

THE CRITIC:

A Maritime Provincial Journal.

DEVOTED TO

Commerce, Manufacturing, Mining and Agriculture.

50 PER ANNUM.
SINGLE COPY 5 CTS.

HALIFAX, N. S., JUNE 1, 1888

{ VOL. 5.
No. 22.

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THE CRITIC,

Published every Friday, at 161 Hollis Street, Halifax, Nova Scotia,

BY

CRITIC PUBLISHING COMPANY.

Edited by C. F. FRASER.

Subscription \$1.50 per annum in advance. Single copies 5 cents.

SAMPLE COPIES SENT FREE.

Remittances should be made to A. M. FRASER, BUSINESS MANAGER.

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.

The Monroe-doctrine Americans are now exercised at the preparations for making Esquimault an efficient Naval Yard. The C. P. R. alone is bad enough, but to utilize it to strengthen Esquimault is too—too much.

Mr. Harry Teas of the London Fruit Store, has opened a branch in Mr. U. Lenoir's building on Hollis street, which has been beautifully fitted up for the occasion. With a regard for the health of his patrons that is most commendable, Mr. Teas has selected a site between two of the leading drug establishments of the city. The bane and the antidote, the fruit, the ice cream and the drugs, are all at hand—together. Joking aside, the new premises are a great improvement to this part of Hollis street, and will doubtless be largely patronized. Only an undertaker's establishment is required to complete the "eternal fitness" of things.

The *Montreal Daily Witness*, commenting very happily on Mr. Labour's satire on the Donnelly lunacy, says very truly, "So completely are many men unable to weigh evidence that any such palpable bosh as this,"—the Bacon Shakespeare fad—"is sure to have an enormous number of believers. Hopeless of reaching such people otherwise, Mr. Labouchere has gravely given them a new dose to swallow," and concludes a sharp little editorial thus.—"We shall next hear that all Tennyson's poems are the work of Mr. Gladstone, and that the letters G. O. M. can be found in every possible corner, and in every possible order in those poems." Finit!

The *St. John Globe*, in a recent paragraph in which the name occurs of Lieut. Col. O'Brien, M. P., for Manitoba, puts the word "Colonel" in quotation marks. The quotation marks would be quite in place if Col. O'Brien was a Salvation Army "Colonel," but an officer of Militia has a perfect conventional right to use the title of his rank if he cares to do so, while the succeeding remark, "the Colonel is a Tory," leads to a somewhat avicious inference. Col. O'Brien is, we believe, Commanding Officer of the 35th (Simcoe) Battalion, and saw service in the N. W. in 1885. Lord Stanley, of Preston, was known for many years as Colonel Stanley, as was Colonel Sibthorpe, M. P. Both were Militia ranks only.

The Canadian Pacific seems to be behaving in a very ill-conditioned way with regard to Manitoba. The first difficulty, we take it, was largely due to the arbitrary dictation and rather mean threats of removing the workshops from Winnipeg. Now Mr. Van Horne is venting his displeasure at recent events by further threats that, if Manitoba does not purchase the Emerson Branch of the C. P. R., that company will not build the branch railways through the Province that are so much needed. All this is very bad. The Company has been guaranteed its interest on \$15,000,000 as the price of abandoning its monopoly, and still tries to bully. If Sir George Stephen and Mr. Van Horne go on in this way they will reap a rich harvest of unpopularity in the very near future.

It is singular that a freedom-loving nation can bring or allow itself to tolerate the professional informer system for the detection of what cannot be called crime, because it amounts at the utmost to no more than irregularity. Strange to say the Americans seem to be more given to this sort of thing than any modern people. An outrageous case of injustice has recently been perpetrated in this connection. A spy of the State Dairy Association sneaks into a Brooklyn boarding house, sits at table, and secures some of the butter in use. Upon analysis it is found to be oleomargarine. The landlady was unaware that it was not butter, but she was arrested and fined \$50. Surely infamy could scarcely go further. Mr. Anthony Comstock could scarcely beat this record. A good deal of this sort of abomination has found favor in Canada in the last few years. The public reprobation of informing scoundrels should be so marked that they would not enter on their despicable operations without fear and trembling.

The letter of "Deep Miner," published in our Mining columns, is worthy of serious attention, as the views which he formulates, if carried into practice, will certainly solve the question of deep mining which we touched upon editorially in our last issue. The question is of vital importance to the future of our gold mines, and the proposal to form a company in which all the mining men of the Province may interest themselves, is so happy, that we think it will be acted upon at once. A company so formed would be enabled to select a proper site to sink upon, and if the government is disposed to assist, it would be much less objectionable to grant privileges to a company so formed than to a private individual. We should like to see the subject thoroughly discussed, and for that purpose, our columns will always be open to our mining friends. "Deep Miner" is a thoroughly practical man, and his views on mining subjects always demand attention. We think that he has hit on the right plan to test the question of the continuance in depth of our gold deposits—as when the expense is divided up among so many the result—if the worst comes to the worst, and no gold should be found, would be a small loss to each member. If capital is to be raised, we think enough should be called for, to sink two or more shafts, as the first one might possibly prove unproductive, and it would be hardly fair to condemn deep mining on the failure of a single shaft.

CANADIAN RAILWAYS.

The rapid advance in Railway construction in Canada during the past ten years is truly astonishing. "Johnson's Graphic Statistics" give much data on the subject, and from it we glean that on the 30th June last, there were nearly 12,300 miles of completed Railway in the country. The freight carried in the year ended 30th June last amounted to 16,367,987 tons. The passengers carried, numbered 10,267,508. The receipts from passenger traffic were \$11,861,597, and from freight traffic \$24,581,047. The receipts per train mile were \$1 15½, the expenditure \$2 1-10 cents, and the percentage of gross receipts expended in working the railways was somewhat over 71 per cent. The passengers carried were equal to two and one-fifth persons per inhabitant and the freight to over three tons and a third for each man, woman and child in the country. The total earnings (nearly 36 millions) make up a sum about equal to the entire revenue of the country, including receipts from the Government railways and other public works. The total expenses were \$27,624,688.

It is interesting to note the advances which railways have made in Canada during the past ten years. The number of miles completed has exactly doubled. The total number of passengers carried has increased nearly 66 per cent. The number of tons of freight carried has increased 107 per cent. The receipts from passengers have increased 83 per cent., and those from freights over 87 per cent. The total receipts from all sources have increased nearly 90 per cent., and the expenses, instead of keeping pace with the receipts, only show an increase of not quite 72 per cent. The earnings of the Intercolonial Railway have increased in the ten years nearly 90 per cent.

Compared with the year immediately preceding, last year shows up well. The number of completed miles increased by seven hundred. The number of passengers carried increased by 824,474; the number of tons freight carried increased by 697,529 tons; the receipts from all sources increased by \$5,452,227, and the expenses \$3,447,001. The receipts per train mile show an increase of seven cents, and the percentage of gross receipts expended in working the railways shows a decrease. The Intercolonial Railway carried 130,000 tons more freight and 50,000 more passengers.

When we supplement these statistics with a *resumé* of the report of the Canadian Pacific Railway, which was submitted at the annual meeting of the shareholders, held in Montreal on the 9th inst., the exhibit will be found most satisfactory, and furnishes indisputable evidence of the progress of the Dominion. Some eight years ago, the Canadian Pacific Railway Company had no existence, last year the gross earnings of the road were about 12,000,000, while the net earnings for the year were \$3,500,000.

The company's system, at present, embraces over five thousand miles of railway, and its ramifications extend to almost all portions of Canada. Besides this it has an extensive commercial telegraph system, and a steamship line on the Pacific Ocean, plying between America, China and Japan. It is, besides, rapidly perfecting its facilities at its terminal points.

Several important extensions and feeders of the road are fast being pushed to completion. The Algoma branch and the connecting branch from Minneapolis to Sault Ste. Marie are expected to be ready for regular traffic next month, and a connection with Duluth is expected to be made a month or two later, while, before the year closes, it is anticipated the short line to St. John will be completed, and the terminal facilities at Toronto and Montreal will be ready for use. All these improvements will very much enhance the earning power of the road, and place it in a position which must ensure its prosperity. Some idea of the bright outlook for this enterprise may be had from the fact that in 1887 the total quantity of grain moved on this road was 15,014,000 bushels, against 10,950,000 bushels in the previous year. This increase of fifty per cent was due to the magnificent harvest in the North-West. In view of the bright outlook, the directors say that "in view of the large amount of grain from last year's crop remaining to be removed from the North-West, of the large increase in acreage under crop for the present year, of the unusual flow of emigration to the North-West and the evidences of a general revival in the trade of the country; in view of the growth of the local industries along the line and the constant increase in the through traffic of the railway, and the more harmonious relations with competing lines, and in view of the new lines of the company that have only recently been completed, and the new connections that have recently been made, and of the early opening of the two important American lines to Sault Ste. Marie, both of which will command a heavy traffic, already existing, the directors feel justified in concluding this report with an expression of their belief that the results of the present year's operations will be most gratifying to the shareholders."

IMPERIAL FEDERATION.

Long ago, and more than once, we have thought it well to reiterate the fact that the measure of the value of the Canadian Pacific was the American abuse and ridicule of it. Monroe-doctrine Americans were prescient enough to see that the vast country to be penetrated and opened up by it had all the capabilities of a mighty State in a future not very far to look forward to. As long ago as 1858, Mr. Seward said in the United States Senate, that he had shared with many of his countrymen the conviction that Canada, a mere strip of country lying north of the States, would, at no distant date, merge itself naturally into the union. "But," continued Mr. Seward, "I have dropped that opinion as a national conceit"; and had that very distinguished Statesman lived to read the report of Senator Schultz's committee on the "Wild North Land," he would have been yet more deeply impressed with the fact that, to use his own words, Canada is heir to "a region grand enough for the seat of a great Empire." To the opening up of this grand expansion the C. P. R. furnishes the base line. But we are wandering a little from the connection with our own base of thought. We are sometimes led to think seriously of a subject which would otherwise scarcely occur to us at all as other than an abstraction by the vehement abuse of it. This has been somewhat the case with us with regard to Imperial Federation. For a long time it looked to us very much like a speculative abstraction with obstacles one could by no means see any means of removing, in the way of reducing it to a practical shape. All, indeed, that we are yet able to perceive is, that a manful effort is being made to clear the ground, so that the difficulties which bestrew it may at all events be fairly recognized and estimated, and we should suspect but little beyond this, were it not for the excitement about it displayed by the annexationist press, which bestows upon the "fad," as it calls it, an amount of attention which engenders a suspicion that it really sees in it a tangible danger to its unpatriotic aspirations. One thing, at all events, seems clear, that the taunt of an incapability of definition comes with a very poor grace from those who were utterly unable to satisfy us as to how we were to raise a revenue under complete Reciprocity.

We have no hesitation in saying that we should rejoice exceedingly if we could discern the possibilities of Imperial Federation more clearly than, at this moment, honesty compels us to acknowledge we do. But of one thing we are certain—that the discussion of so great a subject cannot but have the effect of eliciting facts of permanent value, whether tending to one side or the other. We have learned a good deal even from the Commercial Union discussion, though what we have learned is unfavorable to that theory. The earnestness of the growing movement cannot fail to teach us some new points in our intercolonial relations and in those with the mother

country. Any consideration of these relations is evidently highly distasteful to the annexationists; but, as we have said before, they do not rule the roost yet; and if the Federation idea seems to them so absurd a "fad" as they would fain have it believed, they would, one would think, quietly give it rope to hang itself. As it is, they seem not a little afraid of it. At all events, there is to be, as we understand, a larger meeting than has yet been held in Halifax, on the 4th inst., and we sincerely hope it may be of an encouraging nature.

THE FIRST OF JUNE.

Halifax, seventy-five years ago, tho' as now, the head-quarters of the North American Station, must have been a quaint and quiet old place. Since then she has grown and increased, has welcomed royal princes, and seen many a pageant more brilliant than her old-time population and condition could have afforded scope for, but it may be safely assumed that no subsequent excitement can ever have equalled that which she experienced when the Shannon glided up her noble harbor in company with her prize the Chesapeake. This did not occur until the 6th of June, but the action was fought off Boston on the 1st. This date had long been marked in English almanacs as "the glorious 1st of June," on account of Lord Howe's great victory in 1794. But great victories over the French were not so uncommon, while a series of reverses in single actions with American vessels rendered the British success in the first battle fought on even terms, a matter of more importance and gratulation than any ordinary defeat of a French fleet.

The errors which had, more superficially than really, tarnished the lustre of British naval prestige, were very distinct. The triumph of Trafalgar and the consequent suppression to a great extent of the naval power of our old enemies had had the worst possible effect on the British navy in begetting a careless sense of superiority, and great negligence in gunnery; while, being still at war with France, the drain on the resources of England in men was such that every ship was not only undermanned but many were manned with the worst possible material—the scourgings of the streets and the sweepings of the gozls. The build of the English ships of that day was far below the French, their quarters were confined, their tonnage small, and their guns inferior.

In all these respects the Americans had, with admirable foresight, taken a long stride ahead of us. Their ships were few, but that very fact enabled them to be manned with picked crews of great numerical strength. No expense was spared in their outfit, the three great frigates—the President, the Constitution, and the United States, had the masts and scantling of an English 74, and far more than a 74's height between decks, and room at quarters. They carried their ports high out of the water and their crews were thoroughly practiced at their guns. Other advantages—the use for instance of worst sort of lantridge—were not quite so creditable.

Under these conditions we had lost three frigates, the Guerriere, the Java and the Macedonian, to the Constitution and the United States. The Guerriere was in a state of complete rottenness and was on her way to refit. She would probably, had she not been taken, have been broken up. The Java was on her way to the East Indies full of stores, and with one of the worst crews that even that evil period could supply. The Guerriere sunk shortly after the action, and Commodore Bainbridge burnt the Java, apparently because he was rather ashamed of having been fought by her for three hours and a half when he ought to have taken her in half an hour. A single statistical comparison of force illustrates all these three actions, the English frigates not varying in tonnage one from another by ten tons, the American being all alike.

	Broadside guns.	Weight.	Men.	Tons.
Constitution,.....	28.....	768.....	450.....	1533
Guerriere,.....	24.....	517.....	244.....	1092

Four or five sloop actions resulted in favor of the Americans from precisely analogous causes, tho' as with the Shannon and Chesapeake, the successes were mostly British when the forces were equal. Still the balance of captures was largely in favor of the Americans.

Every one knows the chivalrous spirit which animated both combatants, and brought the Chesapeake out of Boston harbor to be carried by boarding in fifteen minutes from the firing of the first gun. We cannot go into the details of the action, but there was this remarkable about it. No ship's company in the Navy had been trained in gunnery as Capt. Broke had trained the crew of the Shannon, but it was not by her gunnery, which was her strongest point, that the fight was won, but by seizing the right moment and boarding.

For the first time an English and an American ship had met, with an equality of force, and the spell of American success was broken. The subsequent capture of the President enabled Englishmen to verify with their own eyes the immense disparity of force to which the results of the previous frigate actions were due. The comparative force of the Shannon and Chesapeake was as follows:

	Broadside guns.	Weight.	Crew.	Tons.
Shannon,.....	25.....	538.....	306.....	1066
Chesapeake,.....	25.....	590.....	377.....	1135

The ships were brought into Halifax, by Lieutenant Provo W. P. Wallis, Second Lieut. of the Shannon, Capt. Broke being disabled by wounds received in boarding, and the First Lieut. killed by an unfortunate accident, by the Shannon's own men. The brave Capt. Lawrence died of his wounds on the passage, was buried here on the 8th with full honors, and followed to the grave by all the Naval Captains in port.

That most valuable work, James' Naval History, contains the full particulars of the memorable fight which took place seventy-five years ago to-day.

CHIT-CHAT AND CHUCKLES.

THE QUEEN'S HIGHWAY.

By silver streams and azure lakes,
Nearth snow clad mountains soaring high,
Through wild primeval forest-brakes,
O'er plains that sleep beneath the sky
Three thousand miles, from sea to sea,
From rosy dawn to twilight grey,
It runs—and every inch is free—
That royal road, "The Queen's Highway."

Atlantic to Pacific speaks
Along the wonder of its wires;
Through gorges deep, by lonely creeks
Glimmers its chain of signal fires.
The drowsy giants reveal
Her huge Dominion's ample way,
As through her mighty bulk she feels
The backbone of "The Queen's Highway."

Should battle's angry tocsin toll,
Or treason mutter from afar,
Along the iron track would roll
The thunder of the wains of war.
But now, on either hand, the fields
Their blameless stores of gold display,
And West to East its plenty yields,
Fit gear to grace "The Queen's Highway."

O God of nations' praise be Thine,
That puny man should thus prevail!
Without Thy aid his powers decline,
Falter his steps, his labours fall.
In days of peace, 'neath danger's stress,
Of Thy great mercy grant, we pray,
Our children's children still may bless
That royal road, "The Queen's Highway."

H. F. WILSON.

No rules can make amiability; our minds and apprehension make that, and so is our felicity.

"My son," said the Auburn parent, Sunday, "What was the text?"
"I dunno, pa," was the reply of the four-year old, "but I guess it was, 'He that tumbleth himself shall be exhausted.'"

The great Duke of Wellington once lost the services of a good chef for no other reason than that he was careless regarding the quality of his meals. "I cannot stay vit him," said the wounded artist. "I cook him a dinner fit for the king—he say nothing; I go out, and leave zo dinner to zo stupid cook-maid—again he say nothing!"

A Scotch Judge having sentenced a sheep-stealer to be hanged on the 28th of the then current month, the prisoner called out to him—"My Lord, my Lord, I hae'na got justice here the day!" The Judge, who was arranging his papers previous to leaving the court, looked up with a twinkle of grim fun in his eye, and consolingly answered—"Weel, wool, my mon, ye'll get it on the 28th!"

"Susan," said an Irishman to his fellow servant, "what are the bells ringing for?"

"In honor of the Princess' birthday," was the reply.
"Be aisy, jewel," rejoined Pat, "none of your thricks upou travellers; 'twas the Prince of Wales' on the 9th, and how can it be his sister's twelve day's after, unless indade they were twins?"

"Pa, what's a mirage?"
"It's the union of one man and one woman until the law shall separate them."

"That's a marriage, pa. I want to know what a mirage is."
"Same thing, sonny, same thing. A man imagines he sees wonders where there is nothing. Fight shy of them, sonny, fight shy of them. Each is a delusion and a snare."

Mother—"Johnny, don't you hear me? Go and bring me an armful of wood this instant. What are you and Agnes doing?"

Johnny—"Holding a convention. I'm trying to get Agnes to vote for me for chairman."

Mother—"Why don't you vote for him, daughter, so he can do what I told him to do?"

Agnes—"Very well, Johnny, I vote for you for chairman."
"That elects me. The chair appoints Agnes a committee to bring in the wood."

Boys is men that have not got as big as their papas, and girls is young women that will be young ladies by and by. Man was made before woman: When God looked at Adam, he said to himself, "Well, I guess I can do better than that if I try again," and then he made Eve. God liked Eve so much better than he did Adam that there has been more women than men in the world ever since. Boys are a trouble; they are very wearing on everything, but soap. If I could have my way, half the boys in the world would be little girls, and the other half would be dolls. My papa was so nice to me that I guess he must have been a girl when he was a little boy.
—A Girl's Composition on Boys.

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 Diarrhoea, 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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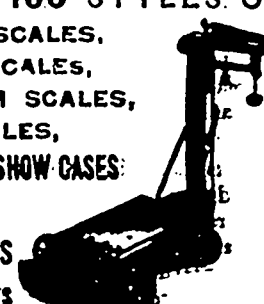
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NEWS OF THE WEEK.

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

Lt. Col. Oliver, R. E., has resigned the command of the Royal Military College, Kingston.

Mr. Chas. Tupper, member for Pictou, has been appointed Minister of Marine and Fisheries.

It has been stated that the appointments to Lieutenant Governorships, elsewhere indicated, will not be made until July.

Lord Lansdowne sailed from Quebec, on the 24th May, in the *Parisian*, amid the hearty cheers of an immense crowd.

Further honors at Rome are said to be awaiting Archbishop Fabre, of Quebec, whose conciliatory policy, no doubt, commends itself to the approval of the Pope.

Lt. General Sir Jno. Ross was sworn in as Administrator, pending the arrival of Lord Stanley, at the Waverley, on Saturday, by Judge Fournier, who arrived from Ottawa for that purpose.

General Lord Alexander Russell, family and suite left on Monday by the *Peruvian* for England, Lord Alexander having completed his five years term of service in command of the Imperial Forces in the Dominion.

The folly of permitting the nuisance of fire-crackers in the streets on occasions of festivity has been illustrated at Selby, near Napanee, to the tune of \$18,000, by the destruction of two churches, a hotel, and several dwellings.

At a meeting of the Protestant Ministerial Association, a resolution was unanimously adopted expressing appreciation of Archbishop Fabre's conciliatory action regarding the proposed statue to the Virgin Mary in Mount Royal Park.

H. M. S. *Bellerophon*, Capt. Bouverie Clark, flag of Vice-Admiral Lyons, and the *Pylades*, Capt. Rolfe, C. B., left Bermuda for this port yesterday. H. M. S. *Comus* goes into dock at Bermuda. The *Tourmaline* is expected at Bermuda from Jamaica about the end of June.

The Public Park on the Canadian side of the Niagara Falls was opened last Wednesday week. It is two miles and a half long, and contains 118 acres. Canadians of every province will rejoice that the natural beauties of the locality have been taken out of the hands of the speculators who formerly fleeced visitors at every step, and secured to the people.

It is reported that Lt. Gov. Dewdney will enter the Cabinet as Minister of the Interior, and representative of the N. W. Territories and British Columbia; that Mr. McLellan is to be Lt. Governor of Nova Scotia, that Dr. Schultz is to succeed Mr. Aiken as Lt. Governor of Manitoba, and that Mr. Royal, M.P., will become Lt. Governor of the N. W. Territories.

The Senate has, after all, discussed the Fisheries treaty in open session. Senator Frye, as usual, was vigorous in denunciation, and in advocacy of the retaliation by non-intercourse. Of course, every one knows that the motive power of Mr. Frye's bitterness was the acceptance of his brother's resignation of the Consul Generalship at Halifax, by Mr. Cleveland, when the Democrats came into power.

Since the sweeping defeat of the Scott Act in several counties, many farmers in Lincoln have started cultivating grapes very extensively. The Louth Fruit Growers Association intend to memorialize the Government to place baskets and fertilizers on the free list, as an offset to the admission free of American fruit. One of the worst results of prohibitory legislation is the stoppage of the cultivation of the grape.

The King Hedley Company succeeded the Rehan Company on the boards of the Academy this week, and produced the "Wages of Sin," a highly sensational drama, to not very large houses. The fact is the theatre-going quota of a population the size of that of Halifax is soon exhausted for the time, and the engagements of companies are too numerous to draw good houses for more than two or three nights together at the outside.

The Allan steamer *Sardinian*, with the mails and 1000 passengers, bound for Montreal, was towed into Halifax Harbor on Wednesday afternoon with her screw gone. The shaft, it appears, broke about 750 miles from Halifax, and the engines ran wild, but were soon got under control. She was taken in tow by the "Norseman". This mishap, and that of the *Circassian*, will cost the Allan Line a considerable sum, as it costs over \$1000 to send the passengers on to Montreal by rail.

The Executive Committee of the Dominion Live Stock Association have taken an eminent legal opinion regarding the proposed insurance combine, and they have been advised that they have a good action for criminal conspiracy against the Allan, Beaver and Dominion shipping companies, the Marine Underwriters' Association, and Lloyds. The majority were in favor of entering action at once, but finally the President was instructed to again consult counsel before taking action.

We notice in the columns of our daily contemporaries the advertisement of the meeting of the Halifax Branch of the Imperial Federation League, at the Academy of Music, on Monday evening. We also notice with some amusement, the alarm of the annexationists at the discussion of the subject. It certainly cannot be a worse thing to discuss the possibility of closer relations with Great Britain than to discuss the handing over of Canada to the United States by means of commercial union.

Numerous bush fires have been raging during the week in the woods at the back of the Arm, at the back of Bedford, and elsewhere. The Presbyterian Church and Beech's Hotel at Bedford had a narrow escape of being burned on Monday. On Tuesday rain fell. These fires are no doubt mostly due to the criminal negligence of trout-fishers and others as to proper precautions in starting their fires in the woods, tho' no doubt some fires are due to the railways, but these latter are not the worst. If a few careless lighters of fires in the woods could be made severe examples of, it would be a blessing.

The following notice of the concerts given by the Cecilia Quartette Club was inadvertently omitted in our last issue. The Cecilia Quartette, assisted by Miss Park, the cornetist, gave concerts at the Academy of Music on Thursday, Friday, and Saturday last, which were listened to with much pleasure by comparatively small audiences. The Quartette of sweet singers has evidently been well trained, although the individual voices cannot be considered of first quality, but as the selections were, generally speaking, light and attractive, they were well suited to the attainments of the singers, and hence the effect was in every sense pleasing. Of the lady cornetist, Miss Park, we cannot speak too highly—the tones of her cornet are brought out with precision, and the control of the instrument which she exhibits, in executing the running passages, trilling and double tonguing, is simply wonderful, reminding us of the playing of the well known Arbuckle. We regret that the concerts did not receive a more liberal patronage, especially as the expenses entailed by taking the Academy instead of Orpheus Hall must have been unduly large in proportion to the receipts.

Halifax has again been favored with a visit from the celebrated Weber Quartette, and our citizens are indebted to the Orpheus Club for their enterprise in arranging for the two concerts given in Orpheus Hall on Monday and Tuesday evenings last. Mr. Payne, the leading tenor of the Quartette, possesses a well-trained, silvery voice, which no words can adequately describe; but we are safe in saying that such a tenor would always take a leading place, even in the largest musical centres. The voices in the Quartette are well balanced, and long practice has enabled its members to sing together with such accuracy, perfection of expression, and artistic finish, as must always delight the ear of the appreciative listener. Miss Hunt, the lady singer at present travelling with the Quartette, has a charming mezzo soprano voice, which is full, sweet, and rich in quality. The several numbers rendered by Miss Hunt in the two concerts won double encores from appreciative audiences, and we fear it will be many months before Halifaxians will again have an opportunity of listening to so finished an artiste. We trust, however, that concerts by the Weber Quartette Club will be given in Halifax during the next musical season; and as our people turn out in force when the performers are first-class singers, we can promise the Club crowded houses on all subsequent visits.

A telegram from St. John says:—Some startling facts relative to the defunct Maritime Bank have leaked out lately, in connection with the trial of the Bank of Nova Scotia vs. Harrison. A short time prior to the failure of the bank, A. A. Sterling, of Fredericton, who had been a director in the bank, sold out a large portion of his stock in that concern to W. F. Harrison, a St. John merchant, accepting the latter's note therefor. The note was deposited in the Bank of Nova Scotia, but when the time expired for the payment Harrison refused to meet it, alleging that Sterling was aware of the rottenness of the bank when he sold the shares. The trial of the case has resulted in a thorough exposure of the loose methods adopted by the bank management, and some of the evidence elicited justifies the suspicion that Mr. McLellan kept two sets of certain books, as to hide the true state of the bank's affairs from the directors. Sterling swears that, although he was a director and attended the meeting, held at the bank June 29th, 1886, he did not know that R. A. & S. Stewart had then drawn exchange on Stewart Bros., London, to the extent of over forty thousand pounds. The bulk of this exchange was without an endorser. Neither did he know that MacLellan, President of the bank, had surrendered \$75,000 worth of Guy, Bevan and Co.'s securities, and had accepted instead certificates of stock in a trading company, to the extent of fifteen thousand pounds. It has also been shown in evidence that although the trading company had a large amount to its credit in the bank when it failed, the bulk of it came from the Stewart exchange, and was really the bank's own money. J. F. McMillan, one of the liquidator's clerks, swore to-day that the deficiency of the bank, after deducting the value of the assets, was over a million three hundred thousand dollars. The liquidators had realized nothing from Stewart, or from Guy, Bevan & Co. From George McLeod, who owed a hundred and sixty-eight thousand when the bank closed its doors, they had got five thousand and the promise of a little more. The revelations are not calculated to inspire much hope in the breasts of note holders. MacLellan, who is largely responsible for the crash, is said to be operating in real estate in Omaha.

The *N. Y. Tribune* prints a letter from James G. Blaine, dated Paris, May 17, saying that under no circumstances can he accept the presidential nomination.

The senate has passed a bill to revive the grade of general of the army, conferring it on Lieut.-General Sheridan. There were only seven votes in the negative.

Christian scientists in Boston the other day undertook to mend a sailor's broken leg. After the formula, they commanded the unfortunate man to arise. He did so, fell down and broke his other leg. A fortnight ago, a woman stood by while her daughter and her new-born babe perished from sheer lack of medical attention. In each of these cases reliance was had on faith as a healing force.

Two-thirds of the young tobacco plants in western North Carolina were killed by recent frosts. Vegetables and wheat were greatly damaged at numerous points on the mountains.

Miss Amelie Rives, the Virginia novelist, has, says the *Atlanta Constitution*, been offered \$30,000 by a New York publishing house for a novel. This is the largest offer ever received by an American author.

Maine, where capital punishment was abolished in 1883, is since that date, according to the *Belfast Age*, "fast gaining the title of the wickedest State in the Union." According to the prohibitionists, Maine should be a model State, but a number of murders of a peculiarly brutal nature have been reported from its rural districts.

The government of Sweden has placed a prohibitory duty upon American pork, to retaliate for the refusal of the United States to carry out what Sweden understands to be the stipulations of the treaty of 1827. It is also stated that the Chinese government has threatened to exclude American petroleum if the prohibition of Chinese subjects is continued. If retaliation is going to be fashionable, other countries may be expected to take a hand in.

The Emperor of Brazil was reported better, but extremely weak.

The latest accounts of the German Emperor continue to be favorable. Much anxiety continues to be felt regarding Stanley, of whom there is as yet no intelligence.

No intelligence of the condition of General Sheridan is to hand at the time of our going to press.

Mr. Bright is reported to have passed the crisis of his disorder, and to be now in a favorable condition.

Mr. Gladstone has received an address signed by 1200 Quakers in favor of Home Rule. We hardly thought there was as many Quakers left in the United Kingdom.

An American Club has been established in London. Sir Edward Thornton presided at its first annual meeting, supported by Mr. Henry White, American Charge d'Affairs.

Mr. Edmund Yates describes Queen Natalie of Servia as "decidedly of the 'fine woman' order; tall, broad and massive, with large features and black eyebrows and eyes, and black hair."

A number of Anarchists picked a quarrel with M. Rochefort, and invaded the office of the *Intransigeant*. Henri, however, drew a revolver and defended himself until the arrival of the police.

There has been some uneasiness manifested lately about Stanley, who has not been heard of for a considerable time. Dr Schweinfurth, however, writes from Brussels, that there is no reason for anxiety.

A French law, passed March 1st, prohibiting foreign vessels from fishing in the territorial waters of France, lays down a precisely similar line in regard to inshore fishing as that agreed upon at Washington recently.

Six shopmen were burned to death in a fire which took place at a linen drapers and silk weavers establishment in the Edgeware Road, London, and several others were injured by leaping from windows. The loss is \$200,000.

The adulteration of food in Russia has attained such proportions that the Government has taken it vigorously in hand. Several Moscow adulterators of tea have been punished, one having been deprived of political rights and banished to Siberia for life.

The Pope's diplomacy has again scored a success. He has assented to the protection of Catholics by the French in Syria, Palestine, and other countries of the Levant, in exchange for French concessions in regard to the internal religious policy of France.

The Derby has been won by Ayrshire, a bay colt by Hampton, dam Aralanta by Galopin (winner in 1875), owned by the Duke of Portland. Ayrshire had an excellent record previous to the Derby, the 2,000 guineas, on May 2nd, being among his victories.

The new metal turrets with which France has been experimenting have proved unable to stand the new projectiles from modern guns. This, says the *London Times*, condemns the ironclad ships without giving them a chance of showing what they could do.

General Boulanger's attempts at supreme popularity are very likely to upset the body politic of France, by simple disturbance of men's minds. The monarchists are already on the alert, and insisting that France is in need of a "Savior," who is, of course, the Count of Paris.

It is reported that the Presbyterian Church in England and Scotland is engaged in the preparation of new articles of faith, of a less exacting character than the famous "Westminster Confession." It is none too soon that the church sees it to be expedient to relax the cast iron Calvinism of that dogmatic creed.

The endeavor to push British commerce into the jealously guarded country of Thibet has brought on a small war. Two actions have taken place in which the Thibetans have been defeated with considerable loss. The Indian Sikkim expeditionary force under Col. Graham, is small, and the war is not likely to attain any importance, except in its bearing on the extension of trade.

A nice constitutional question is likely to arise in New South Wales out of the decision of the Supreme Court that it is *ultra vires* of the Legislature to exclude foreigners. The Cabinet appeals to the Legislative Council, though it is difficult to see wherein the authority of that body is superior to that of the Assembly. As between a Legislature and a Supreme Court, the question of inherent authority reminds one of the vexed question of the priority of the hen or the egg!

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THOS. NICHOL, M.D., L.L.D., D.C.L. of Montreal, writing to us under recent date, says:

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[FOR THE CRITIC.]

A SUGGESTION FOR TOURISTS.—DALHOUSIE, N. B., AND THE
INCH ARRAN.

To those of your readers who have never taken a trip to the northern part
of New Brunswick, let me through the columns of the "CRITIC" advise them
to do so this coming summer, and in case they do, let me still further advise
them to go north as far as Dalhousie Junction, and there take the branch
train into the beautiful and peaceful village of Dalhousie. Why, this invita-
tion, you may ask, and what is there about Dalhousie so particularly strong
that we should go there in preference to any other place on the north shore?
We'll we will tell you why: *First*, because under the light of the sun or moon,
under the canopy of heaven, there is no lovelier spot to be found in Canada
than Dalhousie. Go where you will, see what you may, and for magnificent
scenery and a delightful summer resort, a home for the dust covered, heat-
stricken, over-worked man and woman who want coolness, pure air, good
economy, delightful sailing, glorious bathing, and an exhilarating sense of
freedom and rest from the worries and cares of the busy world, you will
find Dalhousie unequalled. In addition, within easy reach are the streams
of both New Brunswick and Quebec, teeming with the noble salmon and the
greatest of trout. *Secondly*, there is here that now well known resort for tour-
ists, the famed Inch Arran, built upon a point of land and commanding a
fair a view as the eyes of mortal could wish to behold. The gentle lapping
of the waves upon the sandy beach will lull you into a sense of rest, and
the melody of nature's songsters will away the moments of your stay. Here,
in the Inch Arran, you will find all the comforts of a home, with good roomy
well ventilated apartments, and a table stocked with all the delicacies of the sea-
son, viands that, in conjunction with the growing appetite gained by a so-
journ in this lovely spot, would tempt the soul of an anchorite. And *lastly*,
because you will find the management of the Inch Arran in charge of the
popular and well known George D. Fuchs, late of the Brunswick House,
Moncton, who has proven himself to be one who knows thoroughly how to
conduct a hotel, and make his guests at home, and knowing, also, does
"Try it once, and if you find I am not correct in what I say, then I will
through the columns of the "CRITIC" humbly apologize, and forever refrain
from calling to the notice of travellers the summer resorts of New Brunswick.
If, on the other hand, you find it is as I have described, you will have no
cause to regret having read these rambling and somewhat hurriedly written
remarks, and will thank your lucky stars you followed my advice, and vis-
ited Dalhousie and the Inch Arran.

May 22nd, 1888.

Max.

THE CHURCH OF ENGLAND INSTITUTE BAZAAR.

The Women's Auxiliary of the Church of England Institute intend hold-
ing a "Festival of the Year" in aid of the Building Fund of the Institute, in
the Exhibition Building, on the 10th and 14th July next. The idea of the
Festival is taken from a most successful venture in the Bazaar way held in
New York in April 1887, which realized several thousand dollars in aid
of one of the charitable hospitals in that city.

As Halifax lacks the wealth and population of her great American neigh-
bour, it will not be possible to carry out the design in the same magnificent
manner; the decoration of the booths, and the dresses of the ladies con-
nected with the New York undertaking, being far in advance of this humble
imitation, still the ladies who have charge of the Halifax Festival, are doing
their utmost to make it attractive, as well as financially successful.

Each stall is to represent a month in the year, and be furnished as far as
possible with the articles most appropriate to each month. January is to be
the Ice Cream Booth, where snow maidens will dispense their cool and re-
freshing wares during the hot days of July. February will have Valentine
Stationery, Postage Stamps, Gipsy Kettles and Fortune-tellers, with all other
mysteries belonging to the month of St. Valentine. March is to be pre-
sided over by Dairy-maids, who will sell you milk in goblets, jonket, syl-
bab, balls of golden butter and all other products of the sweet, fresh far
land. April is devoted to everything in the Fancy line, which fair fingers
have been fashioning all the winter, for the decoration of the person and the
home. A great Umbrella is to protect the ladies who serve in this stall, as
they are to appear as rainbows and need the sunshine of extensive custom
to keep them from vanishing. May will have the Old English Maypole
with its pretty ribbons and graceful dancers, and pretty Charwomen will of-
fer brooms, and brushes, and pans and dusters, and mops in most winning
style. The "leafy month of June" will be entirely devoted to flowers, in
pots, plants, and bouquets, where the charming vendors will seem like lovely
humming birds among the bloom. July will have everything that summer
can offer to allay the heat and lassitude of that luxurious month. Shade
Hats, Fans in every variety, Lamp Shades, Gossamer nets and Curtains, all
that fancy can devise or need require. August is set apart for the wants
of the gentleman, and fishing gear, hunting implements, cigars and cigarettes,
with every requisite for the person or toilet will be on hand. September,
rich, ripe and luscious, is devoted to sweetmeats and confectionery, home-
made creams and candies, all the sweeter for being made and sold by sweet
faced, bright-eyed girls. October, full of "golden brown beauty" peculiar to
the season, instead of "brodered leaves and hectic hues or green" will of-
fer garments for the little ones, in dainty pinafores and dresses, and every
thing else in which mothers love to array their children. November will be
a popular stall, as it is the centre of refreshments, where meats and cakes and
tea and coffee abound. December of course will have a great Christmas tree,
with toys, games, puzzles and attractions for grown up, as well as other chil-
dren.

This is only a rough sketch of the design and contents of the different
Booths. The ladies who preside will fill up every nook and cranny with

tempting articles of beauty and utility. We trust the public will endorse their taste and enterprise by a liberal patronage, in aid of a work which commends itself to every citizen. Although the building for which all this work and interest are manifested, is a Church of England Institute, still there is nothing sectarian in the work it proposes to accomplish, and the committee can justly appeal to all classes of the community for a helping hand. When once completed it will offer to all its members many facilities for healthful and innocent recreation. A gymnasium and billiard room will be among its attractions. A reading room and library, where good and wholesome literature will be found. Rooms for lectures and entertainments, all here will be common to all members; while to the clergy and church people of the Diocese, it will be a central home, where they can meet and learn to know each other, and by kindly public and private intercourse soften down asperities. The committee are most anxious to have the building completed and fully equipped before next winter; and this depends in a great measure on the success of the Bazaar. Articles suited to each and all the stalls are urgently solicited, and we hope the Halifax public will respond to the solicitation of the committee, who are trying to make the "Festival of the Year" the most attractive exhibition ever proposed or carried out in our good city.

INDUSTRIAL NOTES.

Prof. H. A. Newton, of Yale University, New Haven, Conn., has received from the National Academy of Science, the Lawrence Smith gold medal, valued at \$200, which, according to the donation, was to be awarded to any person who should make an original investigation of meteoric bodies, the results of which were made public, and were in the opinion of the Academy of sufficient benefit to science to merit such recognition. Prof. Newton is the first to receive the medal.

GOLD IN SEA WATER—One of the vessels which arrived in this week has a bar of iron on board which weighs five or six pounds, which was towed astern five or six weeks at sea as an experiment to test the statement that gold exists in sea water. The bar was cleaned and polished when it was placed in the wake of the vessel, but when taken on board it was literally covered with a film of silver, copper and gold precipitated on it. This is a fact corroborated by scientific investigation. Late research has shown that gold exists in appreciable quantities in the waters of the ocean. A ton of sea water yields by a simple process a grain of gold, so that the total quantity held in solution must be vastly greater than all the gold ever yet extracted from the earth. Copper and silver are, however, found in larger quantities than gold. Silver is found in combination with the old and worn copperings of ships to such an extent as to make it worth while to extract it. It has been computed from some analysis of such copper, compared with the total distance run through by the ship and the time of its remaining attached, that at least 2,000,000 tons of silver are thus held in solution in the whole ocean.—*Astoria Pioneer*.

The Edison Phonograph Company has been incorporated at Newark, N. J., by T. A. Edison, A. O. Tate, C. Batchelor and J. C. Tomlinson, with a capital stock of \$300,000. It is stated that the factory at Bloomfield, N. J., is turning out the phonographs at the rate of twenty a day, and unless something unexpected interferes the first orders will be filled by the middle of June, or sooner. The price finally settled upon is \$85. This will be for the ordinary "Commercial" phonograph, which Mr. Edison expects will take the place of the stenographer in business offices.

TIN PLATE—The manufacture of tinware in England originated in a stolen secret. Few readers need to be informed that tinware is simply thin iron plated with tin by being dipped into the molten metal. In theory it is an easy matter to clean the surface of iron, dip it into a bath of boiling tin, and remove it, enveloped with the silvery metal, to a place for cooling. In practice, however, the process is one of the most difficult of the arts. It was discovered in Holland, and guarded from publicity with the utmost vigilance for nearly half a century. England tried in vain to discover the secret until James Shorman, a Cornish miner, crossed the Channel, insinuated himself surreptitiously into a tinplate manufactory, made himself master of the secret, and brought it home.

THE WILSON SCALES—We would call attention to the advertisement of the WILSON scales. We seldom say anything in favor of articles advertised in this paper; but we cannot refrain from saying something in favor of the improved WILSON scales, because any person having anything to do with scales will acknowledge them as a true standard of correctness, and the largest concerns in the country are using them in preference to any other make. We should like every farmer to have one of them in his barn, and not take the word of the buyer every time he comes to town to sell his grain.

While the Panama Canal enterprise is in a bad condition generally, interest has been revived in the project of an interoceanic canal through Nicaraguan territory. The United States Senate has just passed a bill incorporating the Nicaraguan Canal Company and authorizing the incorporators to construct, equip and operate a ship canal entirely through the territory of Nicaragua, or in part through that territory, and in part through the territory of Costa Rica, and otherwise to exercise such powers as have been conferred by the government of Nicaragua upon the Nicaraguan Canal Association. The capital stock of the company is to consist of not less than one million shares at \$100 each, with the right to increase to double that amount. The principal office of the company is to be located in the city of New York, and

its affairs are to be managed by a board of fifteen directors, and its president must be a citizen and resident of the United States.

Messrs. Choss, Cook & Co., of Pittsburg, Pa., have gone into the manufacture of a patent fence, made from steel plates. The inventor of the new fence is John Golding, of Chicago, and the above firm have purchased the right for its manufacture in the States of Pennsylvania, New York, New Jersey, Ohio, Delaware, and West Virginia. They have contracted for the machines, and expect to be running them in the course of three or four weeks. The process of the manufacture of the fence is as follows: A small piece of soft steel plate is placed in the machine. The steel is cut diagonally in small strips, the operation being repeated until the entire plate is cut into small layers, which are double jointed at short intervals. As the work progresses these layers are gradually drawn apart until the steel plate is several times its original size, with the result that a piece of fencing eight feet long and any desired height is produced.

STEEL MAKING—A new process for the manufacture of steel, which is stated to combine, as far as practicable, the best features of the Bessemer and Siemens-Martin methods, and to eliminate their defects, has lately been introduced by Mr. B. H. Thwait, C. E., of Liverpool, and Mr. A. Stewart, of Bradford. It consists in melting the pig metal in what is known as a "rapid" cupola, and collecting it in a receiver, from which it is run into a vertical converter, and from thence drawn off in the ladle. In its passage through the converter, the metal is subjected to the blast from the cupola blower. As soon as the metal is collected in the ladle the latter is raised from its trunnions and rapidly revolved. Stirrers effectually mix the metal, and the steel is then ready for molds. It will thus be seen that the process is rapid and the plant very simple. The system can be applied to existing open-hearthed furnaces, in which case the special converter is placed in the centre over the furnace roof. The metal is run from the cupola either by means of a runner or a ladle, and in its descent into the open-hearthed furnace it is subjected to annular jets of air from the cupola blower.—*American Manufacturer*.

The twenty-six suits begun by Thomas Edison against the United States Electric Company three years ago, alleging infringement of patents, were decided on the 16th inst., by Judge Wallace, in the United States Circuit Court, in favor of the company. It is stated that this decision was only an intermediate point, and that the merits of the question are still to be decided.

OUR COSY CORNER.

Have any of our readers seen the *Dorcas Magazine*? A paper replete with dainty suggestions and useful hints. Price only 50 cents. Single copies 3 cents. Address The Dorcas Magazine, 239 Broadway, New York.

WOOLSTED INSERTION—Cast on seventeen stitches, and knit once across plain.

First Row :—Knit three, thread over, narrow, knit three, thread over, knit one, thread over, knit five, thread over, narrow, knit one.

Second Row :—Knit three, thread over, narrow, knit one, narrow, thread over, knit three, thread over, narrow, knit three, thread over, narrow, knit one.

Third Row :—Knit three, thread over, narrow, narrow, thread over, knit five, thread over, narrow, knit two, thread over, narrow, knit one.

Fourth Row :—Knit three, thread over, knit three together, thread over, narrow, knit three, narrow, thread over, narrow, knit one, thread over, knit one.

Fifth Row :—Knit three, thread over, narrow, knit one, thread over, narrow, knit one, narrow, thread over, knit three, thread over, narrow, knit one.

Sixth Row :—Knit three, thread over, narrow, knit two, thread over, slip two, knit one and draw the slipped stitches over the one knit, thread over, knit four, thread over, narrow, knit one.—M. E. W.

To break up the habit some people have of scratching matches on paint, rub the spot with flannel saturated with liquid vacaline. After that they may scratch over so hard, they will never get a light nor injure the paint.

The following suggestions for decorating note paper with interest our readers.

Collect from the heaths and hedgerows any small flowers, mosses, ferns, grasses of a suitable kind, and dry them in books with a little pressure. The yellow flowers keep their colors best, but all kinds of flowers, if small, and of such form as to submit to be flattened without injury, will serve the purpose, and many kinds of leaves are as suitable as flowers. The garden will supply its share of subjects, but the wild stuff is always preferable, and the interest is augmented when the papers represent the beauties of some particular place. A fair artist in this kind of work travelled much and took with her a little pot of green wherewith to prepare note papers for her letters to friends, and she would often add a happy word, writing beneath the flowers 'Sunshine from Len Nevis,' or 'A garland from Plinimmon,' etc.

In mounting them it is sufficient generally to touch the dried flowers with a little clear gum, but sometimes the botanists' method is best. It consists in fixing the flowers with tiny slips of paper laid across here and there. The delight of friends in reading letters written on paper prepared in this way need not here be enlarged upon.

To preserve the color when drying flowers it is necessary to dry them as quickly as possible. Almost all, except fleshy flowers, will keep their color

well if placed between two sheets of blotting paper and ironed. The iron must not be too hot. The secret of pressing flowers and leaves is to frequently change the paper in which they are placed and to avoid too sudden pressure at first.

COMMERCIAL.

The general condition of trade affairs has continued to be without material change, though the markets in all departments have exhibited a fair degree of activity, and the distribution of merchandise has been satisfactory. Locally payments are well met, but reports from the west continue to be unsatisfactory. A crisis in financial matters appears to impend in that section of the Dominion, and, though it may not directly affect the status of our merchants in the Maritime Provinces to any great extent, still the results of any general trade disaster in any portion of Canada must be felt throughout.

The weather continues to be very backward, and frosts more or less heavy are experienced every night. This, with the lack of rain, which is beginning to be seriously felt, retards farming operations, and many persons of experience are predicting a very short hay crop. The country very much needs heavy, warm rains, interspersed with sunshine, to forward the crops. Some rain fell here on Tuesday and Wednesday, was warm and moist, but we do not know whether the much needed moisture extended far up the country.

It is said that considerable quantities of hay are still held in some sections of this province. If that is true there will be no absolute want of that kind of cattle food for a while.

The new contractors are doing a good deal of work on the City Hall that does not show, because it mainly consists of tearing down the bad work of their predecessor. They have a considerable force on, and promise that, as soon as they have cleared up things, they will rush the building up rapidly.

The health of the German Emperor appears to be decidedly improving, and, as his tendencies are known to be pacific, this fact gives a stable tone to the European trade that it did not possess while his life hung, as it were, in the balance. A general European war is not now as imminent as it has appeared at any time during the past dozen years, and business interests are not threatened with disruption to any great extent at present.

A Montreal paper remarks as follows:—"Owing to slow collections on the part of country storekeepers in Ontario, it is anticipated that renewals with wholesale houses will be numerous between now and next October. At least, that is what some of our large dry goods houses look forward to, and consequently have exercised a great deal of caution in filling their orders of late. We have made it a point to interview travellers in different lines of business who have recently returned from the West, and they have invariably informed us, that trade partakes of a very unfavorable aspect in Ontario, owing to overtrading on the one hand, and a scarcity of farm produce on the other hand. It is to be hoped however, that as soon as cheese production gets into full swing, and causes our shippers to realize on between \$150,000 and \$250,000 of English exchange per week, that an improvement will be experienced in remittances from the West, which have lately been exceedingly disappointing." The Halifax Sugar Refinery has shut down temporarily—owing it is reported to a difficulty with Mr. Dustan as to water supply.

The following are the assignments and business changes in this Province during the past week:—J. H. Margeson, druggist, Halifax, deceased, and stock, etc., sold out to Irwin & Son. Wallace Maling, victualler, Halifax, assigned to Wm. A. Maling. Wm. Blair & Co., bottlers, Amherst, about selling out to Geo. D. McCullum of Spring Hill. Kenneth M. Solomon, gen. store, Acadia Mines, assigned in trust.

DRY GOODS.—The dry goods market has been fairly active and a good trade accomplished in seasonable goods. No apparent change has occurred in staple goods, but a disposition to shade prices in cotton fabrics is reported to be developing. The extent of this shading is as yet uncertain. Travellers report their sorting-up trips to have continued fairly prosperous, and stocks in country merchants' and retailers' hands are generally regarded as lighter than usual at this season. Importers continue to be very cautious, and have not, so far, ordered beyond their prospective probable requirements. The reluctance with which country dealers have taken hold of "fall goods" has, evidently, largely influenced importers in making up their estimates of their requirements. The trade in soft and light summer textile fabrics is at present very good. Business in this line in Great Britain seems to be somewhat depressed and purchasers appear to show no anxiety to help matters by pushing in unseasonably. They predict even lower figures than now obtain before long, and only purchase enough "to keep them going."

IRON, HARDWARE AND METALS.—A satisfactory trade has been accomplished in most lines of iron and hardware, and prices have preserved regularity throughout the lines. No change worthy of note has transpired. Glasgow cables warrants at 37s. 9d. From London the cable reports tin at £85 and Chili brass at £81. Our Philadelphia advices say that "the iron trade there is still in an unsettled and an unsatisfactory state, except with reference to bar iron, for which there is a slight improvement, owing to the general depletion of stocks. The attitude of a good many producers with reference to future prices has not been determined. Standard No. 1 at \$19 to \$19.50; forge at 15.50, muck bars at \$27, merchant have been going at \$17 to \$18.50. Large buyers have been placing summer orders. Nails are sluggish, as distant markets are not absorbing their anticipated quotas. Plate, tank and shell iron and steel are moving more freely, but a very conservative feeling prevails all around. Steel rails are dull.

BREADSTUFFS.—As regards actual business the flour market has ruled very quiet since our last report. The unsettled—almost feverish—condition of the United States and our own western markets has made holders anything but anxious to sell at quotations. It is, however, quite possible that "estimates" of the "growing crop" and of the "reserve supply" may prove to be entire-

ly astray, and that the demand will not fail to be promptly met. The British markets have been quiet and steady with material change. Cargoes of wheat and corn in all positions were steady at unchanged quotations. In Liverpool wheat was steady as to prices, but the tone was dull. Corn was ½d. cheaper at 5s. 5d. In Chicago there was decided strength in the grain market and an active business was done. Wheat was strong and advanced to 86½c. June, 87½c. July, 87½c. August. Corn also advanced ½c. to 7c. to 56½c. June, 56½c. July and August. In sympathy with wheat and corn oats improved ½c. to 7c., standing at last quotations at 34½c. June, 33½c. July, 29½c. August. Macdougall Brothers, stock brokers of the Chicago Board of Trade, write:—"While the market is very strong, the absence of general buying of a few is not a healthy state of things, and sharp fluctuations are probable. We think present holders likely to force prices higher, but we cannot recommend buying in such a forced market." The *Mark Lane Express*, in its review of the British grain trade during the past week, says:—"English wheat values during the week have been hard to maintain. The demand for flour is small, but the quantities of new ground locally are so much reduced that the provincial markets have raised the price of country flour. The hot weather has given an impetus to crops, and the barley, oat and wheat fields show an excellent plant. If the favorable weather lasts the crops promise to be above the average. Foreign wheat is slow and unchanged, with the exception of Russian, which is a fraction cheaper. The excitement in the markets of America has affected values here. India is beginning to ship more freely." The Washington official weather crop bulletin for the past week states that the average temperature east of the Rocky Mountains has been below the nominal. In the grain regions of the Northwest and Ohio Valley the cold weather during the week has prevented any marked improvement in the crop conditions, notwithstanding the abundance of rain. Damaging frosts occurred in Michigan southward to northern Alabama. Reports from Minnesota state that the weather conditions have been generally favorable for the crops, though too cold for rapid growth. Reports from Kansas, Nebraska and Missouri indicate that the weather during the week has been favorable for small grain, but unfavorable for corn. The *Farmers' Review* crop report for the week does not indicate any material improvement in the condition of winter wheat, but on the other hand, insects in Illinois and other states are becoming more plentiful, but the damage as yet has not been serious. The extremely backward spring and cold rain have retarded insects from hatching out, hence the reports of injury by them are not yet common. In New York the wheat market has been strong and moved up 1½c. to 1½c. to 95½c. June and August, 97½c. July. Corn improved to 64c. for June, July and August. Oats were 38½c. June, 39½c. July, 35½c. August. In Toledo and Detroit, wheat and corn were also strong and moving up. The *Montreal Trade Bulletin* says:—"The first sale of Prince Edward Island oats ever made in this market was recorded by us last week, namely, 20,000 bushels at 40c. per 32 lbs., and we now have to chronicle the sale of 30,000 bushels at 40c. per 32 lbs., and more money could be obtained to-day. These two cargoes are now on the way here in sailing vessels, comprising 50,000 bushels, and other cargoes are expected. The above cargoes were shipped to and sold by Messrs J. & R. McLea of this city. The scarcity of coarse grains in this province and Ontario appears to have opened up a good market for the oats of Prince Edward Island, which were formerly shipped to British ports."

The English wheat trade appears to be getting almost as speculative as that of Chicago, and a great portion of the recent steep advance in the price of wheat on this side is said to be due to the persistent short selling of English operators, who had previously made such heaps of money out of it, that they could not be made to believe it was possible to oversell the market. They have recently found out their mistake, however, a number of whom became scared when No. 2 spring in Chicago moved up above 88c., and covered at about the highest price of the late advance. One Liverpool operator is said to have dropped \$50,000. We were shown a letter from a Chicago commission firm last week, which stated that Englishmen were still persistent believers in lower prices, and that before the recent bull movement was started, a Liverpool operator had made as much as \$500,000 in the Chicago market, by short selling. Some large English orders to sell were received in New York and Chicago on Monday and Tuesday of last week, and the course of the market on these days tended to encourage subsequent efforts in the same direction.

PROVISIONS.—There is little to note in the local provision market. Though supplies are limited, the demand is very moderate. In Liverpool, bacon has been weaker, and declined 3d., to 38s. 6d. to 41s.; pork was unchanged at 70s., and tallow 23s. 9d. In Chicago there has been a firmer feeling in pork, and prices moved up 2½c. to \$14 37½ June, \$14 47½ July, \$14 55 August. Lard was easier, and fell off to \$6.85 June, \$8 7½ July, \$8.72½ August. The hog market was stronger, and moved up 3c. Quotations were:—Light grades \$5.40 to \$5.65, mixed packing \$5.50 to \$5.70, heavy shipping \$5.65 to \$5.80; rough packing \$5.40 to \$5.55.

BUTTER.—Some dealers report a little accumulation of new stock, but there is no surplus of really choice butter. Such an article always does, and, doubtless, always will command a ready market at remunerative prices, but inferior grades, and stale butter, is not wanted, and the tendency to buy it on account of its cheapness is visibly lessening. In England, of late, a decided preference is shown for good, wholesome, honest margarine over bad or indifferent butter. To show that this is the case in other places, we quote the following from a Montreal contemporary:—"A few weeks ago, we mentioned the sale of 1,000 packages of margarine for Newfoundland account, and we have to report the sale of another lot of 750 packages for shipment to St. John's, Nfld. We also learn that 3,000 packages of margarine have just arrived at the above port from New York, which demonstrates that medium and low grade butter has been almost entirely superseded by the imitation product margarine in the fisherman's island of Newfoundland."

Besides the importations into that country, a considerable quantity of margarine is manufactured there, so it is evident that the consumption is increasing in proportion as the demand for poor stale butter is decreasing. It would seem, however, that the people of Newfoundland have been overdoing their importations, as one lot has been thrown on the market and sold at auction at pretty low figures, said to be from 8½c to 9½c per lb. The evident moral to be deduced from these facts is that our butter producers must take the greatest care to manufacture a prime article only, and to market as soon after making as circumstances will permit if they would reap the due reward of their labors.

CHEESE.—There has been no change in this market, the tone being easy and prices nominal, though May receipts have been lighter than was expected. Liverpool was cabled at 48s. to 52s. The New York *Commercial Bulletin* says:—"Of the combination cheese factories sales have been—Springville 8½c; Marshfield 8½c; Cloverfield 8½c—all colored stock and said to average about 1200 boxes to each mark."

FRUITS.—The season for apples is almost over, but there is a fair demand for choice varieties such as spies, etc. Common stock is not desired and is difficult to sell. Southern fruits and vegetables are beginning to arrive quite freely by the weekly boats from Boston, but they are, as a rule, too dear for the majority of consumers to indulge in. There is a fair consumptive demand for dried fruits at unchanged prices. Still little actual trade in them has been accomplished, but more activity is anticipated when direct importations now on their way arrive.

LIVE STOCK.—Good beef is scarce and dear, as is usually the case at this season of the year. Stall-fed animals are hardly to be obtained, and several weeks must elapse before those fattened on grass will be in a marketable condition. A few spring lambs are coming forward, but they are not as good as they would be if the season was more forward. They sadly feel the want of young, fresh grass on which to feed. A few weeks hence they will be in better order.

SUGAR AND MOLASSES.—Refined sugar has continued very steady and fairly active, both granulated and yellows being in good demand. Raw sugars are very quiet and easier. In the local market very little is doing in molasses. A Montreal advice says:—"In molasses there have been sales of Barbadoes at 35c on spot, with single puncheons quoted higher. To arrive new Barbadoes are quoted at 30c. to 31c. One firm here has 100 puncheons on the way. As low as 11c. has been quoted on the Islands, but it is said they cannot be bought for that figure."

TEA AND COFFEE.—There has been only moderate distribution of tea, chiefly on country jobbing account. There is no life in the business, as purchasers seem inclined to wait for arrivals of new, and even the low price at which old is offered, does not tempt them to invest to any great extent. Montreal and other upper Province dealers will not probably import anything like the quantity that they did last year. Brokers tell them that they will regret later on not having ordered more freely than they have, but the reply is that they have the large New York market to fall back upon in case of shortage, and many of them were severely bitten by ordering too liberally last year. They found that they could not corner even the Canadian market. Coffee has been steady with little doing. The world's product is reported to be about an average one.

FISH OILS.—Our Montreal advice reads:—"In seal oil a lot was sold on spot a few days ago at 42c, and we hear of the sale of 100 bbls. of new to arrive on p.t., but the figure is believed to be in the vicinity of 42½ or 43c. We quote new steam refined 42½c. Cod oil is unchanged at 34c to 33c for Newfoundland, and at 30c to 31c for Halifax. Cod liver oil is quiet at 70c to 75c."

FISH.—No change has occurred in our fish markets, the only notable receipts being within 500 barrels of herring, and perhaps 1000 quintals of old codfish. In the absence of supply enquiry is useless. No improvement has transpired respecting the catch of bait on our coast, but bait is reported to be plentiful along the Newfoundland shores. The local market is practically cleaned out of old stock of all kinds of fish, and no change can be effected till new catch begins to come in. It is expected that when new fish do arrive it will command favorable prices at the opening. The *Cape Ann Advertiser* says:—"At this season new mackerel are beginning to arrive at Boston and Gloucester, the marketing of fresh mackerel at New York and Philadelphia being practically over. This season the law forbids the catching of mackerel until after June 1. Reports show that the mackerel are schooling in their usual haunts, and fears are felt that they will have passed to the northward before our vessels are allowed to capture them. It is nearly time for the schools to strike the Nova Scotia shores, when they can be taken in traps freely and marketed to Boston fresh without paying duties, while the hands of our fishermen remain idle. Already there have been small receipts from the Yarmouth weirs. Our fleet are sitting away in order to be on the grounds as soon as the close season has passed. Much dissatisfaction is expressed at the ruling that no mackerel can be taken on the first day of June, strict orders have been issued to enforce the law against any vessel known to have taken mackerel before June 2. The fleet must be on the grounds, and if the fish are there one day may make an immense difference in the results of the voyage. The halibut fleet bring in very light fares, and are far from paying expenses. They report an unprecedented scarcity of halibut in all directions. Arrivals from Grand Banks report that the cod-fishing fleet there are doing very poorly. One halibuter failed to get enough to bait her trawls. One Nova Scotia vessel was spoken which had a bait supply of 80 bbls. herring and took only 40,000 lbs. codfish. One vessel hauled 2 trawls and took only a tub and a half of fish. Gloucester quotations are practically unchanged, and the fish business there is, according to our advices, very dull. Havana, 29 May, (cable).—"Codfish \$7 per 100 lbs.; haddock \$5.25; hake \$6."

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.

SUGAR.	
Cut Loaf	7½
Granulated	6½ to 6¾
Circle A	6
White Extra C	6
Extra Yellow C	5½ to 5¾
Yellow C	5½ to 5¾
TEA	
Ceylon, Common	17 to 19
" Fair	20 to 23
" Good	25 to 29
" Choice	31 to 33
" Extra Choice	35 to 38
Oolong, Choice	37 to 39
MOLASSES.	
Barbadoes	32 to 33
Demerara	31 to 38
Diamond N.	42 to 43
Porto Rico	31 to 35
Clunfuegos	30 to 31
Trinidad	30 to 31
Antigua	30 to 31
Tobacco, Black	38 to 44
" Bright	42 to 58
BISCUITS.	
Pilot Bread	2.60 to 2.90
Boston and Thin Family	5½ to 6
Soda	5½ to 5¾
do. in lb. boxes, 50 to case	7½
Fancy	8 to 15

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

PROVISIONS.

Beef, Am Ex Mess, duty paid	10 50 to 11 00
" Am. Plate, "	11 00 to 11 50
" Ex. Plate, "	12 00 to 12 50
Pork, Mess, American	18 00 to 18 50
" American, clear	19 00 to 19 50
" P. E. I. Mess	17 00 to 17 50
" P. E. I. Thin Mess	15 50 to 16 00
" Prime Mess	13 00 to 13 50
Lard, Tubs and Pails	11 to 12
" Cases	12 50 to 13 00
Hams, P. E. I., green	8 to 8½
Duty on Am. Pork and Beef \$2.20 per bbl.	

Prices are for wholesale lots only, and available to change daily. These quotations are prepared by a reliable wholesale house.

FISH FROM VESSELS.

MACKEREL—	
Extra	14 50
No 1	13 00
" 2 large	12 50
" 2	12 00
" 3 large	9 50
" 3	9 00
HERRING	
No. 1 Shore, July	4 25 to 4 50
No. 1 August	3 25 to 3 50
" September	3 25 to 3 50
Round Shore	3 50
Labrador, in cargo lots, per bl	3 25 to 3 50
Bay of Islands, from store	2 75 to 3 00
ALEWIVES, per bbl.	4 75 to 5 00
CODFISH	
Hard Shore	4 00 to 4 15
New Bank	4 00
Bay	4 00
SALMON, No. 1	14 00
HADDOCK, per qt	1 00 to 1 25
HAKE	2 50 to 2 75
COCK	2 75 to 3 00
POLLOCK	2 25 to 2 50
HAKE SOUND, per lb.	30 to 35
COD OIL A	22 to 25

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) 4 75 to 5 40	
Tall Cans	4 60 to 5 00
Flat	6 00 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, demension, good, per m	7.50 to 10.00
" Merchantable, do do	8.00 to 9.00
" Small, do do	6.50 to 7.00
Heimk, merchantable	7.00
Shingles, No 1, sawed, plus	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

BREADSTUFFS.

PROVISIONS AND PRODUCE.

Quotations below are our to-day's wholesale prices for car lots not cash. Jobbers' and Retailers' prices about 5 to 10 cents per bbl. higher than car lots. Markets quiet and steady. Breadstuffs are sold fine. Cornmeal quiet; Oats quiet. Flour strong and dearer.

FLOUR	
Graham	4.60 to 5.00
Patent high grades	5.00 to 5.25
" mediums	4.75 to 4.90
Superior Extra	4.35 to 4.50
Lower grades	3.60 to 4.00
Oatmeal, Standard	3.90
" Granulated	6 25
Corn Meal—Halfax ground	3.53 to 3.65
" —Imported	3.65 to 3.85
Bran, per ton—Wheat	21.00
" —Corn	21.00
Shorts	25.00 to 26.00
Middlings	26.00 to 28.00
Cracked Corn	28.00 to 30.00
" Oats	28.00 to 30.00
" Barley	nominal
Feed Flour	3.33 to 3.50
Oats per bushel of 34 lbs., retail	43 to 45
Barley " of 48 "	60
" " of 60 "	nominal
Peas " of 60 "	1.60 to 1.10
White Beans, per bushel	2.45 to 2.50
Port Barley, per barrel	5.40 to 5.50
Corn " of 56 lbs.	85 to 90
Hay per ton	13.00 to 14.00
Straw	9.10 to 12.00

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

BUTTER AND CHEESE.

Nova Scotia Choice Fresh Prints	22 to 5
" " in Small Tubs	22 to 24
" Good, in large tubs	20 to 22
" Store Packed & oversalted	12 to 15
Canadian Township, new	21 to 23
" Western	20 to 21
" old	15
Cheese, Canadian	11

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	3
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.

Apples, No. 1 Varieties, new, per bbl.	5.00
Oranges, per bbl. Jamaica (new)	8.00
" per case, Valencia	7.00
Lemons per case	5.00 to 5.50
Cocoanuts, per 100	5.50
Onions, Egyptian, new, per lb.	2½ to 3
Dates, boxes, new	5½
Raisins, Valencia	6½
Figs, Elemen, 6 lb boxes per lb.	13
" small boxes	11 to 14
Prunes, Stewing, boxes and bags	5½ to 6½
Grapes, Almetra, kegs	none

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

POULTRY.

Turkeys, per pound	16 to 18
Geese, each	none
Ducks, per pair	none
Chickens	none

The above are corrected by a reliable victualer.

LIVE STOCK—at Richmond Depot.

Steers best quality, per 100 lbs alive	4.25 to 5.00
Oxen	3.50 to 4.50
Fat Steers, Halfers, light weights	3.00 to 4.00
Wethers, best quality, per 100 lbs	4.50 to 6.00
Lambs, scarce	3.50 to 4.00

These quotations are prepared by a reliable victualer

SADDLE AND SABRE.

(Continued).

It was in a very happy frame of mind that Bertie sat down to dinner with his uncle at the Thermopolium, but still it cannot be said that he was overflowing with kindness to all humanity. For once the attractive Mrs. Kynaston had most thoroughly missed her mark, and, far from subduing Gilbert, had simply aroused a feeling of angry vindictiveness in his nature. It was not that he would have said a word, or stirred a finger, toward her woe; but he most assuredly would have felt little sympathy at any social discomfiture that might await her. He was not of a very soft or impressionable nature; and he did consider, as we know rightly, that she had occasioned him much unhappiness by the rumor of which she was the originator.

"Well, Bertie," said Major Braddock as, having finished his soup, he raised a glass of sherry to his lips, "so the old regiment is going to take a turn in the East. Good heavens!" he continued, putting his glass hastily down. "Look here, waiter, send the wine butler here at once. How dare you bring that sherry to me, Stephens?" he exclaimed, as that functionary made his appearance. "It might have done for some of the very young gentlemen, but not for me. Its corked, smell it."

"I'm sure I'm very sorry, sir," replied Stephens. "I decanted it myself, and I detected nothing wrong with it."

"Then you're not fit for your situation," retorted the Major sternly. "Change it at once."

"Certainly, sir," and murmuring, "I am always very particular about your wine, Major Braddock," Stephens retreated meekly.

"It's very slightly touched," said Bertie.

"I know that," replied the Major, "and there are plenty of men in the club who wouldn't have detected it was touched at all, but Stephens ought to know better than to try in on me."

Gilbert thought that he himself would probably have been one of those who would not have detected it had he been dining by himself, but he knew better than to interfere with his gourmet uncle until he had been pacified by a glass of sherry to which even he could take no exception.

"Well," said the Major, "India is a place to see, and your getting your troop just before going out makes it worth your while. A captain really draws a decent income out there. After two or three years, if you don't like it, we shall no doubt be able to manage an exchange home for you."

"Thanks," replied Gilbert; "but I shall be home before that. I'm as good as engaged to be married."

"The *douce* you are," replied Major Braddock, "and whom to, pray."

"To Miss Devereux, Charlie's only sister."

"Ah! a very pretty girl, I've heard your uncle Norman say; but I say, Bertie, I trust she hasn't got her brother's talent for getting through money, or you will be clean broke before a couple of years are out."

"I think there is no fear of that," replied Gilbert, laughing. "I must go out, you see, but as, for a wonder, we don't happen to have any war upon our hands, there will be no trouble about getting home again."

"Well, I always think soldiers are better unmarried," rejoined the Major; "still, when you've got your troop, I always said you had a right to please yourself. I can only sincerely trust that you will be happy. I know a little about old Devereux's affairs from looking after his son's. That girl will come into a comfortable bit of money some day." And then the conversation turned into other channels chiefly relating to the regiment, and which have no bearing on this history. Once only did Gilbert revert to the Devereux family, and then it was to ask if any steps had been taken about Charlie's difficulties. The Major briefly gave him an account of his interview with Jordan & Co. "The knowledge of who Jordan & Co. actually are is a trump card in our hands, for, sooner than face a court of law, I have not the slightest doubt Mr. Furzedon will abandon all claims to usurious interest."

CHAPTER LXIII.

"GOOD-BYE, SWEETHEART, GOOD-BYE."

Gilbert Slade made his appearance in Onslow Gardens a good half-hour before the luncheon hour, and Mrs. Connop, who hardly needed the hint that her niece vouchsafed her, had discreetly left the drawing-room to Miss Devereux's sole occupation. If Gilbert had been somewhat vacillating yesterday, he came very directly to the point to-day.

"You know what I have come for, Lettice. I have come to say plainly what I virtue," said yesterday, and can only trust that, in my joy at finding you free, I did not read your feelings wrongly. Will you marry me? I love you very dearly, and have done, I believe, ever since I first knew you; but it wasn't until I heard that lying rumor that I discovered how very much you were to me. Can you like me well enough to say 'Yes?'"

Miss Devereux hesitated only for a moment, then frankly stretched out her hand, and said simply, "Yes, I will be your wife." In answer to which the victor at once replied by seizing the spoils of war, and pressing his lips to hers.

Then Miss Devereux sat demurely down, and motioned him to a seat by her side, and the conversation became, although extremely interesting to themselves, one that would read insufferably dull upon paper. There are some things best left to the imagination, and it is a question whether our own experience don't suggest more to us than all books can tell. I don't think, beyond the fact that their marriage could not take place for some little time, they gave much heed to future arrangements, which was, perhaps, as well,

as it is difficult to say what changes a few months may make in one's plans. When Mrs. Connop came into the room, Gilbert lost no time in telling her of Lettice's promise to be his wife. "Of course," he said diplomatically, "there are yourself and her father and mother to be consulted. As far as I am concerned, I am my own master. My parents are both dead, but I told my uncle, Major Braddock, about it last night—"

"How could you?" interrupted Lettice, laughing. "What dreadfulness of audacity! You couldn't be sure I should say 'Yes.'"

"Pray, don't think you were compromised," replied Gilbert gaily. "I only told him what I intended to do—that I had almost as good as asked you, and that I had hopes of a favourable answer. Well, Mrs. Connop, you know Uncle Bob is a good sort—you know how he stood to Charlie. Well, he wished me joy, and I feel quite sure my Uncle Norman—he has seen you, remember, Lettice—will say the same in his own way. I only trust, Mrs. Connop, you can say the same on your side."

"My dear Mr. Slade," replied that lady, in quite a little flutter of pleasure and excitement, "you both have my hearty good wishes, and I shall be only too charmed to welcome you as a nephew. I cannot, of course, answer for my brother, but I don't think it is likely that he will not be equally pleased to receive you into the family."

"Thank you," replied Bertie quietly, "I always felt I could rely upon you, and I hope I have a satisfactory story to tell to Mr. Devereux."

"I have not the slightest doubt of it. But now, young people, do come to lunch; you may not have time to be hungry, but I both have and am."

A very merry party was that in the dining-room that afternoon. Mrs. Connop insisted that the occasion required a bottle of champagne; and, let devotees of the Blue Ribbon League rave as they will, champagne does impart a liveliness to conversation.

Things were discussed in a much more business-like way under the auspices of Mrs. Connop than they had been by the young couple in the drawing-room; and that Gilbert should go out to India and return within a year for the wedding, was definitely settled.

"Stop, I tell you what, Mrs. Connop," suddenly exclaimed Bertie, "I've got an idea. I must go back to York, because there's such a *douce* of a lot to do, and though the chief is as good as gold about leave, it stands to reason the work must be done. Now I shall see awfully little of Lettice before I sail; if you wouldn't mind it you would be real good-natured, and if Mr. Devereux says it's all right you might run down to Portsmouth and see us off."

"My goodness, Mr. Slade, that is rather a startling proposal. I don't think I quite see my way to that."

"It's quite easy, I assure you; Major Braddock is sure to come down, and I will guarantee would be only too pleased to take charge of you. He'll take very good care that you get a line from him volunteering his services; and don't be afraid, Lettice, you won't be awfully well taken care of, as far as eating and drinking goes, while you are under his charge."

Miss Devereux and her aunt were both too well aware of the Major's pet weakness not to smile at this recommendation, and Mrs. Connop at length was induced to say "she would think it over, and if possible, run down to see the last of him."

"Amuse you, I am sure, Mrs. Connop," said Gilbert; "a rather strange mixture are the good-byes on these occasions. If some of them are made with laughter and toast-drinking, there are others made with tears and broken words. However, our good-bye is not likely to be of that sort, we are not going campaigning, and there is nothing to prevent our friends giving us a real cherry God speed."

By the time this was satisfactorily arranged, Gilbert discovered that it was time for him to go. He had two or three things yet to arrange before leaving town, so he bade his fiancée a hasty adieu, shook hands heartily with Mrs. Connop, dashed down stairs, and jumped into the first hansom he came across.

Her very unsatisfactory interview with Gilbert Slade had aroused all Mrs. Kynaston's energies; it was possible that Miss Devereux was in town, although she had not as yet heard it, but Mrs. Kynaston determined that that was a point she would lose no time in clearing up, and with this object the next day she drove down to Onslow Gardens to call upon Mrs. Connop, and arrived there a bare half hour after Gilbert had left the house. She was not surprised to find in answer to her inquiries that Miss Devereux was in town. Thinking the whole thing over, she had felt pretty certain not only that she must be, but that Gilbert had seen her, and an understanding of some sort had been arrived at between the pair. Both ladies she was informed were at home, and she accordingly followed the servant up-stairs.

Persistent believer as she had always affected to be in Miss Devereux's engagement to Furzedon, yet it had never occurred to Lettice to suspect Kynaston of having industriously set about the rumour, and therefore she was received with great cordiality. Mrs. Connop had never quite liked Mrs. Kynaston, but she was so elated by the event of the morning that she would have welcomed any one warmly. While, as for Lettice, she was only too pleased to feel that it was now in her power to convince her friend of the absurdity of the idea of her ever marrying Furzedon.

"I have been in town barely a week," said Lettice, in answer to Mrs. Kynaston's reproaches of not acquainting her with her own arrival. "I should have been round to see you in a day or two, but it was very nice of you to call to-day. You are always speculating on my marriage. Well, I have a bit of news for you. I am really engaged."

Mrs. Kynaston paused for a moment before she replied. Although expecting something of the sort, she was not prepared for an open avowal of the engagement. It was with difficulty she preserved her composure, as she replied, "Pray accept my congratulations, and don't be surprised at my not asking the name of the happy man. He came down to take a sentimental leave of me yesterday afternoon, and I have no doubt was engaged in per-

ing a round of such visits. I pretty well gathered how his leave-taking here had terminated."

Lettie started as if she had been stung; she had had her tiffs with Kate Kynaston, no doubt, but she did regard her as her most intimate friend, and had expected her congratulations would be honest and thorough, but there was no mistaking the half-sneer in Mrs. Kynaston's speech, nor could any one fail to notice the cold, half-mocking tone in which the conventional words were spoken. Mrs. Kynaston was a good actress, but for once in her life the blow had been too severe, and for the moment she had involuntarily dropped the mask. She repented almost as soon as the words had passed her lips, but for the minute she could not for the life of her have said otherwise.

"I don't think Mr. Slade had time to pay quite as many calls as you suggest, nor even if he did say good-bye to a few of his friends do I suppose his partings were quite of the character you describe."

"Yes," chimed in Mrs. Connop, sharply, "Lettie is a very lucky girl. Mr. Slade will get his troop almost immediately, and it will all do very nicely at all events we are pleased with it, are we not, Lettie?"

"And with good reason," cried Mrs. Kynaston, who had by this time quite recovered herself. "I congratulate you with all my heart, Lettie; though," she continued, with a comical little grimace, and a shrug of her shoulders, "it is rather hard to hear of one's pet admirers taken from one in this fashion."

"I can't call to mind his ever figuring quite in that way as regards you," replied Miss Devereux.

"Now, don't be touchy, Lettie," said Mrs. Kynaston, laughing. "It's only my way, you know, besides, he is formally declared your property now, though I am afraid you will see but little of him before he sails."

"We are to go down to Portsmouth and see the last of him," said Mrs. Connop. "He was always a great favorite of mine, and there is no fighting going on, so we have no cause to feel anxious about him."

"All very nice," rejoined Mrs. Kynaston, "but I must be going now. Good-bye, Lettie, I am sure I wish you every happiness, and you mustn't begrudge Mr. Slade having come to say good-bye to me. I am an old friend of his, you know. Good-bye Mrs. Connop. Early days for her to be jealous, isn't it?" and with a gay laugh Mrs. Kynaston sailed out of the room.

"And I thought that woman my friend!" exclaimed Lettie. "Did you ever hear anything like her, aunt? Her congratulations were a mere mockery. Jealous! No, I am not that; but Kate was doing, and would do, her very best to make me so, if she had only the opportunity."

"I never did like her," replied Mrs. Connop, "but as for the jealousy, my dear, it was all on her side. She was very much put out at your engagement, depend upon it."

Mrs. Kynaston had been unable to avoid betraying herself, though she would fain have done otherwise. She was too angry with the affianced pair to listen to the announcement of their happiness with patience. The rejection of her precious spikenard is a sore trial for any woman's temper, but the full measure of her wrath is sure to be reserved for that one of her sisters who brought such discomfiture about.

The brief interview soon slips away, and the gallant —th are in all the turmoil that the order for foreign service invariably evolves. The sale of their horses was, as is always the case, the worst ever known. Who cares to buy hunters at the end of the hunting season? As young Sparshot pathily remarked, "They wouldn't have lost much more, and it would have been far more graceful to have shot the lot in the barrack yard, and sent them over to the kennels to feed the hounds they had followed so well." Unsatisfied creditors thronged the barrack yard, excessively anxious for the settlement of their little accounts, or at least some security for them, occasioning much care and anxiety to those gay soldiers who had lived up to the traditional maxim, and "spent half-a-crown out of sixpence a day." It is ever so; and, when great military authorities tell you that the army is ready for active service to the last buckle and gaiter-strap, I fear that the officers' private affairs are rarely taken into consideration. However, all these little difficulties are over at last, the sickly men have been cast out by the doctors, the depot has been formed, and, leaving this latter behind them, the service strength of the regiment was duly trained down to Portsmouth.

That there should be no particular enthusiasm about their embarkation was but natural. They were not going out to take part in a big fight, nor were bands ringing out the spirit-stirring melodies to which such occasions invariably give rise; but for all that there are always plenty of people who flock to see one of our British regiments embark, and start them on their voyage with a ringing cheer.

"Upon arrival at Portsmouth the —th marched to the dockyard, where the *Semiramis* was laying alongside the quay. The gigantic steamship speedily engulfed them between her capacious decks, and then Gilbert had time to look around for those who had come to see him off. He had waved his hand to Lettie and her escort as he marched his troop on board, but, as soon as the men had settled down, he and several of his brother officers rushed ashore to welcome the friends who had come to see them off.

"Ah! Bertie my boy," exclaimed the Major; "glad to see they are sending you out like a gentleman. None of your beastly little tubs, but a slashing big ship. They tell me you sail at daybreak?"

"Yes, that is so," replied Gilbert; "but come on board now, ladies always like looking round a ship, and a sort of nondescript meal will take place in the saloon within an hour."

"Yes," said Miss Devereux, "I should like to do that. Do you know, the other day you quite forgot to tell me how Charlie's affairs were?"

"So I did," replied Gilbert, "but you, at all events, must allow it was excusable."

(To be continued.)

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MINING.

NEW BRUNSWICK MINING ITEMS.

Mining matters in this province have been very quiet, owing to the backward spring and other delaying circumstances. However, as a few words may not be amiss, I thought I would drop you a few lines. In mining circles matters have been rather dull. The suspension of the Queen Manganese Mining Company was rather a damper; however, we understand that work will be resumed again very shortly, which will be pleasing to all concerned. The Manganese Mine at the "Globe," it is understood, will be operated this spring and Messrs Alley & Gould, the owners, are making all necessary preparations in connection with the same. An organization of a company was recently perfected in St. John, of State of Maine and other capitalists, to work the mines at a place above Watford, called "Phillamero." The ore is a combination metal, a yellow sulphuret, and said to contain gold in quantity enough to admit of saving the same. The Mineral Vale Property at New Ireland, Albert Co., of which I have frequently written, has been duly formed into a stock company and incorporated with a view to placing the same on the London Mining market. Parties having connections there are working up the matter, and it is thought a good sale will be effected. Some parties in Bathurst and vicinity have taken up a square mile under mining license, and it is said a large vein of magnetic ore now exists thereon. The holders of the property are open for inspection of property and purchasers for same at reasonable prices. A Mr. Rourke, of St. Martin's, proposes to open up a Manganese property in that locality, which it is said exists there. The indications show a good body of ore. Practical miners have been engaged to develop the same shortly. Operations at Dunsinane, on I. C. Ry., between Moncton and Sussex, go to show the probable existence of a valuable deposit of coal in that locality. It is the intention to further continue developments during the summer. Other rumors are afloat of new mineral discoveries, but as nothing definite has transpired or is known of same, I will await further details, and in meantime, I am yours, &c.,

We glean the following facts in regard to some of the gold districts of Queens County from an interesting letter to the Annapolis Spectator.

Gold mining and prospecting work at Kompt, will be carried on during the summer. We here met Surveyor Smith, who had just laid off the mining areas leased by the Rev. J. E. Blakeney and others. Good specimens have been found at this place; and this summer's work, it may be hoped, will result in finding good paying loads.

Caledonia Corner, in the way of improvement, shows two fine residences just completed, and others repaired, painted and otherwise improved. This place is the base of supplies for the Whitburn and Malaga Mine, a few miles distant, and has quite the appearance at times of a mining town.

Prospecting this season will be carried on vigorously at West Caledonia. We were shown some very fine specimens from that district, and no doubt some one will strike a bonanza there.

Whitburn moves along without much excitement. The Maguire mine runs very uniformly in its output of gold. Its average clean-up has been about 130 ounces per month.

The Graves Mine (formerly Hall Owen), under the efficient management of Mr. J. E. Gammon, is now showing good results. One hundred and twenty-eight ounces were cleaned up last week as the past month's work. Steam hoisting and pumping machinery will soon be added to the works at this mine.

Prospecting by Mr. Dunbrack, an expert, is being carried on at the Cushing property, with reported good results.

A Mr. Nash, a mining expert and assayer, from Boston, is now here, and reports favorably of the district.

Prospecting, generally will be the rage here this summer, and doubtless rich loads will be developed.

On Sabbath evening we listened to a stirring and earnest discourse delivered in the cook house of the American mine, by the Rev. Mr. Stephens, of the Methodist church, Caledonia, who preaches here regularly once per month. The Baptist minister also comes out and holds regular services at the mines; so the spiritual interest of the miners and others are not neglected, and order and due Sabbath observance is found here as elsewhere.

George Bradford, of London, Eng., the well-known mining engineer, has passed through Ottawa on his way to Winnipeg. He is a representative of an English syndicate, with a capital of five hundred thousand pounds sterling, and will examine coal deposits of the Northwest and report results.

KILLAG DISTRICT.—During last fall a road 5½ miles in length, leading from the Sack Harbor road to this district, was constructed. Mr. Geo. W. Stuart during the winter ran in, on the snow, a large quantity of lumber and provisions. This spring he has already erected several buildings for the accommodation of men and horses, and is now at work mining on a very promising lode, opened last fall, and also prospecting for the great Bonanza lode so long looked for.

To the Editor of the Critic:

SIR, - I was pleased to find your attention directed to the probability of successful deep mining in Nova Scotia. Somehow you seemed, in mining phraseology, to strike a vein which I have been watching for a long time, and I am sincerely interested in seeing it so far developed as to ensure striking results. Like the property of a number of lessees in our country, of ideas were unworked till yours made them seem valuable, and to long delay inviting your attention to what I consider a feasible way of applying

your theories would be selfish on my part as well as unproductive. Too much dog-in-the-manger-style has previously characterized mining and the discussion of matters of benefit to miners generally. It is time now for miners and capitalists having investments in mines to lay aside all rancour and petty jealousies for the accomplishment of a grand result in the way of proving incontrovertibly the existence of a lower or second deposit of gold-bearing quartz in our Province. Should such be demonstrated, our gold-mining, now in its infancy, would receive a new impetus, and capital from abroad would be always obtainable for working purposes. No country in the world could then compete with Nova Scotia, owing to our cheap provisions and labor, and the nearness everywhere to the base of supplies. Then would be removed the only real objection offered by foreigners as to our deposits being, as they allege, shallow.

Surely the investigation of such a question, vitally affecting, as it does, the value of every miner's property, to say nothing whatever of its importance to the Province, ought to receive more than a passing notice from your readers; and it only should be necessary to settle the *modus operandi*, instead of wasting time over a discussion that would be forever fruitless till the bowels of the earth are opened sufficiently to prove or disprove what might be affirmed or denied.

For my own part, I am confident that a lower pay streak will be found, and I have formed this opinion, not so much from conjecture, as from a statement made to me by an old miner of '67, as to what he actually saw in a deep mine in one of the districts to which you have referred.

The Government can hardly be expected to aid any individual in the deep mining enterprise; but if the testing of this matter was placed in the hands of the entire mining community, or such of them as should be willing to risk a few dollars in solving the problem—if it be a problem—then it would be of Provincial interest, and there would be every inducement and ground for Government support, under proper conditions and surveillance, to aid the scheme.

My idea of the proper method to be followed, is this. Let a stock company be formed to operate, and let every dollar of the stock be *bona fide*, subscribed on a basis that every man who invests will discharge a duty to his country, or have a chance of benefitting himself. Let the directors be men of practical knowledge of mining, and of integrity, and make the shares of such a price as to ensure every miner's aid, and then employ none but stockholders to work in the mines. Thus you will make every man interested (from the President and large shareowner to the workman with his one or two shares) fully alive to promote, by all means, the successful accomplishment of the task. The Government might be prevailed upon to make some concessions to the company, provided it is *bona fide* worked, in the shape of free claims to all veins after a certain depth is reached, or in the way of abandoning all royalties on gold mined at or below a certain depth from the bed rock. But if the Government should not concede anything, in the event of success the company would be all right; and in the event of loss after a fair trial, the amount paid in by a miner who has been fortunate in the business, would be so small a loss that it would not be worth talking about. For my own part, although I am probably poorer than most of those interested in mining, I would cheerfully risk a few hundreds in the project, if it was started.

A number of details of course would have to be arranged, but I think the sketch above given will do to show your readers that the thing can be done.

Yours truly,
DEEP MINER.

"THE GOLD-BEARING VEINS OF NOVA SCOTIA."—At the last meeting of the Royal society at Ottawa, Mr. Gilpin, deputy commissioner and inspector of mines, read a paper on the above subject. The questions affecting the formation and the disposition of the gold veins were dwelt upon at some length, and descriptions given of the various conditions under which gold occurs in them. The question of finding gold at depths exceeding those at present reached in our province, was referred to, and it was shown that the conditions permitting the formation of veins extended far below any mining operations yet undertaken here.

The gold product of the Colar section of the Mysore field, according to the London *World*, since 1884 and up to May 1, 1888, has been as follows:

	Ounces.	Dollars.
Mysore mine.....	42,784	\$834,000
Nundydroog mine.....	3,458	68,000
Balaghat mine.....	900	18,000

Total amount..... \$920,000

Besides this production there has also been other products from the exploitation of the Indian Consolidated, Nino Reefs and Oorganin properties. We may add, their product anterior to 1888 aggregated \$631,000 and that the product for the four months ending 30th April was \$289,000.

The Taylor-Plumas Mill Mining Company have declared a dividend of twenty-five per cent. in stock, upon stock that assessment has been paid.

The Jay Gould Mining Company of Montana, paid May 5th, dividend No. 12, of six cents a share, aggregating \$24,000, making \$136,000 paid this year and \$231,000 paid to date.

The Eureka Consolidated Mining Company of Nevada, will pay June 7th, dividend No. 35, of twenty-five cents a share, aggregating \$12,500 making \$75,000 paid this year, and \$4,920 paid to that date.

The Standard Consolidated Mining Company of California, will pay June 12th, dividend No. 75, of five cents a share, aggregating \$5,000, making \$50,000 paid this year, and \$4,520,000 paid to that date.

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HOME AND FARM.

The care of sheep exerts an important influence upon the quantity and quality of wool. The influence upon quantity has only been determined within limits. It is much easier to see the defects in quality. The attention of shepherds has not been called to this matter often enough, although it lowers the price of their wool. The way wool is purchased in many parts of the country rather sets a premium on carelessness.

Undoubtedly that animal produces the most and best wool that is in the most perfect health. No one will deny this. Within certain limits sickness can not be said to affect seriously the quantity of wool. A chronic disease may and usually will reduce the total yield considerably. But those slight attacks of colds, fevers, etc., exert no apparent influence on the yield.

Not so, however, with their effect upon the quality of the wool. Every cold however slight is registered indelibly on every fibre. The wool naturally grows a certain size when the sheep is well, but when anything is wrong it becomes weaker and of a smaller diameter. No matter whether the illness was a chill simply, or a severe sickness, it will leave its mark. If the animal is only sick for a short time the change can scarcely be detected by the eye, but if the fibre is pulled slightly it will give way at that point long before it will anywhere else. The whole fleece may often be parted in this way, and this part would show to where the wool had grown when the animal was taken sick. If the sheep were sick constantly the fibre would have an even strength throughout, but would in most cases be inferior to the fibre when in good health.

The manufacturer wishes the fibre not only as long as he can get it, but as strong as possible. When there is a weak point in the fibre it often renders it unfit for any but the cheapest goods. A poorer fibre but even in strength throughout, is much to be preferred to a finer one with weak spots in it.

To produce the best wool, the sheep should be kept in good health, not too fat, nor too lean. But especially they should not be exposed to storms nor sudden changes of weather. Every effort should be made to keep them under as favorable conditions as possible. Rains, cold rains especially, should be avoided. The large fleeces of the sheep absorb an immense amount of water, and this is held there a long time after the storm is over. In order to appreciate the injurious effects of this it is only necessary to realize what it means and how it would be if any other of our domestic animals had to endure it. Hence, instead of leaving the sheep out in all kinds of weather, and to shift for itself, it is economy to give good housing and proper care.

FENCE POSTS—THEIR DECAY AND PRESERVATION.

No subject is so difficult for the average farmer to solve as that of cheap durable permanent fences, of all those outside of his regular work in connection with his crops. They are expensive and belong entirely to his expense account. They bring in no income but annually or semi-annually require attention and repairs. The less there are of them upon the farm the better, for not only are they a constant source of expense, as has been mentioned, but they occupy valuable land, are in the way in tillage operations, and detract from the beauty of the landscape where there is any.

Where stock are pastured some such permanent fences seem necessary, but they should be few. Most of the fences upon the farm should be temporary, easily moved and set up, and of course durable and effectual. As long as the law remains as it is, so long as farmers have to fence against other people's stock and not simply to keep their own in, so long will it be necessary in most neighborhoods to have a permanent fence around the farm.

Most of the permanent fences require posts. One of the weak points of all these fences is that the posts will rot. This is due to the growth of minute plants in them. Strange as it may seem it is nevertheless true, that the universal cause of the decay of these posts is the growth of these little plants, so small that the highest power of the microscope is required to distinguish their parts. They belong to the fungi. It is to this class of plants that smut, rust and a host of other injurious diseases appertain. Some of them feed on the living, while others obtain their food from the dead plants. Others again get all they require from the air.

In order to grow, there are certain conditions which these plants must fulfil. The most important of these are that the material on which they feed shall be moist and not too cold. They do not grow during the winter, but as soon as warm weather comes on, they begin their work and do not cease as long as a proper amount of moisture remains in the material.

It must not be inferred that these plants are altogether injurious. A plant that is injurious in one situation, or under certain conditions, may be beneficial in other circumstances. This is the case with these fungi. They are very valuable in hastening the decay of stumps, roots, old logs, etc., but when they come to attacking posts in their indiscriminate manner, they become a nuisance.

If any one notices carefully, he will see that the post begins to rot from a few inches above to a few inches below the ground. That invariably it commences here and extends both ways, but that most of its work is under the ground. That at times the post may be rotted completely off, even with or just under the surface of the ground. That when old sticks are placed just below the surface they readily decay, but when placed deeper they will last a long time. If these facts are taken into consideration along with the remarks in a previous paragraph on the conditions most favorable for the growth of these plants, it will be seen that these conditions are best supplied just at the surface of the ground. If the decay can be stopped at this point the post can be preserved indefinitely.

Three methods present themselves by which this may be accomplished:

The first is to remove all moisture either by drains or by raising a ridge, a "dike", and placing the posts on it. Both these methods are practiced throughout the country, and are valuable as far as they go, but the soil will always retain enough moisture to supply those plants for some considerable time so that, while they tend to obviate, they do not entirely remedy, the difficulty. The second method is by excluding the water from the post at this point. This may be accomplished by thoroughly oiling the *dry* posts for six inches above and six below the surface of the earth when they are set. This method is effectual, and when combined with the preceding it will preserve ordinarily sound posts a life time. Material may also be used for posts in this way that would not be suitable ordinarily. It is to be observed that the oil is not necessarily applied to the top nor bottom of the posts, for if properly made they do not usually need it. They should be so made that there are no holes, cracks nor knots for water to settle in. If these occur it will be necessary to remove them as far as possible and then oil the posts thoroughly. The third method is by the use of some substance that will kill the plants which cause the trouble. This is only partially successful at the best.

Where the ground is stony, a very good way to get rid of the stone, and at the same time to place the posts in the very best possible condition to be preserved, is to dig a trench deeper than it is proposed to set the posts. Lay a drain, then fill the trench with the stones and set the posts at the same time in the trench of stones. As no earth is in contact with them to retain the moisture, they will last a long time.

JOHN CHALMERS MORTON.

John Chalmers Morton was born in the year 1821, in Gloucestershire, Eng. He was the son of John Morton and his mother was the sister of the celebrated Dr. Chalmers. He was educated at the Murchiston Castle School, Edinburgh, and received instruction in agriculture under Prof. Law. At nineteen, he was called home to superintend the Whitfield Model farm, which he did for the next four years. In 1844, the *Agricultural Gazette* was established and he was chosen editor. This position he occupied during the remainder of his life. He died very suddenly May 3rd, 1888. For the above facts we are indebted to the *Agricultural Gazette*.

Besides editing the *Gazette*, he also collected and edited the "*Encyclopedia of Agriculture*," and was the actual editor of the *Journal of the Royal Agricultural Society*. It would be impossible in this short space, however, to enumerate all the useful works in which he engaged.

He will be best known as editor of the *Gazette*, to every reader of which he has endeared himself by the strongest ties. He seemed a personal friend to every one, and all looked to him for encouragement in their work. "It will all come right" were the words most often on his lips. How often he had to use them in these times of depression in agricultural matters in England. They fitly represent his nature, which was always hopeful. Agriculture has suffered a serious loss in his death.

NOTES.

There is no time so well adapted for the killing of weeds as when they are small. If the small weeds are killed there will be no large ones to give trouble. This is too often lost sight of, and the weeds are allowed to grow until they shade the ground and choke the growing crop, then all hands turn in and eradicate them. What is the consequence? It takes ten times as long to remove them as when they were small. They have also done a serious injury to the crop in that they have shaded the ground and the growing stems, and used plant food that was needed by the crop.

Plan to do as much weeding by horse power, and as little by hand labor, as possible. The cultivator will remove weeds a great deal cheaper than the hoe. A bright boy with a horse and cultivator will remove more weeds in a day than ten men with hoes. Will it not pay that farmer who has none, to get a cultivator instead of hiring men to hoe?

The following was seen lately: A man leading a horse, the horse drawing the plow and another man holding this. Here is economy for you! Two men and one horse to plow one acre per day at the outside, and probably not that. How much better would it have been to have had two horses and one man and have plowed two acres that day! But if it had been mentioned to these men, they would have said that they could not afford it. But could they really afford to do as they were doing? The account would stand about this way:—

For plowing two acres.

Two men two days at one dollar per day.....\$4 00
One horse for two days at 75 cts per day..... 1 50

Total \$5 50

The other account would stand:

One man one day at one dollar per day.....\$1 00
Two horses one day at 75 cents per day..... 1 50

Total \$2 50

Or, in other words, it would cost over twice as much to plow the two acres in the one case as in the other. A rich man could not afford this, yet a comparatively poor man who owned only a few acres was trying it. Then he complains that farming don't pay. Such farming does not.

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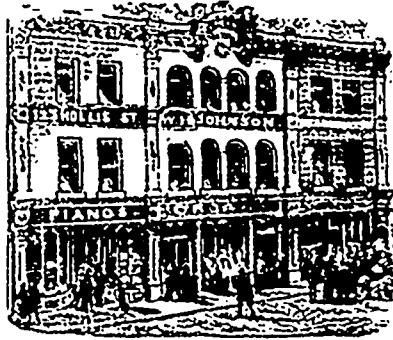


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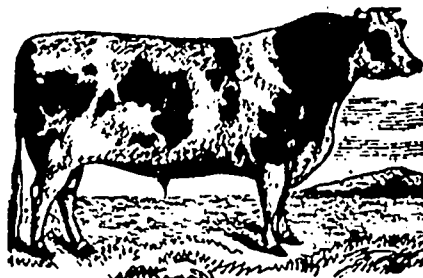
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AYLESFORD, N. S., May 5, 1888.

To the President and Directors of the Mutual Relief Society of Nova Scotia:

Gentlemen,—Your cheque for \$2000 was this day handed me by your agent, in full of claim for insurance by your Society on the life of my late husband, James B. Kirkpatrick. This receipt is given expecting that you will publish it, thereby making known to the public that just claims on your Society are promptly paid. Yours respectfully,
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TO CORRESPONDENTS.

S. L.—COLUMBIA CHESS CLUB.—“Manual” received with thanks.

L. M. W.—Problem received and shall shortly appear.

Correct solutions to Nos. 30 and 31 received from L. M. Wilkins, and of No. 31 from F. W. Beckman.

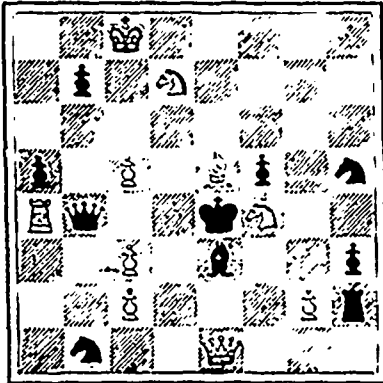
Solution to No. 32—Q to R6.

Solution to No. 33—Q to KB3.

Correct solutions received from Rev. C. E. Willets, L. M. Wilkins, J. W. Wallace, Mrs. H. Mosely, W. J. Calder, F. W. Beckman, and W. H. H.

“There are three things necessary to a gentleman,—his harp, his cloak, and a chess-board.”—*Howell Dda. Leges Walliæ, A. D. 1160.*

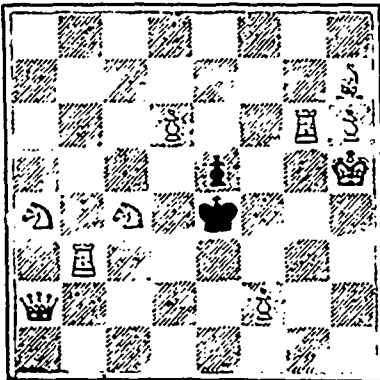
PROBLEM No. 36.
From Chess Souvenirs.
BLACK.



WHITE.

White to play and mate in 2 moves.

PROBLEM No. 37.
By C. Planck, M. A.
BLACK.



WHITE.

White to play and mate in 2 moves.

Game at the odds of Pawn and two moves. Played recently at the Liverpool Club.

REMOVE WHITE'S KBP.
White. Black.

- | | |
|--------------------|----------------|
| 1 P to K4 | 1 — |
| 2 P to Q4 | 2 P to K3 |
| 3 B to Q3 | 3 P to B4 |
| 4 Q to R5 (ch) (a) | 4 P to Kt3 |
| 5 Q to K5 | 5 Kt to KB3 |
| 6 B to Kt5 | 6 B to K2 (b) |
| 7 B takes Kt | 7 B takes B |
| 8 Q takes P (c) | 8 Kt to B3 |
| 9 P to K5 (d) | 9 B to K2 |
| 10 Q to B4 | 10 P to QKt4 |
| 11 Q to Kt3 (c) | 11 Kt takes QP |
| 12 Q to B3 | 12 Kt to B3 |
| 13 Q to Q2 | 13 Kt takes KP |
| 14 Kt to K2 | 14 B to Kt2 |

W. W. RUTHERFORD.

- | | |
|---------------------|------------------|
| 15 Castles | 15 Castles |
| 16 B takes QKtP (f) | 16 Q to B2 |
| 17 Kt to Kt3 (g) | 17 B takes P |
| 18 K takes B | 18 Q to Kt2 (ch) |
| 19 P to B3 | 19 Kt takes P |
| 20 Q takes P | 20 Kt to R5 (ch) |

and black mates in two moves.
(a) Although the attack adopted by White wins a pawn, and thus leaves him two pawns ahead, he places his queen in a position where she is much subject to attack. It is a kind of game much too difficult for the inferior player to manage with much chance of success. On the whole one of the better known moves, such as 4 P for QB3, or 4 P for K5, or 4 P takes P, or 4 P for Q5, would be sounder play.
(b) Obviously better than G. B. for Kt2, for besides unpinning the Kt, it threatens, after castling, the dangerous counter thrust Kt for Kk5.

(c) Can White now keep the pawn gained? If he can he would to some extent justify his play.

(d) This bad move causes the loss of the centre pawns, and morely drives the hostile bishop where he wants to go. Mr. Burn suggested 9P for QB3, and although White's queen seems dangerously placed, we believe Black could not prevent her getting safely home in the end. Mr. Rutherford thought 9Kt for B3 would also be good play for White.

(e) If White ventures 11Q takes KtP, Black gets a winning game with 11. R for QKt, 12 Q for R4 (12 Q for B4 is worse; 12...Kt for R4 being of course the reply); R for Kt5, 13 Q for R3; R takes QP, &c.

(f) This involves him in difficulties 16 QKt for B3 was the best move; but if 16P for KB3, then 16. Q for Kt3 (ch); 17 K for R; Kt takes P, 18 P takes Kt; R takes P, 19 R takes R; B takes R mate.

(g) This allows Black to conclude matters very prettily, but we can see no good move for White.—*Liverpool Courier.*

DRAUGHTS-CHECKERS

The proprietors of THE CRITIC offer two prizes—to consist of books on Checkers—to those subscribers who shall send in the greatest number of correct solutions during the current year. No entrance fee required. All Checker communications should be addressed to W. Forsyth, 36 Grafton Street, Halifax.

CORRECTION—An unfortunate error occurred in the diagram for problem 29 in our last issue, in that one of the black kings was placed on 6 instead of 5, as it should have been. Our checkerists will be able, from this explanation, to arrange the men correctly. In consequence of this mistake, we extend the time for giving the solution one week. The correct position is:—Black man 1, kings 5, 20; white men 9, 14, 16, 28; white to play and win.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

H. A. McI., Thorburn.—Your solution to 27 is faulty, as 19 15, at second move, will win for white. Solutions should be mailed not later than one week after the date of the paper in which the problem appears.

SOLUTIONS.

Correct solutions to problems 25 and 26 were received from D. Stewart, but too late to be acknowledged last week.

PROBLEM 27.—Solution received

from Mrs. H. Mosely. The position was:—black men 6, 7, 12, 13; white men 19, 20, 21, 26; black to move and draw.

- | | | | |
|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| 7—10 | 16 11 | 6—9 | 13 17 |
| 20 16 | 17—22 | 2 6 | 27—18 |
| 10—14 | 11 7 | 26—31 | 17 10 |
| 26 23 | 22—26 | 6 13 | 18 15 |
| 13—17 | 7 2 | 31—27 | draw |

We would call F. Foshay's attention to the fact that at his third move (which thereby renders his solution faulty) if white plays 19 15 instead of 20 16 he wins.

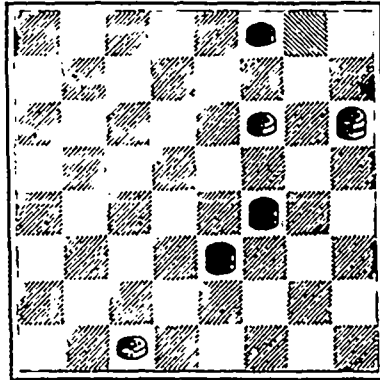
PROBLEM 28.—Solved by Mrs. Mosely, F. Foshay, “The Chief,” S. C. Hood and D. Stewart. The position is:—Black men 12, 13, 17, K 23; white men 20, 22, Ks 24, 30; white to play and win.

- | | | | |
|-------|-----------|-----------|---------|
| 30 26 | 13—17 | 17 14 | 24—28 |
| 23—30 | 31 13 | 23—19 | 15 19 |
| 24 27 | 30—26 (a) | 14 10 | 28—32 |
| 17—26 | 13 17 | 19—24 | 20 16 |
| 27 31 | 26—23 | 10 15 (b) | w. wins |

(a) Had white played 14 18 here, black could draw by 12—16.

(b) By Anderson's 1st position.

PROBLEM 30.
Selected.
BLACK.



WHITE.

Black to play and win.

GAME IX.

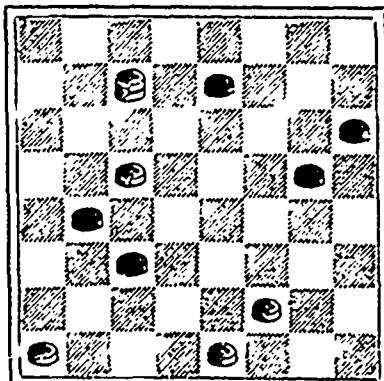
Played between one of our leading Halifax checkerists and the Editor, the latter of whom was blindfold.

- | | | | |
|-------|---------|----------|-------|
| 9—14 | 1—5 | 2—6 | 14—17 |
| 22 18 | 22 17 | 23 18 | 18 15 |
| 11—15 | 13—22 | 17—22 | 11—18 |
| 18 9 | 25 9 | 27 23 | 23 14 |
| 5—14 | 5—14 | 4—8 | 3—7 |
| 25 22 | 26 22 | 32 27 | 6 2 |
| 6—9 | 8 11(a) | 6—10 | 8—11 |
| 24 19 | 22 18 | 14 9 | 2 6 |
| 15—24 | 14—17 | 10—15(b) | 11—16 |
| 28 19 | 21 14 | 19 10 | |
| 9—13 | 10—17 | 7—14 | |
| 30 25 | 18 14 | 9 6 | |

(a) Had 11—16 been played here, white had a nice win by 14 10.

(b) This formed an interesting position which we make.

PROBLEM 31.
BLACK.



WHITE.

In this instance credit will be given to those only who send the shortest correct solution.

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