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HALIFAX, N. S., JANUARY 11, 1889.

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## THE CRITIC,

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

## EDITORIAL NOTES.

We have a letter from an esteemed subscriber and occasional correspondent at Quebec, whose courteous good wishes for the New Year we acknowledge with thanks and pleasure. Our correspondent, however, assumes that he is excluded from the columns of THE CRITIC, presumably by his own opinion of our "Philistinism," as there can be no other possible reason. This cant term is one of which we have never yet seen a satisfactory definition. Sometimes it seems to us that it might very well stand for common sense. Perhaps we are Philistines, for we, like many more, cannot, very likely, "see ourselves as others see us."

An astonishing charge has been brought by the German press against Sir R. D. Morier, the British ambassador at St. Petersburg, that, when charge-d'affaires at Darmstadt, in 1870, Marshal Bazaine was apprised of the movements of German troops, through despatches sent by him to London. The assertion is emphatically denied by Sir R. Morier, who is supported by an equally clear contradiction obtained from the late Marshal last August, but Count Herbert Bismarck, being appealed to by Sir Robert, declines to interfere, and treats the matter with the insolence in which Germany seems anxious to vie with the United States. The German Government is thought to be jealous of Sir Robert's influence at St. Petersburg.

It is very easy for the State of New York to make a law directing that executions shall, from a certain date, be carried out by means of electricity, but the actual carrying out may be by no means so easy. Not only must certain prisons be supplied with efficient machinery, which must be kept in order, though perhaps not used for years, but a wide variation in susceptibility to the electric current may be expected in different individuals of different temperaments, and under different circumstances, and, as usual, experiments on animals fail to give reliable results. In fact the difficulties seem likely to be much greater than anticipated, and a writer in the *Scientific American* recommends suffocation by coal gas as far preferable. This has been tried on dogs with perfect success, the writer says he has himself been several times rendered insensible by inhaling gas, and testifies to the efficacy of the anesthesia produced. "Under its influence," this writer states, "a perfectly quiet lapse into unconsciousness ensues, the last memory of events being clear and unclouded." As it is, a law of a peculiar nature has been passed, and no expert provision has been made to carry it out.

We gather from the *Militia Gazette* that the reforms of the new Drill Book are far from thorough. A British military consensus seems unable to move at once clear of old groves, or to get rid of one fad without adopting another.

We have received, from a special department of the "Women's Temperance Union," a circular appeal on behalf of purity in the Public Press. Details of "murders, elopements, divorces, and acts of youthful depravity," are justly deprecated, but it strikes us that if the ladies of the Union were readers of, or subscribers to, THE CRITIC, they would be aware that this journal is quite out of the pale of any necessity of appeal, from the most fastidious, on the score of purity.

Last Saturday evening a gentleman, evidently a stranger, dropped by mistake a quarter dollar into the receiving box of a street car. The driver, though it was plainly visible, refused to return him the change. No doubt the driver was acting according to his orders, but it was a case in which a bad impression was evidently made on a stranger, who, not unnaturally, muttered something about "a one-horse place." The street-car service is, on the whole, very good, and there is little cause to grumble at the regulations the company thinks it necessary to impose, but it struck us that this was a case in which a gentleman might well have been saved a journey out to Richmond on Monday morning, if he took the trouble to go, as he expressed his intention of doing.

Owing to accidental circumstances, Mr. Archibald Lampman's Book of Poems, was not opened for several days after its arrival. We have not therefore been able to give it the attention it deserves, but from the rapid glance we have at present been able to afford it, we think Mr. Lampman quite deserves the appreciative criticism which appeared in the *Chronicle* some days ago, from the pen of a gentleman eminently capable of authoritative judgment. We trust Mr. Lampman's volume will meet the success it so well merits, for he is undoubtedly one of Canada's true poets. "The Monk" has a savor of Keats about it, and like Roberts, Carman, and others, Mr. Lampman is thoroughly imbued with the spirit of nature as she reveals herself to the observant Canadian.

Considering that Central America not only is not U. S. territory, but is separated therefrom by the Republic of Mexico, the following resolution passed by the U. S. Senate is, on the whole, a tolerably cool piece of assumption. United States politicians are so inflated with conceit and brag just now that they do not seem to know whether they are standing on their heads or their heels. "Resolved, by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, that the government of the United States will look with serious concern and disapproval upon any connection of any European government with the construction or control of any ship canal across the Isthmus of Darien, or across Central America, and must regard any such connection or control as injurious to the just rights and interests of the United States. Resolved, that the President be, and he is hereby requested, to communicate this expression of the views of the government of the United States to the governments of the countries of Europe."

The Local Legislature at its last session passed an important act, which was duly approved on the 10th April, 1888. It is entitled, "An Act in relation to the Public Health." It went into effect the beginning of the current year, and provides for local boards of health in every county, town and other municipality in the province. These boards are to be chosen annually, and have full powers to act on the appearance of infectious, or otherwise dangerous, diseases and epidemics. They are also required to cause the frequent and effectual cleansing of streets, yards and outhouses, the removal of nuisances, the cleansing, purifying, ventilating and disinfecting of houses, churches, buildings and places of assembly, railway stations, steamboats, railway carriages and cars, and other public conveyances, to provide for the safe and speedy interment of those dying of infectious disease, supplying medical aid, accommodation and medicine in cases of necessity, and generally to look after the proper sanitation of their respective districts. In country towns and municipalities, such boards are to consist of the mayor or warden as chairman, the town or county clerk and five other citizens. In Halifax, of the mayor as chairman, and at least twelve other citizens. They are to meet at least once a month for the transaction of business. Every possible contingency in connection with the public is provided for. The City Council met on Tuesday last to carry the act into effect, and elected themselves. The act imposes penalties for refusal or neglect to serve, and also for non-attendance at any meeting duly called, but does not provide remuneration for the boards.

The usual amount of misrepresentation, coming through American sources, has been going the rounds of the press with regard to the Prince of Wales and the Hon. Artillery Company. It would be a new thing for the Prince of Wales to make a serious error where tact and discretion are required, and it appears that he has not done so in this case. It is now said that the reforms in the corps urged by the Prince were emphatically called for. It is much to be regretted that much of our European news comes to us distorted by the medium of the American press through which it passes.

Except for the respectable virtue of economy, we are not much in the way of hearing praises of the Duke of Edinburgh, but English papers have recently discovered that H. R. H. has developed into a very efficient Admiral. His handling of the fleet at sea is said to be remarked upon as second only to that of Sir Geoffrey Hornby, whose skill is conspicuous, while his steadiness and firmness, tempered with what may be termed "approachableness," are said to have produced the best effect on the order and discipline of the great Mediterranean Squadron, of which he will shortly relinquish the command.

Mr. Gladstone, writing in the *Youth's Companion*, says:—"Will the uprising nations, which are still dependencies of the British Crown, continue for another century to own its supremacy? My answer is simply this:—I hope they may; I know of no reason why they should not; why the elastic relations which now happily subsist should not continue to find room and verge enough for including and adjusting such novelties as may arise. It is true that some great war might stir up a new class of difficulties, but I do not despair of finding the resources of civilization to be sufficient for solving them. In the recent history of colonial relations centripetal has been stronger than centrifugal force, and the vague possibilities of separation have thus far been dwindling, and not growing, with the lapse of time."

Among other matters in which a number of Americans consider the United States would be advantaged by the absorption of Canada, the *New York Sun*, with a charming candor, thinks she would be a convenient cat's paw in overbalancing the South. This is how the *Sun* expatiates on the subject:—"Another blessing would come, though, from such a union, or the advantage of this country wholly. That would be the final and complete numerical overwhelming of the solid South, in the sense in which that term is understood, and the normal, healthy, and rational development to the South's local disagreements in politics." The overwhelming of the South may be a desideratum to a large section of the North, but, like most other American questions, has not a particle of interest for Canada.

"The Americans, as a rule," it is remarked in *The Colonies and India*, "are regarded as a very practical people, but we fear they will soon be losing this reputation if some of their papers continue the stupid talk about the annexation of Canada." Incidentally the same paper says:—"The United States represent a nationality without a name. What can you call them? The term 'Yankee' only applies to a portion of the 'Down-Easters,' and the term American signifies nothing, as it is common to the whole of the continent! This annexation cry is really a great compliment to Canada. It is not long ago since Americans spoke of the Dominion as a 'one-horse place,' and turned up their noses and shrugged their shoulders at it. They seem to have discovered now that it is something worth having, and that it is to be despised no longer. It is certain, however, that what the Canadians have they mean to keep, and that they will work out their destiny in their own way, and under the old flag which has waved above them for more than a hundred years."

The I. C. R. has issued a large and handsome calendar, adorned with a picture of Halifax, below which, in the centre, is the complicated and variegated coat of arms of Canada, with the Canadian ensign on one side, and what people seem to suppose is the representative flag of Great Britain on the other. Of course the red ensign is a national flag, but it is not the national flag. Neither is the white ensign, or the blue. The white is the ensign of the Royal Navy; the red belongs to the Merchant Service; the blue is now a rather special ensign, the wearing of which is limited. Men-of-war used to wear all three, according to the color of the Admiral's flag, but some years ago the useless complication was abolished, and the white flag and ensign with the red St George's Cross became the only flags worn by the Navy. The real national flag is the Union Jack without a border. The Jack with a white border is the merchant jack, and also, hoisted at the fore, the signal for a pilot. The union jack at the main, by the way, is the flag of an Admiral of the Fleet, which has probably been hoisted, for the first time for over half a century, by Lord John Hay, Commander-in-Chief at Plymouth, who has just been promoted to that rank.

The *Herald* (Jan 2nd) publishes at full length another of the "schemes" for "unrestricted reciprocity," which, notwithstanding some speciousness, amounts to a commercial vassalage which would, as is no doubt intended, lead to annexation. In connection with this sort of thing the *Toronto World* has the following pertinent remarks which are, in the main, true enough, except the statement in italics. We shall most decidedly not "come down to annexation at last":—"In the United States there are many ambitious politicians who are constantly seeking to perform a brilliant stroke, both for their own personal fame and for the advantage of the party with which they are identified. To annex Canada to the United States seems the most brilliant act within present possibilities, and men like Sherman, Blaine and

Butterworth, and journals like the *New York World*, *Sun*, *Herald*, *Tribune*, are all intent on this end. Among other active spirits in the States working at this problem is Erastus Wiman, also fired by the ambition to do something brilliant. On the Canadian side we have the sore-headed disappointed politicians and journalists who grabbed the Wiman fad in their despair; on the United States side we have the bright, hopeful, ambitious statesmen who are casting about them for a chance to distinguish themselves and their party. On one side we have despair, on the other patriotism. Our men are trying to wipe their country from off the face of the earth, and to obliterate forever Canadian nationality; the men on the other side are trying to build up and extend the United States. These despairist Canadians pretend that they are not working for the same thing that these bold, outspoken United States are. But they are Commercial Union, Political Union, Union, Annexation. Such are the steps, these Canadians starting at one end, the Yankees at the other. *The Canadians will come down to the straight level of annexation at last.* These commercial unionists and unrestricted reciprocitarians have a perfect understanding with the annexationists of the States. They are all working for the same end. If together they once induce the two nations to make a deal, which side do you think would settle the nature of the transaction, the sixty millions or the five?"

The population of Australia may now be fairly estimated at 3,000,000. The figures given by Whitaker are, in round numbers, as follows, but none of the returns are later than 31st Dec., 1887, and Victoria is estimated up to June of that year only:—

New South Wales.....	1,043,000
Victoria.....	1,019,000
Queensland.....	367,000
South Australia.....	318,000
Tasmania.....	143,000
West Australia.....	42,000

Total..... 2,932,000

And both Victoria and West Australia are known to have increased at a rapid rate during the past year. New Zealand, at the end of 1887 had a population of 603,000, but owing to a season of depression, is reported to have actually decreased some 9,400 since then. Such an unusual state of things cannot, however, be anything but temporary.

Senator Blair is out for war, straight, and there is a certain grasp and foresight in his arguments which have the strength of the courage of convictions. If Mr. Blair is brutal he does not, at all events, attempt to disguise his aims under any specious pretexts whatever. We rather admire the coolness of the following extract from a recent speech of this blood-thirsty Senator:—"We can settle this better now than our children can, and it is wrong to pass over to coming generations any increasing inheritance of bloodshed and difficulty growing out of a problem which, if it must be solved by violence, notwithstanding our solicitation for a peaceful ending, should be solved by ourselves. It is not fair to evade a responsibility so plainly cast upon us by Providence and thrust it upon our children. Political union between the United States and Canada may be looked upon as an accomplished fact. Some formalities remain to be complied with, and these formalities may even involve more or less violence, but until you can rend the continent asunder from Maine to Puget Sound, you cannot destroy the rapidly augmenting fusion now so fast ripening in the hearts of the Canadians and the people of the United States." It is not probable that the tail-twisters will do much harm at present, but it is not impossible that persistent brutality may create a permanent sentiment among the mass of brutal swaggerers to whom it directly appeals.

"The Provinces are dependencies of the Crown, and cannot be brought into the Union without their consent and the acquiescence of England. Commercial union is not openly favored by either of the main parties in the Dominion, but is advocated chiefly by a small contingent of Canadian Mugwumps, and its envoy-extraordinary residing in New York, Mr. Wiman. Annexation is scouted by all factions as an impracticable policy. There is unquestionably a feeling of unrest and dissatisfaction with existing institutions and relations, and it pervades all classes of Canadian society; but there is nothing like an organized movement in favor either of commercial union or annexation. Until there be such a movement, the American Government should refrain from officiously meddling in Canadian concerns. At the same time Senator Sherman has given to the American press the cue to be followed whenever these matters are discussed. Political union is the wages of commercial union. The Provinces can not expect to enjoy unrestricted privileges of trade with the United States without severing the political ties that connect them with Great Britain, and entering the Union as sovereign States. On those terms they will be welcomed, and will be allowed a full measure of home rule. On any other terms commercial union is not to be considered a practical question." The above utterance of the *N. Y. Tribune* is well worth attention. It is, at all events, in better tone and taste than that of the *Chicago Times*, which thinks "a foreign war is a long-felt want," or that of the *Buffalo Courier*, which says "this country recognizes British rule on this continent only because it is based on the consent of the governed." Among a great deal of insufferable insolence put forth by a number of American papers, is one statement from the *Indianapolis News* which has the merit of unquestionable truth—all but the last word, Canada being quite unconscious of "jealousy." "The feeling of Canada over Congressman Butterworth's annexation resolution seems to be a mixture of disgust, resentment and jealousy."

CHIT-CHAT AND CHUCKLES.

MIRAGE.

We'll read that book, we'll sing that song;  
But when? Oh, when the days are long;  
When thoughts are free and voices clear;  
Some happy time within the year—  
The days troop by with noiseless tread,  
The song unending; the book unread.

We'll see that friend, and make him feel  
The weight of friendship, true as steel;  
Some flower of sympathy bestow—  
But time sweeps on with steady flow,  
Until with quick, re-rosachful tear,  
We lay our flowers upon his bier.

And still we walk the desert sands,  
And still with trifles fill our hands,  
While ever, just beyond our reach,  
A fairer purpose shows to each.  
The deeds we have not done, but willed,  
Remain to haunt us—unfulfilled.

Some one says, "no thoroughly occupied man was ever miserable." The man who wrote that probably never attempted to keep twin babies quiet while their mother went to church.

It was when the late Prof. Proctor was an English school examiner that a little girl defined the difference between a man and a brute as follows:—"A brute is an imperfect beast. Man is a perfect beast."

Governess (to little Miss Ethel, who is making famous progress in mythology): "Now, Ethel, what do you know of Minerva? Ethel: "Minerva was the goddess of wisdom. She never married."

Never even scold a child for an accident—the breaking of a glass, the tearing of a garment—and listen to its explanations. Don't frighten the little ones from making you their confidant; don't scare them into falsehood.

Bobby: "Pa, what's the difference between a campaign fund and a corruption fund?" "Father: "There's a mighty big difference. A campaign fund is what our party spends and a corruption fund is what the other party uses."

Among the products which science has put to valuable service is the nettle, a weed which is now even being cultivated in some parts of Europe, its fibre proving useful for a variety of textile fabrics. In Dresden a thread is produced from it so fine that a length of 60 miles weighs only 2½ pounds.

"What is a word?" asks a gentleman. Well that depends. If it is a "word to the people, it is generally about a column article in a newspaper for which said newspaper does not get a cent. If it is "one word more in a sermon," it amounts to half an hour's recapitulation of what has already been said, including a collection.

A man who "stuck up" one of the banks in Balmain, near Sydney, the other day, was captured after a short run, and when interrogated by the police as to his name and occupation, gave the former as Henry Dominic De Vere, and, in regard to the latter, said that his profession was that of a "bank robber at present, previously a gentleman." This is charmingly candid. He was not like the Irishman who was brought up before a New Zealand court once, and who, when asked what avocation he followed, replied that he was "a Roman Catholic."

It is related of a clergyman, who was the happy father of a charming and beautiful daughter, that one day while preparing his Sunday discourse he was suddenly called away from his desk on a mission of mercy. So imperative was the summons that he left unfinished this sentence:

"I never see a young man of splendid physique and the promise of a glorious manhood almost realized, but my heart is filled with rapture and delight."

His daughter, happening in the study, saw the sermon and read the words. Sitting down, she wrote underneath—

"Them's my sentiments, papa, exactly!"

Some years ago while shooting in northern Michigan I was seated on a runway back in the woods waiting for something to turn up, and had kindled a little fire to warm my stiffening fingers, when I noticed a flock of birds of a kind unknown to me at that time, in the surrounding trees. They were chockfull of curiosity and impudence, and seemed to be chattering at me; and every little while one would hop on some twig a little nearer, and all seemed to take a good deal of interest in what I was doing, and what I had a fire for. Finally, they approached quite near, and taking some crackers from my pocket, I broke them in pieces, tossing them to the birds, and they at once scrambled down to where the dainty morsels were, and proceeded to walk off with them.

I then put some pieces on top of a stump beside me, and it was not long before they alighted within two or three feet of where I was sitting, seemingly not in the least afraid, and picked up pieces of cracker. They continued doing this until finally they became so bold that they would take the pieces from between my fingers, and one, more courageous than the others, seemed to be quite vexed because I pinched the cracker and would not let it get it at once, and twisted his head and pulled at it three or four times, as you have seen chickens do when you held something tightly between your fingers for them to take. I was very much interested in their actions and anxious to know what kind they were. Later I found that they were the gray jays.—*Forest and Stream.*

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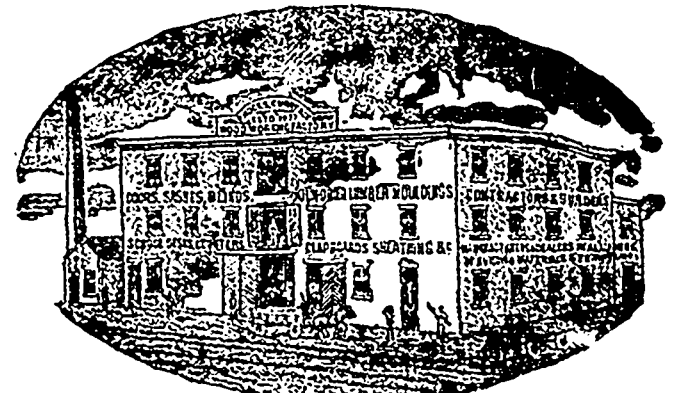
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## NEWS OF THE WEEK.

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

Those who wish to secure pleasant and profitable reading matter for the winter evenings should note our exceptional offer which appears on page 15. For \$2.50 in cash we undertake to send *THE CRITIC* to any subscriber for one year, supplying him in addition with seventy-nine of the most readable of readable books. Those who are renewing their subscriptions, as well as new subscribers, should take advantage of this offer.

**We learn that many of our subscribers are awaiting a visit from an Agent for THE CRITIC to pay their subscriptions. This course may entail considerable delay, and we would request those who may be thus in suspense to remit the amounts due by Registered letter or Post Office Order. This only involves an expenditure of 2 (two) cents, and the money is transmitted at our risk. Any amount under \$1.00 may be remitted in Postage Stamps.**

Shelburne owns 120 vessels, aggregating 10,455 tons.

The Costs and Fees Commission of Halifax has begun its sittings.

Pictou Harbor is free of ice. It is open later than known for many years.

There is some talk in Wolfville of having the village lighted by electricity.

A cable states that Chief Justice Allen of New Brunswick has been knighted.

The net debt of Canada decreased three hundred thousand dollars in December.

Lunenburg's export reached 872,000, of which three-quarters of a million were fisheries.

A new Post Office has been established at Carr's Brook, Economy, in Colchester County.

Mr. C. W. Knowles, late editor of the *Windsor Tribune*, has been heard from at Kansas City.

The business portion of Deloraine, Manitoba, has been lately destroyed by fire, loss \$70,000.

The steamer *Delta* and three schooners are undergoing repairs on the Chebucto Marine Railway.

Big John, the Indian pilot, with some companions, shot the Lachine Rapids in a boat on New Year's day.

T. S. Brown, one of the leaders of the Canadian rebellion of 1837-38, died in Montreal on the 27th ult. aged 88 year.

Miss Price, the St. John damsel who is suing druggist Tremaine of Amherst, for breach of promise, wants \$15,000 damages.

The City Council at its session on Tuesday granted licenses to 112 applicants recommended by the Chief License Inspector.

S. G. Chambers, Truro, is importing from the States a dynamo to run 800 incandescent lights. He has more orders than he can fill.

A. J. Horan, the handsome son of an English clergyman at Ottawa, has been converted to Catholicism. Sir John Thompson was his sponsor.

Mr. Benjamin A. Smith, a well known dry goods merchant of Halifax, died last Saturday evening after a short illness of congestion of the lungs.

All the vacancies in the Quebec legislative assembly have been filled by the recent elections, and the government count upon having a majority of 18 in a full house.

Surveyor Ogilvie met Lord Lonsdale and his party at a point on the MacKenzie River, 1000 miles north of Edmonton. His Lordship still had his face set northward.

The Canada Gazette contains the application of the City of Toronto to remove all street poles and compel the placing of all telegraph and electric light wires underground.

Digby, which hitherto did nearly all its trade with the States, this year shipped over \$30,000 worth of finnan haddies to the upper provinces, via St. John or Yarmouth and Coston.

The railway committee of the privy council decided that the Northern Pacific crossing be allowed, but to be built by the Canadian Pacific at the expense of the Manitoba government.

The Dominion Evangelical Alliance has adopted a resolution calling upon the Dominion Government to disallow the Jesuits' Compensation Bill passed at the last session of the Quebec Legislature.

The shipping of the port of North Sydney shows a continued increase, 473 steamers arrived during the year. The total arrivals, including vessels for order, was 1300, representing 400,000 tons of shipping.

Six stores and forty houses were built in Yarmouth during the year 1888, during the year Yarmouth built or purchased 1898 tons of shipping, transferred to other ports, 1203 tons, sold 2715, lost 1652 tons.

During the past month or so a thousand pounds of spruce gum were shipped from Shubenacadie Station to the United States. It brings a dollar a pound in the Boston market, being chiefly used in the manufacture of the finer quality of rubber goods.

Work on the ice palace at Montreal has begun and it is being pushed as quickly as the moderate weather will allow. The blocks of ice now being used are about 18 inches in thickness, and are cut from the Lachine canal. The palace will cost about \$25,000 and will, it is expected, be a grand sight when lighted by electricity.

Hon. J. A. Chapleau is staying at Paris, and will shortly undergo an operation. It is expected that after fourteen days rest, he will be able to return to Canada for the opening of the Dominion Parliament.

Incorporation carried at Springhill by a majority of 15. The vote stood 114 for, 99 against. The fight was energetic. Both sides worked hard. Antigonish decided for incorporation by the small majority of three.

There is about three-quarters of a mile of empty box cars on the railway track between the Woodside Sugar Refinery and Dartmouth. The barque *Tricade Tabacocha* is discharging a large quantity of sugar to be stored in the refinery.

Last week an officer of the garrison, wishing to transact some business with the Bank of Montreal, took his horse in with him, much to the surprise of the clerks, some of whom were more astonished than pleased to have their precincts invaded by an equine visitor.

In another column will be seen the advertisement of Messrs Wiltshire & Co., Real Estate agents, Kentville; these gentlemen are, we understand, doing a good work for the Annapolis valley by placing its advantages before intending English Emigrants. They also negotiate mortgages, and loan money on real estate.

The St. John Board of Trade last week passed resolutions urging the claims of Canadian ports as a terminus of the Atlantic mail service, urging the federal government to make necessary provision for a better bay service, and asking the renewal of subsidies for steamers to Minas Bay, and the ports of Grand Manan and Yarmouth.

The N. S. Telephone Co. now has a line connecting Amherst, Springhill and Parraboro with Halifax, and has opened business. Seymour Miner is in charge of the office at Amherst. On one evening the Cornet band was playing 50 yards away from the Amherst Office, and the music was heard by the Halifax operator, 139 miles away.

It is learned that the Dominion Government has no intention at present of changing the regulation relating to the granting of licenses to United States fishermen, and that no new instructions in that direction have been issued. Those licenses which were taken out last year expired recently, and it is understood that no objections will be raised to their renewal.

It has been stated that young girls undergoing sentences for petty crimes at Rockhead are not sufficiently kept apart from the male prisoners, while the City Charter of 1876 provides for a juvenile reformatory. Alderman Hechler drew the attention of the City Council to this matter, and rightly urged the carrying out of the provision made in the charter.

The revenue of Canada for the first half of the fiscal year, from 1st July, to 31st December, aggregates \$18,865,000, an increase of half a million over the same period in 1887. The expenditure was \$14,600,000, a decrease of \$400,000 over the like period in 1887. The surplus is four million two hundred thousand, against two million three hundred thousand last year.

The merchants of Kentville say a brisker trade was done in their town during the past holiday season than ever before. Kentville streets are shortly to be lighted with oil lamps. Mr. Munro, proprietor of the skating rink in the rival village Wolfville, is desirous of lighting its streets and buildings with electricity. The Wolfville rink has had an electric light for three winters.

—The Regina Journal submitted to Hon. Oliver Mowat the question of the constitutionality of the proposition that the North West Assembly should take a plebiscite to decide the question of Prohibition or license. His reply by telegraph was:—"Why not pass an ordinance and leave it to the courts to determine validity? The question of constitutionality is not clear for or against."

J. Drew Gray, late colonel in the Ottoman army, and for eighteen years war correspondent of the *London Daily Telegraph*, writes to the Montreal press about recent adverse comment upon the Canadian volunteers. He says: "Canadians to-day possess many volunteer and militia regiments which could take the field alongside of any line regiments in Europe with credit and confidence."

We have received from Alfred J. Bell, Esq., General Insurance Agent, 105 Hollis St., two of the very prettiest calendars we have seen this year. Tho' not large they are clear, and the colored engravings are exceedingly good. Also a very pretty one (*Doctor Cupid's Advice*) from Leeming & Co., Agents in Canada for Nestle's Food. Messrs T. & E. Kenny have issued a calendar of more than ordinary utility, being a memorandum book as well, with space for short memoranda for every day in the year. We notice another from J. P. Cox, Millers Agent and Commission merchant, Pickford & Black's wharf.

We have to acknowledge, with thanks, the courtesy of Messrs S. C. Griggs & Co., Publishers, 87 Wabash Avenue, Chicago, in sending us a copy of Holcomb's translation of "*Frithiof's Saga*." It has been got up by the Chicago house in a shape worthy of the poem, and ought to find its way to every bookcase or drawing-room table. The translation, tho' not, as we think, without some slight flaws, is an excellent one, and if not absolutely the best extant, stands on at least equal grounds with any other. We have not space this week to enter on any detail of criticism, but hope to be able to touch on some points at an early date. Meanwhile we commend it to every man and woman of taste.

Hitherto we have been accustomed to expect children's papers to come from the United States. We have now to welcome one, however, printed in our own country; and if it keeps up to the standard of the sample before us, the imported article will have to devise some measure of "retaliation," or get out. It is well printed on toned paper, has eight pages, is well illustrated and carefully edited, and the stories and other reading matter, while

of a high order, are just the kind to attract and delight our boys and girls. Semi-monthly, fifty cents a year. The proposal is to distribute it in school clubs,—it could not be supplied at the price under any other plan. The kind co-operation of teachers will thus be necessary to success. Samples are sent to all teachers; but if any have not received a copy to date, a post card to the Publishers, *Grip Publishing Co.*, Toronto, will secure it.

The Halifax Chamber of Commerce held an important meeting on Wednesday, the first for some five months, to consider the default of the contracting parties for the building of the Short Line to carry out, or even begin, the construction. This is a vital question for Halifax, and the members present were unanimous in sentiment on the question, and resolved to send a delegate with those of the other cities to urge the Government to take prompt steps in the matter. The question of the "missing link," by the absence of which Halifax is so sorely handicapped in her legitimate traffic, was also discussed, and a resolution was passed that it is the duty of the Dominion Government to alleviate the disadvantage to which Halifax is subjected by appropriating a sufficient subsidy to ensure a fast Atlantic Mail Service.

The "John S. Moulton Dramatic Company," supporting Jay Hunt, opened at the Academy of Music on Monday for a two weeks engagement. The opening play, "My Best Girl," drew a large audience in spite of the storm. On Tuesday evening Rip Van Winkle was given, Mr. Jay Hunt assuming the difficult role of Rip, a character which Jefferson has made famous, and acquitted himself in a most creditable manner. His acting was a wonderful piece of mimicry, and it was sometimes hard to believe that Jefferson himself was not before the audience. The support was very good, Miss Newcombe making a capital Gretchen, and the rest of the Company being far above the average. In the large audience there was a notable absence of the fashionable element, which may be accounted for by social attractions elsewhere. The company announce a varied bill of fare, there being an entire change nightly. The performances so far given are of a character warranting public support. On Wednesday the *Collen Bawn*, and on Thursday, *Our Boys*, were adequately presented.

The canal traffic of New York State for 1888 shows a decrease of 610,857 tons as compared with 1887.

The foreign trade of the United States has declined 25 per cent in five years, and the foreign trade of Canada is almost double that of the United States per capita.

Northern California expected to have an opportunity of observing the total eclipse of the sun on new year's day, and had it, some excellent photographs were taken.

The Mississippi river steamer John H. Hanns, with a cargo of cotton, was burned above New Orleans, Christmas morning, and nearly 100 of her passengers and crew were lost.

Dr. Tanner, the forty days faster, is engaged to the daughter of a celebrated millionaire stockholder of Paris.

Two summonses have been served upon William O'Brien, M. P., for conspiring to induce tenants not to pay rent.

General Boulanger is to offer for a vacant seat in the representation of the city of Paris, with every prospect of election.

The Lord Mayor of London will give a farewell banquet in honor of United States Minister and Mrs. Phelps on January 24th.

Mr. Robert Stevenson, engineer, of Glasgow, is the last one to claim an invention which will drive ocean ships up to forty knots an hour.

Mr. Gladstone and Lord Randolph Churchill recently purchased over fifty copies of "Little Lord Fauntleroy" for presents among their youthful friends.

Prado, the murderer of Marie Agreant, was guillotined at Patis on Friday. He protested his innocence to the last, and refused to disclose his real name.

Latest advice from Australia report that the great strike of coal miners at Newcastle, N. S. W., is now ended. The strike lasted three months. Eight thousand men were idle and \$1,500,000 lost by master and men.

Hon. Cornelia Prettie, sister of Lord Dunally, was killed the other day while hunting near Meagher, Co. Tipperary. The horse stumbled, throwing her from the saddle and dragging her some distance head downwards.

Advices from Russia say that 175 persons were frozen to death at Ekaterinburg, in the district of Perm, on Dec. 27. The Black, Azof and Caspian seas are frozen. Railway disasters are reported at Baku and other places in Caucasus.

In the department of Somme, Gen. Motanden, Boulangist, has been elected a member of the Chamber of Deputies by a majority of 7539, in the department of Charente M. Dwfort, Boulangist, has been elected by a majority of 9449 over the Republican candidate.

Anarchy reigns supreme in Hayti. General Legitime is maintaining a rule of iron at Port-au-Prince, but keeps a swift gunboat to escape in if General Hyppolite, who has continually defeated his forces in the field, and is rapidly advancing, becomes too strong for him, as seems most likely.

Recent Madrid advices show that the Spanish Government is awaiting the arrival of the Canadian Commissioner to enter into negotiations to promote trade between Canada and the Spanish West Indies. The political situation in Spain may possibly hamper the present progress of negotiations.

TO THE DEAF.—A Person cured of Deafness and noises in the head of 23 years standing by a simple remedy, will send a description of it FREE to any Person who applies to NICHOLSON, 30 St. John St., Montreal.

CHESSE.

All communications for this department should be addressed—*Chess Editor, Windsor, N. S.*

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

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

Solution to Problem No. 59.—B to Kt6.

Solution to Problem No. 60.—B to B4.

Solution to Problem No. 61.—Q to B3.

Solutions to the above received from Mrs. H. Moseley and J. W. Wallace.

Winners of Prize Competition, "Critic":—

1st Prize.—Mrs. H. Moseley, Dartmouth, 55 solutions.

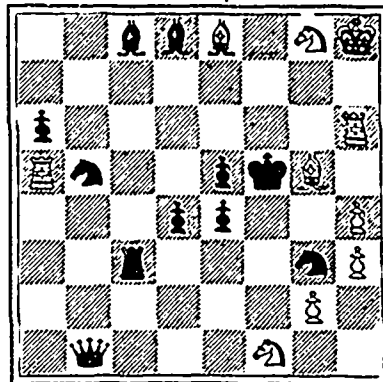
2nd Prize.—J. W. Wallace, Wolfville, 48 solutions, to whom we offer our congratulations.

The prizes will be mailed to winners to-morrow, and we shall be glad to receive their acknowledgements.

In Problem No. 62, published last week, there were only 9 white pieces instead of 10, as marked at foot of board.

PROBLEM No. 63.

By James Rayner (Leeds.)  
BLACK—10 pieces.



WHITE—11 pieces.

White to play and mate in 2 moves.

GAME No. 46.

Played in the tenth round of the Bradford International Tourney.

FRENCH DEFENCE.

WHITE. BLACK.  
J. H. Blackburne. A. Burn.

- 1 P to K4 P to K3
- 2 P to Q4 P to Q4
- 3 Kt to QB3 Kt to KB3
- 4 P to K5 a KKt to Q2
- 5 P to B4 a P to QB4
- 6 P takes P a P takes P
- 7 Q to Kt4 b Castles c
- 8 B to Q3 P to B4
- 9 Q to R3 Kt to QB3
- 10 Kt to B3 R to K sq d
- 11 P to KKt4 P to KKt3
- 12 P to QR3 e P to QR3 f
- 13 B to Q2 P to QKt4
- 14 P takes P KtP takes P
- 15 Castles QR Kt to B sq
- 16 P to Kt sq ch B takes R
- 17 R takes B ch Kt to Kt3
- 18 Kt to K2 R to R2
- 19 Kt to Kt3 KR to K2
- 20 Kt to R5 K to R sq
- 21 Kt to B6 g R to KKt2
- 22 Q to R6 Kt to B sq
- 23 Kt to Kt5 h R to Kt3
- 24 Q to R5 QR to KKt2
- 25 R to Kt3 i Q to K2
- 26 B to K2 j B takes Kt (B3) k
- 27 P takes R Q takes P
- 28 R to QB3 B to Q2
- 29 Kt to B3 K to Kt sq
- 30 Q to R3 Kt to Kt3

- 31 Q to R6 Q to K2
- 32 R takes Kt B takes R
- 33 B to B3 R to B2
- 34 Kt to Kt5 Kt takes P
- 35 Kt takes R l Kt takes B ch
- 36 K to Q2 Kt takes B
- 37 Kt to K5 Kt to K5 ch
- 38 K to Ksq B to Ksq
- 39 Kt to B3 B to Kt3
- 40 Q to K3 Q to B3
- 41 P to B3 K to Kt2
- 42 Q to R7 ch K to R3 m
- 43 Q to Kt8 P to B5
- 44 Kt to K5 B to R4
- 45 K to B sq P to B6
- 46 Kt to Q3 P to B7
- 47 Kt to B4 P to K4

NOTES BY W. H. K. POLLOCK.

a This method of conducting the attack in the French opening is the one most in vogue at present. White generally Castles on the Queen's side, prosecuting his attack in comparative safety.

b The characteristic feature of the variation, which will prove too strong to prove ephemeral, unless, as the present game goes far to show, Black can in soundness repulse the attack of Castling.

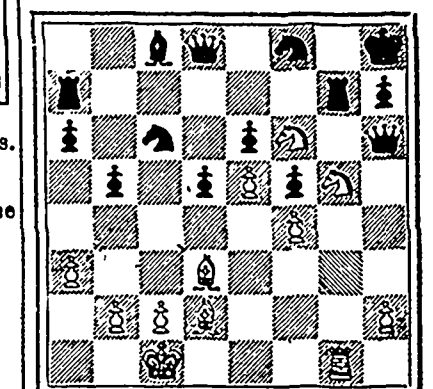
c Few have as yet ventured on this, which we believe to be the correct defence. P to KKt3 has more usually been adopted.

d To provide against 11 KKt5 to Kt5. An inspection of the position will show this to be the very best move, and one which harmonises admirably with the working of the other pieces.

e Because Black would now have time to dislodge the Bishop by Kt to Kt5.

f The only move to avoid serious loss.

POSITION AFTER WHITE'S 23RD MOVE.  
BLACK—Mr. Burn.



WHITE—Mr. Blackburne.

h Threatening a magnificent win by 24 Q takes R ch, K takes Q [R takes Q; 25 Kt to B7 ch, R takes Kt; 26 R to Kt8 mate]; 25 Kt takes KP dis. ch, K to B2 [K to R3; 26 Kt to Kt8 ch, K to R4; 27 B to K2 ch, K to R5; 28 Kt takes Q, Kt takes Kt; 29 B to K sq ch, K to R6; 30 B to B sq ch, K takes P; 31 B to B2, followed by R to Kt3]; 26 Kt takes Q ch, Kt takes Kt; 27 Kt takes QP.

i Again White, by removing this Rook from the line of check, threatens to force the game grandly by Kt [from Kt5] takes RP, and if R takes Kt; 27 R takes R, R takes Q; 28 R to Kt8 mate.

j The following variation is given by the Field: 26 Kt [Kt5] takes RP, R takes R; 27 Kt takes Kt ch, R to R2; 28 Kt to Kt6 ch, R takes Kt; 29 Q takes R, Q to KB2; 30 Q takes R ch, Q takes Q; 31 Kt takes Q, K takes Kt, with a Pawn to the good. The next move is also very strong.

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IN THE LOWER PROVINCES.

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Leading Hotels in Canada.

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conducted Hotels in the city. Table always well  
supplied with the best the market will afford.  
Clean, well-ventilated Rooms and Beds, and no  
pains spared for the comfort of guests in every  
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quiet home while in the city

CHARGES MODERATE.

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Oysters in every style. Lunches, 12 to 2-30.

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ION," B. F. Stanwood, Master, leaves Yarmouth  
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N. S., Geo. M. Connor, North Street Depot, Hal-  
ifax, N. S., or to any Ticket Agent on Windsor and  
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of Montreal, writing to us under recent date,  
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"For over thirty years I have been drinking  
Chocolate and Cocoa, and have at various times  
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but I have met with nothing equal to your prepara-  
tion. Your

Homeopathic Prepared Cocoa,

Especially, is superior to any I have seen for use  
by invalids.

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inent Brass Manufacturing Firm to handle  
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Goods and Steam Fittings in all branches  
and be able to fill orders promptly at factory  
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MALLEABLE IRON FITTINGS!

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Manufacturers of Mill and Mining Machinery,  
Marine and Stationery Engines, Shafting, Pulleys  
and Hangers. Repair work promptly attended to.  
ON HAND—Several New and Second-hand  
Engines

We are indebted to the courtesy of the St. John Evening Gazette for two  
or three well written little patriotic poems, one of which we have the  
pleasure of putting before our readers.

### OUR ACADIE.

Over fields of ice and wastes of snow,  
Eager and keen the cold winds blow;  
And forest and stream and fertile ground,  
By the frost-king's fetter are firmly bound,  
In our northern land of Acadie.

But our arms are strong and spirits free,  
For sons of a stalwart stock are we,  
A race who never a weak fear knew,  
Who the breath of freemen ever drew,  
In our honest land of Acadie.

Our emblem grand is the green pine-tree;  
A stately lord of the forest is he,  
And broad and strong his branches spread,  
And high doth he hold his noble head,  
In his native land of Acadie.

And the summer over will shine again,  
Soft breezes will breathe over hill and plain,  
Streams sparkle and smile in dancing flow,  
The woods will be green, and the grain will grow  
In our own fair land of Acadie.

When the earth her kindly increase yields,  
And our toils are crowned in harvest fields,  
Our thankful songs shall His love confess,  
Who through all the year doth guard and bless  
The free, happy land of Acadie.

So if winds blow cold over ice and snow,  
Or gently play where the sweet flowers grow,  
Whether skies be grey, or bright and blue,  
The hearts are brave and loyal and true,  
In our own loved land of Acadie.

Wm. P. DOLZ.

[FOR THE CRITIC.]

EVENTS AND COMMENTS.

BY VETERAN.

I notice that the Colchester Sun, a staunch temperance advocate, advises  
the "Third Party," with its 300,000 voters in the United States, to go back  
into the Republican ranks, from whence most of them came, and with that  
party agitate for "Temperance Reform." This is good, sound advice to give,  
especially when it is known that the Republican party won its election  
partly by the "Free Whiskey" plank in its platform.

From what I know about the practical working of the different "Div-  
isions" in some parts of Nova Scotia, I think it would improve the cause of  
Temperance if some radical change or "Reform" was inaugurated in this  
society here, though I would hardly advise our Temperance advocates to  
enter the ranks of any political party as a means of "reformation." I claim  
that in the present enlightened age of law and order, all that is sought to  
be accomplished by these "Divisions of the Sons of Temperance," could be  
as effectually done by the members and ministers of the different churches  
that occupy the same territory in which these Temperance organizations are  
at work. I do not mean by this that I would surrender the cause of  
Temperance, but I would only place it in a safer fortress. I will more fully  
explain myself by saying that an organization, whose sole object is to pro-  
mote sobriety in the community, should be composed of the parents, as well  
as the sons and daughters of the communities in which these Divisions exist.  
As it is, a majority of them are attended almost solely by the young boys  
and girls of the neighborhood. These meet promptly, of course, on stated  
nights each week, to engage partly in the business of the Division, but, as a  
rule, a majority of them go there for fun and frolic. This is but natural for  
young people, especially when the parents or ministers of the Gospel are  
seldom seen in the Division Hall. The consequences are that the real  
principles of Temperance are neglected or absorbed by the various plans  
which are discussed in regard to amusements. These generally consist of  
pic-nics and dances in the summer time, and little comic plays and speeches  
in the winter. Thus a great part of their time is spent in useless frivolity,  
without doing much substantial good for themselves or the cause of Temper-  
ance, except it is to contribute funds to the "Grand Division" and to aid  
itinerant "Temperance Lecturers."

Now, it may be said that if the Temperance organization was to merge  
into some other kindred society, it would lose its power in forming a  
"Third Party" in politics. It is a mistake to say that the cause of  
Temperance in this or any other country, has to enter into the arena of  
politics before it can hope for success. As well may the people be asked to  
make a "political hobby" of any branch of the Protestant or Catholic  
church as to attempt to place this "Third Party and Prohibition" in the  
schedule of claims for the suffrage of the people at the polls. The question  
is: Can the people be made Temperate by Legislation? Religion may do it,  
but all laws on this subject heretofore have proved inoperative. The fact is,  
that the right to eat, drink and wear what we choose, (if within the bounds  
of reason,) is one of the inalienable patriarchal privileges of man that no  
Government or legislation can change. The whole superstructure of  
Temperance rests on the volition or will of the individual, and not upon the  
fettors of the law. Religion, moral suasion, precept, example and kindness  
will do more to convert the drunkard than all the vigorous Temperance laws  
in existence. Then let us advise our "Temperance organs" and societies,  
in place of spending their money on the shoreless desert of a "Third  
Party," to change their tactics into reforming our Temperance organizations,  
so as to make them more efficient in the noble work in which they are  
engaged.

The United States excel all other countries in Temperance organizations, Temperance lectures, etc., and yet the yearly consumption of wine, beer, and strong drinks in that country is on the increase. Last year the people of the United States consumed the enormous quantity of 717,784,854 gallons of beer, almost 11 gallons per head of the whole population. Something must be wrong with the Temperance organizations of that country, or else the ranks of "King Alcohol" would not show such a formidable front after fighting, for nearly half a century, the combined Temperance organizations of the country. Then who will say that a "Temperance Luther" is not needed to reform, at least, the "Temperance organizations" of "Uncle Sam's" domains, if not those in the Province of Nova Scotia?

It seems to be a difficult task for the political parties of Canada to decide whether "Imperial Federation," "Annexation," or "Independence," is best for her future welfare and prosperity. My opinion is that these Provinces ought to steer clear of this "larger Union," especially when the echoes of discontent are still vibrating throughout the Dominion, in consequence of the "Confederation Act," which was passed without the direct vote of the people at the polls. As to the "Annexation dodge" I shall pass that by, as a subject too profound for my feeble pen—at least I shall be more competent to form an opinion when the advocates of Annexation prove that union with the United States is preferable to union with Great Britain. This proof is still lacking. As to "Independence," we should hardly suppose that a country situated as Canada is would be able to assert and maintain her independence without the consent of both England and the United States.

The fact is, the disproportion between the population and extent of territory of the Dominion warrants the assertion that Canada is not at present in a position to become an independent nation. Then possibly the best course for our people to pursue, after all, is to try and carry out those great principles and objects of the "lesser Confederation" that nature intended for this country under the ægis of the British flag. The boundless resources of the Dominion are just beginning to be known in the great centres of civilization in the old world. The "Colonial Exhibition," and other minor projects, aided by the press, THE CRITIC included, have done more to place thrifty emigrants in Canada than all the Federation, Annexation or Independence schemes that have been concocted by politicians since the days of "Confederation."

The Xmas supplement to THE HALIFAX CRITIC, as a work of art, is a credit to its projectors and publishers. THE CRITIC is fast becoming the favorite weekly journal of the Maritime Provinces.

#### INTERESTING LODGERS.

A gentleman residing in South America has sent to England the following account of the fearlessness of a pair of humming birds:—"Early in August a pair of Emerald humming-birds were nesting in an orange tree in front of my rancho. Just as the nest was finished a severe thunderstorm completely destroyed it. To my surprise, the next day the pair kept on darting in and out of my bedroom, and before night I found they had begun a new nest in a loop of wire hanging nearly over my dressing-table. The weather being cold, I shut both door and window when I went to bed, and the first thing I heard in the morning was the indefatigable little pair, humming first at door, then at window, anxious to continue their work. They laboured so hard that in rather less than a week they had finished their task, and no doubt congratulated themselves that this time at any rate it would not be blown away. The nest is most beautifully made, inside entirely of gossamer, and spider's web, outside of small pieces of dead banana leaf, shingled one over the other so as to make it impervious to water. For three days I saw neither of them, and thought they had deserted the nest, when on the third day, when I was taking my siesta, the hen bird came in and laid her first egg, an operation she repeated at the same hour on the third day after. Immediately after laying the second egg she began to sit. The first evening of her sitting, when I went to bed, on lighting the lamp, she showed signs of uneasiness, even rising a little off her nest and humming with her wings; but I was careful to move about as little as possible, and she finally regained confidence and settled down, though she kept a very watchful eye on me all the time I was undressing.

In a day or two she knew me well, never disturbing herself for me at all; but if anyone else came in, she would immediately fly out with an angry hum, returning at intervals of a minute or so to see if they had gone. On the fifteenth day she hatched out the tiniest pair of young I ever saw; they seemed to be all beak. The mother continued to sit on them for a week—night and day—at the end of which time she left them alone at night, reappearing generally just as I was turning out in the morning, with their breakfast. It was a sight to see her feed them, as she plunged her long beak right out of sight down their throats; and, watching her closely, I noticed that after feeding one she always had to throw her head back, as though to gargle up the drop of honey, or whatever it was, for the other. To-day, being three weeks old, my tiny visitors are busy humming about my room, delightedly trying their wings; and the last few nights, having quite given up the nest, they roost huddled together on the looking-glass, the prettiest little pair of lodgers a man ever had. An amusing incident occurred a few days ago. The mother for the first time discovered the looking-glass, and I watched her humming in front of it for some minutes. I suspect she thought one of her youngsters was making fun of her; at any rate, she often returned the look. I may add in conclusion that my neighbors say that some extraordinary piece of good luck must be in store for me, or the birds would not have built in my room. They also say that the humming-

bird never comes near a house where bad language is used. As a certificate of the correctness of mine this ought to be conclusive, unless it be that she does not understand English."—*Life-Lore*.

#### INDUSTRIAL NOTES.

The *Journal* of the Constantinople Chamber of Commerce describes the industrial use of old boots and shoes which are thrown out into the streets or into ash pits. After being collected, they are ripped open, and the leather is subjected to a treatment which renders it a pliable mass, from which a kind of artistic leather is derived. This in appearance resembles the best Cordovan leather. In the United States patterns are stamped on this, while in France it is used to cover trunks and boxes. The old boots and shoes are also treated in another way, by which they are converted into new ones. The prisoners in Central France are employed in this way, the old shoes coming chiefly from Spain. They are taken to pieces as before, the nails being all removed and the leather is soaked in water to soften it. The uppers for children's shoes are then cut from it. The soles are also used, for from the smaller pieces of the leather of the old soles the so-called Louis XV. heels for ladies' shoes are made, while the soles of children's shoes are made from the larger and thinner pieces. The old nails are also put to use, for by means of magnets the iron nails and the tacks and brads are separated and sold. The contractors of the military prison at Montpellier say that these nails alone pay for the old shoes. Nothing now remains but the straps, and these have also their value, for they are much sought after by certain specialists for agricultural purposes.—*English Mechanic*.

Since the large salt proprietors have been so successful in forming their powerful syndicate, there are rumors of similar unions in other large and important industries. The leading ironmasters are privately considering the promotion of a bond of union to regulate the production of prices which, when adopted, would take the form of a syndicate. The coal syndicate would endeavor to put an end to the keen competition which has existed and still exists in the trade. The company, of course, would be a gigantic concern, and as a very rough estimate it has been said that the capital required would be something like £80,000,000. In the cotton industry the promoters argue that the scheme is no more unsurmountable than the "salt" trust. The interests are large, representing some £30,000,000, but enormous savings would be made in the directorate and other expenses. There are only vague rumors of these syndicates, while if persisted in will be sure to provoke a great deal of opposition.

American yellow pine, laid upon a foundation of concrete, is considered one of the best street paving mediums at present used in Germany. Employed alone or in combination with cypress it has proved more durable than granite blocks laid at the same time and in like situations.

London *Ironmaster* is very positive as to the failure of the French-English-American copper corner. It says that "with a total visible supply of 75,000 tons, a lessening consumption, prolific sources of production heavily taxed for supplies, with old copper coming into the market, 'what else was to be expected' than that the burden must prove 'too grievous to sustain?'" It adds that "collapse is absolutely certain, and all the indications are pointing now to a very early collapse of the copper corner."

Herr Leonhardt, a German engineer, says that the number of locomotives in use on German railroads at the end of the railroad year 1882-'86 was 12,350. The average age of the locomotives in use during the year of service 1884-'85 was 12.60 years; and in 1885-'86 12.49 years. From a table of the number of engines added and in active use for each year from 1845 to 1885, it appears that 59 engines built prior to 1850 were running during 1885-'86, and that the distinction of being the oldest running engine in Germany falls to one on the Holsteinische Marschbahn, which dates back to 1815.

Among the attractions of the forthcoming exhibition of Paris will be a "belt line" of railroad. The endless train will consist of 400 platform cars similar to those used for freight, the line being sunk so that the floor of the cars will be exactly level with the ground. The train will be run at a sufficiently low speed to enable most people to get on and off whilst it is in motion, but to enable elderly people, females and children to mount, descend, or pass over the moving platform, there will be stoppages of fifteen seconds every minute. The motive power will be electricity.

The shipment of deals and sawn lumber over the Lake St. John Railway this year has been very heavy. Since the spring no less than eighteen million feet have been transported and the shipment still continues. Preparations are being made for very large lumbering operations on this road during the coming winter, so that employment will be afforded to a large number of men.

A Florida perfumery company has ten acres of tuberoses in Fairfield and San Mateo, and expects to plant nearly 200 acres more. The manager of the company says Florida is far ahead of Southern France, where they are raised extensively by irrigation at a great expense.

A company of American capitalists are applying for a charter to build a railway through the heart of the Gaspe peninsula from Causapsal, on the Intercolonial to Gaspe Basin. It is said their chief object is to tap the rich mineral region believed to exist in the interior of the peninsula.



## THE USE OF TOBACCO.

Tobacco contains an acrid, dark-brown oil, an alkaloid, nicotine, and another substance called nicotianine, in which exists its odorous principles. When tobacco is burned, a new set of substances is produced, some of which are less harmful than the nicotine, and are more agreeable in effect, and much of the acrid oil—a substance quite as irritating and poisonous as nicotine—is carried off. These fire-produced substances are called from their origin the "pyridine series." By great heat the more aromatic and less harmful members of the series are produced, but the more poisonous compounds are generated by the slow combustion of damp tobacco. This oil, which is liberated by combustion, is bad both in flavor and in effect, and it is better, even for the immediate pleasure of the smoker, that it should be excluded altogether from his mouth and air passages. Smoking in a stub of a pipe is particularly injurious, for the reason that in it the oil is stored in a condensed form, and the smoke is therefore highly charged with the oil.

Sucking or chewing the stub of a cigar that one is smoking is a serious mistake, because the nicotine in the unburned tobacco dissolves freely in the saliva, and is absorbed. "Chewing" is on this account the most injurious form of the tobacco habit, and the use of a cigar-holder is an improvement on the custom of holding the cigar between the teeth. Cigarettes are responsible for a great amount of mischief, not because the smoke from the paper has any particularly evil effect, but because smokers—and they are often boys or very young men—are apt to use them continuously or at frequent intervals, believing that their power for evil is insignificant. Thus the nerves are under the constant influence of the drug, and much injury to the system results. Moreover, the cigarette smoker uses a very considerable amount of tobacco during the course of a day.

"Dipping" and "snuffing" are semi-barbarities which need not be discussed. Not much effect is obtained from the use of the drug in these varieties of the habit. Nicotine is one of the most powerful of the "nerve poisons" known. Its virulence is compared to that of prussic acid. If birds be made to inhale its vapor in amounts too small to be measured, they are almost instantly killed. It seems to destroy life, not by attacking a few, but all the functions essential to it, beginning at the centre, the heart. A significant indication of this is that there is no substance known which can counteract its effects; the system either succumbs or survives.

Its depressing action on the heart is by far the most noticeable and noteworthy symptom of nicotine poisoning. The frequent existence of what is known as "smoker's heart" in men whose health is in no other respect disturbed is due to this fact. Those who can use tobacco without immediate injury will have all the pleasant effects reversed, and will suffer from the symptoms of poisoning if they exceed the limits of tolerance. These symptoms are: 1. The heart's action becomes more rapid when tobacco is used; 2. Palpitation, pain, or unusual sensations in the heart; 3. There is no appetite in the morning, the tongue is coated, delicate flavors are not appreciated, and acid dyspepsia occurs after eating; 4. Soreness of the mouth and throat, or nasal catarrh, appears, and becomes very troublesome; 5. The eyesight becomes poor, but improves when the habit is abandoned; 6. A desire, often a craving, for liquor or some other stimulant is experienced.

In an experimental observation of thirty-eight boys of all classes of society, and of average health, who had been using tobacco for periods ranging from two months to two years, twenty-seven showed severe injury to the constitution and insufficient growth; thirty-two showed the existence of irregularity of the heart's action, disordered stomachs, cough, and a craving for alcohol; thirteen had intermittency of the pulse, and one had consumption. After they had abandoned the use of tobacco, within six months' one-half were free from all their former symptoms, and the remainder had recovered by the end of the year.

A great majority of men go far beyond what may be called the temperate use of tobacco, and evidences of injury are easily found. It is only necessary to have some record of what the general health was previous to the taking up of the habit, and to have observation cover a long enough time. The history of tobacco in the island of New Zealand furnishes a quite suggestive illustration for our purpose, and one on a large scale. When Europeans first visited New Zealand they found in the native Maoris the most finely developed and powerful men of any of the tribes inhabiting the islands of the Pacific. Since the introduction of tobacco, for which the Maoris developed a passionate liking, they have from this cause alone, it is said, become decimated in numbers, and at the same time reduced in stature and in physical well-being so as to be an altogether inferior type of man.—*New York Medical Journal*.

## COMMERCIAL.

Trade has not yet recovered entirely from the influence of the holiday season. In consequence it has been uninteresting and featureless, but it may be expected to become more active before long. The continuance of mild weather and the absence of snow have materially retarded the country trade. Bad roads have rendered the delivery of goods slow and uncertain, as well as expensive. On the whole the outlook is viewed with considerable confidence generally, though some anxiety is expressed as to how obligations maturing in the next four months will be met. Travellers who have been spending their holidays at home, state that they have found payments very backward, owing to the fact that farmers are marketing their produce very sparingly, which renders it difficult for store-keepers to collect. As a rule this condition of affairs induces no expression of despondency in any quarter. A very conservative spirit has been observed by leading houses, and credits have been distributed with greater caution than ever before in the history of our trade. Nearly everyone interested is confident that, though payments

may be somewhat delayed by temporary causes, they will come up in due time, and that when renewed notes are necessary, they will be promptly met on maturity.

The following are the Assignments and Business Changes in this Province during the past week. Barker & Farrow, produce, Summerside, P. E. I. Mrs. J. M. Gordon, (estate of) Halifax, stock advertised for sale by tender; Sydney Lumber Co., McLaren & Farquharson and A. J. McMillan, co-partnership registered Dec. 26, 1888; Scriven & Son, Halifax, Wm. J. & J. A. Scriven, co-partnership registered Dec. 31, 1888; F. Hatfield & Co., Tusket N. S., farmers, etc., I. Hatfield and John R. Blewett, co-partnership registered Dec. 29, 1888; G. L. Gibson, general store, Brooklyn, Hants Co., N. S., admitted C. R. L. Keefe partner as Gibson & Keefe; S. E. Hue, estate of dry goods and grocers, Kentville, N. S., stock, etc., advertised for sale by tender; B. A. Smith, dry goods, Halifax, deceased. Geo. W. Gilroy, general store, Oxford, assigned. A. R. Dickie & Jas. S. Hickman, Nova Scotia Forge Co., New Glasgow, amalgamated with Nova Scotia Steel Co., under style of Nova Scotia Steel & Forge Co.; John Harris, Pianos & Music, Halifax, out of business; Gilmour & Co., crockery, Halifax, John Sibbald, deceased.

Bradstreet's report of the week's failures:

	Week		Weeks corresponding to		
	Jan. 4,	Prev. week	1888	1887	1886
United States...	286	334	293	291	299
Canada.....	22	30	15	13	12

DRY GOODS.—The wholesale dry goods trade remains dull, as is usual at this season of the year, and very little business is reported. Travellers are actively preparing to take the road for orders for spring goods, and a few have already gone out. Gray cottons have recently advanced  $\frac{1}{2}$ c. to  $\frac{3}{4}$ c. and cottonades 5 to 7 $\frac{1}{2}$  per cent. Further advances are expected in order to conform more with the high cost of the raw material. Enquiry for cottonades at the revised rates has been more active, and sales have transpired at Montreal at from 12c. to 18 $\frac{1}{2}$ c. per yard, according to quality. It appears from all that we can gather that Canadian cottonades are gradually superseding imported goods, and some sanguine persons predict that in time there will be no need to import even the finest English goods. It is only right, however, to say that some of our wholesale houses think that this is too confident and buoyant a view to take of the capabilities of our home manufacturers to supply the demand for the best class of goods in this line.

IRON, HARDWARE AND METALS.—Trade in iron and hardware lines is dull, but it is expected that, as soon as the effects of the holidays have passed over, dealers will accomplish a good season's business. Reports from Scotch, English and American centres of production show unchanged prices and very small demands. United States markets are those alone which promise any immediate advance of the volume of business in iron and steel lines. In that country forges and blast furnaces are reported as being fully occupied in supplying goods in their lines that have been ordered. It is estimated that "Brother Jonathan" will build over 3,000 miles of railway during the coming year. This, with the furnishing with rails, etc., of existing roads, will create a demand for rails and other railway material that will cause every furnace and foundry in that country to "hum."

BREADSTUFFS.—The flour business continues to be slow, owing to the fact that buyers generally have ample stocks on hand for present requirements. The market has been quiet with little or no business doing. What little has been accomplished has been at steady prices. Offerings and stocks in hand do not materially differ from those of a year ago. Beerbohm's cable says:—"Cargoes off coast—wheat and corn quiet but steady. Do. on passage and for prompt shipment—wheat quiet, corn slow. Liverpool wheat, spot, slow; corn, do., steady. Liverpool—California wheat quiet at 7s. 9 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. March; 7s. 9 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. April. Mixed maize dull at 4s. 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. January; 4s. 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. February; 4s. 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. March; 4s. 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. April and May. Wheat in Paris quiet at 45s. 9d. January. Flour in Paris quiet. Spot wheat in Antwerp quiet." The *Mark Lane Express*, in its weekly review of the grain trade, says: "English wheats are weak. Much damp and inferior sorts have been cleared off at any price, dragging mean prices down. The sales of English wheat during the past week were 58,368 quarters at 30s. 7d., against 41,580 quarters at 30s. 9d. during the corresponding week last year. Foreign wheats show an average decline of 6d. Corn is 3d. lower." The latest advices from Odessa are to December 15. The weather had been very cold, but subsequently was warmer. The grain markets remained very quiet, and but for the necessity of filling old contracts and loading the already chartered steamers, business would have been at a standstill. Freights have given way owing to the abundance of tonnage on the spot. The stock of wheat was 12,704,000 bushels, against 7,352,000 bushels December 31, 1887. In Chicago the wheat market has fluctuated considerably, but at late advices a strong feeling prevailed, and quotations were \$1 for January, and \$1.05 $\frac{1}{2}$  for May. Corn was weak and declined to 33 $\frac{1}{2}$ c. January, 34 $\frac{1}{2}$ c. February, 36 $\frac{1}{2}$ c. May. Oats dropped somewhat and stood at 24 $\frac{1}{2}$ c. January, 28 $\frac{1}{2}$ c. May. A New York despatch says:—"The new year, as to business in grain in New York, opened without much of good cheer or promise for either commission houses or scalpers. For the first hour this morning hardly any attempt was made to do business. About 60 loads of wheat were started out of the seven million stock; not enough to swear by, and without any perceptible influence on the market. An increase of 100,000 bushels in the Liverpool stocks for the month stands against a decrease of 1,600,000 bushels as compared with the stocks of a year ago, which would be a bullish factor if there was any speculative grip. The feeling here is bearish for the month of January, with dollar for May the talk, with but 230 days before the new crop, and New York hung up with a stock of 7,000,000 bushels and no export demand, to say nothing of the big stocks of flour and a comfortable supply of vegetables. The trading in wheat for the first hour amounted to less than fifty loads. That's how dull the New York market is."

PROVISIONS.—Mild weather and the want of snow have checked the demand from the country and, in consequence, business has remained quiet. Local buyers have shown but little interest in either pork and lard. Only a small jobbing trade at steady prices has been done. The Liverpool, G. B., provision market has continued weak and prices have scored another decline all round. Pork broke 2s. 6d., to 7s. Lard dropped 1s. to 39s. 9d. Bacon fell off 6d. to 39s. 6d. to 40s. 6d. Tallow was unchanged at 33s. 6d. The Chicago provision market has been decidedly weak. Pork declined 22½c. late quotations being \$12.57½ January, \$13 May. Lard broke 12½c. to 15c., standing as per a late report at \$7.27½ January, \$7.30 February and \$7.47½ May. The hog market has declined about 5c. all round.

BUTTER AND CHEESE.—In this market there is merely the usual jobbing and consumptive demand for finest dairy and creamery butter, but lower qualities are neglected. Prices for choice grades are firm. The cheese market, though quiet, is firm under light supplies. The stock of cheese in Liverpool on January 1st, 1889, was 121,200 boxes, or 60,000 boxes less than the actual stocks of a year ago.

APPLES.—A cable report from Liverpool, says: "Fancy Baldwins are in little demand and only the finest fruit is wanted. The general condition of the market is bad, and no great improvement in prices can be looked for until stocks in dealers hands are reduced." Here prices are more or less nominal, good to choice fruit being quoted in round lots at \$1.35 to \$1.65 and jobbing lots of choice varieties at \$2. A Liverpool report on the market for Canadian and American apples, for week ending December 22nd, 1888. —As anticipated in our last week's circular the demand for apples has entirely ceased, and we are now endeavoring to clear the arrivals on payment of freight and charges. In some cases we are enabled to return shippers 2s. 3d. per barrel, but more frequently reclamations have had to be made for short proceeds; this applies mostly to Boston shipments which have landed in many cases frosted, and in all 50 per cent. slack packed. New Hampshire baldwins have sold from 6s. to 7s., slack packed 5s. to 6s; Maines are little better and sound made 7s to 8s; greenings about the same. New York fruit made 5s 3d up to 8s, and one or two special lots made 9s 6d to 11s. The Canadian fruit ex Vancouver is stored and will not be sold until the holidays are over. Some few parcels via New York sold at 7s. 6d. to 8s, but the bulk were withdrawn, no bids being made sufficient to cover freight and charges. Receipts have been:—Total this week, 58,741; same week last year, 19,533; this season to date, 559,728; last season to date, 234,195.

TEA AND COFFEE.—In tea, business has ruled quiet because buyers generally filled their wants before the holidays, and in consequence the market has been quiet but firm, with no improvement expected before the end of this month. Coffee is quiet but steady. European cables show those markets steady and a fair business doing.

SUGAR AND MOLASSES.—Very little is doing in these commodities just now, but prices have a rather firmer tendency.

FISH OILS.—The Montreal fish oil market is firm, sales of Newfoundland cod oil in lots of 5 to 10 bbls. at 42½c. round lots held steady at 40c. Halifax oil 37½c. to 38c. Seal oil is also firm at 48c. to 50c. as to size of lot. Cod liver oil 65c. to 70c. The Trade Bulletin reports:—"The price of fish oils in this market is fully 20 per cent. higher than at this time last year, sales of round lots of Newfoundland cod having transpired at 39c. to 40c., with business in a jobbing way at 42½c. Steam refined seal oil has also experienced a considerable rise in value, and is now well concentrated, very little being held outside of two firms. The range of prices is from 48 to 50c. according to quantity, although it is said to be doubtful if much could be had at the inside rate. At the opening of the season prices were away down at 43c. to 45c. It is stated by Newfoundland and Lower Ports importers that the amount of oil to come forward is very light, and can in no wise affect this market, present stocks being considered only about sufficient to supply consumptive requirements between now and next season. This being usually a dull season for oils, business at the moment is limited to a small jobbing trade."

FISH.—Business in fish during the past week has been exceptionally quiet. Arrivals have been small, and outside demand much limited. Consumers' requirements have been below the average. During the current month shipments outwards are likely to be limited. Quotations are unchanged, though markets in general evince a weaker tendency. The amount of stock on hand does not warrant any forced sales at present and holders are likely to retain what they have in the hope of an appreciation in figures, which they are confident will develop itself before long. Our outside reports are as follows:—Montreal, January 8—"The market for fish is unchanged. A fair demand is reported for green cod at \$4.75 for No. 1 ordinary, \$5 for No. 1 large and \$5.25 to \$5.50 for large draft. Dry cod \$4.50 to \$4.75 per quintal. Labrador herrings steady at \$5.25 to \$5.50 per bbl. Cape Breton herring \$5.50 to \$5.75 per bbl. British Columbia salmon \$12.50 to \$13 bbl, and sea trout \$10 to \$11 per bbl." Gloucester, Mass, January 8—Last sales of Shore codfish \$3.75 per cwt. We quote large Georges codfish at \$4.75 to \$4.87½ per qtl., and small at \$4.25. Bank at \$3.75 to \$4 for large and \$3.75 for small. Shore \$4.50 and \$4.12½ for large and small. Dry Bank \$4.75 and \$4.50. Newfoundland codfish \$6 to \$6.25. We quote cured cusk at \$3.50 per qtl.; hake \$2.25; haddock \$3.25; heavy salted pollock \$2.50; and English-cured do. \$3 per qtl. Labrador herring \$7 bbl.; medium split \$6; Newfoundland do. \$5.50 to \$6; Nova Scotia do. \$6; Eastport \$5; round Shore \$4; pickled codfish \$5.50; haddock \$4.50; halibut heads \$3.00; sounds \$12; tongues and sounds \$10; tongues \$8; alewives \$5.00; trout \$15 00; California salmon \$16; Halifax do. \$20; Newfoundland do. \$18, Clam bait \$7 to \$7.50; silvers \$6.50; halibut fins \$13. Havana, 8 January (by cable)—"We quote provincial fish as follows:—cod \$7.25; haddock \$6; hake nominally at \$5.25 and \$4.50, with no demand."

MARKET QUOTATIONS.

WHOLESALE RATES.

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

GROCERIES.		BREADSTUFFS.	
SUGARS.			
Cut Leaf	8½ to 8¾	Markets steady. No change to note in anything. Business quiet. Bulls and bears West watching each other	
Granulated	7½ to 8	FLOUR	
Circle A	7½	Graham Flour	5.75 to 6.10
White Extra C	7 to 7½	Patent high grades	6.10 to 6.20
Extra Yellow C	6½ to 6¾	90 per cent. Patents	5.75 to 5.90
Yellow C	6 to 6½	Superior Extra	5.60 to 5.75
TEA.			
Congou, Common	17 to 19	Extras from Patents	5.25 to 5.50
" Fair	20 to 23	Low grades in sacks	3.30 to 3.40
" Good	25 to 29	" " barrels	3.55 to 3.60
" Choice	31 to 33	Oatmeal, Standard	4.65 to 4.75
" Extra Choice	35 to 36	" Granulated	5.00 to 5.15
Oolong, Choice	37 to 39	" Rolled	5.00 to 5.10
MOLASSES.			
Barbadoes	35	Corn Meal—kiln dried	3.00 to 3.10
Demerara	36	Bran, per ton	21.00 to 22.00
Diamond N	43	Shorts	23.00 to 23.50
Porto Rico	36 to 39	Middlings	24.50 to 26.00
Cienfuegos	32	Mill or Mixed Feed, per ton	29.00
Trinidad	35	Oats per bushel of 34 lbs.	40 to 42
Antigua	35	Harley " of 48 "	nominal
Tobacco, Black	38 to 44	Peas " of 60 "	1.00 to 1.10
" Bright	42 to 58	White Beans, per bushel	1.60 to 2.00
BISCUITS.			
Pilot Bread	3.25	Pot Barley, per barrel	5.55
Boston and Thin Family	7	Hay per ton	14.00 to 16.02
Soda	7	Straw	11.00 to 12.00
do. in lib. boxes, 50 to case	7½		
Fancy	8 to 15		

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

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

PROVISIONS.

Beef, Am. Ex. Mess, duty paid	12.00 to 13.50
" Am. Plate	13.00 to 13.50
" Ex. Plate	14.00 to 14.50
Pork, Mess, American	18.50
" American, clear	20.00
" P. E. I. Mess	18.00
" P. E. I. Thin Mess	16.00 to 16.50
" Prime Mess	14.50 to 15.50
Lard, Tubs and Pails	13
Cases	13.50 to 14.00
Hams, P. E. I., green	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.

FISH FROM VESSELS.

MACKEREL—	
Extra	20.00
No. 1	19 30
" 2 large	16.00
" 2 small	none
" 3 large	11.00
" 3 small	11.00
HERRING.	
No. 1 Shore, July	4.75 to 5.00
No. 1, August, Round	3.75 to 4.00
" September	3.75 to 4.00
Labrador, in cargo lots per bl.	4.50 to 5.00
Bay of Islands, Split	3.25 to 3.50
" Round	2.50 to 2.75
ALBIES, per bbl.	5.00
CODFISH.	
Hard Shore, new	4.25 to 4.50
New Bank	4.25
Bay	4.12 to 4.20
SALMON, No. 1	15.50 to 16.00
HADDOCK, per qtl.	3.00 to 3.25
HAKE	2.50 to 2.75
CUSK	1.75
POLLOCK	2.25
HAKE SOUND, per l's.	30
COD OIL A.	26 to 27

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

LOBSTERS.

Per case 4 doz. 1 lb cans.	
Nova Scotia (Atlantic Coast Packing)	5.00 to 5.40
Tall Cans	4.80 to 5.00
Flat	6.20 to 6.40
Newfoundland Flat Cans	6.25 to 6.50

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	10.00 to 12.00
" 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 7.00
Hemlock, merchantable	7.00
Shingles, No 1, sawed, pine	3.00 to 3.50
" No 2, do do	1.00 to 1.25
" spruce, No 1	1.10 to 1.30
Laths, per m.	2.00
Hard wood, per cord	4.00 to 4.25
Soft wood	2.25 to 2.50

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

BUTTER AND CHEESE.

Nova Scotia Choice Fresh Prints	30
" " in Small Tubs	25
" Good, in large tubs	21
" Store Packed & oversalted	14
Canadian Township	22 to 24
" Western	17 to 19
Cheese, Canadian	11 to 12

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

WOOL, WOOL SKINS & HIDES.

Wool—clean washed, per pound	15 to 20
" unwashed "	12 to 15
Salted Hides, No 1	5 to 6
Ox Hides, over 60 lbs., No 1	6
" under 60 lbs., No 1	5
" over 60 lbs., No 2	5
" under 60 lbs., No 2	5
Cow Hides, No 1	5
No 3 Hides, each	4
Calf Skins	25
" Deacons, each	25
Lambskins	25 to 75
Tallow	2

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

HOME AND FOREIGN FRUITS.

Gravensteins	none
Apples, No. 1, new, per bbl	1.75 to 2.75
Oranges, per bbl, Jamaica (new)	6.00 to 5.50
Lemons, per case	4.00 to 5.00
Cocoanuts, per 100	5.00
Onions	
" American Silver Skin	2 to 2½
Dates, boxes, new	6½ to 7
Raisins, Valencia, new	7 to 7½
Figs, Eleme, 5 lb boxes per lb	12
" small boxes	13
Prunes, Stewing, boxes and bags	6
Cranberries	7.00
Foxberries	4.00 to 4.50
Grapes, Almeria, kegs	5.50 to 6.40

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

POULTRY.

Turkeys, per pound	13 to 10
Geese, each	50 to 72
Ducks, per pair	70 to 80
Chickens	40 to 55

The above are corrected by a reliable victualer.

LIVE STOCK—at Richmond Depot.

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

These quotations are prepared by a reliable victualer

## JESSICA'S CHOICE.

(Continued.)

She wore a gown of some diaphanous black fabric, whose long, loose folds clung about her like a dark cloud. Her bodice was low, and displayed such arms and shoulders as one does not see every day. Besides this, she was blazing with diamonds. They seemed to illuminate the darker corner of the room with their scintillations. Round her white throat glittered a collar of gems. A mass of brilliants blazed on her corsage, and an aigrette no less sparkling sprang lightly from her black waving hair.

As Jessica turned to speak to him, Paul felt a wave of passion, misery and hope flow over him. Who would not risk all to possess the love of this wonderful creature?

"Don't be frightened!" said Jessica, laughing, as she saw his bewilderment. "I am not mad, only trying on the finery in which I am to sit for my portrait to-morrow."

"I certainly thought you had come from another sphere," said Paul, trying to echo her laugh, and coming nearer to the gorgeous vision.

"Mamma and Lily are at the opera, and I am playing at royalty all by myself. How do you like the Thorndyke diamonds?" she said.

"I never cared much for them till now," answered Paul, taking her hand. Then, with an irresistible impulse, he bent his head and lightly touched it with his lips.

"No German customs, if you please," said Jessica, smiling. "Take that very comfortable chair on the other side of the fire."

He seated himself, never taking his eyes from her face.

"I think I never saw anything so bewildering as you are to-night, Jessica," he said, in a grave tone quite different from his ordinary voice.

"Ah, fine feathers make fine birds," she said, frankly, enjoying his admiration. "Dress makes a vast difference, does it not?"

She had sat down in her chair, and was leaning slightly towards him, the firelight meanwhile turning her diamonds into rubies and throwing a ruddy glow over her white skin.

"Dress?" he said, impatiently. "No! it makes very little difference what you wear. Do you know how—how—*maddening* you are, Jessica?"

She drew back a little.

"That is not a nice word to apply to me, Paul," she replied. "I don't want to madden anybody."

"There is no use in trying to talk commonplaces to-night," he exclaimed with sudden vehemence. "I came here with a definite purpose. I might as well tell you what it was."

"Oh, it is a pity to be too definite, I think," said Mrs. Thorndyke, rather nervously. "Let us talk of something else."

"How like a woman!" he said, with a slow, bitter smile. "You goad us on by every word and look,—and then—"

"Let us talk of something else."

"Don't you know that is impossible? You *must* hear me."

Paul had never been so excited and wanting in self control. He felt that Jessica shrank from him, and tried to regain the mastery of himself.

"Jessica," he continued, more quietly, "don't you know that I love you?"

She had sunk back in her chair, as he bent further towards her. She was a little paler, and her breath came quickly.

"I did not know, Paul," she said; then she added, honestly, "Sometimes I thought so."

"You *did* see it. I did not mean to trouble you until—until he had been dead a year, at least: it seemed indecent to speak sooner. But it is almost a year, Jessica, is it not?"

He got up and leaned against the mantel-piece, with his head bent towards her.

"Yes," she said, simply, "almost."

There is something infectious in passion as strong as Paul's, and his sudden outburst was sweeping away Jessica's usual common sense.

He saw that he was making an impression, and followed it up rapidly.

"There has not been a day since my visit that I have not loved you," he went on, earnestly: "ever since those days at Acacia Point I have felt that you were the only woman on earth for me."

Some sudden hardening influence seemed to come over her.

"And Countess Irma—?" she asked.

Paul started, with a sudden stab of surprise going through him.

"I hate her!" he said, fiercely.

The spell was broken. Jessica was once more herself.

"Did you always hate her?" she asked, calmly.

"Who has been telling you anything about her?" he demanded.

"Nobody."

"Then I do not understand why you have brought her name into our conversation to-night."

"If it has made you angry, I am sorry."

"Let it pass. Why should I think of her? You have imagined—No, I will tell you the truth: I once thought I loved her, but I knew when I saw you that it was not so."

He turned and walked up and down the room for a moment or two.

"I know what a foolish thing I am doing," he went on. "When a poor man wants to marry a rich woman, one knows what every one will say. But I swear that the money is nothing to me."

"Pray leave out all mention of my money, Paul," she interposed. "It sickens me."

He paused in his walk and stood still before her.

"Then you believe—" he said,—"oh, Jessica! my darling! you believe that I love *you*,—*you* and nothing else?"

"Yes, Paul, I believe you," she answered, simply.

He was perplexed by her manner. It had neither the coldness of utter indifference nor the warmth of reciprocal feeling. She was very gentle, very quiet, but he felt no hope.

"Then what is your answer?" he asked, with infinite tenderness. He held out his hand to her.

"Will you trust me, Jessica?"

She got up and stood close to him, but she made no movement towards the outstretched hand.

"I cannot tell you to-night," she said, in a low voice, with her eyes bent down. "I am very stupid,—very foolish,—but I—don't know."

Paul Lorrimer was what women call "fascinating." It is not always an attribute of the very best men; and Paul had it in perfection.

He would not accept Jessica's gentle repulse at first. He talked long and winningly to her. What he said shall be spared the reader. It was what all eloquent lovers say. We have all heard or said it some time in our lives, and it need not be repeated.

Still, he left her unconvinced.

A good woman's instinct is a wonderful thing; and Jessica's warned her not to decide hastily. There had been a time when she would have said "Yes" to Paul Lorrimer's momentous question. But that time was over; and deep down in her heart was some subtle influence at work, which seemed to hold her back from the final plunge.

"To-morrow," she said, "you may come; but do not hope."

"May I kiss you good-night?" asked Paul, meekly.

"No, certainly not," said Jessica.

He took this rebuff with apparent resignation and left her with a long hand-clasp.

Mrs. Thorndyke was more upset than she would have cared to own. A man like Lorrimer does not see a woman every day for months on an intimate and friendly footing without making some very strong impression.

Jessica could not tell why Irma Von Wolfenfels's name had occurred to her at that moment. She had spoken it more as an experiment, and its instantaneous effect upon Paul convinced her that there was something in her suspicions.

Before Lily and Mrs. Hilton returned from the opera, she escaped to her own room. On her dressing table was an envelope bearing the American postmark. She opened it, and drew forth a photograph.

Before her were the thoughtful forehead, the grave honest eyes, the strong gentle face, of—George Carroll.

The question was answered.

## CHAPTER XVI.

The next morning, faithful to her threat, Countess Irma went to call on Mrs. Thorndyke. She found her sitting with her mother and sister in the *salon* after their twelve-o'clock breakfast. She spoke graciously to all three, especially to her victim, as she considered Jessica, and said at once that she had come not only for the pleasure of seeing Mrs. Thorndyke, but to impart to her something of importance.

"Then," said Mrs. Hilton, rising, "my daughter Lily and I will leave you."

"Thanks," said Irma, suavely. "I am sorry to break up this charming family group, but—"

"I quite understand," said Mrs. Hilton; and she and Lily left the room.

"Pray take this chair," said Jessica. "I think you will find it comfortable." She felt in some dim inexplicable way that this visit was directly connected with Paul.

Irma seated herself languidly, and Jessica took an arm-chair a short distance from her.

"Mr. Lorrimer was here last evening," observed the countess, blandly, by way of opening the conversation.

"Is that what you came to tell me?" asked Jessica, smiling. "I was here and saw him."

"Of course. So I supposed," said Irma.

"Is that all?" asked Jessica, to whom the conversation was becoming ludicrous.

"That," said the young countess, "is the beginning."

"Pray explain. You are making me very curious."

"I came not to arouse curiosity, but to satisfy it. . . . Mr. Lorrimer asked you last night to be his wife? *Nicht wahr?*"

"Really," said Jessica, haughtily, "you amaze me."

"I am rude, am I not? But I fear I must be ruder still. Tell me, I beg, madame, what answer did you make to him?"

"Have you any right to ask me that question?" asked Jessica, sternly.

"Every right," said the other, firmly, with a flash in her violet-gray eyes.

"The best of rights. He is promised to me."

"He certainly did not say so," said Mrs. Thorndyke, trying to speak coolly in spite of the countess's calm insolence.

"Perhaps he has changed his mind. One may do that and still be forced to keep one's word," said Irma, airily. "When you hear what I have to tell of Paul, you will not care to see him again."

"I have no desire to know any of my cousin's secrets," said Jessica.

"Your cousin! You call him cousin, still? Well, I must tell his secret, even if you care nothing for it."

Mrs. Thorndyke maintained a scornful silence, and Irma proceeded: "You will not claim Mr. Lorrimer as a relative, perhaps, when you know that he is dishonorable,—what you call, I think, a 'scoundrel.' Is that the right word?"

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not love you.

"It is evidently the word you want," said Jessica. "Go on." ("Thank God," she was saying to herself, "that I do not love him!")

"This story which I have to tell is not a pretty one; but many things not at all pretty must be told. This is one."

She spoke as if her lips were very dry, and her cheeks and eyes bore evidence that she was suffering from fever induced from her suppressed agitation.

"A year ago, when the American minister was at home on leave, Paul was made *chargé-d'affaires*. You knew it?"

Jessica nodded.

"Well, there was an old man in Berlin, an American, who was going to the Holy Land. He had a grand scheme for sending the Jews back to Jerusalem: one is sorry that it did not succeed, as we should not miss them!—however, it came to nothing, as you shall see. He left his will, this old man,—Trowbridge was his name,—with Paul at the Legation. No one else knew what was in it. Mr. Trowbridge went on his journey and died in Palestine. Not a year came the time for the charitable Jewish scheme to be carried out; but —" She paused, and passed her black-bordered handkerchief over her dry lips.

"Go on!" said Jessica, imperiously.

"I will; but talking scandal of one's neighbor makes the tongue stick," said Irma, apologetically.

"It was our friend's bad luck to meet the nephews of this Trowbridge just then," she continued. "They were not in the will; Paul was in need of money, and so he sold it to them."

"Sold what?" cried Jessica, astounded.

"The will," said Irma, still blandly.

She looked at Jessica, to see whether this last crushing blow had told on her, but she saw only astonishment and horror, not the agony of wounded love she had expected and hoped to see.

"Do you mean to say," cried Jessica, excitedly, "that Paul Lorrimer so dishonoured himself as to—"

"Yes," said Irma, looking down, with a slight flush of shame on her hard face, "he cheated the poor Jews out of their funds for the rebuilding of Jerusalem, and got a good round sum for holding his tongue. He would have deceived me," she added, raising her eyes and grinding her teeth melodramatically: "he pretended that he had received nothing."

"And you want to marry that man?" Jessica's round startled eyes saw, as she gazed at Irma, another figure which had entered unobserved. It was Paul Lorrimer.

He heard her last words, her tone of abhorrence, he saw these two women, both of whom he had in a way deceived, and he knew that his hour was come. He came forward with the same sort of courage which is so often shown by men on the gallows or at the guillotine. Completely ignoring Irma's presence, he approached Jessica, who had sprung to her feet. His face looked quite aged and worn.

"I came for my answer," he said, without any visible emotion, "and I think I have it."

"Oh, Paul!" cried Jessica, almost piteously, "my dear cousin, is this true?"

"What that woman has been telling you? Yes, Jessica, it is all true."

His firmness faltered, and he bent his head so that her clear eyes might not read the shame in his face. To his surprise, she covered her own face with her hands and burst into tears.

"My darling," he cried, springing to her side and trying to take her hand, "my darling, do you care?"

But she motioned him away.

"Oh, the pity, the horror of it!" she sobbed, brokenly. "To think that you could ask me—"

She did not finish the sentence, but Paul shuddered as if she had stabbed him. His punishment was sufficiently severe.

As for Irma Von Wolfensfels, she stood in the background, regarding her two victims with a mocking face like that of Mephistopheles in the immortal story. She had not spoken yet. Presently she said,—

"Have I not kept my promise?"

Paul turned upon her such a terrible regard that she faltered and changed color.

"Did you tell her who advised me to commit this crime? who aided and encouraged me? who said 'she could not marry a poor man'?"

Jessica stopped sobbing, and looked from one to the other of this guilty pair.

"Go away!" she said to Irma, imperatively. "I will not have you here. Your presence is hateful to me."

"And your cousin? Have you forgiven him already?" asked Irma, diabolically.

"Whatever I have done or may do is nothing to you," said Jessica, haughtily, and she pointed to the door.

With an attempt at a smile, Countess Irma swept from the room, and Paul and Jessica were alone.

At first it seemed as neither could speak. Paul stood with his arms crossed on the mantel-piece, and his face buried in them.

Jessica went and laid her hand gently on his shoulder.

"Don't touch me," he murmured. "I am unworthy of it."

"I want you to tell me everything yourself," she said. "Come! Take courage. It is very dreadful, but perhaps I can help you."

The brutality of Irma had turned Jessica's sympathies in the direction of the poor sinner who hid his face from her honest eyes.

"But I have lost you! I have lost you!" he almost moaned.

"Yes, but it could never have been otherwise," she said, kindly. "I do not love you. I never have."

(To be Continued.)

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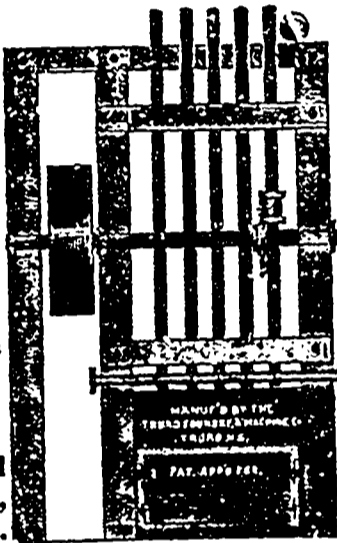
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### MINING.

#### IN RE DEEP SINKING.

To the Editor of the Critic:—

SIR,—From late Australian papers I gather the following returns of some of the deep mines of that country, which you may find of interest to those of your readers who are considering the question of deep sinking in Nova Scotia.

The *Bendigo Advertiser* gives the returns of Sandhurst district for the half year, ending 30th June last, viz:—"Gold, 81,349 ozs.; calls, £84,853 1s. 3d.; dividends, £87,1793s. 6d."; and further adds that the "returns show two magnificent records, that of the New Chum Consolidated, with 7,942 ozs. gold, and £23,100 in dividends, and the North Johnson's, 6,742 ozs. gold, and £19,500 in dividends. The other leading companies are:—Johnson's Reef Extended, gold, 3,351 ozs.; dividends £7,517; Hercules, 4,071 ozs.; £6,750; Great Extended Hustler's, 3,583 ozs., £5,100; Lazarus No. 1, 3,470 ozs., £4,500; Johnson's Reef, 4,570 ozs., £4,200; Pearl, 4,147 ozs., £3,600; and Garden Gully United, 2,915 ozs., £3,351. The actual profit from the Pearl, it may be mentioned, has been £7,000 or more, but their dividends have been decreased largely by expenditure in erecting a splendid new crushing battery and similar extraordinary expenditure." Those yields I may say are from mines varying in depth from 1000 to 2000 feet. From a Melbourne paper, the *Australasian*, I clip the following:—

"TALK ON CHANGE.—I noticed that the deepest gold yet discovered in Australia, if not in the world, was found last week at a depth of 2,240 ft. in a mine at Sandhurst, belonging to Mr. Lansell. This is very consoling. It is to be hoped that the miners will not leave off there, but will be encouraged to renew their exertions, and get down to where the gold comes from. What a glorious delight to be able to ladle it up, molten and glowing, from nature's own crucible—to be able to pump up the precious metal in a liquid state. That would be a Pactolus indeed. I have often "burned my fingers" in a mine, but would not object to scalding both hands in such a manner.

Your obedient servant,

J. E. WILSON,  
208 Hollis Street.

STORMONT DISTRICT.—The Rockland mill returns for December 158 ozs. gold from 234½ tons quartz crushed.

A report from Keesville, New York, announces the death of George H. Shuttuck, late manager of the Gallagher gold mine at Isaac's Harbor.

C. E. Church, Commissioner of Public Works and Mines, has issued circulars with full information as to "examinations for underground managers and overseers, and as to appointment and duties of instructors, requirements of the Board of Examiners, method of examination, etc. The Local Government, by their wise action in providing means of instruction for one class of miners, have certainly taken a step in the right direction, and one that will eventually lead to the establishment of permanent mining schools. Parties desiring to undergo examination before the Board of Examiners for certificates as underground managers or overseers, should apply for information to E. Gilpin, Jr., Inspector of Mines, who is secretary to the Board of Examiners.

CARIBOO DISTRICT.—The Lake Lode Company continues its usual yield and the new properties opened up in the district are giving encouraging results.

MOOSE RIVER DISTRICT.—Mr. D. Touquoy was in the city with his December baby weighing 59½ ozs., from 340 tons crushed. Of this amount 253 tons was surface stuff and 87 tons quartz.

MOOSELANDS.—Mr. Stenshorn has been pushing prospecting on his property in spite of the wet weather, and has had all he can do to battle with the surface water. Some of the quartz from one of his leads, crushed in the old and defective mill at Mooselands, yielded 2 ozs. to the ton. Mr. Stenshorn is positive that he is close upon the lead he has been so persistently looking for, but has suspended operations until the cold weather freezes the surface water, which now flows into the pit as fast as he can bail it out.

LOCHABER DISTRICT.—Mr. Cox and Mr. Ashton are on a visit of inspection to the mines in this district, the machinery on which is now about ready to be started up. Mr. Tapscott returned to England on Monday last.

The motion to appoint a receiver in the case of Putnam vs Hardman vs Taylor has been argued, and judgment reserved.

CENTRAL RAWDON.—The Gould Northrup mine has made returns at the Mines Office for November and December as follows:—November, 93 c from 80 tons crushed. December, 131 ozs. from 80 tons.

The Whiteburn Mill returns for October 161 ozs. gold from 110 tons quartz crushed, and for November 87 ozs. of gold from 75 tons of quartz crushed.

QUEENS COUNTY ITEMS FROM *The Gold Hunter*.—Rumor has it that a Mining Company, of Philadelphia, has purchased property adjoining the Parker-Douglas ground at Molega, and will at once proceed to build a mill for the treatment of ores.

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Whiting.....

Mr. Roderick McLeod, manager of the McGuire Mine, Whiteburn, returned on the 1st inst., from a visit to his old home.

**NORTH BROOKFIELD MINE.**—There has been some very fine ore taken from the Dunbrack load this week. It has not been bettered in this County.

Mr. M. Barkhouse is now prospecting on the property by Corrigan Lake and expects to find more leads as rich as those he discovered last summer. We hope rainy weather will not cause him to cease operations as before.

Mr. J. H. Anderson, of Musquodoboit, who recently bonded the Cushing Mine at Whiteburn, visited that property this week, accompanied by Messrs. Tapscott and Cox, of England, intending purchasers, assisted by W. B. Harlow, guide and expert. Two shafts were bailed out and a quantity of ore obtained, which, together with samples of tailings from the mill, will be forwarded to London, Eng., for test and assay. We have always had faith in this mine, and confidently expect in the near future to see work prosecuted on an extensive scale.

**MOLEGA ITEMS.**—An English mining man was on the property of the Molega Mining Company last week in the interest of a party who is contemplating making a purchase of the whole thing; he went away with good impressions of the property.

The "Rabbit Lead" is showing up some extra fine ore. The mill of the Minneapolis Company on Molega Lake, has been running a few stamps for a week, with the usual interruptions of starting up new machinery.

Parker & Douglas mill is running, but in the absence of the superintendent, Col. Hufty, nothing more is easily learned.

The Clementsport, Annapolis Co. iron works and mines have been sold to a gentleman of Ontario.

James Meisner and his 13-year-old son, washed \$100 worth of gold at the Ovens this season in 30 days, being employed but six hours a day.—*Advance.*

**RAT PORTAGE DISTRICT.**—The Privy Council award, settling the titles troubles, has been received with joy. A by-law, granting a \$15,000 bonus to smelting works, will now be passed, and the works started at once. Already Americans are on their way to Toronto to get their patents, and preparations are being quietly made, plans discussed, for a special boat to bring ores in from all around the Lake of the Woods to the smelter. The boat is to be nearly flat on the bottom, and have a novel plan of loading and unloading ore.—*Canadian Mining Review.*

**CANADA'S MINERAL PRODUCE.**—The following is a statement of the total production of minerals of Canada for 1888, with all the accuracy that can be expected by diligent inquiry from the various sources of production:—

Produce.	Quantity.	Value.
Antimony ore.....	534 tons	\$ 22,000
Arsenic.....	50 "	2,000
Asbestos.....	5,600 tons	237,000
Baryta.....	600 "	3,000
Building stone.....	32,300 ch. yds.	600,000
Cement.....	75,843 bbls	91,640
Charcoal.....	1,925,400 bush.	92,000
Chromic iron ore.....	41 tons	720
Coal.....	3,268,011 tons	6,108,429
Coke.....	40,198 "	90,244
Copper.....	4,260,424 lbs.	432,345
Flagstone.....	140,925 sq. ft.	12,811
Gold.....		1,645,780
Granite.....	20,128 tons	100,000
Graphite.....	400 "	3,200
Grindstone.....	3,772 "	42,368
Gypsum.....	162,000 "	164,000
Iron.....	60,527 "	1,287,000
Iron ore.....	86,000 "	165,197
Lead.....	234,800 lbs.	11,216
Lime.....	2,303,657 bush.	398,369
Limestone for iron tanks.....	17,171 "	17,500
Manganese ore.....	11,930 tons	45,672
Marble and serpentine.....	400 "	10,000
Marble.....	32,083 yds	39,816
Miscellaneous clay products.....		73,670
Ochre.....	200 tons	25
Petroleum.....	hbl. of 35 imp'l galls. 694,411	963,641
Phosphate.....	34,690 tons	555,010
Pig Iron.....	34,827 "	390,000
Platinum.....	2,400 oz.	2,400
Pyrites.....	38,043 tons	171,191
Salt.....	75,173 "	192,000
Silver.....		422,000
Slate.....	10,355 tons	105,100
Soapstone.....	200 "	1,600
Sulphuric acid.....	6,477,950 lbs.	80,609
Superphosphate.....	698 tons	28,000
Tile.....	Thousands	19,600
Whiting.....	800 bbls	1,050
<b>Total.....</b>		<b>\$15,239,136</b>

The following are the official gold returns so far received at the Mines Office for the month of December, kindly furnished by Mr. W. H. Brown, of the Mines Office:—

District.	Mill.	Tons Crushed.	Ozs. Gold.
Salmon River.....	Dufferin Mill.....	900	156
Lake Catcha.....	Oxford.....	75	81½
Taugier.....	Brunawick.....	30	7
Cariboo.....	Lake Lode.....	307	212½
"	Mooso River.....	793	87½
"	"	139½	33½
15 Mile Stream.....	Egerton.....	50	26½
Stormont.....	Rockland.....	235½	167½
Renfrew.....	Free Claim.....	34½	24½
Umanack.....	Withrow.....	30	96
Sherbrooke.....	Wm. L. Pye—Miners....	250	40½

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has made a special study of, all kinds of Furnace  
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Established in 1884, under the Act of Quebec,  
32 Vict., Chap. 36, for the Benefit of  
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nization of the Province  
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The 19th Monthly Drawing will take place  
On WEDNESDAY, January 16th, 1889.  
At 2 o'clock, p.m.

PRIZES VALUE, \$50,000.

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

### LIST OF PRIZES.

1 Real Estate worth.....	\$5,000	\$5,000
1 Real Estate worth.....	2,000	2,000
1 Real Estate worth.....	1,000	1,000
4 Real Estates worth.....	500	2,000
10 Real Estates worth.....	200	2,000
30 Furniture Sets worth.....	100	3,000
50 Furniture Sets worth.....	50	2,500
200 Gold Watches worth.....	20	4,000
1000 Silver Watches worth.....	10	10,000
1000 Toilet Sets.....	5	5,000

2307 Prizes worth ..... \$50,000.00

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Offers are made to all winners to pay the prizes  
cash, less a commission of 10 per cent  
Winners' names not published unless specially  
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DRAWINGS ON THE THIRD WEDNESDAY  
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## HOME AND FARM.

Professor A. J. Cook, of the Michigan Agricultural College, speaks very highly of Japanese Buckwheat for Bees. He paid \$3 00 a bushel for seed, which he thought was certainly a high price, but the result caused him to feel no regret at having paid it. "I sowed," he says, "one-half early in June, and the remainder late in the same month. Thus the field was in blossom a long time.

When the blossoms first opened, the bees visited them freely, though upon close observation it was found that the bees ceased gathering from these flowers sometime before the flowers faded.

Common report hath it, that bees will not work after noonday on the flowers of common buckwheat. This was not true this season on the Japanese variety; bees were on the flowers at all times of the day. But what astonished us all was the prolificness of this buckwheat, and the great size of the berry. All who saw it said they never saw its equal.

I sowed it on the site of an old brick-kiln—solid clay soil with almost no humus, and yet I had a fairly good crop. I took two bushels to mill, that we might test the flour. The miller said he never saw so little waste in buckwheat, nor such enormous kernels. Of course the little waste would follow from the large size of the kernel. We have tested the flour in griddle-cakes with maple syrup, and pronounce it A No. 1.

Dr. Beal says he believes that this is our common buckwheat, *Fagopyrum esculentum*. As buckwheat is a native of North Asia, this is quite likely true; but one has only to see the two side by side to be convinced that this Japanese is a distinct and well marked variety.

Let me suggest reasons why farmers (especially bee keeping farmers) should sow buckwheat as a part of their crop rotation. First, it is sown late in June, and the comparative leisure after planting gives opportunity to prepare the ground. Secondly, it is an excellent crop to precede corn on land that is infested with wire-worms. It seems to starve out these terribly destructive grubs. Again, it is a profitable crop, often paying as well or better than does wheat. It also gives us the basis of our buckwheat cakes, which, with maple syrup, will tempt the most capricious appetite. Lastly, buckwheat furnishes oftentimes abundant nectar for the bees when all else fails."

We do not ourselves particularly care for the high and somewhat strong flavor imparted to honey by buckwheat, but we believe there are many who like it; at all events the bees do, and a small patch on a farm where bees are kept has a distinct value, both from the ease of cultivation, and the excellent food it makes for poultry in alternation with other nourishment.

To make winter dairying profitable, cows must have good warm quarters to keep them comfortable in cold weather, and be kept out of the storms. The old way of having them run out in the barnyard with no shelter but an open shed which only a few of the master cows would go under, will not answer.

Cows have to be wintered whether they give milk or not, and when they receive a meal ration twice a day they will not eat more than half a ration of hay or fodder, and consequently they must not be charged with the full cost of the meal, unless they receive credit for the lessened consumption of fodder.

Sheep look full after eating frozen grass, but a few weeks of such food reduces them in flesh and shows plainly that a small allowance of grain is necessary to keep them in condition to winter profitably. Always put the sheep under cover during the cold and stormy weather, it will save hay and grain next winter.

While the fields are bare of snow, sheep prefer to grub the sere fields to being fed at the barn, and will take to the fields and remain there if not driven up. Every farmer ought to have some sheep, but unless he can give them good attention he is better without them. And at this season they need special care, so that they are kept healthy and started in winter in good condition.

APPLE BUTTER—Apple butter has been made in Pennsylvania, by the following recipe, for upwards of fifty years; and is said to be the best article of the kind known to commerce. Canadian farmers can use up a large quantity of their early fall fruit to good purpose in this way, and produce, cheaply, a very superior and healthful article of diet that will be highly appreciated at their own tables: To forty gallons of good sweet cider made from sound ripe apples, use three bushels of selected apples. The cider should be boiled down one third or a little less before putting in the apples, which should be pared clean and well cored. They may be quartered or cut finer if large; a good paring machine which cores and cuts into circles will be found to greatly lessen the work. As soon as the fruit becomes soft commence stirring, and continue until it is cooked. When boiled down to ten gallons it will be done. Put in earthen vessels, and when cold, dip clean white paper in good whiskey or brandy, and lay over the tops. In four months after making, if kept in a garret, which is said to be the best place, the jars can be inverted without any leakage. If it is made with the right kind of apples it will become as smooth as cheese, and will keep for years. Vick highly recommends this recipe in his Illustrated Magazine. Never allow the fire to strike the kettle above the line of contents.  
—Farmer's Advocate.

The following extract from the *Farmer's Advocate*, London, Ont., not only shows that interest is taken there in the *Maritime Provinces*, but is also a very good summary of the last season:—

"The season has been a very trying one for farmers. So wet a having and harvest is not remembered by that wonderful person, 'the oldest inhabitant.' Frost and flood has done an incalculable amount of injury.

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The root crops, however, will be pretty good, and the price of all kinds of produce is tending upward, so that those farmers who have anything to sell will get a good price for it. The New Brunswick government importation of horses and sheep were a good lot, and sold well, the two-year-old Clydesdale fillies bringing in the vicinity of \$400, and the Percherons, a year younger, bringing well up to that figure. The sheep also sold well, one Shropshire ram bringing \$100. The exhibition in Fredericton, except in horses, was not much of a show, and there was but one fine day out of the three. The New Brunswick Farmers' Association meets in Fredericton this winter, and will probably be more largely attended than usual, as the new regulations in reference to agriculture allow the different agricultural societies to pay the expenses of one or more delegates to the association—a course that was prohibited under the old regime. The subjects for discussion are not given to the public yet. St. John is moving to have a grand industrial exposition, or exhibition, next year. Toronto has been so successful in holding such exhibitions that St. John proposes to follow her example; and if the St. John men undertake it, they will make it a success if it can be done. County and parish exhibitions have been almost failures in many places this year on account of the weather. The Provincial Exhibition of Nova Scotia, held in Truro the last week in September, was very successful as an agricultural show; but in manufactures it was a failure. The manufacturers of the province said they were so driven with orders that they had not time to make an exhibit. The winter term of the Nova Scotia Agricultural School opened the 15th November, and there is a prospect of a large class. The government have bought a farm, and Professor Smith, who has charge of the school, expects to be able to combine the practical with the theoretical. Students are taken from any of the Maritime Provinces. Plowing and underdraining has been the principal work done at the Experimental Farm at Nappan this summer; and preparatory work, largely. Prince Edward Island did not suffer by flood and frost, as did Nova Scotia and New Brunswick. In fact, the frost of September 6th, that did so much damage in the provinces and in the Eastern States, did not strike the Island at all. They have had a long, wet season, but their crops were good, and they managed, somehow, between the showers to get the principal part of their grain harvested without much injury. And as the farmers there have a large amount of grain to sell, the rise in price, in addition to the good crop, will make it a good year for the Island.

OUR COSY CORNER.

**Gossip About Gloves.**—The favorite is a medium tint verging on yellow. Heavy stitching on the back of a glove is bad form. Such atrocities as green gloves with white stitching on the back can only be tolerated in shop windows. White gloves are now fashionable with white dresses, but light tan shades are often used even by bridesmaids. Do not have your gloves too tight; it is neither graceful nor fashionable to see a six and a half hand crowded into a six glove. Occasionally the general woman fancies an all black toilet, and then the gloves are black kid, undressed or glace, as she prefers. Evening gloves are as long as ever, and again reach to the lower edge of the short sleeves; they are in mousquetaire shape, and must be quite plain on the back, being very simply corded there. Tan gloves may be worn with all costumes save those of gray or in which gray is most prominent, when gray gloves are substituted. Gray gloves are worn with gray dresses, as are black also. The "draw seams," with edges of the kid showing, are on stylish gloves, and are quite new on black gloves, showing white edges of the kid. Ladies' riding gloves are now "tilburied"—that is, faced double inside the palms and fingers, just like those worn by men, and they may be short enough to require but one button to fasten them, or long enough to require four buttons. The undressed kid gloves of light quality, with corded backs, are the fashionable choice for visiting or carriage toilets, but heavier kid gloves have wide stitching of self color or of black, and are most used for morning walking toilets and with tailor gowns of cloth. Some of these are fastened by four large gilt buttons, while others are in the sac shape, without an opening at the wrist. Tan, gray, black and white gloves are the only colors used in a fashionable woman's outfit, and it is quite possible for her to be well gloved with all her various kinds of gloves in tan shades, very dark tan color being used for the street in the daytime, and very light tan for the evening, and as there are seventeen different tints of tan, an individual tone is possible even when "everybody" wears tan.

"The Catogon" is the coming style in hair now in vogue in Paris. This style is to rake the hair forward to the top of the head. It is caught and massed just in that part of the centre where gentlemen generally begin to find their hair growing thin. The *raison d'etre* of this style of hair-dressing is not far to seek. Woman, ambitious woman, is always trying to add a cubit to her stature. She did it once by high-heeled boots; anon she crowned herself with the prodigious hat, and now she is adopting the pile of hair.

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

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**TO CORRESPONDENTS.**

**PRIZE AWARDS.**—Mrs. H. Mosoley, of Dartmouth, has won our first prize—one of the latest issued and best works on checkers—having correctly solved forty-six of the eighty-one problems that we laid before our checkerists during the late year.

The second prize has fallen to "Dixie," of Antigonish, whose excessive (in our opinion,) modesty causes him to wish his name withheld from the public. Though he began to compete only in the latter half of the year, he sent correct solutions to nineteen problems and thus won second place in the prize competition. His prize is one of the handsomest books recently published on checkers, and contains all the important matches since 1847.

These prizes are on their way from England. They were not ordered earlier because we wished to present our prize-winners with the very latest as well as the best books possible. On their receipt they will be promptly forwarded.

Some of our corresponding checkerists—especially those to the westward—started very well, and would undoubtedly have secured one, if not both, of the prizes, had they continued as they began, but they "wearing in the race," and dropped out before it was half-over. We hope that they and all others will maintain their interest throughout the whole of the current year.

Those desiring to enter for the correspondence tourney should forward their names and addresses to W. Forsyth, 36 Grafton Street, at their earliest possible convenience.

The long talked of match between the champions respectively of America and of England—Charles F. Barker, of Boston, Mass., and James Smith, of Spennymoor, England—was commenced at the Town Hall of Spennymoor on Monday, the 24th of December last. The stake at issue is \$1000. Our advices show that in the first day's play seven and one-half hours were consumed in consummating two drawn games. In the second game Smith got a man ahead at an early stage, but he was unable to hold that apparent advantage, for after a contest of over three hours Barker forced him to yield the man, and to consent to a draw. In the second game of the second day's play Barker caught his opponent in a cunningly devised trap which, after a brief struggle, led the American to the first win of the match. The latest information at hand shows that seventeen of the thirty-two games provided for by the terms of the match had been played, of which Barker won three, Smith one, and the rest were drawn.

**SOLUTIONS.**

Correct solutions have been received from "F.," Shubenacadie, for problems 80 and 81, and from Mrs. Mosoley, "Dixie," and H. A. McD., Thorburn, to the latter problem. The position in Problem 81 was:—black men 7,

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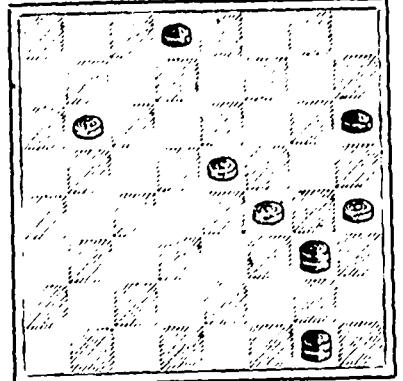
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