages, presuming that some one attained happiness at 18 cents under the regulation price.

We invite the particular attention of our lady readers to the account, promised last week in our Cozy Corner, of the Toronto Domestic Kindergarten which, on account of its length, will be found in our columns for Contributions. What we intend to suggest to the active and energetic ladies of Halifax is, whether, by combining to establish a similar institution here, they might not be enabled to accomplish some tangible relief from the inconveniences so many have to endure from inefficient service.

After piling up horror upon horror as to the component ingredients of wine, brandy, whiskey, etc., till the reader's hair ought to stand on end "like quills upon the fretful porcupine," a minister in Yarmouth, in a recent sermon, rounds off on beer in this wise: "A pure article of beer is as hard to find as pure wine or brandy. Here are the things the brewers use for malt: Sugar, honey, molasses and liquorice for hops; opium, gentian, quassia, aloes, coculus indicus, amarantha, tobacco and nut, to prevent souring; salt-petre, jalap, salt, maranta, green copperas, marble dust, oyster shells, sulphate of lime, hartshorn—shavings, nut galls, potash and soda. The foaming head of froth is produced by adding green vitriol, alum and salt. The smack of age and the tingle of the palate is often produced by alum; and new beer is artificially made old in a few hours by adding the oil of vitriol." What do our Brewers say to this?

The City Slaughter-house Bill passed the House of Assembly on Tuesday and will, doubtless, pass the Legislative Council. It authorizes the City to borrow \$15,000 for securing a site and erecting a slaughter-house where all animals intended for food shall be taken for inspection as to their health and condition before killing. If diseased they are to be destroyed, and the carcasses are to be again inspected to guard against their sale. All carcasses of animals killed outside the city limits and brought in for sale, must also be inspected at the slaughter house before being put upon the market. A fee will be charged for each case of inspection. It is expected that the fees thus derivable will pay salaries and other running expenses, interest on the capital invested, and provide a rest for paying off the principal in a few years. Thus the citizens will have the satisfaction of knowing that they are eating sound meat at, practically, no added cost to themselves. Sheds and freight stores will be provided so that animals arriving foot sore, or otherwise worn by travel, may be kept till they are fit to kill for food. The measure seems to meet an imperative sanitary requirement.

The western temperament finds itself entirely baffled in any endeavor to analyze that of the Japanese. The extraordinary rapidity and abstract philosophy with which they adopt new customs and methods which recommend themselves to their clear and logical intellect would seem to savor of instability. The calm abandonment of their feudal privileges by the Daimios was remarkable enough, but the world has scarcely witnessed so singular a spectacle as the national adoption of a religion on purely expedient and intellectual grounds, without the shadow of a pretence of religious conviction or emotion. We now learn that, with a suddenness equally startling, the Japanese Empire wakes up to find itself in the possession of full blown Constitutional Government. Their changes seem to bear a close affinity to their conjuring. It is Hey. Presto! and the thing is done. Intellectuality so hard, clear, and rapid, suggests corresponding hardness of heart. Yet we have much testimony to their exceeding kindness, and if their extreme and light-hearted courtesy and good-nature hint at an underlying superficiality or frivolity of nature, we are checked by the fortitude and steadfastness of which they have given proof in many ways. They will, we imagine, long remain a metaphysical puzzle to slower minded races. The French mind is perhaps the nearest approach in the old world to that of the "Jap," but we have some idea that, on the whole, the latter is the sounder.

The Archbishop seldom loses a chance of giving the weight of his public spirit to the progress of Nova Scotia. His Grace was, it seems, interviewed by a representative of the Press on his return from his trip to Bermuda. His answers to interrogatories are highly significant. As reported the interview in part ran thus:—Where does Bermuda obtain its food supplies? Practically all from the United States. How is that? Owing to the want of enterprise and energy of Halifax merchants. What is the remedy? A sufficient government subsidy to enable the enterprising owners of the present line to put larger and faster boats on the route—boats that would make the passage in fifty hours, and thus compete with New York. With such a line Halifax could supply Bermuda with flour, meat, cattle, hay, army supplies, cotton, furniture, etc. Bermuda, apart from potatoes and onions, lives on imports, and with regard to cotton goods, if Canada can export with profit to China and Japan, why not to Bermuda?

One of the victims of the St. George, (Ont.) railway accident was Surgeon-Major L. H. Swan, of the 22nd Battalion, a gentleman highly spoken of, and the second senior Medical Officer of No. 1 Military District. The notice of this untimely death reminds us of the claims to promotion to that rank of Dr. Codd, of the School of Mounted Infantry, to which we alluded some time ago, and who even as surgeon ought to stand about fifth on the list. But the Militia Department evinces the most impracticable stupidity in matters of rank; notably on the question of a list which should correspond to the simple half-pay list of the regular army. It is an injustice to officers who may serve again, compelled by circumstances to resign from their regiments, to be placed on a "Retired List." There are some notable instances in Halifax. This battle was fought out ten or twelve years ago with the Department by an officer who stuck to his colors as long as was possible, but could make no impression on the density of red-tape.

The Report of the Board of School Commissioners for the City of Halifax for the year ended 31st Oct. 1888, shows a considerable addition to the number of registered pupils during the year. The enrolments are, for the winter term 5,862, and for the summer term 6,238, showing an increase of 592 in the former, and 638 in the latter, over the figures of the previous year, and a larger number of scholars than usual qualified for entering the Academy. There had been no increase in the rate of taxation, and the Board commenced the year with a debit of \$2,089 and closed it with a balance in hand of \$1,596. Good results are reported from the attention the Board has given to Calisthenics and music, and the report is in favor of Kindergartens and a Manual Training School. The observance of an Arbor Day cannot but be productive of satisfactory results which will, of course, be more apparent as time goes on, and the Report embodies some very plain and serviceable directions for the planting of trees. Altogether the Report leaves a satisfactory impression of the progress of education in the city.

There can be no question that our trade with Brazil is susceptible of much greater extension or expansion. The paucity of the exports of Canada to Brazil as compared with her imports therefrom are well calculated to cause surprise. One firm alone in Pernambuco shipped from that port during the past season 12,000 tons sugar to Canadian ports, but many of the vessels bringing the sugar to us went to New York, Boston or Baltimore for return cargoes. These return cargoes consisted chiefly of flour, lard, pork and cotton goods. Just the line of goods that we can furnish as advantageously as can our southern neighbors. The Pernambuco firm referred to above imported from the United States last year 72,000 barrels of flour, 6,000 tierces of lard and a large quantity of pork. If we will only seek it there can be no doubt that we can secure a large share of the export trade to Brazil. Bahia, another large port south of Pernambuco, imports annually a large quantity of cottons from Manchester. It has been demonstrated that our manufacturers can successfully compete with English cottons in China, and they can surely do the same with Brazil. A line of steamers to ply between Canada and Brazil has been often talked of, and even once or twice attempted, but it seems that the right parties have never taken up the matter with the energy and push that its importance deserves. We are firmly convinced that an almost colossal business could be built up between the two countries, and we hope before long to see this done.

We observed the other day a threat of some clerical action tending to the better observance of the Sabbath in Halifax. We really do not see that reverend gentlemen in Canada have much ground for complaint in this matter. They had probably better leave well alone. In the United States even a professedly religious paper writes thus on the subject:—"It is pretty hard to find a thoroughly consistent Sabbatarian. Consciously or unconsciously, our more straightlaced brethren yield their logic or their practice under the influence of the spirit of the age. We know of no Sabbatarian who conscientiously refuses to buy and read papers which are compiled on Sunday and sold on Monday morning. Indeed, we have often been impressed with the desperate efforts which Sabbatarians will make to extricate themselves from this web of inconsistency. But it is not possible for them to get out of it. To have a Monday paper, it is necessary that reporters, editors, compositors, and telegraph operators should give up a portion of their Sunday in order to prepare it. When the Sabbatarian buys the Monday morning paper, he practically sanctions such labor on the Sabbath day. Ministers who preach against Sunday papers are sometimes found using them to communicate their own views. In the last Boston election, a strong Sabbatarian made use of the Sunday paper to influence the vote. It is the exception also to find a man or a woman who refuses to ride in the horse cars or steam cars on Sunday from conscientious scruples. The spirit of the age has greatly modified the rigor of the Puritan Sunday, and no amount of Sabbatarian starch can restore it to its original stiffness."

On the 8th inst. was celebrated the 70th anniversary of Count Von Moltke's entry into the army. This is a long period of service, but it is surpassed by at least two officers of the British Navy, Sir P. W. P. Wallis, who, if he lives to next August, will have seen 70 years elapse since he was made a captain, and Sir W. F. Martin, who was posted in 1824. The former was second Lieutenant of the *Shannon* in 1814, five years earlier than his attainment of post rank.

It is a lasting disgrace to Halifax that she should have allowed the West India and Bermuda trade, which she once had within her grasp, to slip out of her hands. The want of breadth and foresight which have led to this miserable result are phenomenal. One of the false ideas which were brought to bear on the abolition of the subsidy was its adverse bearing on the schooner trade. And what does the schooner trade amount to now? As well might the construction of railways in England fifty years ago have been shut down upon in deference to the clamor of the stage-coach interests. Halifax owes a bitter debt to her old-time merchants who could not brook the decrease of their profits and influence, incidental to the opening and independence of other ports of Nova Scotia.

The statistics of alcoholic drinks and tobacco since Confederation are both interesting and suggestive. Without going into detail for which we have not the space, the consumption of alcohol shows a steady decrease, which should be satisfactory to those who have rational ideas of temperance. In 1868, it appears, the consumption per head for the whole Dominion was 1.604 galls. In 1888 it was only 0.645 of a gallon. The cause of this decrease is evidently deep-seated and is no doubt the result of that general enlightenment, improved habits, and moral suasion to which we have frequently alluded as the legitimate means of eradicating moral evils. Wine figures but very little in these statistics, which is scarcely to be regretted considering how small a proportion of the genuine product of the grape enters into the consumption even of the few who drink wine at all. Beer shows great fluctuations, but on the whole an increased consumption, which, so long as that of spirits continues to fall off, we do not consider an evil.

There will evidently be a lively discussion in the Imperial Parliament on the proposals of the Government for a large increase of the Navy, but the opposition seem to acknowledge, what indeed cannot be disputed, that it is a necessity. It is probable, therefore, that the Government if it do not get the full amount demanded, will get a large proportion of it. Meantime we regret to learn that the agreement by which Australia was to appreciably aid in the augmentation and maintenance of the squadron in her seas, has been vitiated by the recalcitrancy of Queensland. It appears that the Colonial Draft Bill sought to preserve uniformity by providing that the ratification by each and all was a condition to its binding force on any. The seven vessels agreed for will be ready within the year, but it is now mooted whether they will be sent in the absence of a concluded plan of contribution. Meanwhile some contribution, about £35,000 we believe, is reported to have been received, but it is felt that an attempt to patch up the failure would be a mistake, and that the best thing to do would be to bring the matter expressly before the Australian people.

We have read with very great pleasure and satisfaction Professor Alexander's masterly analysis of Browning. No doubt numbers of people who would stand aghast in the face of the Poet's voluminous tomes will be enabled to thoroughly understand him thro' the medium of Professor Alexander's "Introduction," and the copious illustrations he furnishes us with. Dr. Alexander ranks Browning with the first six great poets of the century, Wordsworth, Coleridge, Byron, Shelley, Keats, and Tennyson, and is bold enough to think he will even be reckoned first in that hierarchy, nor would we venture to say he is wrong. Nevertheless he will never be popular. The keynote of his philosophy—that man must look to the hereafter for the reward of his labors—has doubtless the ring of truth, but that truth can be embodied in half a page of vigorous prose, and few there be that will wade thro' volume after volume of rugged obscurity to ascertain the nature of treatment of a truism. Browning is of far too lofty intellect to have ever written for the masses, and just as many as can appreciate Landor, and Bailey's "Festus" will be students (rather than readers) of Browning's intense subjectivity. Dr. Alexander's book places him at once in the first rank of perspicuous and keenly analytical criticism.

We have before us the *Maritime Medical News* for March. This evidently is a valuable medium for the interchange of thought and information between medical men of these Provinces, but we cannot read without repugnance a passage like the following. "Dr. Awtokratoff, of St. Petersburg, detailed some experiments upon removal of the thymus gland. Of twelve dogs only one survived the operation for any length of time. Most of them died in nine or ten days—one in sixteen days—after the operation. Two or three days after the removal of the gland there was a remarkable dullness and slowness in their movement, and a peculiar alteration in their gait. After this came on tremblings, which began in the hind legs and spread gradually over the whole body. The temporal muscles and the tongue were most affected. The tremblings were gradually succeeded by clonic and tonic convulsions. Some of the dogs had epileptoid attacks, and died in the status epilepticus. From the time which elapsed till the appearance of the convulsions, the author supposes that a poisonous substance is produced in the organism by the removal of the thymus gland, which has a cumulative action.—*Journal of Insanity, Jan'y, 89.*" The thymus gland is an organ in the region of the lungs, to speak broadly. What purpose may be served by experiments on its removal we do not know, but it is infinitely painful to contemplate the acquisition of knowledge at the cost of continuous and systematic torture of God's creatures.

## CHIT-CHAT AND CHUCKLES.

## "THESE GIRLS."

"These girls, these girls," said the tired professor,  
Shutting his desk at the set of sun,  
"How they perplex and distress one's spirit,  
Thinking of nothing but dress and fun."

"Boys are straightforward and easy to fathom;  
Everyone knows that boys will be boys;  
Girls are deceitful and hard to manage,  
Their tongues are restless—artful decoys."

"These girls, these girls, who could understand them?  
When bent on mischief grave as the sphinx;  
I asked to-day who found work for the idle?  
One cried out, 'You, sir,' the saucy minx."

"I am quite weary and more than discouraged,  
Trying to teach them geometry;  
Well, I'll forget them until to-morrow,  
Forget my troubles and go to tea?"

Then he went home, the poor tired professor,  
His little girl met him with a kiss,  
Another daughter put on his slippers,  
A third had tea made, like liquid bliss.

"These girls, these girls," said the thoughtful professor,  
Placing his hand on his daughter's curls:  
"Now that I come to think upon it,  
How would we manage without these girls?"

—By Mary West.

An innocent amusement.—Deacon Dry-bones (at a meeting to protest against inauguration balls)—Dancing, my brethren and sisters, is simply hugging to music. Unsophisticated sister—Is that all it is? I got an idea somehow that dancing was something wicked.

"Chicago Criticism—Miss Bunkor Hill—"I understand that you belong to a Browning society in Chicago, Miss Wabash? What is your opinion of this great poet?" Miss Wabash—"In metaphysical subtleties he is no slouch, but there is no more lyrical slapdash about him than there is in a cold sausage.

Farmer (to Dakota emigration commissioner)—"I'd think you'd be ashamed to ask people to go to Dakota, when so many have been frozen to death there lately." Commissioner—"Oh, my dear sir, you don't understand. It is true people have been frozen to death in Dakota, but then the cold is so very dry and bracing that they never mind a little thing like that."

It would never do—A contemporary asks why, if men are employed in dry goods stores where the buying is done mostly by women, they are not also employed in the millinery stores? We would say it is because men could never learn the mysteries of women's headgear. Fancy a lady going into a millinery store and saying: "I want to get a bonnet," to the man clerk, and his replying, "Yes, ma'am. What size do you wear."

"Only think of it, George, the Niagara Falls are fast wearing away." "Yes, so I've heard." "George, isn't it at the Niagara Falls where people—that is, newly married people—generally go on their wedding tour?" "I believe so." "George, wouldn't it be awful if the falls should disappear before somebody who is dying to go there should—should be able to go there, George?" A fond embrace, whispered words and the customary impediments—all of which tend to show that she and George will get there long before the falls take their final departure.

A little girl, aged three, informed her mother that she knew a beautiful story about a giant. "Would you like to hear about it; mamma?" asked she. "Well, then," she continued, "once there was a great, big, ugly giant, and he was very fond of eating little girls. One day as he was walking through the woods, he met two little girls—one very good little girl, and one very naughty one. First he took a bite out of the good little girl, and he made up a horrid face, and said she tasted awful nasty; then he took a taste of the bad little girl, and he smacked his lips and said she tasted dreadful nice, 'cause you see, mamma, she had eaten nuts, and raisins, and candy, when her mother told her not to, and that made her taste sweet. Then the old giant said: 'I'll never again eat a good little girl. I'll always eat the bad ones.'" This is how it comes to pass that there are no grown-up naughty girls; they are all eaten up young by the discriminating giant.

This is rather a pretty story of the poor Empress Eugenie, who, tho' she set a not overgood example in the way of extravagance, had a kindly heart, and a thoroughly graceful way of doing her kindnesses. One day in 1865, Rosa Bonheur was surprised while working in her studio to receive a visit from the Empress Eugenie, who entered unannounced.

The Empress kissed the artist as she rose to receive her royal visitor, and, after a few minutes' conversation, departed as unceremoniously as she had entered.

The woman artist discovered that the woman Sovereign had pinned upon her working blouse the cross of the Legion of Honor.

The Emperor who had hesitated to confer the decoration on the artist because she was a woman, had left the Empress Regent during his absence from France. One of her first acts was to drive over from Fontainebleau, and decorate Rosa Bonheur with her own hand.

THE DIFFICULTY EXPERIENCED in taking Cod Liver Oil is entirely overcome in Scott's Emulsion of Cod Liver Oil and Hypophosphites. It is as palatable as Milk, and the most valuable remedy that has ever been produced for the cure of Consumption, Scrofula and Wasting Diseases. Do not fail to try it. Put up in 50c. and \$1 size

## SONGS OF THE SHIRT.

(Paddy in full dress meets a friend.)—"Where did I get this shirt? Bedad I got it where they can be had By any decent caller, I was; At Clayton & Sons on Jacob Strate,— Now 'sint it lilligant and nate, And onlv costs a'bout a' dollar!" "A Dollar!" "Yes, bedad its thrue; And Barney dear! if I was you, I'd go and git another." "I'll do it Pat—I will me friend— Wan for meself—and I will s'ind Wan to our Mick, me brother."

(Sandy at market.)—"I guess this is a' I want the non, And glad I'am at bein' throo, & So I'll be toddlin' ben;— By George! I heana finished yet,— To-morrow's Sabba—I maun get Ane o' thae shirts ye ken. 'Tis but a step to Clayton's place— There's no necessity to race And I'll be hame in time; And Janet lass—the scoldin' jade Seem' the bargain I hae made For ance will hush her chime!"



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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 inclosed in their next paper. All remittances should be made payable to A. M. Fraser.

Those who wish to secure pleasant and profitable reading matter for the winter evenings should note our exceptional offer which appears on page 13. For \$2.50 in cash we undertake to send THE CRITIC to any subscriber for one year, supplying him in addition with ninety seven of the most readable of readable books. Those who are renewing their subscriptions, as well as new subscribers, should take advantage of this offer.

There were 62 fires in Winnipeg last year, but only two serious.

A movement is on foot in St. John to establish a sugar refinery there.

The liquor bar in the Quebec Legislature building has been closed by order of the House.

In Toronto, it has been estimated that only five persons out of every twelve attend church.

Harris & Co., of Portland, whose rolling mills were destroyed by fire last week, will it is understood rebuild at once.

Sault Ste. Marie, Ont., claims to be the best lighted city in Canada, having 1,000 incandescent electric lights in the streets.

Nova Scotia fishermen are it is complained almost monopolizing the command and manning of the Gloucester fishing boats.

The English and Canadian Governments have arranged to subsidize new lines of steamers running between Liverpool and Japan via Vancouver.

Messrs. D. MacPherson and Dr. Campbell, in response to requests from many influential citizens, have consented to become candidates for the mayoralty.

Scarlet fever has spread to such an extent in St. John, that the Board of Health have been obliged to enact strict regulations for the purpose of stamping it out.

There is no ice in the Avon river, and the boats have been running for the past two weeks, carrying passengers and freight between Summerville, Hantsport and Windsor.

English Church circles in Toronto are excited over a circular distributed at the doors of churches on Sunday last, warning against Popery in the Church of England.

Hattie & Mylius, the enterprising young Hollis Street drug firm, intend opening a branch of their business in New Glasgow, to be known as the Acadia Drug Store Branch.

The government has decided to construct a telegraph line from St. Peter's, Cape Breton, to Louisburg, with an extension to Scatarie Island. The estimated cost will be \$23,000.

The town of Truro is about to erect a new academy. The building will contain four class rooms, with assembly hall, laboratory, museum, gymnasium and other necessary equipments.

Principal Grant of Queens College, Kingston, Ont., has been nominated by the Halifax Presbytery for Moderator of the next General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in Canada.

The Town of Brockville claims to have the largest Mayor in America. His name is Daniel Derbyshire. He is 42 years old, stands 6 feet 7 inches in his stockings, and weighs 250 pounds.

The Baptists of Amherst are making a move towards providing a new church building. It will be of modern construction, large seating capacity, and will probably be built of brick or stone.

French is now taught in the New Brunswick schools, lessons being given twice a week after the regular school session. The classes formed in St. John and elsewhere have been very successful.

Messrs. Isbester & Reid are reported to have obtained the contract for the Cape Breton Railway Bridge at Grand Narrows. The structure will cost over \$500,000. The report is not officially confirmed.

It is estimated that there is fully \$5,000 worth of hides stored in Kingston and for sale. "There were more hides brought to this city," says the *News*, "this winter than for several seasons. The prices are low."

A hundred bridge carpenters will work for three months preparing the timber for the C. P. R. bridge over the Fraser River at Mission, B. C. It will take 3,000,000 feet of timber and will cost something like \$220,000.

It is probable that Kentville will have a county exhibition held there next Autumn. It is thought Hants and Annapolis may be induced to join with Kings, and, if so, the necessary steps will be taken towards securing the Government grant.

Truro is following Moncton's example, and is having all the houses numbered. Mr. W. H. Smith, the gentleman who superintended the work in Moncton, is doing the same for Truro. It will doubtless be a great improvement to the town.

On May 1st a Kindergarten department will be added to the Dartmouth Public Schools. This town has taken the lead in the Atlantic Provinces in this direction, and the new departure is in keeping with its progressive educational spirit for some years past.

Between forty and fifty crofter families, selected under the State-aided scheme, will leave Glasgow for Halifax on April the third, per the Allan steamship *Corsan*. Every precaution is being taken to ensure that no repetition of last year's blunders be possible.

A Mrs. Bell some time ago brought an action against Sir Charles Tupper for services rendered as a private detective on the Intercolonial. The case has been tried at Ottawa and decided in favor of the defendant. There is some talk of prosecuting Mrs. Bell for perjury.

The ship *St. Cloud*, Captain Walley, has been burned at sea, and her crew landed at Rio Janeiro. She was owned by Wm. D. Lovitt of Yarmouth.

The Yarmouth *Telegram* says:—We are informed that Capt. Albert H. Kelley, of Yarmouth, formerly of the steamer *Electra*, has been secured as captain of the new steel steamer shortly to be placed on the route of the *M. A. Starr*, between Halifax and Charlottetown, P. E. I.

The season's tide of immigration has set in. Large parties of colonists have already reached Manitoba, and more are expected. The movement to Manitoba this year is said to be tremendous, and consists of a good class of immigrants, owing to the stoppage of assisted passages.

There will be an occultation of Jupiter by the moon on Sunday morning next, but, as it begins at 6.55 a. m., at Providence, Rhode Island, the daylight will probably be too far advanced to allow of its being generally observed here, which is much to be regretted, as such a phenomenon is a beautiful spectacle if the weather is clear enough to admit of its being seen.

The finding of the military Court of Enquiry, which has carefully investigated the case of the sentry of the Duke of Wellington's Regt. who was shot while on duty at the Magazine, has been made public. The military authorities are of opinion that the injuries suffered by this sentry were self inflicted, but that there is not sufficient evidence to shew whether by accident or design. The evidence shews, however, that no such attack on the sentry as reported by him was made.

The heirs to the Edwards estate held a meeting in Kingston Ont., lately, and retained Messrs J. L. Snook and James Steel to proceed as might be expedient. It seems that in 1768 a Crown grant was made to Robert Edwards of 34 acres on Broadway, New York city, and in 1771 Robert Edwards leased this land to the British Government for a term of 99 years. The estate is now worth \$20,000,000 and there are 200 heirs who are confident that they have a good claim.

The Montreal *Witness* has on foot a great scheme of prizes for the best true stories of adventure and life in Canada to every public school in the Dominion and Newfoundland. The writer of the best story from each school receives a small prize. The stories from all the schools of a County will be handed to judges, and the best will receive a County prize. These are again collected and reviewed for a Province prize. The Province prize essays will be submitted to the Marquis of Lorne, who will from them adjudge the Dominion prize—a type-writer worth \$125. The Province prizes being the works of Francis Parkman, and the County prizes Macaulay's History of England. This extensive scheme reflects great credit on the enterprise of the *Witness*.

The American Pilgrims have arrived at Rome.

There are 335 churches and 10,000 saloons in New York City.

One hundred and thirty Arab immigrants have arrived at New York during the past week.

The damage done to summer resorts along the Atlantic each winter is estimated at \$2,000,000.

The wealthy Chinese of Portland, Ore., have subscribed money to build a large hospital for their countrymen.

A San Diego (Cal.) man has planted ten acres of mulberry trees preparatory to going into the business of raising silk worms.

No less than fifteen boys are said to have been drowned this season at Pawtucket, R. I., while skating on thin ice or near holes.

Miss Mary Anderson, the actress, has been ill in Philadelphia since Wednesday of last week, and is now reported to be worse.

P. T. Barnum is worth from \$4,000,000 to \$6,000,000, half of which he has made out of his show ventures during the past fifteen years.

The skeleton of a mastodon has been unearthed in California. It is thirty feet long, and has tusks between six and seven feet in length.

A prohibition amendment to the constitution was voted on in New Hampshire recently, and was defeated by two or three thousand majority.

In Chicago during 1888, according to official figures just published, 4,958 buildings were erected—a larger number than in any previous year.

A despatch from Rome says Harrison's Cabinet fully satisfies the Vatican, and information has reached the Propaganda that under Harrison's administration the relations between the United States and the Holy see will be most cordial.

An official report says there were fifty deliberate murders in Chicago in 1888. Only one of the murderers was hanged! Thirty-six escaped punishment, and thirteen are in prison, though the law as it stands says the murderer shall go to the scaffold.

The jury in the case of the Park Central Hotel disaster at Hartford, Conn., have returned a verdict of wilful negligence against Alexander Thuer and Amos E. Risley. Thuer and Risley are under bonds to the Superior Court on the charge of manslaughter.

Mrs. John Crosby Brown, of New York, has presented to the Metropolitan Museum of Art her rich collection of musical instruments. The collection comprises in all 266 pieces. There are similar collections at Berlin, Paris, and Vienna, but it is said that none are finer or more complete than that of Mrs. Brown.

The recent reports of big gold discoveries in Lower California are now said to be false. The excitement was probably worked up by San Diego and Ensuido merchants who wished to make a profit from the outfitting business. Trouble is feared when the army of swindled prospectors are forced to walk home.

The Vanderbilt family now possesses the snug little sum of \$274,000,000 and an annual income of \$13,854,000. It is estimated that in 25 years this sum will have rolled up to \$1,000,000,000.

The storm of last Saturday evening did a great deal of damage in the United States. At Long Branch the sea cut thirty feet into Ocean Avenue in front of the Howland Hotel. The railway track at Highland Beach was torn up for nearly a mile. The loss is estimated at \$50,000.

Count Aawe, Marquis Malda, and three under officials arrived in New York recently. They were sent by the Emperor of Japan to examine the military and naval systems of the United States, and will visit all the principal military and naval stations there before they return to Japan.

We are in receipt of *Once a Week*, (P. F. Collier, 104 to 110 Attorney St., N. Y., \$4 per ann. in advance) a high class periodical of large size, finely printed on good paper, and well illustrated. Its serials are evidently very good, and it has the merit of giving long instalments of them.

A novel business enterprise has been started in Rochester, N. Y. It is a church insurance company, and its originators are Methodist ministers and laymen. The Methodists of this conference have lost many churches by fire lately which were not insured. The company proposes to insure any protestant churches.

The *British American Citizen*, (7 Bromfield St., Boston) extends the following offers.—Ten dollars for the best Essay on any of the following subjects: 1st.—“Nova Scotia's Mineral Resources as an Investment for Capital.” 2nd.—“The Maritime Provinces and their Possibilities for Farming and Fruit Growing.” 3d.—“The Development of the Fisheries of the Provinces, and their worth as an Investment.” 4th.—“The Early Settlers of the Province from New York, Massachusetts and Connecticut.” For young people: Five dollars for the best Essay on either: 1st.—“The Botany of the Maritime Provinces.” 2nd.—“The Salt Water and Fresh Water Fishes.” 3d.—“The Common Birds and their Habits.” All must be in before May 1st.

The Czar will visit Emperor William at Berlin in April.

Sixteen torpedo boats intended for the German Navy are now in course of construction.

Count Von Bersham, Under Secretary of State, will represent Germany at the coming conference concerning Samoa.

Russia demands the exclusive right to navigate rivers flowing into the Caspian Sea, and to build railroads throughout Russia.

Ex-Queen Natalie of Servia will soon make application for the annulment of the decree of divorce granted to her husband ex-King Milan.

The Czarewitch is to visit Darmstadt in May for his formal betrothal to the Princess Alix of Hesse, daughter of the late Princess Alice of England.

Private letters report the serious illness of Lord Tennyson. His repeated attacks of gout are dangerous at his age. If he sufficiently recovers he will take a voyage to Madeira.

The recent Liberal victory in Kennington, a south-east suburb of London, which converted a Union majority of 400 into a Liberal majority of 600, is regarded by both parties as highly significant.

It is said that relief is coming in from all sides for the great distress in North China caused by last season's flood, but nevertheless it is feared that many thousands of people will perish during the winter.

Steamers pay smaller duties in Irish ports than do sailing vessels. A deputation of gentlemen recently waited on Sir Michael Hicks Beach, and represented the matter to him. Sir Michael promised to see that the regulations are modified in favor of the sailing vessels.

The Colonial Institute celebrated its twenty-first anniversary, in London, on the 13th inst., by a large and representative dinner. There were 270 guests, the Prince of Wales presided. Canada was represented by Messrs. Colmer, McLeod, Stewart, Dupont and Kidd. The Prince of Wales referred to his visit to Canada, and said the changes and immense development since were such that he should not know the country now. The services of the Canadian voyageurs on the Nile would never be forgotten.

The management of the Paris Exposition have set apart space free of charge for the proposed American exhibit of Indian corn. The intention is to build a handsome corn palace in which the different kinds of corn will be exhibited. American cooks in attendance will prepare corn for food in all the various ways known to the American housewife, and samples will be freely distributed to all who visit the exhibit. The promoters of this display believe it will prepare the way for a greatly increased demand for the American cereal in European markets.

TO THE DEAF.—A Person cured of Deafness and noises in the head of 23 years standing by a simple remedy, will send a description of it FREE to any person who applies to NICHOLSON, 177 McDougal Street, New York.

SOUTH-END

Door, Sash & Moulding Factory & Planing Mills,

81 & 83 PLEASANT STREET, HALIFAX, N. S.,

E. GIBSON & SONS, - - - Proprietors.

Doors, Sashes, Frames, Mouldings, Planing, Tongue and Grooving, Turning, Scroll Sawing, Band Sawing, Etc., Etc.,

And every description of work usually done in a first-class Factory. Estimates furnished for every description of work. Every facility for loading direct from the wharf. Orders from the Country promptly attended to. TELEPHONE NO. 130.

ENORMOUS FORTUNES.

Notwithstanding the enormous fortunes accumulated through the use of printers' ink, large sums of money are annually wasted in ineffectual and unremunerative advertising.

The merits of a really valuable commodity properly portrayed in the columns of an influential and widely read newspaper like THE CRITIC, will speedily become generally known and appreciated, while the returns reaped by the advertiser will more than justify the amount expended.

Clearness, attractiveness, brevity and sincerity must characterize any announcement intended to catch the public eye and appeal to public confidence. An advertisement inserted in a London journal a few days ago brought instant and multitudinous replies accompanied by an almost unlimited supply of bank notes, simply because it touched the chord of nature which makes all mankind akin. Its simple pathos and self-evident truthfulness appealed to every heart.

The advertiser sought for a lost relative, and, giving his name, said: "I am ill and friendless. My last half crown is expended in paying for this advertisement. Write me at"—[giving the address] As already stated, nearly every one who read the announcement hastened to relieve the necessities of the sufferer.

Thus it is with a really meritorious commodity or preparation; if its virtues be properly and truthfully set forth in the public press, its success is prompt and certain.

On the other hand, the public is quick and unerring, and, accordingly, no amount of "puffery" will force a vile nostrum into public esteem and patronage.

Valuable medicines like Warner's Safe Remedies carry their own best commendation in their power to cure the particular diseases for which they are a specific.

They require no labored panegyric to convince the people of their power and efficacy, for they have been tried and found perfect.

Can Rheumatism be Cured?

This is a question which a good many sufferers wish to find out. By using A. A. WOODILL'S L. R. & G. PILLS they will be found to be an excellent LIVER REGULATOR, besides being a perfect cure for RHEUMATISM. A. A. WOODILL, Chemist, Sole Proprietor and Manufacturer, 112 Upper Water Street.

WE REMEMBER THAT

Puttner's Emulsion

OF

COD LIVER OIL,

With Hypophosphites,

Has been used for many years with success for Coughs, Colds, Bronchitis, and other Lung Troubles.

That it is unsurpassed for Scrofula, General Debility, Loss of Vigor, &c.

That for Lack of Energy, Nervousness, Paralysis, Loss of Brain Power, it has been highly recommended.

That as a Tonic for Children, for Invalids recovering from sickness, for Women who are Nursing it is of the greatest value.

And that it is

SOLD BY ALL DEALERS.

BROWN BROS. & CO.,

DRUGGISTS.

HALIFAX, N. S.

NOTICE.

The Nova Scotia Power Co., Limited,

Has purchased the patents of the Electrical Accumulator Company, of New York, for the manufacture of Storage Batteries for Canada. These are the most perfect Storage Batteries yet invented.

Preparations are being made to enter into the manufacture of same on a large scale in Halifax.

Estimates, prices and catalogues will be furnished on application by letter to the

NOVA SCOTIA POWER CO., LIMITED.

Office, No. 126 Granville Street, HALIFAX, N. S.

RIALTO RESTAURANT,

Now opened by

CHAS. ARCOIN,

(Late B. A. Hotel,) Opp. H. H. Fuller's, HALIFAX.

The American Steam Compressed Fish Co.

CAPITAL STOCK \$200,000,

ALL SUBSCRIBED,

Are prepared to execute orders for SHREDDED FISH, prepared expressly for making Fish Patties, etc.

This article has been more or less in use for the past six or nine months, and has been everywhere highly approved of for its superior qualities. It only needs to be prepared in accordance with directions to insure its absolute use in every family using fish. It is economical and convenient, as it can be made ready for the table in five minutes. 500 Boxes on hand for sale. Please apply to

CATHCART THOMSON,

Wood's Wharf, Or J. A. CHIPMAN & CO., Head of Central Wharf.

DRY GOODS!

STAPLE & FANCY.

FOREIGN AND DOMESTIC.

GREAT VARIETY.

New Goods continually arriving at

PRICES LOWER THAN EVER,

—AT—

"The BRANCH"

JOHN W. WALLACE,

CORNER GRANVILLE & DUKE STS.

AGENTS WANTED EVERYWHERE

SELLING PRICES \$4.98 SAMPLE FREE



This is a watch that ordinarily sells for \$12.00. For 60 days we will sell them at \$4.98 and give every one an opportunity to get one sample for nothing. Cut this out and send to us with 50 cents in postage stamps, as a guarantee that watch is ordered in good faith, which will cover us from any loss from express charges and we will send the watch to you C. O. D. subject to examination. If found perfectly satisfactory and exactly as represented, you can pay the balance of \$4.48 and take the watch; otherwise you will not pay one cent. If you sell or cause the sale of six (6) of these watches within the next 60 days we will send you one free. This is an important, jeweled, expansion balance quick train movement, complete with a 4-ounce Duber Silver open face case and guaranteed in every respect. We make no money on this watch. It simply helps us to sell gold and gold filled watches from our mammoth catalogue which is sent free. Send order immediately. This Ad. may never appear again. THE BROWN BROS. WATCH COMPANY, 27 & 29 Adelaide St. East, TORONTO, CANADA. We recommend this watch to every reader of this advertisement. Mention this paper when ordering. Whenever goods are to be sent by mail, cash in full must accompany the order, as goods cannot be sent by mail C. O. D. When cash in full accompanies the order, we send free a fine roll-plated chain.



For the last few minutes of the afternoon the children were "little waiting maids." They played visiting, answered the door bell, received cards, carried messages and waited at table. Very graceful they were about it, too, with the unconscious grace of childhood. Their last little song, set to a well-known opera air, still lingers in my ears.

We're little waiting girls,  
Just little waiting girls,  
We wait on the table as well as we're able.  
We're little waiting girls,  
We pass the tray like this,  
We pass the tray like that,  
We try to hold it, always hold it very, very flat.

Very simple rhymes, of course, but the childish voices make them musical, and the childish motions keep them graceful.

Meantime, in the room below, a cooking class consisting of six little girls were being initiated into the mysteries of the culinary department by two young ladies who kindly volunteered their services once a week for this purpose. This branch of the Kindergarten has been established only a few months, consequently it has many needs yet unprovided, and the chiefest of these is a new range, for the rusty stove used by the class is inadequate for the purpose.

I watched the children while under their teachers' supervision. They made cream toast and apple pudding. Very good pudding it was, too, as I can testify. When the cooking was done the small cooks sat down at the table and enjoyed the result of their work.

They sang suitable rhymes while superintending the cooking. Let me quote one or two:

O dear, what can the matter be,  
Cook has forgotten the salt?  
We need it in bread, and we need it in butter,  
When boiling potatoes we put it in water.  
We use it on meat, and we use it on puddings,  
We never cook without salt.

And another:

If potatoes you would boil,  
And potatoes would not spoil,  
You must pare them very thin,  
For the meal is next the skin.  
Cover them with water cold,  
Pray, remember what you're told.

This cooking class is the first of its kind in Toronto; and though begun in a very small way, will be extended as rapidly as means will permit. Its great usefulness is obvious, and it will, no doubt, be liberally sustained. In an after talk with Miss Tilly, who has been the pioneer of the Kindergarten work in Toronto, she informed me that it is carried on under the auspices of the Women's Christian Temperance Union.

"We need better accommodation, I know," she said, as I commented on the dreariness and smallness of the apartments, "but these rooms are hired, and we cannot afford to pay much. When the union get their headquarters they will find a place for us."

"We only take children of the poorer class," she continued. "We want only those who will probably go out to service or who are likely to be the wives of poor men."

"Have you received testimony as to the results of your efforts?" I enquired.

"The children's mothers have frequently told me that they work much more heartily and take great pleasure in displaying their knowledge of household duties," was Miss Tilly's reply.

And so in a small way these young ladies are helping to solve one phase of that hydra-headed monster, the labor problem. Ladies of Toronto, by all the inflictions that you have borne from the incompetency and ignorance of the nineteenth-century servant, you are bound to give your aid to this domestic Kindergarten.

FAITH FENTON.

#### HUMOR IN SARCASM.

The sting of sarcasm lies in the intention of the speaker, and one may trust that the best of the pleasantries over which preceding generations have made merry were uttered with enough good humor to take most of the venom out of them. There was surely a genial smile on the face of M. d'Argenson when he congratulated his ignorant nephew on his appointment as librarian to the King, and observed that he would now have a fine opportunity of learning to read. Illustrated with a gracious smile must also have been the famous retort of the Perfect's wife upon Napoleon. She had been an object of gossip, and Napoleon, meeting her at a state ball, rudely addressed her, "Well, madam, are you as fond of men as ever?" The poor lady had enough presence of mind to answer, "Yes, sire, when they are polite;" upon which the Emperor turned away rather abruptly, and illustrated the littleness of his mind by depriving her husband of his place three days later. And the alleged impertinences of the celebrated Abernethy must have been relieved with a grim humor and *bonhomie* that took away much of their grossness.

The Duke of Norfolk, who applied to him for treatment, probably enjoyed, as well as needed, an heroic diagnosis, for he notoriously paid little attention to his person. "Did your Grace ever try a clean shirt?" asked the old doctor; and what a freemasonry of good fellowship is implied in the very terms of the question! It is difficult to know where to draw the line between what is permissible in conversations and what is not. Reflections on the moral character of anybody while that person is present are unparadonable, however brilliant may be the wit in which they are wrapped. Of course there is a further rule which is very comprehensive—namely, that nothing should ever be said that will in any way give pain to any person within hearing. But while human nature remains what it has been from the beginning, men can hardly be expected to refrain from a thousand-and-one ways of suggesting to each other that they are fools.

#### INDUSTRIAL NOTES.

The Organ manufacturing business of Messrs Chute, Hall & Co., Yarmouth, indicates the growth of our home manufactures, as well as the changes a decade of years may bring forth. Ten years ago there were very few if any musical instruments made in the Maritime Provinces, and a large trade was carried on by dealers in Organs and Pianos which were made in and imported from the United States. To-day that state of things is much modified, and, although the demand has increased ten-fold, our own manufacturer-furnish a much larger proportion of the supply. Chute, Hall & Co. tell us their trade is about double what it was a year ago and prospects for this year's business are excellent. From a beginning of one organ per week, and a trade purely local, their business has increased until they are now shipping upwards of 40 organs per month to New Brunswick and P. E. Island, besides supplying their local agents and many dealers in this Province.

Their factory on Water Street, which is now being extensively enlarged, is a scene of busy industry. Here may be seen material in every stage of development, from the broad walnut plank just from the "dry-room" to the artistic organ case ready for the polisher—or from the rough shapeless mass of birch or hard maple to the smooth polished pieces being rapidly put into place. Machines of various kinds are busily planing, sawing, shaping, moulding and sand-papering to a finish the intricate mechanism of the organ action. A babel of noises—the roar of the big planing machine, the shrill scream of the buzz saws, the angry growl of the shaper heads with their hungry looking knives and four thousand revolutions per minute, and other indescribable sounds, send the visitor from the machinery room half deafened by the din. In other rooms are men busy engaged in fitting, polishing, trimming, building the actions, adjusting, tuning and packing, and out of all this are evolved and developed organs which their manufacturers claim to be unequalled in point of beauty, tone, finish and completeness of operating mechanism.

Home manufacture has also had the effect in this line of greatly reducing prices. One of the beautiful and sweet toned Chute-Hall Organs can now be bought for the same or less money than was paid for an American organ of the dry goods box design ten years ago.

The Yarmouth Woollen Mill Co., limited, Yarmouth, N. S., at present employs fifty hands, works full time, out put 12,000 yards cloth and 1000 pounds yarn per month, besides a large amount of custom work. For the past six months the mill has worked exclusively on orders. The manufacturing department is under the able superintendance of Mr. Frank Gerboth. The general management is conducted by J. R. Corning. This company manufactures a great variety of cloths, from a cheap union to fine all wool Tweeds and Ladies' dress goods, which, for durability, style and finish are equal to any of the kind manufactured in the Dominion. Selling agent are the Maritime Provinces, Mr. C. G. Brown, St. John; Upper Provinces, Messrs F. W. Newman & Co., of Montreal.

The American Steam Compressed Fish Co., of Halifax, with a capital of \$200,000, which has all been taken up, expect to commence operations in a short time. They will employ about forty or fifty hands. The business was started by Mr. Cathcart Thompson, who secured patents for this manufacture.

It is certain that no one of the coal establishments of Halifax supply a better article than the old established firm of S. Cunard & Co., while the facilities they command in the possession of depots north and south of the city tend materially to the convenience of the purchaser.

The manufacture of Washing Machines is being carried on in Wolfville to quite a large extent by Messrs Clarke & Dodd, the latter being also the inventor. The machine is called the Ideal. About twenty men are employed in their factory, and at this date they are wholly unable to fill their numerous orders.

The St. Croix Soap Company's brands of soap, Surprise, Sea Foam, White Cross Granulated Soap and toilet soaps, are gaining rapidly in popular estimation. They send quantities of goods all over the Maritime Provinces, and are opening up quite a trade in Montreal, Quebec, the North-West Territories and Newfoundland, and are now arranging, in response to enquiries, for shipments to Jamaica. The factory of the Company is situated near the N. B. railway at St. Stephen, convenient for shipping and receiving goods. The factory is equipped with all the latest and most improved machinery for making soap cheaply and well, and the quantity of goods on the market bearing the imprint of the St. Croix Soap Company speaks for their popularity. The original factory building was of three stories, 30x50 feet; since then, in the last four years, three additions have been made, one 20 feet front, the second 25 feet front and the third four story, 30 feet front and 75 feet deep, making in all at the present time ample room for the carrying on of the manufacture of soaps, with every advantage for turning out goods. The capacity is now 400 to 500 boxes weekly, of which a large portion is Surprise, the laundry soap. The factory is supplied with four large soap kettles, three of them ranging from 16,000 to 18,000 lbs., and the fourth somewhat smaller. Besides these there are a number of smaller kettles for similar purposes, such as toilet soap, etc., and other plant in proportion for carrying on the process of soap making. Superior quality of goods, good management and a judicious use of printer's ink, may be called the factors in the success of this company.

Messrs. Griffiu & Keltie's new marble works, at 323 Barrington St., will be ready for occupation about the first of May. Messrs. Fraser & Phelan are the contractors.



The new industry of making paper from sawdust at Ottawa has proved to be a success. The paper made wholly of sawdust forms admirable sheeting, and is fit for building after leaving the mill, being tarred and dried. In the production of the better quality of paper one quarter of waste paper is used, the remainder being sawdust. The supplying of the mill with machinery has cost somewhere in the neighborhood of \$15,000. This mill is the only one in Canada where paper is made from sawdust.

Preparations are being made to celebrate the opening of the Canadian Pacific through to St. John, N. B. The public of that town are most enthusiastic on the matter, and a regular carnival time is anticipated. The celebration will come off early in July.

#### CITY CHIMES.

Professor McDonald is to lecture this evening on "The man in the moon interviewed." The lecture is for St. Andrew's Institute.

The Sacred organ recital in Fort Massey Church last Friday evening was a complete success, a very large audience being present. Herr Robert Mahr gave two violin solos which were much enjoyed. The Young People's Association are to be congratulated on the success of their efforts.

Our Irish friends are certainly unfortunate in that their great anniversary falls at a season of the year when the chances of a fine day are perhaps less than even, and this year's 17th, or rather 18th, must go to swell the list of celebrations somewhat marred by inclement weather. It was moist and gloomy overhead, and underfoot simply abominable, and it was a wonder that the gallant sons of Erin made so fine an appearance as they did. Had the weather not been so unpropitious the morning procession would, no doubt, have been twice the size, but what there was of it was eminently respectable as to its *personnel*, its banners, mounts, and attire. Nothing daunted however, by the oceans of mud and slush, the societies made a most complete circuit of the city in the evening by torchlight, and both their march and the excellent performance at the academy elicited much appreciation.

There is certainly a sunny side—even a sort of ethical significance—in the most formal of ceremonial observances. Back of custom there is something of that spirit of peace and good will, of wide and inclusive social sympathies, without which life would be barren. The call of ceremony, or even leaving a card without calling, is a distinct recognition of one's individuality made respectfully and unobtrusively—two qualities that stand for more than may at first appear—for a due respect for our friends is the first condition of friendship. The most satisfying social intercourse does not certainly end with respect, but it does most certainly begin with it. The more intimate the friendship the more important it is to surround it with the delicacy of due attention to polite observances.

Again, the social courtesy which has the merit of unobtrusiveness has no light claim to consideration. Both these, the attributes of respect and of unobtrusiveness, the ceremonial call may claim, and when Mrs. X finds that Mrs. Z has left her card, and she duly returns the same, is strengthened the mutual good-will, and at a chance meeting—at receptions, or on the street—each feels herself as having been duly and pleasantly remembered, and this is by no means an unimportant thing in social life.

The guest who is welcomed after the appearance of his card can hardly, by any possibility, be so welcome if he preceded it. Take a day, for instance, when the rain is pouring down and you are sitting in your library or study, engaged in quiet reading or writing. There is a knock at the door and you, expecting a servant, say "come in." There enters, instead, your friend, with dripping waterproof and umbrella, who has invaded your "saintly solitude" sans announcement, because, indeed, he is *your friend*. The chances are that had he sent in his card and paid decent observances you would have hailed his advent with delight. But.—The friend whose call of half-an hour would be delightful and even an hour enjoyable, makes it a terror by prolonging it for three hours. Not but that, if life were given over to "hours of idleness" you might not enjoy even three hours. However life is short, friends are many, demands are imperative and there can hardly be to any person more than one friend in a lifetime whose presence is so absolutely dear, that a sojourn of moderate length is not preferable to one indefinitely prolonged. The friend "who comes but never goes" is the terror of a busy life. Thus one comes back to a very real appreciation of the worth in social values of the merely ceremonial or conventional call, whose message is a pleasant recognition and remembrance, and which never prolongs itself beyond due limits and is never intrusive.

#### COMMERCIAL.

No perceptible change has developed in the general condition of trade since our last report. The changing state of the weather has had, to some extent, a deterrent effect upon business, but, on the whole, a fair volume of traffic has been accomplished.

We regret to note that reports from the middle and western provinces are not encouraging. The *Montreal Trade Bulletin* says:—"The utmost caution is still required in granting credits, as it appears to be generally conceded that a great many retail houses will have to succumb this spring. The failures of the past few weeks have demonstrated the manner in which business has been carried on. Weak houses that should have failed years ago have managed to keep afloat through kite-flying and other illegitimate means

until their estates show very little for the creditors to rank upon. In proof of the correctness of our statement last week concerning the unsatisfactory nature of remittances, we learn that more than one of our wholesale houses had to obtain assistance from the banks in order to tide them over, in consequence of the large proportion of renewals they were compelled to grant. When, therefore, a number of our wholesale firms have to carry a large portion of the indebtedness of country traders, it behoves them to exercise extreme caution till times improve."

Payments here are fairly satisfactory so far, but if trade in the Upper Provinces becomes demoralized, as the quotation from our contemporary appears to indicate as probable, our merchants will have to retrench credits. That they have done so to a considerable extent during the past two years is very true, but they should further guard themselves against contingencies of their customers who have accepted credit from Ontario and Quebec wholesale merchants, who, being disappointed by their more immediate patrons, may, in order to save themselves, put the screws on our Nova Scotia retailers to whom they have extended credits.

We note that Mr. R. S. White, M. P., has taken an open, business-like and manly course in respect to the needed reform in the banking system of Canada as regards the circulating currency of the country. In an able article from his pen which appears in the March No. of the *Budget*, on the reforms needed in the present Banking Act, and in referring to the subject of note circulation, he fully confirms all that THE CRITIC has battled for more than a year on the advantages of adopting the National Bank system of the United States. We have not the space to copy his article or even to do justice to his able argument, but we quote one or two pregnant sentences. He says:—"In favor of the American currency system a good deal can be said. It gives *absolute security* to the note-holder; puts out of consideration altogether by the note-holder the strength and resources of the bank of issue, and makes the notes current at face the country over." He proceeds to combat the idea that the adoption of this system would render our currency too inflexible for the needs of trade at the annual periods when large quantities of grain and other crops are to be moved from points of production to shipping ports. We commend the careful study of Mr. White's emanation by all who are interested in having a stable and thoroughly reliable currency in this country.

The following are the Assignments and Business Changes in this Province during the past week:—Edwin J. Ayer, dry goods, Amherst, assigned; A. Nelson, general store, Malaga Mines, assigned; J. R. MacDonald, general store, Lower Stewiacke, sold out to Burton Fulton.

Bradstreet's report of the week's failures:

	Week Prev.		Weeks corresponding to			Failures for the year to date.			
	Mar. 15, 1889	1889	1888	1887	1886	1889	1888	1887	1886
United States	195	221	141	200	209	3143	2626	2736	2948
Canada	42	36	32	31	30	476	464	302	312

**DRY GOODS.**—The trade in dry goods continues to increase in activity, the recent signs of an early spring having caused an augmentation in the volume of orders sent in. The spring millinery sales have proved very satisfactory so far. Both cotton and woollen fabrics show a very firm tone as to prices, and higher figures appear probable as the season advances. Contracts for fall goods are of very considerable volume. Take it altogether there can be no doubt that the dry goods business is in a remarkably flourishing condition.

**IRON, HARDWARE AND METALS.**—The pig-iron market is firm and advancing. Warrants in Glasgow have moved upwards 7d. to 1s. Shelf goods are in active demand. The prospects decidedly favor a large and active business being done in iron, steel and their products during the coming summer. In the United States the Pennsylvania and western forges and foundries are fully engaged with orders in hand that it will take them three or four months to fill.

**BREADSTUFFS.**—The local demand for flour has fallen off some and the market is quiet, with only a moderate amount of business in progress at steady prices. In England, wheat has been dull and corn steadier. The weather has been colder. In Chicago, trading in the wheat market was quiet and an easier feeling prevailed. The *Daily Business*, the official organ of the Chicago Board of Trade, publishes the following figures:—"Wheat in farmers' hands March 1, 1889, 112,000,000 bushels; visible supply 31,700,000—total 143,700,000 against a total on March 1st 1888, of 168,600,000. Consumption March 1 to July 1, 1889, on the basis of 63,000,000 of population, 88,000,000; seed (spring wheat) 20,000,000; exports March 1 to July 1 (estimated) 12,000,000—total 120,000. On hand July 1, 1888 (visible and invisible,) 34,600,000; on hand July 1, 1889, 23,700,000" In the foregoing, no account is taken of stocks of flour nor of country elevator stocks.

**PROVISIONS.**—Business has continued quiet in the local provision market owing to the fact that buyers generally have a fair supply on hand for the present. In consequence the demand has continued slow for pork and no sales were effected outside of some small lots on local account at steady prices. Lard has been moderately active and steady. There has been a fair enquiry for hams at quotations. There was no change in the Liverpool provision market, prices being steady all round. In Chicago, pork was steady except for the June option which eased off 2½c. Lard was weaker and declined 2½c. There was an easier feeling in the hog market and prices dropped 5c. except on light grades which were steady.

**BUTTER.**—The butter trade has been fairly active, but chiefly in small lots for local wants. Choice new butter churned from the cream of freshly-calved cows has been offered in small lots and has met with ready sale. Receipts of this class of goods, however, are scarce as usual. Receipts of fresh rolls meet with good enquiry and are readily disposed of. Secondary and inferior grades of butter are working off fairly well in the absence of first-class.

**CHEESE.**—The market remains quiet and steady. Private cables from Liverpool indicate a firm market there but, as stocks in Canada are light, little is doing. The New York *Commercial Bulletin* says:—The market appears to be moving toward a realization of the hopes of holders, and we find an under-current of greater strength and cheerfulness. The home trade continues very good, with a greater number of customers in attendance or heard from through the mails. While there is nothing to show that this class of buyers would be willing to advance their bids on large blocks of stocks, about all the business now doing in a jobbing way shows 1½c. inside and special selections a shade fuller."

**APPLES.**—A Liverpool report on the market for Canadian and American apples, for week ending March 2nd, 1889, is as follows:—Our sales opened on Monday with only about 2,000 barrels on the market, all being from New York, and these were rapidly cleared out at 11s. to 12s.

Boston and Portland steamers did not turn up until Wednesday, when there were quite 16,000 barrels thrown on the market at once; however, buyers came down in force, and the whole were speedily cleared off at advancing prices, some very fine Maine's making 13s. to 14s. 3d. Boston fruit, when fresh, sold readily at 10s. to 10s. 9d., but stored stuff hung fire at 7s. 9d. to 9s. 9d.

A few Canadians, *ex-Oregon*, sold at prices quoted when sound, but a great many were badly frosted and made poor prices.

**DRIED FRUIT.**—There has been no improvement in the fruit market, the demand having continued slow, and the market has ruled quiet with little business at steady prices. Valencia raisins have ruled steady and currants dull.

**SUGAR AND MOLASSES.**—There has been a firmer feeling in the sugar market owing to an improved demand and prices are somewhat firmer. The volume of business transacted has been large and the market has ruled active. Raw sugar is very firm and steadily advancing. As a sequence the Nova Scotia Refinery has advanced its prices during the week ¼c. on granulated and ½c. on yellows. In molasses a fair amount of business has been transacted at quotations.

**TEA AND COFFEE.**—A fair business has transpired in the lower grades of Japan teas, but there has been a quieter tone to the market, the demand having fallen off, owing to the fact that buyers generally have filled their wants for the present. Consequently the movement has been smaller, and business has been confined to a jobbing character, though at firm prices. The feeling among holders generally continues firm on all grades and such believe that prices will go higher eventually. The demand for coffee has been fair and a good jobbing trade has been transacted at steady prices.

**FISH OILS.**—In Montreal Newfoundland cod oil remains steady at 40c. to 42½c., and Halifax at 37c. to 38c. Steam refined seal oil 49c. to 50c., and pale seal 42½c. Cod liver oil 60c. to 65c. for Newfoundland, and 90c. to 95c. for Norway.

**FISH.**—There has been no change in the local fish market since our last report. Everything remains quiet, and the outside market is *nil*. But few fish have been received from the out-ports during the past week—the low price obtained (\$2.60) for several cargoes that have arrived lately having discouraged other holders from forwarding what they have on hand to this market. Our outside advices are as follows:—Montreal, March 18.—"There has been a brisk demand for fish, and the market has ruled active. The bulk of the offerings has been cleaned up; in fact there is very little stock held in first hands now. A very large trade has been accomplished. Labrador herrings have been moving freely at \$5 to \$5.25 for round lots, and \$5.50 for small lots. D. cod have been quiet and steady at \$4.50. There has been an active demand for green cod, and all the offerings of new fish have been bought up at quotations, but there is considerable stock on the market. Salmon have met with a fair request at steady prices. The demand for fresh fish has been big, and the bulk of the supply has been taken. Fresh haddock are firm at 4c. to 4½c.; fresh cod are higher at 3c. to 3½c.; fresh herrings are rather scarce and firmer at 75c. per 100." Gloucester, Mass., March 18.—"We quote new Georges codfish at \$4 75 to \$4 87½ per qtl. for large, and small at \$3.50 to \$4 25. Bank \$3 37½ for large, and and \$3.25 for small. Shore \$4.50 and \$3.75 for large and small. Dry Bank \$4.50 and \$4.25. Newfoundland codfish \$6 to \$6 25. Flomish Cap \$4.25; Nova Scotia dry cured \$5.50. We quote cured cusk at \$3.25 per qtl.; hake \$2.50; haddock \$3; heavy salted \$2.50, and English cured do. \$3.25 per qtl. Labrador herring \$6.50 per bbl.; medium split \$6; Newfoundland do. \$4; Nova Scotia do. \$6.75; Eastport \$3 25; Split Shore \$4.75; pickled codfish \$6; haddock \$5.50; halibut heads \$3.00; sounds \$12; tongues and sounds \$10; tongues \$8; alewives \$5.00. Extra shore mackerel are quoted at \$30 to \$35 per bbl. in jobbing lots; No. 1's \$26 and \$30; No. 2's \$22 and \$23; No. 3's \$19 to \$21; Bay 1's \$25 to \$26; Block Island 1's \$28 to \$29; Mess do. \$32; best Irish \$22 to \$23; poor do. \$14 to \$16." Late advices from Havana show a weak and declining market. Barbadoes, Feb. 26.—"The *C. W. Oulton*, from Harbor Grace, brought 570 casks, of which 350 were large. The remaining 220 sold at \$14. Lotting rates of St. John's brands have been at \$16 for medium, and \$17 to \$18 for large for shipping purposes. Inferior at \$13 to \$14. Herrings are at \$3 07. Salmon in tierces at \$22 80." Port of Spain, Trinidad, Feb. 25.—"Our market does not yet show much signs of improvement, although the only direct import has been the *Florida* from Yarmouth via Barbadoes, which we sold by wire at \$15 tierces, \$17 drums, and \$4 boxes. Since then we have placed the cargo per *Josephine* from Lockport by the same medium at \$16 tierces, \$17 drums, and \$4 boxes. With moderate arrivals we look for a rally in value shortly, as the Lenten season is near at hand when consumption materially improves. We sold barrels split herrings *ex Florida* at \$3.50, and all descriptions of pickled fish will be readily saleable for the next two months."

MARKET QUOTATIONS.

WHOLESALE RATES.

Our Price Lists are corrected for us each week by reliable merchants, and can therefore be depended upon as accurate up to the time of going to press.

GROCERIES.

Prices of all grades of Sugars have advanced during the last week, and the prospects are that no lower prices will be seen for some time.

SUGARS.	
Cut Loaf.....	8½ to 9
Granulated.....	7¾ to 8
Circle A.....	7¼
White Extra C.....	6¾ to 7
Extra Yellow C.....	5¾ to 6
Yellow C.....	6½ to 6¾
TEA.	
Congou, Common.....	17 to 19
" Fair.....	20 to 23
" Good.....	25 to 29
" Choice.....	31 to 33
" Extra Choice.....	35 to 36
Oolong, Choice.....	37 to 39
MOLASSES.	
Barbadoes.....	35
Demerara.....	36 to 44
Diamond N.....	45 to 46
Porto Rico.....	36 to 39
Cienfuegos.....	32
Trinidad.....	33 to 34
Antigua.....	32 to 33
Tobacco, Black.....	38 to 44
" Bright.....	42 to 58
BISCUITS.	
Pilot Bread.....	3.25
Boston and Thin Family.....	7
Soda.....	7
do. in lb. boxes, 50 to case.....	7½
Fancy.....	8 to 15

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

PROVISIONS.

Beef, Am. Ex. Mess, duty paid.....	12.50 to 13.00
" Am. Plate.....	13.00 to 13.50
" Ex. Plate.....	14.00 to 14.50
Pork, Mess, American.....	17.50
" American, clear.....	19.00
" P. E. I. Mess.....	17.50 to 18.00
" P. E. I. Thin Mess.....	15.50 to 16.00
" Prime Mess.....	14.00 to 14.50
Lard, Tubs and Pails, P. E. Island.....	13 to 14
" American.....	12 to 13
" Cases.....	13.50 to 14.00
Hams, P. E. I., green.....	8 to 9
Duty on Am. Pork and Beef \$2.20 per bbl.	
Prices are for wholesale lots only, and are liable to change daily.	

These quotations are prepared by a reliable wholesale house.

FISH FROM VESSELS.

MACKEREL—	
Extra.....	20.00
No. 1.....	19.00
" 2 large.....	16.00
" 2.....	none
" 3 large.....	11.00
" 3.....	11.00
HERRING.	
No. 1 Shore, July.....	4.50 to 4 75
No. 1. August, Round.....	3 75 to 4 00
" September.....	3 75 to 4 00
Labrador, in cargo lots, per bl.....	4.00 to 4.50
Bay of Islands, Split.....	3.25 to 3.50
" Round.....	2.75 to 3.00
Alewives, per bbl.....	5.00
CODFISH.	
Hard Shore, new.....	4.25 to 4 50
New Bank.....	4.25
Bay.....	4.12 to 4 20
SALMON, No. 1.....	15 50 to 16 00
HADDOCK, per qtl.....	3.00 to 3 25
HAKE.....	2.50 to 2 75
CUSK.....	3.00
FOLLOCK.....	2.25
HARK SOUNDS, per lb.....	35
Cod Oil A.....	26 to 29

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

WOOL, WOOL SKINS & HIDES.

Wool—clean washed, per pound.....	15 to 22
" unwashed.....	12 to 15
Salted Hides, No 1.....	5 to 6
Ox Hides, over 60 lbs., No 1.....	5
" under 60 lbs., No 1.....	5
" over 60 lbs., No 2.....	5
" under 60 lbs., No 2.....	5
Cow Hides, No 1.....	5
No 3 Hides, each.....	4
Calf Skins.....	25
" Deacons, each.....	25
Lambskins.....	25 to 75
Tallow.....	3

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

BUTTER AND CHEESE.

Nova Scotia Choice Fresh Prints.....	30
" in Small Tubs.....	25
" Good, in large tubs.....	21
" Store Packed & oversalted.....	14
Canadian Township.....	22 to 27
Western.....	17 to 20
Cheese, Canadian.....	11 to 12

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

BREADSTUFFS.

Markets are steady, and Millers are holding for better prices. Wheat is coming very slowly.

The weather has been against business since March came in though the volume of trade on the whole is still up to the average of the season.

We quote to-day:

FLOUR	
Graham Flour.....	5 50 to 5 75
Patent high grades.....	5 80 to 6 00
90 per cent. Patents.....	5 50 to 5 75
Superior Extra.....	5 40 to 5 50
Extras from Patents.....	4 75 to 5 00
Low grades in sacks.....	3 30 to 3 40
" " barrels.....	3 55 to 3 60
Oatmeal, Standard.....	4 30 to 4 40
" Granulated.....	4 60 to 4 75
" Rolled.....	4 40 to 4 60
Corn Meal—kiln dried.....	2 75 to 2 85
Bran, per ton.....	1 00 to 2 00
Shorts.....	21 50 to 22 00
Middlings.....	22 00 to 23 00
Mill or Mixed Feed, per ton.....	29 00
Oats per bushel of 34 lbs.....	41 to 43
Barley " of 48 ".....	nominal
Peas " of 60 ".....	1 60 to 1 10
White Beans, per bushel.....	1 70 to 1 80
Pot Barley, per barrel.....	5 55
Hay per ton.....	14 00 to 16 02
Straw.....	11 00 to 12 00

J. A. CHIPMAN & Co., Head of Central Wharf, Halifax, N. S.

LOBSTERS.

Per case 4 doz. 1 lb cans.	
Nova Scotia (Atlantic Coast Packing).....	5 00 to 5 40
Tail Cans.....	4 80 to 5 00
Flat.....	6 20 to 6 40
Newfoundland Flat Cans.....	6 35 to 6 50

The above quotations are corrected by a reliable dealer.

HOME AND FOREIGN FRUITS.

Apples, No. 1, new, per bbl.....	1.50 to 2.75
Oranges, per bbl, Jamaica (new).....	7.00
Valencia Oranges, per case.....	6.00
Lemons, per case.....	3.50 to 4.50
Cocoanuts, per 100.....	3.50 to 4.00
Onions.....	2 to 2½
" American Silver Skin.....	5½ to 6
Dates, boxes, new.....	5½ to 6
Raisins, Valencia, new.....	6½ to 7
Figs, Eleme, 5 lb boxes per lb.....	12
" small boxes.....	13
Prunes, Stewing, boxes and bags, new.....	5½ to 6
Bananas, per bunch.....	3.00
Foxberries.....	4.00 to 4.50

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

POULTRY.

Turkeys, per pound.....	13 to 14
Geese, each.....	50 to 72
Ducks, per pair.....	70 to 80
Chickens.....	40 to 55

The above are corrected by a reliable victualer.

LIVE STOCK—at Richmond Depot.

Steers best quality, per 100 lbs. alive.....	4.25 to 4.50
Oxen.....	3.50 to 4.00
Fat Steers, Heifers, light weights.....	3.00 to 3.50
Wethers, best quality, per 100 lbs.....	4.00 to 4.50
Lambs.....	4.00 to 5.00

These quotations are prepared by a reliable victualer

LUMBER.

Pine, clear, No. 1, per m.....	25.00 to 28.00
" Merchantable, do do.....	14.00 to 17.00
" No 2, do.....	10.00 to 12.00
" Small, per m.....	8.00 to 14.00
Spruce, demension, good, per m.....	9.50 to 10.00
" Merchantable, do do.....	8.00 to 9.00
" Small, do do.....	6.50 to 7.00
Hemlock, merchantable.....	7.00
Shingles, No 1, sawed, pine.....	3.00 to 3.50
" No 2, do do.....	1.00 to 1.25
" spruce, No 1.....	1 10 to 1 30
Laths, per m.....	2.00
Hard wood, per cord.....	4.00 to 4.25
Soft wood.....	2.25 to 2.50

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

# MAITLAND'S MYSTERY.

(Continued.)

"To what circumstance do I owe the honor of this intrusion?"

"I regret you so consider it, Mr. Maitland,—as I believe you to be——" The old gentleman bowed with stately dignity. "One of our men, a sergeant, rode down this way quite early this morning and failed to return. His horse came back, bleeding, at sunset, and we feared some accident or trouble. Searching-parties are out all over the prairies, and the colonel ordered me to inquire here."

"Does your colonel take us for banditti here, and ascribe your desertions and accidents to our machinations?"

"Far from it, sir, but rather as a hospitable refuge to which the injured man had been conveyed," answered Perry, with a quiet smile, determined to throw the *hautueur* of Dunraven's lord if courtesy of manner could effect it.

"He is utterly mistaken, then," answered the Englishman, "and I resent—I resent, sir, this forcing of my gates after the explicit understanding we had last year. As a soldier I presume you had to obey your orders; but I beg you to tell your colonel that this order was an affront to me personally, in view of what has passed between us."

"Nothing has passed between you, Mr. Maitland," answered Perry, "a little tartly now. We have reached Fort Rossiter only within the last fortnight, and know nothing whatever of your understanding with previous commanders. Permit me to ask you one question, and I will retire. Have you heard anything of our sergeant?"

"Nothing, sir. I would hardly be apt to hear, for my people here are enjoined to keep strictly to our limits, and all we ask of our neighbors is that they keep to theirs. I presume you have destroyed my fences, sir, in order to effect an entrance."

"Upon my word, Mr. Maitland, you make me rather regret that I did not; but I had the decency to respect what I had happened to hear of your wishes, and so left my horse and my men outside, and footed it a good half mile in the dark——"

"Ah! that sounds very like it!" replied Mr. Maitland, with writhing lips, for at this moment there came the dull thunder of rapidly-advancing hoof-beats, and before either man could speak again three troopers with a led horse—all four steeds panting from the half-mile race—reined up in front of the eastern portico in the full glare of the lights, and the sergeant's voice was heard hailing his lieutenant.

"My luck again!" groaned Perry. "I told them to come in half an hour if they didn't hear from me, and of course they came."

## VII.

For a moment there was silence in the brightly-illuminated room. With flushed face and swollen veins and twitching, clutching hands, old Maitland stood there glaring at the young officer. Before Perry could speak again, however, and more fully explain the untoward circumstance, there came a rush of hurrying footsteps without, and the sound of excited voices. The next minute they heard an eager, angry challenge, and Perry recognized the voice of the overseer or manager whom he had met in the morning.

"What do you fellows want here?" was his brusque and loud inquiry as he sprang from the piazza and stood confronting the sergeant, who was quietly seated in the saddle, and the question was promptly echoed by three or four burly men who, in shirt-sleeves and various styles of undress, came tumbling in the wake of their leader and stood now a menacing group looking up at the silent troopers.

If there be one thing on earth that will stir an Irishman's soul to its inmost depths and kindle to instant flame the latent heat of his pugnacity, it is just such an inquiry in the readily recognized accent of the hated "Sasseuach." Perry recognized the danger in a flash, and, springing through the open casement, interposed between the hostile parties.

"Not a word, Sergeant Leary. Here, Mr. Manager, those men simply obeyed orders, and I am responsible for any mistake. No harm was intended——"

"Harm!" broke in one of the ranchmen, with a demonstratively loud laugh. "Harm be blowed! What harm could you do, I'd like to know? If the master'll only say the word, we'd break your heads in a minute."

"Quiet, now, Dick!" interposed the overseer; but the other hands growled approval, and Perry's eyes flashed with anger at the insult. What reply he might have made was checked by the sight of Sergeant Leary throwing himself from the saddle and tossing his reins to one of the men. He knew well enough what that meant, and sprang instantly in front of him.

"Back to your horse, sir! Back, instantly!" for the sergeant's face was fierce with rage. "Mount, I say!" added the lieutenant, as the sergeant still hesitated, and even the sense of discipline could not keep the troopers from a muttered word of encouragement. Slowly, wrathfully, reluctantly, the soldier obeyed, once turning furiously back as jeering taunts were hurled at him from among the ranchers, unrebuked by their manager. "Now move off with your men to the gate. Leave my horse, and wait for me there. Go!" added the young officer, sternly; and, with bitter mortification at heart and a curse stifled on his quivering lips, the Irishman turned his horse's head away and slowly walked him in the indicated direction.

"Now, Mr. Manager," said Perry, turning fiercely upon the younger Englishman, "I have done my best to restrain my men: do you look out for yours. You have allowed them to insult me and mine, and you may thank your lucky stars that discipline prevailed with my people, though you have nothing of the kind here."

"Your men have cut down our fences, by your order, I presume," said

the manager, coolly, "and it's lucky for them they got out of the way when they did. We have a right to protect our property and eject intruders, and——"

"I came here to inquire for a missing man,—a right even an Englishman cannot deny us on these prairies. We had excellent reason to believe him injured, and thought, not knowing you for the inhospitable gang 'hat you are, that he might have been carried in here for treatment: there *was* no other place. Your proprietor tells me he is not here. After what I've seen of your people, I have reason to be still more anxious about him. Scant mercy a single trooper would have had at their hands. Now I ask you: Do you know or have you heard of a cavalry soldier being seen around here during the day?"

Perry was standing holding his horse by the curb as he spoke, facing the parlor windows and confronting the angry group of ranchmen. Within, though nearer the window than he had left him, was the bent form of the owner of Dunraven, leaning on his cane and apparently impatiently striving to make himself heard as he came forward. Before the manager could answer, he was compelled to turn about and rebuke his men, two of whom were especially truculent and menacing. Finally he spoke:

"I have heard nothing, but I tell you frankly that if any of your men have been prowling around here it's more than probable some one has got hurt. Has there been any trouble to-day, men?" he asked.

"By God, there *will* be if this ranch isn't cleared in five minutes," was the only answer.

"Don't make an ass of yourself, Hoke," growled the manager. "They are going quick enough."

"I am going," said Perry, swinging lightly into saddle; "and mind you this, sir: I go with well-warranted suspicion that some of these bullies of yours have been responsible for the non-appearance of my stable-sergeant. If he is not found this night, you may confidently look for another visit. I say that to you also, Mr. Maitland; and you owe it to our forbearance that there has been no bloodshed here to-night."

Old Maitland's tremulous tones were heard but a second in reply when he was interrupted by a coarse voice from the crowd of ranchmen, by this time increased to nearly a dozen men. Some of them were gathering about Perry as he sat in the saddle, and an applauding echo followed the loud interruption,—

"Give the swell a lift, Tummy: 'twill teach him better manners."

Almost instantly Perry felt his right foot grasped and a powerful form was bending at the stirrup. He had heard of this trick before. Many a time has the London cad unhorsed the English trooper, taken unawares, by hurling him with sudden lift from below. But Perry was quick and active as a cat. Seat and saddle, too, were in his favor. He simply threw his weight on the left foot and his bridle-hand upon the pommel, let the right leg swing over the horse's back until released from the brawny hand, then back it came as he settled again in the saddle, his powerful thighs gripping like a vise; at the same instant, and before his assailant could duck to earth and slip out of the way, he had whipped out the heavy Colt's revolver and brought its butt with stunning crash down on the ranchman's defenceless head.

There was instant rush and commotion. In vain old Maitland feebly piped his protests from the veranda; in vain the overseer seized and held back one or two of the men and furiously called off the rest. Aided by the darkness which veiled them, the others made a simultaneous rush upon the young officer and sought to drag him from his plunging horse. Perry held his pistol high in air, threatening with the butt the nearest assailant, yet loath to use further force. He was still in the broad glare of the parlor lights,—a conspicuous mark; eager hands had grasped his bridle rein at the very bit, and he could not break away; and then missiles began to fly about his devoted head, and unless he opened fire he was helpless. While two men firmly held Nolan by the curb, half a dozen others were hurling from the ambush of darkness a scattering volley of wooden billets and chunks of coal. He could easily have shot down the men who held him. It was sore temptation, for already he had been struck and stung by unseen projectiles; but just as the manager sprang forward and with vigorous cuffs induced the men to loose their hold on the rein, there came three horsemen charging full tilt back into the crowd, scattering the assailants right and left; and, this time unrebuked, Sergeant Leary leaped from the saddle and with a rage of fierce delight pitched headlong into battle with the biggest ranchman in his way. And this was not all; for behind them at rapid trot came other troopers, and in a moment the open space was thronged with eager, wondering comrades,—full half of Stryker's company,—in whose overwhelming presence all thought of promiscuous combat seemed to leave the ranchmen. They slipped away in the darkness, leaving to their employers the embarrassment of accounting for their attack. Leary was still fuming with wrath and raging for further battle and shouting into the darkness fierce invective at the vanished head of his opponent. He turned on the overseer himself, and but for Perry's stern and sudden prohibition would have had a round with him, but was forced to content himself with the information conveyed to all within hearing that he'd "fight any tin min" the ranch contained if they'd only come out where the lieutenant couldn't stop him. The troopers were making eager inquiry as to the cause of all the trouble, and, fearing further difficulty, Perry promptly ordered the entire party to "fall in." Silence and discipline were restored in a moment, and as the platoon formed rank he inquired of a sergeant how they came to be there. The reply was that it had grown so dark on the prairie that further search seemed useless. Captain Stryker and most of the men were drawn off by signals from the Cheyennes up the valley towards the post, and these men, who had been beyond Dunraven on the northern prairie, were coming back along the Monce trail when they saw the lights and heard voices over at the lower shore. There they found Leary, who was excited about some-



thing, and before they had time to ask he suddenly shouted, "They're killin' the lieutenant. Come on, boys!" and galloped off with his own party: so they followed. Perry quietly ordered them to leave a corporal and four men with him, and told the senior sergeant to march the others back to the post: he would follow in five minutes. Then he turned to the manager: "You will have to put up with my keeping some of my men with me, in view of all the circumstances," he said, coldly. "But after this exhibition of lawlessness on the part of your people I do not propose to take any chances. I want to say to you that it is my belief that some of those ruffians you employ can tell what has become of our missing man, and that you will do well to investigate to-night. As to you, Mr. Maitland," he said, turning to the old gentleman, who had sunk into a low easy-chair, "much as I regret having disturbed your privacy and—that of the—ladies of your household, you will admit now that justice to my men and to the service demands that I should report my suspicions and my reception here to the commanding officer at Fort Rossitor."

There was no reply.

"I wish you good-night, sir," said Perry; but his eyes wandered in to the lighted parlor in search of a very different face and form,—and still there was no answer.

The manager came back upon the piazza and stepped rapidly towards them. Perry quickly dismounted and bent down over the crouching figure.

"Why, here!" he suddenly exclaimed, "your employer is faint, or—something's gone wrong."

"Hush!" was the low-spoken, hurried answer of the Englishman. "Just bear a hand, will you, and help me lift him to yonder sofa?"

Easily, between them, they bore the slight, attenuated form of the old man into the lighted parlor. A deathly pallor had settled on his face. His eyes were closed, and he seemed fallen into a deep swoon. Perry would have set a cushion under his head as they laid him down on a broad, easy couch, but the manager jerked it away, lowering the gray hairs to the very level of the back, so that the mouth gaped wide, and looked like death itself.

"Just steady his head in that position one minute, like a good fellow. I'll be back in a twinkling," said the manager, as he darted from the room and leaped hurriedly up the hall stairway.

Perry heard him rap at a distant door apparently at the southwest angle of the big house. Then his voice was calling, "Mrs. Cowan! Mrs. Cowan! would you have the goodness to come down quick? the master's ill."

Then, before any answer could be given, another door opened aloft, and trailing skirts and light foot-falls came flashing down the stairway. Almost before he could turn to greet her, she was in the room again, and with quick, impulsive movement had thrown herself on her knees by his side.

"Oh, papa! dear father! I was afraid of this! Let me take his head on my arm, so," she hurriedly murmured; "and would you step in the other room and fetch me a little brandy? 'Tis there on the side-board."

Perry sprang to do her bidding, found a heavy decanter on the great oaken buffet, half filled a glass, and brought it with some water back to the lounge. She stretched forth her hand, and, thanking him with a grateful look from her sweet, anxious eyes, took the liquor and carried it carefully to her father's ashen lips.

"Can I not help you in some way? Is there no one I can call?" asked the young soldier, as he bent over her.

"Mr. Ewen has gone for her,—our old nurse, I mean. She does not seem to be in her room, and I fear she has gone over to her son's—a young fellow at the storehouse. Mr. Ewen has followed by this time."

She dipped her slender white fingers in the water and sprinkled the forehead and eyelids of the prostrate man. A feeble moan, followed by a deep-drawn sigh, was the only response. More brandy poured into the gaping mouth seemed only to strangle and distress him. No sign of returning consciousness rewarded her effort.

"If Mrs. Cowan would only come! She has never failed us before; and we so lean upon her at such a time."

"Pray tell me which way to go. Surely I can find her," urged Perry.

"Mr. Ewen must be searching for her now, or he would have returned by this time; and I dread being alone. I have never been alone with father when he has had such a seizure."

Perry threw himself on his knees beside her, marvelling at the odd fate that had so suddenly altered all the conditions of his un-looked-for visit. He seized one of the long, tremulous hands that lay so nerveless on the couch, and began rapid and vigorous chafing and slapping. Somewhere he had read or heard of women being restored from fainting spells by just such means. Why should it not prevail with the old man? He vaguely bethought him of burnt feathers, and looked about for the discarded pillow, wondering if it might not be a brilliant idea to cut it open and extract a handful and set it ablaze under those broad and eminently aristocratic nostrils. Happily, he was spared excuse for further experiment. He felt that life was returning to the hand he was so energetically grooming, and that feeble but emphatic protest against such heroic treatment was manifest.

"I think he's coming to," he said. "He's trying to pull away—Shall I keep on?"

"Yes, do! Anything rather than have him lie in this death-like swoon."

Obediently he clung to his prize, rubbing and chafing hard, despite increasing tug and effort. Then came another feeble, petulant moan, and the hollow eyes opened just as rapid foot-falls were heard on the veranda without and Mr. Ewen rushed breathless and ruddy-faced into the room.

"Where on earth can that woman have gone?" he panted. "I cannot find her anywhere. Is he better, Miss Gladys?"

(To be Continued.)

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## PARLIAMENTARY REVIEW.

**DOMINION.**—The debate upon the budget has been continued during the past week, the speeches, with few exceptions, being monotonous reiterations of oft-repeated statements. On the one side it was claimed that if Sir Richard Cartwright's resolution in favor of unrestricted trade with the United States was carried out, the Canadian manufacturing industry would be destroyed, and our markets controlled by the great monopolizing "trusts" which now rule supreme in the neighbouring republic. The opposition members claimed that unrestricted reciprocity would bring about an era of prosperity in which all classes of people would participate, that the present fiscal policy of Canada would soon bring blue ruin to the country, and that even at the present time the people were groaning under the burdens imposed upon them by a protective tariff. It appears that politicians do not represent the true inwardness of public opinion. If we understand public opinion, and we think we do, it is this: unrestricted reciprocity has about it a flavor of annexation, and as such is unpalatable to patriotic citizens of Canada. We are to-day enjoying a fair measure of prosperity, but if we could secure a reciprocity treaty with the United States that would not involve absorption or national dependency we should be satisfied. Our people are wedded to Canadian institutions, and republican forms of government have no particular attractiveness in their eyes. We want Canada governed by Canadians, but we are willing to enter into a treaty with the United States upon a fair business basis, by which the citizens of the United States as well as our own people will become more prosperous.

It is proposed not to allow appointments to be made to the civil service of Canada unless the appointees have resided in the country for five years. This is to prevent positions being given to young men coming to Canada from Great Britain or Ireland. We think the object could as well be served by making the necessary residence one year instead of five, our crying need is population, and, if the plums of office attract a certain class of well-educated young men, we think that, with fair limitations, they should be encouraged to become citizens of this great country of ours.

It has been decided by the government to retain the one cent rate of postage upon drop letters, but it is proposed to make all publications not issued weekly pay postage. A deputation of some twenty publishers of bi-weeklies and monthlies have been in Ottawa beseeching and beseeching the Post-master General to change his mind upon this point. Our sympathies are strongly in favor of the free transmission through the mails of all bona-fide regular publications, but we recognize that the Post-master General may find no little difficulty in drawing the line so as to be fair to publishers of such, and at the same time prevent the free distribution of mere advertising sheets.

St. John is making a desperate effort to become the winter terminus of the C. P. Railway, and her citizens deserve credit for the unanimity and enterprise they always display when the interests of their city are involved. But in the question of an Atlantic port the interests of Fredericton and Moncton are identical with those of Halifax, and hence the Nova Scotian and a majority of the New Brunswick members are in accord in their demand for immediate construction of the Mattewamkeag, Fredericton and Salisbury link. The government evidently appreciates the position, judging from the strong measures now being taken to make the C. P. R. Company fulfil the spirit of its contract. Several matters of a minor nature have come before parliament, but the foregoing will give the gist of what has been going on.

Mr. Pope, the Minister of Railways, who is reported to be worth \$1,000,000, is very ill, and his recovery is generally regarded as very doubtful.

**PROVINCIAL.**—Many and varied have been the suggestions as to the abolition of the Legislative Council, but it has been left to Mr. Hearn of Richmond to propound a scheme, which for originality and impracticability far exceeds all previous suggestions, and while we admire the honest persistency of Mr. Hearn, who evidently had the courage of his convictions, we cannot understand how he ever came to father such a shadowy resolution as that moved by him in the House of Assembly. According to Mr. Hearn's resolution the House of Assembly was to consist of thirty-eight members, nineteen to be elected by the people, and, in the event of the vacancies in the Legislative Council being filled within a reasonable time, the remaining nineteen seats in the new house were to be occupied by Legislative Councillors. These seats to be held for the ensuing fifteen years, and, in the event of vacancy by death or resignation to be filled by a representative elected by the people. The Executive Council was to be chosen from the popular branch of the Assembly. Comment upon such a resolution is scarcely necessary, as the unworkability of such a composite Legislature would end in a dead-lock, which might bring untold troubles upon the province. If the Legislative Council is to be abolished, the only sensible course to take is that which it is supposed the present government is taking, namely, to require each appointee to give a written guarantee that he will vote for abolition when the question is ripe for discussion. Mr. Hearn's resolution secured but two votes, the one being his own and the other that of Mr. McColl, the leader of the radical wing.

The Nova Scotia Central Railway Company, which for many years appeared to lack the vitalizing spark, is now displaying a remarkable degree of vigor and enterprise. Thirty-four miles of the road bed have been laid with rails, and the early completion of the work may now be considered as only a question of months, but the company is evidently awakening to its possibilities, and legislation is asked to extend its chartered rights to the construction of a railway from Middleton to Margaretville, also from points on its main line to Caledonia Corner, to Liverpool and to Sheburne. We imagine our fellow subjects in the three latter places will have to rail away for some time to come before the scream of the locomotive is heard in their environments.

Again an effort is being made to secure a legal status in Nova Scotia for a wholesale lottery enterprise, under the name of the Nova Scotia Allotment

Company. If the proceeds of this company were to be devoted to the development of our mineral resources, or to the general advancement of our country, there might be some shadow of excuse for giving it a chartered existence, just as there is a shadow of excuse for tea meetings and bazaars given for Church purposes, but where the company is, as in this case, a private concern, run for the advantage of private individuals, and using its charter privileges to extract from an all too eager public its hard earned savings, we do not believe that the responsible representatives of the people should hesitate in shelving the measure with as little delay as possible. The company offer, as a bribe, to pay sixty thousand dollars yearly towards the support of certain specified educational and benevolent institutions, but the very fact of this pledging three per cent. per annum upon the capital stock of two million dollars, is proof positive that exorbitant profits are anticipated, and however desirable the money may be to the institutions in question, we fancy few of their directors or supporters would be willing to see their interests advanced by such methods.

A good deal of discussion has been going on of late in the assembly as to the independence of parliament, or more properly speaking the rights and responsibilities of the members of the legislature. It is a somewhat curious fact that while in the Canadian Parliament, no member of the House of Commons can hold office under the Crown other than that of a cabinet minister and cannot take a contract for the construction or the carrying out of any work, the members of the Senate are freed from these disabilities. We are not aware whether Legislative Councillors enjoy senatorial privileges in this respect, but it is right that the independence of parliament should be preserved, and if this can be secured by preventing members from taking fat government contracts it should by all means be done.

The Government has introduced a Franchise Act, by which quite a number of Nova Scotians will for the first time be entitled to a vote. The special feature in this act is the enfranchisement of all persons in receipt of annual incomes to the amount of \$300. This is a measure of reform for which we are profoundly thankful, but, after all, it is only half a loaf, and the Government should have accentuated its liberalism by adopting the broader measure of manhood suffrage. Every man that uses dutiable goods pays an indirect tax, that tax is collected by the Federal Officials, and paid as part of the Provincial subsidy to the Government of Nova Scotia. The revenue which the Province thus receives is supplemented by the receipts of the crown lands and the mines, which are unquestionably the property of the people of the Province, and in which every Nova Scotian is a part owner. Now we claim that as every full grown man is obliged to accept the responsibilities of citizenship in the event of a rebellion or a foreign war, and as he is a contributor to a greater or less extent to the Federal and Provincial revenues, he is entitled in all justice to have a voice in the Government of the country. If any restriction is to be made it should be educational rather than financial, for surely it is of greater moment that a man should know how to vote intelligently than that he should occupy premises valued at \$150, or that his total earnings be \$300 instead of \$299 per annum.

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## MINING.

The Executive Council of the Local Government heard a deputation of gentlemen interested in mining in reference to a grant from the Local Government in aid of an Official Assay Office. Mr. Townsend briefly addressed the members, stating the objects sought, and Messrs. Guo and Fraser also made remarks in favor of the movement. Premier Fielding and other members of the Government asked some pertinent questions, and the deputation dispersed to gather further information bearing on details, the Government showing every indication of favorably entertaining the project.

**GOLD-STEALING.**—The arrest of the colored man John Tolliver, with about \$150 worth of coarse gold in his possession, and the subsequent seizure of some \$30 worth of quartz at his home at Lake Loon, near the Montague Gold District, may lead to important developments. It is generally believed that a large amount of gold is stolen from the different mines in the Province, and it is to be hoped that some of the guilty parties are now within reach of the law. A good example or two are needed to prove to miners the magnitude of the offence. Immunity from discovery and prosecution have rather led miners to look upon gold-stealing as a kind of allowable perquisite, and it is high time to disabuse their minds of ideas so ruinous to the gold-mining industry. The establishment of an official Assay office, and the official stamping of gold bullion, would go a long way towards making it impossible to dispose of stolen gold. The beneficial results in this matter alone would much more than repay the expense of establishing the office. Roderick McPherson was also arrested for gold stealing by County Constable Phelan, and is being tried before Stipendiary Griffin.

We have to acknowledge with thanks several communications on mining subjects, which will appear when space permits.

**HARRIGAN'S COVE.**—Mr. Archibald has put the crusher in running order on the property in which Mr. S. Sichel is interested in this district, and Mr. Sichel has sent down a manager and men to operate the mine. We understand that the prospects are very bright.

**MOOSE RIVER.**—Mr. D. Touquoy was in town last week with a handsome gold bar weighing 86 ounces. The large and steady returns from this mine speak much louder than words of its sterling value.

Owing to pressure on our columns this week we have been unable to continue the publication of Prof. C. B. P. Seaver's article on the origin and mode of occurrence of gold bearing veins, &c., which will be completed in future issues.

**SALMON RIVER.**—A very rich gold find is reported on a property adjoining the Duffrin Mine in this District. We should like to obtain the particulars.

The discovery of coal is reported one mile from the town of Parrsboro, gold-bearing quartz at Dilligent River, and a manganese mine at Two Islands and Partridge Island—all said to be rich.

**GOLD IN HALIFAX.**—We have on several occasions called attention to the fact that gold-bearing quartz veins underlie this city. Only a few days since some excavators at the south end struck a small lead carrying gold.

The news that Mr. R. G. Leckie, the pushing and popular manager of the Cumberland Coal and Railway Company, had resigned was a genuine surprise. It is to be hoped that the Province is not to lose the benefits of Mr. Leckie's push and experience.

Queens County items condensed from the *Gold Hunter* :—

The North Brookfield Mine yielded on the last clean up 303 ozs. of gold from 156 tons quartz crushed. On the Philadelphia Company's property Mr. Samuel Pierce has opened up a new lead which shows well in gold.

**WHITEBURN.**—The American Company have commenced work, and are putting in a pump and steam-hoisting gear.

**MOLEGA.**—The Nine Boulder lead is looking very good and becoming all the time of more importance. The North lead has been let out to a party of tributors who are meeting with success. The ore from the 140 foot level of the mill lead is steadily improving in quality and quantity.

**MILL VILLAGE.**—Work is progressing at the Mill Village gold mines. They have tunnelled over 60 feet, and report having found several leads. A trial blast put in several days ago gave very promising results. This mine is situated about three and a half miles from Mill Village in the direction of Herring Cove Lake.

Prospectors are anxiously waiting good weather to commence work.

In former issues we have called attention to the fact that the Gold Miners Club had circulated petitions praying for the establishment of an official assay office in Halifax, a prayer in which we heartily join. The petitions have been largely signed throughout the Province, and the favors asked are so reasonable that there can be little doubt but that both the Dominion and Local Governments, to whom the petitions are addressed, will grant the prayer of the petitioners. As we have for some years advocated the establishment of an Official Assay Office in Halifax, we note with pleasure that the movement has taken a most practical form. Mr. J. H. Townsend's able advocacy of the movement, both through the press and by personal appeals, has done much to bring about the present hopeful position of the matter and if it succeeds, as we have no doubt it will, to him will belong no small share of the credit. The movement is of such vital importance to the gold mining industry that we herewith lay the petitions in full before our readers.

*To the Honorable the Executive Council of the Province of Nova Scotia:—*

The Requisition of the undersigned, representing extensive Gold Mining interests in the Province of Nova Scotia,

*Humbly Sheweth,*—That the establishment of an official Assay Office in the City of Halifax for the assay of bullion and the analysis of ores, minerals, mill and furnace products at a low scale of charges, would give a very great stimulus to the mining industry of the Province.

That, the Colonies of New South Wales, Victoria and New Zealand are giving great assistance to mineral development within their borders, by granting monies to aid in sinking test shafts and in establishing public sampling and smelting works for test lots upon a large scale.

That many benefits would accrue from the establishment of such an Assay Office, as for instance,—

The stamping of bullion by a properly authorized official would tend to keep it in the country, by making it a merchantable commodity and would thus save our miners much of the expense incident to its exportation.

It would be a protection to mine owners against the theft of gold, as all gold not officially stamped would be looked upon as suspicious and could be more easily traced if offered for sale.

It would aid the Provincial Government in keeping a check on the Royalty paid.

It would encourage pioneer work in mineral development by enabling the owners of small lots of bullion to get full value without being subject to the heavy discount of bankers taking such bullion on a venture, and enabling prospectors to get samples of their findings correctly tested at a rate of charges within their means.

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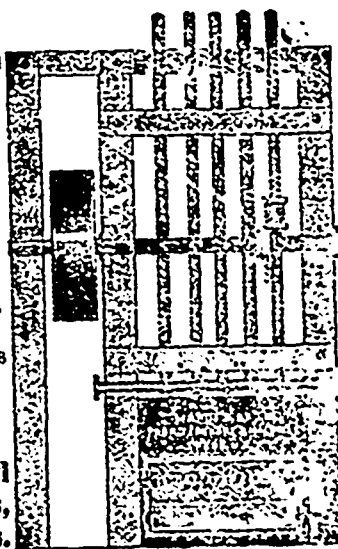
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As the necessary authority for the official stamping of bullion to make it a bankable or merchantable commodity must, we are informed, come from the Dominion Government, and as the official in question would necessarily be a Dominion Official, and also as the establishment of such an office as is proposed would cheaply accomplish many of the objects to be attained by the large expenditure for a Canadian Mint, the undersigned propose to approach the Government of the Dominion with a requisition for the appointment of such official with the necessary authority, and for the granting of a sum sufficient to furnish the permanent plant.

Such an office, however, will not be, for the present at least, self sustaining, unless such a scale of fees is exacted as will entirely defeat its primary object, the mineral development of the country, and will debar the prospector and poorer miner from participation in its benefits.

The Undersigned, on behalf of the Gold Mining interests of the Province, therefore ask:—

That the Government of Nova Scotia aid this scheme by an annual grant towards the expenses of such Assay Office, the payment of such grant to be contingent upon the acceptance by the Dominion Government of a scale of fees to be prepared by the Department of Mines and Works, such scale to be enforced by the Dominion authorities as the rate of charges which shall obtain in such Assay Office.

And your Petitioners as in duty bound will ever pray, etc., etc.

To the Honorable The Privy Council of Canada:—

The Requisition of the undersigned, representing extensive Gold Mining interests in the Province of Nova Scotia,

*Humbly Sheweth:*—That the Province of Nova Scotia after years of patient labor has become specially noted for her great mineral possessions. Her gold mining industry is now recognized as a permanent source of wealth. Starting from small beginnings, employing but few persons with crude ideas and appliances, meeting with repeated losses and failures, it stands to-day as an important factor in the general prosperity of the country.

The undersigned, feeling that this progress has been and is still greatly retarded by the absence of facilities that pertain to other mining countries, respectfully claim the attention of the General Government in reference to the establishment of an Assay Office, in such a place and in such a way as shall facilitate the assay of bullion and the analysis of ores, minerals, mill and furnace products, which would in a great measure tend to the removal of burdens that have oppressed the gold mining industry for so many years.

When we see our sister Colonies of New South Wales, Victoria and New Zealand granting monies to aid in sinking test shafts and establishing public sampling and smelting works for test lots upon a large scale, we feel that the bonds of justice and self respect are not exceeded when the Government is thus asked to aid in the development of our enormous and valuable mineral resources.

The cost of such an Assay Office will be insignificant as compared with the benefits received from the mining development of the country, and more especially as compared with the cost of establishing a Canadian Mint. The cost of establishing a Mint is variously estimated at from three hundred to five hundred thousand dollars, while many of the advantages accruing from this large expenditure may be cheaply obtained by adding to the existing plant of the Office of Dominion Analyst at Halifax to the extent of say three thousand dollars.

Amongst the benefits to be derived from the establishment of such an office may be mentioned that the official stamping of bullion with its weight and fineness would at once make it a bankable or merchantable commodity, and would tend to retain it in our own country. It would also be a protection to mine owners as against theft of gold, as gold not officially stamped would be looked upon as suspicious, and could be more easily traced if offered for sale.

Such an office would encourage pioneer work in mineral development by enabling the owners of small lots of bullion to get full value without being subject to the heavy discounts of bankers taking such bullion on a venture, and enabling prospectors to get samples of their findings correctly tested at a rate of charges within their means.

Although the control of the mines and minerals of the Province lies with the Provincial Government, yet increased mineral production means increased general prosperity, and a largely increased consumption of dutiable goods, thus tending to the advantage of the Federal Government, and the aid of the General Government is necessarily invoked in that bullion to be a bankable or merchantable commodity must be stamped by a duly authorized Dominion Official.

The undersigned, on behalf of the Gold Mining interests of the Province of Nova Scotia, therefore ask:—

That the Dominion Government establish an Assay Office, with complete plant for assaying and mineral analysis, in conjunction with the office of Dominion Analyst, at Halifax.

That such Official be appointed Government Assayer for the Maritime Provinces.

That such Assayer be authorized to officially stamp gold and silver bullion bars with their correct weight and proved fineness, and to issue the necessary official certificate of the value of such bars.

That such Assayer be required to assay and analyse such ores, minerals or metallic compounds as shall be properly presented to him for that purpose, and to issue a certificate thereon, setting forth the percentage of the required constituent or constituents in such sample, and that the Government fix such a scale of fees for such assays and analyses as shall be reasonable in the case of bullion bars as low as they can possibly be made, and for analysis of ores and minerals at such rates as will enable the poorer miner as well as the richer one to obtain the full benefit of such Office.

And your Petitioners as in duty bound will ever pray, etc., etc.

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HOME AND FARM.

**POULTRY FOR PROFIT.**—Hens in flocks of ten to twenty will lay, says the *Tennessee Farmer*, under favorable circumstances, to their utmost capacity. Hens in flocks of twenty to thirty-five will lay only fairly well. In flocks of thirty-five to fifty they will not pay for their food. More than fifty hens in one flock are a nuisance that we would not fool with. This does not mean that one person cannot keep fifty hens profitably. It does mean, however, that one person can arrange his fowls into flocks of fifteen to twenty, giving them a separate run, say a yard 50x200 feet, with grass in it, and multiply such separate runs as much as is desired, and make all pay.

A writer in the *Prairie Farmer* does not believe it profitable to feed hens all the corn they will eat. He writes:—"In the morning I give rye, a quart to about sixty hens, sprinkled in straw, so that they have to scratch, and, I tell you, they enjoy scratching for it, too. Then I nail up a couple of heads of cabbage in the hen house, so that they can reach it, and let them eat all they want. About noon I give a little oats and rye, just to get them to scratch, and at night I give them table scraps, and once in a while a little sunflower seed. I use corn as little as possible, as I don't think it proper food for laying hens. In the way of drink, I give milk altogether, and think it far better than water. I keep my poultry house well bedded with straw, and, even if you don't feed any grain in the straw, they will scratch, anyway. In very cold weather I keep fire in it, and think it pays well."

The old-fashioned practice of wintering calves at the straw stack, with only an occasional feed of cornstalks of hay, is wasteful. Young stock, well fed, will show more gain for their feed than they will when older. We do not believe in feeding straw mainly for any stock. If it must be fed, however, let something that has its full growth be put on such fare as subjects its owner to least loss.

B. W. Black of Truro has kept bees for five years and has had as many as twenty colonies at one time. His largest honey return in a season was 1600 lbs. in 1887.

A New York farmer argues that one ton of clover hay contains nine or ten per cent of albuminoids, while a ton of timothy hay has only 5½ per cent. of these valuable nutriment. Clover hay is always cheaper than timothy, and oftentimes 35 to 50 per cent cheaper. Hence farmers should grow timothy for sale, and clover for feeding out to their own stock. Again, Mr. Stewart claims that if a ton of straw containing 2 or 2½ per cent. of albuminoids is mixed with a ton of clover hay, the mixture contains the same nutritious substance as two tons of timothy hay, certainly another argument in favor of feeding the clover.

OUR COSY CORNER.

The article on what is doing in Toronto in the training of young girls as domestic servants which we promised last week, will be found on pages 6 and 7.

The hair shops of London and Paris are said to have orders ahead for all the golden hair they can procure for the next five years. Peasant girls, becoming more intelligent, are not so willing to part with their hair as formerly.

An Eastern Maine man has solved the problem of tough steaks. He has been experimenting and finds that the ordinary slices of meat, which are in every way equal to the best excepting in the matter of toughness, can be run through the sausage machine and completely cut up. Then any desired amount of the material can be taken and the simple pressure of the knife blade is sufficient to make it into slices which adhere sufficiently to allow of cooking by ordinary methods. The juices of the meat are all preserved, and this meat seems to be a great advance over the old method of hammering with the rolling-pin.

The *Paris Illustro* says:—"Tulle is the correct thing for young girls party costumes, and a new effect is produced by putting a pink skirt over a white one and a blue over that. The bodice is trimmed with ribbons of the three colors. The approved garment is the empire gown, that tight-fitting frock that about twelve years ago drove all the over-fat and over-scrawny to utter desperation. Out-door hats and bonnets are crowned with plumes. And, lastly (oh, horror!) the characteristic stamp of the newest fashion is the total disappearance of the bustle."

The newest new fancy in table decoration is to have some cup-shaped flowers as the rose, lily, tulip or magnolia, re-produced in the finest of crystal and porcelain and in all colors and sizes, and then to fill the false flowers with the real ones and strew them liberally over the table. As the inventor has patented every flower that will hold water, and, further, he has got the eye and favor of royalty, being a very loyal Englishman ye know, he hopes both to prevent imitation and to win the approval of all swollidom on both sides of the herring pond.

**ADVICE TO MOTHERS.**—Are you disturbed at night and broken of your rest by a sick child suffering and crying with pain of Cutting Teeth? If so, send at once and get a bottle of "Mrs. Winslow's Soothing Syrup," for Children Teething. Its value is incalculable. It will relieve the poor little sufferer immediately. Depend upon it mothers; there is no mistake about it. It cures Dysentery and Diarrhea, regulates the Stomach and Bowels, cures Wind Colic, softens the Gums, reduces Inflammation, and gives tone and energy to the whole system. "Mrs. Winslow's Soothing Syrup" for children teething is pleasant to the taste, and is the prescription of one of the oldest and best female physicians and nurses in the United States, and is for sale by all druggists throughout the world. Price, 25 cents a bottle.

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**CHESS.**

All communications for this department should be addressed—CHESS EDITOR CRITIC, Halifax, N. S.

The proprietors of THE CRITIC offer two prizes—to consist of books on Chess—to those subscribers who shall send in the greatest number of correct solutions during the current year. No entrance fee required.

The Chess Editorship of THE CRITIC has passed into new hands, the gentleman who gave us the benefit of his valuable services being unable to continue them. It is, however, gratifying to be able to state that his successor has probably no superior in this Province.

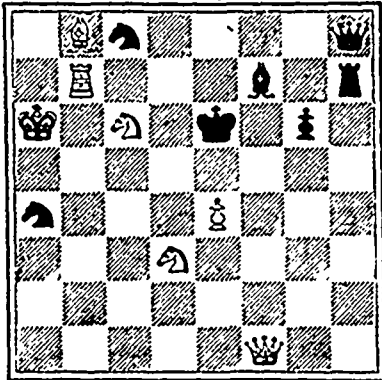
We trust, therefore, to see an even increased interest manifested in our chess column, the prizes offered in which we note above.

**TO CORRESPONDENTS.**

Hereafter please address communications to Chess Editor CRITIC, Halifax, N. S.

Exchanges will also please change address as above.

**PROBLEM No. 72.**  
BLACK—7 pieces.



WHITE—7 pieces.

White to play and mate in two moves

**GAME No. 54.**

The following game No. 8, played at Havana between Herr Steinitz and Herr Tchigorin in the late match for the championship of the world, is considered the most brilliant of the series.

<b>WHITE.</b> Steinitz.	<b>BLACK.</b> Tchigorin.
1 Kk1 to B3	Kk1 to B3
2 P to Q4	P to Q4
3 P to B4	P to K3
4 Kt to B3	P to B3
5 P to K3	B to Q3
6 B to Q3	Qk1 to Q2
7 Castles	Castles
8 P to K4	Qp takes Kp
9 Kt takes Kp	Kt takes Kt
10 B takes Kt	P to KR3
11 B to B2	R to Ksq
12 R to Ksq	Q to B3

Indiscreet.  
13 B to Q2 Kt to Bsq  
14 B to B3 B to Q2  
15 P to B5 B to Kt.sq  
16 P to Q5 Q home

And now it was better to advance P to K4.

17 P to Q6	P to Qk13
18 P to Qk14	P to KB3
19 Q to Q3	P to QR4
20 P to QR3	P to K4
21 Kt to R4	KtP takes P
22 KtP takes BP	B to R2
23 QR to Qsq	B takes BP
24 Q to B4 ch	Kt to K3
25 Q to K4	Kt to Bsq
26 Q to B4 ch	Kt to K3
27 B to K16	Q to K13
28 R to K2	

The best course.

29 R to Qk12 KR to Qk1sq  
30 B to B5 Q to R2  
31 R to K2 K to B2  
32 Q to Kk14 Q to R3  
33 R takes Kp Kt to B5  
A fine sacrifice, worthy of Gunsberg.

P takes R  
34 QB takes P P to Kk14  
35 B to K16 ch K to Bsq  
36 Q takes B Q to R2  
37 Q to B5 ch K to Kt sq  
38 P to Q7 and wins.

**DRAUGHTS-CHECKERS**

All Checker communications and exchanges should be addressed to W. Forsyth, 36 Grafton Street, Halifax.

The proprietors of THE CRITIC offer two prizes—to consist of books on Checkers—to those subscribers who shall send in the greatest number of correct solutions during the current year. No entrance fee required.

**TO CORRESPONDENTS.**

The number of the problem in our last issue should have been 97—not 70 as published.

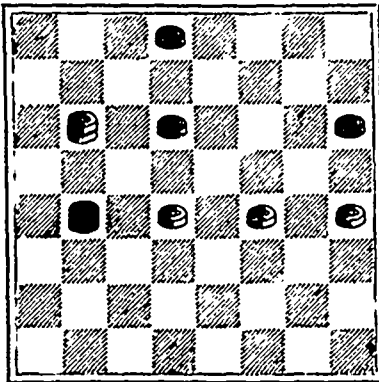
**SOLUTION.**

**PROBLEM 96**—The position was as follows:—black men 5, 6, 7, 8, 12, kg. 23; white men 13, 14, 15, 21, 22, 28; black to play and win.

23—19	11—15	14—21	26—31
15 11	6 2	2 9	13 9
8—15	15—18	12—16	16—20
22 17	2 11	9 6	9 6
6—10	18—9	10—14	19—23
13 9	17 13	6 10	6 2
19—16	9—6	14—17	23—26
9 6	21 17	10 14	2 6
15—19	5—9	17—22	26—30
6 2	11 7	14 17	6 9
16—11	9—14	22—26	30—26
2 6	7 2	17 22	w wins.

**PROBLEM No. 98**

From the New York Clipper.  
Black men 2, 10, 12, kg. 17.



White men 18, 19, 20, kg. 9.  
Black to play. What result?

**GAME No. 20.**

Irregular. This is one of the many original games played between Messrs. Forsyth and Gaskin at their recent match. Forsyth's move.

11—15	15—19	7—16	19—26
24 20	27 23	22 17	28 10
8—11	6—10	3—7	26—30
23 18	25 21	17 13	10 6
4—8	10—17	16—20	30—25
27 23	21 14	23 16	22 18
12—16	1—6	12—19	*25—22
32 27	29 25	13 9	
8—12	6—10	7—11	
18 14	25 21	30 25	
9—18	10—17	11—16	
23 14	21 14	25 22	
10—17	11—15	13—9	
21 14	20 11	26 23	

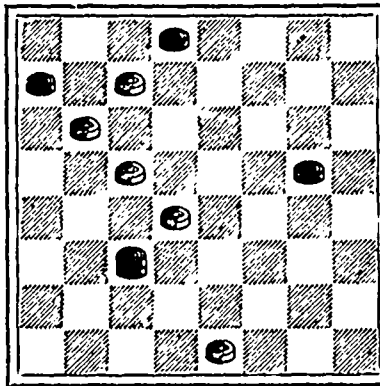
\* At this point Mr. Forsyth might have secured a draw by 25—21, but

overlooked the fine win that Mr. Gaskin dashed off in his usual rapid style.

We consider this worthy of a place as a position, and therefore give it as

**PROBLEM No. 99.**

Black men 2, 5, 16, kg. 22.



White men 6, 9, 14, 18, 31.  
White to move and win.

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**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.....	300	3,000
30 Furniture Sets worth.....	200	6,000
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