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THE CRITIC.

The Welfare of the People is the Highest Law.

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HALIFAX, N. S., FEBRUARY 11, 1887.

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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 his journal. Our readers are capable of approving or disapproving of any part of an article or contents of the paper; and after exercising due care as to what is to appear in our columns, we shall leave the rest to their intelligent judgment.

EDITORIAL NOTES.

There are now engaged in the Atlantic trade 130 iron steamships valued at \$100,000,000, and an innumerable number of smaller steamers of which it is difficult to estimate the value. "The highway of the ocean" is no longer metaphorical language, it is literal, yes, very literal.

Have you read "She," by H. Ryder Haggard, the author of "King Solomon's Mines"? If not, by all means procure a copy. "She" is one of the most fascinating and original books which has appeared in the present day. It is so far above the ordinary novel and so full of pleasing and unlooked-for surprises, that an extended review of it would simply spoil a rich literary treat.

Dr. Grant, Principal of Queen's College, in a recent address gave the students some wholesome advice as to the duty of honest electors. He denounced the party machine by which men were nominated as candidates for parliament, and referred in scathing terms to the bribery and corruption resorted to in order to gain party ends. If Dr. Grant were to run an election he would feel that the theme of his discourse was one that could be dealt with to the advantage of the people on at least fifty-two Sundays of each year.

Street begging in Halifax has come to be a positive nuisance. Go where you will along the main thoroughfares and you will encounter a knot of young urchins, one of whom, in whining tones, begs that you will give him a few cents. The business men complain that the nuisance is no longer confined to the streets, but that the little beggars are besieging their offices and on various pretenses requesting assistance, and too often a few cents are given to get clear of the rascals. The police should check this growing love for filthy lucre among our juvenile citizens.

St. Valentine was said to have been distinguished for his love and charity, but the origin of the present custom of selecting a valentine on the 14th of February is uncertain, it probably being an old pagan custom. Our young people who observe the time honored sending of valentines should use and not abuse the custom. Sweet missives and highly perfumed sachets are appropriate valentines, but grotesque pictures and sentiments expressed in coarse language should never be sent by any person, as such mis-called valentines wound the sensibilities of the recipients and make an otherwise pleasant custom an intolerable nuisance.

The German Army Bill upon which the government is now appealing to the country, signifies an increase of 41,135 men for the next seven years to an already huge standing army, and an annual expenditure of \$6,500,000. The German people will probably accept this new impost without complaint, but when the great chancellor, Bismarck, goes over to the majority such useless expenditures will be done away with.

The British people are somewhat too conservative. They uphold certain changes in the constitution, but when it is proposed that Lord Salisbury, the leader of the Government, who has a seat in the House of Lords, should be allowed to speak in the House of Commons, a perfect hubbub is raised and the suggestion stigmatized as ultra radical. Why ultra radical? Surely the leader of the Government which depends for its existence upon the continued confidence of the members in the House of Commons, should be the mouthpiece of the Cabinet, and, so far as we can see, the objections urged against such a course are without weight and savor of fossilism.

Some idea of the extent to which mechanical ingenuity and efficiency have advanced may be had from the following statement: It is now possible to construct a complete sewing machine in a minute, or sixty in a hour; a reaper every fifteen minutes, or less, three hundred watches a day complete in all their appointments. More important than this even is the fact that it is possible to construct a locomotive in a day. From the plans of the draughtsman to the execution of them by the workman, every wheel, lever, valve and rod may be constructed from the metal to the engine intact. Every rivet may be driven in the boiler, every tube in the tube sheets, and from the smoke-stack to the ash pan a locomotive may be turned out in one day, completely equipped, ready to do the work of a hundred horses. Without such machinery and the skilled labor to operate them, the civilized world of to-day would be an impossibility.—*Craftsman.*

We had thought that literary log rolling was distinctively characteristic of those American writers who use their positions to advertise themselves and their friends, and who appear to work on the principle of "scratch my back and I'll scratch yours," but we are sorry to learn from the revelations recently made by Mr. Collins, that a class of British magazine writers has adopted the same reprehensible method of obtaining notoriety. These would-be literary log rollers are of the opinion that people believe what they read and that judicious puffing coming from a seemingly unbiassed source will gain for second rate contributions the stamp of merit. We regret to say that some of our young Canadian writers have had recourse to this method of bringing their names prominently before the public; but we do not believe that a cheap reputation gained by fulsome self-written notices can be of any permanent advantage to an aspirant for literary honors.

A traveller in Nova Scotia when visiting remote districts is sometimes struck with the odd names given to children, and many of our clergymen base their best anecdotes upon the names given to babies at baptism. The parents in one family living in a Cape Breton fishing village named their eldest daughter Victoria Regina, and, having come from the United States, they named their son after two distinguished presidents, throwing in the name of the Dominion's capital as an offset. The lad now delights in the name of Abraham Ulysses Ottawa. Novel as is this name it is thrown quite into the shade by that of a young Windsor boy who was christened Joseph Cornelius Theophilus Shack Ebenzer Abendego. Senator Van Wyck has been severely criticized in Washington for naming his daughter Happy New Year. But, after all, what's in a name? It is the prerogative of parents to follow their own sweet will in the choice of names for their offspring.

The following rather extraordinary paragraph appeared in the *Liverpool Mercury* as a "Science Note":—"The explosion of an ostrich egg in the hands of a scientific man is not a common occurrence, and the recent accident at Yale College has excited considerable comment. Mr. Buer, at the Peabody Museum New Haven, Conn., was boring a hole in an African egg, weighing about three pounds, when it exploded and knocked him senseless, injuring him severely, and wounding some of the bystanders. Such explosions on a small scale are a common incident on the Chinese coast. A common fashion of preserving hens' eggs for sea use is to pack them in lime, and if properly packed they will keep sweet for months, but they are not always thus packed. Sometimes a vessel leaves a Chinese port with a large supply of eggs, warranted to keep all the voyage home; but in a week or two they begin to go bad in a most extraordinary manner. The lime has such an effect on them that it generates a peculiar foul smelling gas, and the moment the shell receives a crack it explodes. At first the explosions are rare and very mild; but in a few weeks the "preserved" eggs go off with a report like a pistol, with an ever-increasing odor and frequency, and are finally relegated to the sailors, who find considerable amusement with them. The explosion at Yale, which has ended so disastrously to Mr. Buer, is doubtless due to the same cause; but the strong shell of the ostrich egg has intensified the evil result.

THE POLITICAL MEETING IN HALIFAX.

If any proof were needed of the lengths to which political excitement will carry some men, it might have been gathered at the monster political meeting held at the Drill Shed on Friday evening last. Had the building been twice its present size, it would scarce have been large enough to comfortably accommodate the mass of human beings who were packed like sardines in a box in the audience room. Jostled and jammed on every side, and obliged to stand up in order to prevent their being smothered by the rushing crowd, hundreds upon hundreds of our most orderly citizens were obliged in self protection to jostle and jam in their turn. In that immense throng there was no respect to persons. Each individual had to fight for the small floor or bench space upon which he stood; and had it not been that the window panes and sashes were broken out, and many persons thus escaped from the crush, very serious disasters would probably have resulted. To add to the discomforts, a perfect babel of yells, demanding that those in the front seats should sit down, was kept up by persons in the rear of the hall; and it was evident from the first, that under the circumstances, the audience could not give a calm and dispassionate hearing to the speakers who were to address them. From our observation, we are led to believe that the parties were very evenly represented, although the hearing given to Sir Charles Tupper was somewhat better than that accorded to the Hon. A. G. Jones. Sir Charles Tupper had the advantage of making the first address, and despite the annoying interruptions, most of the audience heard what he had to say, but at the end of his speech of an hour and a quarter, the struggle for better places was renewed by those who were too far distant to catch the remarks of Hon. A. G. Jones. The hubbub beggars description. It was simply deafening like to the noise in the cave of the winds at Niagara Falls. Had Mr. Jones held a speaking trumpet, and possessed the lung power of a Stentor, his utterances could not have been heard ten feet from the stage. Political excitement was rampant, and the cheers and hisses which interrupted the speech of Sir Charles were repeated with tenfold force and with scarce a moment's cessation. The political excitement itself was sufficiently strong to have made it difficult for an impartial chairman like Mr. W. C. Silver to have preserved order; but to preserve order in a political meeting where each individual had to be on the *qui vive* for fear he should be crushed to death, was simply impossible. As it was, those who attended were obliged to take the daily papers in order to read what had been said by the speakers, and hundreds of people would probably think twice before again running such risks as they did on Friday evening last. The affair was a disgrace to the city, and partyism and bad management are accountable for it. Had the doors been opened early, and a joint committee of management been appointed in conjunction with the police to seat and control the audience, such a wild rush as that made when the doors were opened, with the subsequent jostling and jamming, would have been prevented. Political partisans should learn a wholesome lesson from this remarkable meeting. Men who unblushingly interrupt an endeavor to prevent being heard the remarks of one speaker, have nothing to complain of when their opponents steal their thunder and try to drown the voice of a second speaker. Politically speaking, the meeting cannot truthfully be claimed as a victory by either party, and the colored reports which have appeared in the party papers are enough to make honest men disgusted with politics, and indignant with the papers which can resort to such subterfuges in order to deceive their readers.

OUR POSITION.

When the political fever is at its height, it is difficult for those who suffer from this epidemic to understand why men of influence, standing or ability, should be comparatively unaffected by the excitement of an election, and how it is that they can pursue their ordinary avocations apparently undisturbed, and even go so far as to endorse the candidates which the respective parties have placed in the field. It is a fortunate thing for the country that among the electors are to be found hundreds of such cool-headed individuals—for were it not so, and were the doctrine of the blind allegiance to party under each and all circumstances closely adhered to, the relative position of the "ins" and "outs" would remain the same, so long as the franchise was not changed. But if to a party man the independence of an elector appears strange, the independence of a newspaper is quite inexplicable; and he naturally infers, that because a journal is not an out and out supporter of the party to which he is attached, it must be opposed to it. This by no means follows. The editor of a public journal is, from the nature of his position, in duty bound to further the interests of his country to the utmost of his ability; and when in his judgment the country would suffer an irreparable injury from the policy of one or other party, then and then only is he as an independent journalist called upon to take sides. In the present political contest THE CRITIC sees no great interest at stake. The question of repeal has virtually been dropped, while the Hon. Edward Blake's utterances in favor of incidental protection, and the due observance of vested rights, is but the National Policy in other clothing. The other questions before the electors are of minor importance; and whether the Outs go in or the Ins remain in, they will not materially affect the prosperity of the country. The economical flag which the Outs are now waving is the standard which is always seized during election times by the party in opposition; but if under its folds victory is gained, retrenchment and economy are seldom realized. As an independent critic our position has been assailed by both Liberals and Conservatives. The Conservatives point to the following paragraph which appeared in our issue of the 21st ult:

"Messrs. Jones and Fuller have been nominated for the City and County of Halifax to contest at the Liberal Standard banners in the election to be held on the 22nd prox. The Hon. A. G. Jones is an old campaigner. He knows how to handle a political shil-

lingle to advantage. Mr. H. H. Fuller is, politically speaking, not so familiar to the electors of Halifax, but as a business man he has earned and long maintained a high reputation for integrity and square dealing in all transactions."

This is quoted as the CRITIC's endorsement of the Liberal candidates; but lo! when Messrs. Stairs and Kenny's nomination was announced in our last issue, the CRITIC is put down as a Tory organ, and yet the paragraph was but a truthful statement of facts. It read:—

"The Liberal-Conservatives of the City and County of Halifax have nominated as their candidates for the House of Commons Messrs. J. W. Stairs and T. E. Kenny. Mr. Stairs has already served a short term in the Dominion Parliament, and has won throughout this constituency an enviable reputation for the prompt attention given to all communications addressed to him by the electors. Mr. T. E. Kenny is a man of wide business experience and high character, and is well qualified to represent the metropolitan constituency of the Province."

The CRITIC is by no means "on the fence," nor is it the organ of either the Liberal or Liberal-Conservative party. It is an independent journal; and although its approval or condemnation of certain measures or a certain line of policy may lead partisans to think that its learnings are strongly one way or the other, it will continue to enjoy and express its independent opinion, leaving to the purely party journals the work of battling for the Ins and Outs.

AN AMERICAN RAILWAY COMMISSION.

The *Inter-State Commerce Bill*, which passed the American House of Representatives on the 25th ult., promises to deal most effectively with the many forms of injustice perpetrated by the railway companies of the United States. Indeed, it is seldom thought advisable at the present day to interfere between contracting parties; but there are few cases in which the helpless many can so justly claim protection against the arbitrary few as in the present instance. One town suffers from an unfair discrimination in rates for the advantage of a more distant one which enjoys railway competition. One class of freight is favored to the ruin of an industry and the disadvantage of the public. Certain railways pool to secure through traffic and ruin competing lines. The freight and passenger rates are so variable and past finding out that people rarely discover that they have been unfairly treated.

This bill provides for the appointment of a commission of five members, to be selected by the President with and by the advice of the Senate. That their duties are considered important may be inferred from the provisions made for their remuneration. They are to receive a salary of \$7,500 each; to be empowered to appoint a secretary at a salary of \$8,500; and to fix the compensation of any other employees whose services they may require. The commission is charged with the enforcing of the terms of the act, the infliction of fines for its violation, and the adjustment of disputes with railway companies.

From the maze of legal verbosity in which the act is couched, we may glean that it is declared unlawful for any railway company to charge one person higher rates than another for similar services; to favor any person, company, or locality, or any particular kind of traffic; to charge higher rates for a shorter than for a longer distance, unless the commissioners are satisfied with the reasons assigned; to enter into an agreement with so-called competing lines with a view to dividing the aggregate earnings; or to form a combination to prevent the carriage of freights from being continuous from place of shipment to destination. It is also enacted that every railway company shall have printed and exposed for public inspection schedules showing their rates, fares and charges.

The measure is a radical one; and if the commissioners use their powers faithfully, there can be no doubt of its good results. We in Canada have also a movement of the same kind on foot. Though the abuses of which we complain may not be so flagrant as those against which our cousins have revolted, yet they are sufficient to call for legislative interference.

The French electricians seem to be using the electric light far more extensively than we are. Private carriages in Paris are said to be illuminated by the incandescent lamps. Not only are the outside lamps included in this plan, but the interior of the vehicle is illuminated by a lamp sufficiently powerful to read by. And in some cases a similar lamp is placed, for novelty, on the head of each horse. The lamps are connected by wires with small accumulators placed under the driver's seat.

Vice-President Chanul, in his address before the Mechanical Section of the American Association, considered what might be called the evolution of inventions. Nothing, he said is more remarkable than the multitude of minds and facts which are required for the perfecting of even a simple machine, or how little the last man may need to complete the invention. Facts and natural laws, known for years as curiosities, are taken up by some inventor, who fails in the attempt to render them of practical use; then a second genius takes hold, and profiting by the mistakes of the first produces, at great cost, a working machine. Then comes the successful man, who works out the final practical design, and, whether making or losing a fortune, yet permanently benefits mankind. This course is exemplified in the address by the relation of the growth of the steam engine; and so with other inventions. The steamboat was being developed from 1760 to 1807; the locomotive from 1802 to 1829; the telegraph from 1729 to 1844; the sewing machine, with its two thousand patents, from 1790 to 1860, and the reaping machine for seventy-five years—the last successful man adding but little to the work of his forerunners. The rule has been that "the basis of success lay in a thorough acquaintance with what had been done before, and in setting about improvement in a thoroughly scientific way."—*Popular Science Monthly*.

CHUCKLES.

Japan boasts of a musical fish. It has musical scales, we suppose.

Strange as it may seem, when money is close it is difficult to get very near it.

Two conceited young authors were boasting that they rowed in the same boat with a celebrated wit of the day. "Ah," replied Jerrold, "but not with the same sculls."

A wine merchant who had made a fortune and retired once remarked: "They accuse me of having a thirst for gold. On the contrary, I have the gold for thirst."

An East End grocer got a new pair of scales and drew large crowds to his store by putting out a sign reading: "Pretty girls given a weigh."—*Pittsburgh Chronicle-Telegraph.*

A WEAK FASTER.—A Swiss, who has tried fasting in Brussels, only held out eleven days. A wicked daughter of Eve tempted the Switzer with a plate of piping hot Frankfort sausages, and his fortitude immediately gave way. He wept at his weakness, but he ate voraciously.—*Judy.*

Paterfamilias: "It is remarkable what a large number of doctors claim that diseases are transferred by kissing, and——" Miss Ethel: "What kind of doctors, pa?" "Why, the allopathic doctors." "But, pa, you know, we're homeopaths."

At a lecture on the "Decline of Literature," the eloquent orator shouted: "Where are the Chaucers, and Shakespeares, and Miltons, and Spensers, and Macaulays? Where are they, I say?" And a voice answered sadly from the gallery, "All dead."

A FEMALE NAPOLEON.—Managing Mamma: "Of all things! So you have declined a sleigh-ride with young Mr. Richfellow, when you know he will go right off and invite your rival, Miss Pert." Wise Daughter: "Yes, ma, and I'm just delighted to think that is just what he will do." "You must be crazy! what can be your object?" "I want him to see how horribly red her nose gets in cold weather."—*Tid-Bits.*

"Mr. Peterby, will you please carve the turkey?"

"No, I thank you. The man who carves must either be a fool or rascal, and I don't care to be either."

"What do you mean?"

"If he keeps the choicest portion for himself he is a scoundrel; if he does not keep them he is a fool, and as I said, I don't care to place myself in either category."

ONE CHAIR ENOUGH AT PRESENT.—"Sister Sue and John Henry won't have to spend much money for furniture when they get married," remarked Johnny at the tea table the other evening, when sister Sue's young man was an honored guest.

"Think not, Johnny!" said the fond paternal relative, beaming on the youngster.

"I guess they won't," said Johnny, glancing at the blushing couple with an air of superior wisdom. "Anyhow, one chair's all they need in the parlor now."—*Pittsburg Dispatch.*

A SPECIMEN OF AUSTRALIAN REPORTING.—The following is a cutting from a Queensland paper: "Matthews started on foot, alone, to walk over the range to Thornborough, but, overcome with grief and whiskey, lay down on the banks of the Barron River to sleep. Now, the alligators of the Barron River are both numerous and ferocious. They assimilated Matthews, with the exception of one leg, which was recognized by the boot on it. This, after having been identified, was afforded Christian burial in the Cairns cemetery, the funeral being largely attended. There it still reposes, while the balance of Matthews is wandering about the Barron River as an alligator."

POLLY PARALYZED THEM.—Apropos of parrots, the people who won them and are accustomed to their noises and contradiction are seldom disturbed by them, but it is far otherwise with the unhappy visitor who encounters them. A lady on Jefferson avenue, who owns one of these silly peeps was entertaining some callers the other day, when Polly struck into the conversation from her place of ambush. One lady had remarked—

"So glad you were at home to-day, Mrs.——."

"That's a lie!" responded a hoarse voice.

The visitors started, but as their hostess seemed not to notice it, resumed the conversation.

"I saw Mr.—— and told him to!"

"Kiss me! kiss me!" screamed Polly.

"—say that I would call soon."

"You're another! Shut up!" yelled the parrot.

At this juncture the lady of the house observed how disconcerted her guests were, and guessing at the cause, dragged Polly into sight. The mischievous bird did not utter another word until the ladies rose to leave, when they were most affectionate and profuse in their farewells. Polly balanced rapidly from one foot to the other, gave a series of smacks, and in a tone of complete disgust croaked, "You make me sick!"

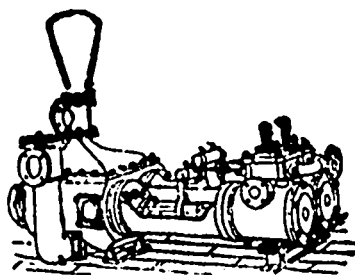
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NEWS OF THE WEEK.

Subscribers remitting Money, either direct to the office, or through Agents, will find a receipt for the amount enclosed in their next paper. All remittances should be made payable to A. 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 sixteen. For \$2.00 in cash we undertake to send THE CRITIC to any subscriber for one year, supplying him in addition with forty five of the most readable of readable books. Those who are renewing their subscriptions, as well as new subscribers, should take advantage of this offer.

The fishing cruiser "Terror," which played such a conspicuous part in the fisheries protection during the past season, has been purchased by Halifax parties, and is to be engaged as a trader.

Lieutenant Stairs, son of John Stairs, of Halifax, is to accompany Henry Wm. Stanley in his expedition for the relief of Emin Bey. Mr. Stairs has spent several years in New Zealand, and about a year ago was appointed to the Royal Engineers.

Manitoba has placed her hoof upon the railway disallowance act, and all candidates whether in favor of or opposed to the government are obliged to put themselves on record, as prepared to annul this obnoxious clause in the agreement with the C. P. Railway Company.

General Middleton has been interviewed by an enterprising reporter as to the prospects of war with the United States, arising out of the fisheries trouble. General Middleton emphatically states what every sensible man in the country believes—that there will not be war, and why should there be.

From a private letter received from St. Pierre it is learned that a very dangerous type of measles now prevails in the Island. Seven hundred persons are reported as having been attacked by the disease, and eighty deaths have so far resulted. Much uneasiness is felt by those who have friends in St. Pierre.

There is great excitement in St. John's, Newfoundland, over the disallowance by the British Government of a colonial act forbidding the sale of bait to foreigners. Newfoundlanders believe the only way out of the difficulty is to make the ancient colony one of the provinces within the Dominion of Canada.

The Carnival in Montreal this week has proved an unprecedented success. The arrangements for the carnival, the weather and the number of visitors are all that the most ardent Montrealer could have desired. Montreal is a live city and is increasing in population at a rate which must astound the oldest inhabitant. During the past five years the population has increased from 150,000 to 185,000, being at the rate of 7,000 per annum.

A few days ago a boy was arrested in Toronto for coasting on the street. The boy contended that he had a right to coast on the street so long as he kept from the sidewalk. The police magistrate sustained his contention and the case was dismissed. Appropos of this, a prominent legal gentleman of St. John has expressed his decided opinion that the corporation cannot compel any citizen to remove the snow from the sidewalk in front of his premises.

The Halifax branch of the Society of St. Vincent de Paul, is one of the many charitable organizations which add to the reputation of our citizens of being charitable to a fault. Through the society between two and three thousand dollars are annually disbursed among deserving poor, and the organization, which numbers among its members some of our leading citizens, has reason to feel proud of its record. For the past thirty-three years the Society of St. Vincent de Paul has been engaged in charitable work in Halifax.

The rolling-stock of the Intercolonial railway is notoriously inadequate for the demands upon it for transportation of through goods from Canada bound for Europe, and for merchandise coming the reverse way. In order to well fulfil its mission, this railway should have its carrying capacities more than doubled without any unnecessary loss of time. As matters now stand, goods going over the line often occupy two or three weeks in transit, whereas as many days would suffice if the rolling stock was equal to the requirements.

The Carnival number which is being issued this week by the Montreal Witness, will, we believe, command a most unprecedented sale, as it is published at the extremely low price of 15 cents, or two copies for 25 cents—all free by post. It contains 24 pages, literally crowded with excellent colored pictures and engravings of the principal scenes of the Carnival, correctly as well as beautifully executed. The idea of sending two copies at such a reduction is a capital one; everybody can afford to buy one copy to keep, and at least one other to send to friends at a distance.

Says the Cape Sable Advertiser: "On Friday morning Howard Smith went on the beach at Hawk Point, Cape Island, for the purpose of shooting ducks. It was just after daylight, and while passing a ledge from which the tide had ebbed, his dog suddenly rushed among the rocks and tackled furiously some animal which began to fight back with equal pluck. When Smith reached the spot he found his dog bleeding and badly bitten by a large sized seal, which was floundering towards the water, while the dog retreated. Smith fired at the seal but in the darkness he missed his aim. He then threw down his gun and seized the seal by the hind flippers when the encounter begun in earnest. The animal snapped and bit viciously, but Smith twisting the flipper he had hold of around the side of a rock fixed his captive there for a few minutes till the seal, by a kind of flank movement, reared up over the rock and tumbled on to his captor whose clothes were torn by the seals teeth, which he said were 'as sharp as needles.' The encounter lasted till near the water's edge, when Smith finally managed to cut the seal's throat with a jack knife and thus stopped the encounter."

Sir. J. E. Commerell, President of the Halifax Graving Dock Company, has been in the city for the past two weeks, and on Tuesday last addressed the City Council with respect to some alterations that the company desired to obtain in the terms of the contract. The company in order to satisfy the Admiralty had agreed to widen the dock from 58 to 70 feet, and had been obliged to pay \$40,000 more for the site than the original estimate. In view of this increased expenditure the company asked the Council to agree to a portion of the walls of the dock being built with concrete instead of granite, and the laying of a hard pine floor on the bottom instead of a granite bed, as stipulated in the contract. The City Board of Works reported in favor of these concessions being made, and the Council finally agreed to Admiral Commerell's proposals.

Baddeck says: "Talk about women being capricious, what do you think of the caprice of Baddeck politicians? We had made up our minds the millenium was on us when the parties united to nominate and elect Duncan McDonald as an Independent, and we had settled back comfortably, meaning to watch the political scuffle elsewhere with satisfied complacency. But, alas, the solemn compact, the friendly agreement and the unanimity of parties has come to grief as suddenly as a house built of cards. Mr. W. F. McCurdy and Mr. John A. McDonald are the respective straight nominees of the Liberal and Liberal Conservative parties. The harbor is at length caught and the ice is already sufficiently strong to bear light teams. The interior arrangements of the new Post Office have at last been completed. For some time, owing to a defect in one of the flues, people had an excuse to grumble, but the defect has now been remedied."

We congratulate Mr. C. J. Ross and his choir upon the success of their annual concert, which was a decided musical treat. The selections in the miscellaneous part of the programme were excellent, but would have been heard to more advantage had they come after instead of before the portion of Mendelssohn's Elijah, which formed the second part of the programme. In the balance of parts the choir is fairly good, but Mr. Ross deserves special credit for the precision in time and careful attention to expression, which was displayed in some of the more elaborate choruses. We have been so accustomed to mere exhibitions of lung power that it is a relief to listen to an intelligent interpretation of such a masterly work as Elijah. In this respect the soloists were not on a par with the choir, but we presume as is too often the case, the solos were reckoned as secondary parts, and their practice postponed until it was too late to give them the careful study they require. The Swabian Volkslied "Come, Dorothy Come," which is a charming piece of music, was admirably rendered and should be repeated if a second concert be given during the season. Steiermarkers Liebschen (Landeler) for the violin and piano was most acceptably performed by the Messrs. Henry. Mr. H. McD. Henry is one of the most pleasing amateur violinists that it has ever been our good fortune to listen to, and considering the limited amount of time which Mr. Henry must have at his disposal for practice, his execution is very creditable. Mr. Henry appears to best advantage in andante passages, in which his violin clearly portrays the depth and fervor of his own musical conceptions. An annual concert from Mr. Ross' choir is not sufficient, semi-annuals or quarterlies would, we think, be popular.

Electors put this list in their hats, it will be useful for reference after the returns begin to come in on the 22nd inst. We have consulted old probability as to the prospective result of the elections, but he refuses to give us any idea as to how they are going. Presumably, both sides are going to win—at least they expect to:—

	Liberals.	Conservatives.	Independents.
Annapolis.....	Ray.	Mills.	
Antigonish.....	McGillivray.	Thompson.	
Cumberland.....	Pipes.	Tupper.	Bulmer.
Colchester.....	S. D. McLelan.	A. W. McLelan.	(Pro.)
Cape Breton.....	Murray.	McDougall.	
	Slattery.	McKeen.	
		Gillis.	
Digby.....	Vail.	McLeod.	
Guysboro.....	Kirk.	Campbell.	
Halifax.....	Jones.	Falconer.	Cadegan.
	Fuller.	Stairs.	(Rep.)
Hants.....	Curry.	Kenny.	
Inverness.....	Macdonell.	Putnam.	
Kings.....	Borden.	Cameron.	
Lunenburg.....	Eisenhauer.	Woodworth.	
Pictou.....	McLeod.	Kaulbach.	
		Tupper, Jr.	
Queens.....	Mack.	McDougall.	Bell.
Richmond.....	Flyan.	Freeman.	
Shelburne.....	Robertson.	Paint and 2 others.	
Yarmouth.....	Lovitt.	Laurie.	
Victoria.....	McCurdy.	Kinney.	Hatfield.
		McDonald.	(Rep.)

The Scotch plaid, instead of overcoat, and the Highland cap, and streamers make a fashionable costume worn by some New York society young men.

The Union Pacific officials have decided not to introduce the twenty-four hour system of counting time, as President Adams looked upon it with disfavor.

Baggage smashers for a few days will be careful in handling trunks. At Pittsburg a baggage master threw a small trunk on top of other baggage, when an explosion occurred heavy enough to demolish the car.

1,800 laborers are on a strike in Pensacola, Fla.

An epidemic of combined measles and diphtheria rages in New York, greatly helped by the neglect of doctors to report cases. It caused 585 deaths, mainly among children.

A committee of the various religious denominations of Philadelphia has been appointed to endeavor to secure from the Legislature this winter a correction of some of the defects of the divorce laws of Pennsylvania.

President Cleveland has sent to Congress a message recommending the celebration next September of the centennial anniversary of the adoption of the Constitution of the United States.

The American Government is about to expend \$21,000,000 in coast fortifications and the manufacture of modern ordnance. Uncle Sam's peace associations will regard this expenditure as useless.

Last year the railway mileage in the United States was increased by 8,010 miles. This has been exceeded only twice since 1867. In 1881, the mileage built was 9,796, and in 1882, 11,568. California built 231 miles, more than any other Pacific State or Territory.

The strike among the freight handlers and longshoremen in New York is growing weak boned. The transport companies have employed a large number of new workmen, while many of the strikers have taken employment in districts where they are not known.

By the new Constitution of Florida which began on January 15th, it is unlawful for any railroad or transportation company doing business in the State to grant a free pass to any Legislator or salaried officer of the State, and unlawful for any member of the Legislature or salaried State officer to travel on a free pass, or to ask for or accept any discount from the regular fare paid by the public generally.

In the United States the true inwardness of the Golden Rule, "do as you would be done by," is understood. American fishermen have been seized in Canadian waters for violation of the Customs Act and for a too literal interpretation of treaty rights. The American Government protested against the so-called brutality of the Canadian authorities, but at once turned around and treated in a similar manner foreign vessels found fishing off the coast of Florida and in Alaskan waters.

Anna Elizabeth Ball, an aged negress, died at Philadelphia on Sunday last. Prior to abolition she achieved a considerable notoriety by aiding slaves to escape into free States. She herself had been liberated by her owner, Colonel Ball, of Virginia, in 1812, when quite young. Mrs. Ball came to Philadelphia in 1830, and is said to have assisted sixty-three slaves to freedom by what was then known as the "Underground Railroad." It was her boast that no one of them was ever re-captured.

Senator Ingalls read in the United States Senate, recently, a memorial drawn up by the inhabitants of New Lexington, O., praying that the initiatory steps might be taken in negotiations, having for their object the acquisition of Canada. For cool impertinence the New Lexington memorialists deserve leather medals; but what about the man who has the effrontery to present such a memorial to the Senate. We will next hear that Senator Frye has presented a memorial from the inhabitants of *Scouhegan* (?) Me. praying that similar steps be taken looking towards the acquisition of our Nova Scotian inshore fishing grounds.

The terrible accident which occurred early on Saturday last west of Hartford, Vermont, has been much talked of for the past week. The night express which left White River Junction for Montreal, filled with passengers from Boston, New York and the West, for the carnival at Montreal, was thrown from the track by a broken rail on the Woodstock bridge. The engine, baggage car, two passenger cars and two sleepers plunged over the bridge sixty feet into the river below. The cars immediately took fire, and within twenty minutes were all consumed, as was also the bridge. The loss of life is estimated at fifty and the number of injured is large. The heat was so intense that it drove the rescuers off, and they were compelled to relinquish efforts to save the suffering, and retreat to a place of safety themselves. The weather was extremely cold, and no water could be obtained to extinguish the flames.

Lord Randolph Churchill has gone to Algiers with a view to restoring his health.

It is reported Rasal Sovat at the head of 2,000 troops has signed a treaty with two other Arab tribes to tolerate no European occupation of Soudan.

French engineers propose to construct a ship canal from the Mediterranean to the Persian Gulf. It would shorten the route to Asia by three days and open a new country to trade.

Gambling on trans-Atlantic steamers has been carried to such a pass that a protest had been published in the London *Times* signed by thirteen first-class passengers on the S. S. Umbria.

Mme. Nilsson's marriage to Count Miranda will take place at Mentone on Feb. 15, and will be an extremely quiet affair, only the Spanish and Swedish consuls and a few personal friends being invited to attend.

What nearly amounted to a panic occurred on the several European bourses on Friday of last week, and national securities fell rapidly for some hours. The cause was that a rumor obtained that Germany was about to attack France, Russia and Austria. Happily, this was soon discovered to be only a rumor, and the Prime Ministers of both Germany and Russia hastened to disclaim any immediate hostile intentions towards their victims. The stock markets soon partially recovered. The only result has been to show the hollowness of the present alleged peace attitude of the European Powers, and the little faith that capital has in it.

Chili is enjoying all the benefits of an irredeemable currency. The paper dollar, nominally equal to an American dollar, was lately quoted at 43 cents. Peru, however, is still worse off, its paper dollar having dropped to about 5 cents.

Advices from Mandalay state that the British forces have captured the entire camp of the insurgent Boshway. Boshway however managed to escape. King Thebaw and the Tsawba of Woontho have issued an address to the Burmese advising them to submit to the British rule.

Despatches from Mandalay state that the Buddhist Archbishop has issued a proclamation urging the Burmese to pursue a peaceful life and to accept British rule. The proclamation was issued under British approval. An amnesty has been offered to all belligerents who surrender before Feb. 16.

The resignation of the Italian Government, which was made known in the Chamber of Deputies on Tuesday afternoon, will be heard with surprise in both Europe and America. Depretis, the Prime Minister, has always been supposed to possess the confidence of the deputies as well as that of the Italian people.

According to a traveller who has recently returned from Central Asia the Russian railway has been pushed on from Bokhara to Simarcaud, the once magnificent capital of the renowned Tamerlane. Russians are slow in reforming political abuses, but great enterprises, such as the one in question, are pushed on by them with remarkable vigor.

It is announced that Mexico has adopted a constitutional amendment abolishing inter-State duties on imports. It is thought that, by this action, Mexico has commenced a new era of progress for herself, and given a new impetus to direct trade with the United States. Inter-State duties have hitherto been a great barrier to this trade.

A London despatch to the *World* says the condition of Parnell excites the grave apprehensions of his friends. During the last few days it is reported some time ago he had suffered from a severe illness, but that he was convalescent and would be ready in due time for his parliamentary duties. He did appear in his place at the opening of the session, but he looked careworn and haggard to a degree that was surprising to his old acquaintances.

1881 THE CULTIVATOR 1887
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RELIGIOUS.

BAPTIST.

The Free Will Baptist Register and Year Book for 1887 shows that there are in that denomination in the United States 1,543 churches, 83,323 members, 1,291 ordained ministers, and 172 licentiate.

According to a statement published by a contemporary, the number of regular Baptists in the United States is 2,572,238. The full number of others who practice immersion is 1,228,709. This includes Disciples, 850,000; Anti-Mission Baptists, 45,000; Free Will Baptists, 77,929; Seventh Day Baptists, 8,591; Six Principle Baptists, 2,189; Unionbrethrenarians, 45,000; Second Adventists, 100,000; and Lunkers, 100,000.

CATHOLIC.

The Catholics of St. Louis annually spend \$360,000 on parochial schools. Cardinal Howard has been nominated by the Sovereign Pontiff, Protector of the Ursuline nuns at Galveston, Texas.

Half a century ago the Catholic clergy in England did not number much more than 300. Scotland had about 60 more. Now the army of priests is estimated at 2500 in each.

The Catholic church in California is now receiving back from the Mexican Government the two million dollars known as the "pious fund," which was confiscated by Santa Anna in 1842.

The Rev. Father Kerr, S. J., well known in this city, and whose appointment as Archbishop of Bombay we noticed in a previous issue, has declined entering the Episcopacy, owing to weak health. Father Geo. Porter, S. J., has been appointed instead.

The Society of St. Vincent de Paul held their annual meeting on Sunday evening last, in the basement chapel of St. Mary's Cathedral. The report showed the society to be doing good work, but there is lots of room for doing better, as money is needed. A collection in aid of the funds was taken up on Sunday before the various masses.

CHURCH OF ENGLAND.

A public meeting will be held in the Argyle Hall in the interests of the proposed new Cathedral soon after the elections are over. The committee having the matter in hand will test the feeling of church people on the subject before going outside of the diocese.

A religious census of England, under the authority of Parliament, is mooted in the mother country. In view of the possible renewal of attempts to disestablish the Church, it is highly important that the people of England should be heard as to whether they belong to the church or not. It is hard for Canadians to understand why any class of Christians should object to their number being known.

Seventy-five dioceses have been added to the list since the establishment of the first, Nova Scotia, in 1787, the last being Arthabasca. The Society for Propagating the Gospel in foreign parts has spent during that time the sum of one and three quarter million pounds sterling on British North America.

PRESBYTERIAN.

Last Sunday week the Rev. Principal Grant preached a sermon at Kingston, Ont., in which he vigorously denounced the violence of partizan politicians.

During this week the Rev. Mr. Anderson, pastor of the Presbyterian church at Musquodoboit Harbor, has delivered two lectures in this city on the Louis Sul-fa system of music.

Revival services are being held in the Brooklyn Tabernacle. Dr. Talmage has assisted him in preaching, the Rev. Dr. Munhall, of Indianapolis, with Prof. and Mrs. Towner lead the singing. On a recent Sunday, one hundred and sixty were received into the membership of the church, which now numbers about 3,700. Plans are now being discussed for increasing the seating capacity of the Tabernacle.

After existing for over one hundred years without any other musical instrument in it than a precentor's tuning fork, the First Presbyterian church of New York has yielded to the demands of its younger members and will purchase a \$10,000 organ.

The position held by the late Dr. A. A. Hodge, at Princeton College, is to be filled by the Rev. Dr. Warfield, of the Western Theological Seminary.

Principal Rainy, the Moderator-elect of the Free Church Assembly in Scotland, will be the first post-Disruption minister to fill that chair, his nomination therefore breaking the line which has continued since 1843.

METHODIST.

The Illinois Wesleyan University has had for the last fifteen years a department of non-resident matriculants, in which follow prescribed courses of study, upon which examinations are set, and receive degrees on completion of their work. The department is modelled after the operations of the London University; and, like it, offers opportunities for doing systematic study to professional and other people who are debarred from residence at the seat of a university.

The Rev. J. Cassidy, ex-President of the Nova Scotia Conference, and at present in charge of the Methodist church at Barrington, is serious ill from typhoid fever, brought on by exposure and over-work.

In Boston, the Rev. Saml Jones is holding evangelistic services in connection with the Methodist Episcopal churches of that city. A deep and widespread interest is reported.

CHIT-CHAT.

The population of the British Isles increases at the rate of 1,000 per day, notwithstanding the emigration.

"Kennedy," Barnum's great African lion, which had been suffering from paralysis of the limbs, was chloroformed to death on Wednesday. It took sixteen ounces of chloroform and six minutes' time to do the fatal work.

Babu Sagore Dutt, a wealthy Indian who lately died at Calcutta, left an estate valued at thirty lacs of rupees, or \$3,000,000, of which he bequeathed twelve, or \$1,200,000, to establish and maintain an almshouse, hospital, and school for the benefit of the native community.

The boys of the schools of Dunbarton, N. H., are on strike against the further observance of an old rule by which they are compelled to take turns at building and looking after the fires. They insist that the Board of Education should employ persons for that sort of work.

A novel sort of protective duty is being advocated in England, and it is stated that it may possibly be adopted. It is proposed to impose a tax of \$25 a year upon all foreigners working in England. It is estimated that the tax would yield about \$2,500,000 a year, and would fall principally on Germans.

The Sphinx of Ghizah has been sufficiently disinterred to expose the fore-paws and sides, and it is discovered that the paws are not hewn in stone like the rest of the body, but built up of brick, in order, it is surmised, to lend greater stability to the foundation. The figure is already, by some, ascribed to an age more remote than that of the pyramids.

AN ELECTRIC HAT FOR NEURALGIA.—An English wigmaker has invented an electric hat, which he claims is a perfect cure for nervous headaches and neuralgia. The apparatus consists of a small battery placed inside the lining of an ordinary silk hat, with the flat terminals outside the lining, so that when the hat is put on a current of electricity passes between the terminals and diffuses itself all over the wearer's head.

THE ANTI-RUSTING OF SCREWS.—The *Moniteur Industrielle* states that a mixture of oil and graphite will effectually prevent screws becoming fixed, and will protect them for years against rust. The mixture facilitates tightening up, is an excellent lubricant, and reduces the friction of the screw in its nut. Why not use clean fat with the graphite or black-lead? Washed hog's lard is the best thing.

COLD FOOD.—It may not be generally known that cold food is more easily kept on a sensitive stomach than hot; so in cases where it is rejected in the ordinary warm or hot form, it had better be tried as nearly frozen as can be taken. In many fevers this would be a decided advantage. The prejudice against cold food is, perhaps, natural, but we carry it too far. Milk may be administered in a frozen state, often with positive advantage.—*Philadelphia Call*.

UNIQUE GAME OF POLO.—A game of polo, supplemented with an original and unique feature, was played with great success at Wooster, O., a few evenings ago. Seven contestants on rollers were given charge over as many large, fat turkeys, to be driven through the usual goal. The birds were to be shown the greatest possible kindness, and nothing allowed in propelling them to the goal but a gentle "Shoo!" or a slight tension of the tender rope which connected them with the contestants. After twenty minutes' careful coaching one of the fowls suddenly grasped the idea and boldly stalked through, amid storms of applause.

THE WOMAN OF TO-DAY.—"Our women," said a quaint observer recently, "are just as womanly as were their great grandmothers, with their long necks and sloping shoulders, with their short waists and scant skirts. The woman of to-day has a shorter neck and squarer shoulders and swings Indian clubs as deftly as her grandmother did her parasol, but she is just as dainty and poetic over her baby's clothes as though a sewing machine had never been invented."—*New York Mail and Express*.

A little newsboy who visited the winter quarters of Barnum's menagerie at Bridgeport, Conn., Sunday, incautiously backed against the tiger's cage. One of the royal beasts thereupon put out his paw and gripped him in the back, holding him a close prisoner. He was lifted from the ground and held in the animal's grasp until one of the keepers released him by striking the tiger several severe blows on the foot. The tiger's claws penetrated the heavy coats, vests and two shirts, and left a large scratch on the skin.

Salt cod-fish has been introduced among the articles of diet of the French soldier. The Minister of War, after having consulted the Sanitary Council of the army on the subject, has ordered salted fish to form part of the ordinary military rations. It must be of good quality, and captains commanding regimental companies and squadrons or batteries of artillery, with a view to avoid any possible accidents, are ordered to watch that no fish is used which presents traces of alteration, as is frequently indicated by a rose-tint of the muscular tissue, or which is deteriorated in any other respect. One of the chief purposes aimed at in the introduction of salted fish as a part of the rations of the French troops is announced to be the help the consumption of it will afford to the crews of the fishing vessels, from which the most valuable recruits of the Military Marine, or Government Naval Service, are obtained. Salt cod may be acceptable to the troops as a variation in diet, but can hardly be regarded as an economical description of food, so far as its nutritive qualities are concerned.—*British Medical Journal*.

[FOR THE CRITIC.]

THE DOMINION ELECTION.

Times of excitement, head and heart,
And strange moral deflection;
Wild rumors in the press and air;
There hastens an election.

Party defects and private faults,
No more escape detection;
In category now appear,
Preparing for election.

Meetings abound: religious? no,
They take up no collection;
The people will the money pay,
Soon after the election.

Part deeds, present and future ones
Are subject to inspection
Temperance and truth are twisted round,
To carry the election.

Nought brings corruption from the heart,
And human imperfection
Equal to human tongues and pens,
Preparing for election.

Our country yet has many wrongs,
And waits for their correction;
Each party promises a cure,
Certain after election.

Speeches—repeal—annex are heard,
And voices for protection;
Who talk the most, and do the least
We'll know at the election.

Contagious now are politics,
O! marvellous infection!
Even ministers are up to tricks,
And some even preach election.

Wisdom and truth and grace will yet
Govern in the selection;
Then will not virtue weep as now,
In view of an election.

The wondrous unity achieved,
And firm British connection;
Disturb not, let this contest be
A true, loyal election.

Feb. 4, 1887.

ALPHA.

THE LICK OBSERVATORY LENSES.

The large lenses for the Lick observatory have at last reached their destination, Mt. Hamilton, in safety. These glasses have been prepared at immense cost of time and money by the Messrs. Clark, of Cambridge, and after being securely packed were placed on a special car for transportation across the continent, under the guardianship of Capt. Frazer. The *San Francisco Chronicle* gives a brief account of their unpacking:

The outer boxes were first removed, and then the boxes containing the lenses were taken to the south room of the observatory, where a fire had been started hours before to produce the proper temperature. When the covers of the boxes were removed it was found that the glasses had not moved out of place in the slightest degree. The wrappings of cotton flannel, forty yards to each glass, were then carefully cut away, and the glasses brushed and wiped with the utmost delicacy by Mr. Frazer, in accordance with the instructions given him by Alvan Clark. This done, the glasses, set on edge on steel rollers, were put in a cast iron cell inlaid with silver, with a space of six and a half inches between them.

The next move was to transport the cell, with its valuable attachment, weighing altogether 600 pounds, to the vault in the north room under the pier which supports the twelve inch equatorial. Here every precaution had been taken to prevent moisture, and here the glasses will remain until the time comes for mounting them. Investigation shows that neither the flint nor the crown glasses had been injured at all. Each was in as good a condition as when it left the hands of the Clarks.—*Exchange*.

MERCIFUL SCIENTISTS.

That the lower orders of creation suffer, there can be no doubt. I recollect reading not long since an incident in the life of Cuvier. He was watching a pair of swallows. The male was seized by a hawk. He shot the hawk, and wounded the swallow. He dressed the wound with all possible tenderness, and replaced it in its nest, while the hen fluttered sadly around, uttering cries of distress, and for three days left the nest only to seek food. Three days after the male was wounded it died. From that time the hen refused food. She died five days after her mate.

I know one of the best women of Massachusetts who some years ago, to shame her husband for speaking hastily and improperly, answered the call of her little canary-bird (to which she had never before spoken an unkind word) in a violent and unkind tone. Within five minutes there was a fluttering in the cage, and when she got to it the bird was dead. I was told at New Orleans, winter before last, by a personal friend of Mrs. Hendricks, widow of the former Vice-President of the United States, that Mrs. Hendricks once killed a favorite mocking-bird in the same way. Other similar cases I have seen reported in various publications. There can be no doubt that great suffering can be caused to many of the lower animals simply by the tones of the human voice.

Concerning the importance of birds to agriculture, what Horace Greeley once wrote is literally true: "The boy who robs a bird's nest is robbing the farmer of part of his crop. The farmer might as well consent that a strolling ruffian should shoot his horses or his cattle, as his birds."

Agassiz believed that there is a future life for the lower animals as well as for us. He died in that belief. It is the belief, in some form, of the majority of the human race. Some two hundred volumes or thereabouts have been written on the subject. John Wesley, Jeremy Taylor, Bishop Butler, Coleridge, Lamartine, and many of the leading clergy of the past and present, have held and do hold this belief.

Agassiz taught his pupils to kill fish by a blow on the back of the head as soon as they were caught, that they might not suffer before dying.

President Lincoln, walking with a friend one day, stopped and put his hand down through the bushes. "What do you find there, Mr. Lincoln?" said the friend. "Why," answered Mr. Lincoln, "here is a little bird fallen out of its nest, and I am trying to put it back again."

"Thanks to my stars," says the celebrated Dr. Channing, "I can say I have never killed a bird. I would not crush the meanest insect that crawls upon the ground. They have the same right to live that I have; they received it from the same Father, and I will not mar the works of God by wanton cruelty."

"I saw a little spotted turtle," wrote Theodore Parker, "sunning itself in the shallow water. I lifted the stick in my hand to kill it; for though I had never killed any creature, yet I had seen other boys, out of sport, destroy birds, squirrels, and the like, and I had a disposition to follow their example. But all at once something checked my little arm, and a voice within me said, clear and loud, 'It is wrong.' I held my uplifted stick in wonder at the new emotion, till the turtle vanished out of sight.

I hastened home, and told the tale to my mother, and asked what it was that told me it was wrong. She wiped a tear from her eye, and, taking me in her arms, said, 'Some men call it conscience, but I prefer to call it the voice of God in the soul of man. If you listen and obey it, it will speak clearer and clearer, and always guide you right; but if you turn a deaf ear or disobey, then it will fade out little by little, and leave you in the dark without a guide. Your life, my son, depends on heeding that little voice.'

From Waterton's 'Wanderings in South America,' I take the following:

To TAXIDERMISTS.—If by my instructions you should be enabled to procure specimens from foreign parts in better preservation than usual, so that the naturalist may have it in his power to give a more perfect description of them than has hitherto been the case, it will please me much.

But should they unfortunately tend to cause a wanton expence of life; should they tempt you to shoot the pretty songsters warbling near your door, or destroy the mother as she is sitting on her nest to warm her little ones, or kill the father as he is bringing a mouthful of food for their support,—oh, then, deep indeed will be my regret that I ever wrote them.

In conclusion it is not for me to decide for others. Every one must judge for himself or herself what is duty in regard to the destruction of any of these lower forms of life which God has created. But whether he cares for his lower as well as human creatures, and how far he will hold us responsible for our treatment of them, are questions worthy the consideration of every human being who believes in God and immortality.

GEO. T. ANGELL,

Pres. Mass. S. P. C. A.

INDIAN WELLS.

From time immemorial drawing water at the well has been one of the principal daily duties of a poor Hindoo wife. In Northern India wells are generally dug outside the town or village; wherefrom the women, old and young (but more often the latter), start twice a day—early in the morning and at about four o'clock in the afternoon—to fetch water home, carrying earthen vessels on their head or under one of the arms. Arriving at the well, they attach the loose end of the rope that is fastened at one side of its circular mouth to the earthen pitcher, which then they let down into the well. The vessel will hold about six or seven quarts of water, which is a good weight to pull up; and the women have to take great care that the vessel, which comes up with a swinging motion, does not strike against the sides of the well, as the least stroke would dash it to pieces. Sometimes one or two beams are thrown across the well near the edge, whereon women rest one of their feet, throwing on it the weight of their whole body.

Of course I must be understood to describe here the primitive wells from which water is drawn solely by the hand. Very often you may see fifteen or twenty women assembled at a well who, after having a great deal of gossiping, go home in groups, balancing their pitchers full of water in the manner previously described; some of them carrying as many as three such vessels at a time—two on the head (one on top of another) and the third under one of the arms.

The caste difficulty shows itself as prominently at the well as elsewhere. Women of different castes must not touch each other's vessels. Hindoos of various sects will not take water to drink from each other. In some parts, at the wells where both men and women draw water, the Brahmins will use brass or copper vessels belonging to persons of other castes, after scrubbing them well with dust and water and washing them. A leather bag need only be washed, for, having come originally from the tanner, who is of very low caste, no further defilement can happen to it. But strict Hindoos, whether Brahmins or others, will never drink water that has been drawn in a leather bag nor use it for ablutions. In villages where there is but one well persons of low caste and out-castes draw water on one side of it, and when they are gone Brahmins and other superior castes come and draw water from the other side. Where there are many wells in a village, it is usual to set apart a special one for people of low or no caste. A dog or other animal falling into a well defiles it entirely; and, to render it fit for use again, all the water must be drawn from it at least three times, and Ganges

water or cows' urine poured into it. A high-caste woman meeting a funeral on her way home with water from a well will sometimes throw away the water at once as defiled. The dead body of an animal defiles also; and no water is procurable until it has been removed from the way to the well, and the ground purified.

Wells are naturally greatly prized in the arid hot parts of India, and many Hindoos earn great renown by making them where they are much needed. Some religious people seek for merit in the construction of large wells in public thoroughfares and other places for the purpose of supplying travellers with water. Very often people use them for irrigating their fields. A large well, built of strong masonry, with a circular, white, smooth platform round it for people to sit on when they draw or drink water, costs from 2,000 to 3,000 rupees. Even the wants of the brute creation are not overlooked by the Hindoos. They make reservoirs of strong masonry, about five or six yards long and a yard wide, adjoining a well, and in the hot season these are always kept filled with water. Returning from pasture or from the fields in the forenoon for repose, and retiring at dusk for the night, whole droves of cows, bullocks, buffaloes, and goats slake their thirst here. Landowners and wealthy men vie with each other in constructing these wells and reservoirs; and princes sometimes imitate the example of their opulent subjects. The average cost of an ordinary well has been estimated to be about three or four hundred rupees. Of course it varies, not only according to the depth of water and kind of soil, but also to the kind of labor employed. Some peasants, who, with members of their own families, make wells themselves, have been known to have constructed them, especially where the water is near the surface, at a trifling cost of 100 rupees each. Nevertheless, even in those parts of the country where the cost is very moderate, the wells are insufficient.

Wells have been objects of great endearment with some villagers. Not satisfied with wasting time and money in their own and their children's marriages and in those of idols and trees, they sometimes marry wells with great pomp and ceremony. In some parts of the country wells are worshipped, and votive offerings are often seen lying near them. Wells in India were at one time put to the most dreadful uses. Wayfarers and others were murdered and their bodies thrown down into them. Criminals were often thrown down them, and even at this day many horrid deeds are done at the wells in out-of-the-way parts of India.

Jung Bahadur, of Nepal, used to tell a remarkable story about a well. A not uncommon mode of execution in Nepal is to throw the offender down a well. It occurred to young Jung, who was bred up amidst the intrigues and plots and counterplots of the Nepalese Court, that it was the fault of the victim if he did not come up again alive and unhurt; and, in order to test the matter and also to be prepared for any case of future emergency, he practised the art of jumping down wells. By-and-by it actually happened that Jung was sentenced by his Prince to this punishment. Undismayed, he begged one last favor of his Sovereign: that he might be permitted to jump in. So reasonable a request was at once granted. Surrounded by a large number of people, the Prince himself forming one of the sightseers, Jung went to a well, where, taking off his superfluous clothing, he crossed his legs, jumped boldly down, and in a moment was lost to the view of the Prince and his courtiers; who, assured of the doom of their victim by the dull splash, returned to the palace. The supposed drowned man, however, was quite safe and sound, clinging to the sides of the well, which he knew beforehand to be plentifully provided with chunks and crannies. At midnight, his friends, who had been previously rehearsed in their part, came and rescued him from his uncomfortable position. After a while, when affairs in the Nepalese Court took a favorable turn for him, Jung Bahadur allowed his friends to resuscitate him; and this adventure did much to restore the future Prime Minister of Nepal to the favor of his Sovereign.—*St. James' Gazette.*

HALIFAX SOCIETY.

BY ADAM PHOOLE.

Dear Critic:—I do not know whether it is much good my spelling it with a "ph." Some of my friends are civil enough to tell me I am not so big a fool as I look. Other folks reverse the opinion. For myself, it is natural that I should incline to the former. Besides, I read THE CRITIC all the time, and, as I seem to myself to be capable of enjoying it, I think I can hardly be altogether the d—, I mean decided, fool some people set me down for. At all events, some things seem plain enough, even to my limited "nous," and one is the truth of the remarks you have been making on the snobbish phase of Halifax Society. It is, or ought to be, very good for them to see "the mirror held up to nature," as you and Mrs. Backslider have been doing. But it is not the first time they have seen it in print, even in your own paper I remember a contributor of yours having two or three slaps at them at different times, a year, or perhaps two, ago. I think he said there were now only two places in Canada in which snobbery reigned supreme, Ottawa and Halifax. In the former it is a Rideau Hall and Civil Service snobbery; here it is, as you point out, the Military snobbery.

I don't mean to say the men are snobs, not a bit. It is the women. When I was a young fool, my dear Critic, instead of an old one, I was not so much a ladies' man as a son of woman-worshipper, believing the great mass of 'em to be of a higher nature, that badness was phenomenal, frivolity a passing kittenishness incidental to the young female of all mammals. When we are young we sometimes see the concentrated fendish superciliousness with which one woman turns round to look after another in the street, but it does not strike us, as it does later on, as the keynote to the whole "nature of the ——" well, "critter." After a time we begin to find out

that the majority are vain, vulgar, selfish and unprincipled, and that it is only a minority who are good and true, pure and high-minded, self-sacrificing and amiable.

Now, Mr. Critic, snobbery hurts more than skin-deep. It demoralizes. Young women, in their frantic eagerness to catch a soldier, forget not only propriety but principle. It is not only that they are loud, fast, flippant and ill-mannered, to an extent that has procured Halifax girls an unenviable repute, and led soldiers to believe they can do anything with them, but there is no meanness to which they will not stoop to damage a possible, or supposed, rival. Of course there are exceptions, but they are not numerous.

And when they have landed their fish, then stand clear, my boys; for Halifax society is not what it was. The old good families are not as prominent as of old. But even if some of the flouncing damsels of the day do smell a little of rum and red herring, no one would mind it if they were modest, natural and good-hearted. But when Miss Calf, whose ancestry may have been of that savor, marries Capt. Macgillivuddy of Her Majesty's Royal Counterblasters, and simpers and draws and languishes, and tries (with signal discomfiture) to give herself airs with women of real blood and breeding, and finds the odor of trade offend her delicate nostrils in public places. Enough! it makes a wholesome man sick.

No, sir, I think the sound young men of Halifax do well to look elsewhere for their wives, for of a surety they will find but few of the domestic virtues extant among girls whose whole life is one round of frivolous excitement.

These foolish women (and they are not all young ones) forget that here and there there are people who know a larger world than Halifax, and are amused at the exaltation of subalterns of "marching regiments," as the old fashioned term was, who would at home be voted "detrimentals," to the highest pedestal of the desirable.

The affectations of the "critters" are a study. To hear a Halifax would-be-fine lady draw and lisp her "Haow d'you du?" is delicious. No orthography can do justice to it. The same damsel will presently tell her mother to "shut up," with an abruptness and a twang that leaves nothing to be desired in the way of vulgarity and impropriety. No doubt parental training (or the lack of it) is answerable for a great deal, for they know no better themselves. How should they—some of them? But enough at present from

Yours truly,

ADAM PHOOLE.

COMMERCIAL.

There have been few fluctuations worthy of note in the general merchandise markets, but the trade situation continues to give out evidences of life which promise to develop into greater vigor as the year advances. As yet, however, the movement of goods has not acquired the momentum that would justify its designation as active. Still, despite stormy and extremely variable weather, a fair distribution of goods has been reached.

Dry Goods.—The dry goods trade has been fairly active in volume and healthy in spirit. A satisfactory amount of progress has been made, and prices of staple goods are firm all round. Orders for spring goods come in freely, considering the season, and are being filled as fast as circumstances will permit. Travelling salesmen report favorably, and the volume of their orders has been fully as large as their principals expected. Future prospects are regarded with confidence. Several of our oldest houses in this city have sent, or are about to send, new buyers to the "old country" to select their fall stocks, and some curiosity is evinced as to how their taste may operate in increasing or keeping up the demand for Halifax selections of cotton and woolen goods. Rumor has it that entirely new combinations of colors for fall and winter goods may be expected.

IRON AND HARDWARE.—The boom in iron appears to have been checked. The large purchases on American account in the English and Scotch markets have so fully supplied the former demand that British warrants are easier. In fact they have fallen 2s. 6d. from their highest figure, which was £2 4s. 6d. There has been no particular change in Canada markets. The stocks on hand are much smaller than usual at this season of the year, and holders appear to think that what they have on hand will not soon be worth less than they now are. We are inclined to go with them in believing that the present depression will be very short-lived.

BREADSTUFFS.—Mail advices indicate a slight decline in American and Canadian brands of flour. This state of affairs has produced an easier, or rather a quieter, market in the West, so far as the export movement is concerned. The speculative snail has hauled in its horns, but it lies *per du*, awaiting its chances to prey on commerce in this line. Still, latest reports of English grain coming forward tend to show that the past season's crop, besides being short in quantity, is very inferior in quality, and has not at all improved by keeping. At the same time the stock held now in England is materially less than it was last year at this time, and it is almost certain that the present depression cannot last long. It is indeed quite within the possibilities that the rebound that even now begins to throw its shadow over the market, may send figures up to a higher spot than they have yet attained this season.

PROVISIONS.—Pork experienced a sharp advance—about 75c. per bbl.—in the great central markets a week ago, and this gain has been firmly held. The total quantity of hogs slaughtered this season is, so far, considerably less than last year, and parties who assume to "know all about it," insist that the shortage cannot be made up in the six weeks that remain. We can, however, see no reason to expect prices to rule much higher in the immediate future than they have for the past few months. Speculation may, and very probably will, push figures up a few cents for a short time, but extreme prices are likely before long to be followed by corresponding lower quotations.

BUTTER.—No new feature has transpired in butter since our last writing. Really good, fine, and extra brands are in active demand, but the supply is short of requirements. Even second-class is hard to find in shipping quantities. Cable orders from England cannot be filled at their figures, as these are promptly met by dealers on this side of the water. In fact the short product of the past season is felt more and more severely as time advances, and the few fortunate holders of butter are shy of buyers.

CHEESE.—The Liverpool cables quote fine to finest at 53s. to 65s.; fancy, 66s. to 67s. A good demand exists there, and business is quite brisk. On this side enquiries for cheese for shipment are searching, but holders expect more than buyers are now willing to pay. The former think that they will realize at least 14 cents soon, and do not care to sell for less now.

SUGAR.—Several cargoes of sugar from Brazil and from the West Indies have arrived at this port during the past week, and a number of others are daily expected. As most of these are to the account of the several refineries, they do not affect quotations, though refined sugar is dull and hard to sell in quantities.

MOLASSES is unchanged and little or nothing is doing in it. New is expected very soon and the market will not be made before it arrives.

TEA—The market is quiet and dealers expect no movement of consequence at present. It is whispered that which ever party takes the reins of government after the now pending elections, a duty will be placed on this article. At any rate this is the impression of the trade.

FRUIT.—From the commencement of the season to one week ago the total shipments of apples from the United States and Canada to the United Kingdom were 700,395 bbls, against 661,186 bbls. for the corresponding period last season—an increase of 33,209 bbls. The English market has not as yet weakened, but we repeat our caution of last week to intending shippers, that that market cannot be depended upon after the first proximo. There was a little flurry last week in New York in prunes, but it was soon broken by the arrival of one steamer with 2,600 casks and 3,500 boxes, and the sailing for that port of four other steamers with 5,800 casks besides. Figs are quiet and steady. In raisins, buyers are working merely from hand to mouth and, consequently, little is doing.

LIVE STOCK.—Hardly any neat cattle have been brought to this market during the past week, and were it not for quantities of dressed meat arriving from the West, there would be something like a meat famine with us. Mutton is dull and low figures rule.

WINE.—The French wine crop of 1886 was very small and of poor quality. The quantity produced was only 553,823,000 gallons, or less than that of any year since 1830, the period from 1852 to 1856 alone excepted. The quantity in 1875 was 1,820,000,000 of gallons. The average of five years, 1872-76, was 1,136,000,000; for the five years, 1877-81, it was 835,000,000; and for the last five years it has been only 690,800,000. This shows a steady decrease of production which, if it continues, will, in time, cause serious embarrassment to the government of France, which derives no inconsiderable portion of its revenue from the tax on wine.

LUMBER is dull, the business being practically at a stand-still. Operations in the woods of this province have been carried on this season under serious drawbacks, because the snow-fall has been slight, and has always, so far, been speedily succeeded by rain, which has rendered teaming in the woods laborious and unprofitable. It is to be feared that the Nova Scotia operators will this year sustain a loss rather than reap a profit out of their exertions and hazard of capital and time.

FISH.—There has been very little doing in this fish market for some time. Sales of some fat mackerel have been made at about former quotations. There are a good many mackerel being shipped, and holders are now feeling anxious and are watching closely for an advance or demand, and are putting their fish in the United States markets to take advantage of any chance there may be of placing them. We do not know of any more demand in these markets than there was some weeks ago, and it does not look very favorably for a demand, except in a small way. The strikes that are now taking place in the United States are retarding business more than one can hardly realize. There is on this account very little property moving, and fish must suffer like the rest.

There does not seem to be the demand in the Western States for fat mackerel that there seemed to be in the past few years. We hope that our holders will not be to sanguine as to an advance, and hold on too long, but watch the market closely, and take any advantage of making sales they can. The large profit that was looked for in November last, we fear is not going to come.

Advices received state the Porto Rico market still continues in about the same way; the price does not advance on account of too frequent arrivals. Jamaica advices to 25th Jan. do not give a very flattering account of that market. There had arrived at the Kingston market on the 17th and 18th Jan., three vessels with 899 trcs., 60 drums, 696 boxes, 441 half-boxes cod-fish, 796 bbls. herring, 275 bbls. mackerel, and 38 bbls. alewives; and a few days previous to the above dates the *Latona, Elsie Cronan, and Redmond* had arrived at the North side, and supplied buyers on the South side of the Island, which has prevented consignees at Kingston making any sales there, in consequence of which the Kingston market has become overstocked. Sales were open on that day at 18s. trcs.; 20s. bxs.; 10s. half bxs.; Round Shore and split herring 20s.; mackerel 36s.; alewives 28s.; but it is not expected that these prices will be maintained.

Two other vessels were expected daily to arrive, which will help to further depress the market. Buyers are fully posted, and purchase only for immediate consumption.

The approaching Lenten season is stiffening the prices of and the demand for fresh fish. We note that in Montreal the price of green codfish has recently advanced already from 50c. to 75c. per bbl., and further gains in prices are confidently predicted by dealers.

MARKET QUOTATIONS.

WHOLESALE RATES.

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

GROCERIES.

SUGAR.	Cut Leaf.....	7 1/4 to 8
	Granulated	6 to 8 1/2
	Circle A	8 1/2
	Extra Yellow C.....	8 to 8 1/2
	Yellow C	4 1/2 to 4 3/4
TEA.	Congou, Common.....	17 to 19
	" Fair	20 to 23
	" Good	23 to 29
	" Choice	31 to 33
	" Extra Choice	35 to 36
	(Oolong)—Choice.....	37 to 39
MOLASSES.	Barbados	30 to 32
	Demerara	32 to 35
	Diamond N	40
	Porto Rico	30 to 32
Tobacco—Black.....		37 to 44
	Bright	42 to 58
BISCUITS.	Pilot Bread	2.60 to 2.90
	Boston and Thin Family.....	5 1/4 to 6
	Soda	5 1/2 to 5 3/4
	do. in lib. boxes, 50 to case.....	7 1/2
	Fancy.....	8 to 15

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

BUTTER AND CHEESE.

Nova Scotia Choice Fresh Prints.....	20 to 25
" " in Small Tubs	20 to 24
" " Good, in large tubs	18 to 20
" " Store Packed & oversalted.....	15 to 17
Canadian, Creamery	30
" Township Fancy	23 to 25
" " Finest	22 to 24
" " fine	20 to 21
" " Morrisburg and Brockville.....	20
" " Western	17 to 20
Cheese, N S	12
" Canada.....	16

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

FISH FROM VESSELS.

MACKEREL—	No arrivals Prices Nominal,	15 00
	Extra.....	12 00
	No. 1	2 50
	" 2 large.....	7.50 to 8 00
	" 3	6 50
	" 3 large	0 50
HERRING.	No arrivals No sales. Quotations nominal.	
	No. 1 Shore, July, very scarce	3.00
	No. 1, August.....	none
	" September	none
	Round Shore	3.75
	Labrador, in cargo lots, per bl	none
	Bay of Islands	3.75 to 4 00
	ALBION, per bbl.	none
CODFISH	Hard Shore.....None Arriving	3.00
	Bank.....	2.20 to 2.25
	Bay.....	none
	SALMON, No. 1	none
	HADDOCK, per quill.....	2.00 to 2.25
	HAKE	2 10
	CUSK	none
	POLLOCK	none
	HAKE SOUNDS	45 to 50c per lb.
	COD OIL A.....	29 to 30

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

LOBSTERS.

Nova Scotia (Atlantic Coast Packing).	
Tail Cans.....	4.00 to 5.00
Flat	6.00 to 6.50
	Per case 4 doz. 1lb cans.

The above quotations are corrected by a reliable dealer.

LUMBER.

Pine, clear, No. 1, per m.....	25.00 to 28.00
" Merchantable, do do.....	14.00 to 17.00
" " No 2 do.....	16.00 to 19.00
" Small, per m.....	8.00 to 14 00
Spruce, dimension good, per m.....	9.50 to 10.00
" Merchantable, do do.....	8.00 to 9 00
" Small, do do.....	6.50 to 7 05
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	1.50 to 1 30
" " do do.....	2 00
Laths, per m.....	4.00 to 4.25
Hard wood, per cord	3.25 to 2.50
Soft wood	

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

BREADSTUFFS.

PROVISIONS AND PRODUCE.

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

Flour.	Graham	4.40 to 4.50
	Patent high grades.....	4.50 to 4.75
	" " mediums.....	4.30 to 4.50
	Lower grades.....	3.30 to 3.50
	Superior Extra.....	4.00 to 4.10
Oatmeal, Standard.....		4.15 to 4.20
	" Granulated.....	4.30 to 4.40
Corn Meal—Halfax ground.....		2.95 to 3 05
	" Imported.....	2.85 to 3 00
Bran per ton—Wheat.....		17.50 to 18 00
" " —Corn.....		15 00
Shorts		19 00 to 19 50
Middlings		20.00 to 21.00
Cracked Corn		28.00 to 29.00
" Oats		25.00 to 26.00
" Barley	nominal	
Feed Flour		3.30 to 3 60
Oats per bushel of 34 lbs		30 to 30
Barley " of 48 ".....	nominal	35 to 40
Peas " of 60 ".....	nominal	1.70 to 1.10
White Beans, per bushel.....		1.20 to 1.00
Pot Barley, per barrel.....		4.85 to 4.90
Corn " of 56 lbs.....		75 to 80
Hay per ton.....		12.00 to 14.00
Straw		10.00 to 12.00

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

PROVISIONS.

Beef, Am. Ex. Mess, duty paid.....	11 50 to 12 00
" " Am. Plate.....	12.00 to 12.50
" " Ex Plate.....	12.00 to 12.50
Pork, Mess, American " new.....	15.00 to 15.50
" " " old.....	14.50 to 14 00
" " American, clear.....	16 00 to 16.50
" " P. E. I. Mess.....	14.50 to 15 00
" " " new.....	13.50 to 14 00
" " P. E. I. Thin Mess.....	12.00 to 12.50
" " Prime Mess	10 00 to 10.50
Lard, Tubs and Pails.....	11 to 12
" Caves.....	12.50 to 13.00
Hams, P. E. I.....	none
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.

WOOL, WOOL SKINS & HIDES.

Wool—clean washed, per pound.....	15 to 20
" unwashed	12 to 15
Salted Hides, No 1	7 1/2
Ox Hides, over 60 lbs., No 1	7 1/2
" " under 60 lbs., No 1	7
" " over 60 lbs., No 2.....	6 1/2
" " under 60 lbs., No 2.....	6
Cow Hides, No 1	6 1/2
No 3 Hides.....	5
Calf Skins.....	7 to 8
" Deacons, each.....	25 to 35
Lambskins.....	25 to 75

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

HOME AND FOREIGN FRUITS.

APPLES.	No. 1 Varieties.....	1 75 to 2.03
	Oranges, per bbl. Jamaica (new)	7.00 to 7.50
	" " Valencia.....	5.50 to 6 00
	Lemons, per box.....	3.50 to 3.75
	Cocoanuts, per 100.....	5.00 to 5.50
	Onions American, per lb.....	2 1/2
	Foxberries, per bbl new.....	4.50
	Grapes, Almeria, kegs.....	none
	Raisins, New Val	6 to 7
	Figs, Flenie, small boxes.....	12 to 15
	Prunes, Stewing per lb.....	6 1/2
	Dates, boxes, uc.....	7 1/2

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

POULTRY.

Turkeys, per pound.....	11 to 14
Geese, each.....	40 to 60
Ducks, per pair.....	60 to 75
Chickens.....	30 to 60

The above are corrected by a reliable victualler.

LIVE STOCK—at Richmond Depot.

Steers, best quality, per 100lbs. alive.....	4 50
Oxen.....	3 50
Fat Steers, Heifers light weights.....	3.00
Wethers, best quality, per 100lbs.....	3.00 to 3.50
Lambs.....	3.25 to 4 25

These quotations are prepared by a reliable victualler.

HILDRED.

(Continued.)

"How do the newspaper people know?" she asked again, after thinking for a few minutes.

"I should imagine that the earl himself has wished the intelligence to be known," he replied; and again Arley Ransome smiled as he fancied how many anxious creditors would be consoled by reading the news.

The earl was attentive. He seldom went to the Hollies; but he sent tickets for the opera, for the theaters—he sent bouquets of flowers, books, above all, jewels. Arley Ransome said and thought that flowers were very well in their way, but that jewels meant more.

The earl appeared but rarely himself. When he did go it was to dine, and Mr. Ransome was careful always to find another guest on whom the burden of conversation should fall, so that the visits were not very dull ones.

One morning a parcel reached the Hollies from Lord Caraven, and when Hildred unfastened it it was found to contain a suite of jewels—pure, pale pearls.

Mr. Ransome cried out in admiration that they were the most beautiful he had ever seen. Hildred sighed as she laid them down in the soft velvet cases.

"Sighing with such a gift as that in your hands, Hildred!" he said.

"Papa, I cannot help wishing," she replied, "that Lord Caraven would give me fewer jewels, but come oftener to see me. I am to be married in ten days from now, and, do you know, he seems like a stranger to me."

The words touched him a little. He had not much heart, this ambitious man; he would have sacrificed everything he had for his own social advancement; he loved his daughter after his own fashion—she was a stepping-stone to gratify his ambition; but he would have broken her heart over and over again to accomplish his wishes. Still the words touched him, and on the day following, when he met Lord Caraven for the signing of business papers, he said to him, "My daughter will be pleased to see you. She thinks it strange that you do not call oftener."

They were mild words, but the earl knew he was under the harrow—he must go. He went the next day and found Hildred at home and alone. He hesitated, when he heard that she was alone; he had not wished for a *tele-a-tele*. What was he to say to her? He could not feign love making, he did not like her. He had always admired fair women with golden hair; this girl had hair as dark as night and a Spanish face. He was compelled to marry her, but he had no idea as to what he should say to her.

He was shown into the pretty drawing-room where Hildred was reading Goethe. She looked up when he was announced, and placed her book on the table. She bowed coldly, not knowing what to say. She had wished him to call, but she felt, now that he was really there, uncertain how to entertain him. Had he been an ordinary friend of her father's, she would have sought for and found some topic of conversation that would interest him. She looked into the earl's handsome face, and remembering that in ten days she was to become his wife, she was silent. Looking at her, he remembered the same, and turned away with a sigh of despair.

"How dark her hair and eyes are!" he thought to himself. "If I purchase a picture, I can please myself about its coloring; in taking a wife I have not even that option."

"I have not interrupted you, I hope, Miss Ransome," he said. "You were reading—may I ask what?"

She held the book out for him to see.

"German!" he cried. "Do you read German?"

"Yes, and speak it. I like it," she replied; "I like German literature, after English, better than any."

"Better than French?" he asked.

"Yes, much better," she replied—"English first, German next."

"I thought all ladies preferred French to German," he said, "because it is lighter and more graceful."

"Do all ladies prefer the light and graceful?"

"Do they not, Miss Ransome?" he replied.

"Nay," said Hildred, "it seems to me that we ask each other questions without waiting for the replies."

"I have never learned German," he said absently.

"Then you will never make an ambassador or a diplomatist," she remarked quietly; they require to know many languages."

"I have no particular wish to be either," he said.

"Have you not? I wonder at that. If I had been a man of position I should have liked to be an ambassador. I like any occupation, any employment that exercises one's brains, and I always imagine diplomatists to be accomplished men."

"And you admire accomplished men, Miss Ransome? I think you must admit one thing—diplomats are seldom sincere or truthful men."

"Insincerity and untruth are not confined to them," she replied; and Lord Caraven began to think that perhaps she was fond of argument.

He talked to her about Goethe, but not with her enthusiasm—he could not even understand it. He was fairly startled at last when, raising her dark, lovely eyes to his face, she said—

"You give me the impression of having been asleep the greater part of your life."

He was startled, but answered—

"On the contrary, I have been remarkably wide awake—I am past the age of enthusiasm."

"It is better to die at once than to outlive enthusiasm," she said, calmly.

"I call it the salt of life."

He remained talking to her for half an hour. They were to be married in

ten days, yet he said no word of love. He did not mention their marriage or even allude to it ever so distantly. He might have been the merest stranger, the most unconcerned of guests. He took his leave, and even then he did not offer to touch the hand that she half held out to him.

It was very strange. When he was gone she took up her book, but she could not read. This man who had been talking to her with such indifference, who had spent one solitary half hour with her, and had evidently felt it to be a dull one—this man who had not paid her the least compliment, who had not even touched her hand—was in ten days' time to be her husband, the arbiter of her destiny, the master of her life.

How strange it was! He had asked her to marry him, yet he did not mention the word "love." Did he love her? Was this nonchalant, indifferent style of wooing fashionable? Would he ever talk of love to her at all? Why were her thoughts always running on that one word "love."

She was restless, anxious, not unhappy, but puzzled. In ten days' time she would be a wife—she would enter the realm that poets call fairyland. Oh, if this were all, love was a cheat, a delusion, a snare—there was nothing in it! It was supposed to confer such unbounded happiness, and she was not happier—not even so happy as when she studied German at St. Roche.

"But," she mused, "I am forgetting—I always forget. The love in my case is to come after marriage, not before."

She liked Lord Caraven's face—to her girlish fancy it was even beautiful. She wished to see it brighten. It seemed to her like a veiled picture. Then, half shyly, she wondered if he liked hers—though to be sure he must have liked it, she thought, or he would not have wished to marry her.

"I shall not be a beautiful countess, after all," she said; "and beauty, they say, keeps the heart that love wins."

A book was lying on the drawing-room table, one amongst many others that Arley Ransome had sent home. She opened it mechanically. The first line she read struck her. It was only a simple poem, written by a great master of poesy, but to her it seemed instinct with sorrow and love—

"Then I took a pencil and wrote
On the mossy stone as I lay—
'Here lies the body of Ellen Adair,
And the heart of Edward Gray.'"

Over and over again she read the words, so sweet and simple and sad. Of course they were lovers, and they had quarreled; his heart lay buried with her. That was love.

After all, there was some strange, sweet, mad witchery in this love. She was going to be a countess; she was to have jewels and money, pleasure and fame; yet a conviction came upon her that it would have been better to Ellen Adair, to sleep in a grave on the windy hill and be so dearly loved, than to be a countess. Who cared for her as this lover Edward Gray cared for his dead love?"

"If I died to-morrow," she cried, with a sudden passion, "who would grieve except my father; whose heart would be buried in my grave? Not Lord Caraven. If he heard I was dead, he would look up calmly and say, 'Dead, is she? I thought her a strange kind of girl.' Then his life would go on as though I had never been. I should like—ah me, I hope it is not wicked, but I should have liked some one to love me like the lover in the song! Perhaps love will come, but I should like it best now."

"Papa," she said that evening, as she stood watching the sunset, "we have but one life—that seems to me a sad pity. If we could live once to gain experience, and live again to use it—I should like that."

"My dear Hildred," said the man of law, "it is simply incomprehensible to me how I came to have such an imaginative daughter. If I had cultivated my imagination, I do not know where we should be now. What were you going to say?"

She was standing watching the sunset; the great boughs of the cedar drooped near her: her young face, raised with its dreamy, wondering expression to the skies, might have touched a harder heart than his.

"We have but one life," she said, "and if it be all spoiled there is no remedy. Papa!" she cried with sudden passion, "do not let me spoil mine—do not deceive me—do not let me marry without love, if love be needful for happiness. I should like to be loved, papa. Listen to me—I do not really care to be a countess—I could be happy without that—I could be happy without much money or without jewels; but I begin to fear that I shall never be really happy without love. I think women value love more than men. Do you think I can be happy without it?"

He never forgot the pleading expression of her face. It touched him so that he half hesitated as to whether he should sacrifice her to his ambition or save her—save her, and let her live her womanly life of love. But the hesitation passed as quickly as it came. What did it matter? Love-marriages, as they were called, often ended in disgust.

She went close up to him and laid her hand on his shoulder; her dark bright eyes seemed to look through his into the very depths of his soul.

"Now, papa," she said, "we are quite alone here, you and I—only the silent stars are our witnesses—now tell me, in the presence of Heaven, can I be happy without love?"

He was silent for one minute. It was hard to deceive her, but there was no help for it. He took her hand in his.

"I prophesy for you, Hildred," he said, "that you will be one of the happiest women in the world."

"Then I am content. You would not deceive me," she replied. And turning away from him, she re-entered the house.

It must be right; her father would not deceive her—would not let her do that which would wreck her whole life. It was she herself who had been mistaken—she who had dreamed that life had more of sweetness and of poesy than it really possessed.

The ten days had come to an end. How time had passed so quickly Hildred Ransome never knew. The preparations for her marriage were

complete. There was a slight dispute between the earl and the lawyer. Lord Caraven wished to have the ceremony performed quietly and away from London—Arley Ransome insisted that the marriage should take place at St. George's, Hanover Square.

"And so, my lord," he said, "let us distinctly understand each other, My daughter is bringing you a fortune that might be the dower of a princess. and she must be treated with due respect. I will not have one detail omitted. The marriage must be conducted as though you were espousing a lady of your own rank."

Lord Caraven laughed; he knew that there was no opposing such a decree—it must be complied with. He made the best of it. He invited his half-cousin, the Lady Frances Riche, a superannuated coquette, who still believed herself young and charming, to be bridesmaid. Lord St. Maure was "best man." A small but select party of guests were invited. Nothing was omitted.

For many days past the great world had been on the *qui vive* about the marriage. The wedding-dress had been shown at the court milliner's; the jewels could be seen at Messrs. Burford's. All fashionable London discussed the union, and all fashionable London knew what the girl herself did not know—that she was being married for her money, that her marriage was as much a matter of sale and barter as though she had stood in a slave-market with an auctioneer by her side.

Yet no one thought it wrong, an impoverished earl with a grand old title and a bankrupt estate—there was nothing for him but to marry money; and Hildred Ransome, the lawyer's daughter, had plenty. There was not one of all the men and women who read about the marriage, heard of it, or discussed it, who would have dreamed of interfering—no one to say, "Have pity on her youth and her ignorance; think before you sacrifice her young sweet life, her chance of happiness." There was no one to plead or to pray for her; on the contrary, the fair women of the world looked on her with envy. It was not every heiress who could purchase a coronet like that of Caraven. Her father thought her a most fortunate girl, and did not scruple to tell her so.

She herself could not analyze her own feelings. She was living quietly with her father in a river-side villa; a little later on she would be Countess Caraven, one of the stars of the fashionable world. At present she was, as it were, on the threshold of existence; in a little while a glowing, luxurious future would be before her.

"You must have a clever maid, Hildred," said Arley Ransome. "Ask Lady Riche to find you one."

Lady Riche succeeded, and Hildred rejoiced in the attendance of a bright, quick *Parisienne*, who foretold that the day would come when her mistress would be acknowledged one of the most beautiful women in England.

"She wants a little training; she will have to travel and mix in society—then you will see," reported Amice. "I have never seen a face or fig re of greater promise."

The day before Hildred's wedding-day the Hollies had been one scene of excitement and confusion; there had been so many visitors, the number of presents was so great. Late in the evening, a magnificent bridal bouquet arrived from Lord Caraven. The wedding breakfast was all prepared; the trunks containing all that was needed of the grand *trousseau* were packed and corded—the labels were already addressed, "Lady Caraven, passenger to Paris," for the earl had decided on spending their so-called honeymoon there; every detail of the morrow's ceremony was arranged, and late at night Hildred Ransome stood with the earl's bouquet in her hand.

They revealed nothing to her, those odoriferous flowers; they were of magical sweetness, but they brought her no message. There was something pathetic in the picture—the drawing-room full of strange shadows, the light of the lamp falling where she stood, a contrast to the darkness around. She wore a dressing gown of white, soft, clinging material, fastened with crimson cords, her wealth of dark hair lay negligently over her shoulders, her eyes were bright with unshed tears.

It was a sweet, sad girlish face; a motherly woman looking at it would have drawn the girl's head down on her breast, and have soothed her with loving words. The morrow would be her wedding-day; the tired servants were all sleeping, her attentive little maid had gone to rest, her father had retired quite early to his room. The morrow would be her wedding-day, and they had told her that she could live without love. Her wedding-day! No laughing young sisters came to talk over the great event with her; no gentle, loving mother folded her in her arms and prayed Heaven to bless her in her new life; no laughing, bright, fond school friends were there as companions; she was quite alone, her heart aching and burning with a new sense of desolation and loneliness. Her wedding-day! Her toilet table was laden with jewels; her *fiancee* had been lavish in his presents, no duchess had more elegant or costly surroundings—yet she would have given all, she thought, for some one to love and comfort her. Her wedding-day! Yet he had not been; he had sent no note with the flowers, only his card and his compliments; there was no promise of the love that was to come after marriage, not one kindly word to allay her doubts or her fears. There could be no picture more touching than this of the lonely girl with her flowers in her hand. She had turned to them as she would have turned to a living creature; her lover, who on the morrow was to be her husband, had not been near, but he had sent the flowers, and in her forlorn fashion she had fancied she should get some comfort from them.

But they revealed nothing to her. The costly blossoms lay cold, ragrant, without meaning.

(To be continued.)

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Notice to Subscribers.
A large number of subscribers have, during the past week, received their New Year's communication from our business manager. Regularity in publication and punctuality in mailing have been carefully observed in this office, so that our subscribers have received THE CRITIC by the first available mail leaving Halifax; care being taken to deliver the mail in the city post office so as to reach subscribers in the most distant part of the Province during Saturday of each week. Our subscribers will confer a favor by being equally prompt and punctual in remitting their subscriptions, with which they will please forward to bill rendered, in order that it may be receipted and returned again.
NOTE.—Any subscriber who does not receive his copy of THE CRITIC on or before Saturday evening of each week, will confer a favor by notifying the business manager to that effect, giving particulars as to the mail days in his locality.
A. M. FRASER,
Business Manager THE CRITIC,
Halifax, N. S.

MINING.

ANALYTICAL DEPARTMENT.—To meet long felt want THE CRITIC has made arrangements with a competent Analyst, who will determine the quality of all specimens sent to be tested. The fee charged will be from 1 to eight dollars, according to the difficulty and expense incurred by the analyst in making the analysis. The strictest secrecy will be observed, and the result of the analysis will only be known to the operator and the sender of the sample. Send samples by parcel-post or otherwise, with a fee of two dollars to "Analyst," care A. M. Fraser, Business Manager of THE CRITIC. Should a larger fee be required, the sender will be notified.

NEW BRUNSWICK MINING MATTERS.—Latest reports from the vicinity of Petitcodiac state that a valuable deposit of manganese is in the locality, which is progressing favorably under the direction of Miner Brown. We trust it will prove fully as valuable as expected.

The celebrated manganese deposit on White's Mountain is still lying in an idle state, the Equity Court suit not having come to a hearing. The present claimant, Stockton, moved before the full Bench of Judges at Fredericton, to have Gould's injunction dismissed and set aside. The judges dismissed Mr. Stockton's application summarily. When the suit is ended, whichever way it goes, I expect to be able to tell you of large shipments of ore from this spot.

Your correspondent has in his possession now very fine samples of galena ore from the Elm Tree mine in Gloucester Co., N. B. This property is probably one of the best of its kind in the Provinces, being a true fissure vein fully six feet wide on surface, and can be traced for a mile very readily. Some assays from this property have given with lead and silver fully 22 dwts. of gold. Your correspondent is now negotiating with Montreal parties in connection with the same.

The gold mining areas at Eagle Lake, Salmon River, owned and controlled by Messrs. D. Hattie & Ross, have been bonded to your correspondent for parties in London, England. The sale is being negotiated through parties in Montreal, and it is to be hoped the matter will go through satisfactorily, as it will help the sale and development of other properties now in view.

Your correspondent has also made arrangements for the bonding of an Iron Pyrites property in Province of Quebec for manufacture of Sulphuric Acid. The sale will, if carried into effect, be made in New York, where there seems to be a boom in such matters.

Your correspondent has lately been offered the Agency for Provinces of a newly patented gold crusher or mill, with patent electric attachment, built in Boston, Mass. The particulars are not all as yet fully to hand, but if this meets the eye of any parties wishing to invest in machinery of this kind, full particulars will be forwarded. The owners claim superior results from this mill and process. Correspondence may be forwarded through THE CRITIC office.

Your remarks from time to time meet with much approval, as to the changing or revision of the Mining Laws of Nova Scotia. Though never having studied them out thoroughly, what little I do know of them leads me to think they are too lengthy and complicated. Surely the mining knowledge of Nova Scotia can devise some more simple and feasible manner in which to deal with this subject. Could not a convention be called, say at Halifax or Truro, and all feeling interested attend and give expression to their ideas. The meeting could at least do no harm. It would certainly lead to good results if properly pressed upon the minds of the government, if not just at present, in the near future. The mining districts of Nova Scotia should respond more freely to your invitation for news from the different localities, and it is to be hoped they will. Yours, etc.,

* * *

CAULETON, YARMOUTH Co.—The Carleton gold mine is progressing at a great rate. The whole mine is worked by contract, and besides the regular sinking now going on, a drift is being started north at the depth of 160 feet in order to cut all the leads and break the ground over head.

From Kemptville comes the news of one of the richest finds yet made, of which more anon. **SNOOKS.**

MONTAGUE DISTRICT.—Since the collapse of the Albion mine affairs have been quiet in this district, but now comes news of a promising strike on the Montreal areas. A small lead has been proved and the quartz which was crushed at the Baker or Anand Mill proved good for 2 oz. to the ton.

LAKE CATCHA—The Oxford mine is looking well, and prospecting with most encouraging results is going on on the Anderson, Cogswell, and McKay areas. The richest leads seem to run into or through a swamp, which could be drained at small expense. These areas are held by parties who will not work them, and what the miners consider the best part of the district, good they say for millions, is now lying idle. The swamp could be drained for a few hundred dollars, and then all difficulty in working the properties would be overcome.

At Preston Mr. Edmund Edwards and others has opened a five foot lead, but the quartz has not been tested for gold. Very rich boulders were found, which encourages the owner to believe that he has struck it rich. He owns some eighty acres, and capitalists seeking investments would do well to visit the property.

THE MIDAS MINE.—Who shall say that a rich reward is not still in store for the Australian gold seeker, or that the gold fields are played out, since a valuable discovery was made at Midas mine, in the Creswick district, the other day? It appears that while some men were engaged in opening up the mine prior to blocking, a nugget of gold weighing 20 oz. 3 dwt. was

turned out. The ground in which the nugget was found recently belonged to Sir William Clarke, and some years ago, when the mining rush set in to Creswick, as much as £5,000 was offered for five acres of land in this particular vicinity. Subsequently, however, on the abatement of the gold fever, the price declined, but if this little nugget of 20 ozs. should prove to be the precursor of larger finds, clearly the Midas mine will prove to be worthy of its name.

Malaga Mines, Queens Co.

To the Editor of the Critic:

SIR,—As I see no mention of our mines in your columns I send you a few items. Mr John McGuire has eight or ten men at work on his property sinking two shafts. One is now down 40 feet on a ten inch lead showing well. They are now tunnelling east and west.

Messrs Bartlett and Wharton have commenced operations on their property, formerly known as the Spidle claim, and at present have eight men at work. There are two veins in one shaft; one of twelve inches, the other about five. The veins have little or no dip, but are showing granular gold.

There are other parties prospecting, among them being Messrs. Mannheim & Hall, who have just started four men at work and hope soon to strike it rich.

The McGuire Brothers at Whiteburn district, since starting their five stamp mill in April last, have taken out (1100) eleven hundred ounces, on which they have paid royalty, and have been working on an average some twenty men. **QUARTZ.**

The following are the official returns for the month of January, so far as received at the Mines Office:

District.	Mill.	Tons Crushed.	oz. Gold.
Whiteburn	Harber & Douglas Co.	25	16
East Rawdon	Rawdon.	535	2444
Dar's Hill, Salmon River.	The Duffarin.	827	262
Lake Catcha.....	Oxford.	494	3554
Sherbrooke	Cummings.	18	114
Cariboo.....	Moose River G. M. Co's.	2194	1624

FIRING WITHOUT FLAME IN COAL MINES.—It is announced in the *Bulletin de la Societe de l'Industrie Minerale* that some trials recently concluded at the experimental mine gallery at Neukirchen have abundantly justified the suggestion made by Mr. Gallaway for the water tapping of blasting charges in fiery mines. Mr. Gallaway offered the suggestion as a possible method of preventing the flame from shot firing entering the air of a mine and causing an explosion with the fire-damp and coal dust that might at the moment be present. The trials made at Neukirchen were designed to prove the value of this suggestion under the most trying conditions. A blast hole was charged with gunpowder and tamped with water, this latter being contained in an animal bladder. It was fired in an atmosphere containing five per cent. of fire damp, with coal dust spread over a length of ten meters of the gallery floor, without producing the slightest flame or consequent explosion.

A similar shot fired under analogous conditions with a different tamping produced a very violent explosion. The experiments were repeated with the same results. It was proved also that water tamping is quite as efficacious for practical purposes as any other, for a heavy block of bed rock was completely broken up by this means. The experiments are to be continued and varied, but this preliminary announcement has been published by the society which is carrying on the investigation to show that a means of robbing coal mining of half its terrors, without at the same time causing the miner to work under irksome restraints and disadvantages, has at length been put into practice. There is no reason to suppose that this system of blasting—the credit of suggestion which it is pleasant to see accorded to Mr. Gallaway even by the foreign society—will not be one whit more troublesome than the old, and the additional expense (if any), must be insignificant.

The *American Engineer* in a summary of the "Mineral Products of the United States for 1885," gives the following: "Gypsum.—The estimated production of land plaster in 1885 was 100,600 short tons; of calcined plaster, 72,200 tons; total, 172,800, valued at \$959,600. The above includes 75,100 tons from native stone, the remainder being imported from Nova Scotia."

MONTAGUE—Mr. Theodore Hale, lessee of the Kaye-Symonds property, has 18 men at work, under the management of Mr. Wm. Skerry. A main shaft has been sunk 300 feet east of the mill on the old Montague lode. Shaft houses have been erected, and hoisting and pumping machinery put in place. Some good ore was struck first of last week, which has improved as depth has been gained. Very rich specimens were taken out Wednesday, reminding one of the palmy days of this mine, when an output of four hundred to five hundred ounces per month was the rule. The development-work shows that the pay "shoot" is pitching or inclining to the eastward from the main shaft, where there is new ground for a distance of about 300 feet. A new shaft, 100 feet east of the main shaft, is now being sunk, and a tramway has been laid and equipped, so that the ore from both shafts can be sent directly into the mill. The mill has been thoroughly repaired and is now in excellent order. Additional men will be put on as soon as room can be made for them. Work on the lodes west of the mill has been temporarily discontinued.

THE MARITIME PATRON,

AND ORGAN OF THE

Maritime Provincial Grange—Patrons of Husbandry.

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

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

We briefly referred last week to the visit of the Maritime Provincial Grange to the Agricultural School at Truro, in acceptance of an invitation from Professor Smith, and the Professor's lecture before the Grange on the evening of the following day. These occasions deserve more extended notice.

There has been a great deal of earnest agitation, especially in the Grange, during the past few years, concerning an Agricultural College and facilities for primary Agricultural Education in our country district schools and academies. Very quietly and unostentatiously that which we have professed to be so zealous about, to so earnestly desire, has taken an almost unobserved place among our educational institutions. We have, even in little, behind the age Nova Scotia, an Agricultural School which furnishes really first-class facilities for obtaining a good sound practical agricultural education, such as the students who are wisely availing themselves of, will find serviceable in the fields and stables—such as all our farmer boys stand so much in need of. There is a kind of education that goes no further than the head, or at most the talk, there is another kind of education that stimulates and improves the industries of a country, that adds to the nation's wealth as well as its intelligence, and recoups all expenditure on its behalf. This latter is the kind of education that will fit our boys to be the men, and our girls to be the women for the practical age that is drawing—aye that is even now passing its morning hours. Well, and are not our farmers sending their sons to this school, now they have it? Are they not availing themselves, as best they may, of the professional education beyond their reach in their own school days? We wish that we could honestly let you take this for granted, but we have been there, we have heard the Professor's lament, we have seen all the students at work. There is comfort and hope for the Professor and for all other earnest advocates of Agricultural Education, in the parable of the mustard seed.

The system of instruction at this school is not, in all respects, what some of us have, perhaps wrongly, imagined Agricultural Education should be. There are no fields or barns where students may put in practice, or see exemplified or illustrated, the teachings and theories of the classroom, but the barns and the acres will come in time. We have reason to believe that they will be provided as soon as there is a practical demand, instead of a merely wordy clamor for Agricultural Education. In the meantime the students are, as a few moments conversation with them will amply prove, finding out laws of nature, to which all their plans and work must conform if they are to be successful scientific farmers.

The pupil teachers of the Normal School are also learning from Professor Smith the first principles of Agriculture, and how to teach them; and the question arises in our mind—Will the people who have talked so much about Agricultural Education in our district schools, employ these teachers in preference to others? and will they demand that the first principles of Agriculture be given the place in school studies that its practical importance entitles it to? We heard more than one Patron say after our visit to the Agricultural School, "I must send one of my boys there. I hadn't any idea we had such a school." Professor Smith's lecture on Dairying, delivered before the Grange and a few visitors, was as practical as his schoolroom lectures.

Before taking up the subject announced, the Professor referred briefly to the work, aims, and prospects of his school. Absolutely no charge is made for tuition and the only expense, strictly in connection with the school, is for breakage in laboratory work. He stated that he was prepared and more than willing, to analyze without charge samples of fertilizers sent to him for this purpose, and gave directions for sampling. The only condition to be observed is that a guarantee of amount of nitrogen, phosphoric acid and potash contained in the fertilizer, be furnished by the manufacturer. The Professor also invites farmers to send him samples of seeds to be tested as to vitality, quality, and purity.

The Professor divided his subject into 1st, Feed; 2nd, Breed; 3rd, Management. He pointed out that successful dairying must depend upon summer feeding as well as winter feeding. Good butter cannot be made out of poor or unsuitable feed. Good cultivated pasture should be provided for dairy cows. The Professor then described the proper method of feeding for butter in the winter, and gave the proportions of albuminoids, carbohydrates, and fat producing elements for a butter ration.

Hay cut before blossoming is best adapted for milk production. The common practice of allowing cows to feed themselves, or to feed on "old fog," or frost-killed unnutritious, indigestible after feed, was strongly condemned. There is no economy in this practice, but the contrary. Cows should be taken up early and fed generously.

The Professor favored the Holstein breed as being, all things considered, the best breed for both the dairy and beef, and cited examples of wonderful yields of milk and butter from cows of this breed. The Professor recommended the Ayrshire cow as being best adapted for common family use, the production of large quantities of milk and for cheese. The lecturer enforced the absolute necessity of providing pure water for cows, and pointed out the advantage of the water being above the freezing point.

After the close of the lecture, questions were asked and ably answered by the Professor, but the space at our disposal will not permit of more

extended notice of this instructive lecture. The Professor was tendered a hearty vote of thanks for his instructive lecture.

The Grange resumed labor after the close of the open meeting, and a good deal of business was disposed of. It was decided to hold the next annual session of the Grange at Halifax. Annual sessions are in future to be held on the 4th Tuesday in January of each year.

Arrangements for continuing the publication of the Maritime Patron were left to the Executive Committee.

We give below a list of delegates from Division Granges in attendance at this session of the Maritime Provincial Grange, and a list of its officers elected and installed for the ensuing term of two years.

After the close of the session Patrons assembled in the parlor of the Winau's devoted to their use, and spent a couple of hours in social intercourse and listening to that sweet singer in the Grange, Bro. Burns. During the evening our host and hostess were presented with a vote of thanks for kindly hospitality received. The brothers moving, seconding, speaking to, and presenting the vote, declared that in all their experience of hotel life they had never received such kindly attentions, and been made to feel "so much at home" as during this sojourn at the Winau's. Our host and hostess replied briefly but feelingly, and the latter declared "she really believed that all the gentlemen were in the Grange."

Delegates attending session of Maritime Provincial Grange, as reported by Credential Committee.

Colchester Division, No. 39,	Jno. S. Miller and wife,	J. C. Black and wife.
Hants	" " 46,	R. H. Creed and wife, Augustus Putnam.
Kings	" " 47,	R. W. Starr, D. H. Coffin and wife.
Annapolis	" " 49,	Thos R. Jones and Solomon Drew.
Pictou	" " 51,	S. Setchell and J. R. McKenzie.
Cumberland	" " 52,	Harmon Humphrey & wife, A. B. Black & wife.
Albert	" " 54,	R. F. Keith and A. H. Steeves and wife.
Morning Star	" " 55,	W. R. Calder and Joseph M. Freeman.

List of Officers: Master, A. B. Black; Overseer, Geo. L. Sellers; Secretary-Treasurer, Edwin S. Creed; Lecturer, R. W. Starr; Chaplain, Augustus Putnam; Steward, R. H. Creed; Asst. Steward, R. F. Keith; Gate Keeper, Solomon Drew; Lady Asst. Steward, Mrs. R. H. Creed; Ceres, Mrs. J. C. Black; Pomona, Mrs. W. F. George; Flora, Mrs. H. Humphrey. Executive Committee, R. W. Starr and Harmon Humphrey. Auditors, W. F. George and R. W. Starr. Delegate to Dominion Grange, W. F. George.

The work of the Grange has been carried on in a quiet manner, yet has been an active influence in elevating the sentiment of the farming classes, and educating to an appreciation of the importance of farming as a business, and to the means and methods of promoting its prosperity. So long as the work is carried on in this manner it must meet the approval of every good citizen.—*Maine Farmer.*

The Order in New England is prospering. We give below a synopsis of new Granges formed, total membership, net gain, etc., during the past year in several States.

Maine, 11 new Granges. Total membership, 15,059, new members, 1,100; net gain, 628.

Pennsylvania, 18 new Granges, 1,726 new members; net gain, 994; \$1,000 appropriated for lecture work for 1887.

New Hampshire, 9 new Granges; total membership 5,300; net gain, 561.

Connecticut, 18 new Granges; 150 per cent increase in membership.

No organization can be permanent which does not evolve from its work and association a better order of manhood and womanhood. This is the chief grand purpose of our Grange organization, and we are pleased to believe that in this particular field of labor our efforts have been crowned with abundant success.—Hon. J. H. Brigham.

One of the Subordinate Granges in Maine has a lady for Master, with an excellent record for last year. The membership has been increased to over 200, embracing the best citizens of the place and its vicinity. Their store, with a trade of upwards of \$1000 a month, has done a profitable business. They have also erected a large building to be used for store and hall, which is nearly completed and will be ready for occupancy in early spring.—*Rural Vermonter.*

An exchange says, "Let the hired man join the Grange," and an instance is cited where a prominent farmer says that since his hired man joined the Grange there has been so much improvement in him that he is worth fifty dollars a year more than before, and gets it too. The teachings of the Grange had led the man to be a better farmer and to take better care of tools and stock.—*Rural Vermonter.*

HOW TO APPLY MANURE.—As you are willing to devote a large space in your admirable paper to the interests of agriculture, and as a farmer of many years standing in the County of Hants, I will, if you think the articles worth publishing, contribute from time to time some short pieces which some of your readers may look at and perhaps gather some useful hints, as coming from one who has had some forty years experience.

My first contribution to your paper will be on the application of manure. I take this subject to begin with as it is the most important material a farmer wants, in fact it is the farmer's bank, without it he cannot do anything successfully. It is not my intention to give a learned discourse, puzzling the brains of many of your readers with the component parts of what manure contains, nor do I intend to deal on theoretical problems, but simply give statements as to how I found it best to apply it, so as to get the

greatest benefit from it. As farmers we only want to know what it will produce, and every farmer knows, or ought to know, that there is a vast difference in the quality of manure. The value of manure consists not in the amount of food given to cattle through the winter, but the quality of food fed out; for instance, cattle fed merely upon straw just for the sake of getting them through the winter, the manure from such fed cattle is hardly worth carting out; give them roots, either turnips or potatoes with the straw. One load of manure from cattle wintered in that way would be worth three to one.

The great want on all farms is the want of manure, and in this county, where there are large tracts of dyke land, hay is the chief product sold off the farm, it simply means so much less manure for the uplands, the more that is sold off the fewer cattle can be kept, consequently the uplands are becoming poorer every year. My experience has shown me that there is a remedy whereby the uplands can be made more productive by what I call a proper application of the manure that the farmer has at his disposal. The rule has been, and is still adhered to, of ploughing the manure under, covering it from four to six inches.

I found that it was a great mistake. After different experiments of one sort or another, the best way of applying the manure I found to be this: after the land is ploughed put the harrow over it once, then cart out your manure, spread it evenly and harrow in thoroughly. Whether it is grass or roots that you are putting in, the crop gets the immediate benefit of the manure, as after every little rain the juices of the manure are washed down to the roots of the growing crops. If it is grain and the land seeded down to grass, the difference in the crop of hay the following year will more than satisfy anyone who will try the application of manure in this way. My rule is, and has been for some years back, to keep the manure as near the surface as possible, and in doing so get the best results, and what is of great importance, where manure is scarce that it does not require quite so much per acre.

A MATTER FOR THOUGHT.—ROADS—How to get good roads may well be discussed by farmers' clubs during the winter, and should be thought about by every farmer. How important this matter is, is shown by the following statement made by Mr. Rudolph Hering, President of the Equitarians' Club, of Philadelphia: A load which one horse can draw on level iron rails will require, on smooth, level asphalt road, one and two-third horses; on bad Belgian pavement, three and one-eighth horses; on good cobble-stone road, seven horses; on bad cobble stone road, thirteen horses; on ordinary earth road, twenty horses; on sand road, forty horses.

Good roads not only save horseflesh, but vehicles. Take what are ordinarily called "good roads" and "bad roads," and a vehicle used on the first only will last twice as long, at least, as one used on the latter only. No one can doubt that country roads would be fifty per cent. better than they now are, if the labor and money put upon them were properly applied. How to have that work and money properly applied is the matter to be discussed now, that the best methods may be ready for adoption when the season for road-making comes. Whether or not the road-bed should be only surface drained, or underdrained with tile, or by putting in a corduroy foundation; whether or not gravel or plank should be used; how best to use gravel, or plank, or tile—these are points to be decided before spring. The farmers' club should also discuss specifically the repair of each highway in the neighborhood. This will lead, among other things, to an understanding whether or not it will be proper to shorten a highway by straightening it; whether a road that now goes around a hill should be carried over it by grading down the hill, or whether making a road longer by carrying it around a hill will be compensated for by the less grade; how to keep weeds from growing in the highways, to seed the adjacent land, and many other points which, thus being settled, would greatly add to the improvement of the roads.

THE BEST TIME TO PRUNE.—F. M. Borden, Nova Scotia, has been informed by a land surveyor, that he has noticed in "blazing" trees, that the wounds made in early summer heal sooner than those made at any other time, and infers from this that early summer is the best time to prune fruit trees. Mr. Borden asks our opinion. The time for pruning is not always fixed as that best for the tree, but the convenience of the operator is also considered. The growth in length of the branches of our fruit trees is made early in the season; then the energies of the tree are directed toward maturing and ripening the growth thus made. Wounds made during this time of ripening heal more readily than at any other, and is the best time for the welfare of the tree. On the other hand, the farmer has, in the late winter or early spring, more time to give to pruning than in any other season. The severity of winter is over, the trees have not yet started into new growth, and, take it altogether, this is regarded as the most convenient season by most orchardists.—*American Agriculturist.*

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's 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, eases Wind Colic, softens the Gums, reduces Inflammation, and gives tone and energy to the whole system. "Mrs. Winslow's Soothing Syrup" for children's 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 twenty-five cents a bottle. Be sure and ask for "Mrs. Winslow's Soothing Syrup," and take no other kind.

A CARD

To all who are suffering from the errors and indiscretions of youth, nervous weakness, early decay, loss of manhood, etc., I will send a recipe that will cure you, FREE OF CHARGE. This great remedy was discovered by a missionary in South America. Send a self-addressed envelope to the Rev. J. T. ISMAEL, Station D, New York City.



Mining Regulations

TO GOVERN THE DISPOSAL OF MINERAL LANDS OTHER THAN COAL LANDS.

The Regulations apply to all Dominion Lands containing deposit of minerals of economic value, except coal.

QUARTZ MINING.

Area of location is limited to forty acres, except in the case of iron, when one hundred and sixty acres are allowed.

Claimants must stake out the location, and within ninety days afterwards make an entry for it with the local Land Agent, paying a fee of five dollars, and shall then have one year, or, with the sanction of the Minister of the Interior, two years within which to purchase location at five dollars per acre, cash. He must also expend within each year at least five hundred dollars in development.

No person shall hold more than one location on the same vein or lode.

Applicant must also when he pays for his location deposit fifty dollars with the Land Agent to pay for the survey, and the returns of such survey must be accepted by the Surveyor-General before the issue of patent.

Should an iron location prove to contain a deposit of valuable mineral other than iron the area shall be restricted to forty acres.

Provision is made for the manner in which land may be acquired for reduction and other works required for developing the mine.

PLACER MINING.

The Regulations for Quartz Mining apply to Placer Mining wherever possible.

The nature and size of Placer Mining claims are provided for in the Regulations and the rights and duties of miners fully set forth.

The Regulations govern the mode of acquiring, constructing and operating Bed-rock Flumes, Drainage of Mines, and Ditches.

The General Provisions of the Regulations define how disputes shall be heard and determined leave of absence granted, &c., &c.

Copies of the Regulations may be obtained upon application to the Department of the Interior.

A. M. BURGESS,

Deputy Minister of the Interior

Ottawa, 28th December, 1896.

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Please send for Prospectus.

JOHN LOVELL,

Manager and Publisher.

MONTREAL, 4th August, 1896.

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Asthma, Consumption, etc., etc.

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Inhalation of Cold Medicated Vapor the principle of Treatment.

[ADVERTISEMENT.]

CATCHING ON.

"Catching on behind" is the crowning enjoyment of a boys existence. Johnny now comes home at night surfeited with fun but compunctions of conscience seize upon him as he nears the house, and remembers neglected lessons and unperformed duties. His father is lying in wait for him with the intention of "catching on behind" in a manner more conducive to warmth than pleasure, but Johnny lifts up a tear stained face disclosing a badly split nose, while one hand mechanically wanders over several bruises and lumps on his head. There is a wan, pleading look in his eyes that would melt a heart of stone, and so Johnny escapes with a warning, and is handed over to his mother for treatment. The bruises are well rubbed with Simson's Liniment, which soon allays the pain, and Johnny is soothed to sleep by the story of Joseph and his brothers. In the morning he is at it again, and it is amusing to note the skill with which he manages to catch on to the most rapidly moving sleigh. With an intuitive reading of character, that is remarkable, he selects a good natured driver and in a second is whirled along, jeering and making faces at his less fortunate companions who are panting behind in a vain effort to catch on. He occasionally encounters a Philistine, but before the lash can descend, his tender parts have been shielded with a dexterity that would cause an undertaker to smile, and he rolls away from the danger with the rapidity of a ball from a bat. Still, like all other exciting pastimes, "catching on behind" is not devoid of its perils, as Johnny found to his cost. While coming down Jacob Street with a crowd of companions, Johnny and the rest jumped on a passing sleigh. As it slowed into Argyle Street it came in contact with a telegraph pole, and the whole crowd were dashed out against the curb. Johnny was picked up in an insensible condition and carried home where he soon revived. He was covered with bruises, but Simson's Liniment was applied with magic effects, and the next morning Johnny was off to school. His less fortunate companions who did not use Simson's Liniment, are still too stiff and sore to leave their beds.

SIMSON'S LINIMENT.—This preparation is a combination of the Vegetable Oils so blended together as to form a liniment in which each component part is especially beneficial to some specific form of disease.

A cough, cold or irritable throat, if allowed to progress, results in serious pulmonary and bronchial affections, oftentimes incurable. Simson's Tolu and Anniseed for coughs, colds, asthma, bronchitis, and all pulmonary complaints, is very efficacious. For sale by Brown Brothers & Co.

Puttner's Emulsion of Cod Liver Oil with Hypophosphites is an invaluable remedy in all cases of consumption, scrofula, and other wasting diseases.

In making cakes always use the Cream of Tartar ground by our firm, as you can rely on its being pure.

Symptoms of Worms in Children are often overlooked. Worms in the stomach and bowels cause irritation, which can be removed only by the use of a sure remedy. Abbott's Worm Tablets are simple and effectual. For sale by Brown Brothers & Co.

CRUMPKETS.—One pound flour, half gill yeast, milk and water to make a stiff batter. Let it rise six hours. Bake in muffin rings or on a griddle.

Probably the most useful of all the senses is that of sight; and diseases of the eye are more distressing than diseases in other parts of the body. It is therefore meet that the greatest possible care should be taken of the eye to ward off disease. It was to this end that Simson's Golden Eye Water was invented.

Physicians' prescriptions and family receipts compounded with great care by Brown Bros. & Co.

WINDSOR CAKE.—Six cups flour, one bowl raisins, one cup sour milk, four eggs, two cups molasses, two cups sugar, one and a half cups butter.

The good reputation and extensive use of our flavoring essences has induced unprincipled parties to use our name in selling their worthless trash. Intending purchasers in the city will do well to buy direct from us. Those in the country will see that our name—Brown Brothers & Co., is on the label.

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Dear Sir, I have used your Emulsion myself, and so have members of my family, and must say with signal benefit. Soon after taking it one is sensible that the article is not a "bogus" preparation, but all that it claims to be.

I am 62 years of age, undertaking the performance of three full services each Lord's day, besides week day duties, and I am occasionally greatly indebted to your Emulsion for the tone and vigor in which I am able to go through the physically oppressive duty.

I have recommended it to parties suffering from coughs, colds, debility, etc., and I am thankful to add that the results have, in every instance, been most beneficial.

Wishing you all success,

I am, dear sir,

Very faithfully yours,

P. J. FILLKUL,

Episcopal Minister.

Ask for Puttner's Emulsion of Cod Liver Oil with Hypophosphites. Price 50 cents.

SALLIE JONES' FRUIT CAKE—One cup molasses, two cups sugar, one and a half cups butter, six eggs, spices to taste, one pound raisins, and one pound currants.

THE HIGHEST SATISFACTION.

PUTTNER EMULSION CO.:

Gentlemen,—I have largely used PUTTNER'S EMULSION OF COD LIVER OIL ever since its first introduction, and have found it to be readily taken by patients, especially by children, pleasant and followed by no nausea, applicable to lung and scrofulous diseases, also of the nervous system and digestive organs. I am much pleased with the results, and it is giving the highest satisfaction.

L. R. MORSE, M.D.

Lawrencetown, Annapolis Co., Oct. 30th, 1886.

COMPOSITION CAKE—Three cups sugar, two cups butter, one cup milk, five cups flour, five eggs, one teaspoon soda, one glass wine, one glass brandy, one pound fruit, spices to taste.

CHEMICAL LABORATORY DALHOUSIE COLLEGE,
HALIFAX, N. S., Jan. 30th, 1885.

I have made analyses of samples of the Emulsion of Cod Liver Oil prepared by the Puttner Emulsion Co., and they have explained the details of their process. The ingredients used and the mechanical process to which they are successively subjected, enable this company to prepare a PERMANENT EMULSION without the use of acids or alkalis. This preparation has been known to me for many years, and when carefully prepared, is certainly a great improvement upon Crude Cod Liver Oil, not only being milder in flavor, but having the more substantial advantage of being in the best form for digestion and assimilation.

GEORGE LAWSON, Ph. D., LL D.,

Fellow of the Institute of Chemistry of Great Britain and Ireland,
Professor of Chemistry.

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Plymouth Gin.
26 cases Coates' Celebrated Plymouth Gin. Just received per S. S. Milanese from London.

Hennessy's Brandy.
150 cases Hennessy's *, **, and *** Brandy. Just received per S. S. Avlona from Charente.

Lerond's Brandy.
25 quarter casks and 30 octaves and 200 cases Lerond's Brandy. Just received per S. S. Avlona from Charente.

Martell's Brandy.
150 cases Martell's *, **, and *** Brandy. Just received per S. S. Avlona from Charente.

Bass's Ale.
100 bbls. Bass's Pale Ale—Bottled by Patterson & Hibbert's—in quarts and pints. Just received per S. S. Milanese.


Islay Blend Whiskey.
150 cases Celtic, Mackie's and Williams' Islay Blend Whiskey. Just received and for sale by

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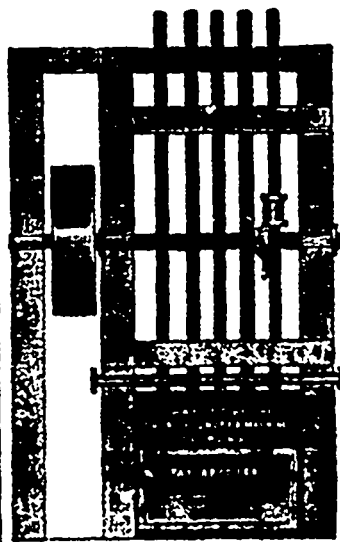
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